

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

Social drivers of health (SDOH) are individual factors that directly or indirectly influence a person's health outcomes. Research shows that SDOH factors, including access to quality nutrition, stable housing, basic utilities, transportation, and an environment free from violence, may have as much of an impact on health outcomes as quality medical care.¹ In the context of cancer care, SDOH can affect a person's ability to complete treatment or to participate fully in clinical trials. These factors may limit a patient's ability to access high-quality, effective care and achieve the best outcomes possible.

To address barriers to care, many health care organizations now routinely screen patients for SDOH and recognize the importance of responding to unmet social needs. Government and commercial payers have also started to introduce policies and programs that involve screening patients for SDOH factors and addressing identified needs² to further incentivize this practice.

An online survey to discover barriers and challenges in addressing SDOH was conducted in early 2024. A total of 247 multidisciplinary care team members responded to the survey, including oncologists, nurses, social workers and navigators.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Most providers are conducting SDOH screenings early in the patient journey.



75% are screening
at diagnosis



60% are screening
when treatment begins



One-third say they rely on assessments
from previous diagnoses

Providers discuss social and financial factors more often than cultural factors when discussing treatment options.



69% reported that social and financial challenges
are "always" or "often" discussed or acted upon



Only **54%** reported talking about
cultural considerations

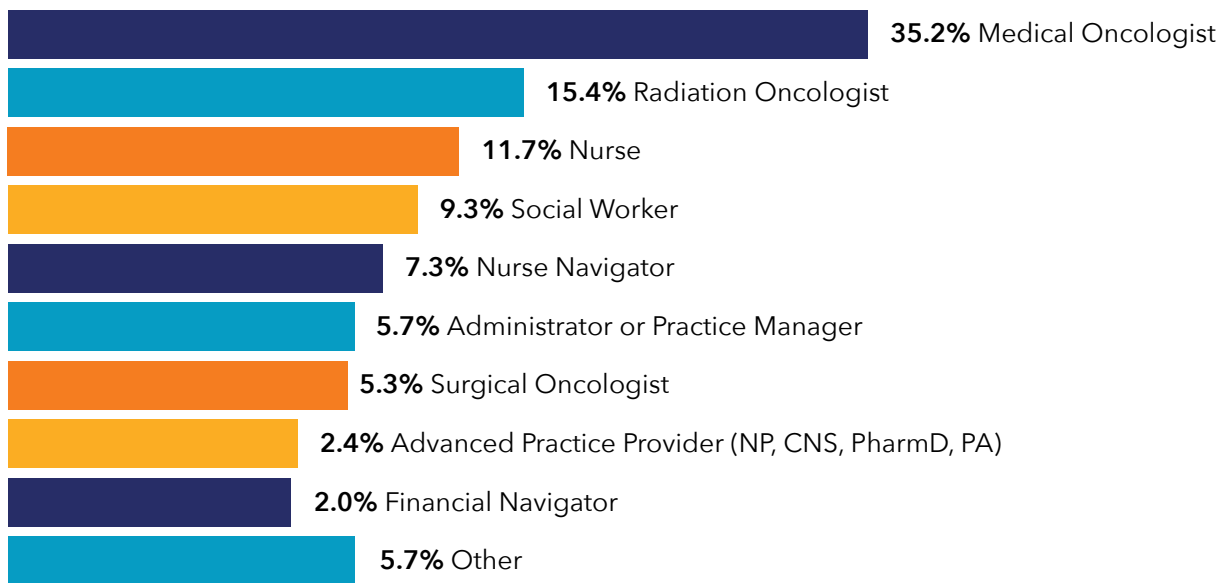
A wide range of SDOH factors are reported as likely to impact first-line treatment choices, especially financial barriers and presence of a caregiver.



