



Who Are the Authors of Plain Language Summaries of Publications?

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Conclusions



PLSPs generally reflect the authorship of the original scientific article, with most involving the lead author and a subset of the original authors. This is consistent with the Good Publication Practice (GPP) 2022 and International Committee of Medical Journal Editor (ICMJE) guidelines for secondary publications^{3,4}

Including a patient or caregiver author or a perspectives section may increase the reach of a PLSP

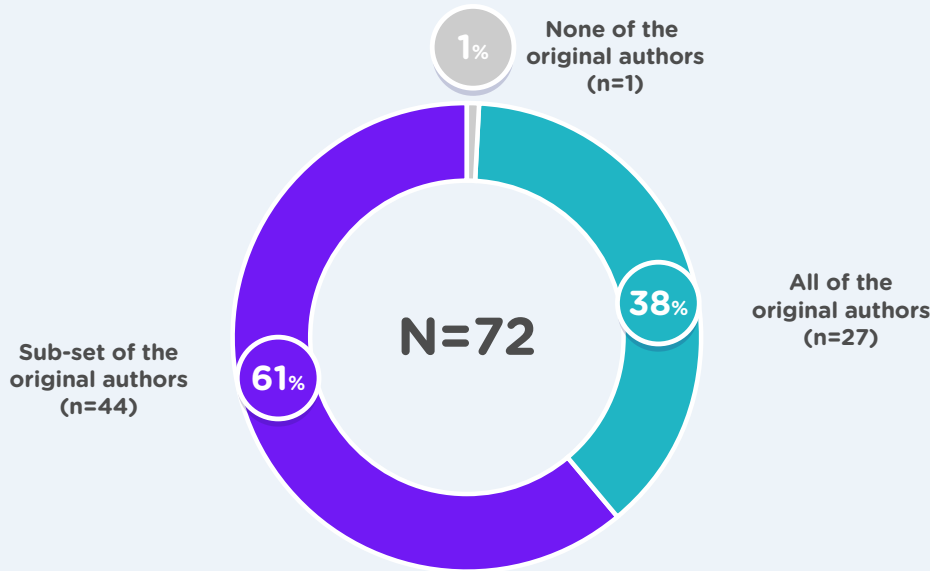
Contact: Catherine Elliott, Catherine.Elliott@envisionpharma.com

Background and Objectives

- Plain language summaries of publications (PLSPs) are peer-reviewed, standalone articles written in nontechnical language that present information from 1 or more publications. They are intended to be read and understood by nonspecialists¹
- Ideally, PLSPs should include at least 1 author of the original publication to ensure accurate representation of the content¹⁻⁴
- Our objective was to understand the authorship of PLSPs. We also wanted to explore if PLSPs with additional authors had further content such as individual perspective sections

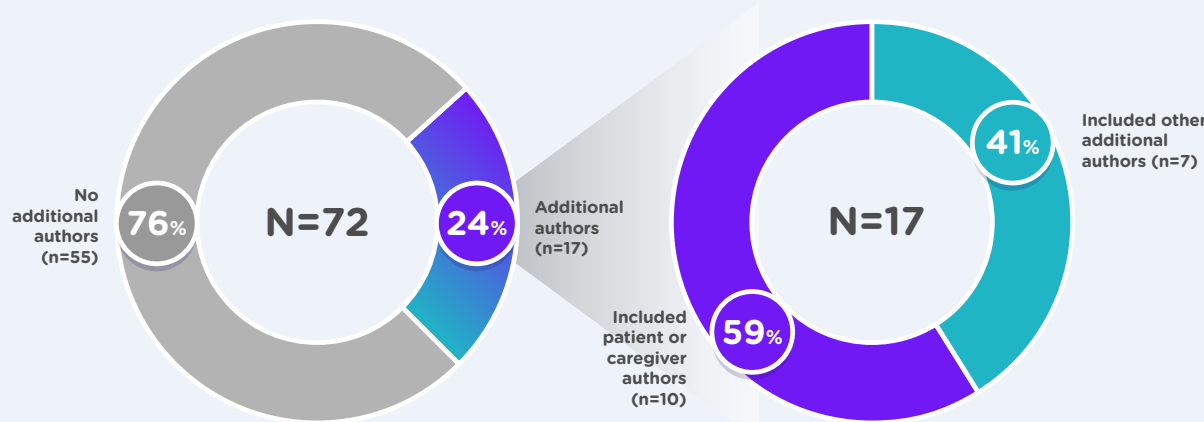
Results

Do PLSPs include authors from the original publication?



