ENVISION PHARMA GROUP
Driven by evidence, enabled by technology

fsg · Becaris PUBLISHING

Understanding the Value of Standalone Plain Language Summaries of Publications: Updated Findings From an Online Survey of Readers

Jacqui Oliver[a], Dawn Lobban[a], Laura Dormer[b], Rachel Jenkins[c], Joanne Walker[b]

[a]Envision Pharma Group, Wilmslow, UK
[b]Becaris Publishing, Royston, UK
[c]Future Science Group, London, UK

Conclusions

The results from this survey highlight the value of PLSPs to a range of audiences including HCPs, patients, and caregivers, with most readers finding PLSPs easy to understand

Awareness of PLSPs comes through personal recommendations and a range of online sources, reflecting the need for increased discoverability and effective multichannel dissemination plans

The overall value of PLSPs is demonstrated by the fact that about half of the readers intend to go on to share the PLSP

Contact: Jacqui Oliver, **Jacqui.Oliver@envisionpharma.com**

Background and Objectives

- Plain language summaries of publications (PLSPs) are standalone, peer-reviewed journal articles written in nontechnical language that provide a concise overview of published scientific journal articles[1]
- Since first publishing PLSPs in August 2020, Future Science Group (FSG) journals have featured 72 PLSPs as of February 28, 2023[1]

Our aims were to explore the following questions:
1. Who reads PLSPs?
2. Why do people read PLSPs?
3. How do people discover PLSPs?
4. Do people find PLSPs easy to read and understand?
5. Do people go on to read the original article(s) that a PLSP is based on?
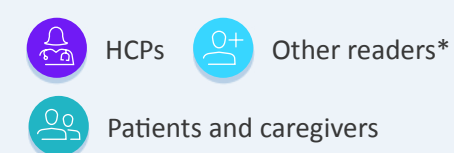6. Do people plan to share PLSPs?

Research Design and Methods

- We conducted an online survey between November 2021 and February 2023 to gain insights into the value of PLSPs
- Readers who accessed a PLSP on an FSG journal website were invited to complete the survey via a popup link to SurveyMonkey

Results

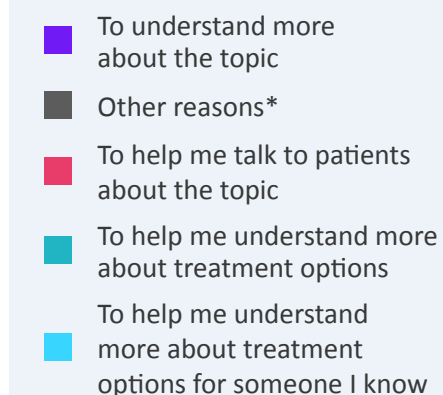- Overall, 79 readers responded to the survey. Readers did not have to answer all the survey questions

1. Who reads PLSPs?

- HCPs
- Other readers*
- Patients and caregivers

n=79
24%
33%
43%

- PLSPs attract a varied audience, including healthcare professionals (HCPs) and patients and caregivers
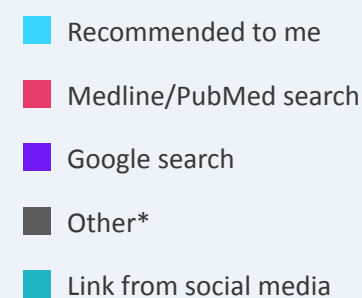
*Other readers included medical writers, medical communications professionals, students, researchers, industry employees, editors, publishers, and science communicators

2. Why do people read PLSPs?

- To understand more about the topic
- Other reasons*
- To help me talk to patients about the topic
- To help me understand more about treatment options
- To help me understand more about treatment options for someone I know

n=79
32%
27%
19%
8%
15%

* Other reasons that people read the PLSP included:
 – To learn more about PLS
 – To use for personal reasons
 – To look at the translation
 – To understand how to communicate with lay/nonspecialist audiences

3. How do people discover PLSPs?

- Recommended to me
- Medline/PubMed search
- Google search
- Other*
- Link from social media

n=73
25%
18%
8%
25%
25%

- Patients and caregivers were more likely to find the PLSP using a Google search, whereas most HCPs discovered the PLSP through Medline/PubMed
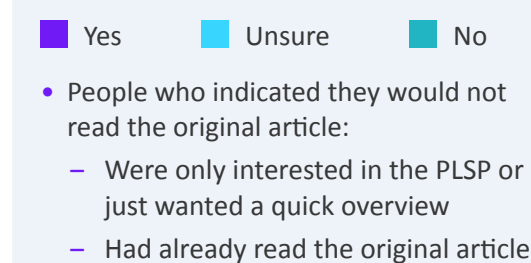
* Other ways that PLSPs were discovered were by:
 – Email/internal communication
 – Knowledge of FSG work
 – Authors
 – Website link (eg, Scholarly Kitchen, Oncology Central)

### 4. Do people find PLSPs easy to read and understand?

- Yes
- No

n=67
9%
91%
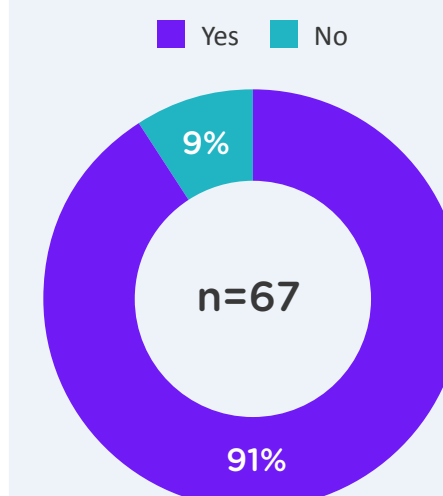
- The majority of readers found the PLSP easy to understand

