

Prevalence and factors associated with the use of dermo cosmetics by patients with atopic dermatitis: a worldwide study in 20 countries : ALL project



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RATIONAL

Dermo cosmetics (DC) are formulated to enhance the skin barrier function and regulate transepidermal water loss. DC is advised as an initial treatment in various guidelines for Atopic Dermatitis (AD).

Both clinical and experimental data suggest that moisturizers rich in lipids can facilitate healing and reduce the likelihood of Atopic Dermatitis recurrence .

OBJECTIVES

This study aimed to evaluate the prevalence of Dermo cosmetics usage among Atopic Dermatitis patients and explore the utilization rates of conventional treatments, such as topical and systemic medications, among Dermo cosmetics users.

METHODOLOGY

The ALL PROJECT is a large-scale study of individuals representative of the adult population in 20 countries on five continents

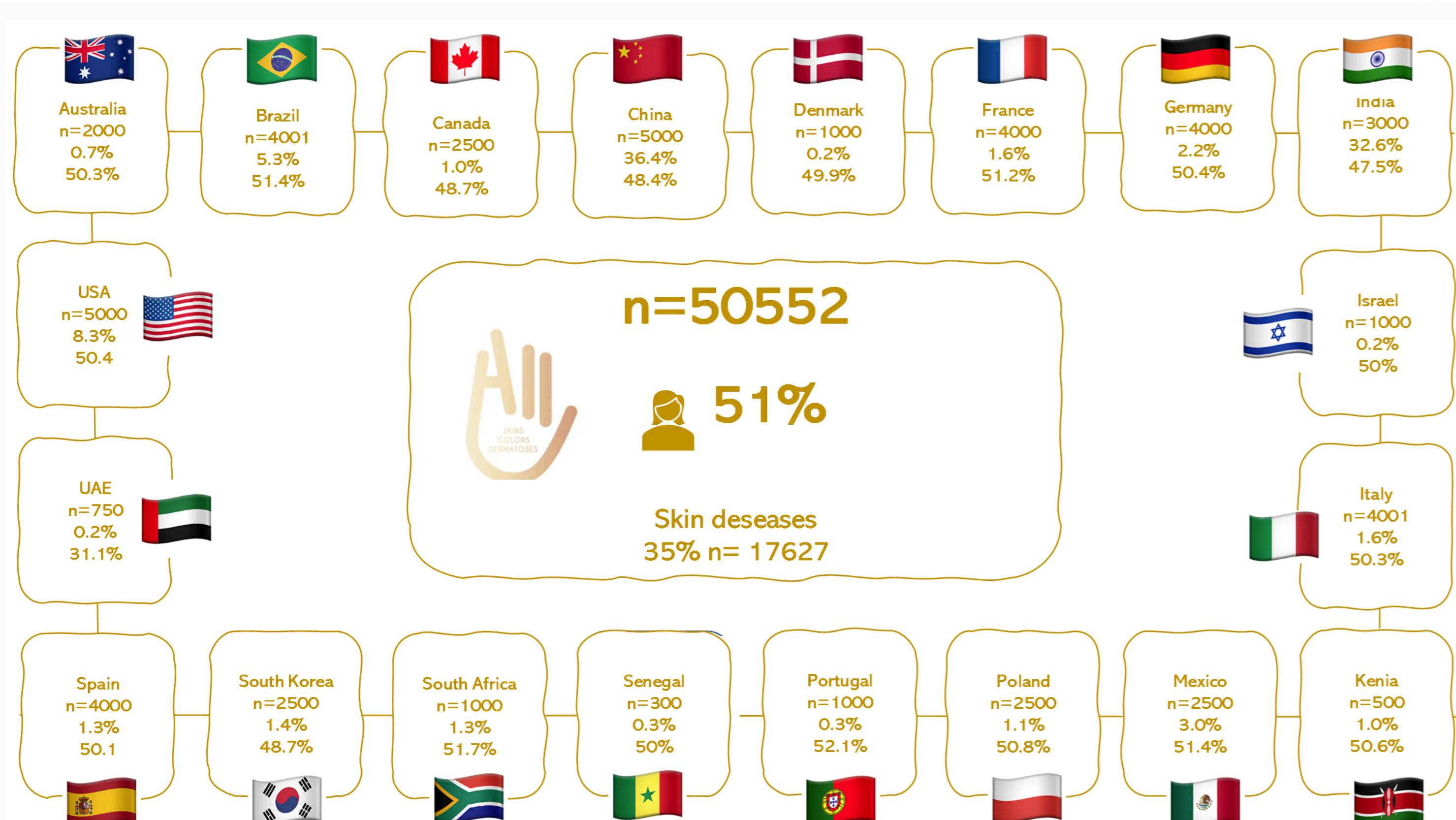
: Europe [France, Italy, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Denmark; n=17500], Latin America[LA] [Brazil, Mexico; n=6501], Asia [China, India, South Korea; n=10500], North America [NA] [Canada, USA; n= 7500]; Middle East [ME] [Israel, United Arab Emirates; n=2750], Australia [Australia; n=2000] and Africa [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 main analysis of this study was the prevalence of use of one or more Dermo cosmetics available in pharmacies without physician prescription, alone or in combination with standard treatments for atopic dermatitis, during the 12 months preceding 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 psoriasis. Descriptive analyses were performed using absolute and percentage frequencies.

