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| **Table S1.** Issues warranting improvement and merits of the current protocol derived from patients' free feedback given post-treatment. |
| **Issues warranting improvement** | **N (%) of patients relating to this issue**  |
| Treatment’s rationale was not clear enough and should be better explained  | 20 (33.33%) |
| Treatment’s task is too monotonous/not challenging enough  | 10 (16.67%) |
| Scarcity of interactions with clinicians and research assistants  | 7 (11.67%) |
| Reading instructions at the beginning of each session was unnecessary  | 6 (10%) |
| Exposure to facial stimuli was unpleasant  | 4 (6.67%) |
| Using the internet was difficult  | 2 (3.33%) |
| **Merits of the novel protocol** | **N (%) of patients relating to this issue**  |
| Remote delivery was convenient and saved time on the roads  | 23 (38.33%) |
| The interaction with study’s personnel was pleasant  | 20 (33.33%) |
| Research personnel was professional  | 4 (6.67%) |
| Reminders and interactions with research personnel aided in treatment adherence  | 3 (5%) |
| Sessions are short and thus save time  | 2 (3.33%) |