



# Guidelines for IMMEDIATE 4 re: MCID work

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IMMEDIATE 4 meeting  
June 10-12, 2004



# Orientation to the 1 SEM

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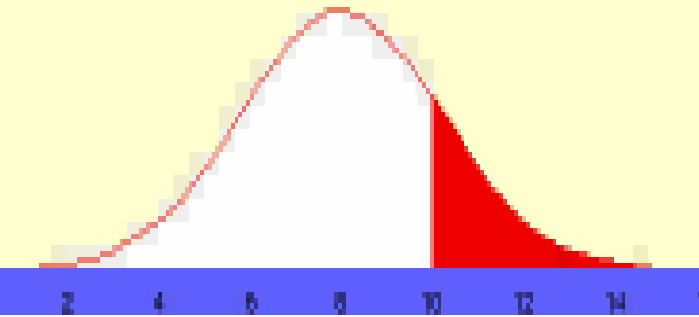
# 1 SEM

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- Formula:

- $SEM = \text{Standard deviation} * \sqrt{1 - r_{xx}}$
- Where  $r_{xx}$  = test retest reliability from that study population
- Standard deviation is a baseline distribution in that sample

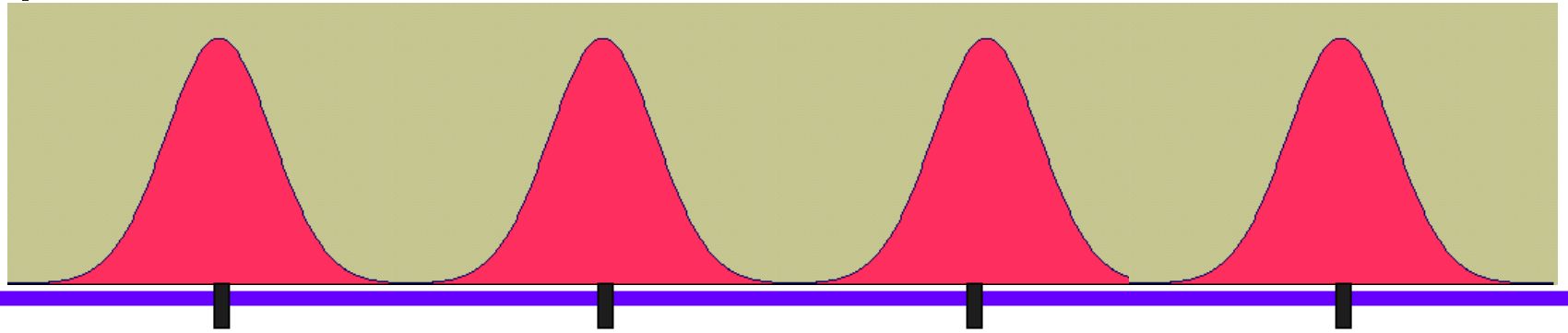
# The Standard Error of Measurement (SEM)



$$SEM = s_x \sqrt{1 - r_{xx}}$$

- Fixed characteristic of a measure that is not sample-dependent
- Expressed in the **original metric** of the measure

