

# Prevalence of patient-reported dysphagia and oral complications in cancer patients

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# Background

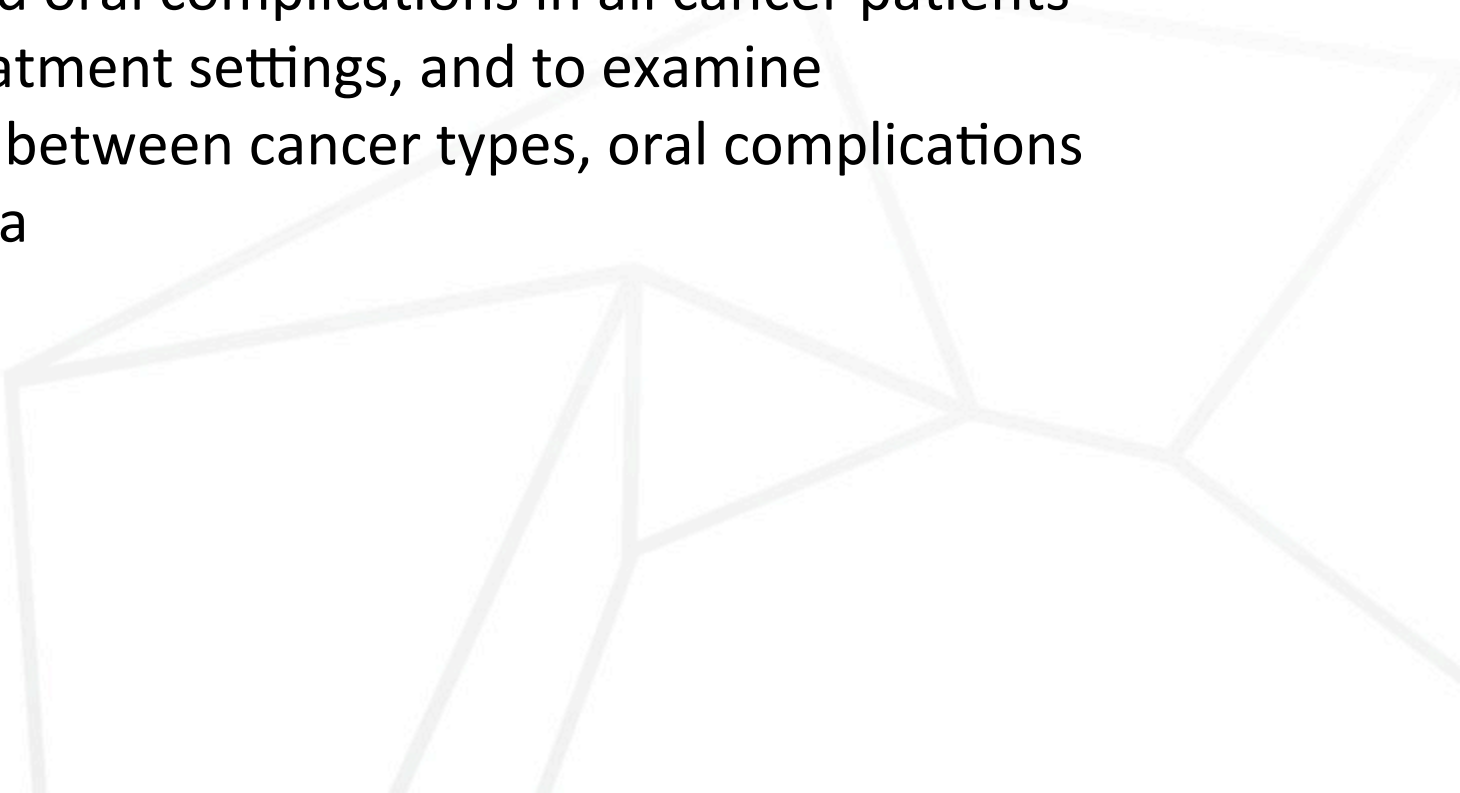


Dysphagia and oral complications resulting from cancer and cancer therapies may be underreported, under-recognised, and undertreated

