



SHAREABLE PDF

# Patient reported outcomes for non-tuberculous mycobacterial disease

Michael R. Loebinger<sup>1,2</sup> and Surinder S. Birring<sup>3</sup>

**Affiliations:** <sup>1</sup>Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK. <sup>2</sup>National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College, London, UK. <sup>3</sup>Centre for Human and Applied Physiological Sciences, School of Basic and Medical Biosciences, Faculty of Life Sciences and Medicine, King's College London, London, UK.

**Correspondence:** Michael R. Loebinger, Royal Brompton Hospital, Host Defence, Sydney St, London, SW3 6NP, UK. E-mail: m.loebinger@rbht.nhs.uk

 @ERSpublications

**There is a pressing need for patient related outcome measures for pulmonary NTM disease, to assist with both clinical management decisions and as an endpoint for clinical studies. This NTM Module should be considered an important step in this development.** <http://bit.ly/2OvmAQw>

**Cite this article as:** Loebinger MR, Birring SS. Patient reported outcomes for non-tuberculous mycobacterial disease. *Eur Respir J* 2020; 55: 1902204 [<https://doi.org/10.1183/13993003.02204-2019>].

This single-page version can be shared freely online.

The morbidity and mortality from non-tuberculous mycobacterial (NTM) disease is increasing [1]. Treatment of NTM usually requires multidrug regimens and is often associated with poor tolerability, significant side-effects and high failure rates. Not all patients with pulmonary NTM disease need treatment, and deciding who and when to treat can be challenging. The management of NTM is significantly hampered by the lack of reliable and responsive biomarkers to assess disease activity, progression and response to therapy, and at present, clinical decisions are made with a combination of symptom, radiology and microbiological assessments. There is a pressing need for new therapies and approaches for pulmonary NTM disease, and this will require robust clinical endpoints to evaluate them.