- Almost all of the PLSPs (71/72) included at least 1 author from the original publication(s)
- Most of the PLSPs (66/72) included a lead author from the original publication

Do PLSPs include additional authors and, if so, who are they?



- About a quarter of PLSPs (17/72) included additional authors compared with the original publications—the majority were patients or caregivers
- Other additional authors included patient advocacy group representatives, nurse practitioners, science communicators, pharmaceutical industry employees, physicians, and clinical research staff

Research Design and Methods

- We compared the authorship groups of PLSPs published in Future Science Group journals between 5 August 2020 and 28 February 2023, with those of the corresponding original publications
- Our aims were to understand:
 - Do PLSPs include authors from the original publication?
 - Do PLSPs include additional authors and, if so, who are they?
 - Which therapy areas have PLSPs?
- We also looked at the Altmetric scores and downloads of PLSPs with additional authors/perspective sections and how these compared with PLSPs without additional authors/perspective sections

Which therapy areas have PLSPs?

- Between 5 August 2020 and 28 February 2023, Future Science Group has published 72 PLSPs spanning a wide range of therapy areas
 - The majority of PLSPs focus on cancer (n=27), brain and nerves (n=14), rare diseases (n=11), and infections (n=11)

[Additional Information >](#)

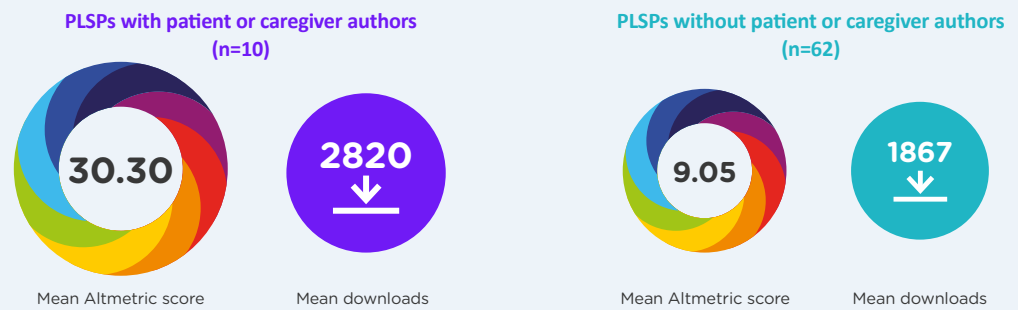
Do PLSPs with additional authors include added perspective sections not in the original publication?

- Six of the 17 PLSPs with additional authors included a patient or caregiver perspective section
 - Two of these PLSPs also included other additional perspectives; one included a nursing perspective section, and the other a patient advocate perspective section

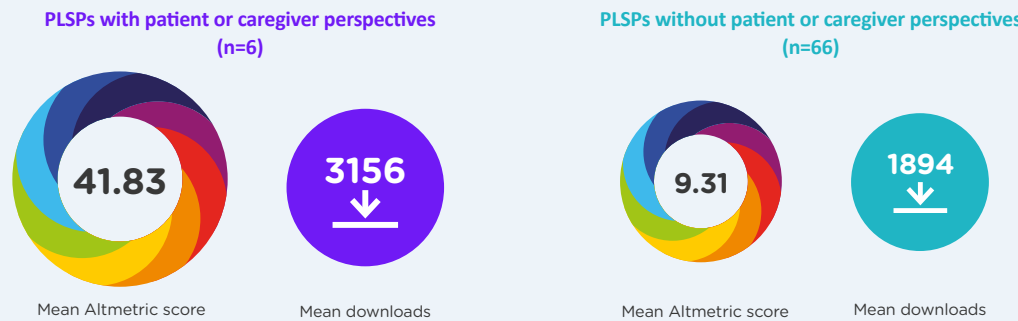
[Additional Information >](#)

What were the Altmetric scores and downloads of PLSPs with vs without additional authors or perspectives?

