

# A MULTINATIONAL SURVEY OF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS' EXPERIENCES OF GELLING FIBER WOUND DRESSINGS FOR DIFFERENT WOUND TYPES

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## Background

- Failure to manage excess exudate can delay wound healing, increase the risk of infection, adversely affect patients (e.g. leakage and malodour) and increase demand on health care resources.<sup>1</sup>
- Fiber dressings are commonly used for their ability to maintain a moist wound environment, while absorbing excess exudate to form a gel which can facilitate autolytic debridement.<sup>2</sup>
- Survey research can generate important information about knowledge, attitudes and beliefs that can be used in conjunction with data from other research methods to shape evidence-based practice.<sup>3</sup>

### STUDY AIM

To assess the **use and performance of gelling fiber dressings composed of highly absorbent polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) fibers (silver-containing\* and non-silver-containing\*\* variants)** in acute care and general practice settings.

## Methods



Health care professionals (HCPs) (from 13 countries), with a minimum of 3 months' clinical experience of using the gelling PVA fiber dressings in acute care and/or general practice settings, were eligible.



HCPs were provided with a QR code to access a survey questionnaire on a secure survey platform between April and August 2024.



The questionnaire was made available in 7 languages.



The HCPs were asked 10 questions relating to the clinical performance of the silver-containing dressing and 9 relating to the non-silver-containing dressing. The possible answers were 'not effective', 'effective', 'extremely effective' and 'extremely effective and superior to most comparable dressings used'.

