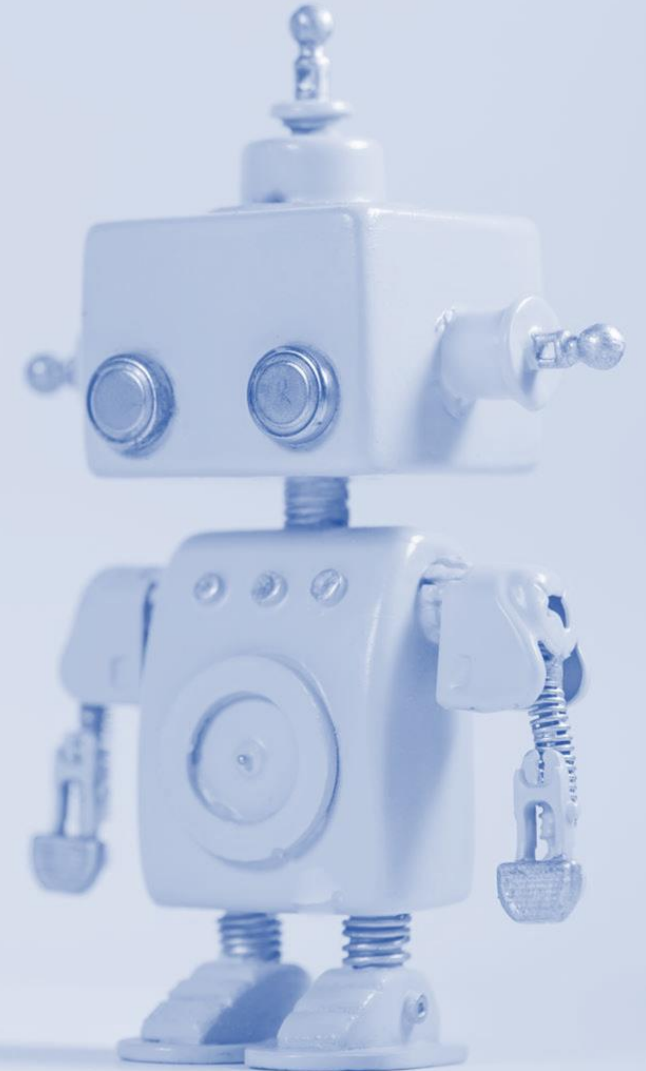


RESULTS OF THE **EPF** European Patients Forum SURVEY FOR
PATIENT ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUAL PATIENT ADVOCATES ON

