

A Venous Leg Ulcer Solution to Drive Improved Clinical Outcomes and Patient Satisfaction: A Pilot Utilization Survey

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Introduction

Venous leg ulcers (VLUs) affect approximately 1% of the population globally, resulting in significant economic and health burdens.^{1,2} Effective edema reduction and exudate management are critical in VLU care.^{1,2} Patient adherence to therapy is also key to achieving successful outcomes. Ineffective or poorly tolerated compression therapy and dressings that fail to manage exudate effectively may result in delayed healing and increase the risk of wound complications.¹

This is a challenging environment with a high acuity, non-adherent patient population. There is a need for a solution-based response to address these challenges.

Objective

Conduct a pilot product utilization survey to gather clinician feedback on a tiered VLU regimen: a non-bordered superabsorbent pad (for extremely high exudation) or a dimpled non-bordered foam (for lower levels of exudation), in combination with a two-layer compression bandage system.

Methods

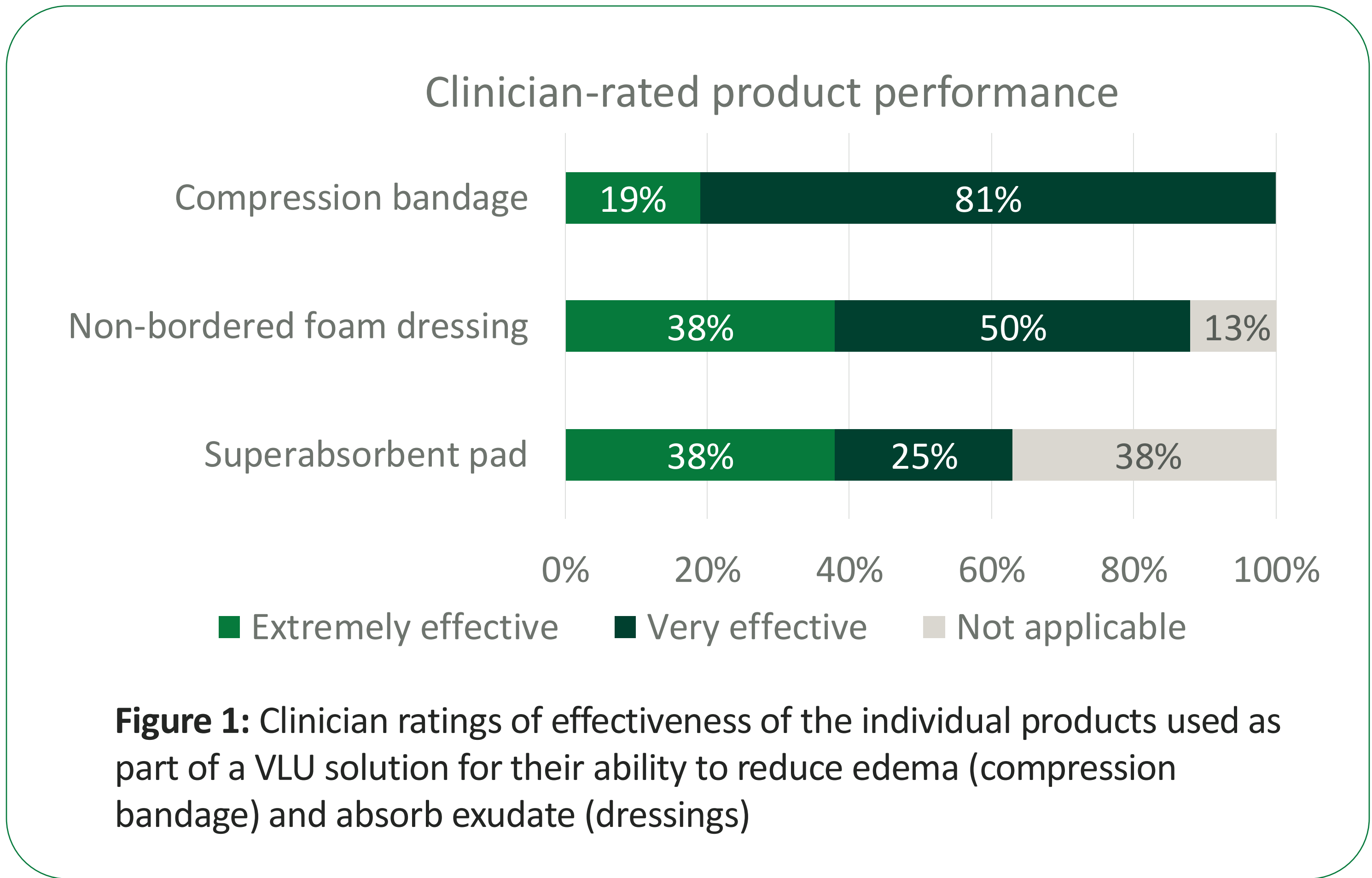
- Design:** 12-week pilot product utilization survey across four specialized wound care clinics. Respondents were asked to subjectively rate the components of a new VLU regimen in comparison to similar components used previously.
- Regimen components:** Tiered dressings—non-bordered superabsorbent pad* (extremely high exudate) or dimpled non-bordered foam# (low- to high-exudate)—paired with 2-layer compression wrap[§].
- Analysis:** Descriptive statistics (n, %)

