

Prescribing trends and unmet medical need in the treatment of mild and moderate psoriasis among dermatologists and primary care physicians in the United States

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Introduction

Psoriasis (PsO) is a chronic systemic inflammatory disease affecting over an estimated sixty million people worldwide^{1,2}, including approximately eight million people diagnosed in the United States (U.S.)³. The vast majority of patients suffer from mild and moderate disease⁴. These patients are primarily treated by dermatologists and primary care physicians (PCPs).

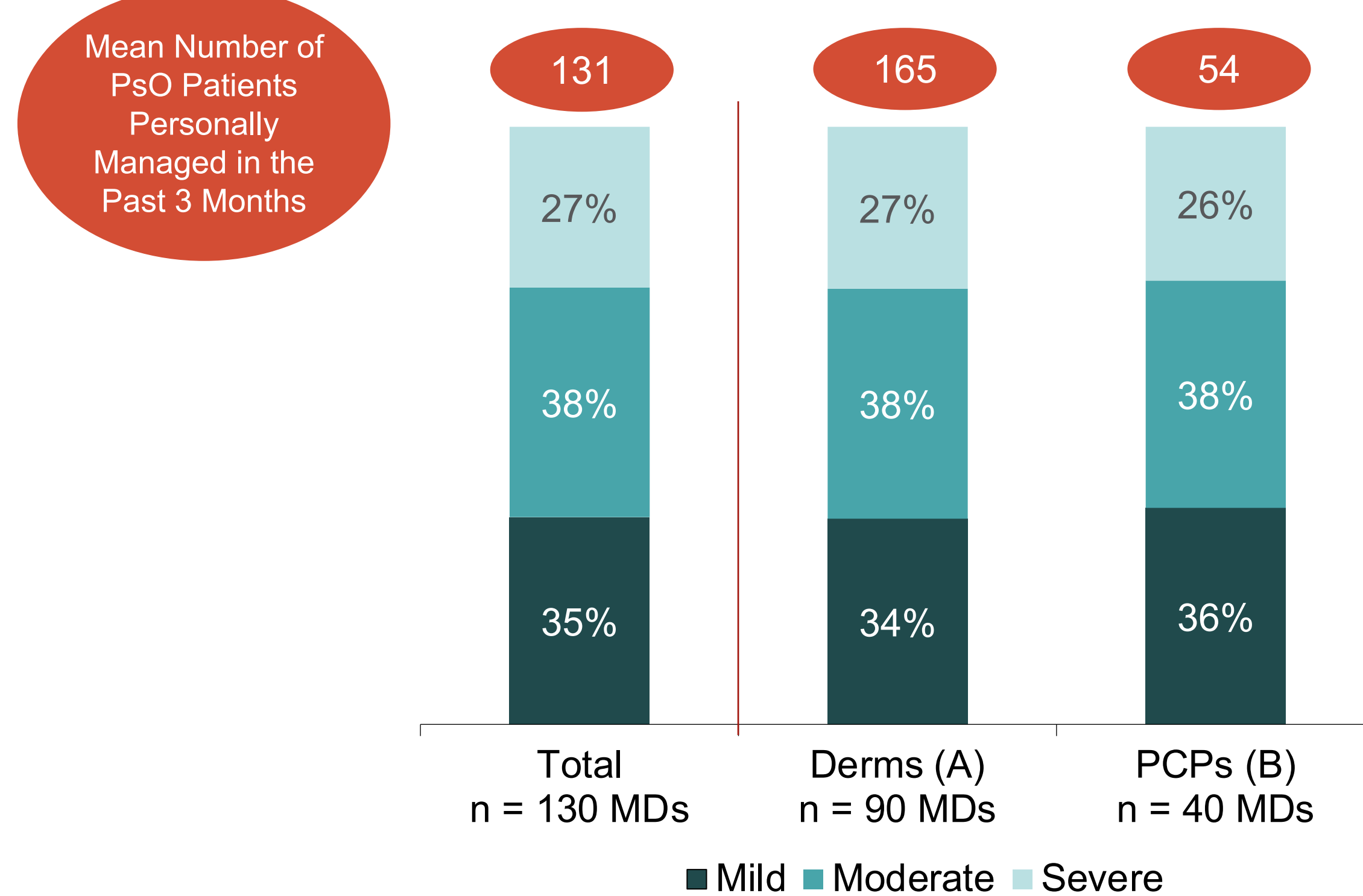
This study aimed to evaluate the current prescribing trends among dermatologists and PCPs in the treatment of psoriasis in the U.S. and unmet medical needs that they see for their patients.

