

Analysis of open access policy and publisher embargo on availability of pharma-sponsored publications

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Background

- Open access (OA) provides free online access to journal articles, allowing a greater number of end users to access scientific information
- OA has the potential to enhance the impact and outreach of journal articles, improve transparency, foster trust, improve scientific collaboration, and ultimately help to improve patient care through wider access for healthcare professionals to peer-reviewed publications
- Usage rights are often granted by specific Creative Commons licenses (CCLs), including CC BY (the least restrictive), CC BY-NC (noncommercial), CC BY-ND (no derivatives), and CC BY-NC-ND licenses¹
- End users may also copy, use, distribute, transmit, and display a work publicly, and make and distribute derivative works, subject to proper attribution of authorship and the specifications of the license type^{2,3}
- Shire became the first pharmaceutical company to introduce a commitment to publishing its sponsored research manuscripts in OA, peer-reviewed journals, and after Takeda's acquisition of Shire, this commitment to OA publishing was adopted by Takeda
- Initial investigations into Shire OA publishing before and after OA policy implementation examined the number, reach, and types of CCLs that were offered, chosen, and used. These findings have been presented^{4,5}
- Here, we provide an update on the OA parameters for Takeda-sponsored manuscripts published after the OA policy was adopted by the company, after their acquisition of Shire

Objectives

- To evaluate OA publishing of Takeda-sponsored research
- To investigate the specific types of CCLs as well as any embargo periods imposed by the publishing journals
- To identify challenges and opportunities associated with OA implementation

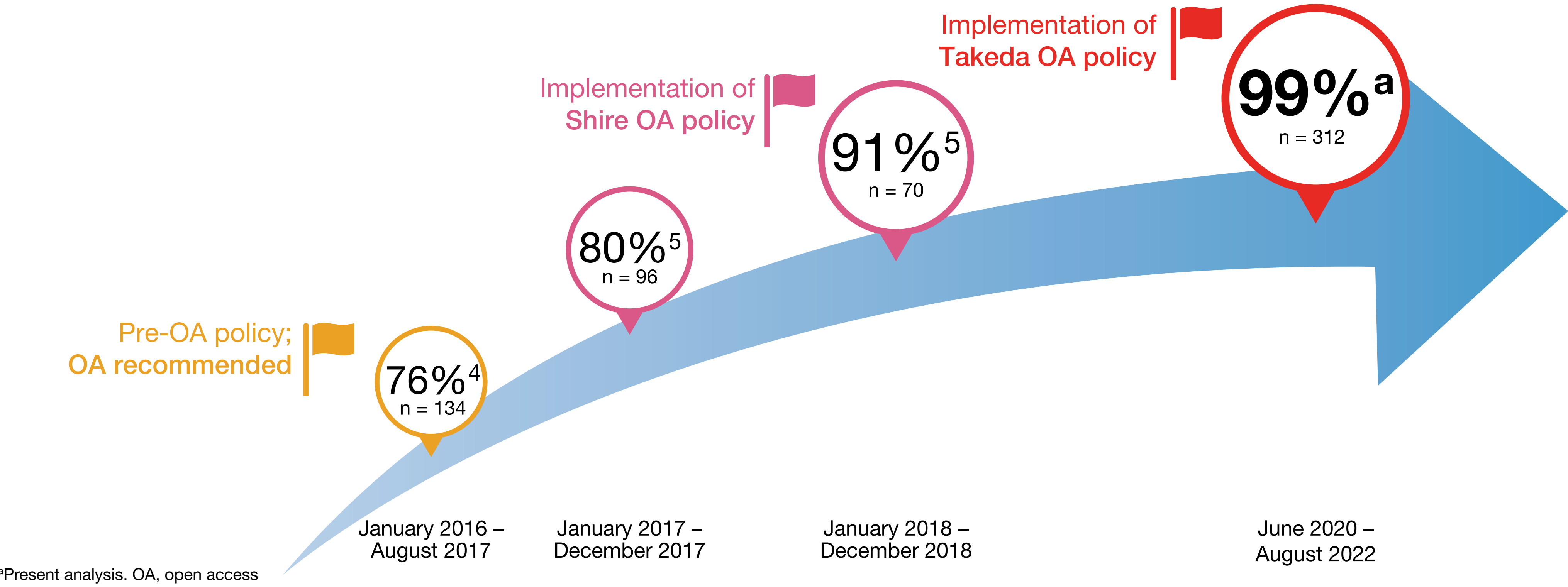
Methods

- Manuscripts from Takeda-sponsored research published in peer-reviewed journals between June 1, 2020, and August 31, 2022, were extracted from Takeda's publication management system, iEnvision Datavision
- Information extracted included the journal title, publication date, therapeutic area, OA status, type of CCL chosen for the manuscript, and embargo period
- Publications were excluded if they were from studies conducted in collaboration with other companies and were not solely sponsored by Takeda
- Only publications in Rare Disease, GI, Neuroscience, and Oncology were included