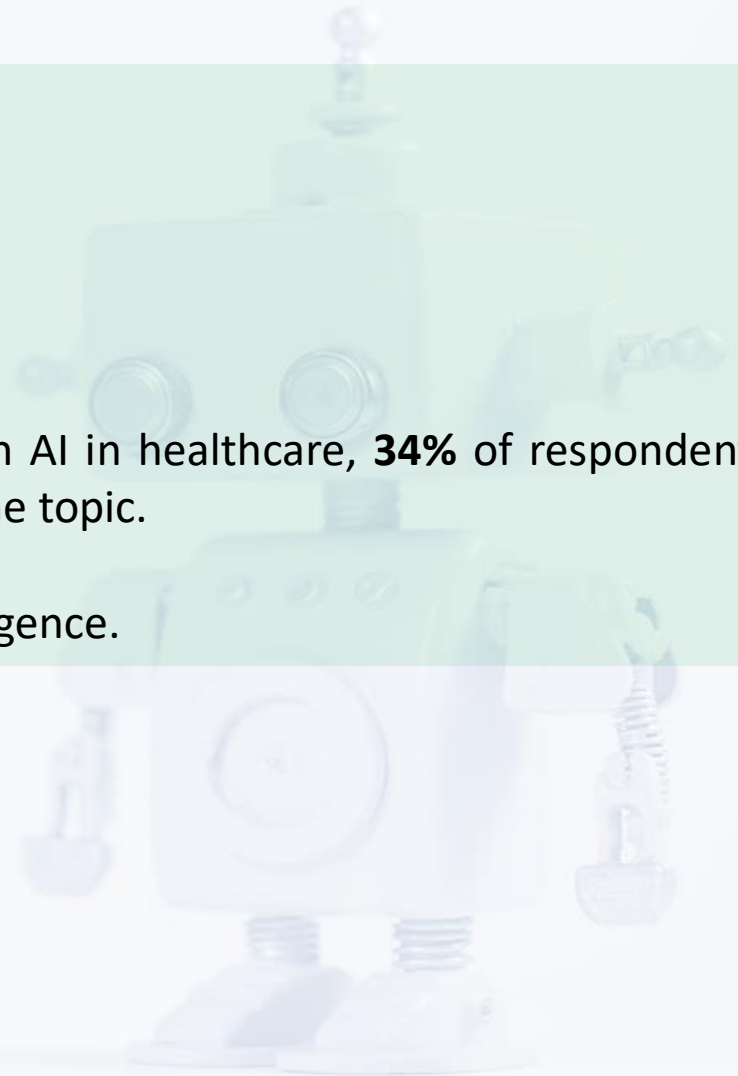
The Perception of AI in Healthcare

Spring 2023

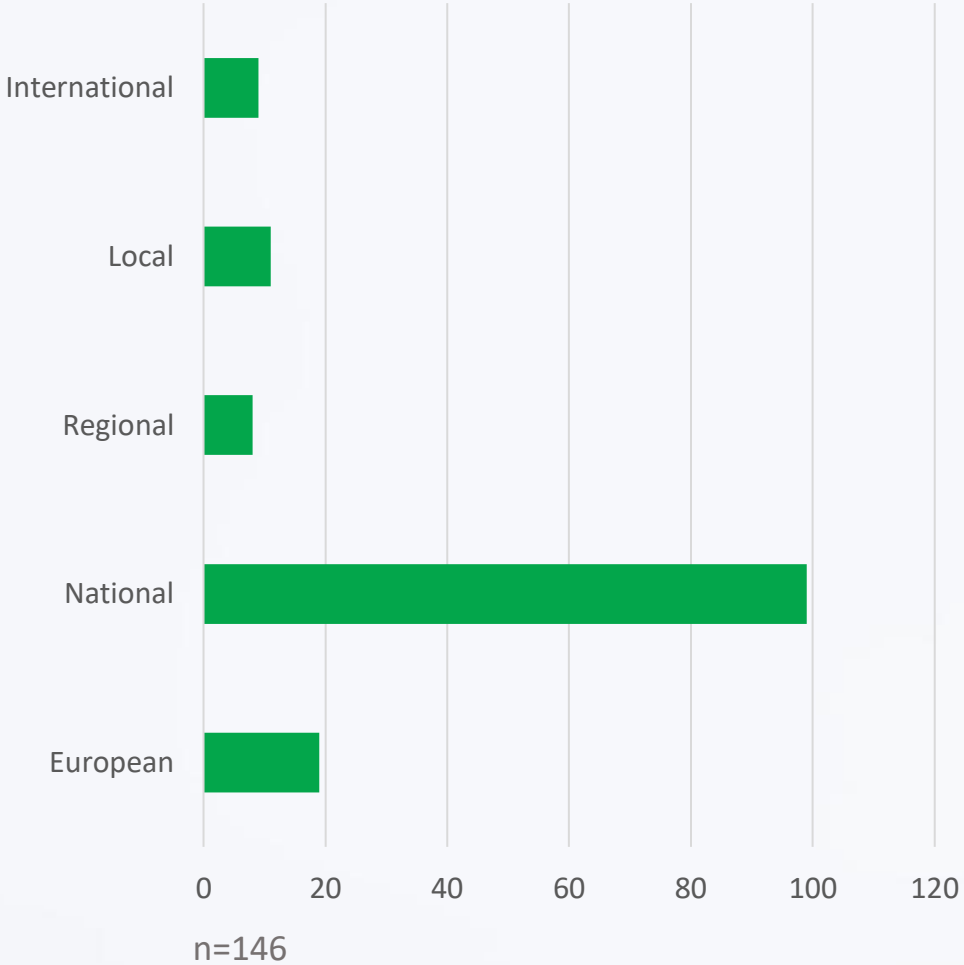


INITIAL CONSIDERATIONS

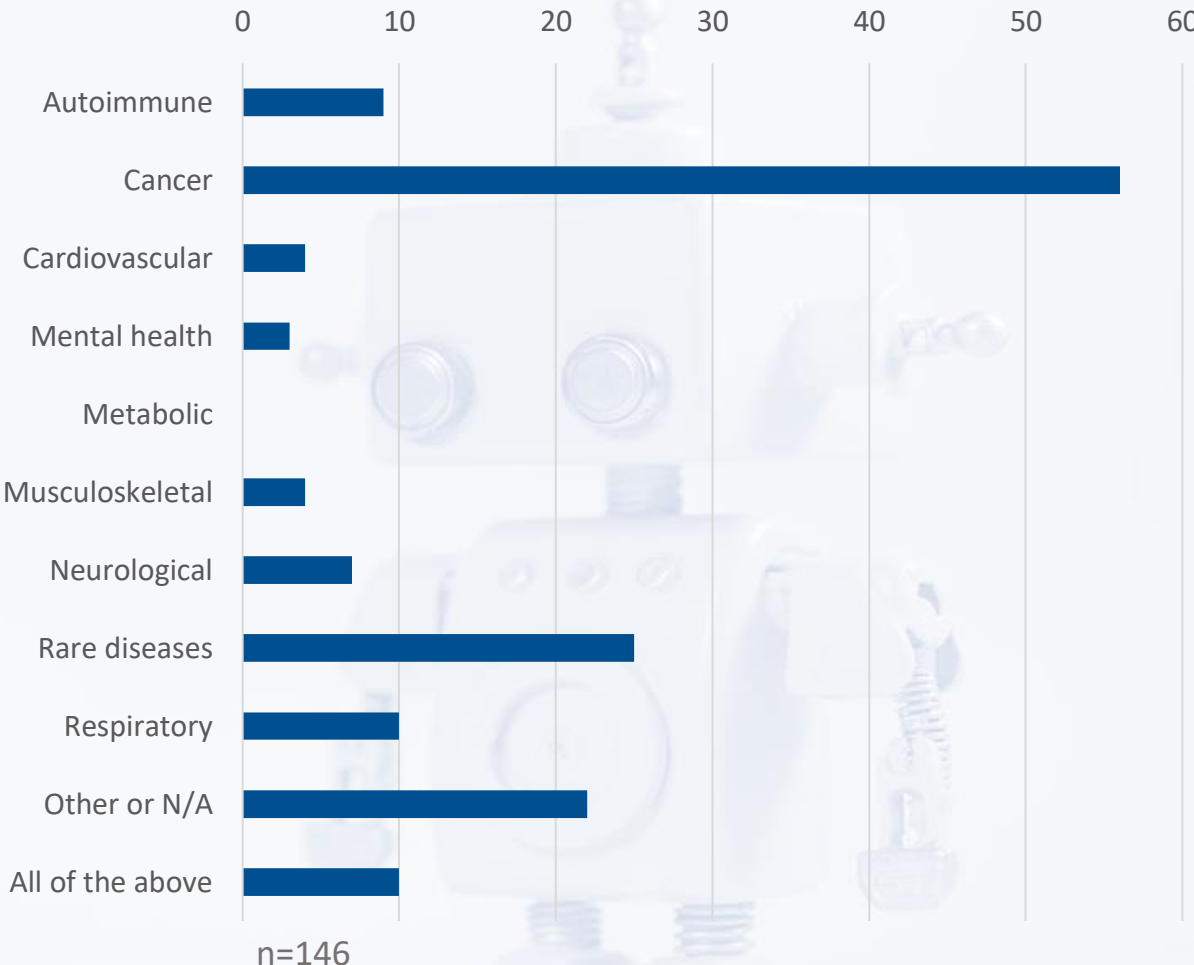
- **146** respondents
- **12** languages
- Most represented disease area: **cancer**. Followed by **rare diseases**
- The majority of respondents (**53%**) has never actively engaged on AI in healthcare, **34%** of respondents are planning future activities and only **13%** have already engaged on the topic.
- **8** respondents were not at all familiar with the term artificial intelligence.



