

Donor Site Scarring Following Split Thickness Skin Graft Procedure

Sakura Helm

Sigrid A. Blome-Eberwein MD

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlyworks.lvhn.org/research-scholars>



Part of the [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#)

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by LVHN Scholarly Works. It has been accepted for inclusion in LVHN Scholarly Works by an authorized administrator. For more information, please contact LibraryServices@lvhn.org.

Donor Site Scarring Following Split Thickness Skin Graft Procedure

Sakura Helm and Sigrid Blome-Eberwein, MD
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Introduction and Objective

Split thickness skin grafting (STSG) is the standard treatment for burn wounds without healing potential - deep 2nd and 3rd degree burns, and other large full thickness skin wounds.

To harvest a split thickness skin graft, a new lesion must be created by shaving a sheet of healthy tissue off the patient.

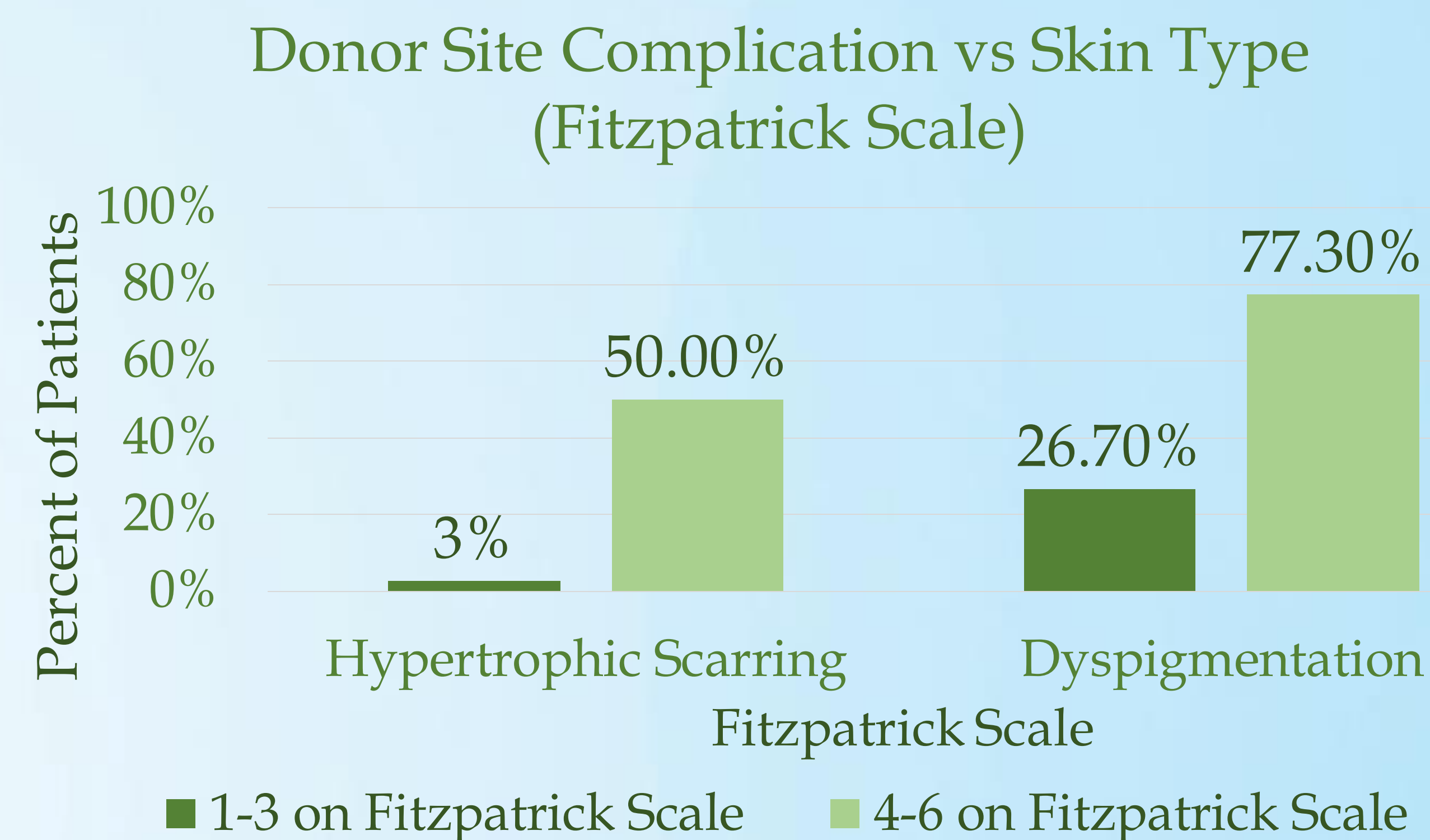
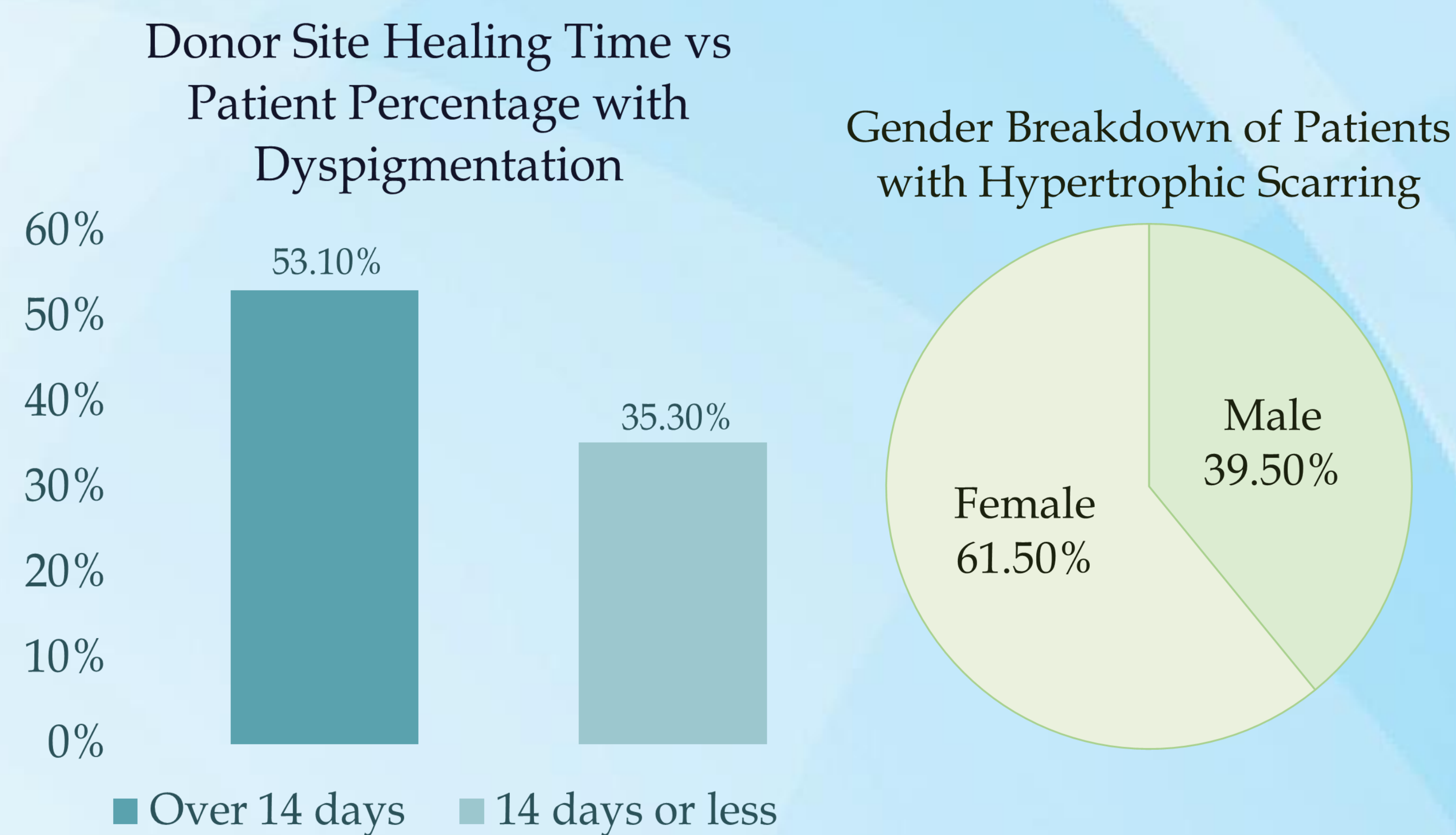
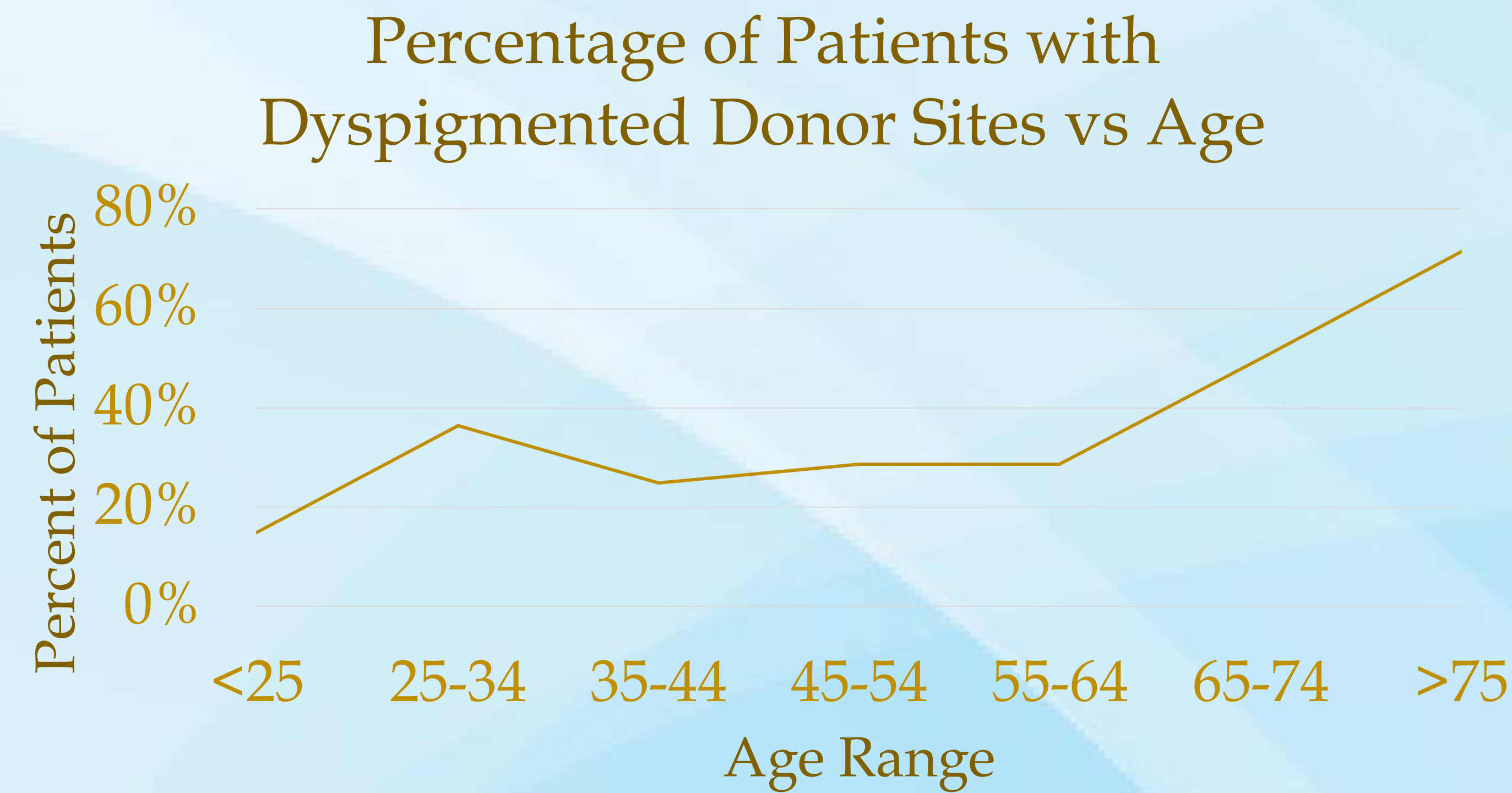
While much time has recently been spent on the recovery process of burn wounds, little attention has been paid to the long-term outcomes of donor sites.

Objective: To identify factors that can lead to higher chances of donor site scarring by evaluating any association between patient conditions to help tailor patient care and clinical decision making related to the donor site in the future.

Methods

Data Collection	This is a retrospective chart review study. All data were collected through EPIC and entered into REDCap
Patient Population	100 patients who required a STSG, treated at LVHN Burn Center between January 2015 and December 2022
Factors	Demographics, comorbidities, donor site thickness and location, follow-up notes and photographs

Results



Conclusion

A significant number of patients treated with a STSG are left with donor sites that cause long-term scars and dyspigmentation.

This study found that factors influencing dyspigmentation and/or hypertrophic scarring include:

- darker skin-types
- unhealthy BMI
- gender
- longer donor site healing time
- hypertension and diabetes

Factors with little to no effect on donor site complications include:

- graft thickness
- donor site location
- post-operative dressings of the donor site



Donor site that is flat and normally pigmented



Donor Site with hypertrophic scarring and dyspigmentation



References