[Epstein, 2012; Raber-Durlacher, 2012]

# AIM

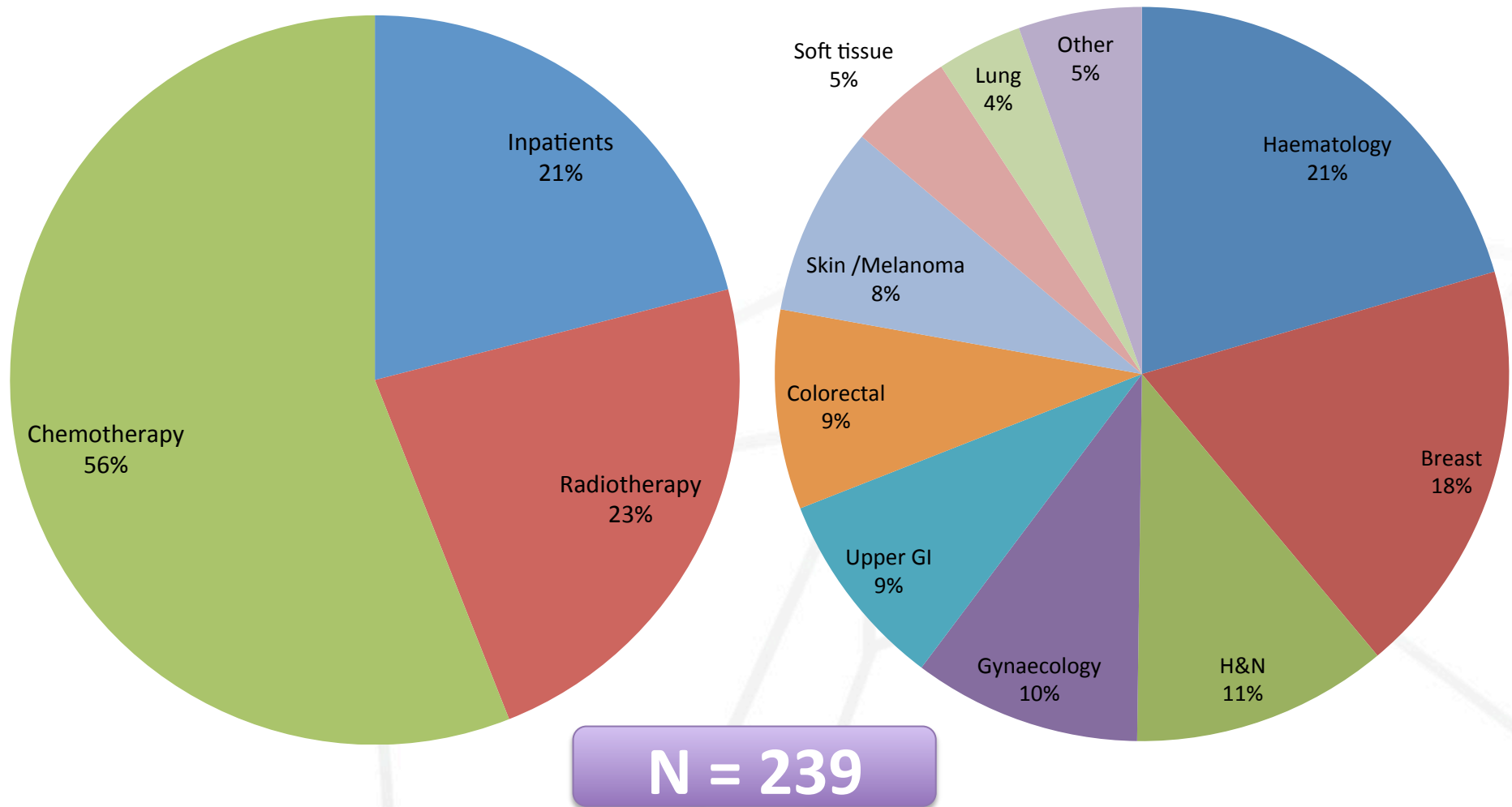
To determine the prevalence of patient-reported dysphagia and oral complications in all cancer patients across all treatment settings, and to examine relationships between cancer types, oral complications and dysphagia



