

# ILF-COM reporting from Switzerland: chronic oedema survey



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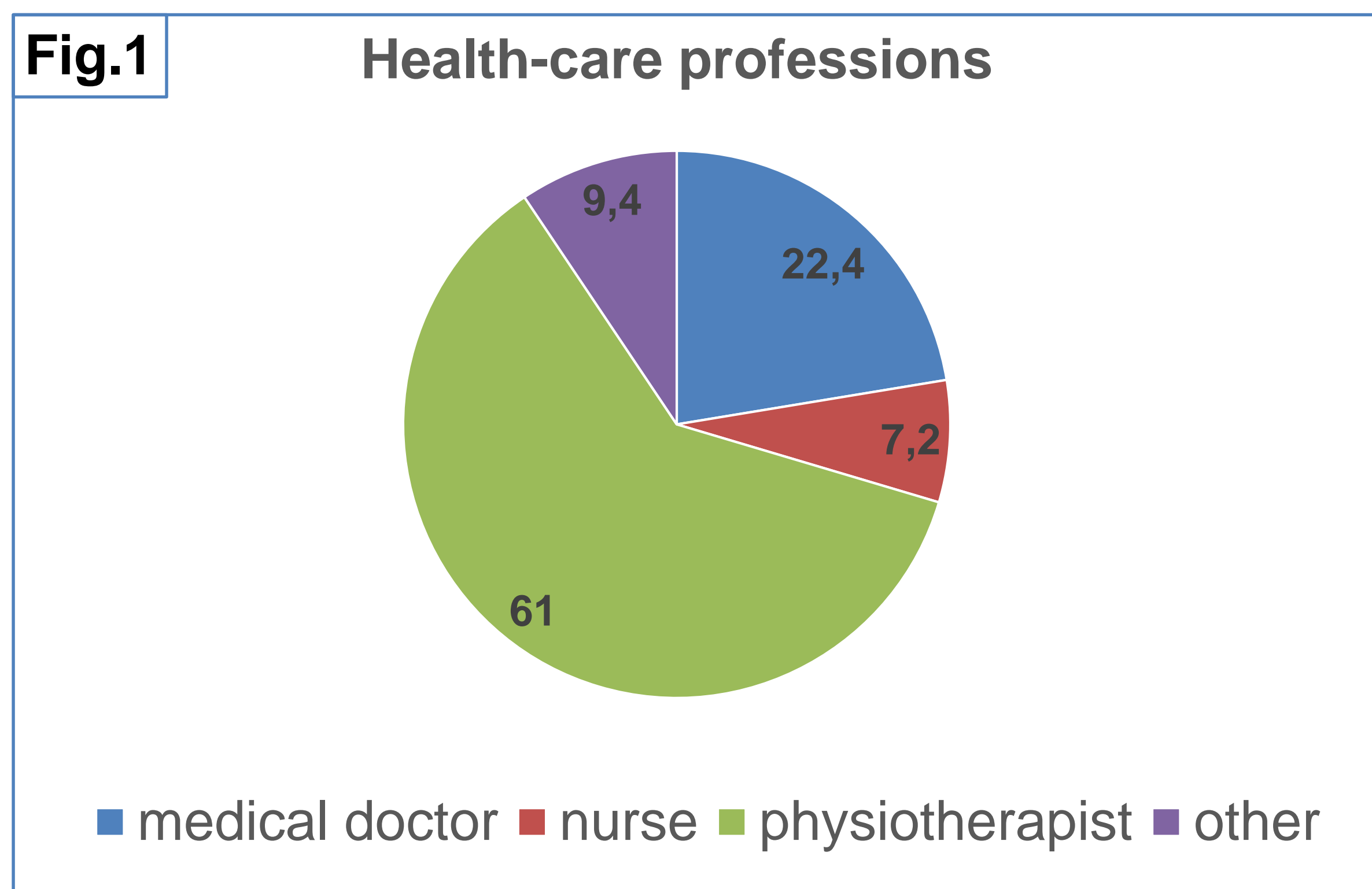
**Background:** Measurement of outcome in the management of people with all forms of chronic oedema and lymphoedema is subject to great international variation. The International Lymphoedema Framework (ILF) recognised that a lack of clarity about outcome measures for people with lymphoedema and related disorders was contributing to a lack of development of services and reimbursement of care.