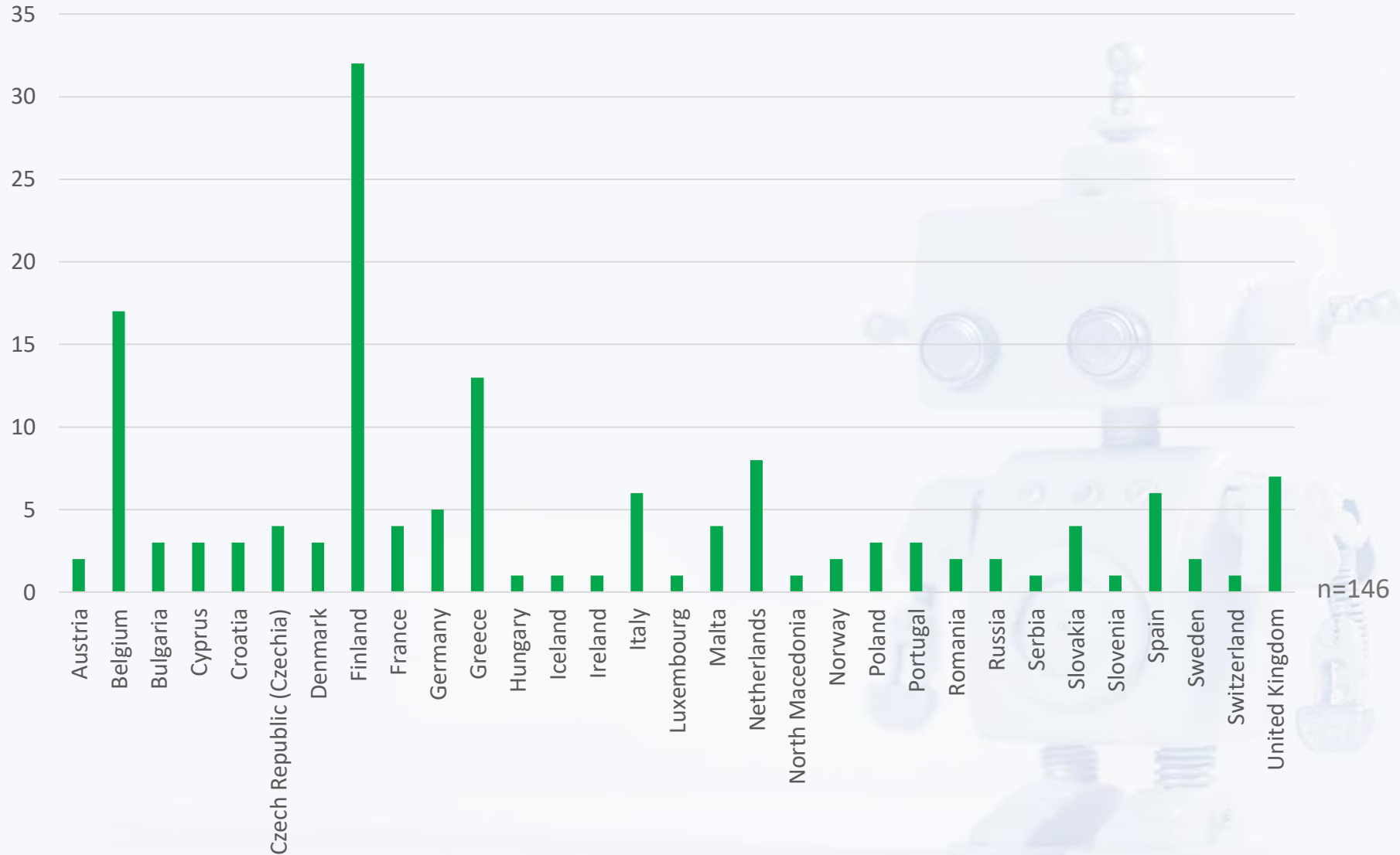
What is the geographical remit of your organisation/patient advocacy activity?



What disease-area(s) does your organisation/patient advocacy activity cover?



Where is your patient organisation/activity based?



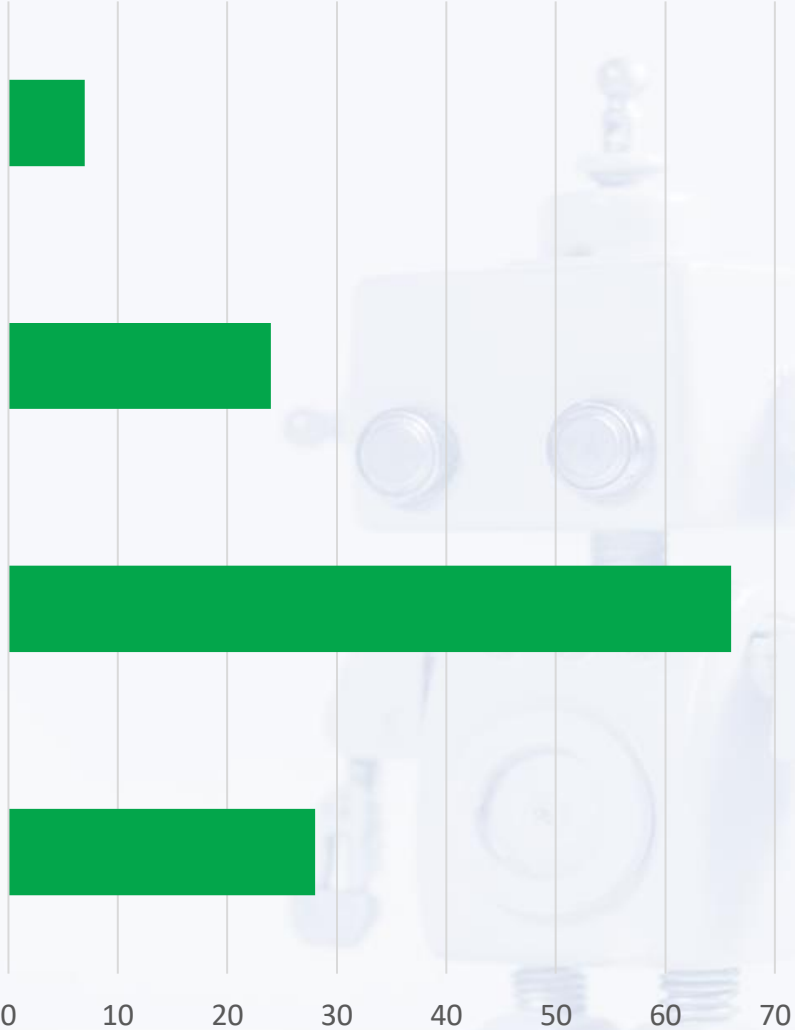
How would you rate your organisation's knowledge about AI in healthcare?

Advanced knowledge (I know about possible applications of AI in healthcare as well as risks, challenges and opportunities and am aware of the complex interplay between these).

Solid knowledge (I know about possible applications of AI in healthcare as well as risks, challenges and opportunities in general, but not tailored to particular healthcare context nor to the different subtypes of AI techniques)

Basic knowledge (Some knowledge of possible applications of AI in healthcare)

No or limited knowledge (I don't know or have just heard about how AI could be applied in healthcare)

