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INTRODUCTION

Small cell lung cancer (SCLC) accounts for approximately 13% of all lung cancers in the United States and carries a five-year overall survival of 12–30%, with most people presenting with extensive-stage disease at the time of diagnosis (Kim et al., 2025).

Globally, those diagnosed with extensive-stage SCLC report high emotional and physical effects of the disease that significantly impact quality of life (Valliant et al., 2025). The aggressive nature of the disease makes psychosocial support essential but also challenging to provide as progressions and hospitalizations occur (Wang & Chiang, 2024).

The needs, values, and preferences of those living with SCLC remain underrepresented in clinical literature. Understanding the perspectives and experiences of those impacted is fundamental to improving outcomes and ensuring access to resources (Altman et al., 2023).

Accordingly, we conducted a national online survey titled *Small Cell Lung Cancer: Understanding Your Needs* to hear directly from the community and guide its SCLC-specific program offerings.

METHODS

106 individuals affected by SCLC have completed the *Small Cell Lung Cancer: Understanding Your Needs* survey since 2022.

Respondents include:

- 70% individuals with a SCLC diagnosis
- 21% caregivers or loved ones of someone with SCLC
- 9% other respondents including those who work with people affected by SCLC or had no specified connection

The survey assesses preferences in four areas:

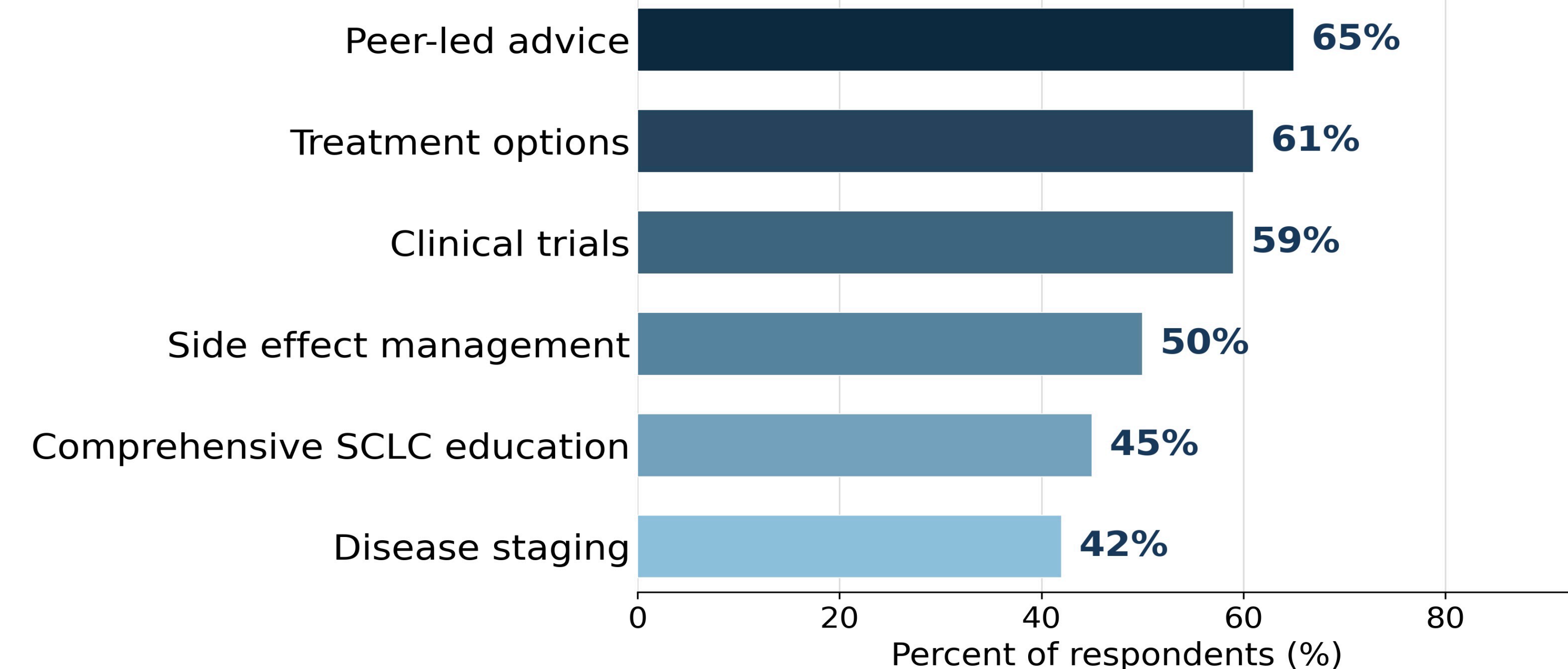
- Educational topics
- Support needs
- Peer connection
- Communication content

Each survey question is optional and designed to allow multiple answer selections.