- On average, PLSPs with patient or caregiver authors (n=10) had a higher Altmetric score and downloads than those without patient or caregiver authors (n=62)



- On average, PLSPs with an added patient or caregiver perspective section (n=6) had a higher Altmetric score and downloads than those without an added perspective section (n=66)



[Additional Information >](#)

Disclosures and Acknowledgments

All authors took part in the research, were actively involved in preparing the abstract, and have approved the final poster. CE and JO are employees and own stock options in Envision Pharma Group, a healthcare communications company that is funded by pharmaceutical companies to facilitate the creation of plain language summaries. CE and JW serve on the ISMPP European Meeting Committee 2024. At the time of this research, LM was an employee at Envision Pharma Group on a student placement from the University of Manchester. JW is a co-owner of Becaris Publishing Ltd and was a consultant for Future Science Group at the time this research was carried out. RJ is an employee of Taylor & Francis and was employed by Future Science Group at the time this research was carried out. RJ serves on the ISMPP Digital/Visual Communications Committee. DL was an employee of, and owns shares in, Envision Pharma Group. DL serves on the ISMPP Patient Engagement Task Force. Editorial and graphical support were provided by Helen Donaghy and Greg Flocco of Envision Pharma Group. This encore abstract was previously presented at the 19th Annual Meeting of ISMPP (24-26 April 2023; Washington, DC, USA).

References

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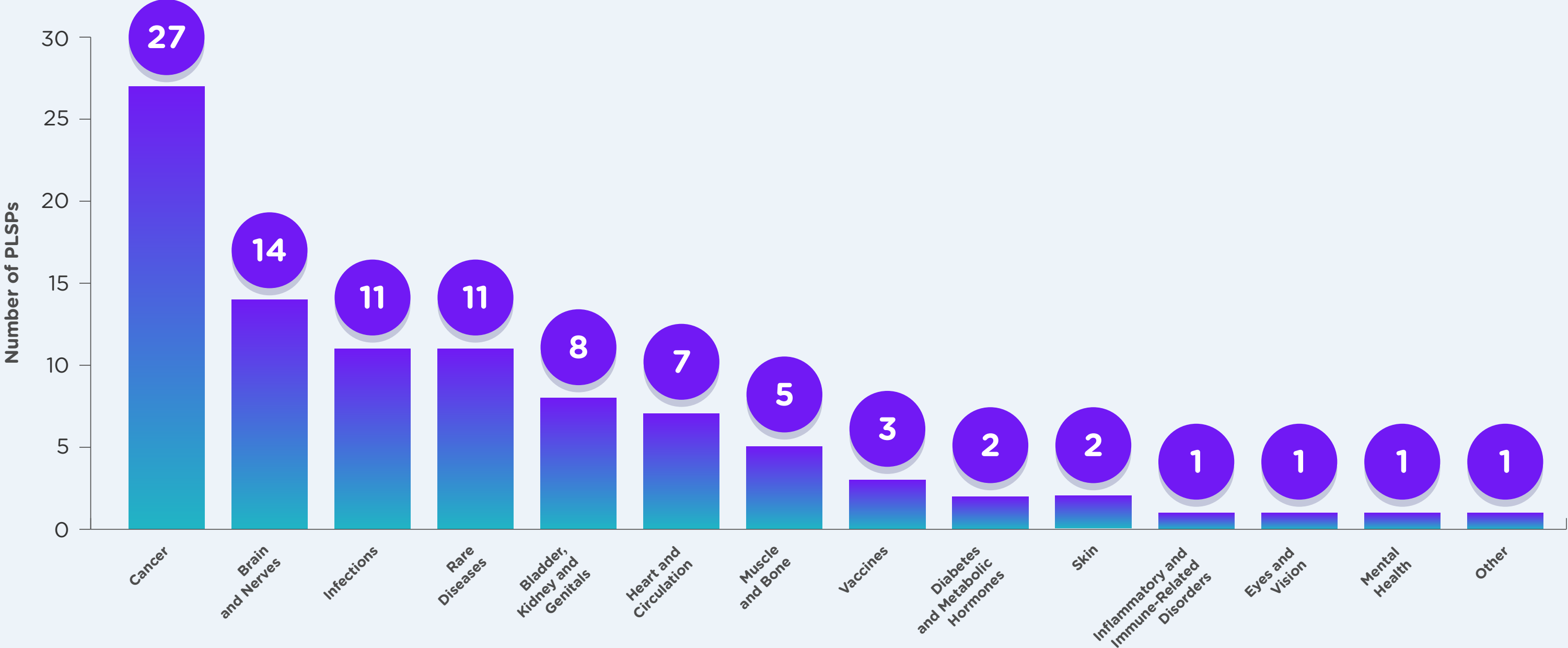
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 - Do PLSPs with additional authors include added perspective sections not in the original publication?