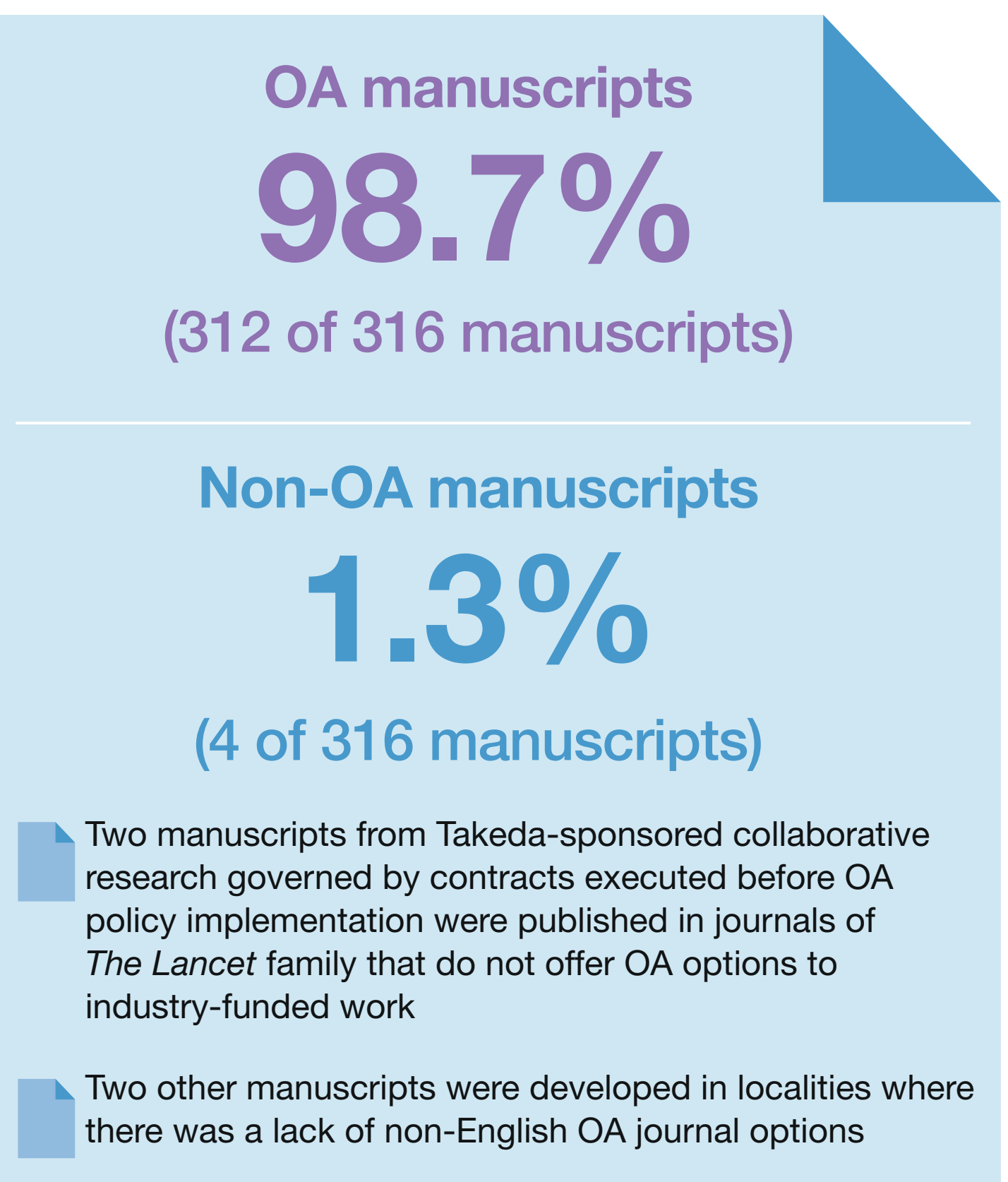
Conclusions

- During a 2-year period after implementation of the Takeda OA policy (2020–2022), more than 98% of Takeda-sponsored manuscripts were published under OA, maintaining the high level of OA publishing set forth by the Shire OA policy
- Challenges to implementing OA included a lack of OA journals in some regions/countries and the imposition of non-OA options for industry-sponsored work by certain journals, as well as a need for training and education across stakeholders to improve awareness
- Fewer than half of the identified OA manuscripts (48%) were published under the least restrictive CCL (CC BY), indicating a need to increase the proportion of manuscripts to be published under this category
- This research highlights the need for further education on the value of OA and types of CCLs across stakeholders involved in industry-sponsored publications

Increase in proportion of manuscripts published under OA during policy implementation

