



### Point★ Wizard gets the points right

If you've ever set up a points system, you'll know there's no easy way of getting the right points ... *Until now!*

Below is part of a system for prioritising patients for orthopaedic surgery. The values (0, 5, 10 ...) look like they've been arbitrarily chosen, don't they? (Because they are so evenly spaced.)

Are they the right points, in fact? They will result in a particular ordering of patients on the waiting list. But by changing the points, you'll change the ordering of patients. That top score for pain, for example, should it really be 20? How about 21, 22, or 17? How do you decide?

*Point★ Wizard* turns this problem on its head – by finding the ordering that reflects your preferences perfectly and then finding the points that will give you that ordering.

a	Natural History of the problem	Points
1	Unlikely to deteriorate	0
2	May deteriorate or result in increase	5
3	Will probably result in increasing dis	10
4	Likely to progress to major complica	20
5	Life or limb threatening	30
b	Pain	
1	No pain	0
2	Intermittent activity related +/- analge	5
3	Episodic pain or incident related, but	10
4	Persistent pain with activity and at re	15
5	Dominates life and regularly interfere	20
c	Personal functional limitation	
1	Some difficulty but no limitation to pe	0
2	Moderate restriction to personal activi	5
3	Severe restriction to personal activiti	10

### Decision time: get the ordering of patients right

*Point★ Wizard's* simple user interface masks the sophistication of its algorithms (which were developed after many years of research that began in the health sector).

*Point★ Wizard* asks you to choose between 2 imaginary patients, where each is described according to just 2 criteria at a time.

Which patient would you treat first?

a Natural History of the potential or actual problem Will probably result in increasing disability	or	a Natural History of the potential or actual problem Likely to progress to major complication or disability
b Pain Dominates life and regularly interferes with sleep		b Pain No pain

Such simple questions are repeated with different imaginary patients until enough information about your preferences has been collected to find the right ordering of patients. Then *Point★ Wizard* finds the points that will give you this ordering.

### Point★ Wizard means validity

*Point★ Wizard* asks you which of two patients you would prefer to treat first. In contrast, alternative methods ask by how much more, or how many times more, one treatment criterion is important relative to another. *Point★ Wizard's* questions are the simplest possible, so you can have the greatest confidence in your answers, and the resulting ranking of patients.

### Rational, explicit & transparent

*Point★ Wizard* is a rational and explicit approach to prioritisation. The decisions you make are recorded in a report so you can defend how the points are derived. When shared with others, these decisions lend focus to discussions about the points system.

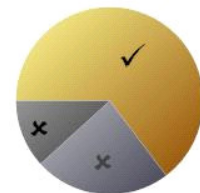
### Maintainable: keep your points system up-to-date

Should priorities change, individual decisions in *Point★ Wizard* can be revised, resulting in new points. This minimises the cost of fine-tuning, and by keeping your points system current, you earn the confidence of those it affects.

### Accessories

*Point★ Wizard* offers a range of additional features:

- You can enter hypothetical or actual patients to see how they will be ranked.
- After decision-making you can test yourself (or your group) for consistency.
- You can test how your preferences compare with an existing points system.
- You can compare the patient orderings produced by different points systems.



Alternative	Possible ranks: highest to lowest (range)	Rank 1	Rank 2	Score 1	Score 2
55335	1 to 1 (0 places)	1	1	305	100
55235	2 to 376 (374 places)	2	2=	303	95
45335	2 to 226 (224 places)	3	5=	290	90
45235	4 to 526 (522 places)	4	13=	288	85

### Other applications for Point★ Wizard

Health waiting list management is just one of many possible applications for *Point★ Wizard*. Its flexibility and sophistication is reflected in its wide variety of current uses, including:

- identification of new products for commercialisation
- evaluation of transport infrastructure spending priorities
- project appraisals in the petro-chemical industry
- recruitment
- management of natural and heritage sites
- selection of university scholarship recipients
- investigation of development options for New Zealand and East Timor respectively

### All you need is a browser

*Point★ Wizard* is available as a subscription system that can be accessed by secure logins via the Internet. The *Point★ Wizard* professional services group is also available for onsite consulting and training to assist you get the most out of *Point★ Wizard*.