

Patients' perspective:
Patients with Cancer
want early vaccination
survey results

ESMO January 8, 2021

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Dutch Federation of Cancer Patient Organisations

- National federation of 20 cancer patient organisations / platforms
- 3-5 surveys per year: "Donate your experience" <u>www.doneerjeervaring.nl</u>

- In 2020 2 surveys about impact of Corona on cancer patients:
 - March/April: early consequences of corona crisis
 - October/November: Cancer care in "1.5 meters society"



First Survey March/April 2020

Acute phase corona crisis

- > Acute downscaling of regular care
- > Quick response of oncology physicians to make cancer care safe

Survey is fast way to collect data on impact on cancer patients:

- what is happening in oncology care
- what is the experience of patients?



4 topics questionnaire

- 1. Patients' characteristics
- 2. Contact with hospital
- 3. Consequences of Covid-19 pandemic (consultations, treatment and follow-up)
- 4. Concerns about infection with Corona virus

Methods first survey

- Questionnaire developed by NFK / PO in collaboration with oncology physicians
- Target group: (ex-)cancer patients
 - Direct mail to panel and members patient organisations
 - Social media exposure by NFK/ PO, hospitals and others
- Online data collection: March 29 April 18, 2020 (Survey Monkey)
- Data-analysis: IBM SPSS statistics, version 25

