

# Supportive care needs in male cancer patients

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## Introduction

The supportive care offer is delivered to **female cancer patients** in a **large proportion**. Understanding whether the supportive care **needs of male cancer patients** have **specificities** is important to **adapt** support for this population.

## Methods

The needs expressed by **307 male adult cancer patients** were analyzed from an **online survey** administered to cancer patients of Oscar Lambret Comprehensive Cancer Center in the French region Hauts-de-France, through **email invitations** on December 18th, 2023, with **1260** respondents to date. See [POSTER #2139 Patterns of supportive care needs in a large cohort of French cancer patients in Hauts-de-France](#)

## Results

Male respondents were treated for **digestive, head and neck, lung, and urological cancers or sarcoma**, in 2023. **35% were aged 70 years and more**, and underwent **systemic treatment, radiation therapy, surgical treatment, or a combination of these therapies**. Overall, male cancer patients **expressed less need for supportive care compared to women**. The main needs expressed by male patients included **nutritional support, psychological support, adapted physical activity, social worker, and pain management**. **44%** of the male patients expressed a need for **nutritional support**, mainly among **the 30 to 59-year-olds**. Only **33%** of the male patients expressed a need for **psychological support**, mainly among **the 30-49-year-olds** (as compared to **54%** in female patients). The need to meet a social worker was expressed by only **18%** of males compared to **27%** in female patients. The need for **adapted physical activity** was **two times less frequent** in males compared to women. **Pain management needs** were **similar** between males and women (**35%** and **38%** of the patients respectively). Needs of supportive care were more frequently expressed by male patients treated for head and neck cancer, except for psychological support. Further analysis to **compare male patients with matched females** showed trend for similar needs in nutrition and psychological support but still lower needs in male patients for social worker, physical activity or kinesitherapy.

## Conclusions

Our results showed that male cancer patients expressed **fewer** supportive care needs, suggesting that **this population** should be **more thoroughly screened** for supportive care.