Metrics evaluated:

- Exudate management
- Edema management
- Ease of application
- Ability to stay in place
- Utility of visual compression aide
- Wear time
- Conformability

Results

- 17 clinicians completed the survey.
- Performance: Clinician** ratings were high for the ability of the compression bandages to manage edema and the dressings to manage exudate (Figure 1).



- Quality of Life-related factors:** Usability factors—superior wear time and *enabling patients to wear their own shoes*—may support patient adherence (Figure 2).

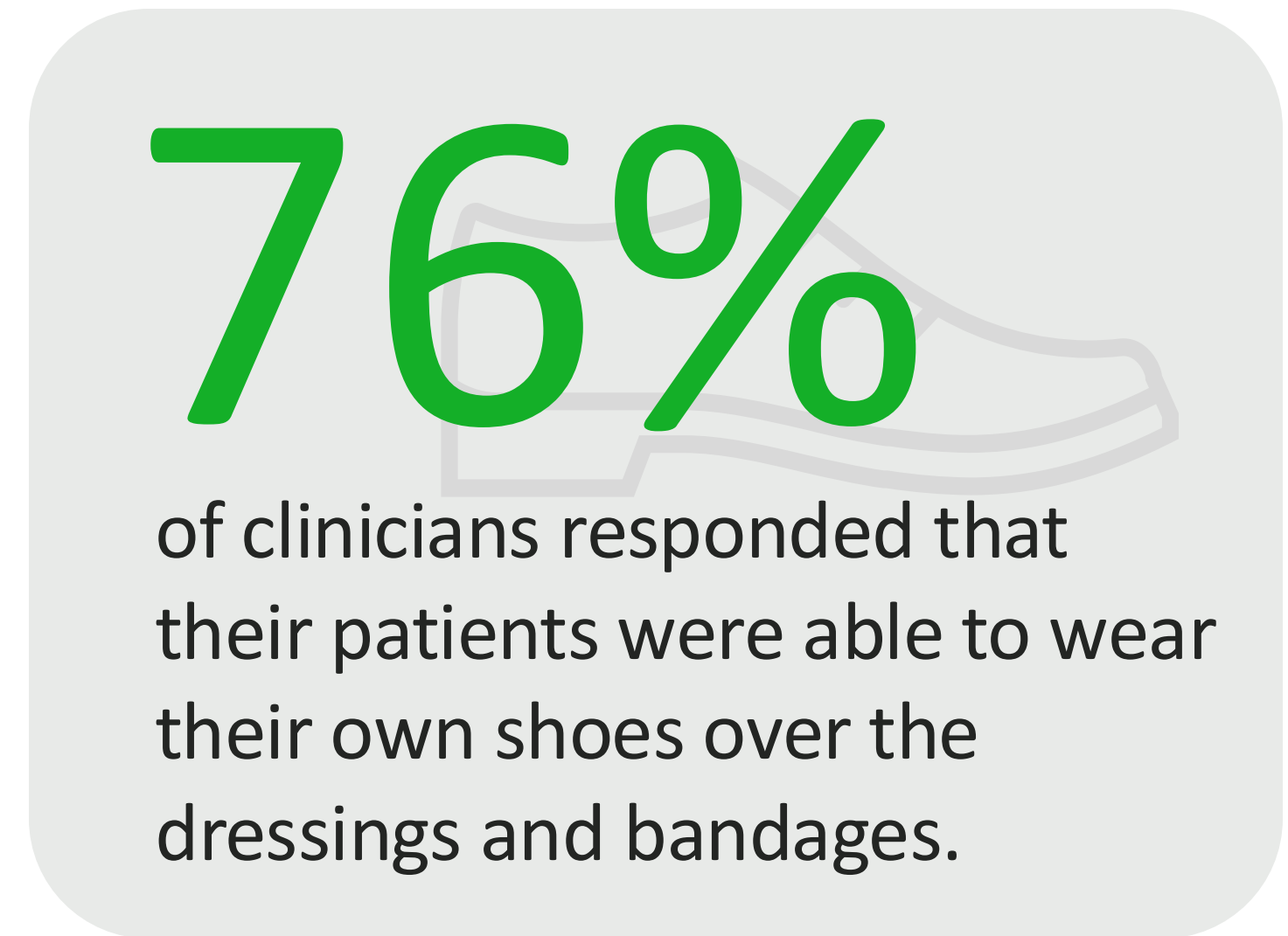
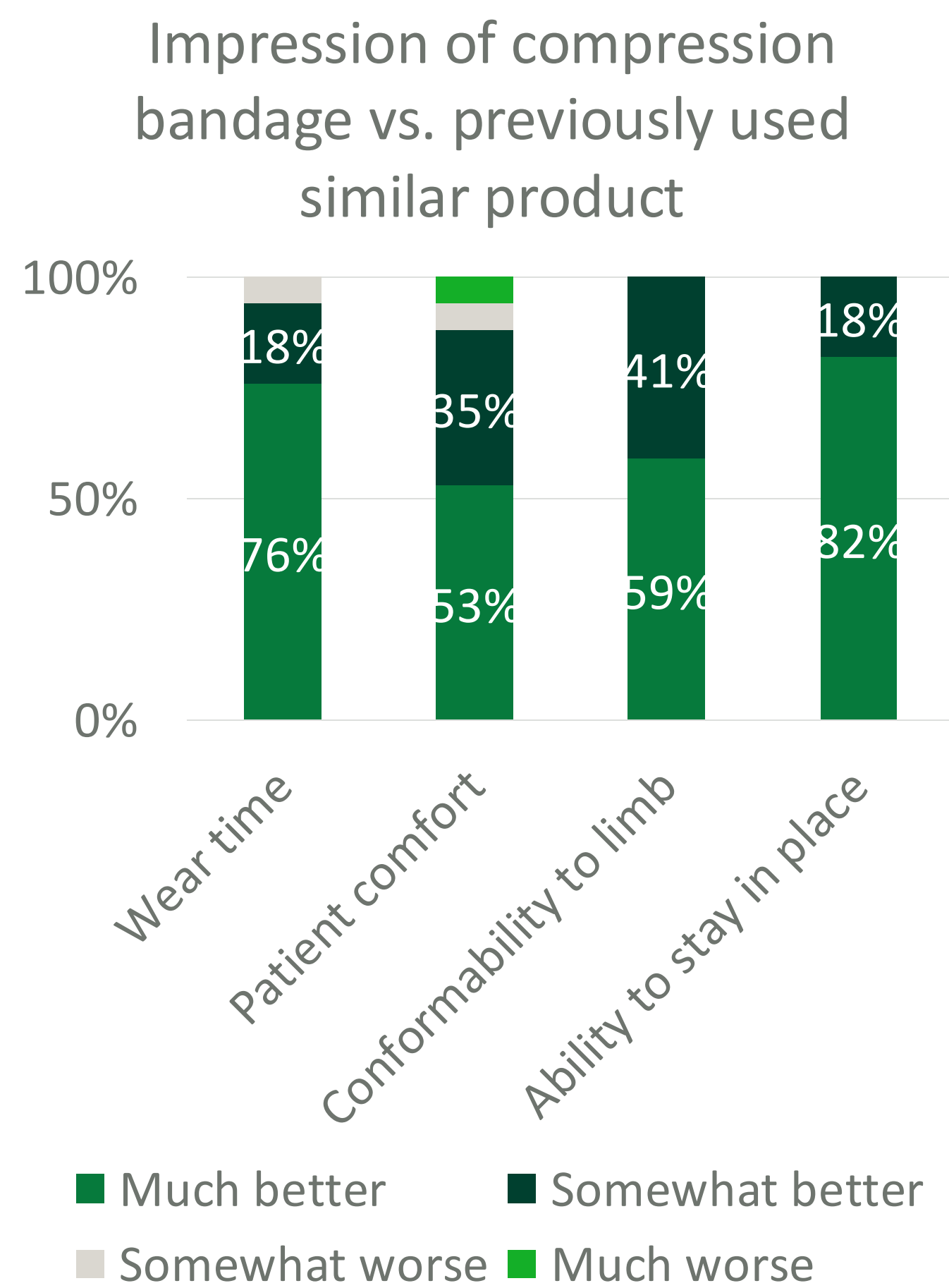


Figure 2: Clinician-reported evaluation of patient quality of life-related metrics including wear time, comfort, conformability and ability to stay in place were high.



- Confidence:** Up to 94% of clinicians responded that they were likely to recommend each product and the overall solution (Figure 3).