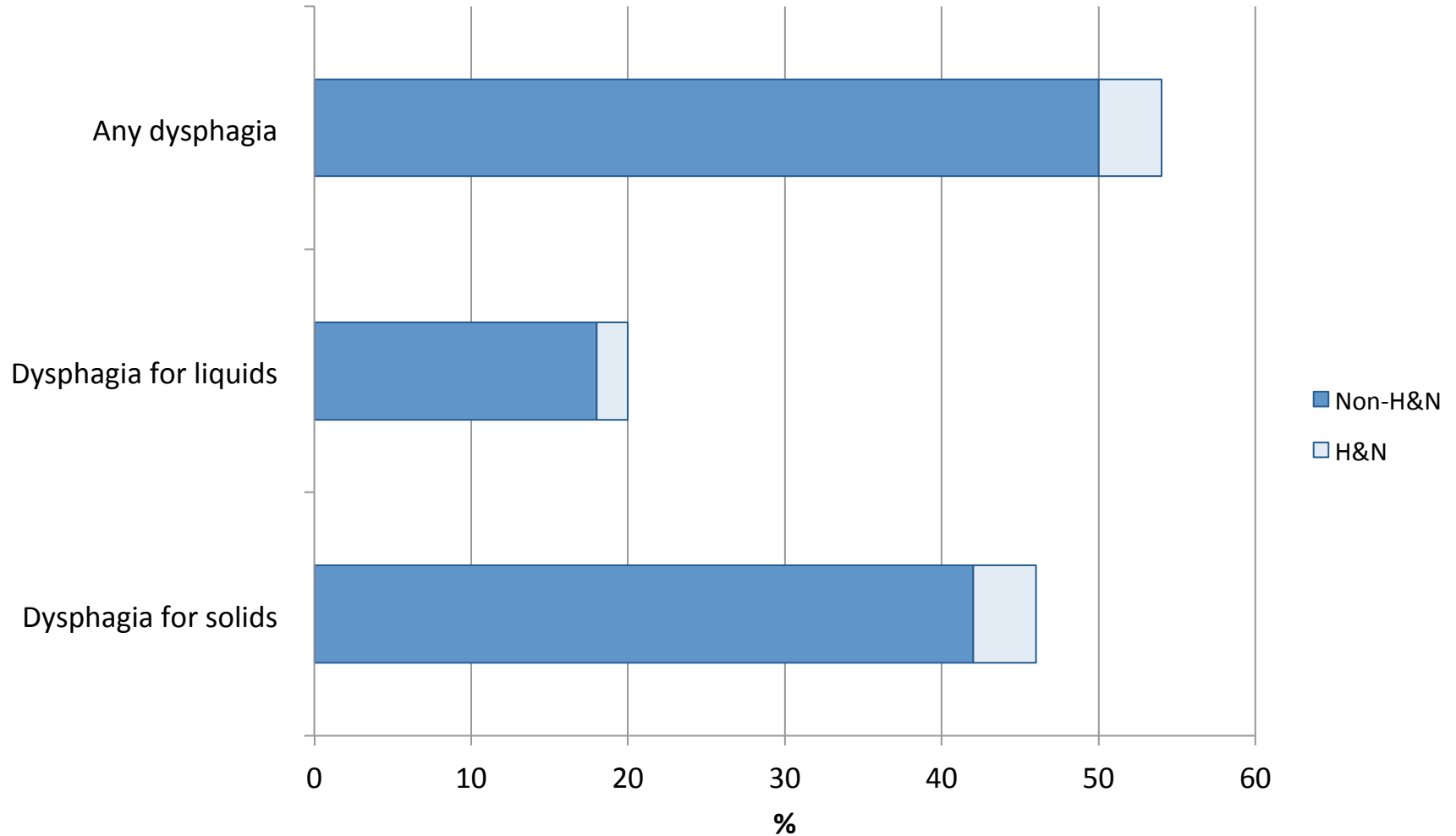
# METHODS

Cross-sectional study design

Vanderbilt Head and Neck Symptom Survey (v 2.0) [Cooperstein, 2012]

