

Prevalence and factors associated with the use of dermocosmetics (DC) by patients with Chronic Hand Eczema: a worldwide study in 20 countries



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RATIONAL

Dermocosmetics (DC) are formulated to enhance the skin barrier function and regulate transepidermal water loss. They play a crucial role in managing Chronic Hand Eczema (CHE). Both clinical and experimental research supports the idea that moisturizers rich in lipids can promote healing and reduce the risk of CHE recurrence.

This study aimed to examine the prevalence of DC usage among patients with CHE and explore the rates of conventional treatments, such as topical and systemic medications, among those using DC

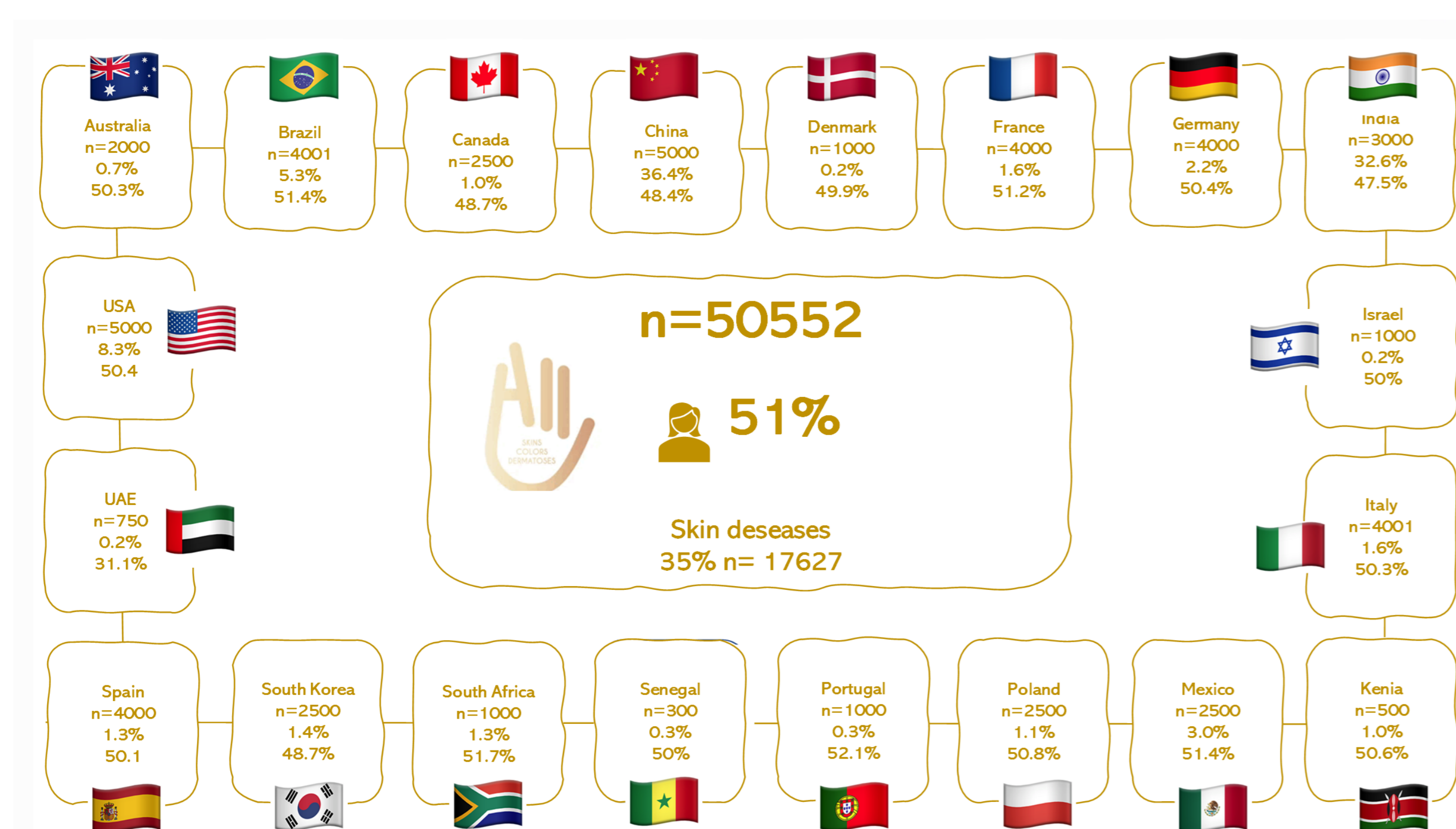
METHODOLOGY

The ALL PROJECT is a large-scale study of individuals representative of the adult population in 20 countries on five continents: Europe [France, Italy, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Denmark; n=17500], Latin America[LA] [Brazil, Mexico; n=6501], Asia [China, India, South Korea; n=10500], North America [NA] [Canada, USA; n= 7500]; Middle East [ME] [Israel, United Arab Emirates; n=2750], Australia [Australia; n=2000] and Africa [Kenya, South Africa, Senegal; n=1800].

In each of the 20 countries surveyed, representative and extrapolable samples of the general population aged 16 and over were interviewed.