The significance test was two-tailed and set at 5% (p ≤ 0.05). Student's t-test and Pearson's chi-squared were used to compare Atopic Dermatitis subjects who reported using Dermo cosmetics with those who did not.



RESULTS

A population of 2514 Atopic Dermatitis patients was selected, including 1156 (46%) males and 1358 (54%) females (mean age 44.8 +/- 14.7years). min 17-88years. Among the responders, 536(21.3%) use Dermo cosmetics as part of the therapeutic management of Atopic Dermatitis).

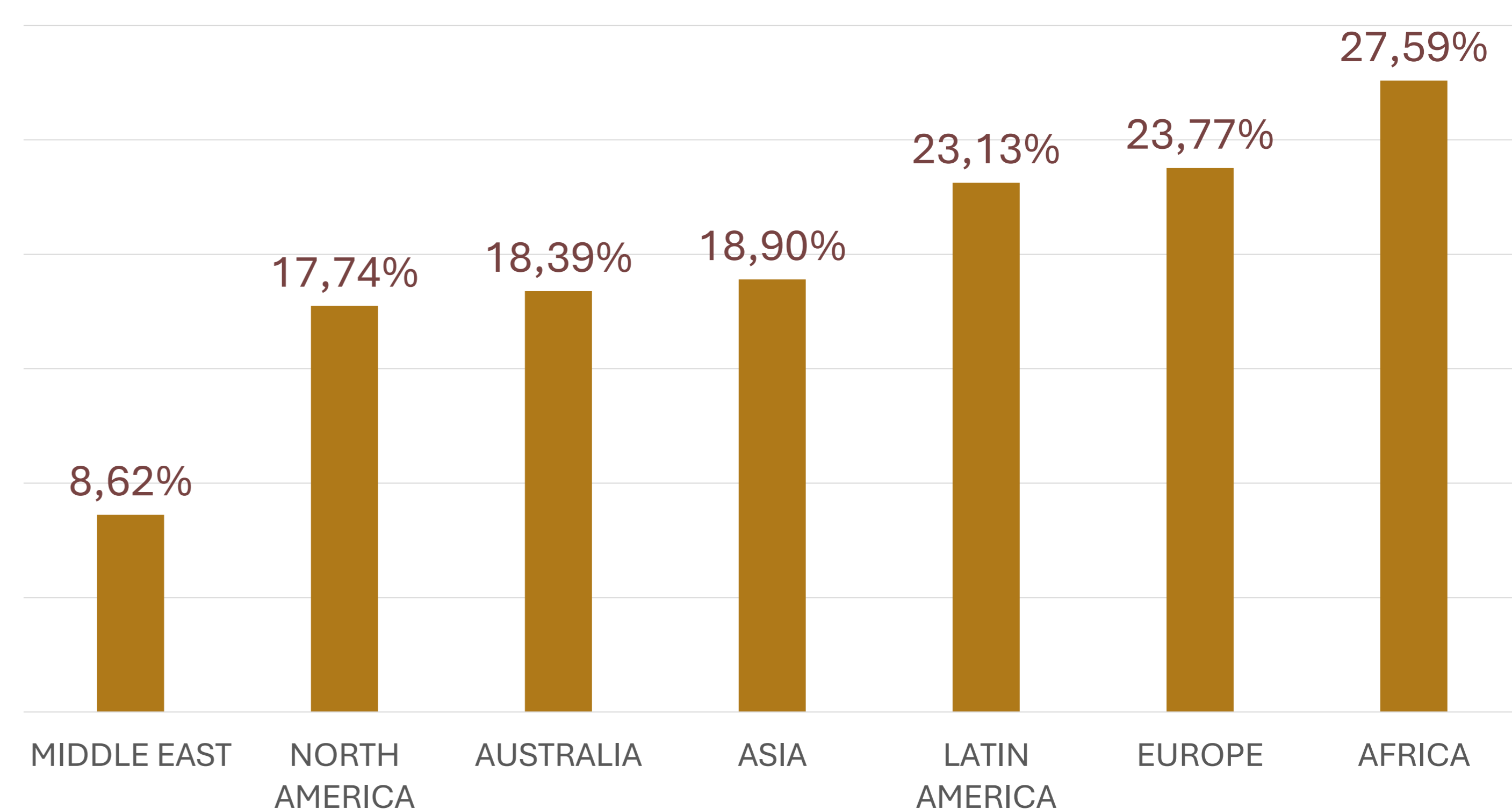
253(47,2%) Dermo cosmetics users use a DC only for the treatment of Atopic Dermatitis. 274(51,1%) were prescribed a DC by their doctor,126 (23,5%) on the sole advice of a pharmacist and 5(0.9%) on the advice of a nurse.