5. Do people go on to read the original article(s) that a PLSP is based on?

- Yes
- Unsure
- No

n=56
20%
20%
61%

- People who indicated they would not read the original article:
 – Were only interested in the PLSP or just wanted a quick overview
 – Had already read the original article

6. Do people plan to share PLSPs?
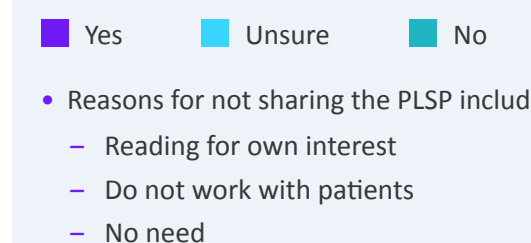
- Yes
- Unsure
- No

n=56
29%
18%
54%

- Reasons for not sharing the PLSP included:
 – Reading for own interest
 – Do not work with patients
 – No need

Due to rounding, percentages shown may not add up to 100%

Reference
1. https://www.plainlanguagesummaries.com. Accessed March 17, 2023.

Presented at the 19th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (April 24-26, 2023; Washington DC, USA)

ENVISION PHARMA GROUP
Driven by evidence, enabled by technology

fsg **Becaris** PUBLISHING

Understanding the Value of Standalone Plain Language Summaries of Publications: Updated Findings From an Online Survey of Readers

Jacqui Oliver[a], Dawn Lobban[a], Laura Dormer[b],
Rachel Jenkins[c], Joanne Walker[b]

[a]Envision Pharma Group, Wilmslow, UK
[b]Becaris Publishing, Royston, UK
[c]Future Science Group, London, UK

Conclusions

The results from this survey highlight the value of PLSPs to a range of audiences including HCPs, patients, and caregivers, with most readers finding PLSPs easy to understand

Awareness of PLSPs comes through personal recommendations and a range of online sources, reflecting the need for increased discoverability and effective multichannel dissemination plans

The overall value of PLSPs is demonstrated by the fact that about half of the readers intend to go on to share the PLSP

Background and Objectives

- Plain language summaries of publicatio... standalone, peer-reviewed journal arti... nontechnical language that provide a c... published scientific journ...

- Since first publishing PLS... (FSG) journals have featur...

Research Design

- We conducted an online... to gain insights into the...

Results

- Overall, 79 readers respo...