The questionnaire focused on patient experience. It collected information on demographics, any dermatological conditions in the past 12 months, type of physician and therapeutic management. The primary analysis of this study was the prevalence of use of one or more over-the-counter DC alone or in combination with standard therapies in the 12 months prior to the survey.

The secondary analysis was a comparison of emollient and non-emollient users to evaluate predictors: socio-demographic, clinical parameters and treatments used to treat skin disease. Descriptive analyses were performed using absolute and percentage frequencies. The significance test was two-tailed and set at 5% ($p \leq 0.05$). Student's t-test and Pearson's chi squared were used to compare CHE subjects who reported using DC with those who did not.



RESULTS

A population of 562 CHE patients was selected, including 284 (50.5%) males and 278 (49.5%) females (mean age 42.2 +/- 14.2 years). min 19-82years.

Among the responders, 106(18.9%) use DC as part of the therapeutic management of CHE. 52(49,1%) DC users use a DC only for the treatment of HCE . 54(50,9%) were prescribed a DC by their doctor, 35(33,0%) on the sole advice of a pharmacist and 4(3,8%) on the advice of a nurse. 44(41,5%) chose their own DC without consulting a health professional. 37(34,9%) use a systemic treatment in combination with a DC, including 5 (4,7%) injectable treatments for CHE.

46(43,4%) use a dermocosmetic in combination with local dermocorticoid treatment.

