

## **Question on numerical skills**

Question on numerical skills was derived from Schwartz et al. (1997) [1]. It consisted in 3 open questions aimed to assess the numerical skills of respondents.

COMP\_1 – Taking a medication, the chance of developing an allergic reaction is 1%. What is your best guess about how many people would develop an allergic reaction if 1,000 people take the medication?

COMP\_2 – Taking a medication, the chance of developing an allergic reaction is 1 in 1,000. What percentage of treated patients develop an allergic reaction?

COMP\_3 – Imagine that we flip a fair coin 1,000 time. What is your best guess about how many times the coin would come up heads?

## **References**

1. Schwartz LM1, Woloshin S, Black WC, Welch HG. The role of numeracy in understanding the benefit of screening mammography. *Ann Intern Med.* 1997;127:966-72.