1. Who reads PLSPs?

- HCPs Other read...
- Patients and caregivers
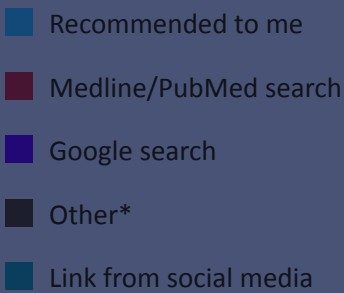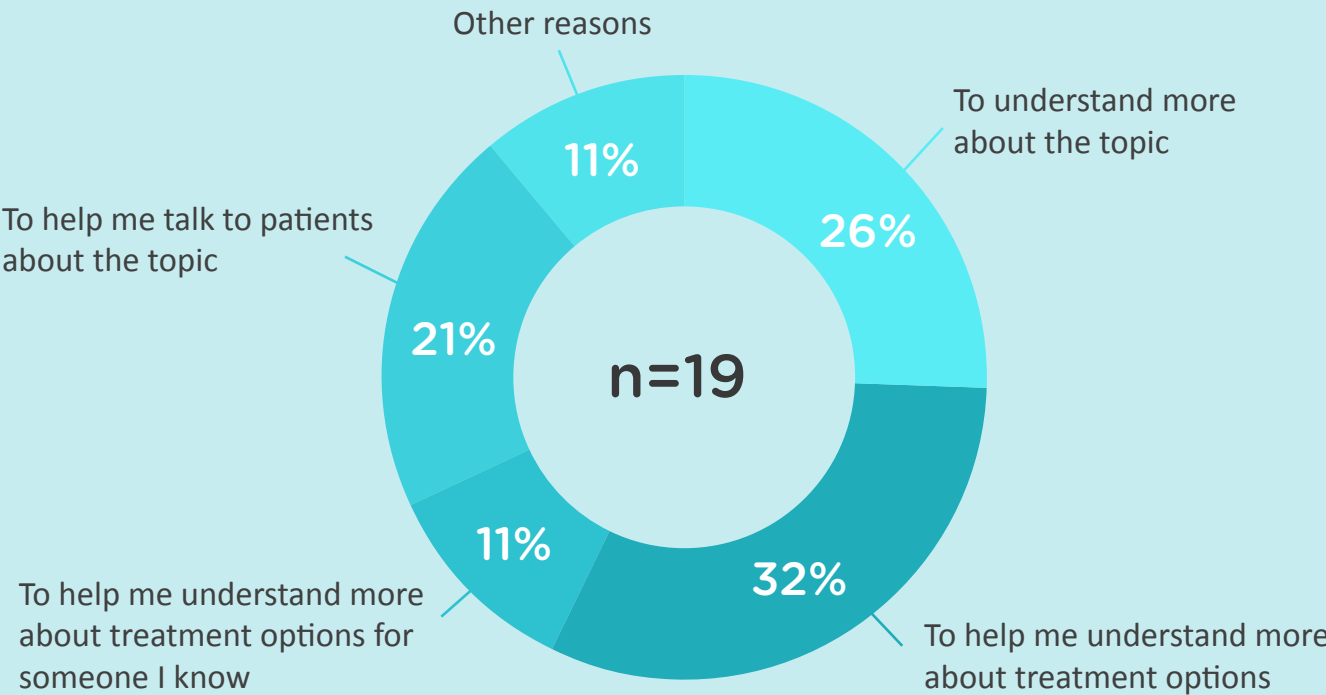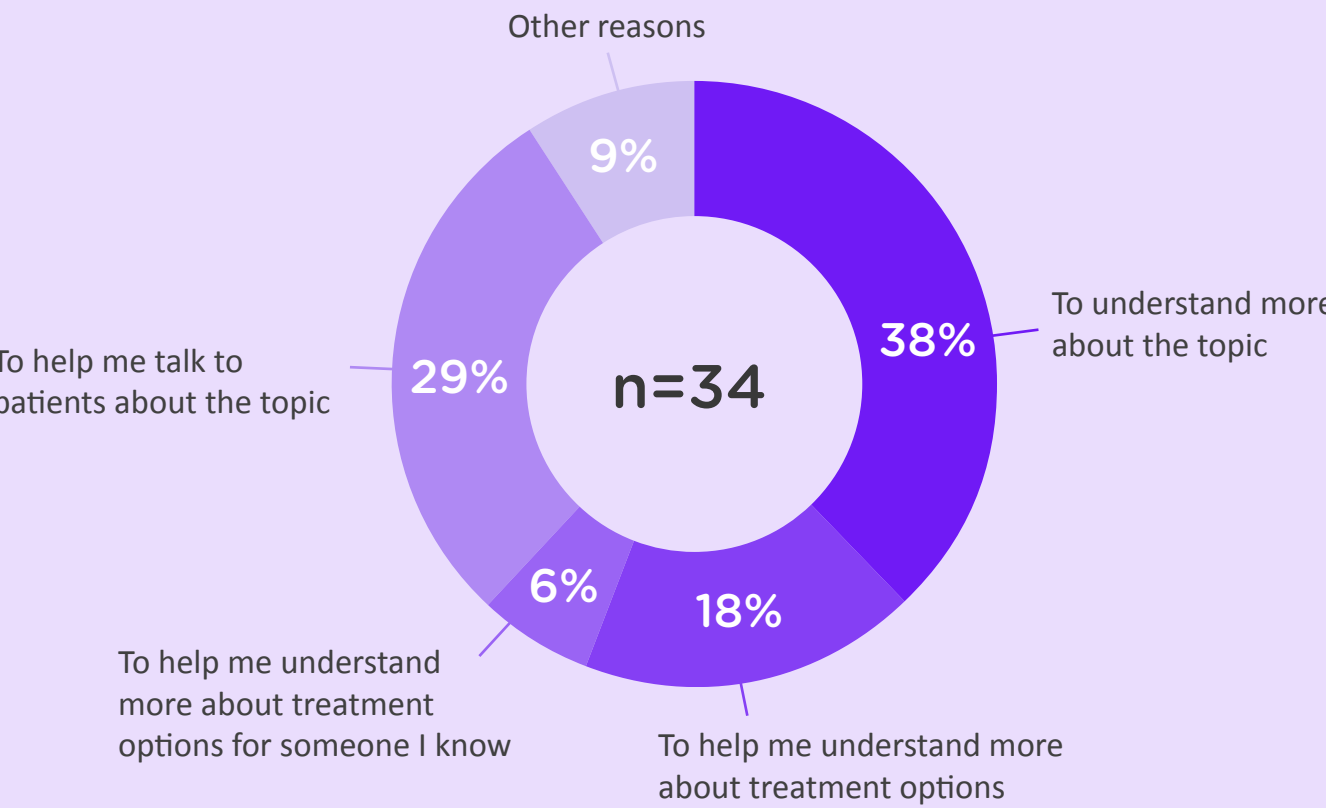
- PLSPs attract a varied audien... including healthcare professio... (HCPs) and patients and careg...

*Other readers included medical writers, m... communications professionals, students, ... industry employees, editors, publishers, a... communicators

3. How do people discove...

- Recommended to me
- Medline/PubMed search
- Google search
- Other*
- Link from social media

[Additional Information >]

- Patients and caregivers were... search, whereas most HCPs di...

* Other ways that PLSPs were discovered w...
  – Email/internal communication
  – Knowledge of FSG work
  – Authors
  – Website link (eg, Scholarly Kitchen, On...

Due to rounding, percentages shown may not a...

Why do people read PLSPs?

Patients and Caregivers

n=19

- Other reasons — 11%
- To understand more about the topic — 26%
- To help me talk to patients about the topic — 21%
- To help me understand more about treatment options — 32%
- To help me understand more about treatment options for someone I know — 11%

HCPs

n=34

- Other reasons — 9%
- To understand more about the topic — 38%
- To help me talk to patients about the topic — 29%
- To help me understand more about treatment options for someone I know — 6%
- To help me understand more about treatment options — 18%

Due to rounding, percentages shown may not add up to 100%

...tions:

5. Do people go on to read the original article(s) that a PLSP is based on?
...ople plan to share PLSPs?

...urnal website were invited to ...rveyMonkey

* Other reasons that people read the PLSP included:
  – To learn more about PLS
  – To use for personal reasons
  – To look at the translation
  – To understand how to communicate with lay/ nonspecialist audiences

[Additional Information >]

...e original ...sed on?

n=56
- No — 20%
- ...not — 20%
- ...SP or ...article — 61%

...LSPs?