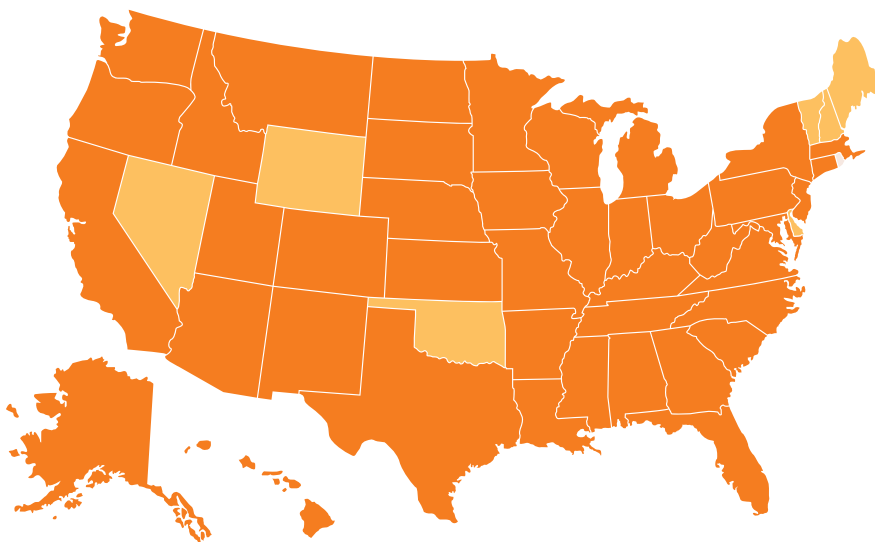
SDOH factors that were reported as less likely to have an impact include language, race/ethnicity and education level

WHO TOOK THE SURVEY?

(n=247)

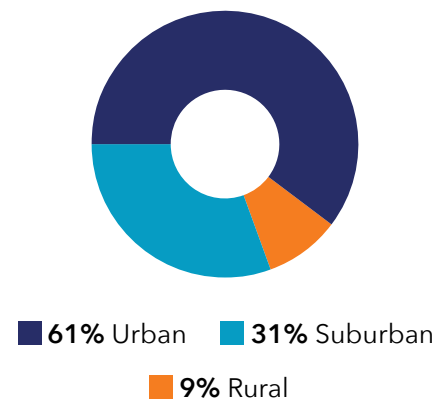


Respondents represented Washington, DC and 42 US states.



State with respondents

Practice Setting

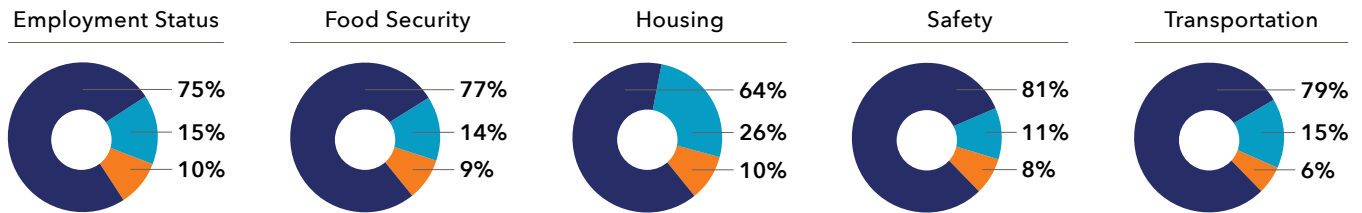


SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

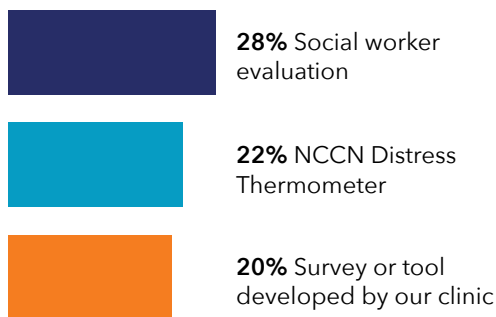
SDOH SCREENING PRACTICES

Does your cancer program or practice routinely screen patients for the following social drivers of health?