Which therapy areas have PLSPs?



Some PLSP are in >1 category. Total number of PLSPs is 72.



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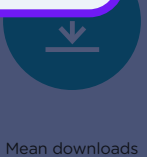
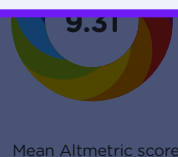
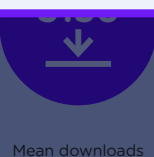
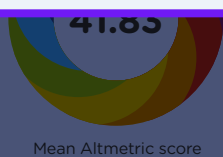
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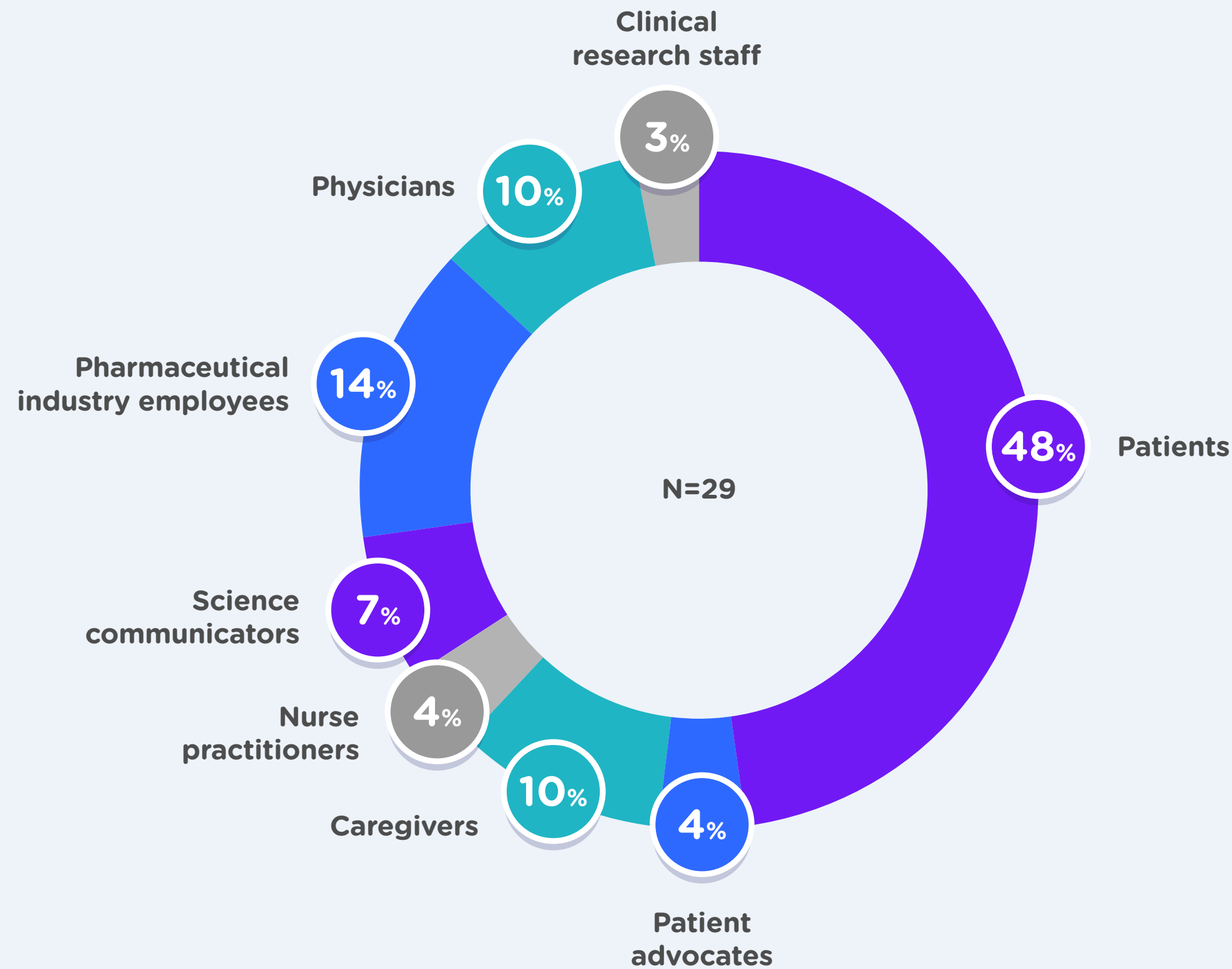
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Research Design and Methods

