We systematically obtained appropriateness ratings for a variety of scenarios in pancreatic NETs. For every rated scenario, we calculated two statistics: median of the panelists’ ratings and absolute deviation (i.e., distance) from every panelist’s rating to the median.

**RESULTS**

### Panelist Characteristics
- The 10 panels were from northeast, midwest, south, and west regions, all were in academic practice.
- Specialties included medical and surgical oncology, interventional radiology, and gastroenterology.
- Panellists had practiced a median of 15 (range: 6-35 years) and reported 44% (range: 15-65%) of their time was spent seeing patients.
- Five panels had been involved with the development of other NET treatment guidelines.

### Patient Scenarios Scored
- Inappropriate: 0.0 to 1.0
- Uncertain: 1.1 to 2.9
- Appropriate: 3.0 to 6.0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Inappropriate</th>
<th>Uncertain</th>
<th>Appropriate</th>
</tr>
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<td>59</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
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<td>7.7</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statistical Summary of Panel Agreement
- In the 2nd round: 
  - absolute median rating was 4.1 (range: 1-9),
  - average distance from median was 0.9 (range: 0-2.2).

### CONCLUSIONS
- The modified RAND/UCLA Delphi process can be a useful tool to generate consensus regarding the most appropriate treatment strategies in NETs.
- Clinical practice guidelines can be developed based on the results.
- Further studies are needed to validate the recommended treatment strategies.

**LIMITATIONS**
- The panels relied on information from a variety of data sources, not just from randomized controlled trials.
- Although the Delphi panel method has been shown to be reproducible, all panels were from academic settings, and a different panel composition may have developed different consensus statements.
- The Delphi panel process does not develop new information; obtaining additional evidence may be useful in further evaluating appropriateness of various treatment options.

**REFERENCES**