Methods

For this research, a structured, online quantitative survey was conducted among 90 dermatologists and 40 PCPs. The fieldwork took place in January and February 2022. All product share results provided by physicians were weighted by reported patient volume, meaning responses from a physician who treated more PsO patients carried more weight than responses from a physician who treated fewer PsO patients in the aggregated results. Physicians self-assessed the severity of patients based on clinical practice.

Dermatologists and PCPs indicate that about three-quarters of their PsO patients are mild to moderate

Plaque Psoriasis Patients Personally Managed Across Severities (Percent of Patients)

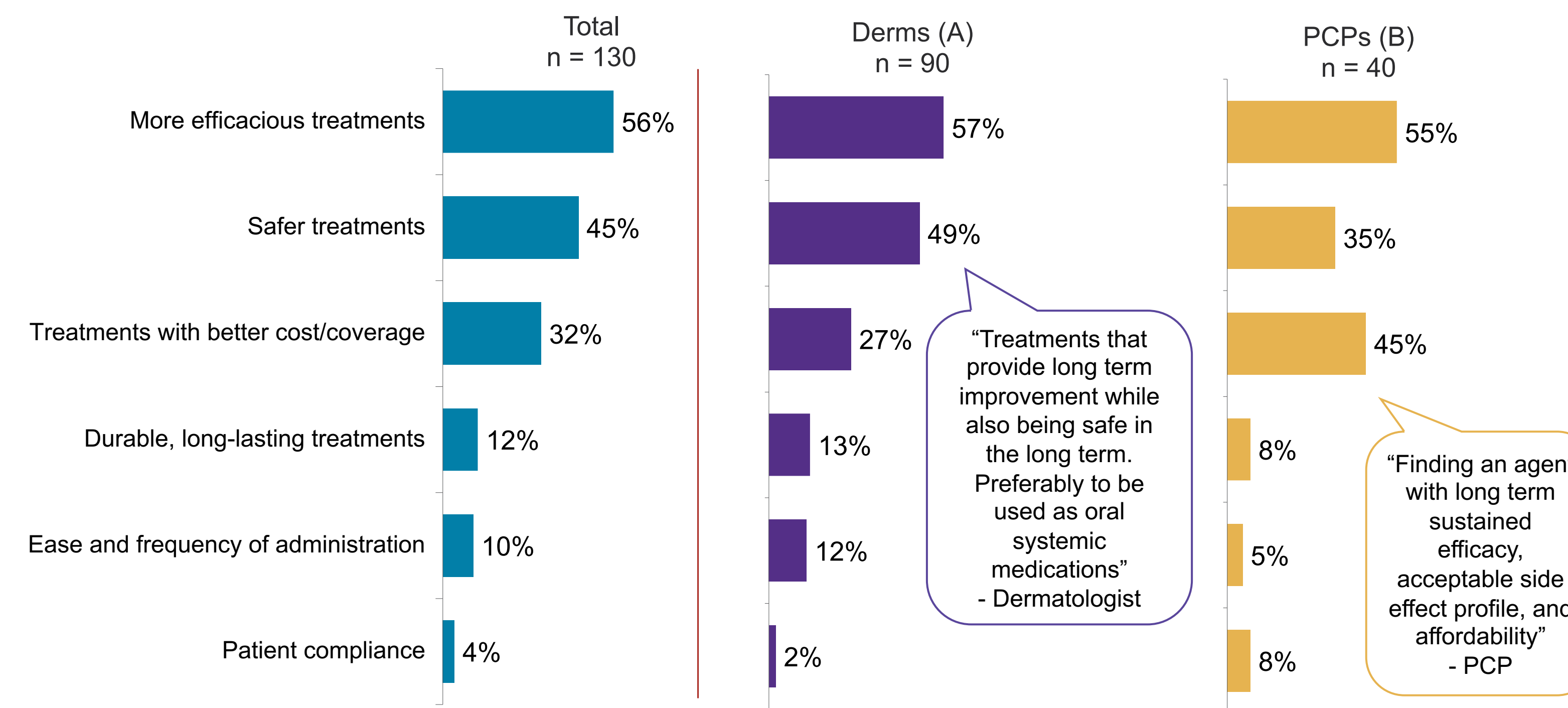


Question: In the past 3 months, how many adult patients have you personally managed with the following dermatological conditions?
Question: Thinking of the adult Plaque Psoriasis patients you have personally managed in the past 3 months, how many would you describe as mild, moderate, and severe?