n=56
- No — 29%
- ...included: — 18%
- — 54%

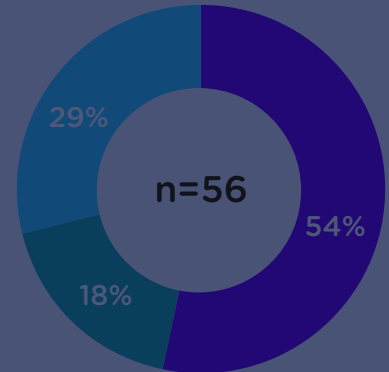## ENVISION PHARMA GROUP
Driven by evidence, enabled by technology

fsg **Becaris** PUBLISHING
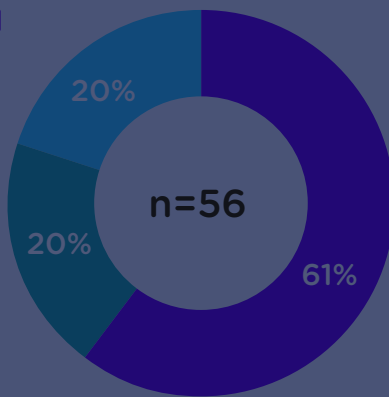
Understanding the Value of Standalone Plain Language Summaries of Publications: Updated Findings From an Online Survey of Readers

Jacqui Oliver[a], Dawn Lobban[a], Laura Dormer[b], Rachel Jenkins[c], Joanne Walker[b]

[a]Envision Pharma Group, Wilmslow, UK
[b]Becaris Publishing, Royston, UK
[c]Future Science Group, London, UK

Conclusions

The results from this survey highlight the value of PLSPs to a range of audiences including HCPs, patients, and caregivers, with most readers finding PLSPs easy to understand

Awareness of PLSPs comes through personal recommendations and a range of online sources, reflecting the need for increased discoverability and effective multichannel dissemination plans

The overall value of PLSPs is demonstrated by the fact that about half of the readers intend to go on to share the PLSP

Contact: Jacqui Oliver, **Jacqui.Oliver@envisionpharma.com**

Background and Objecti...

- Plain language summaries of ... standalone, peer-reviewed j... nontechnical language that p... published scientific journal a...

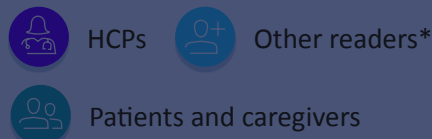- Since first publishing PLSPs in... (FSG) journals have featured ...

Research Design an...

- We conducted an online su... to gain insights into the val... an FSG journal website were invited to ...link to SurveyMonkey

Results

- Overall, 79 readers responde...

1. Who reads PLSPs?

HCPs   Other readers*

Patients and caregivers
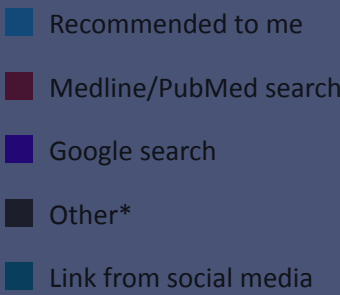
- PLSPs attract a varied audience, including healthcare professionals (HCPs) and patients and caregivers

*Other readers included medical writers, medical communications professionals, students, research... industry employees, editors, publishers, and scie... communicators

3. How do people discover PLS...

- Recommended to me
- Medline/PubMed search
- Google search
- Other*
- Link from social media

Additional Information >

- Patients and caregivers were more ... search, whereas most HCPs discove...

* Other ways that PLSPs were discovered were by:
  – Email/internal communication
  – Knowledge of FSG work
  – Authors
  – Website link (eg, Scholarly Kitchen, Oncology Central)

Due to rounding, percentages shown may not add up to 100%

How do people discover PLSPs?

Patients and Caregivers

n=17

- Other ways 18%
- Google search 41%
- Medline/PubMed search 12%
- Recommended to me 18%
- Link from social media 12%

HCPs

n=32

- Other ways 13%
- Google search 16%
- Link from social media 9%
- Recommended to me 22%
- Medline/PubMed search 41%

Due to rounding, percentages shown may not add up to 100%

5. Do people go on to read the original article(s) that a PLSP is based on?
6. Do people plan to share PLSPs?

* Other reasons that people read the PLSP included:
  – To learn more about PLS
  – To use for personal reasons
  – To look at the translation
  – To understand how to communicate with lay/ nonspecialist audiences

32%

Additional Information >

...to read the original ...LSP is based on?

No

...they would not ...le:
...ed in the PLSP or ...k overview
...he original article

n=56   20%   61%   20%

...n >

...o share PLSPs?