# What is a SEM?



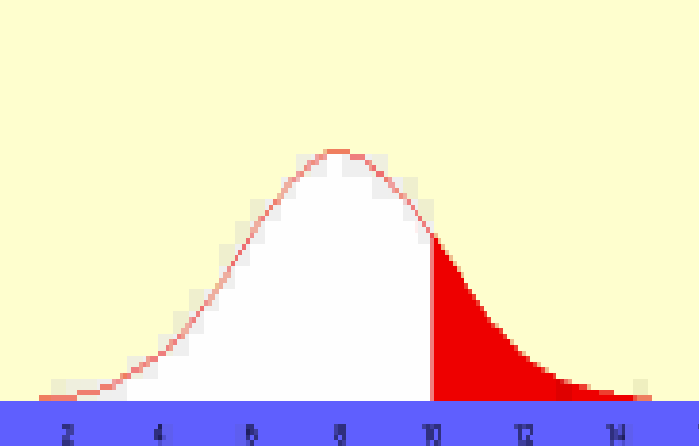
Mary's  
True  
Score

Jim's  
True  
Score

Gary's  
True  
Score

Kim's  
True  
Score

# How Many SEMs = Important Individual Change?

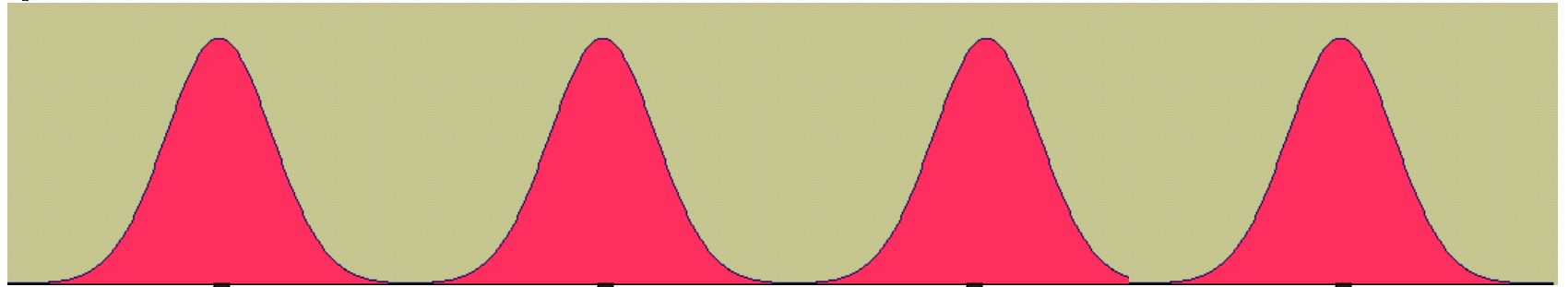


1 SEM

1.96 SEM

2.77 SEM

# What is a SEM?



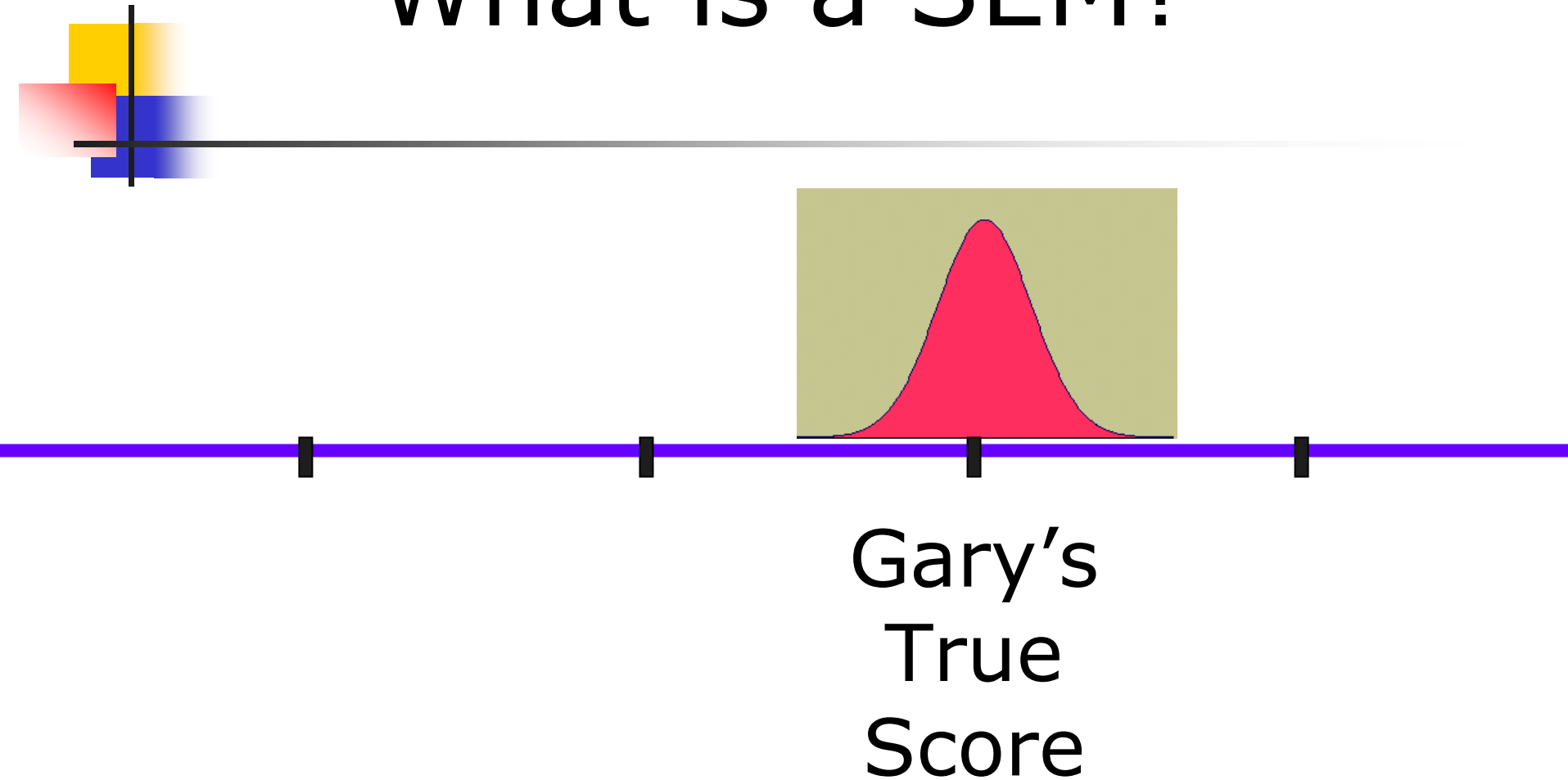
Mary's  
True  
Score

Jim's  
True  
Score

Gary's  
True  
Score

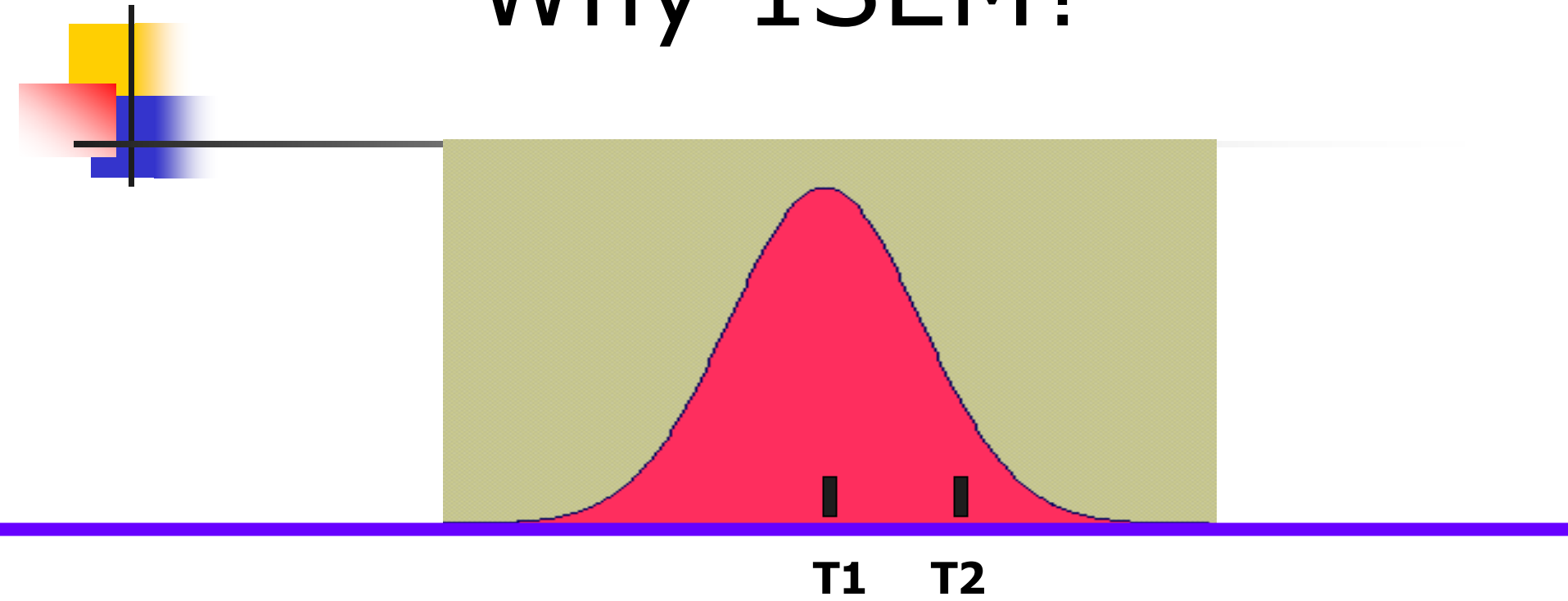
Kim's  
True  
Score

# What is a SEM?





# Why 1SEM?



T1 T2

Gary's  
Time 1 & Time2  
Scores



# Potential indicators for studies of MCID

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- Review of some of the literature (not comprehensive)
- Gain opinion of the face validity of each of these for use in MCID work in Pain clinical trials



# Principles....

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- Try > 1 approach, aim for convergence across methods
- Report SEM using test-retest reliability
- Separate analysis for improvement and deterioration
- Consider checking MCID values across tertiles of distribution
- Choose analytic methods that could yield individual level results
  - ROC analysis > mean change score within minimally changed group



# Global scale (Jaeshchke, 1989/Juniper 1994)

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“Has there been a change in your level of  
*fatigue* since your last visit?”  
Worse      Same      Better

If worse of better. 