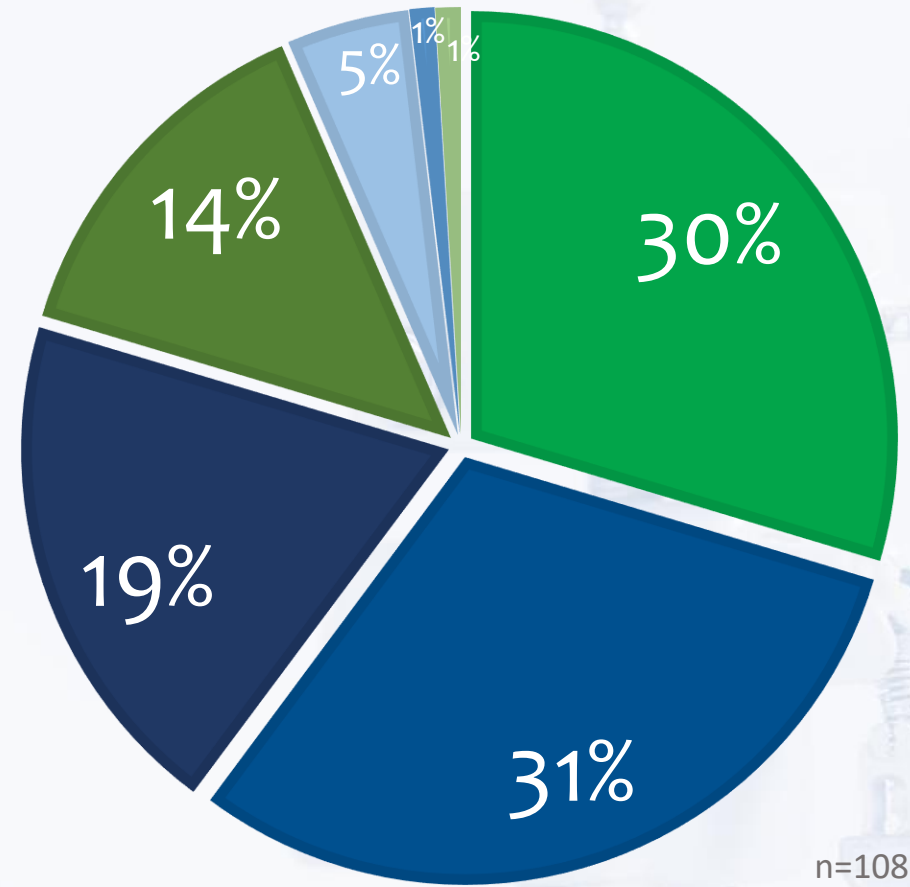


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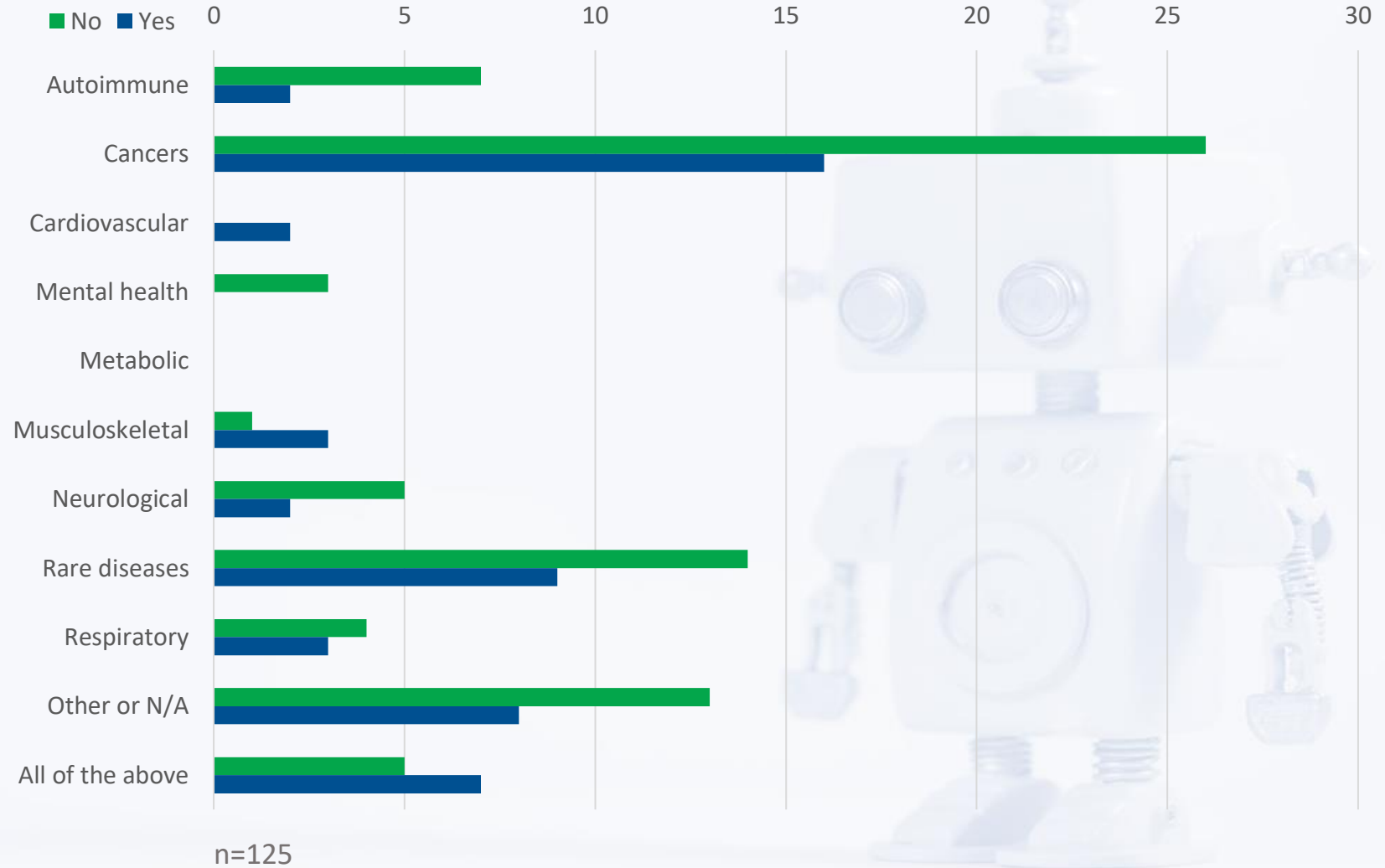
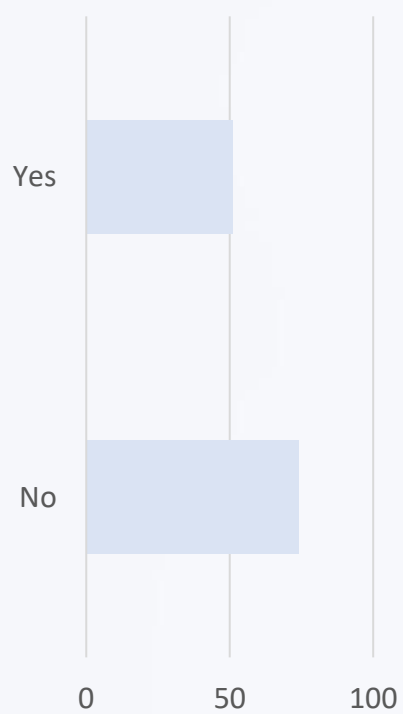
What are the main barriers for effective patient advocacy in your experience?

- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of personnel / workload
- Lack of collaboration with other stakeholders
- Lack of funding
- Lack of awareness at a decision-making level of the organisation
- N/A
- Other (please explain)

Other:
"Lack of training for advocates"



To your knowledge, are there AI-based healthcare services or applications being used in your country or disease-area?



EXAMPLES OF APPLICATIONS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Finland

- Robotics in surgery
- Chatbots
- Laboratory (ex. *Silo.AI*)
- Administration (ex. *Digital Workforce*)
- Use of AI in biobanks and patient registries

France

- Health apps (ex. *Moovcare*)
- Imaging diagnostic assistance software
- Drug interaction detection software
- IVF (ex. *Im-Vitro*)

UK

- DNA analysis

Croatia

- Cancer screening programs

Belgium

- Radiology
- Detection of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Laboratory
- Prediction models (ex. when to discharge the patient)

Denmark

- Blood testing

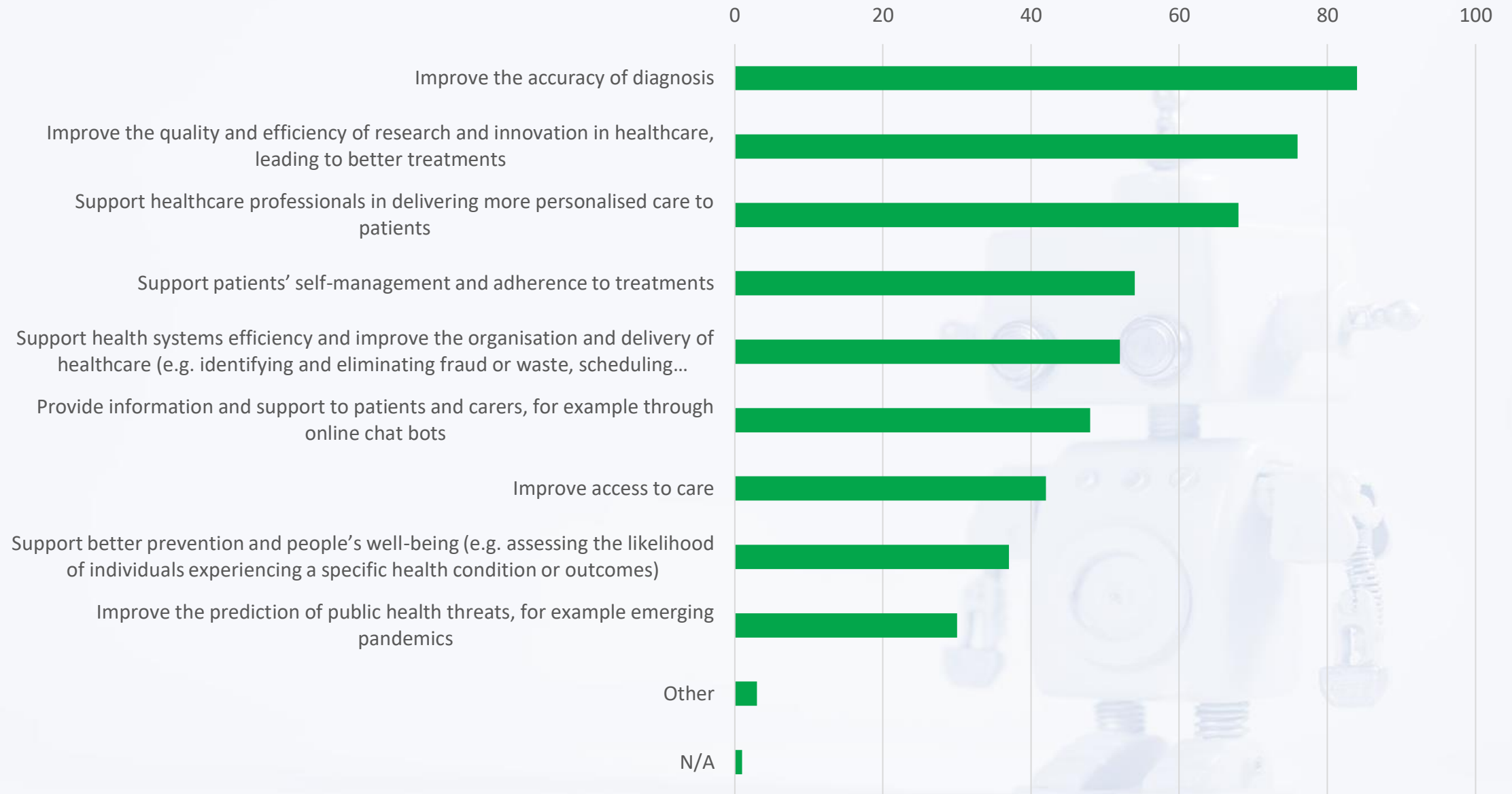
Portugal

- Detection/diagnosis of skin diseases

Netherlands

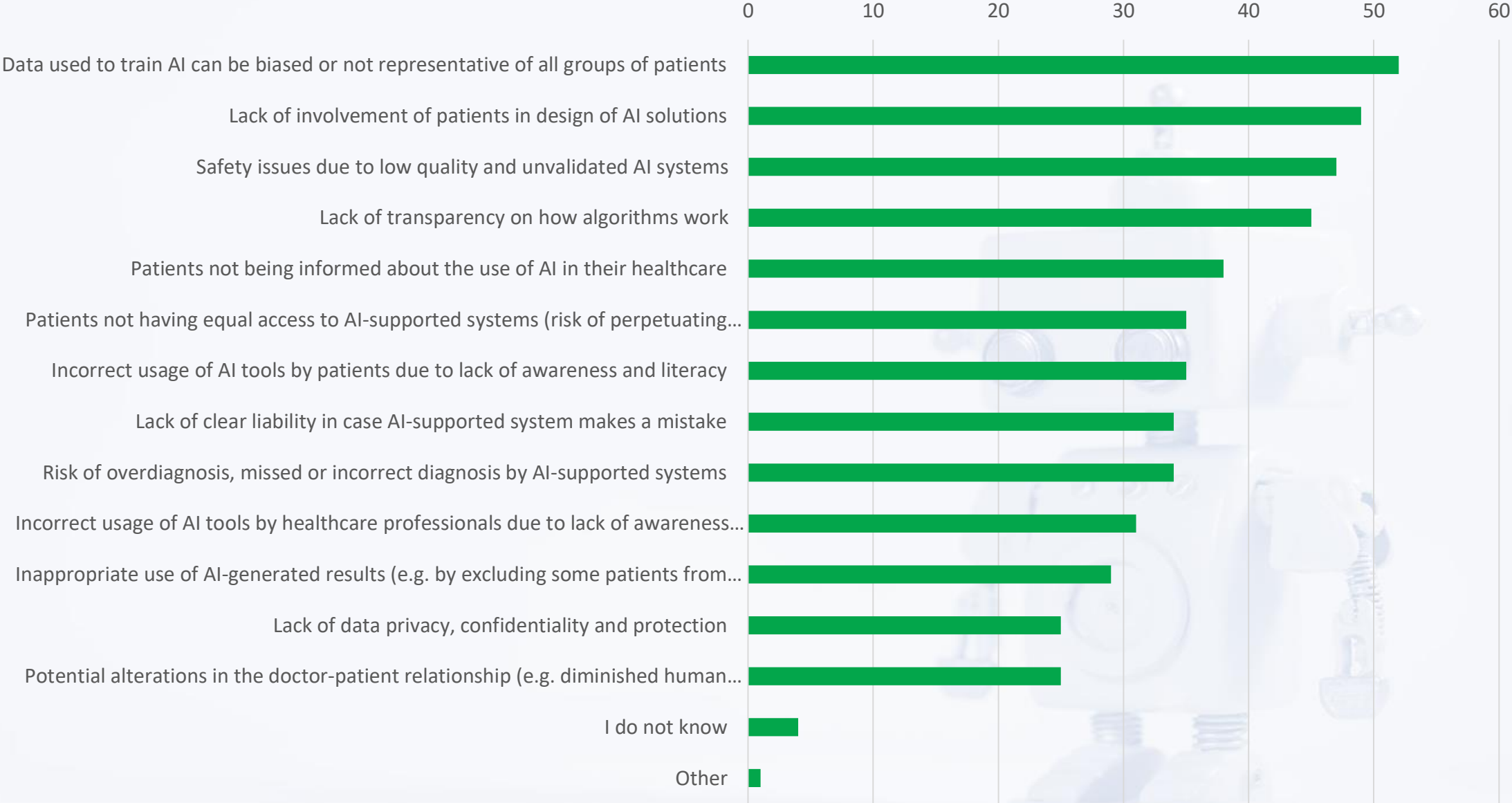
- Digital nose (electronic nose technology to detect diseases)
- Data collections