No

...g the PLSP included:
...terest
Do not work with patients
– No need

n=56   29%   54%   18%

Additional Information >

Additional Information >

Reference

1. https://www.plainlanguagesummaries.com. Accessed March 17, 2023.
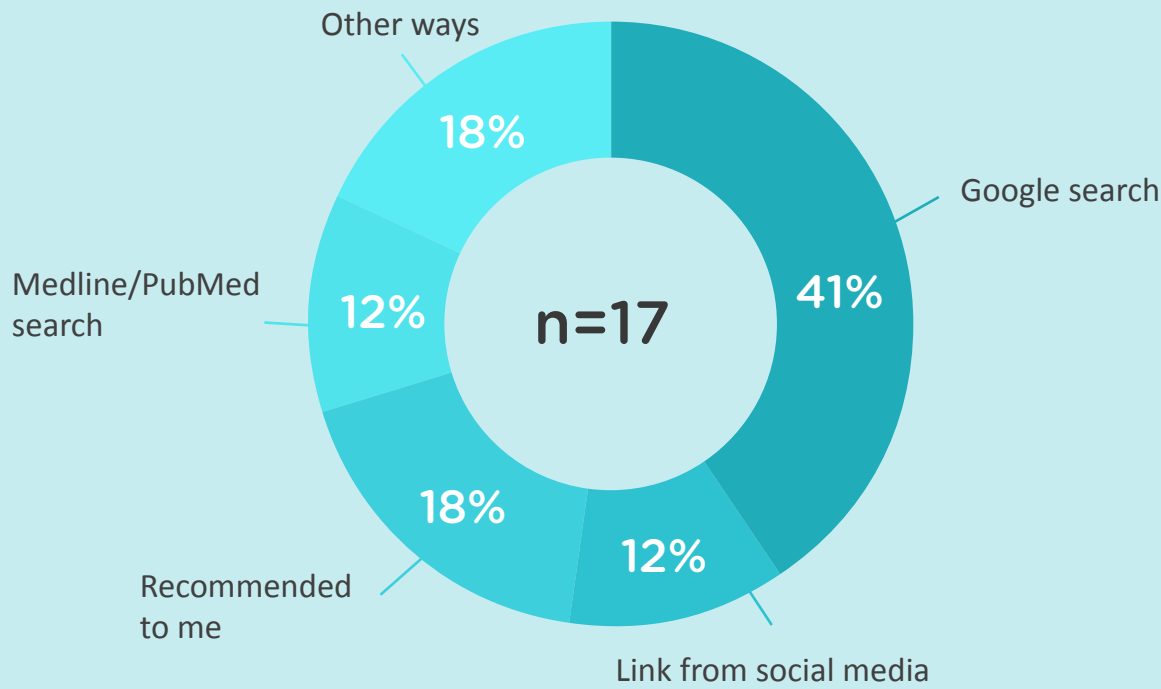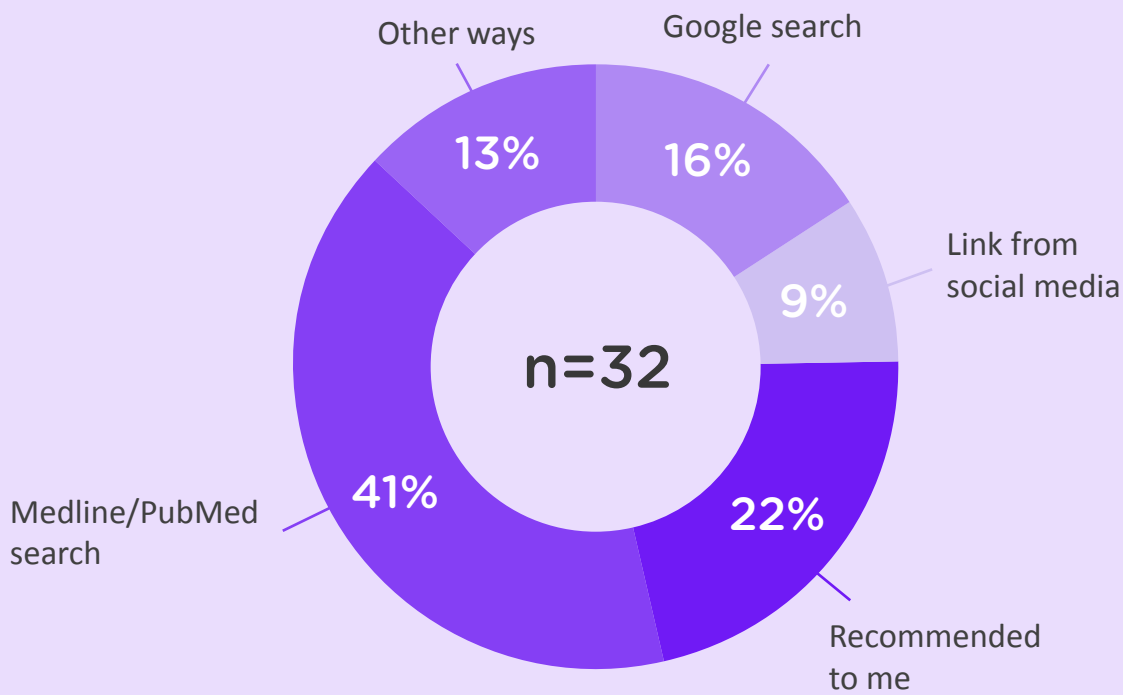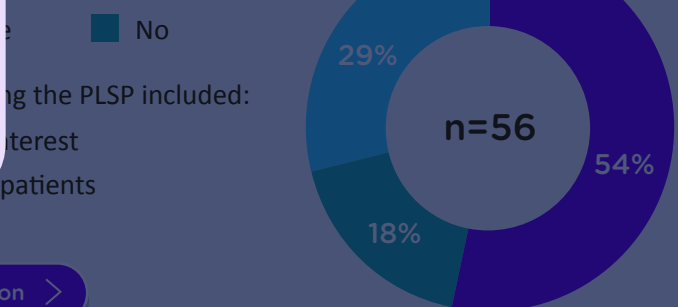
Presented at the 19th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (April 24-26, 2023; Washington DC, USA)

Understanding the Value of Standalone Plain Language Summaries of Publications: Updated Findings From an Online Survey of Readers

Jacqui Oliver[a], Dawn Lobban[a], Laura Dormer[b], Rachel Jenkins[c], Joanne Walker[b]

[a]Envision Pharma Group, Wilmslow, UK
[b]Becaris Publishing, Royston, UK
[c]Future Science Group, London, UK

Conclusions

The results from this survey highlight the value of PLSPs to a range of audiences including HCPs, patients, and caregivers, with most readers finding PLSPs easy to understand

Awareness of PLSPs comes through personal recommendations and a range of online sources, reflecting the need for increased discoverability and effective multichannel dissemination plans

The overall value of PLSPs is demonstrated by the fact that about half of the readers intend to go on to share the PLSP