- We compared the authorship groups of PLSPs published in Future Science Group journals between 5 August 2020 and 28 February 2023, with those of the corresponding original publications
- Our aims were to understand:

Over 60% (18/29) of additional authors of PLSPs were patients, caregivers, or patient advocates



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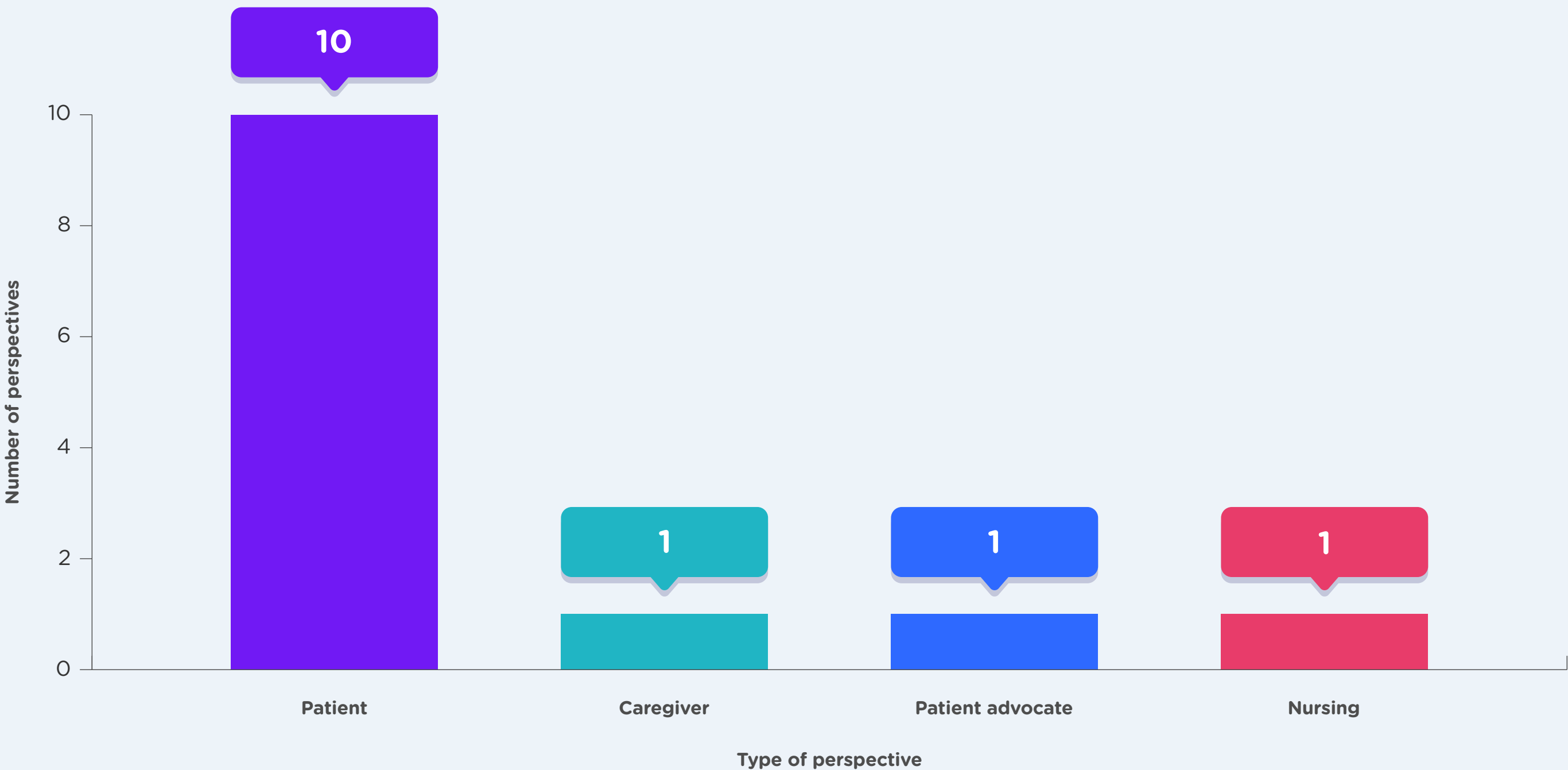