In your opinion, what are the most interesting applications for AI in health?



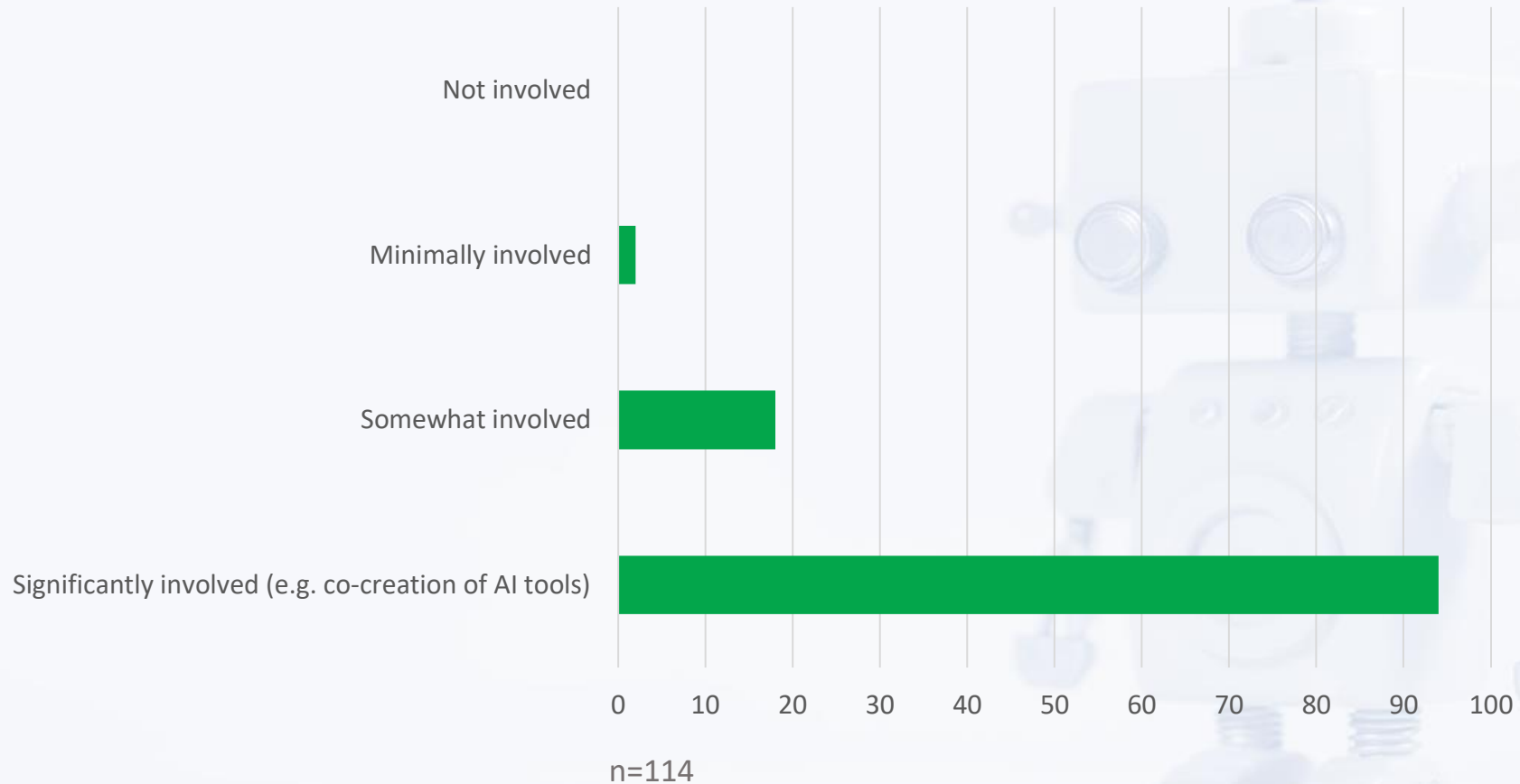
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For your organisation, what are the main worries concerning AI in healthcare?