RESULTS

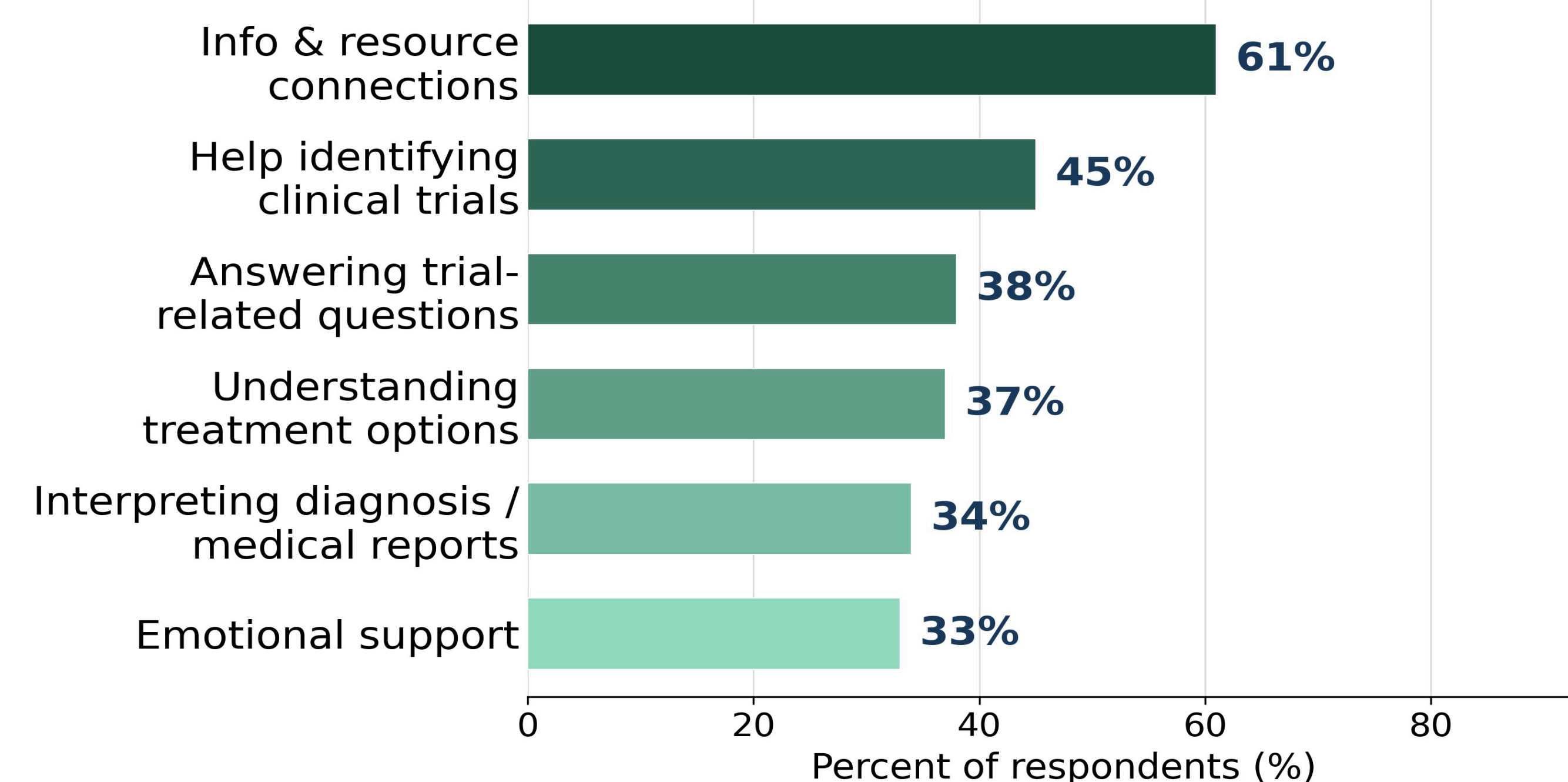
Educational Topics of Interest

n = 106



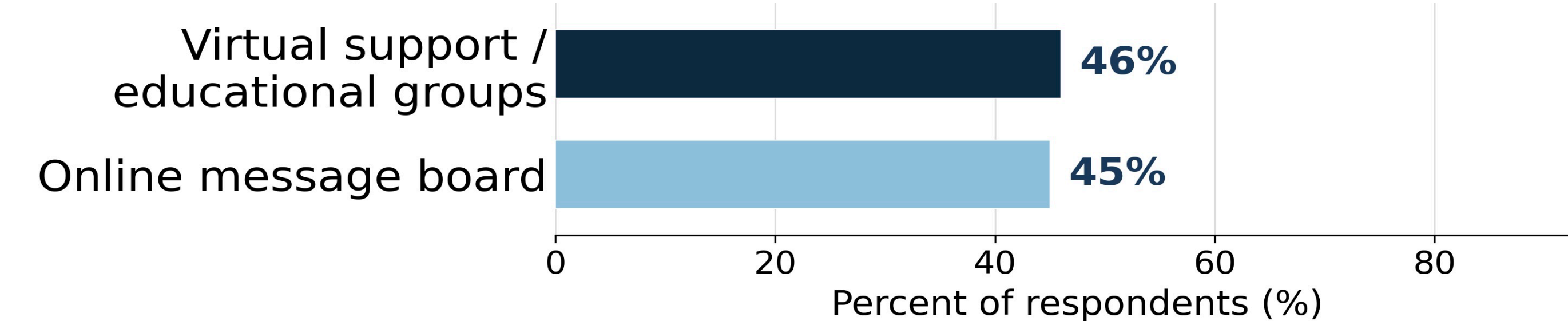
Top Support Needs

n = 101



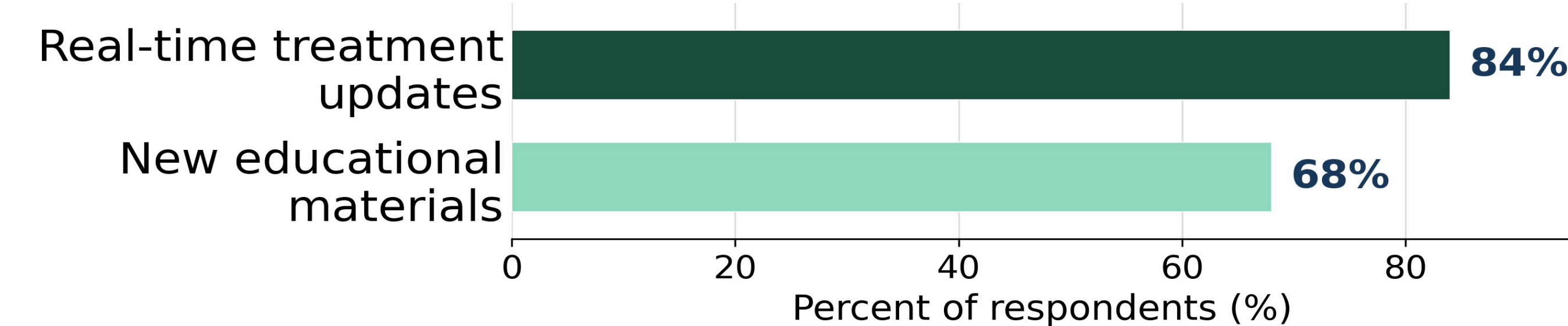
Preferred Peer Connection Format

n = 96



Preferred Communication Content

n = 25 (subset reporting preference)



Artificial Intelligence (Claude) was used to assist in generating bar charts.

DISCUSSION

Key Findings

Findings highlight that the people surveyed have a strong desire:

- **For accessible, clinically relevant information**, particularly regarding clinical trials and treatment options.
- **To connect with and learn from other people** with similar experiences.

Virtual groups and online message boards were both commonly preferred for peer connection, indicating demand across multiple formats.

GO2's Ongoing Program Development

GO2 for Lung Cancer uses the *Small Cell Lung Cancer: Understanding Your Needs* survey to continuously refine its SCLC program, ensuring personalized navigation, education, resources, and support meet the evolving needs of the community.

Implications for Stakeholders in SCLC Care

These findings offer a framework that other SCLC providers and advocacy organizations can use to inform the design of their own programs. Pairing peer-led advice with professional navigation, rather than relying on either approach alone, may better address the diverse and evolving needs of people affected by SCLC. These findings also highlight the value of timely, ongoing communication as treatment and clinical trial options evolve. Finally, offering multiple ways for patients to engage may increase participation and overall impact.

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