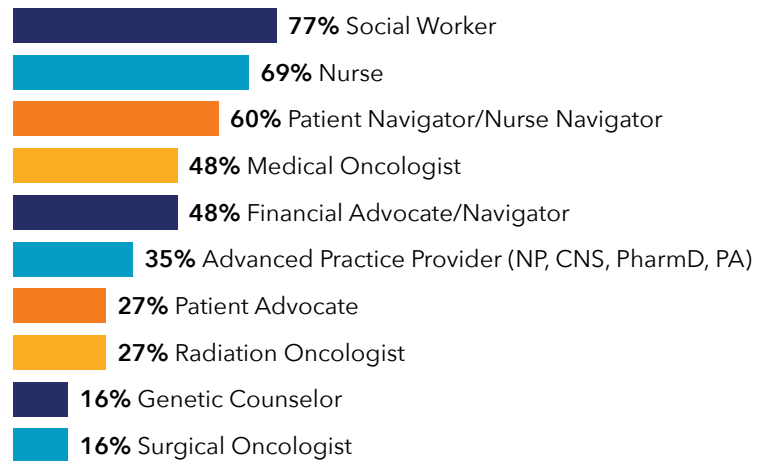
■ Yes ■ No ■ Not Sure



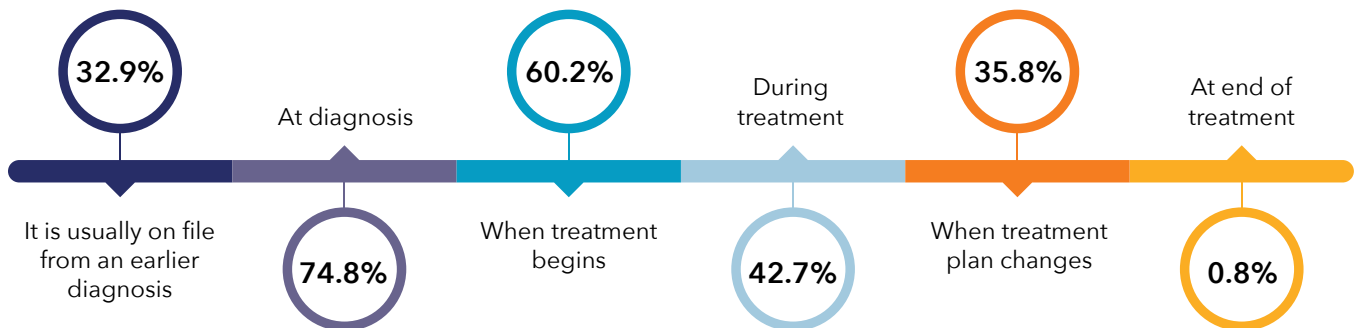
What screening tools do you use?



Who commonly participates in discussions with patients about SDOH at your institution?



When are SDOH typically assessed?



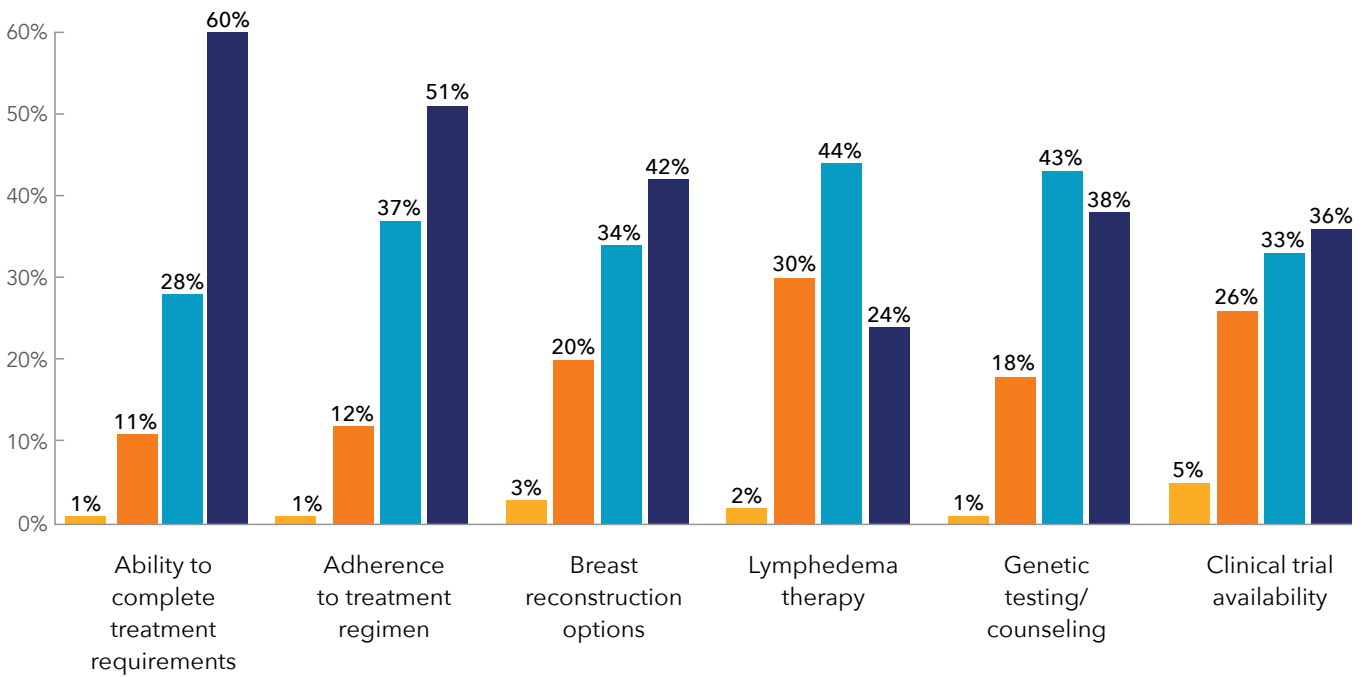
*2.4% of respondents indicated it was not typically assessed, and 5.7% indicated "Not sure"