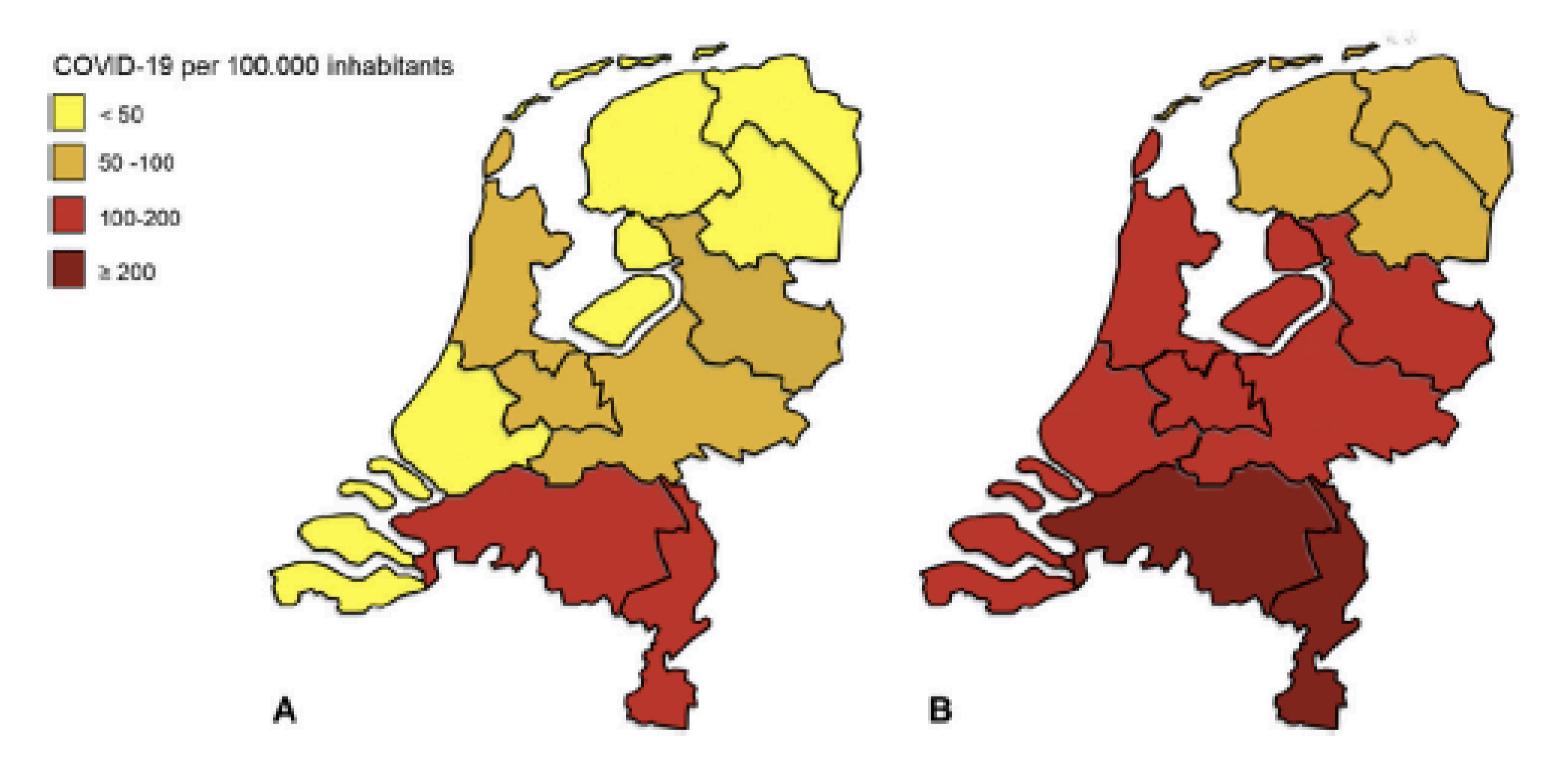


Fig. 1. Number of patients with a positive test for SARS-CoV-2 in the Netherlands during the three-week period of the survey on (a) March 29th 2020 and (b) April 18th 2020. SARS-CoV-2 = severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2.

Characteristics of respondents (n=5.302)

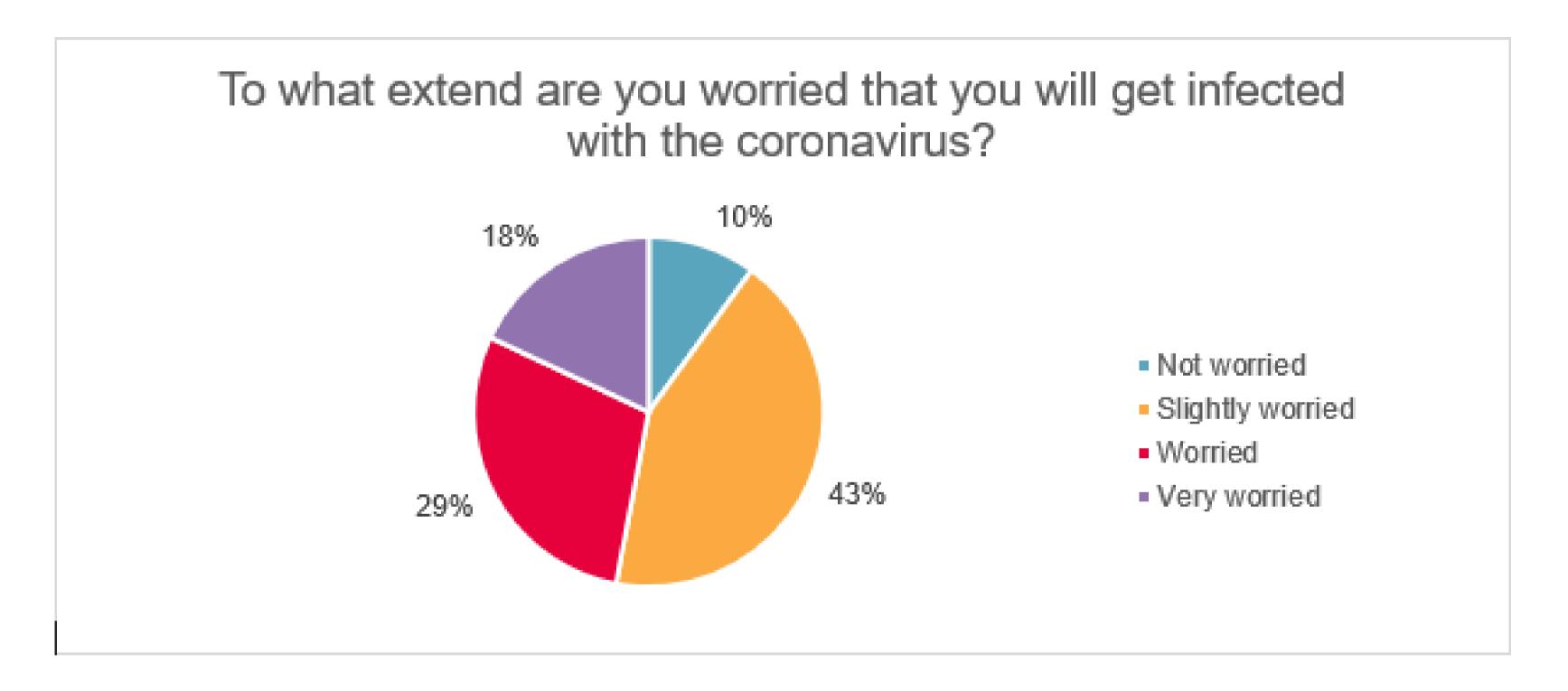
Patients' characteristics.