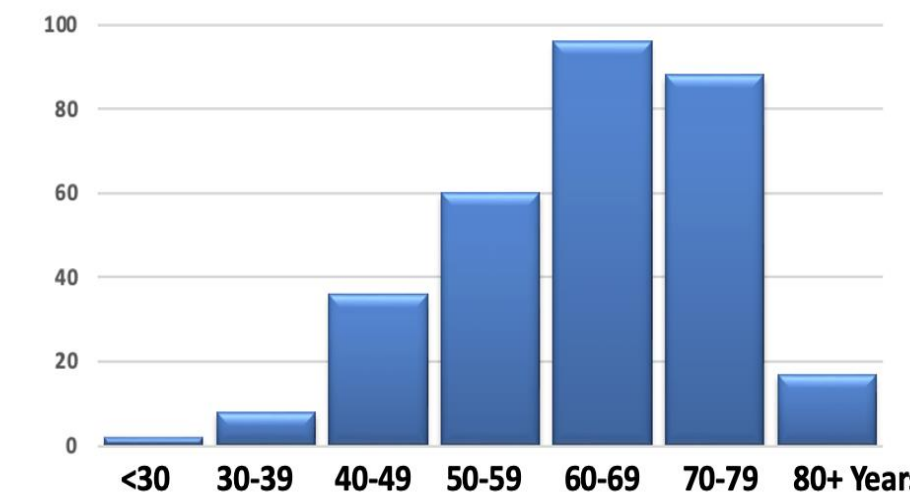


Figure 1 : Age distribution of male patients

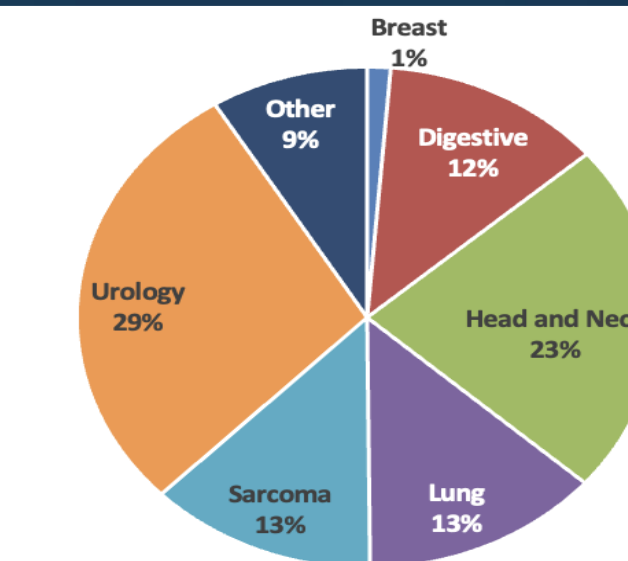


Figure 2 : Global cancer type distribution in the male patients cohort

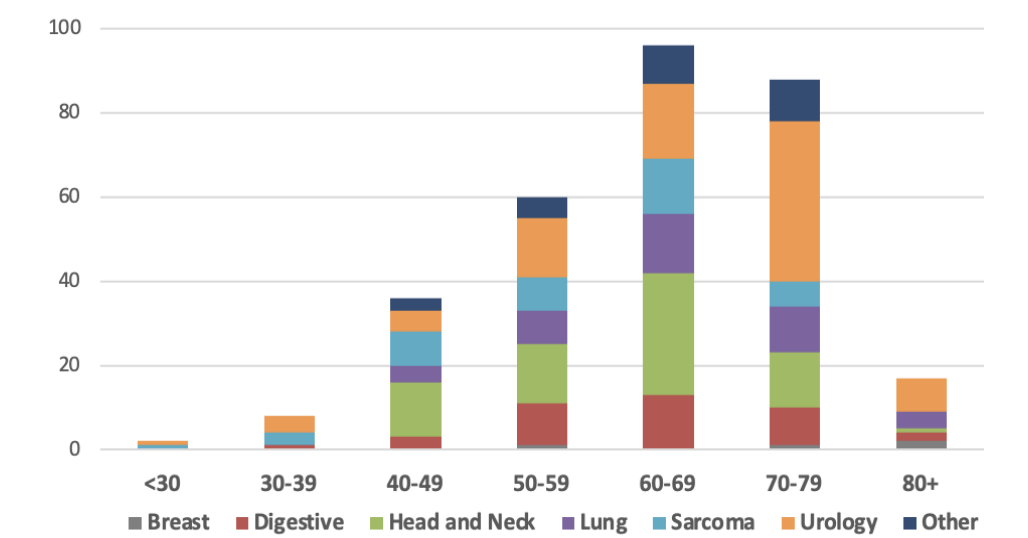


