

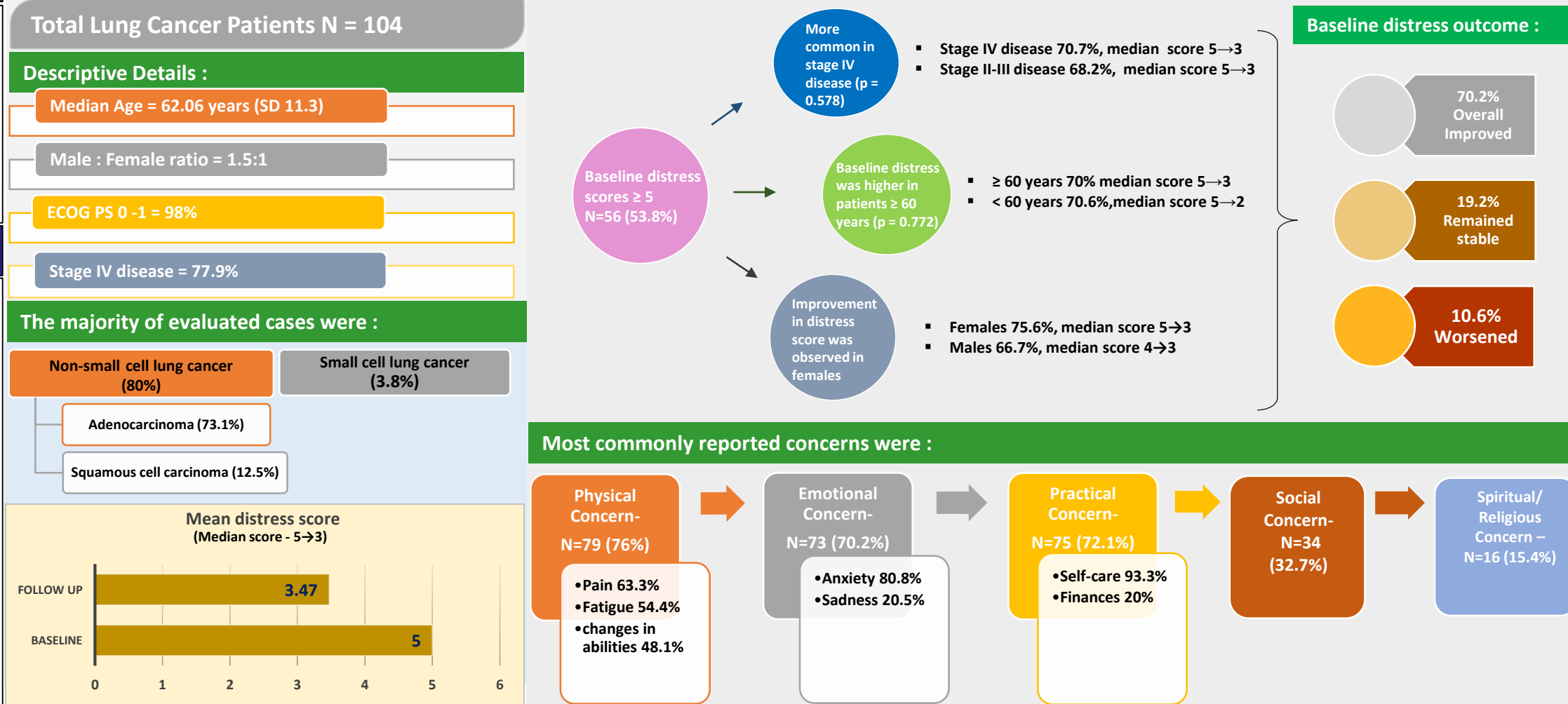
Introduction

Emotional and psychosocial burden in malignancy can impact treatment continuation and quality of life, yet real-world data from Indian community oncology particularly in lung cancer remains scarce.

Methods

This retrospective study included adult patients with lung malignancy assessed using the NCCN Distress Thermometer between April 2025 and December 2025. Distress across physical, emotional, practical, social, and spiritual domains was documented at initial assessment and follow-up. Associations with age, stage at presentation, and tumor subtype were explored, and changes over time were evaluated using the Wilcoxon signed-rank test.

Results



Conclusions

Implementation of the NCCN Distress Thermometer in community oncology settings in Western India enabled systematic detection of multidimensional distress in lung cancer patients and was associated with significant improvement in patient-reported outcomes, supporting its clinical utility as a standardized assessment tool.