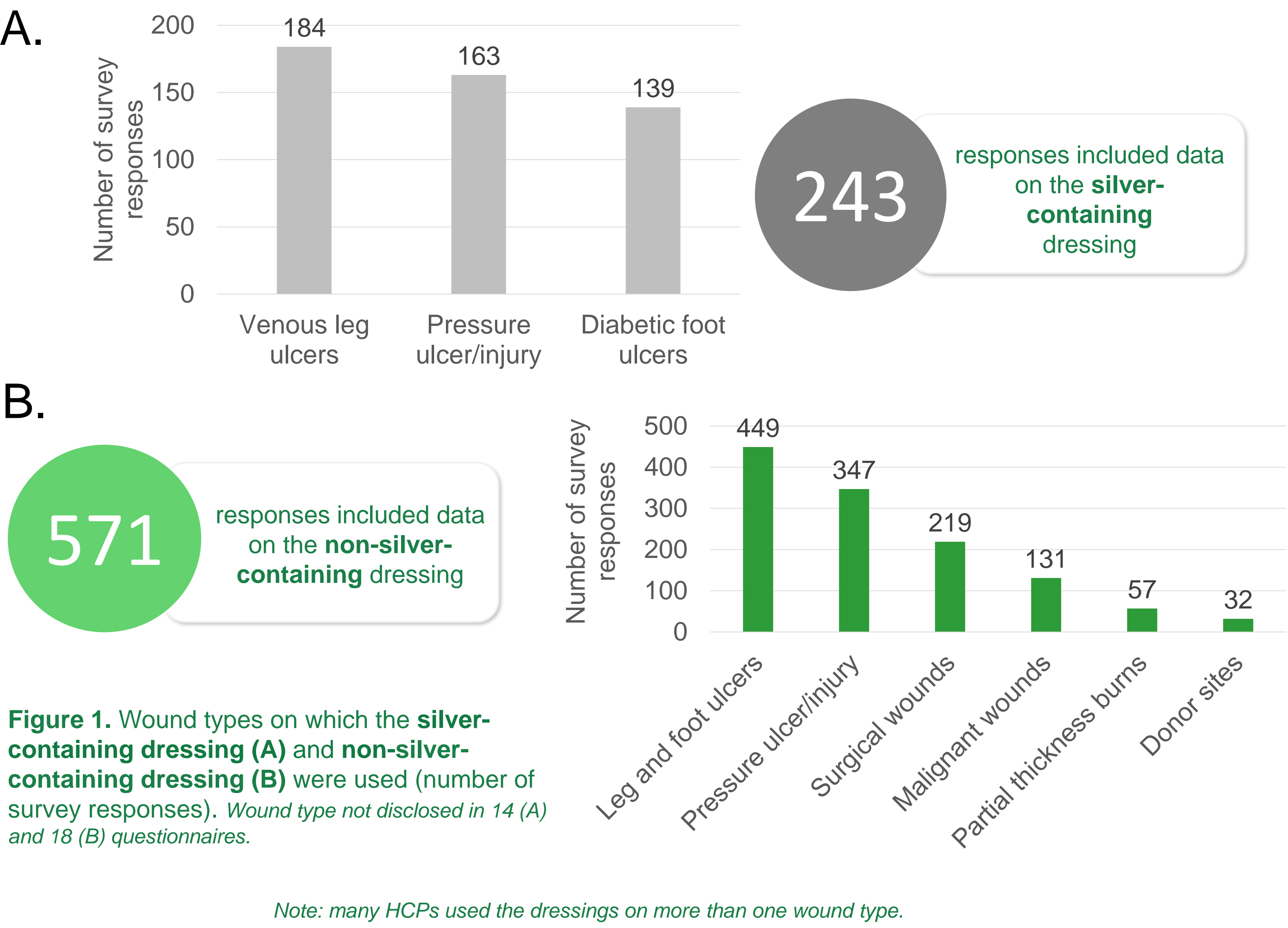


At survey closure, data were extracted by a blinded statistician for analysis.

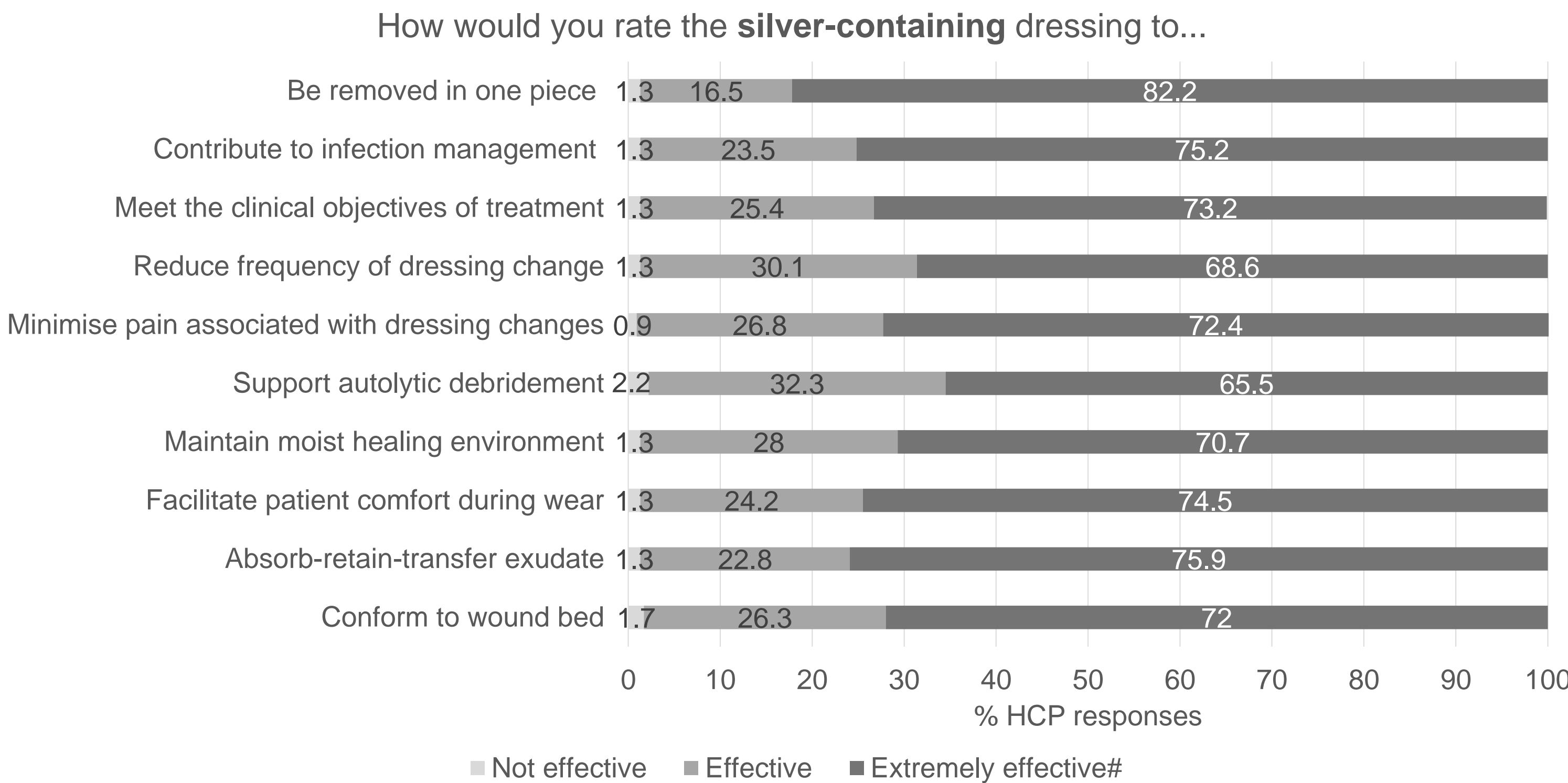
\* Exufiber® Ag+ \*\*Exufiber® (Mölnlycke Health Care). Mölnlycke Health Care sponsored this survey.