Figure 1. Dermatologists reported seeing on average three times more PsO patients than PCPs in the three months prior to the survey. The physicians reported that the majority (73%) of their patients had mild or moderate disease.

Physicians acknowledge the unmet need for therapies that are effective, safe, affordable, durable in the treatment of mild and moderate PsO patients

Unaided Responses - Unmet Needs in Treating Mild to Moderate PsO Patients (Percent of Physicians)

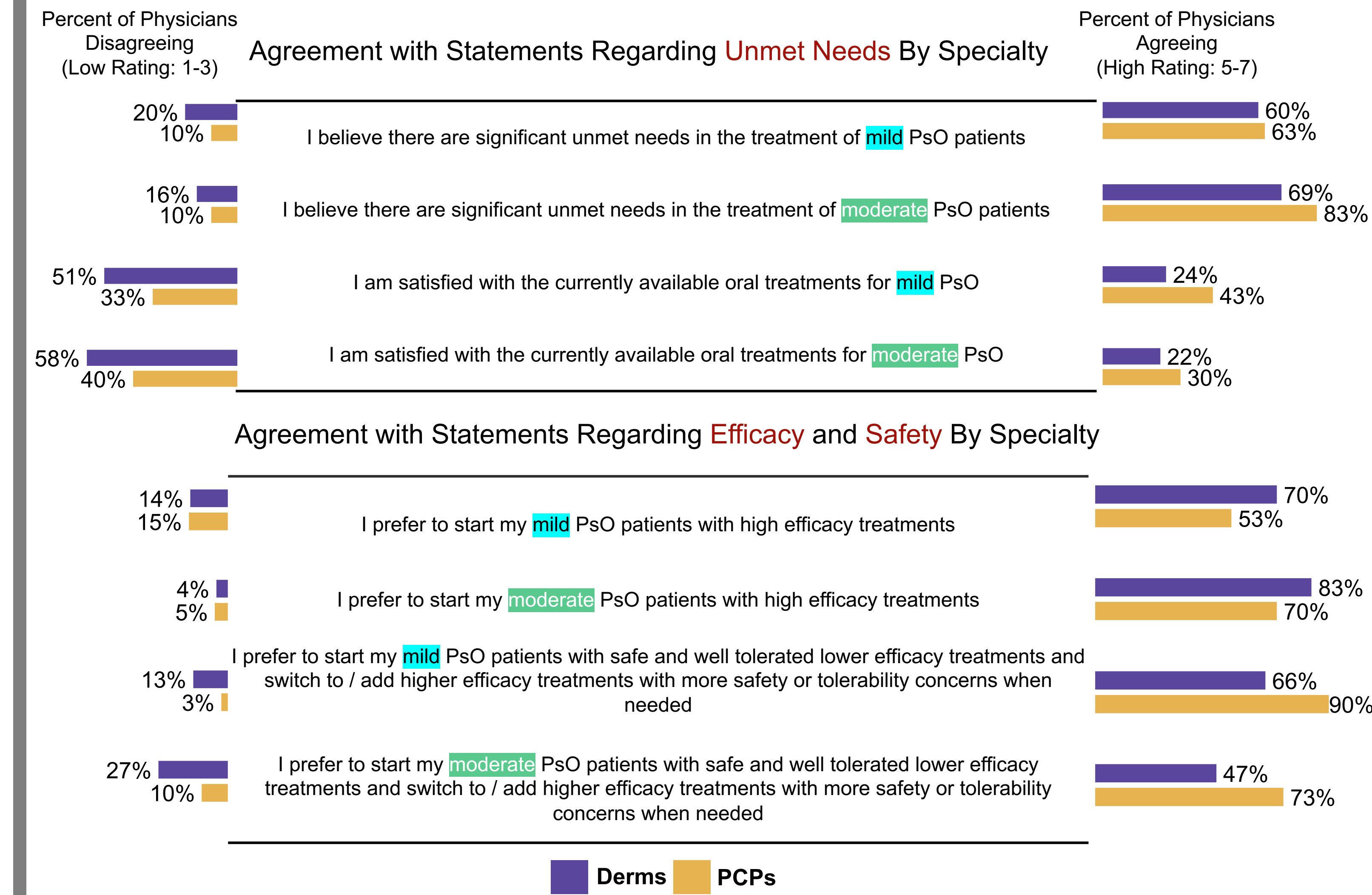


Sub-categories shown for each category wherever possible and may not add up to the overall category if the physician did not list a sub-category; Sorted in the descending order of 'Total' results

Question: What are your greatest unmet needs in treating your mild to moderate PsO patients?