# Jaeschke, 1989; Juniper, 1994

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- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ■ -7 A very great deal worse | 7 A very great deal better |
| ■ -6 A great deal worse      | 6 A great deal better      |
| ■ -5 A good deal worse       | 5 A good deal better       |
| ■ -4 Moderately worse        | 4 Moderately better        |
| ■ -3 Somewhat worse          | 3 Somewhat better          |
| ■ -2 A little worse          | 2 A little better          |
| ■ -1 Almost the same,        | 1 Almost the same,         |
| ■ hardly any worse at all    | hardly any better at all   |

Juniper used 2,3

Subgroup with small, but important change

*MCID = mean change score in those with a small but important change*



# Global indicator (Hagg, 2003)

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Compared to before my treatment my pain is...

- Much better
  - Better
  - Unchanged
  - Worse
  - Much worse
- 
- MCID = mean change for those better versus unchanged



# Global indicator (Farrar, 2001)

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- Since the start of the study, my overall status is...
  - Very much improved
  - Much improved
  - Minimally improved
  - No chang
  - Minimally worse
  - Much worse
  - Very much worse



# Global indicators (Kosinski, 2000)

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- 5 point transitional scales of change in...
  - Patient Global Change Item on RA Changes
  - Patient Global Change Item on overall health
  - Physician Global Change Item on RA
- MCID = mean change score in scale among patients in the “improved” group





# Concordant pt/clinician view (Stratford & Riddle, 98)

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- Jaeschke 15 point scale
- Indicator:  $> 5/7$  rating by both patient and clinician
- MCID: ROC analysis of change score for those with concordant improvement vs not.

Also used by Deyo & Inui, shorter scale



# Global indicators questions

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- Should they be related to same concept as the target scale?
  - Jaeshchke, 1989; Juniper, 1994
- Should it be very global....so are you better?
  - Supported by those hoping that a change relates to overall benefit & well being
- What breadth of response options?
  - 5, 7, 11, 15?



# Meeting treatment goals

(Riddle & Stratford, 1998)

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- Set treatment goals at onset, negotiated with the patient
- At discharge, verify if patient has met these treatment goals
- MCID: Best change score (ROC) for differentiating those meeting goals versus not

Consider dropping this one for pain, it might not be as related to change in pain



# Clinical indicators (Kosinski, 2000)

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- Number of tender joints
  - No change =  $< 1\%$  decrease in count
  - Small Improvement = 1-20% decrease in count
- Number of swollen joints
  - No change =  $< 1\%$  decrease in count
  - Small Improvement = 1-20% decrease in count
- MCID = mean change score in scale among patients in the “improved” group

Need clinical categories for Pain....ie, depression category shifts, cortisol levels?



# Clinical indicators (Deyo & Inui)

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- ARA disease classification
  - Shift in ARA classification level = improvement in disease.
- MCID = mean change in those with a disease improvement



# Clinical indicators for pain

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- Shift in VonKorff chronic pain grades
- Clinical indicators are hard to define



# Indicators measured at t1 & t2

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- Is your pain at a level where you can forget about it and do what you need to do in your day?
  - Improved group: Baseline = no; follow-up = yes
  - MCID: ROC analysis looking for best change differentiating those transitioning from no-yes from others.



# Indicators measured at t1 & t2

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- Bed Disability days
- Restricted activity days
- Work loss days
  
- MCID: ROC on people with no/1-2days/one week/normative data or more versus others





# Treatment of known efficacy

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- Distribution of change in those undergoing care of known efficacy
  - Set lower percentile distribution, 5<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> percentile
- Use to explore validity of 30% change etc, there should be consistency if it is effective care



# Satisfaction (JN Katz, Stucki)

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- Katz: Satisfaction with outcome of care
  - $> 8/10$  on satisfaction scale = definitely improved. Used for responsiveness
  - MCID: Could also use ROC analysis for most accurate change related to high satisfaction
- Stucki: Categorical satisfaction: very sat/somewhat sat/somewhat sat/very dissatisfied
  - Change in those in somewhat satisfied minus unsatisfied after spinal stenosis.



# Adequate pain control (Lee, 2003)

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- Focus was on 'major' clinical improvement
- Did you have adequate pain relief?
  - Yes = definitely improved
- Would you accept analgesic now?
  - Yes before, no now = improved.
- MCID: ROC analysis for best change in pain discriminating between improved vs.unimproved groups.



# Use of rescue meds (Farrar, 2003)

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- Cancer pain research
- Need to use rescue medication = failure for pain to be reduced an important amount
- MCID: ROC analysis of change scores to determine most accurate discriminating value