## Results

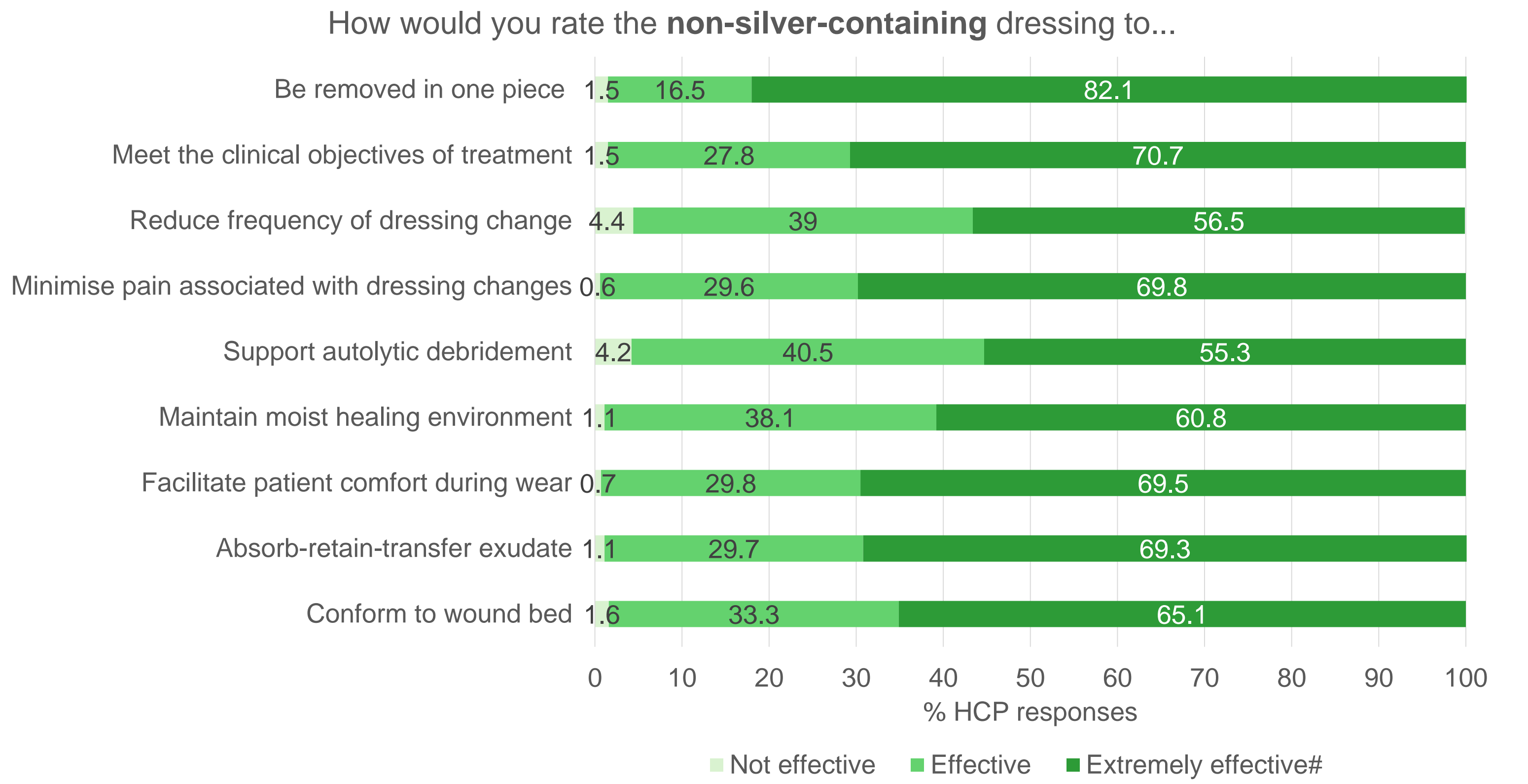
- 634 questionnaires were completed.
- Respondents reported dressing use across a range of wound types (Figure 1A-B).