	Number	%			
Gender			Cancer diagnosis		
Women	3413	64	Bladder and renal cell cancer	214	4
Men	1887	36	Brain tumor	45	1
Age			Breast cancer	1187	22
<65 years	3422	65	Colorectal cancer	296	6
≥65 years	1880	35	Gastric and oesophageal cancer	92	2
Region in the Netherlands			Gynaecological cancer	177	3
Code red according COVID-19	834	16	Head and neck cancer	77	í
Other	4468	84	Haematological malignancy	1660	31
Disease setting				622	12
Cured	2004	38	Lung cancer		12
Curable disease	793	15	Melanoma and skin cancer	209	4
Incurable disease	1907	36	Mesothelioma	34	1
Unknown	598	11	Pancreatic cancer	55	1
Treatment setting			Prostate cancer	160	3
Awaiting treatment	250	5	Sarcoma	56	1
Under treatment	2391	45	Testicular cancer	37	1
Follow-up	2661	50	Other	381	7



Results: concerns about infection with the coronavirus 1/2

Survey cancer patients, March 29 – April 18, 2020, N=5302



Note: less than 1% of respondents had had COVID-19 (confirmed by positive test)

Results: concerns about infection with the coronavirus 2/2

Survey cancer patients, March 29 – April 18, 2020, N=5302

Patient characteristics	% (very) worried
All respondents	47%
Resp. under treatment	54%
Resp. in follow-up phase	40%
Resp. with incurable disease	55%
Resp. with curable disease	50%
Resp. with cured disease	37%
Resp. in code red regions	51%
Resp. in other regions	46%





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Original Research

Impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic on cancer treatment: the patients' perspective



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Second Survey October/November 2020

Goals

- Gathering information for "the new normal" on e.g. digital oncology care
- Getting insight on willingness for COVID vaccination

Methods second survey

- Target group:
 - (ex-)cancer patients who've received cancer care since July 1, 2020
 - Oncology physicians, oncology nurses and nurse practitioners
- Questionnaire developed by NFK / PO in collaboration with society of oncology physicians (SONCOS), oncology nurses and nurse practitioners (V&VN oncology)
- Distribution of questionnaire
 - Direct mail to panel and members patient organisations, to members nursing society and to oncology physicians
 - Social media exposure by NFK, PO, hospitals and others
- Online data collection: October 6 November 3, 2020

This survey is partially financed by and part of ZONMW project "Impact of COVID-19 outbreak on diagnosis and treatment of cancer patients: lessons for the future (ZonMW: projectnummer 50-56300-98-587)



Response

- 2.412 patients with cancer
- 180 oncology physicians
- 304 oncology nurses and nurse practitioners



Questions

- 1. Patient characteristics
- 2. Was the corona crisis of influence on your first contact with you general practitioner when you had your first physical signs/complaints?
- 3. Which corona measures have been taken by the hospitals and how do they effect the quality of cancer care?
- 4. How do you experience the hospital appointments on location, by telephone and by videocall and which type of appointment do you prefer for which type of consult?
- 5. Would you like to get vaccinated against COVID-19 (with priority)?