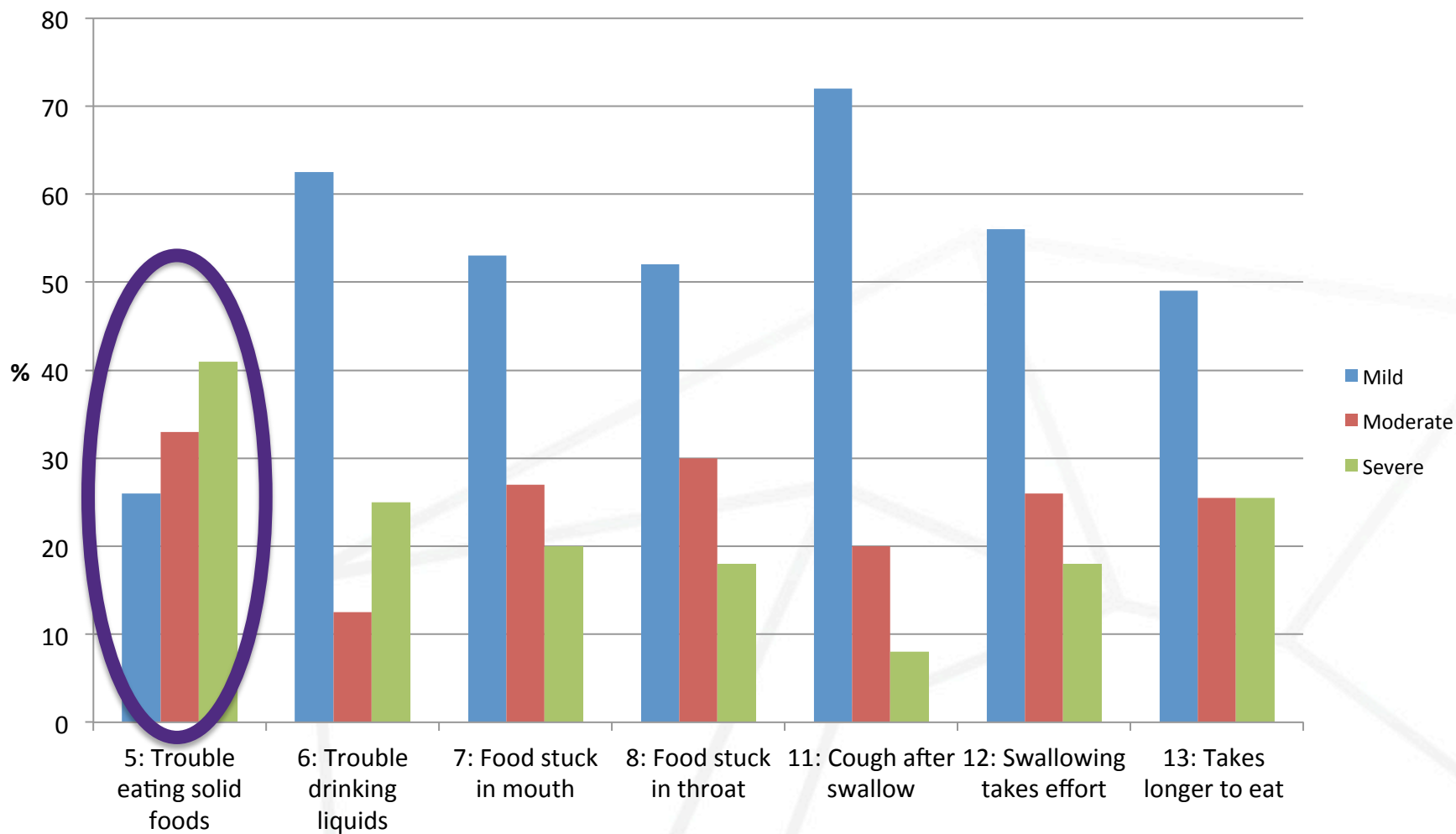


# RESULTS: Prevalence of Dysphagia