174(32,5%) chose their own DC without consulting a health professional. 124(23,1%) use a systemic treatment in combination with a Dermo cosmetics , including 13 (2,4%) injectable treatments for Atopic Dermatitis. 159(29,7%) use a DC in combination with local dermo corticoid treatment. 289(53,9%) use a Dermo cosmetics daily,216 (40,3%) twice a day (morning and evening) and 31(5,8%) three or more times a day.273(50,9%) stated that the cost of dermo cosmetics prevented them from using them more frequently.

175(32,6%) also used hygiene products and skincare products adapted to Atopic Dermatitis, 157(29,3%) only skincare products and 83(15,5%) only hygiene products. Age (46.3 vs 44.3 years, p≤ 0.05)and female gender (62.1% vs 51.8%, p≤ 0.05) were predictive of Dermo cosmetics use.

Of the 1978 respondents who did not use Dermo cosmetics , 793(%) reported that the cost of Dermo cosmetics had prevented them from using it.

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



Variable	No DC N = 1978	DC N = 536	p-Value
SEX			<0.001
Man	953 (48.18%)	203 (37.87%)	
Woman	1025 (51.82%)	333 (62.13%)	
AGE	44.33 (± 14.79) Range: (17.0 ; 88.0)	46.34 (± 14.5) Range: (18.0 ; 79.0)	0.006
LOCATION			0.237
rural area	258 (13.04%)	80 (14.93%)	
Urban area	493 (24.92%)	117 (21.83%)	
Urban area	1227 (62.03%)	339 (63.25%)	
EDUCATION OBTAINED			0.029
Diploma	198 (10.01%)	38 (7.09%)	
Education diploma	459 (23.21%)	147 (27.43%)	
University diploma	1321 (66.78%)	351 (65.49%)	
PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY			0.9
ISP +	600 (30.33%)	158 (29.48%)	
ISP -	801 (40.5%)	217 (40.49%)	
Inactive	577 (29.17%)	161 (30.04%)	
CONSULTED A DOCTOR	1201 (60.72%)	245 (45.71%)	<0.001
consulted a dermatologist	812 (67.61%)	197 (80.41%)	<0.001
they have consulted	414 (34.47%)	77 (31.43%)	0.399

DISCUSSION

This is the first study to assess the prevalence of Dermo cosmetics in patients with AD.

This study needs to be complemented by more mechanistic research into why people choose to use DC and the impact of Dermo cosmetics on the wellbeing and quality of life of people with AD