Results – willingness vaccination

Survey, October 6 - November 3, 2020

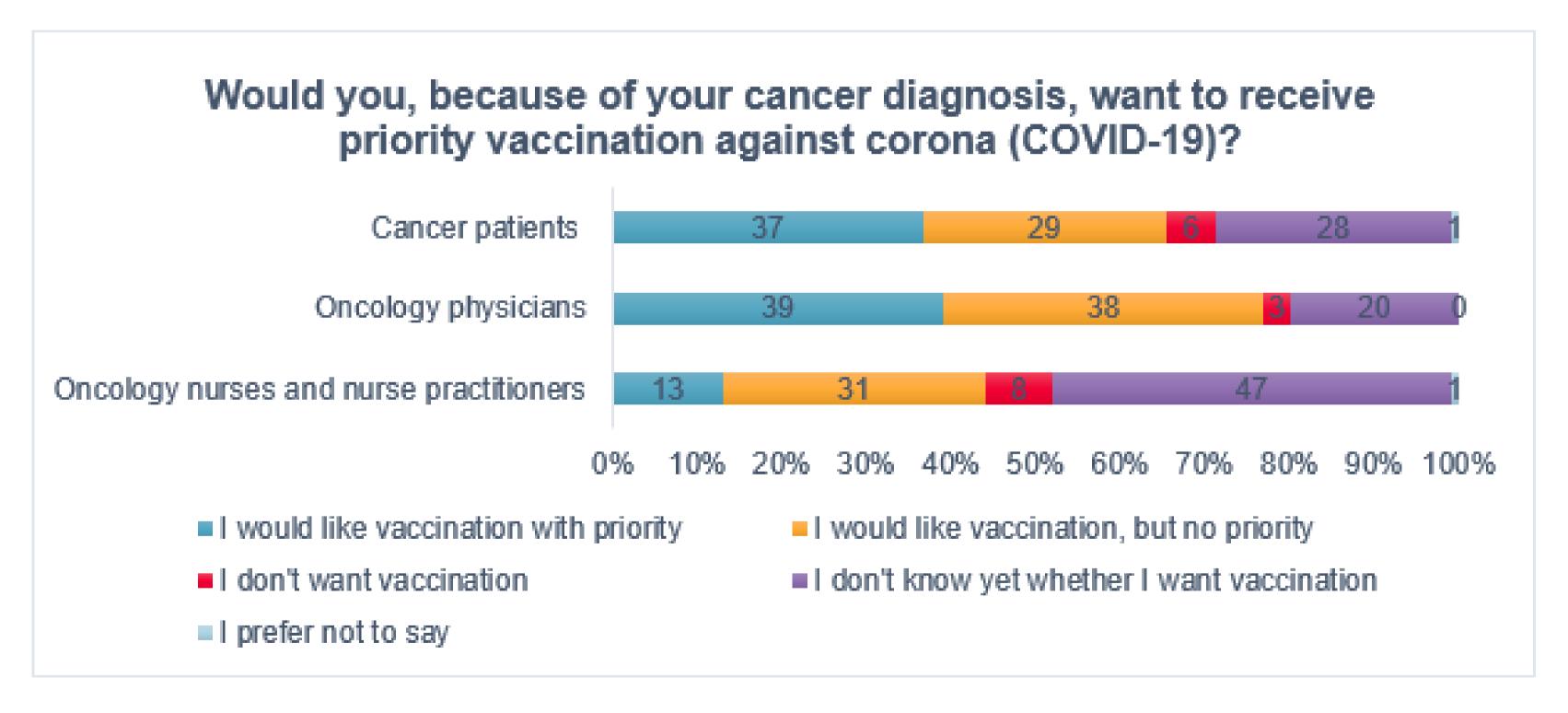


FIGURE 1. WILLINGNESS VACCINATION



Results – willingness vaccination patients – treatment setting Survey cancer patients, October 6 – November 3, 2020, N=2412