Background and Objectives

- Plain language summaries of publications (PLSPs) are standalone, peer-reviewed journal articles written in nontechnical language that provide a concise overview of published scientific journal articles[1]
- Since first publishing PLSPs in August 2020, Future Science Group (FSG) journals have featured 72 PLSPs as of February 28, 2023[1]
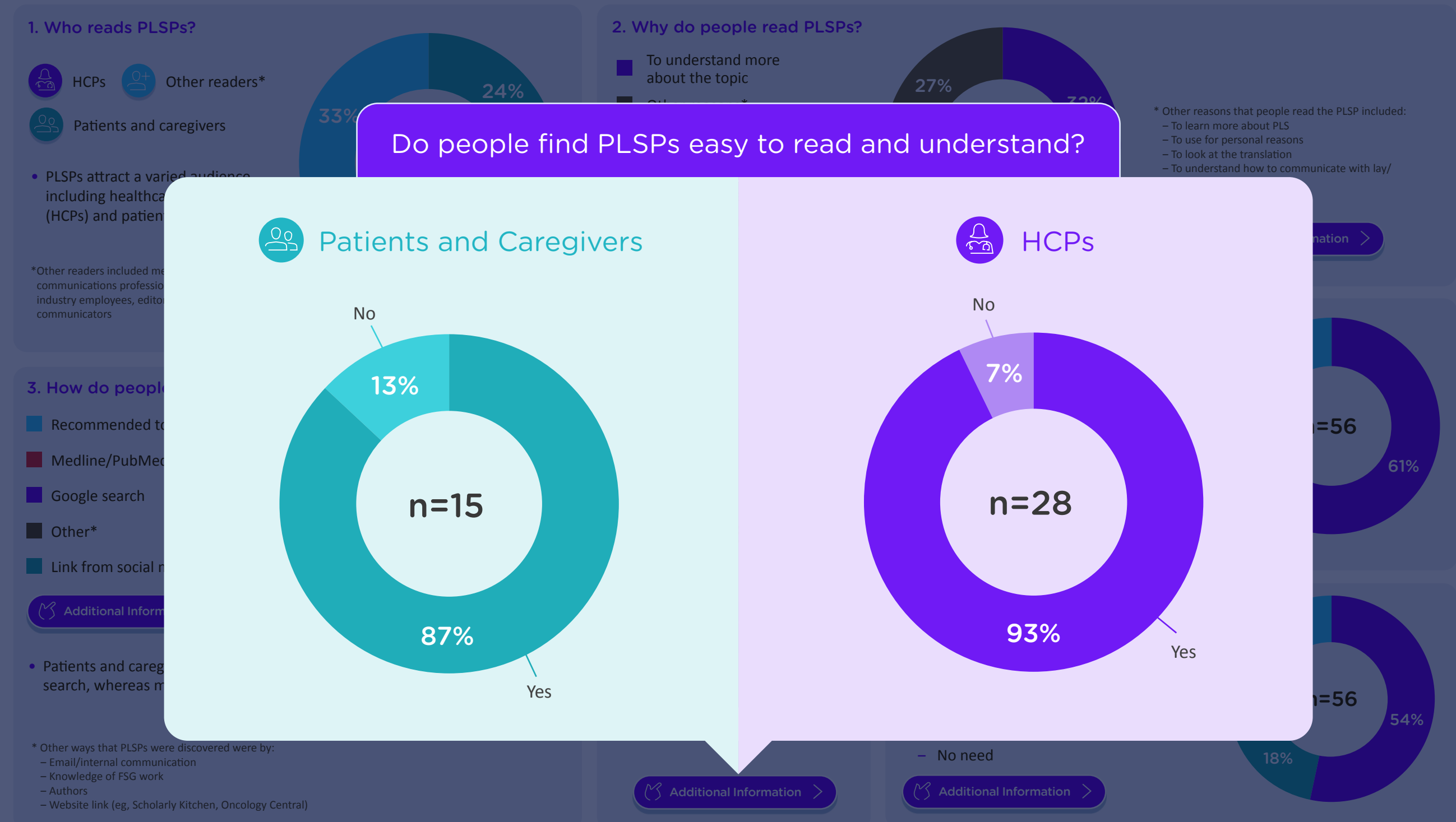
Our aims were to explore the following questions:

1. Who reads PLSPs?
2. Why do people read PLSPs?
3. How do people discover PLSPs?
4. Do people find PLSPs easy to read and understand?
5. Do people go on to read the original article(s) that a PLSP is based on?
6. Do people plan to share PLSPs?

Research Design and Methods

- We conducted an online survey between November 2021 and February 2023 to gain insights into the value of PLSPs
- Readers who accessed a PLSP on an FSG journal website were invited to complete the survey via a popup link to SurveyMonkey

Results

- Overall, 79 readers responded to the survey. Readers did not have to answer all the survey questions

1. Who reads PLSPs?

- HCPs
- Other readers*
- Patients and caregivers

33% 24%

- PLSPs attract a varied audience including healthcare [professionals] (HCPs) and patient[s]

*Other readers included me[dical] communications professio[nals], industry employees, edito[rs] communicators

2. Why do people read PLSPs?

- To understand more about the topic
- Oth[er]

27% [3]2%

* Other reasons that people read the PLSP included:
– To learn more about PLS
– To use for personal reasons
– To look at the translation
– To understand how to communicate with lay/

Additional [Infor]mation

3. How do people [discover PLSPs]?

- Recommended to
- Medline/PubMed
- Google search
- Other*
- Link from social [media]

Additional Inform[ation]

- Patients and careg[ivers]
search, whereas m[ost]

* Other ways that PLSPs were discovered were by:
– Email/internal communication
– Knowledge of FSG work
– Authors
– Website link (eg, Scholarly Kitchen, Oncology Central)

Due to rounding, percentages shown may not add up to 100%

Do people find PLSPs easy to read and understand?