**Aim:** Collection of data from various stakeholders, through a survey, on outcome measurements in patients with lymphedema. The survey aims to provide both an opportunity for a national profile to be created within each country as well as the collation of the international issues. The combined aspects of the project will contribute to an international strategy for outcome development with the partners with the hope this can drive improvements in all aspects of treatment and reimbursement.

**Methods:** The ILF-COM project was designed as an international, multi-sponsored project to address outcome measurements in patients with lymphedema. A survey Monkey was conducted in countries participating to the framework. The survey was centrally validated and translated in various languages.

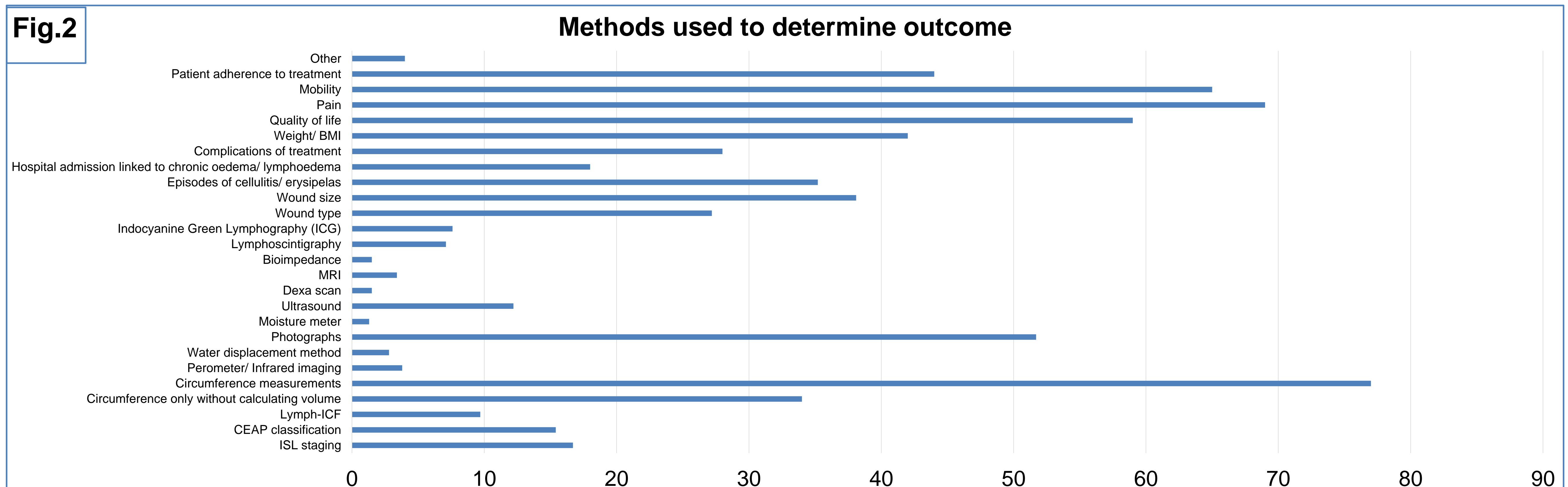
## RESULTS

- 626 responses were obtained in Switzerland
- Of these, 12% were from patients, the rest being health care professionals (type of profession is indicated in Figure 1), of these, 45% were from public practice.



### Among health care professionals:

- 59% perform outcome measures
- 56% rely on some guidelines (international, national or regional)
- 73% stated that limb volume was the most important outcome followed by quality of life (53.5%)
- Increase in limb volume and oedema despite treatment was considered the best outcome for treatment failure (72,5%)
- Majority of professionals indicated increased professional (81%) and patient knowledge (69%) as a tool to improve adoption of outcome measures



## CONCLUSIONS

The ILF-COM Survey conducted in Switzerland showed heterogeneity in methods of outcome measurements. There is a need for standardization and implementation of education programs.