Figure 3 : Cancer type distribution by age in the male patients cohort

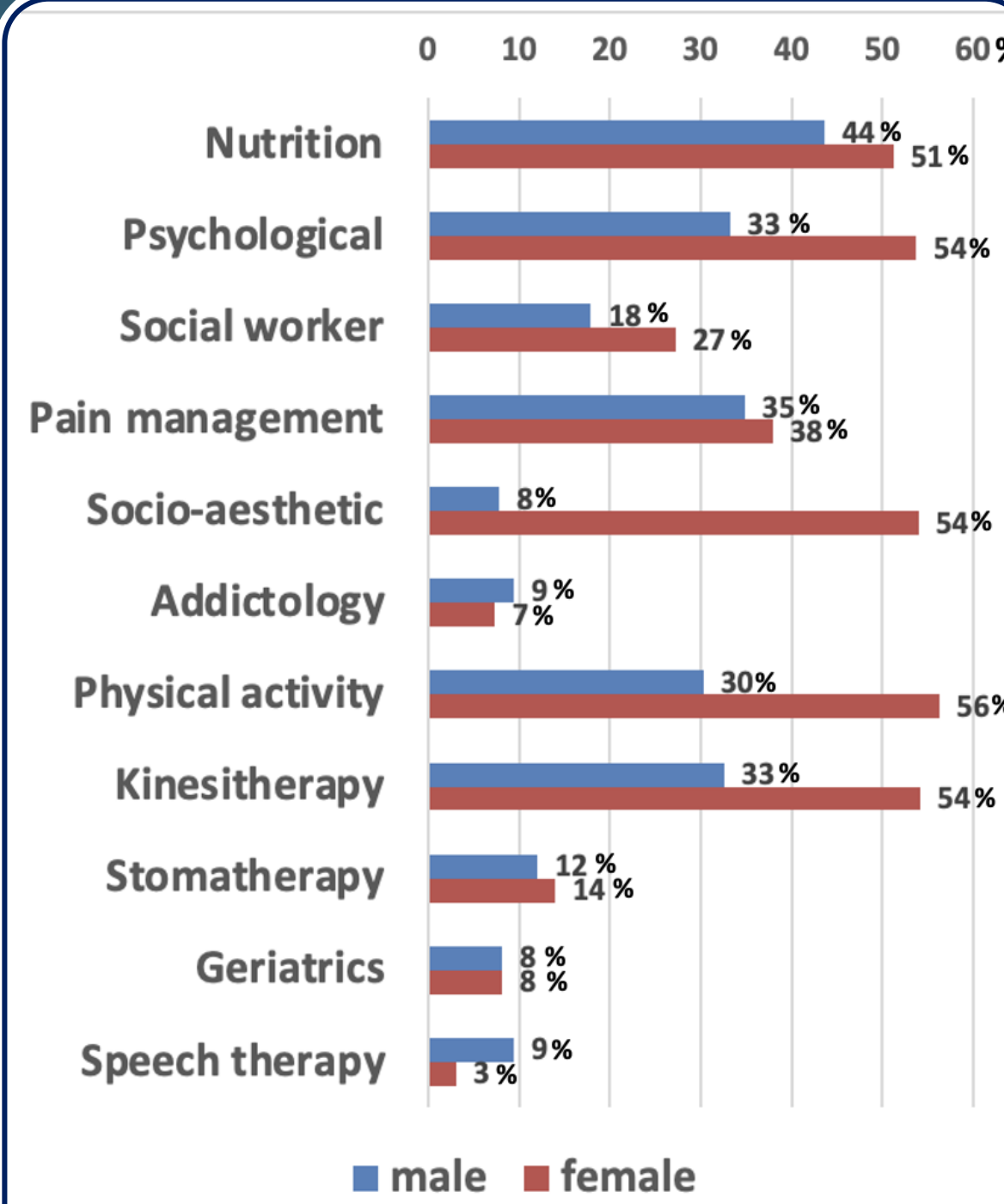


Figure 4: Proportion of the male patients expressing a supportive care need in the male cohort (in blue) compared with female patients (in red)