IMPACT ON TREATMENT DECISIONS

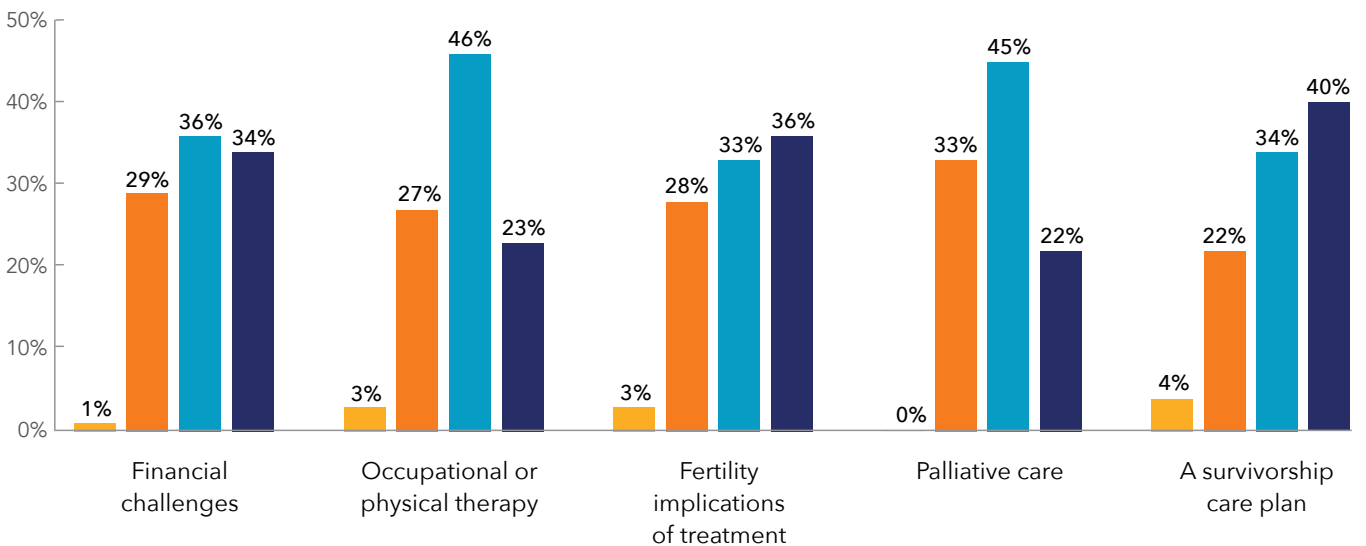
As you consider available treatment options, how often do you discuss/act on the following with your patients?