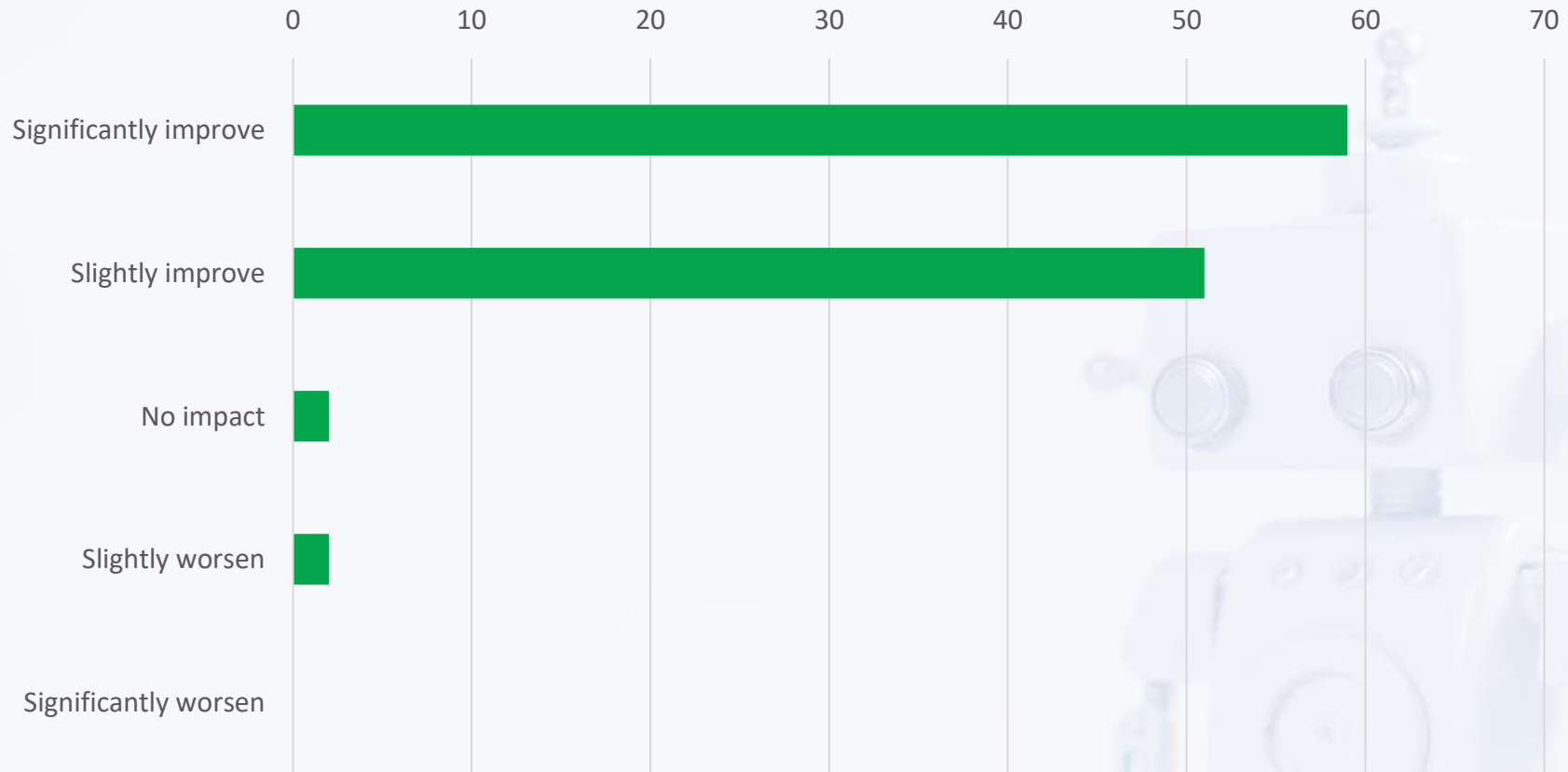


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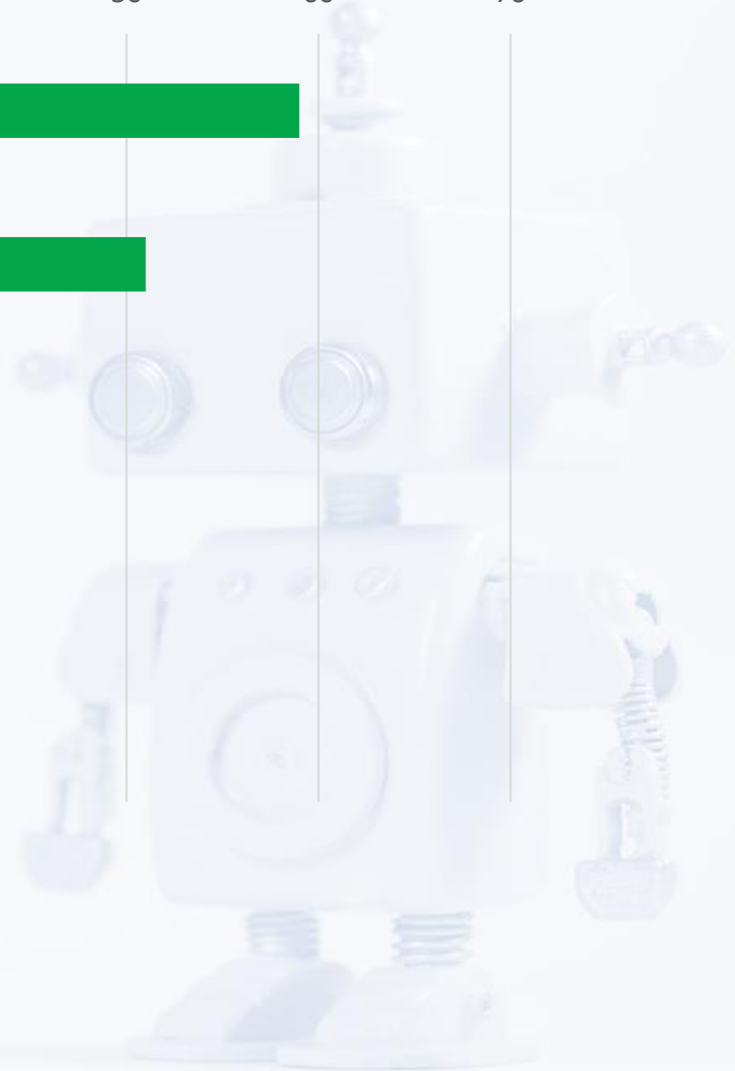
To what extent do you believe healthcare stakeholders (patients, doctors, nurses..) should be involved in some aspects of the development and deployment of AI-powered tools and technologies that are to be used directly in patient care?



