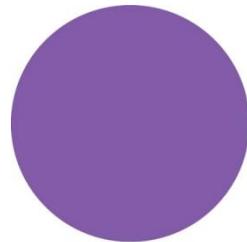




Clinical trials: do the patients get the thanks they deserve?

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ENVISION PHARMA
GROUP 

Together, turning vision into reality

Introduction

- Patient-centric initiatives are becoming more common
- On 10 June, 2014, *The BMJ* launched a new strategy to promote patient partnership
- *The BMJ* will assess whether patient-dependent articles (i.e., using patient data) address the questions in the Table^{1,2}

Questions asked by *The BMJ* from authors of patient-focused research^{1,2}

1. Did you involve patients/service users/carers/lay people in the design of this study?
2. Was the development and/or selection of outcome measures informed by patients' priorities and experiences?
3. Were patients/service users/carers/lay people involved in developing plans for participant recruitment and study conduct? If so, please specify how?
4. Have you planned to disseminate the results of the study to participants? If so, how will this be done?
5. Are patients thanked in the contributorship statement or acknowledgements?
6. For articles reporting randomised-controlled trials, did you assess the burden of the intervention on patients' quality of life and health? If so, what evaluation method did you use, and what did you find?



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Purpose

To investigate how often patients are thanked in patient-dependent publications in *The BMJ*

Methods

Publications dependent on patient data identified

- We conducted a search in PubMed in August 2014, limited to the journal field for “BMJ”
- The search was ordered by most recent publications first

Publications assessed

- Acknowledgements
 - Thanking patients
 - Thanking others
- Funding source

Further categorization of acknowledgements

- Study design
- Patient population
- Therapeutic area
- Geographical location

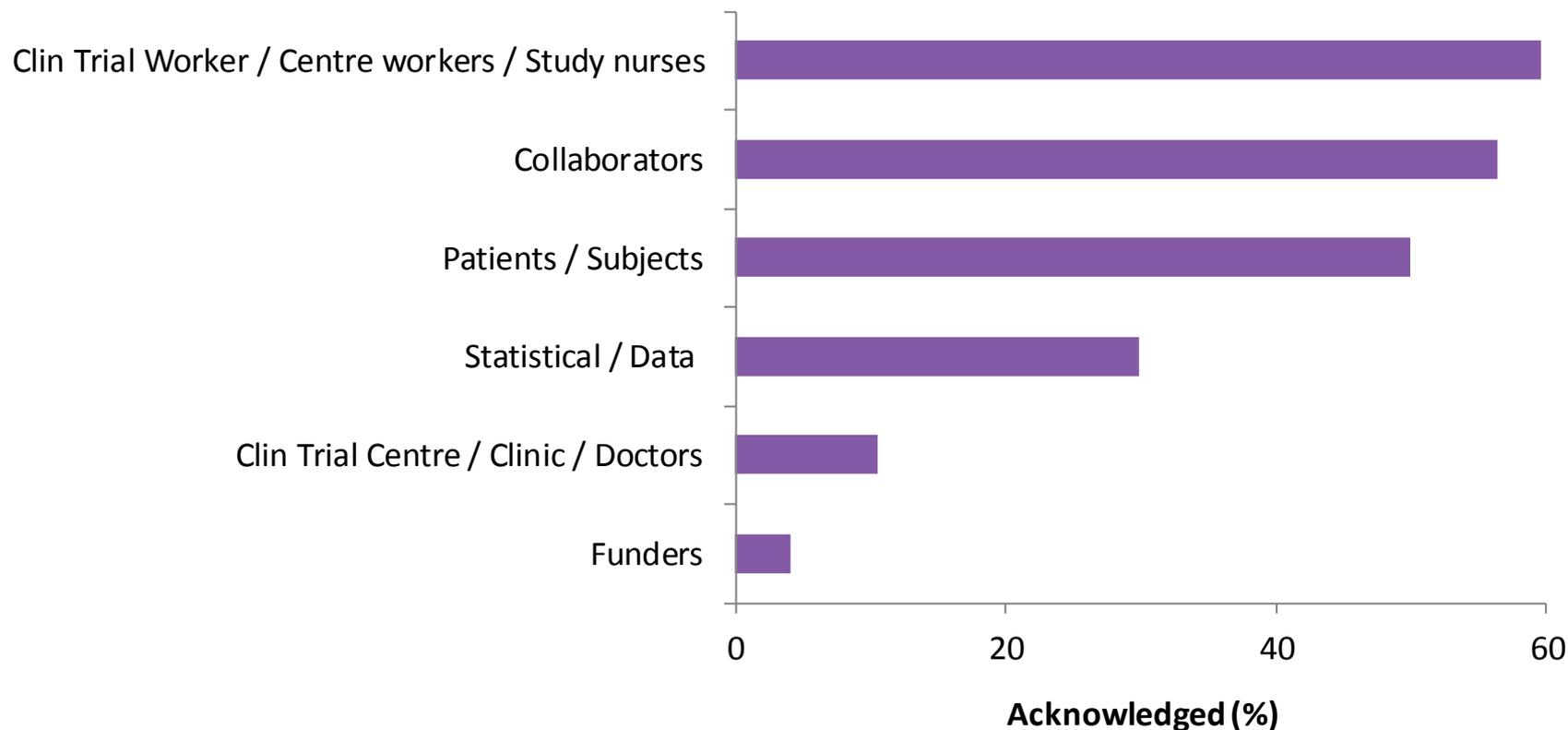
Results: patient acknowledgements

- Of 125 articles investigated,
 - 87 (69.6%) were randomised-controlled trials
 - 94 (75.2%) involved adult-only populations and 17 (13.6%) paediatric-only populations