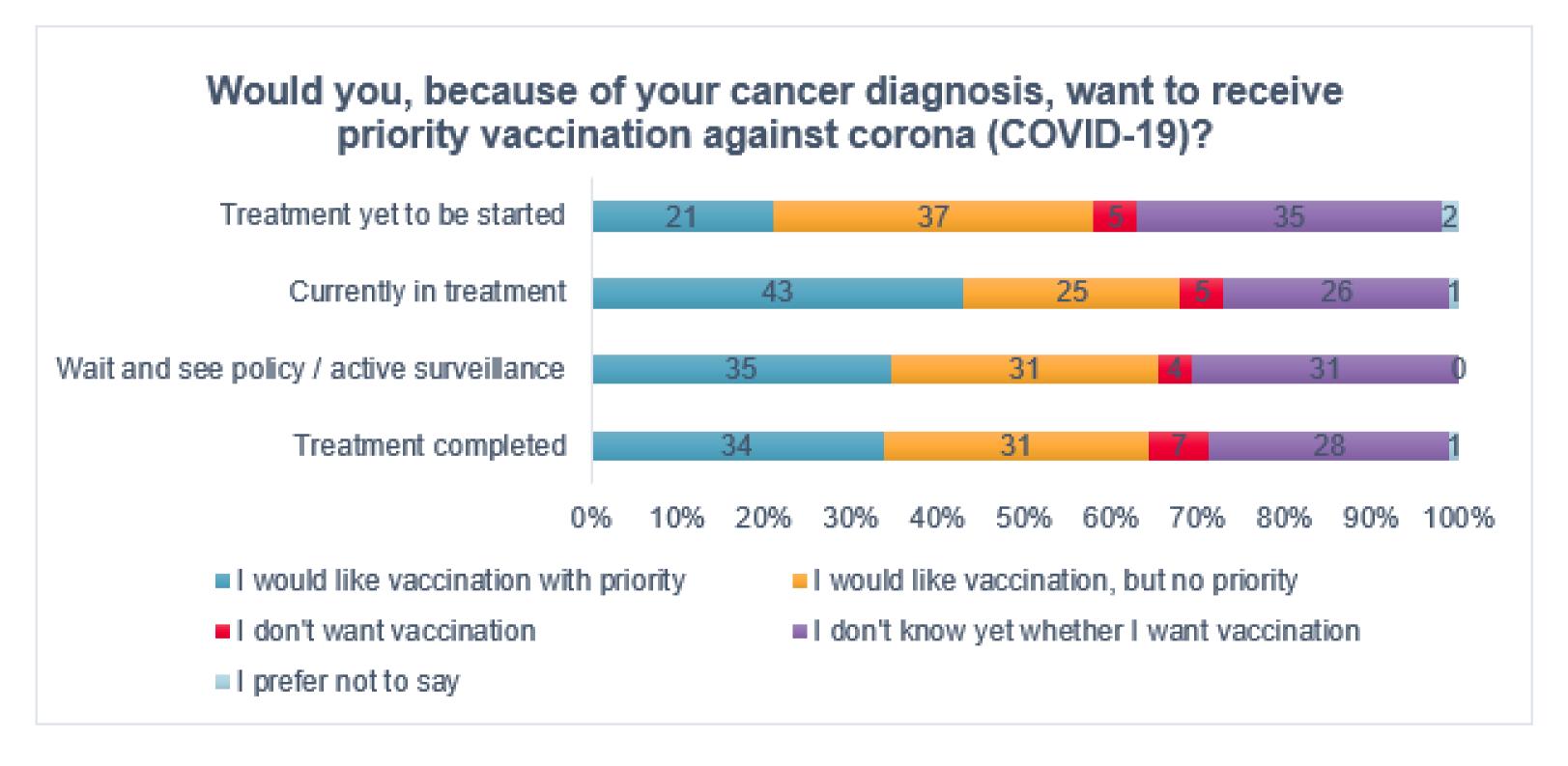


FIGURE 3. TREATMENT SETTING



Results – willingness vaccination patients – disease setting Survey cancer patients, October 6 – November 3, 2020, N=2412