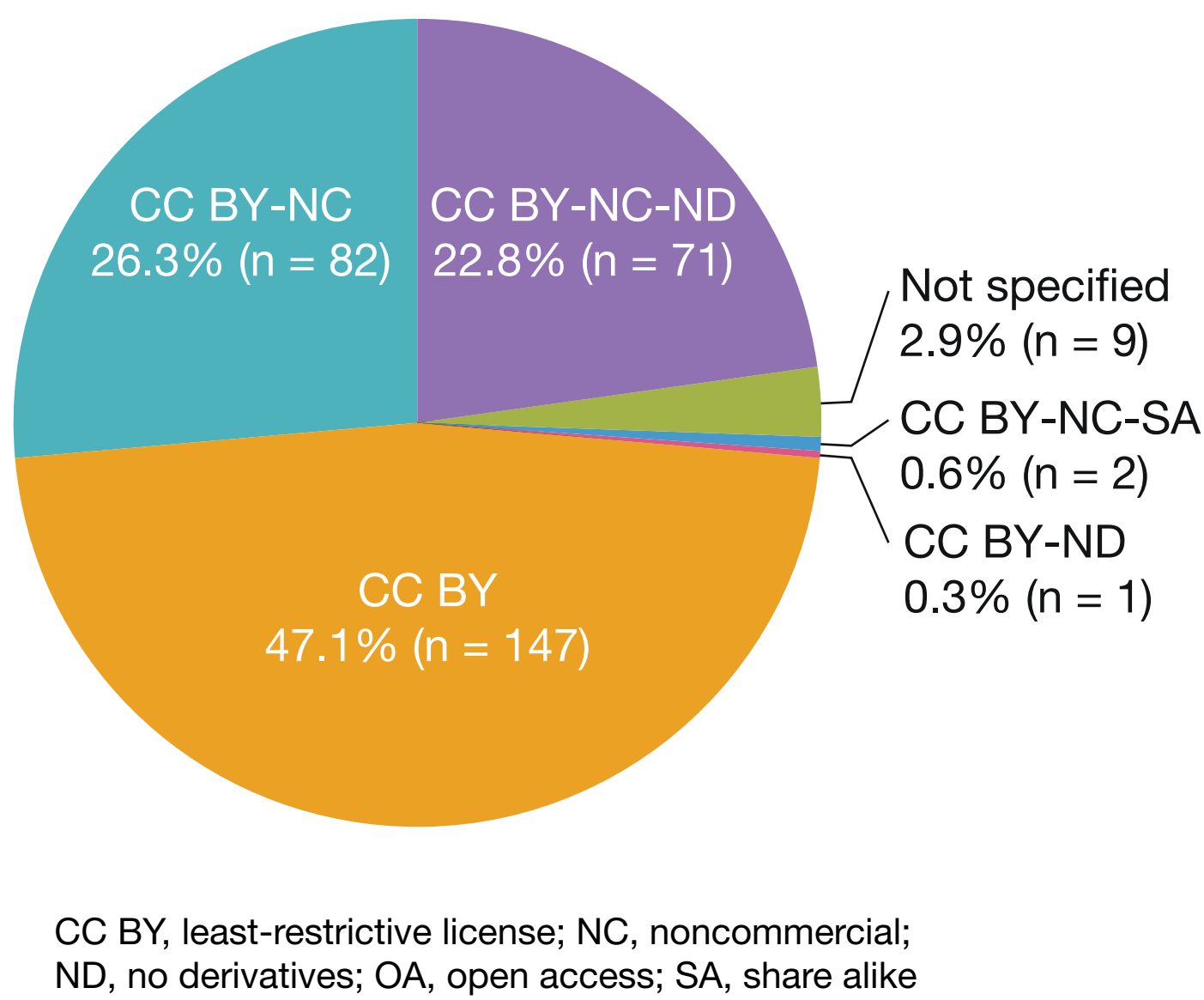


Results

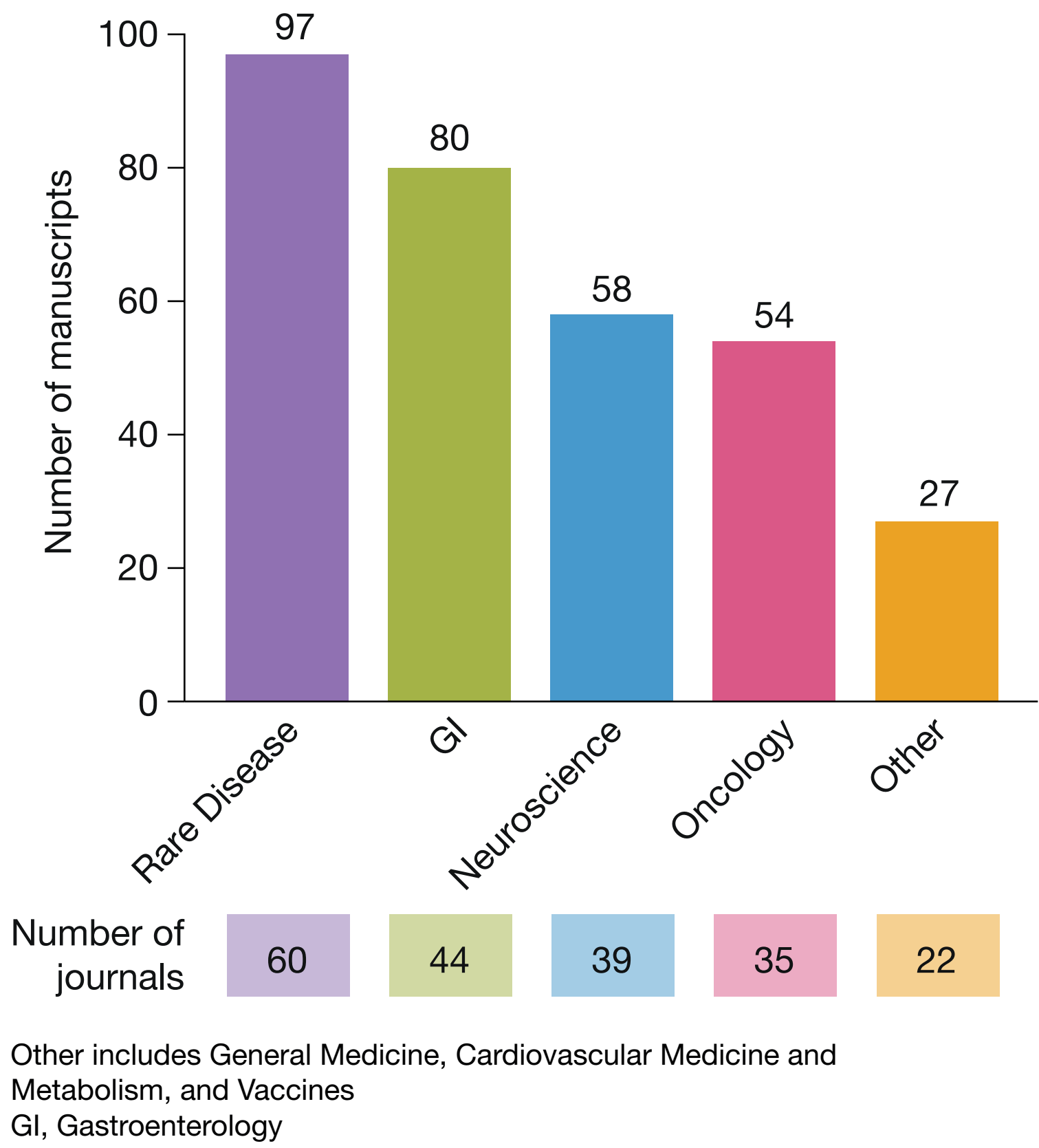


OA, open access

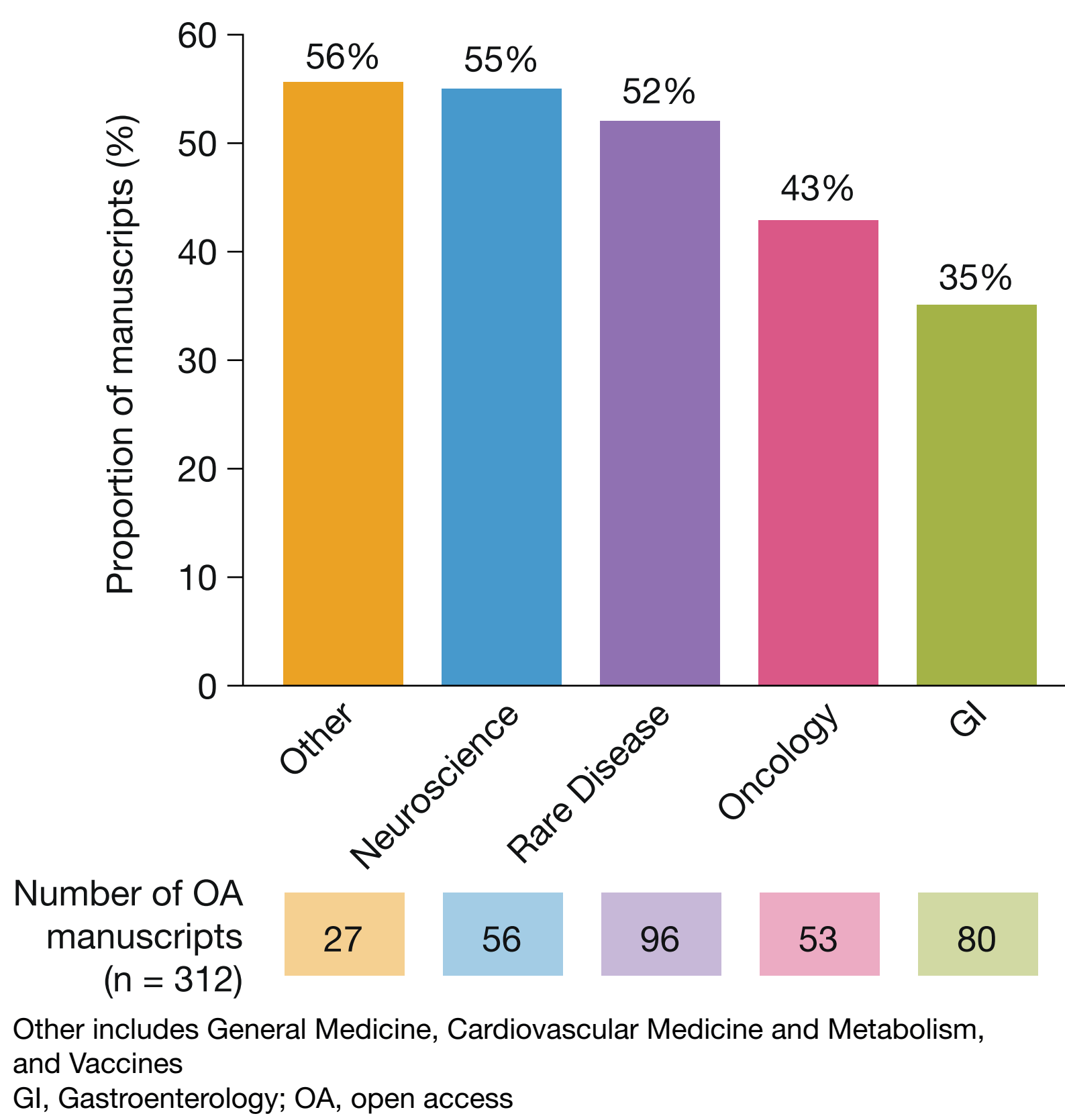
Types of Creative Commons licenses chosen for Takeda-sponsored manuscripts published under OA (n = 312)



Number of identified manuscripts by therapeutic area (N = 316)



Proportion of manuscripts published under the CC BY license by therapeutic area



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Disclosures

ED-K, YL, JP, and CPR are employees of Takeda Development Center Americas, Inc. and hold stock and/or stock options. SD is an employee of Takeda Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc. and holds stock and/or stock options. Takeda Pharmaceuticals Company Ltd provided funding to Oxford PharmaGenesis, Oxford, UK for editorial assistance in formatting, proofreading, and copyediting