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PLSPs included a range of perspective sections, with the majority being patient perspectives



Some PLSPs included >1 perspective section. Total number of PLSPs with an additional perspective section is 6.

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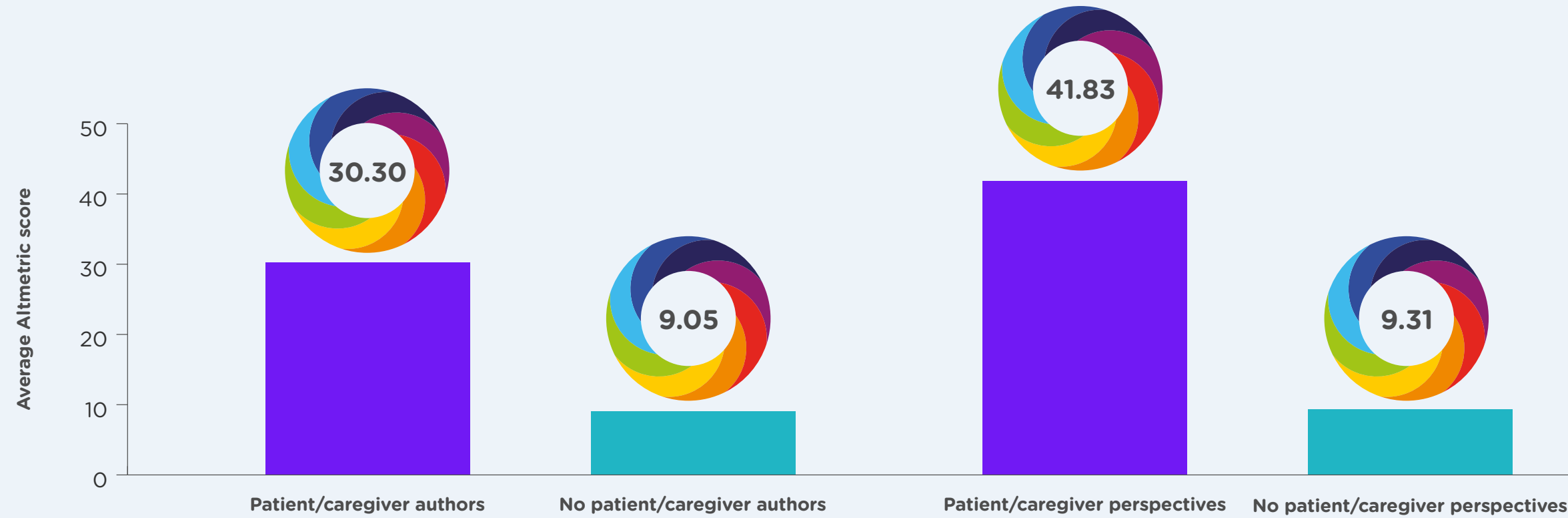
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Conclusions