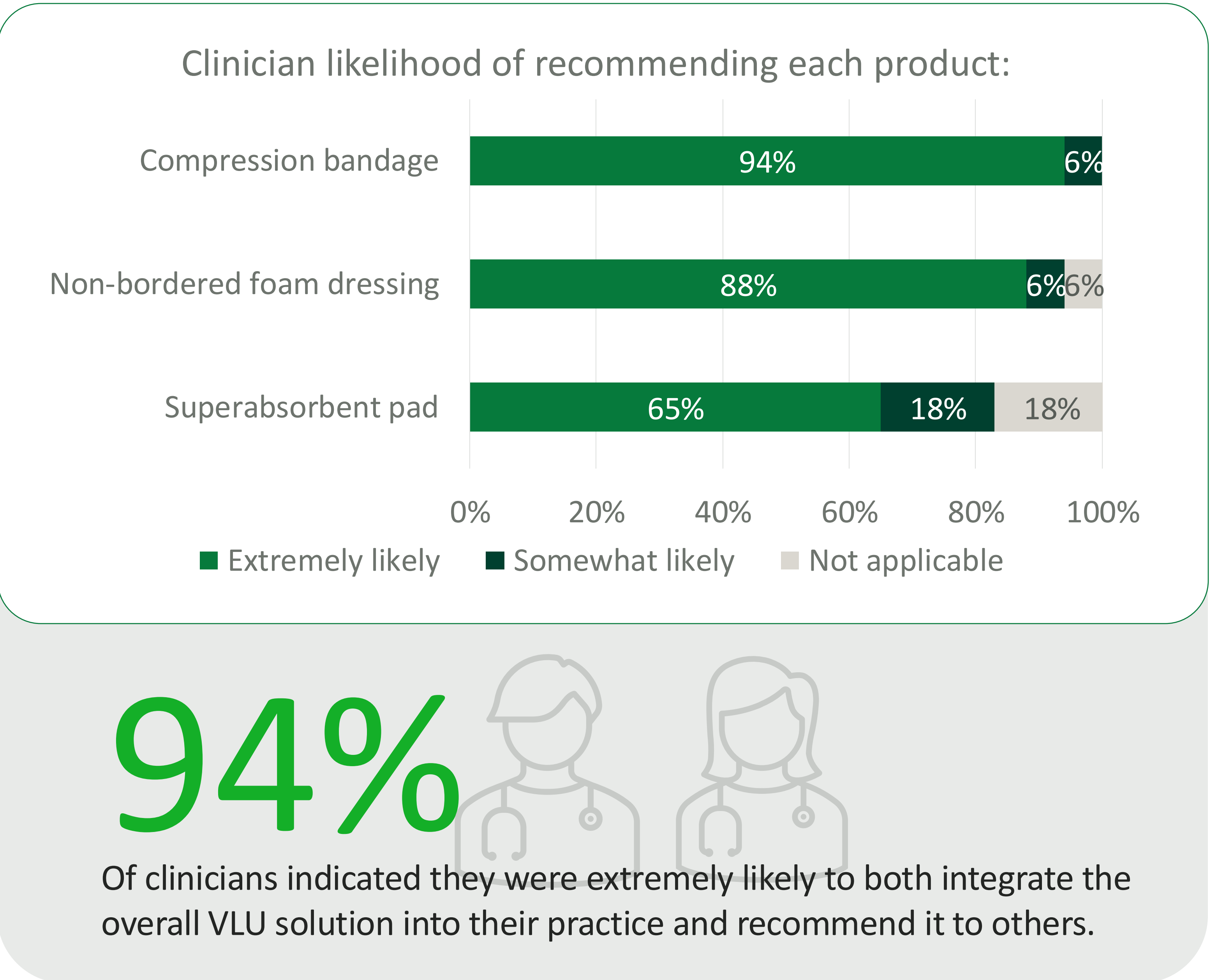


Figure 3: Likelihood of a clinician recommending each product in the VLU solution, and the overall solution itself into their practice.

Conclusions

- High ratings for edema control and exudate management indicate a perceived trust in clinical performance.
- Importantly, usability factors—such as superior wear time, ability to remain in place, and enabling most patients to wear their own shoes—highlight meaningful benefits for both clinicians and patients, potentially supporting adherence and quality of life.
- Clinician-reported high likelihood of recommendation suggests clinician confidence in the regimen.
- This study is limited by a small sample size and should be considered as representative of clinician opinion only. Additional research to gather further opinions and consider clinical and economic endpoints is warranted.

*Mextra Superabsorbent, #Mepilex Up, §MepiPress 2 and MepiPress 2 Lite, Mölnlycke Health Care

References: 1. Franks PJ, et al. J Wound Care 2016; 25(6 Supplement):S1-S67.; 2. O'Donnell TF, et al. J Vascular Surg 2014; 60(2 Supplement), 3S-59S.