Patients and Caregivers

No 13%

n=15

87% Yes

HCPs

No 7%

n=28

93% Yes

n=56 61%

n=56 54% 18%

Additional Information

Additional Information

Reference

1. https://www.plainlanguagesummaries.com. Accessed March 17, 2023.

ENVISION PHARMA GROUP
Driven by evidence, enabled by technology

fsg Becaris PUBLISHING

ENVISION PHARMA GROUP
Driven by evidence, enabled by technology

fsg   Becaris PUBLISHING

Understanding the Value of Standalone Plain Language Summaries of Publications: Updated Findings From an Online Survey of Readers

Jacqui Oliver[a], Dawn Lobban[a], Laura Dormer[b], Rachel Jenkins[c], Joanne Walker[b]

[a]Envision Pharma Group, Wilmslow, UK
[b]Becaris Publishing, Royston, UK
[c]Future Science Group, London, UK

Conclusions

The results from this survey highlight the value of PLSPs to a range of audiences including HCPs, patients, and caregivers, with most readers finding PLSPs easy to understand

Awareness of PLSPs comes through personal recommendations and a range of online sources, reflecting the need for increased discoverability and effective multichannel dissemination plans

The overall value of PLSPs is demonstrated by the fact that about half of the readers intend to go on to share the PLSP

Contact: Jacqui Oliver, **Jacqui.Oliver@envisionpharma.com**

Background and Objectives

- Plain language summaries of publications (PLSPs) are standalone, peer-reviewed journal articles written in nontechnical langua... published scientific...

- Since first publishing... (FSG) journals have...

Our aims were to explore the following questions:

1. Who reads PLSPs?
2. ...d PLSPs?
3. ...cover PLSPs?
4. ...Ps easy to read
5. Do people go on to read the original article(s) that a PLSP is based on?
6. Do people plan to share PLSPs?

Research D...

- We conducted... to gain insight... who accessed a PLSP on an FSG journal website were invited to... the survey via a popup link to SurveyMonkey

Results

- Overall, 79 rea...

1. Who reads PL...

HCPs

Patients and...

- PLSPs attract a va... including healthc... (HCPs) and patien...

*Other readers included... communications professi... industry employees, edit... communicators

n=79
27% 32% 8% 15% 19%

* Other reasons that people read the PLSP included:
– To learn more about PLS
– To use for personal reasons
– To look at the translation
– To understand how to communicate with lay/ nonspecialist audiences

Additional Information >

3. How do peop...

- Recommended t...
- Medline/PubMe...
- Google search
- Other*
- Link from social...

Additional Infor...

- Patients and care... search, whereas...

* Other ways that PLSPs w...
– Email/internal commu...
– Knowledge of FSG wor...
– Authors
– Website link (eg, Schol...

Due to rounding, percentages...

5. Do people go on to read the original article(s) that a PLSP is based on?

■ Yes   ■ Unsure   ■ No

- People who indicated they would not read the original article:
  – Were only interested in the PLSP or just wanted a quick overview
  – Had already read the original article

n=56
61% 20% 20%

Additional Information >

6. Do people plan to share PLSPs?

■ Yes   ■ Unsure   ■ No

- Reasons for not sharing the PLSP included:
  – Reading for own interest
  – Do not work with patients
  – No need

n=56
54% 18% 29%

Additional Information >

POPUP OVERLAY

Do people go on to read the original article(s) that a PLSP is based on?

👥 Patients and Caregivers

n=13
- Yes: 62%
- No: 8%
- Unsure: 31%

🔔 HCPs

n=22
- Yes: 77%
- No: 14%
- Unsure: 9%
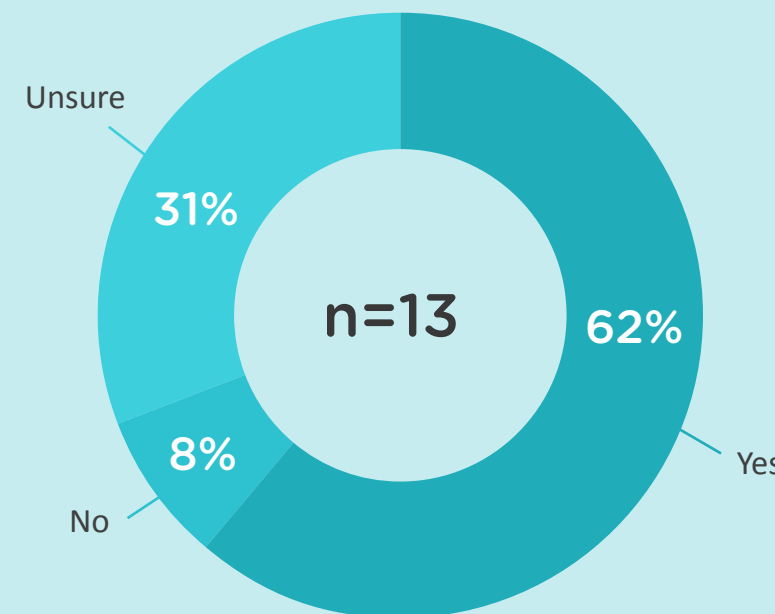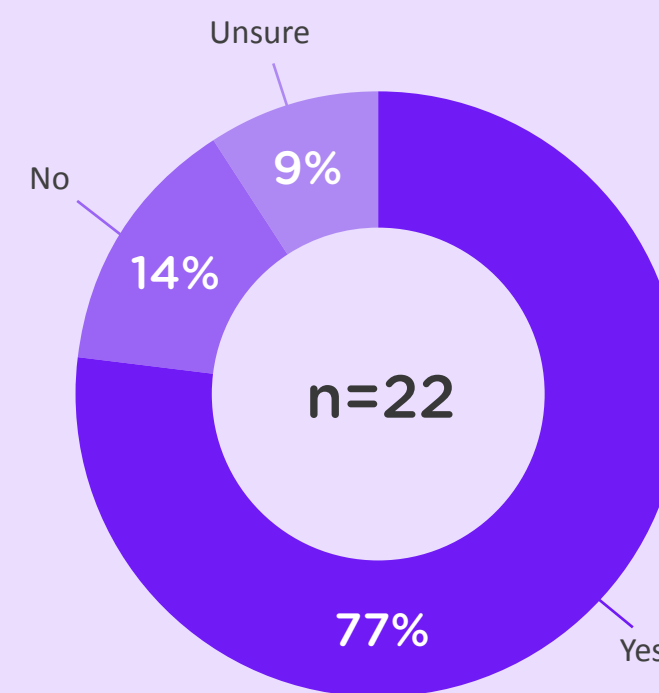
As expected, HCPs were more likely than patients and caregivers to go on to read the original article