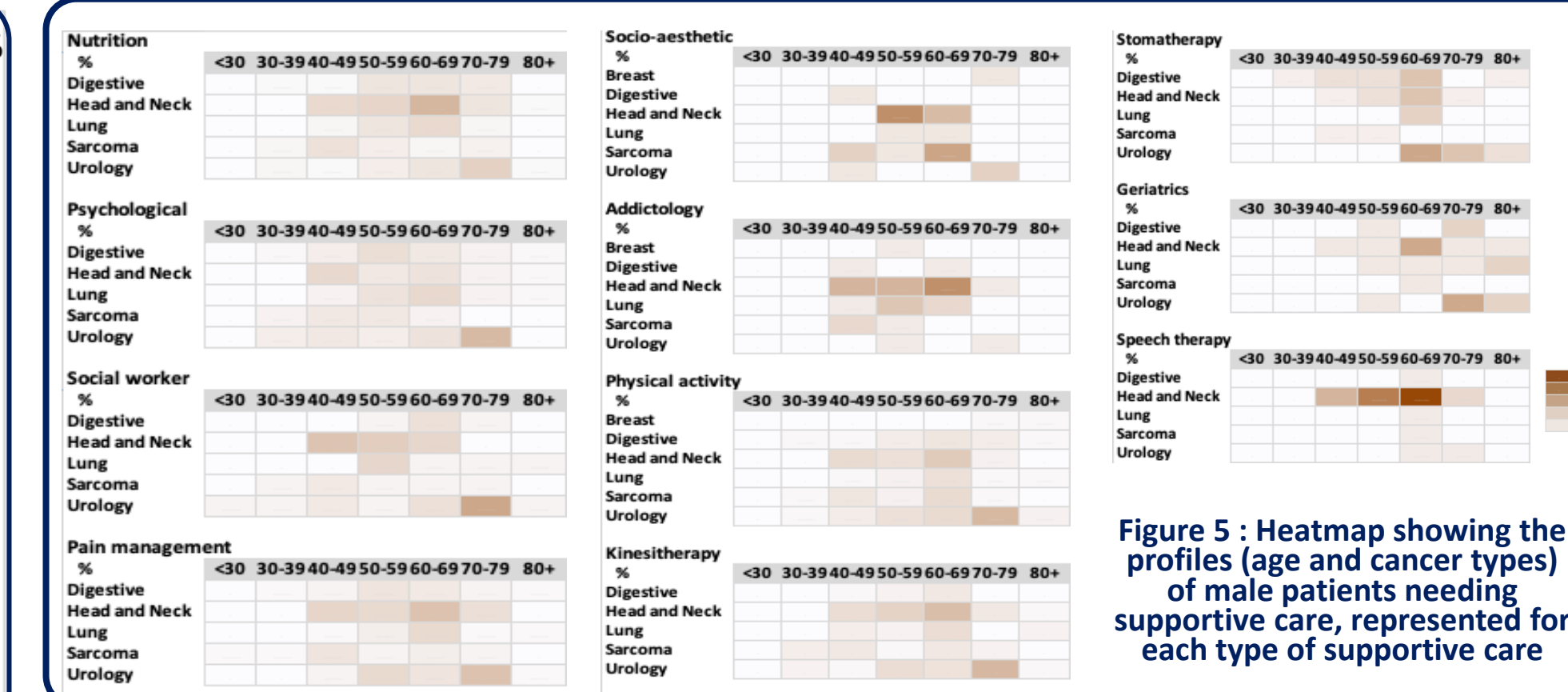


Figure 5 : Heatmap showing the profiles (age and cancer types) of male patients needing supportive care, represented for each type of supportive care

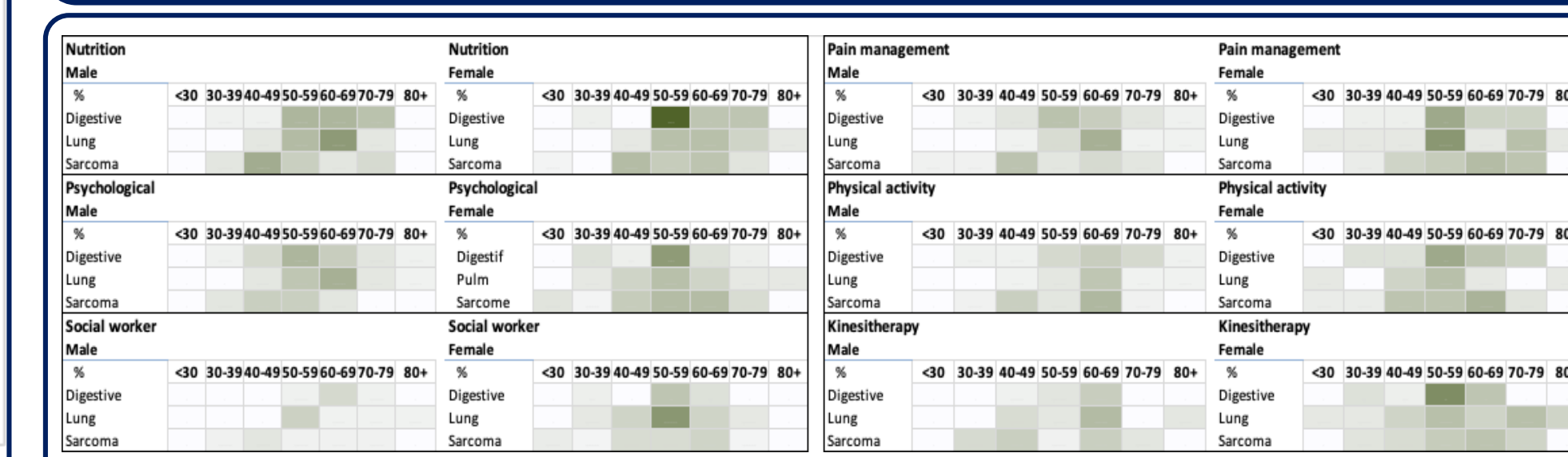


Figure 6 : Heatmap comparing male supportive care needs with matched females according to age for selected cancer types for the main types of supportive care