■ Never
 ■ Sometimes
 ■ Often
 ■ Always

TREATMENT-RELATED FACTORS

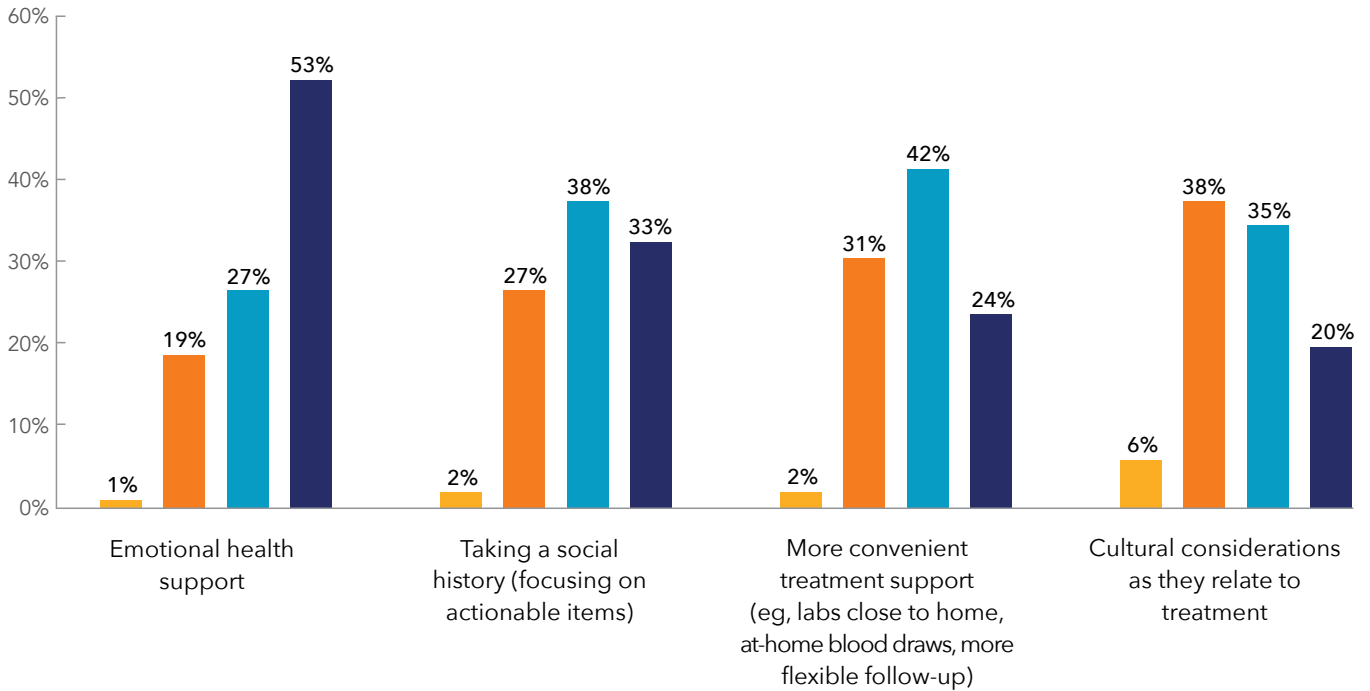


SUPPORTIVE CARE-RELATED FACTORS



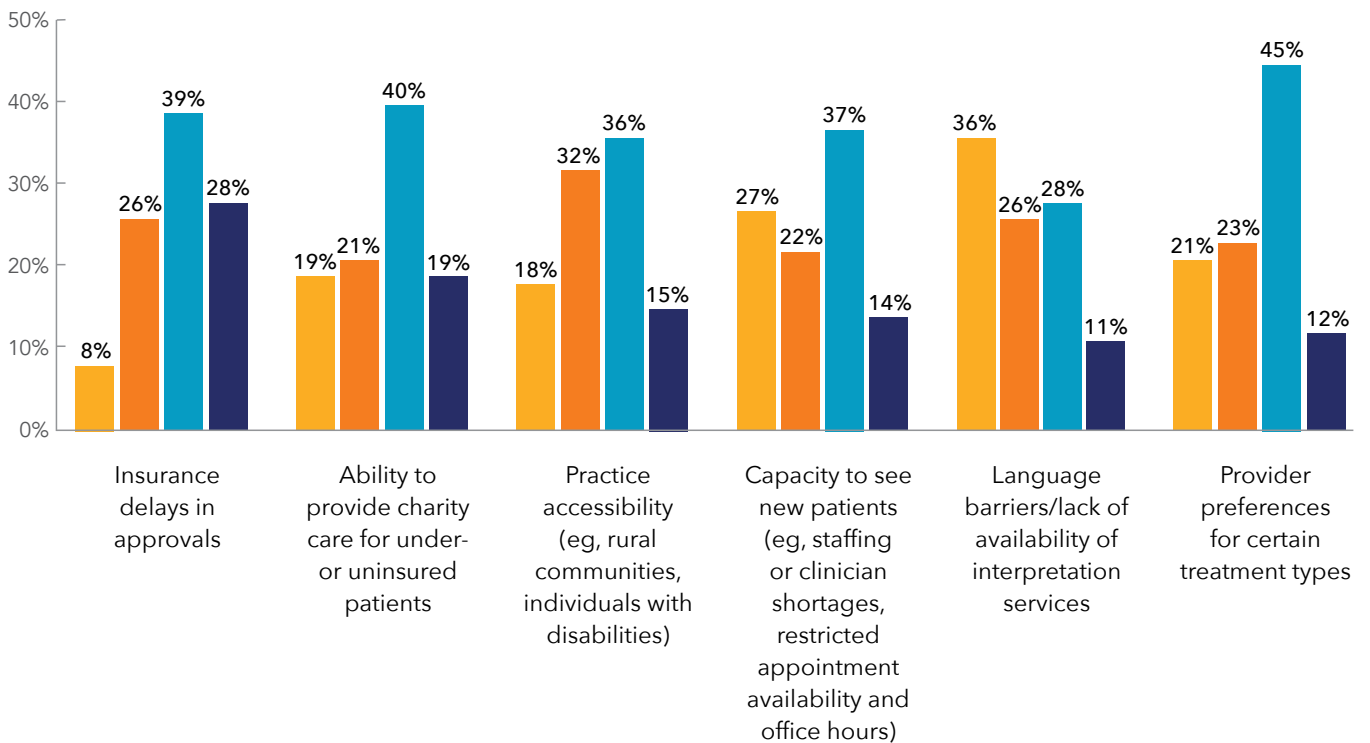
■ Never