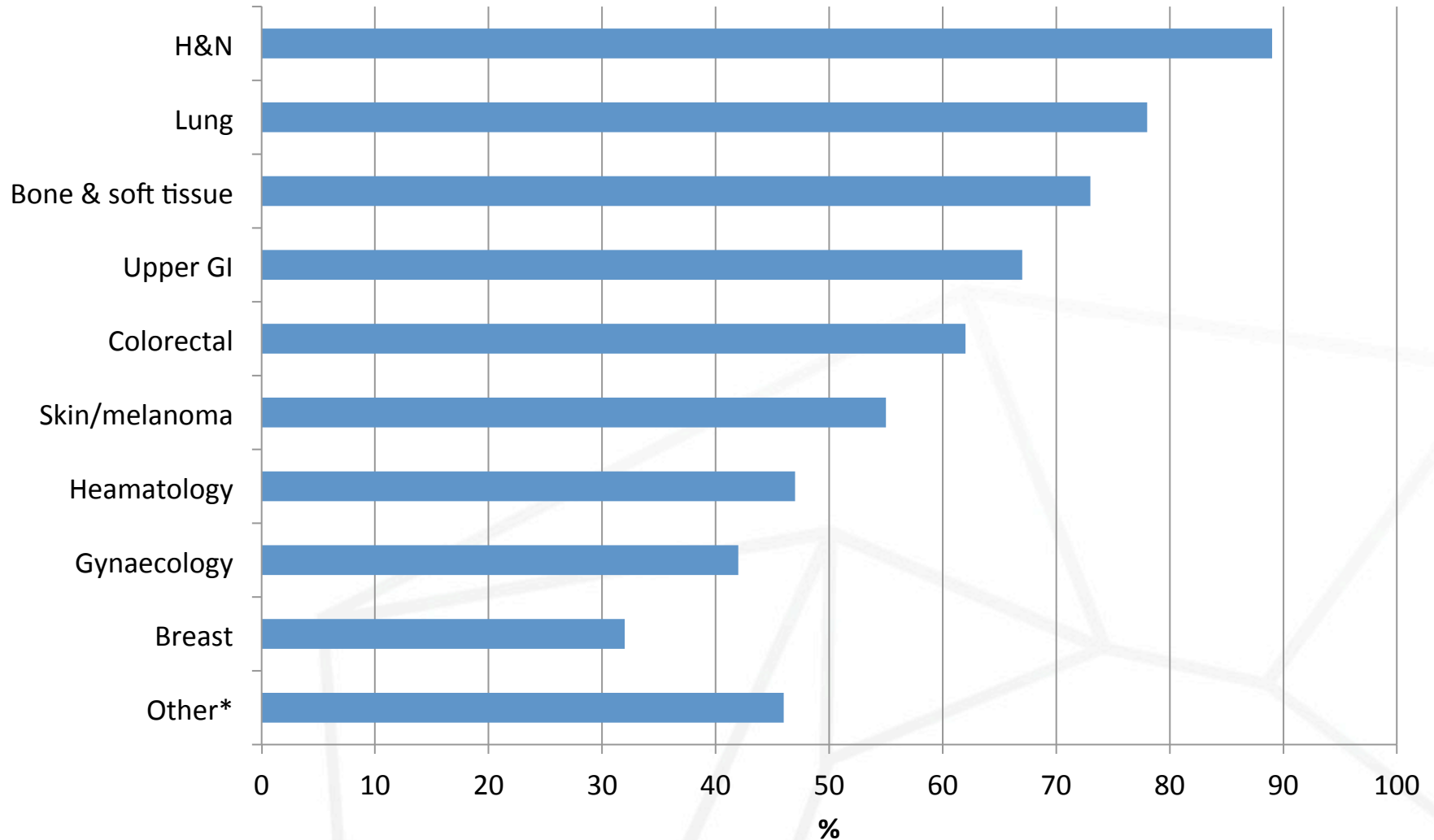


# Dysphagia severity

Of the patients who reported swallowing problems:

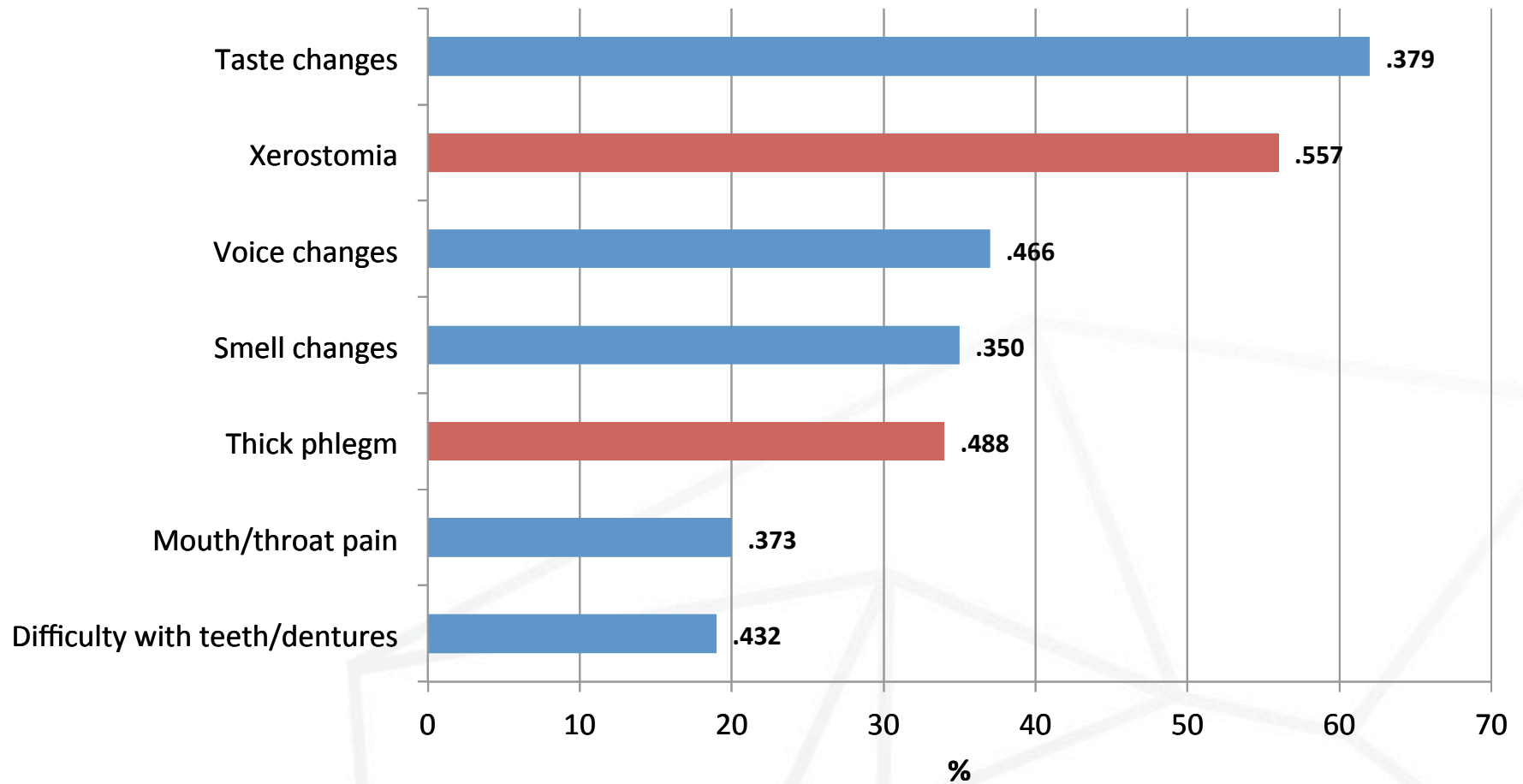


# Prevalence of dysphagia by tumour type



\* CNS, genitourinary, urology, UKP

# Prevalence of oral complications





# CONCLUSIONS

Complications are unavoidable: ↑ awareness and recognition

Dysphagia and oral complications are prevalent in cancer patients

Symptoms often co-exist: **symptom clusters**

Further research: *patient-reported* outcomes