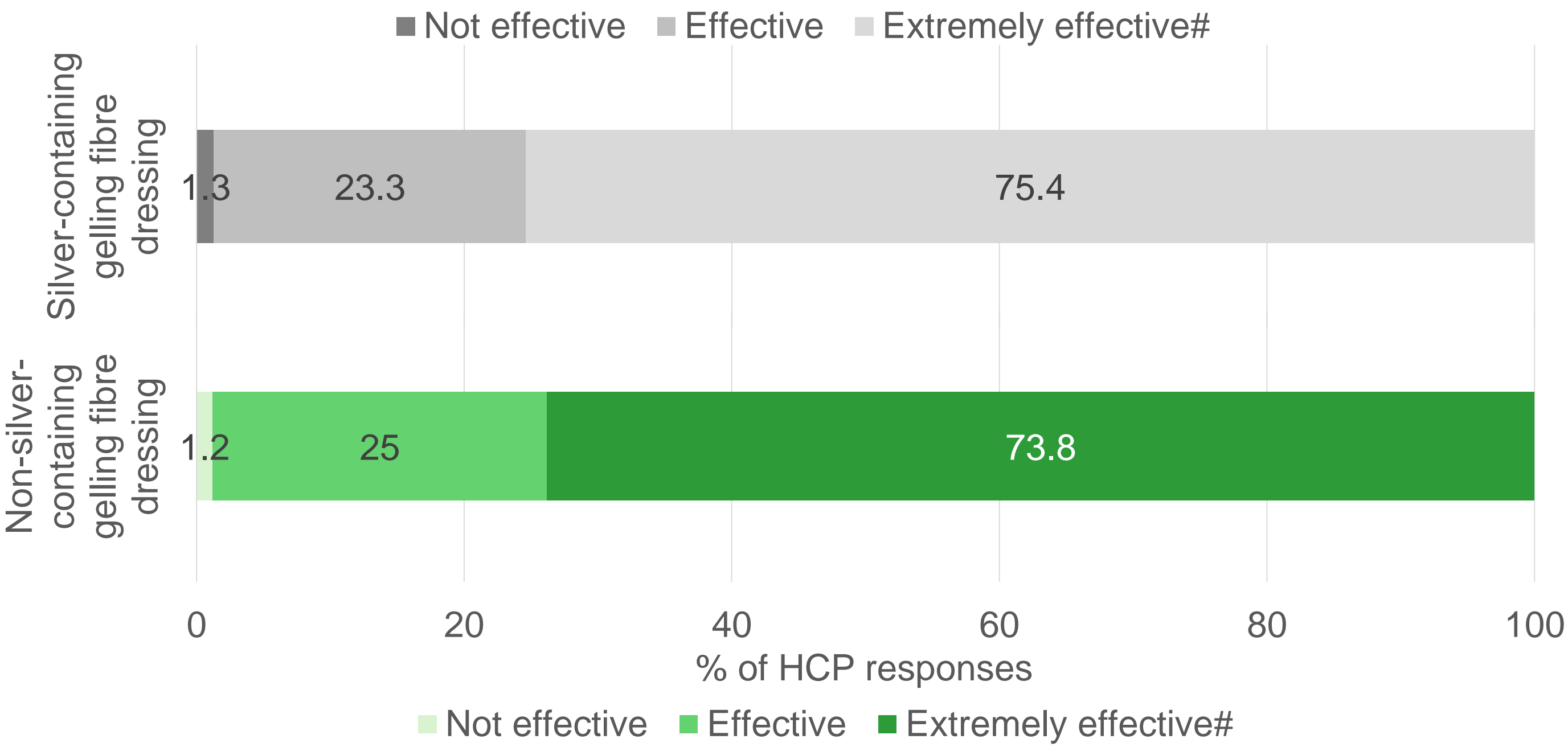
- Respondents' ratings of the technical performance of the dressings were high (Figures 2-4).



**Figure 2.** Overall technical performance of the **silver-containing** gelling fiber dressing ('extremely effective' responses and 'extremely effective and superior to most comparable dressings used' responses are aggregated as 'extremely effective')



**Figure 3.** Overall technical performance of the **non-silver-containing** gelling fiber dressing ('extremely effective' responses and 'extremely effective and superior to most comparable dressings used' responses are aggregated as 'extremely effective')



**Figure 4.** Overall impression of the dressings ('extremely effective' responses and 'extremely effective and superior to most comparable dressings used' responses aggregated as 'extremely effective')

## Conclusion

- This survey confirms that both dressings are well appreciated for a range of exuding wound types.
- The strengths of this survey were that it included many respondents from several countries, and the level of experience of the HCPs involved.

**References:** 1. Weir D, Davies P. The impact of venous leg ulcers on a patient's quality of life: considerations for dressing selection. *Wounds International* 2023;14(91):10-15' 2. Joergensen B et al. A randomised, open-label, parallel-group, multicentre, comparative study to compare the efficacy and safety of Exufiber® with Aquacel® Extra™ dressings in exuding venous and mixed aetiology leg ulcers. *Int Wound J.* 2022;19(Suppl. 1):22-38. 3. Hochberg CH, Eakin MN. Keys to successful research in health professions education. *ATS Sch.* 2024;5(1):206-17.