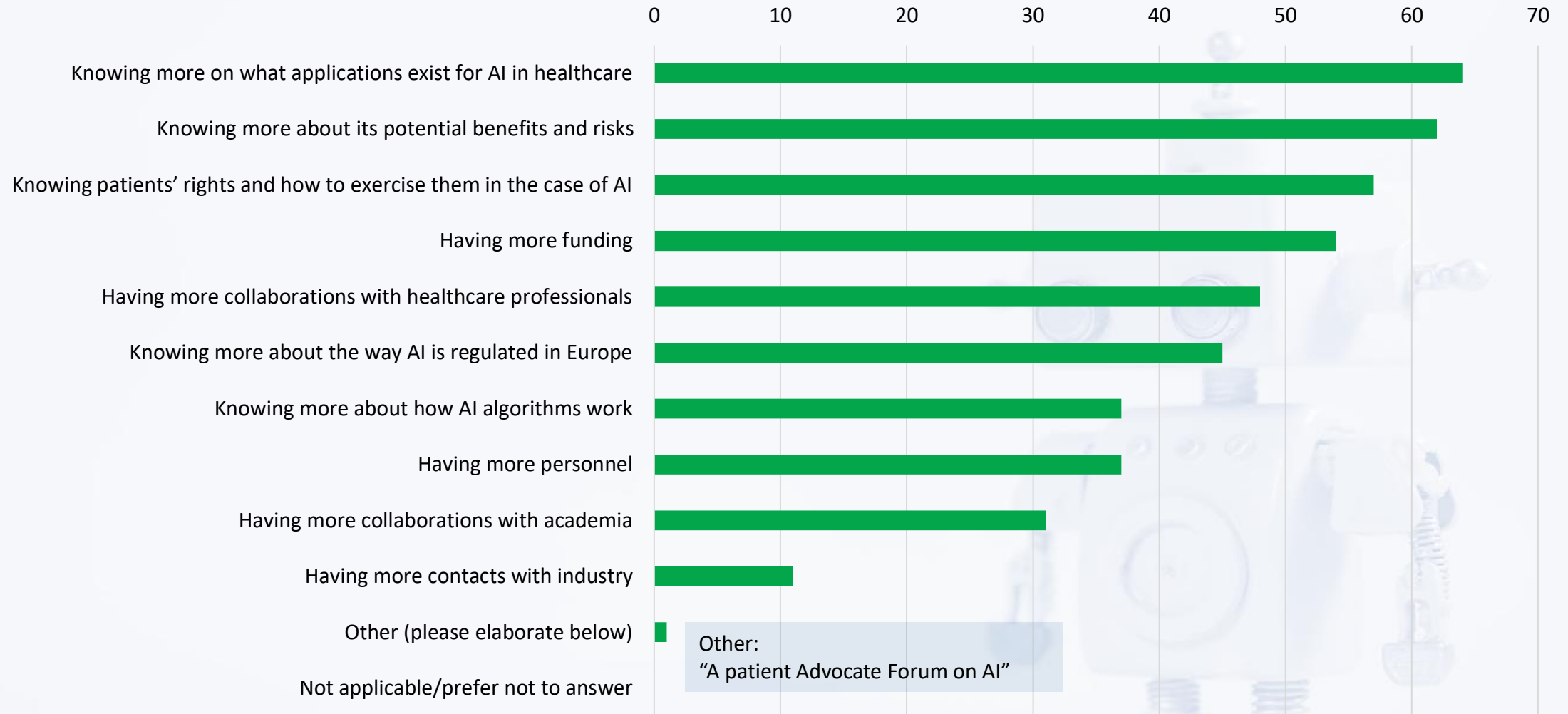
To what extent do you believe AI can improve patient outcomes in the coming years?



n=114

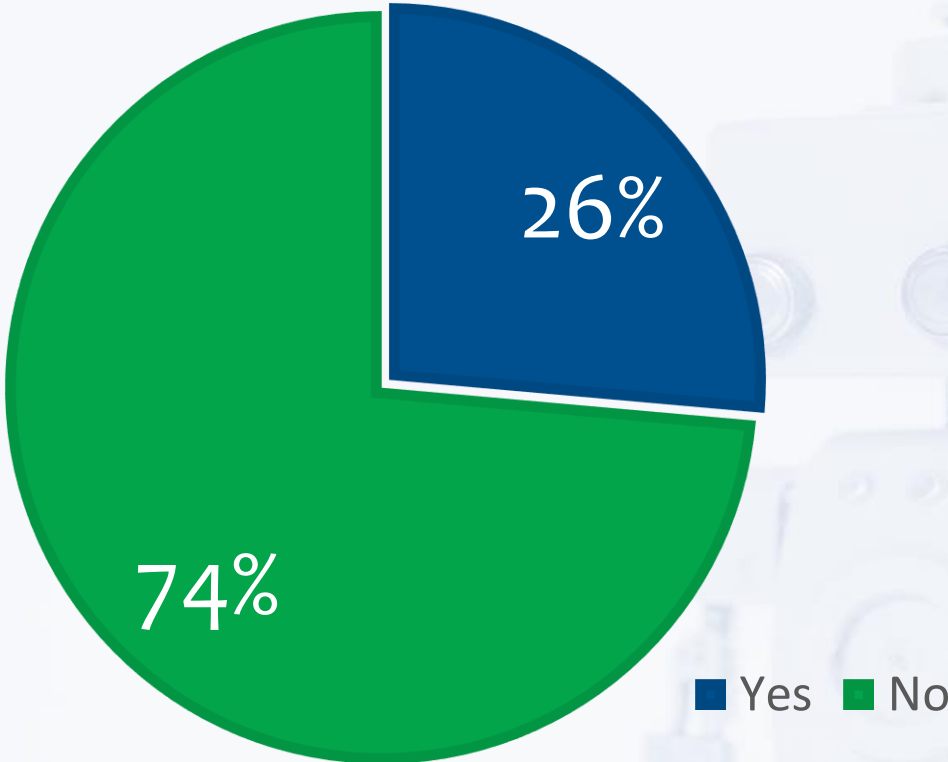


What would help you better engage with AI in healthcare?



n=107

Are you aware of any ongoing or upcoming EU policies or guidelines dealing with the use of AI in healthcare?



CONCLUSIONS (1/2)

- **67% respondents represented national patient organisations.** This could explain why 74% of respondents were not aware of any ongoing or upcoming European policies or guidelines dealing with the use of AI in healthcare.
- **Two thirds of respondents believed that their organisation's knowledge of AI in healthcare was basic or nonexistent,** while 19% believed it was solid.
- **Almost all respondents believed that AI would/could significantly improve or slightly improve patient outcomes,** while none of the respondents believed these could be significantly worsened.
- Among **the most interesting applications of AI in healthcare,** the respondents chose: improve the accuracy of diagnosis, improve the quality and efficiency of research and innovation in healthcare, lead to better treatments, support healthcare professionals in delivering more personalised care to patients and support patients' self-management and adherence to treatments.

CONCLUSIONS (2/2)

- The respondents believed that **lack of personnel and lack of knowledge were the main barriers for effective patient advocacy concerning AI in healthcare.**
- **Concerns about AI highlighted by respondents** relate to potential biased and non representative data used to train AI, lack of involvement of patients in design of AI solutions, safety issues due to low quality and unvalidated AI systems, lack of transparency on how algorithms work, and patients not being informed that AI has been used in the provision of healthcare/detection of disease.
- **82% of respondents believed that healthcare stakeholders (patients, healthcare professionals, nurses..) should be significantly involved in some aspects of the development and deployment of AI-powered tools and technologies,** while only 2% believed that they should be minimally involved.
- **59% of respondents did not know if AI was being used in their disease area/country,** especially in the area of cancer.