 ■ Sometimes
 ■ Often
 ■ Always

PSYCHOSOCIAL-RELATED FACTORS



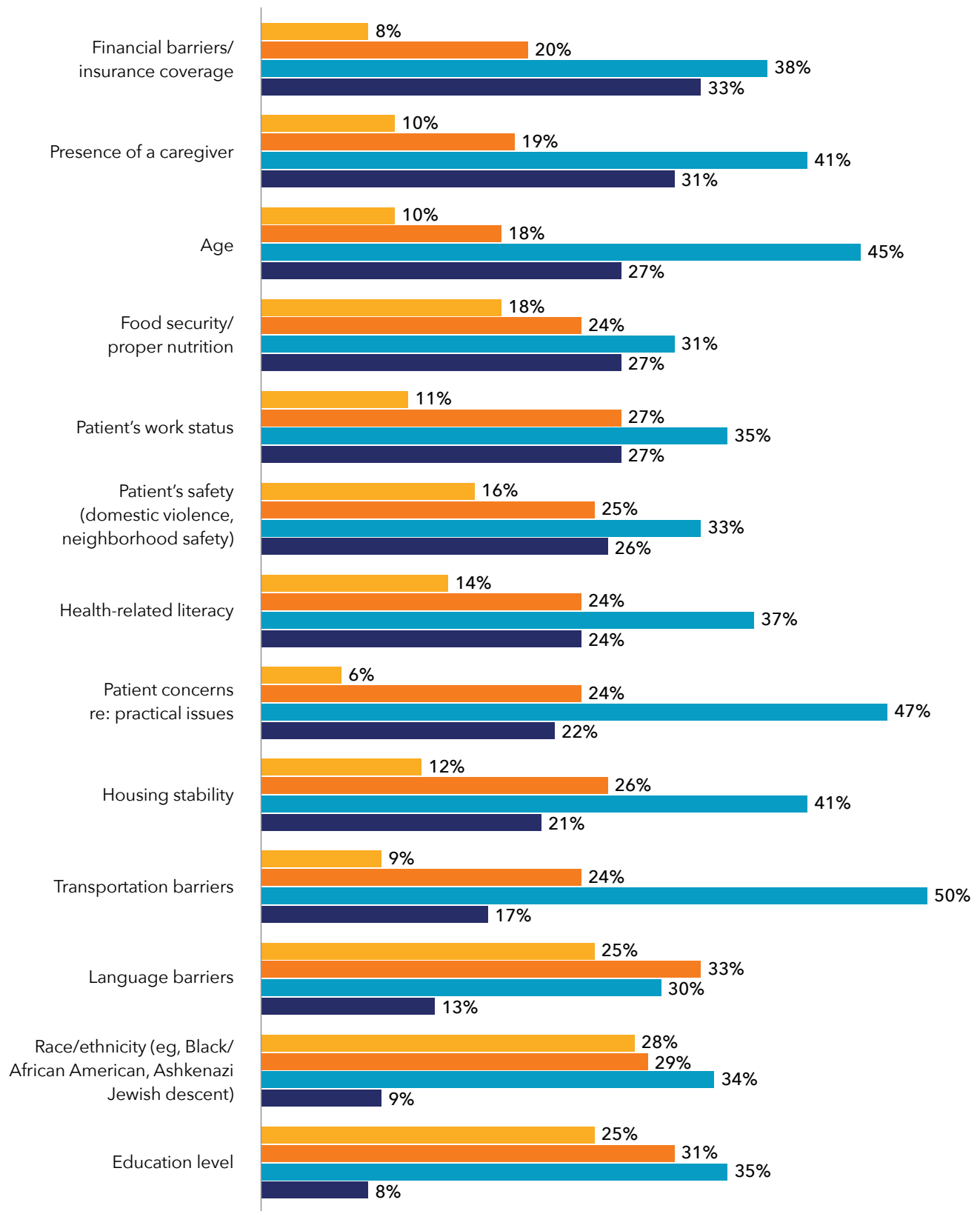
How likely do the following practice-level factors impact first-line treatment choices?