~50% of patient-dependant manuscripts thanked the patients



Results: acknowledgement by group

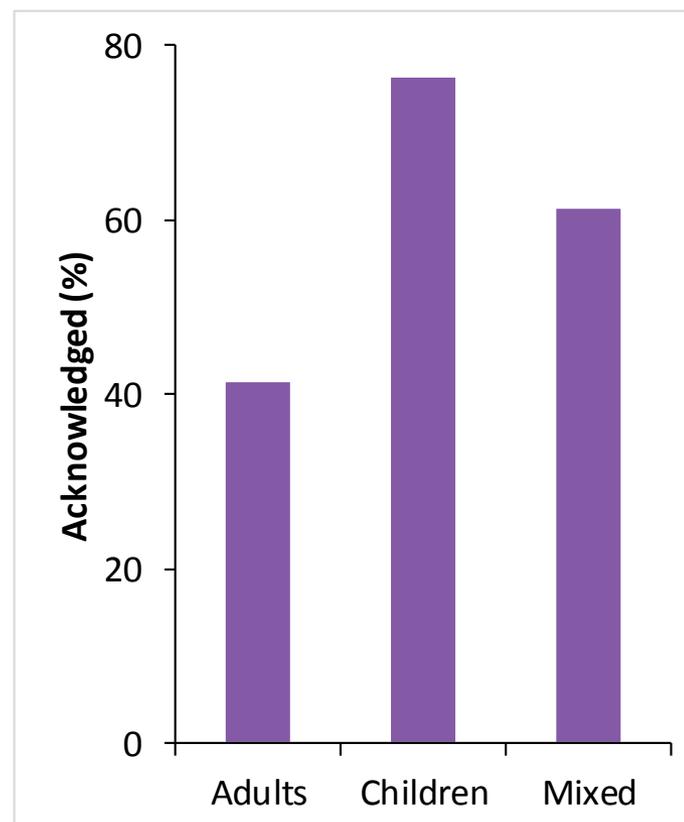


Patients were only the 3rd most commonly thanked group



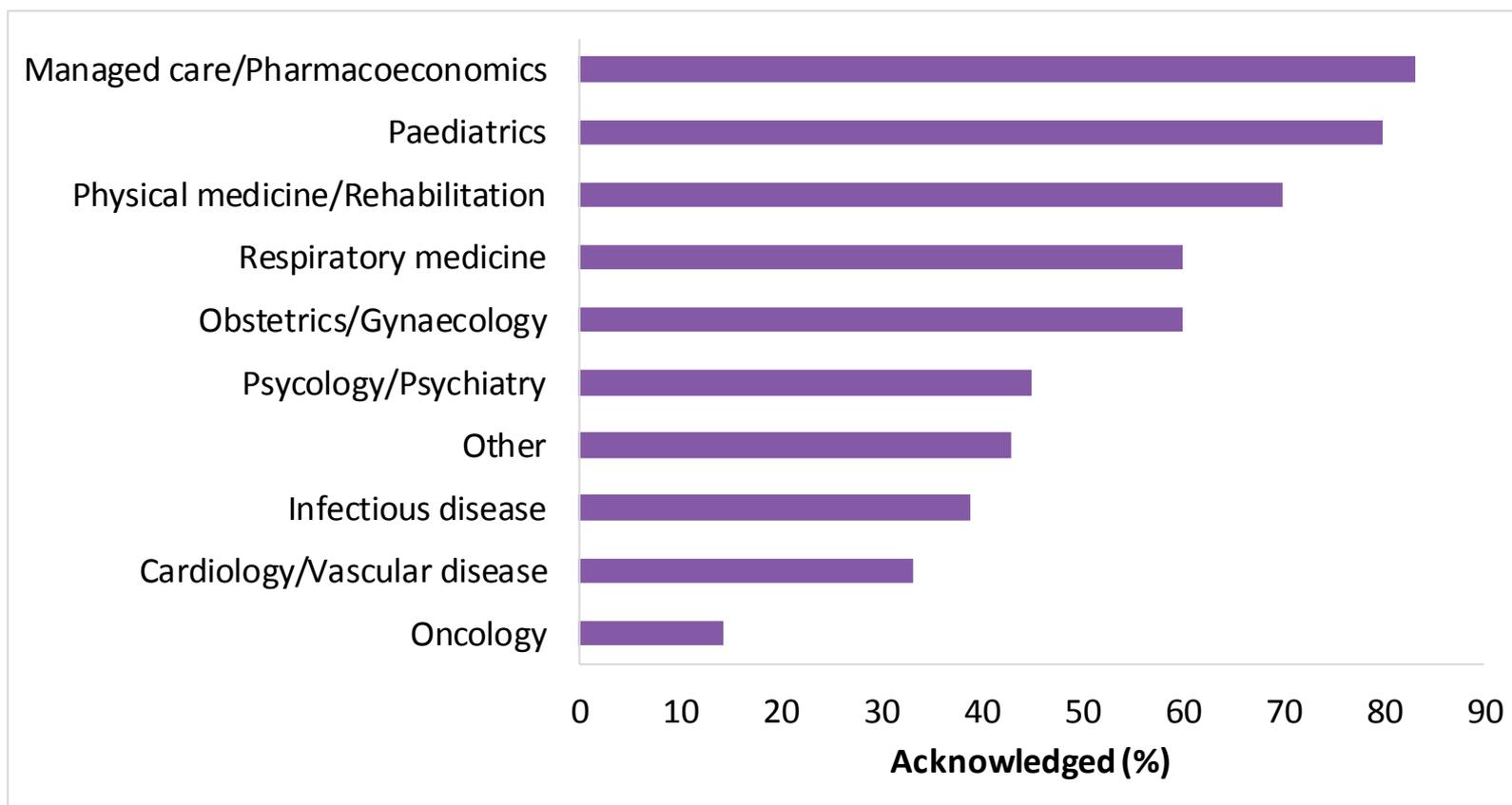
Results: patient population

- A total of 39/94 (41.5%) adult-only population studies thanked patients
 - Of 17 studies involving only paediatric patients, 13 (76.5%) thanked patients
 - In mixed population studies, 8/14 (57.1%) studies thanked the patient group for their data



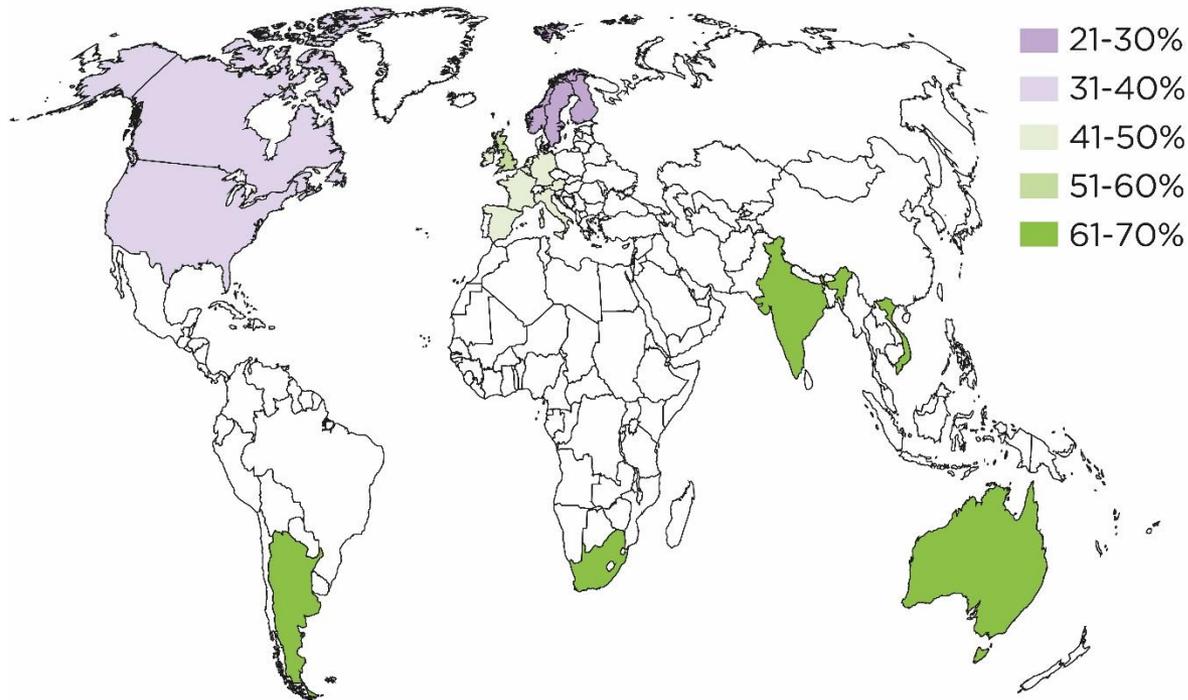
Paediatric patients were the most commonly thanked population

Results: therapeutic area



Few papers in the Oncology therapeutic area thanked patients for their data

Results: patient acknowledgement by geographical location



The RoW-based manuscripts most commonly thanked patients

Conclusions

- In patient-focused publications in *The BMJ*, patients were thanked ~50% of the time
- Publications were more likely to include a thank you to patients if:
 - The study population included paediatric patients
 - If the therapeutic area was Managed care/Pharmacoeconomics or Paediatrics
 - If the corresponding authors was based in the RoW
- Publication professionals could use our results to highlight to authors and sponsors the importance of thanking patients in patient-dependent publications

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