



## Neurosurgical Forum LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Errors about the use of the Clinical Rating Scale for Tremor score

TO THE EDITOR: We read with interest the first 5-year single-center experience report by Sinai et al.<sup>1</sup> on MR-guided focused ultrasound (MRgFUS) ablation for essential tremor (Sinai A, Nassar M, Eran A, et al. Magnetic resonance-guided focused ultrasound thalamotomy for essential tremor: a 5-year single-center experience [published online July 5, 2019]. *J Neurosurg*. doi: 10.3171/2019.3.JNS19466). We are delighted to see such significant work.

However, we found a factual error in the authors' use of the Clinical Rating Scale for Tremor (CRST) score. According to their citation for the CRST,<sup>2</sup> the scores ranged from 0 to 160 points. The CRST scores used by Elias et al.<sup>3</sup> also ranged from 0 to 160 points. However, the CRST scores used by Sinai et al.<sup>1</sup> range from 0 to 152 points. The authors might have deleted some parts of the scale, but this was not described in detail in their paper. As readers, we are confused about how they calculated the total CRST scores and whether the difference between the standard CRST and the CRST used in their paper would affect the results. We would like to express our concerns about the use of the CRST.

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#### References

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3. Elias WJ, Lipsman N, Ondo WG, et al. A randomized trial of focused ultrasound thalamotomy for essential tremor. *N Engl J Med*. 2016;375:730–739.

#### Disclosures

The authors report no conflict of interest.

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#### Response

We thank Xiong et al. for their interest in our paper. We calculated the CRST score correctly based on a score range from 0 to 160 points. The number 152 that appears in the manuscript is a typing error and we will correct it with an erratum.

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