Figure 2. When answering the open-ended question, physicians mention efficacy, safety, affordability, and durability as their top four greatest unmet needs in treating mild to moderate PsO.

Physicians report dissatisfaction with currently available oral options

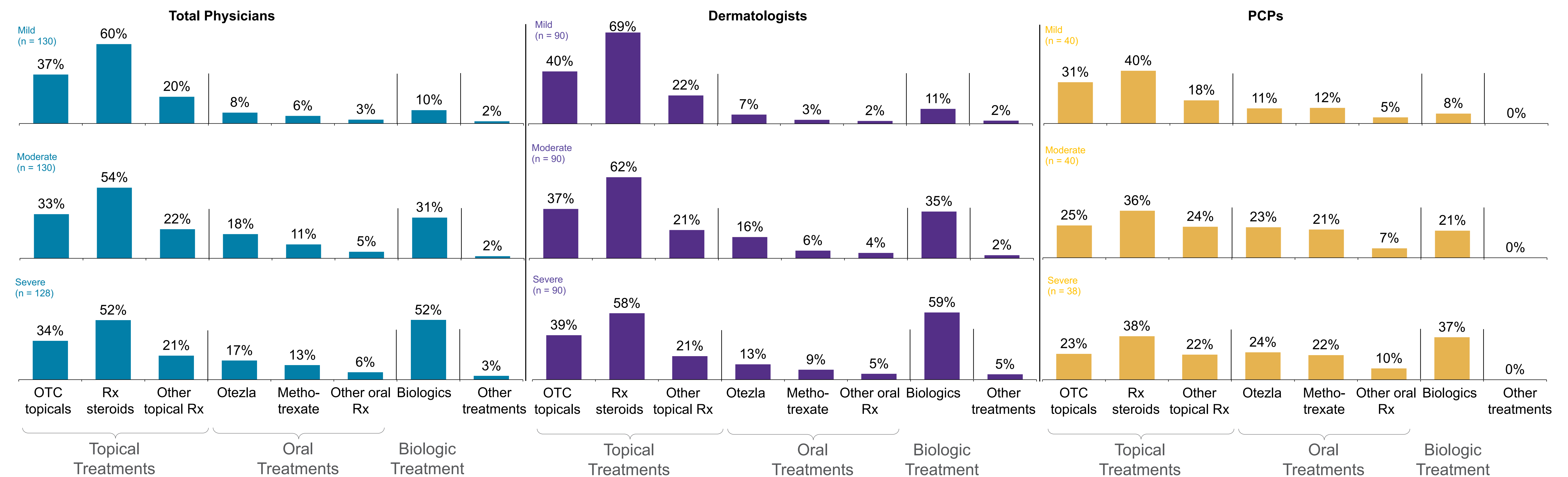


Question: Please rate the following statements related to PsO treatment on a 1 to 7 scale, where 1 = "Strongly Disagree" and 7 = "Strongly Agree".

Figure 3. Physicians, especially dermatologists, expressed dissatisfaction with currently available oral options for mild and moderate PsO patients. Moreover, physicians report that safety and tolerability drive treatment decision for mild and moderate PsO patients.

Physicians report a predominant reliance on topical therapy and lower usage of treatments that address systemic inflammation

Current Usage of Psoriasis Treatments Across Severities (Patient Share)



Question: Please think of the PsO patients whom you have managed or treated in the past 3 months. For what percent of these patients did you prescribe the following treatments?

Figure 4. Physicians indicated approximately 70% of mild and 40% of moderate (total percentage of prescriptions minus the percentage of prescriptions for oral and biologic treatment) PsO patients receive treatments that do not address the systemic inflammation underlying their disease. The majority of patients were on topical treatments across disease severities.

Conclusion

Significant unmet medical need exists for new treatment options, especially oral therapies, for mild and moderate PsO patients. Physicians most frequently expressed the need for effective, safe/well-tolerated, and affordable treatments. In the U.S., topical therapy remains the mainstay treatment among dermatologists and PCPs. Approximately 70% of mild and 40% of moderate PsO patients receive treatments that do not address the systemic inflammation underlying psoriatic disease.