PLSPs generally reflect the original scientific findings involving the lead author of the original article with the Good Publication Practice 2022 and International Committee of Medical Journal Editors guidelines for secondary publication.

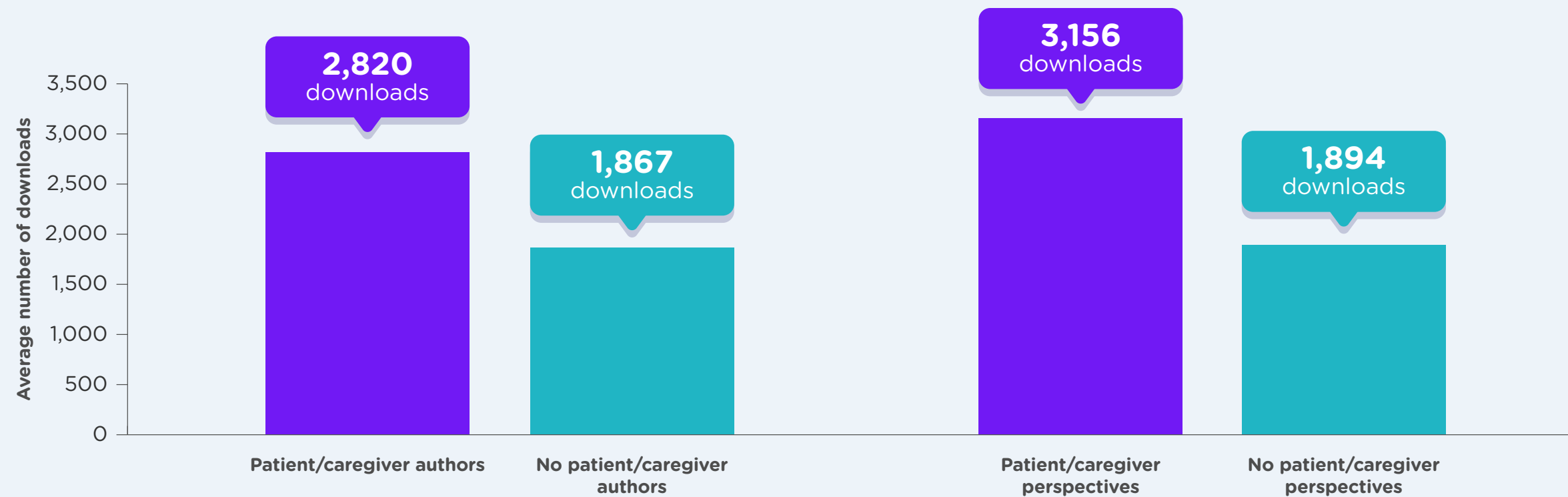
Including a patient/caregiver perspectives section in a PLSP

PLSPs with patient/caregiver authors and perspective sections had higher average Altmetric scores compared with PLSPs without patient/caregiver authors and perspective sections



Data cutoff date: 28 February 2023.

PLSPs with patient/caregiver authors and perspective sections had higher average downloads compared with PLSPs without patient/caregiver authors and perspective sections



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