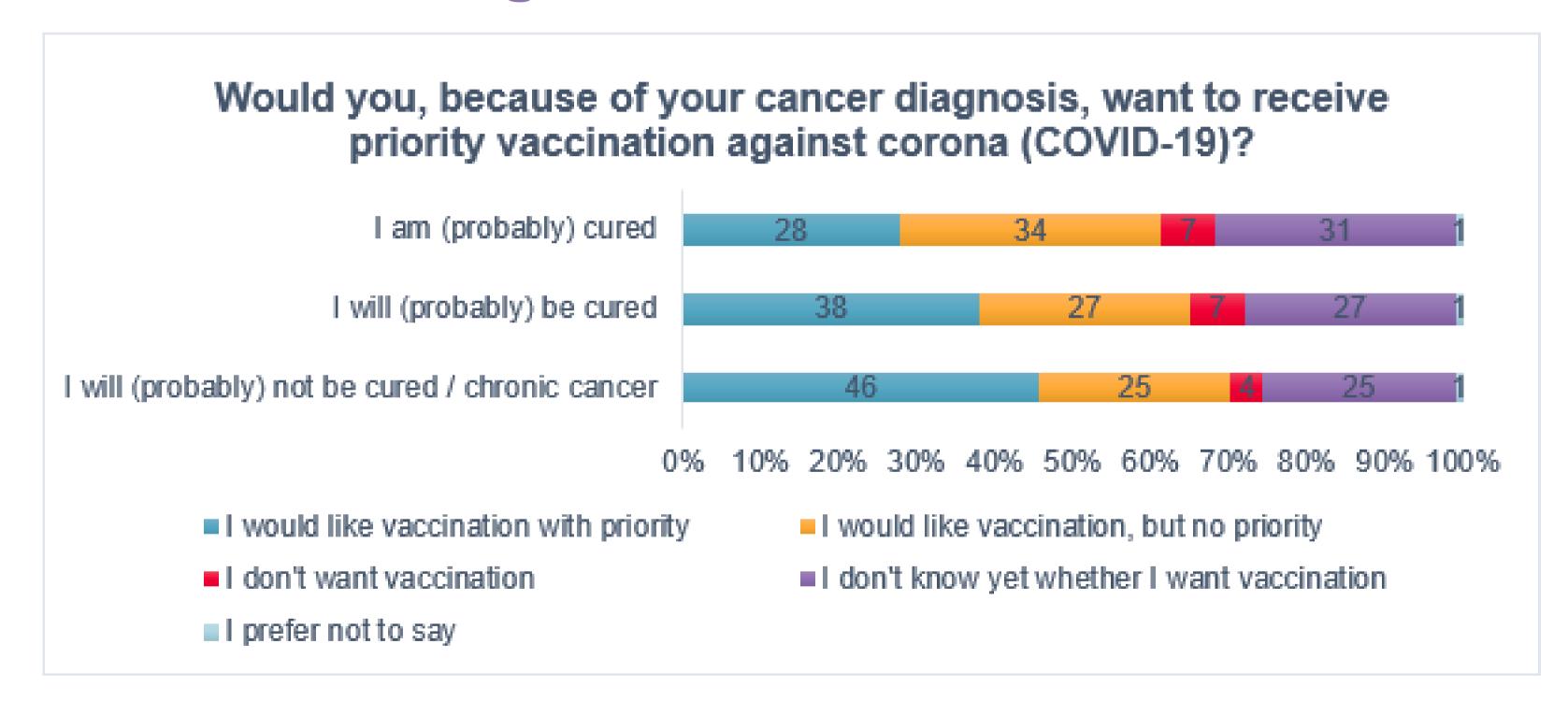


FIGURE 2. DISEASE SETTING



Context: timing of survey

Survey:

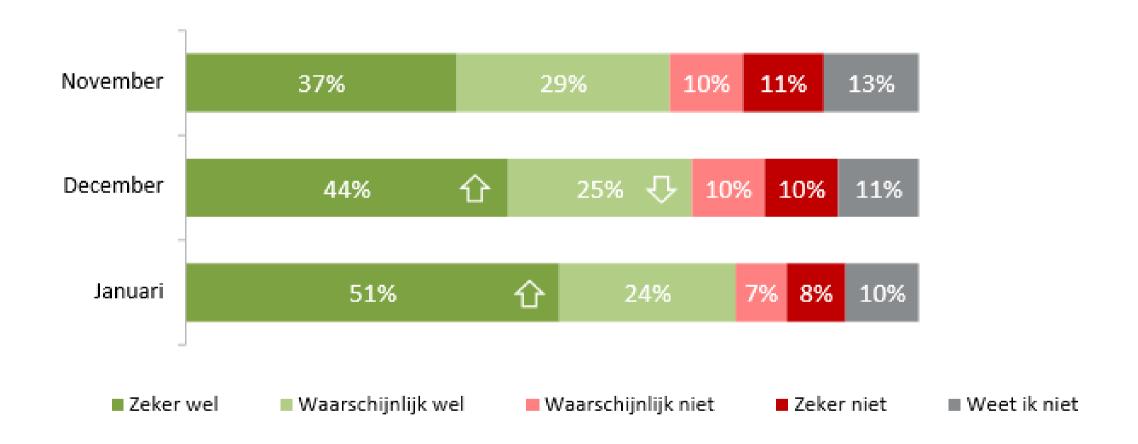
October 6 till November 3, 2020

Break through on vaccine: November 9, 2020



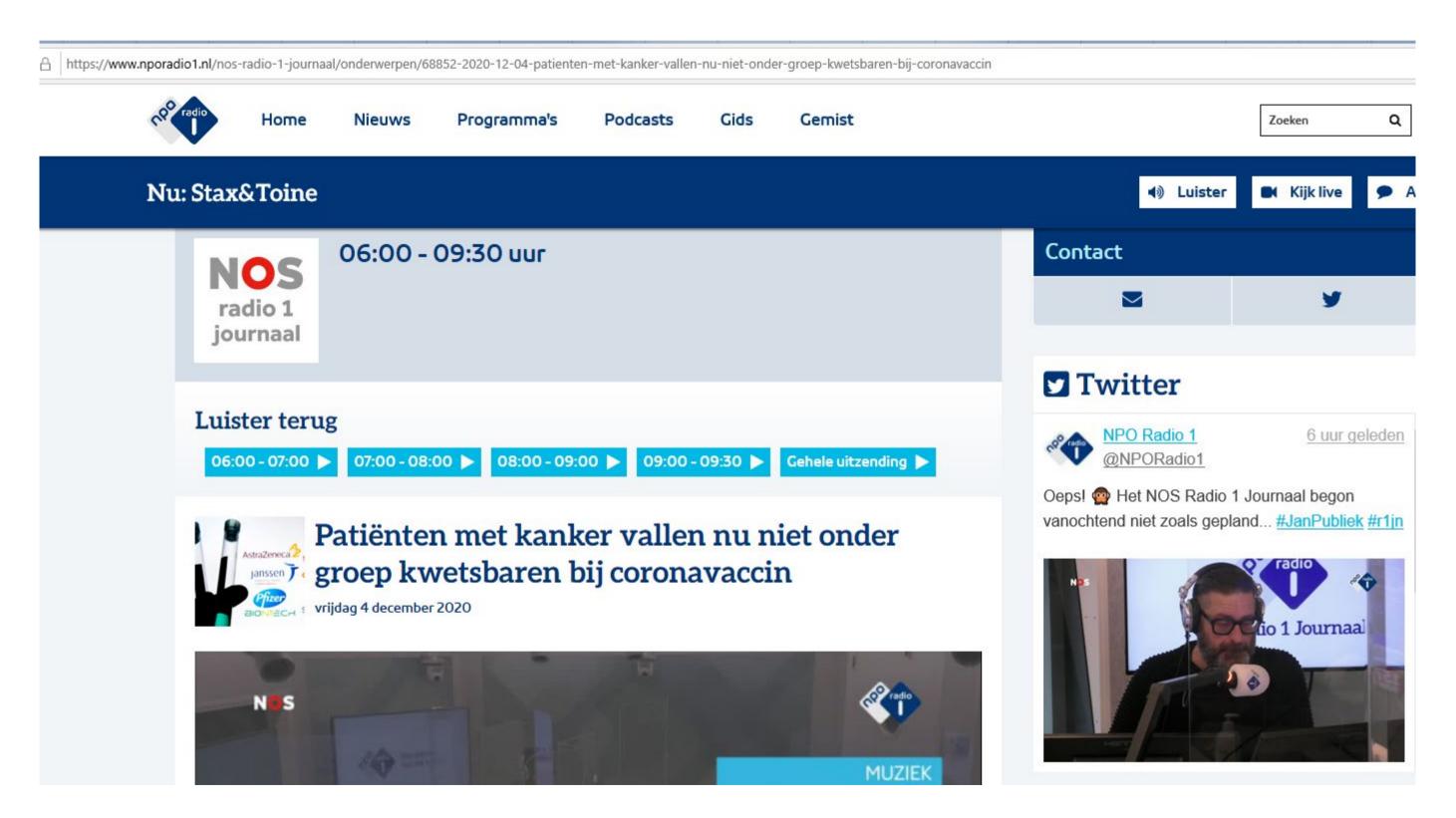
Willingness for COVID vaccination – Dutch Population 2020-2021

To which extent are you willing to get vaccinated if a good vaccine against corona is available?





December 4, 2020: survey results in the news and Dutch public offers vaccine to cancer patients



Conclusion

COVID-19 has high impact on cancer patients concerns for infection with the virus people live in isolation with very few social contacts

Urgency for early vaccination is strong, especially amongst those who are receiving treatment and those with incurable disease

>> appeal to Dutch government to give cancer patients a priority position in the national vaccination programme

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Thank you for your attention

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