

BACKGROUND

Educating patients about their condition is challenging. An ineffective educational format or setting could lead to misunderstandings and unrealistic expectations, especially in surgical patients. Our prior study showed that a written handout is not effective in educating patients with peripheral nerve conditions. This study aimed to investigate surgical vs. non-surgical patients' preference in educational material regarding their peripheral nerve or spine condition.

METHODS

- Cross-sectional study
- Adult ≥ 18 yrs (N=90, mean age 51 ± 16)
- Patient/participant demographics
- 10-question survey: preference in format, device, location, and willingness to pay for receiving educational materials on their nerve condition
- Group comparisons between surgical (N=22) vs. non-surgical (N=68) patients

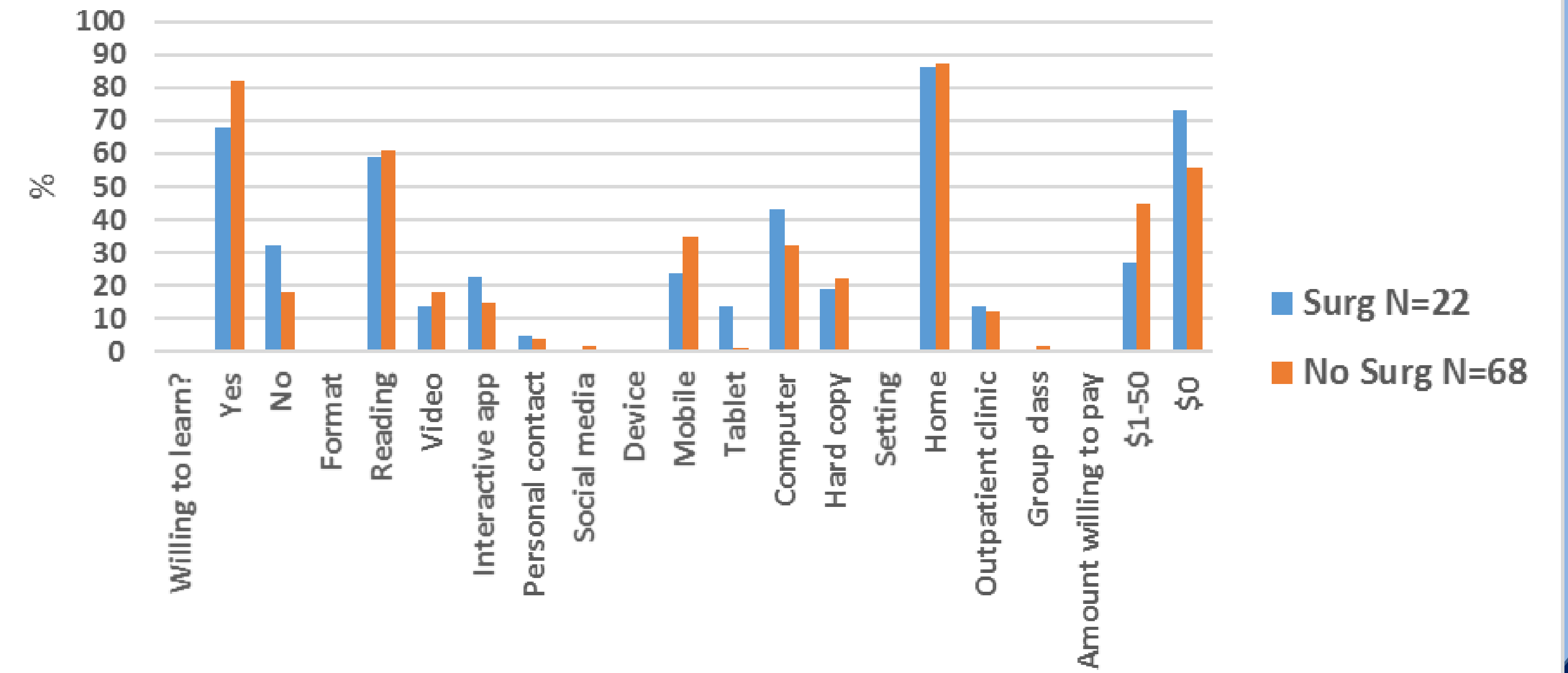
RESULTS-

Similar Patient Demographics between Surg. and Non-surg. Groups

	All N (%) N=90	Surg N=22	No Surg N=68	P-value
Mean age \pm SD	51 \pm 16	50 \pm 17	52 \pm 16	0.65
Mean household member	3 \pm 1	3 \pm 1	2 \pm 1	0.13
Patient type				0.007
New patient	39 (43%)	4 (18%)	35 (52%)	
Return visit	51 (57%)	18 (82%)	33 (48%)	
Clinic Type				0.20
Adult PN	81 (90%)	22 (100%)	59 (87%)	
Spine	8 (9%)	0 (0%)	8 (11%)	
NBPP	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	1 (2%)	
Sex of participant				0.23
Male	47 (52%)	14 (64%)	33 (48%)	
Female	43 (48%)	8 (36%)	35 (52%)	
Race				0.28
Caucasian	79 (88%)	21 (95%)	58 (85%)	
Other	11 (12%)	1 (5%)	10 (15%)	
Insurance				0.32
Medicaid	11 (12%)	0 (0%)	11 (16%)	
Private	40 (45%)	12 (55%)	28 (42%)	
Medicare	20 (22%)	4 (18%)	16 (24%)	
Work comp	6 (7%)	2 (9%)	4 (6%)	
Auto	11 (12%)	4 (18%)	7 (10%)	
Vet	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	1 (2%)	
Education level				0.67
Less than high school	4 (4%)	0 (0%)	4 (6%)	
High school/GED	24 (27%)	5 (23%)	19 (28%)	
Some college	32 (36%)	8 (36%)	24 (35%)	
College	19 (21%)	5 (23%)	14 (21%)	
Professional degree	11 (12%)	4 (18%)	7 (10%)	
Income				0.14
\leq \$50,000	44 (50%)	8 (36%)	36 (55%)	
$>$ \$50,000	44 (50%)	14 (64%)	30 (45%)	
Involved side				0.89
Left	40 (53%)	9 (43%)	31 (56%)	
Right	32 (42%)	11 (52%)	21 (38%)	
Bilateral	4 (5%)	1 (5%)	3 (6%)	

RESULTS

Similar Preference between Surg. and Non-Surg. Groups



CONCLUSIONS

- Peripheral nerve and spine patients preferred to learn about their condition via reading on computers or mobile devices for free at home.
- Our findings warrant providing more accessible educational materials in an electronic format for an effective approach.
- We hope that an easily accessible format results in appropriate patient expectations and increase patient satisfaction for surgical interventions.

CONTACT

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