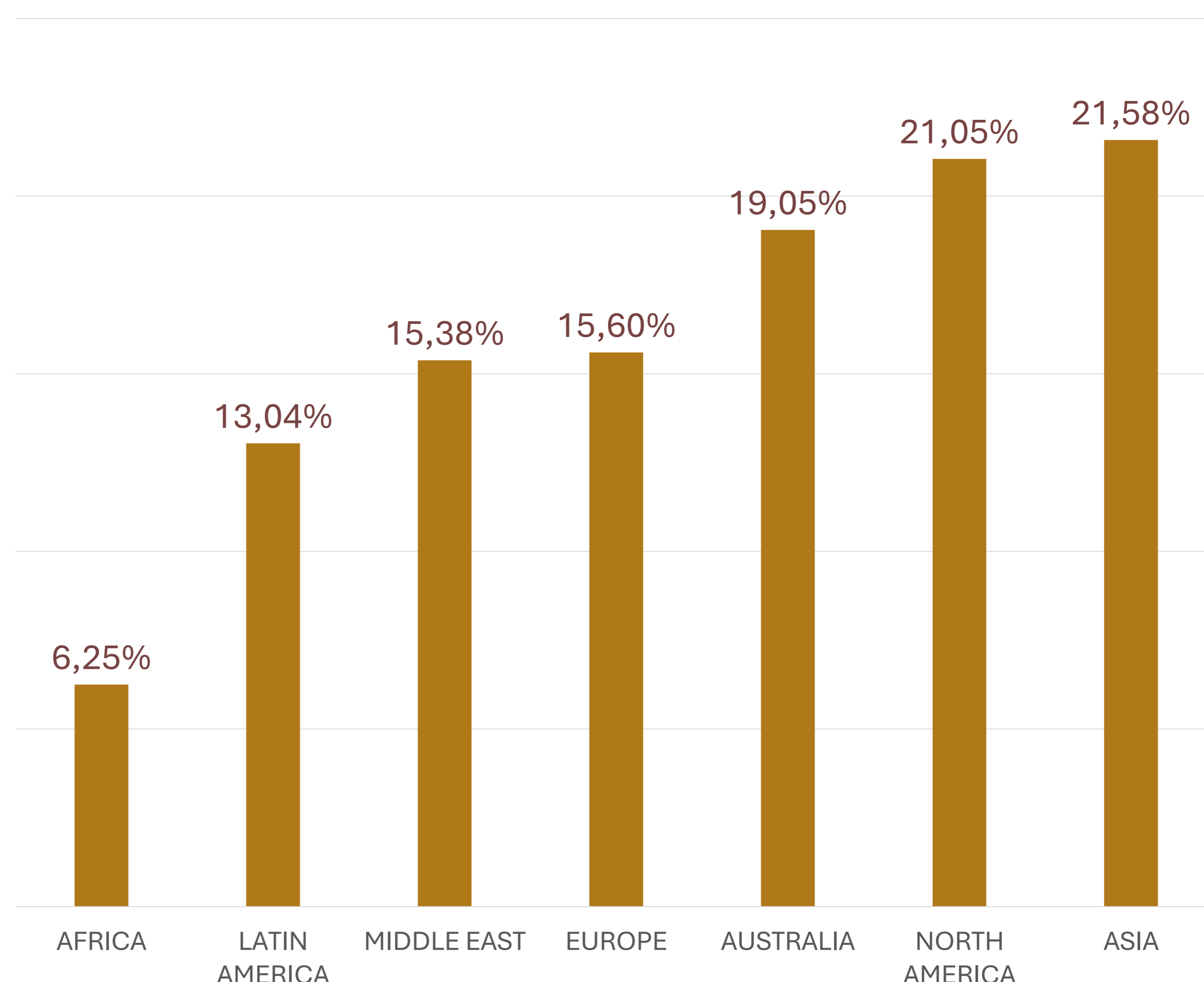
43 (40,6%) use a DC daily, 50 (47,2%) twice a day (morning and evening) and 13(12,3%) three or more times a day.

53(50,0%) stated that the cost of dermocosmetics prevented them from using them more frequently. 33(31,1%) also used hygiene products and skincare products adapted to psoriasis, 48(45,3%) only skincare products and 7(6,6%) only hygiene products.

Age (41.4 vs 42.4 years, $p=NS$), male gender (42.5% vs 52.4%, $p= NS$) were not predictive of DC use.

Of the 456 respondents who did not use dermocosmetics , 246(53.9%) reported that the cost of dermocosmetics had prevented them from using it.

Use of DC in CHE patients in different regions of the world



Variable	No DC N = 456	DC N = 106	p-Value
GENDER			0.082
Man	239 (52.41%)	45 (42.45%)	
Woman	217 (47.59%)	61 (57.55%)	
AGE	42.39 (± 14.57) Range: (18.0 ; 82.0)	41.41 (± 12.57) Range: (19.0 ; 76.0)	0.636
LOCATION			0.116
Rural area	67 (14.69%)	9 (8.49%)	
Semi-urban area	90 (19.74%)	17 (16.04%)	
Urban area	299 (65.57%)	80 (75.47%)	
DIPLOMA OBTAINED			0.028
No diploma	63 (13.82%)	6 (5.66%)	
Secondary education diploma	95 (20.83%)	18 (16.98%)	
Higher education diploma	298 (65.35%)	82 (77.36%)	
SOCIO-PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY			0.329
CSP +	177 (38.82%)	45 (42.45%)	
CSP -	171 (37.5%)	43 (40.57%)	
Inactive	108 (23.68%)	18 (16.98%)	
Declare having consulted a doctor	259 (56.8%)	53 (50.0%)	0.246
Of these, say they have consulted a dermatologist	172 (66.41%)	42 (79.25%)	
Of these, say they have consu	61 (23.55%)	16 (30.19%)	

DISCUSSION

This is the first study to assess the prevalence of dermocosmetics in patients with Chronic Hand Eczema.

This study needs to be complemented by more mechanistic research into why people choose to use DC and the impact of DC on the wellbeing and quality of life of people with Chronic Hand Eczema .