Table 2. Description of the number of patients who start and finish in each study and the number and causes of non-completion.

ARTICLE	SAMPLE SIZE NECESSARY TO MAKE AN INFERENCE (n)	TREATMENT GROUP (GT)							CONTROL GROUP (GC)							DIFFERENCE PATIENTS WHO COMPLETE TREATMENT IN GI AND GC
		They start treatment	Complete treatment finished		They do not complete treatment: they discontinue		Causes	Losses	They start treatment	Complete treatment finished		They do not complete treatment: they discontinue		Causes	Losses	
		(n)	(n)	(%)	(n)	(%)			(n)	(n)	(%)	(n)	(%)			
SCALE, 2015	3600(2:1; 2400 lira and 1200 placebo)	2487	1789	71.9	698	28	Adverse events: 246 (10%), withdrawals of consent: 286 (12%) and other causes: 166 (7%)	496 (20%)	1244	678	64	194	16	Adverse events: 47 (3.8%) and other causes: 147 (11.8%)	332 (27%)	8
STEP-1, 2021	1950 (2:1; 1300 sema and 650 placebo)	1306	1083	82.92	223	17	Adverse events: 91 (7%), consent withdrawal 9 (1%), other reasons: 56 (5%) and missing information for 67 (5%)	66 (5%)	655	499	73	78	7	Adverse events: 5 (0.8%) and other reasons: 41 (6.3%). There is no data for 32 (4.89%)	46 (7%)	10
STEP-3, 2021	600 (2:1; 400 sema and 200 placebo)	407	336	83	40	10	Adverse events: 24 (6%) and other reasons: 16 (4%)	31 (8%)	204	165	81	26	13	Adverse events: 6 (%) and others: 20 (10%)	Losses: 7 (3%), withdrew consent: 3 (2%) and withdrew from the study: 1 (1%), no information available: 2 (1%)	2
STEP-5, 2022	304 (1:1; 152 in each group)	152	132	87	20	13	Adverse events: 10 (7%) and others: 10 (7%)	4 (3%)	152	111	73	41	39	Adverse events: 7 (5%) and others: 34 (22%)	18 (12%)	14
SURMOUNT-3, 2023	(1:1) 600: 300 in each group	287	226	78.7	61	21	Adverse events 33 (11.5%)	32 (11%)	292	203	70	89	31	Adverse events 7 (2%)	70 (24%)	8.7
WEIGHT RECOVERY TRIALS																
STEP-4, 2021	750 (2:1; 500 plus 250)	535	504	94	24	5	Adverse events: 11 (2%) and others: 13 (2%)	7 (1%)	268	237	88	23	9	Adverse events 6 (2%) and others 23 (9%)	8 (3%)	6
SURMOUNT-4, 2024	(1:1) 600: 300 in each group	335	300	90	35	7	Adverse events: 5 (2%)	25 (7%)	335	275	82	60	18	Adverse events: 3 (1%)	45 (13%)	8
HEAD TO HEAD WEIGHT TRIALS																
STEP-8, 2022	(3:1): 126 in each group and 84 in the control group	253: sema:126 and lira:127	201	sema: 109 (86.5%) and lira: 92 (72.4%)	38	sema: 12 (9.5%) and lira: 26 (20.5%)	Sema: adverse events: 3 (2%) and other reasons: 9 (7%); lira: adverse events: 14 (11%) and other reasons: 12 (9%)	Losses: sema: 6 (5%) and lira: 9 (7%)	85	70	82.4	11	13	Adverse events: 3 (4%) and other reasons: 8 (9%)	Losses: 4 (5%)	-
CLINICAL OUTCOME TRIALS																
SELECT, 2023	8750 in each group	8803	6193	70.3	2351	26.70 %	Adverse effects: 1417 (16.1%), other causes: 934 (10.6%)	Loss to follow-up 192 (2%), withdrawal of consent 67 (1%)	8801	6439	73.2	2078	24	Adverse events: 689 (8%) and others: 1489 (16%)	Lost to follow-up 284 (3%), withdrawal of consent 96 (1%)	-2.9

The data in this table are an approximation since they have been calculated with the data published by the authors and comparing and modifying with the data obtained in https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/
In many cases the published data do not allow us to distinguish between discontinuation of treatment and true abandonment of the trial, nor the causes of the latter.