■ Very unlikely
 ■ Somewhat unlikely
 ■ Somewhat likely
 ■ Very Likely



How likely are SDOH factors to impact first-line treatment choices for patients with HR+/HER2- metastatic breast cancer?

Very unlikely Somewhat unlikely Somewhat likely Very Likely



REFERENCES

1. Hood CM, Gennuso KP, Swain GR, Catlin BB. County health rankings: relationships between determinant factors and health outcomes. *Am J Prev Med.* 2016;50(2):129-135.
2. Korn AR, Walsh-Bailey C, Correa-Mendez M, et al. Social determinants of health and US cancer screening interventions: A systematic review. *CA Cancer J Clin.* 2023;73(5):461-479.

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ACCC is grateful to its members and partners that contributed to this work.

Chiara Acquati, PhD, LMSW, FAOSW

Associate Professor
Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston
Houston, TX

Yuriko de la Cruz, MPH, CPHQ

Deput Director, Grassroots Organizing, Public Policy
and Advocacy
National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC)
Alexandra, VA

Debbie Dey, LCSW-C, OSW-C

Oncology Social Worker
Maryland Oncology Hematology
Annapolis, MD

Heather Honore Goltz, PhD, LMCW, MEd, MPH

Professor of Social Work, College of Public Service
University of Houston - Downtown
Houston, TX

Tracy Jenkins, MSW, LMSW

Financial Navigator, Social Worker
Spencer Cancer Center of East Alabama Health
Auburn, AL

Sunil Kripalani, MD, MSc, SFHM, FACP

Director, Center for Health Services Research Vanderbilt
University Medical Center
Nashville, TN

Editha Krueger, MD

Radiation Oncologist
*Dignity Health Cancer Institute at St. Joseph's Hospital &
Medical Center*
Phoenix, AZ

Lailea Noel, PhD, MSW

Assistant Professor of Oncology and Health Social Work
*The University of Texas Dell Medical School,
LIVESTRONG Cancer Institutes*
Austin, TX

Terry Portis, RN, BSN, MBA

Oncology Quality Improvement Coordinator
Northside Hospital Cancer Institute
Atlanta, GA

Teresa van Oort, MHA, MSSW, LCSW-S

Senior Project Manager, Quality
Performance Improvement
UChicago Medicine
Chicago, IL

Eleonora Teplinsky, MD

Medical Oncologist
Valley-Mount Sinai Comprehensive Cancer Center
Paramus, NJ

ACCC STAFF

Nicole A. Colwell, MD

Senior Editor/Medical Writer

Kimberly Demirhan, MBA, BSN, RN

Assistant Director, Provider Education Programs

Tricia O'Mahen Dickey

Senior Marketing Manager

Savannah Dodson, MPH

Manager, Association Services

Areli Garcia

Marketing Coordinator

Molly Kisiel, MSN, FNP-BC

Director, Clinical Content

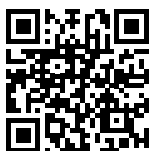
Elana Plotkin, CMP-HC

Senior Director, Provider Education Programs



ASSOCIATION OF CANCER CARE CENTERS™

1801 Research Boulevard, Suite 400
Rockville, MD 20850
301.984.9496
acc-cancer.org



Learn more at
acc-cancer.org/SDOH-breast-cancer.

The **Association of Cancer Care Centers** (ACCC) provides education and advocacy for the cancer care community.

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