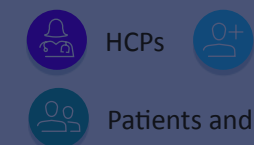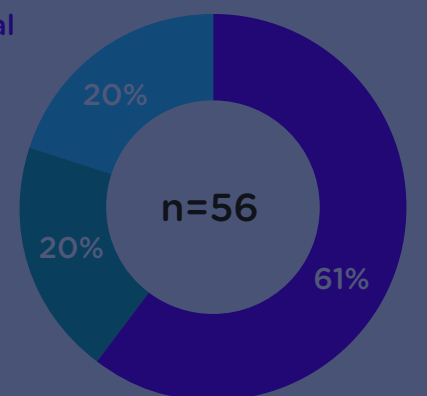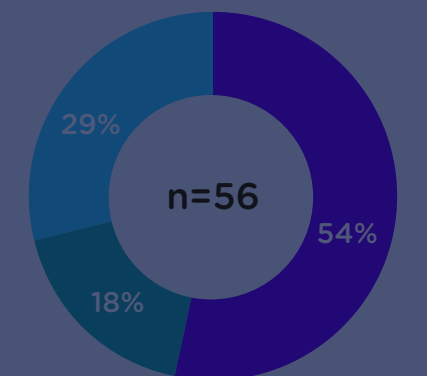Due to rounding, percentages shown may not add up to 100%

Understanding the Value of Standalone Plain Language Summaries of Publications: Updated Findings From an Online Survey of Readers

Jacqui Oliver[a], Dawn Lobban[a], Laura Dormer[b], Rachel Jenkins[c], Joanne Walker[b]

[a]Envision Pharma Group, Wilmslow, UK
[b]Becaris Publishing, Royston, UK
[c]Future Science Group, London, UK

Conclusions

- The results from this survey highlight the value of PLSPs to a range of audiences including HCPs, patients, and caregivers, with most readers finding PLSPs easy to understand

- Awareness of PLSPs comes through personal recommendations and a range of online sources, reflecting the need for increased discoverability and effective multichannel dissemination plans

- The overall value of PLSPs is demonstrated by the fact that about half of the readers intend to go on to share the PLSP

Contact: Jacqui Oliver, Jacqui.Oliver@envisionpharma.com

Background and Objectives

- Plain language summaries of publications (PLSPs) are standalone, peer-reviewed journal articles written in nontechnical language that provide a concise overview of published scientific journal articles[1]

- Since first publishing PLSPs in August 2020, Future Science Group (FSG) journals have featured 72 PLSPs as of February 28, 2023[1]
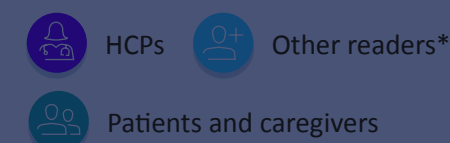
Research Design and Methods

- We conducted an online survey between November 2021 and February 2 to gain insights into the value of PLSPs

Results

- Overall, 79 readers responded to the survey. Readers did not have to ans

1. Who reads PLSPs?
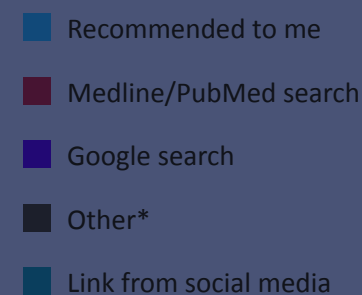
- HCPs
- Other readers*
- Patients and caregivers

n=79

24%
33%
43%

- PLSPs attract a varied audience, including healthcare professionals (HCPs) and patients and caregivers

*Other readers included medical writers, medical communications professionals, students, researchers, industry employees, editors, publishers, and science communicators

3. How do people discover PLSPs?

- Recommended to me
- Medline/PubMed search
- Google search
- Other*
- Link from social media

n=73

18%
25%
8%
25%
25%

Additional Information ▶

- Patients and caregivers were more likely to find the PLSP using a Google search, whereas most HCPs discovered the PLSP through Medline/PubMed

* Other ways that PLSPs were discovered were by:
  − Email/internal communication
  − Knowledge of FSG work
  − Authors
  − Website link (eg, Scholarly Kitchen, Oncology Central)

2. Wh

4. Do
to

Additional Information ▶   Additional Information ▶

Due to rounding, percentages shown may not add up to 100%

Do people plan to share PLSPs?

Patients and Caregivers

n=13

Unsure 23%
62% Yes
No 15%

HCPs

n=22

Unsure 27%
55% Yes
No 18%

61%
54%
18%

Reference
1. https://www.plainlanguagesummaries.com. Accessed March 17, 2023.

ENVISION PHARMA GROUP
Driven by evidence, enabled by technology

fsg   Becaris PUBLISHING