

## The webinar, “Osteoarthritis – Not Just a Nuisance Condition of Old Age: An Overview of Findings from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA)” will begin shortly.

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## Osteoarthritis – Not Just a Nuisance Condition of Old Age: An Overview of Findings from the CLSA

Dr. Elizabeth Badley & Dr. Anthony Perruccio

12 to 1 p.m. ET | October 12, 2017

In this webinar, Dr. Badley and Dr. Perruccio will present an overview of the prevalence of arthritis, focusing on osteoarthritis (OA). The presentation will be in two parts:

Part 1: While the most frequently studied risk factors for OA relate to biomechanical factors associated with injury or obesity, there is emerging evidence that OA might have a systemic metabolic or inflammatory component. This section of the webinar will include a brief overview of Dr. Badley and Dr. Perruccio's findings.

Part 2: Recognizing that OA is often thought of as a condition of older people that may be associated with pain and disability, leading to a need for help, Dr. Badley and Dr. Perruccio look at the receipt of care, care given to others and social engagement in the younger (45-64) CLSA participants.

Register online at <http://bit.ly/clsawebinars>



Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging  
Étude longitudinale canadienne sur le vieillissement

[www.clsa-elcv.ca](http://www.clsa-elcv.ca)



Webinars will be broadcast using WebEx  
Further instructions will be sent by email

# Introducing today's speakers:



**Dr. Elizabeth Badley &  
Dr. Anthony Perruccio**

Krembil Research Institute, University  
Health Network, Toronto



# **OSTEOARTHRITIS – Not Just a Nuisance Condition of Old Age: An Overview of Findings from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging**

**October 12, 2017**

**Elizabeth M. Badley, DPhil  
Anthony V. Perruccio, PhD**

**Krembil Research Institute and University of Toronto**

**Krembil**  
Relentless.



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

 **UHN** Arthritis  
Program

# General Objectives

- **To present preliminary findings of work in progress**
- **To suggest areas where further development of the CLSA questionnaires are required**

# CLSA data

**Baseline data: population ages 45-85**

- **Tracking Sample**
  - **Self-report questionnaire**
  - **N=21,241**
- **Comprehensive Sample**
  - **Self-report questionnaires**
  - **N=30,097**

# What is arthritis?

- arthritis means inflammation of the joint

**Term is generally used for a family of related conditions affecting the joints (and components of the joint) and associated structures such as ligaments, tendons, and underlying bone.**

**Causes pain, swelling, and stiffness in the joints**

**Over 100 different conditions**

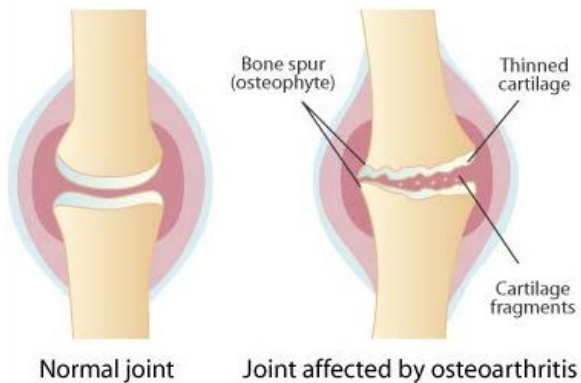
# Major types of arthritis

- **Osteoarthritis: prevalence (pop age >15 yrs)  $\approx$  14%**
- **Gout: prevalence  $\approx$  4%**
- **Inflammatory joint disease (rheumatoid arthritis, reactive arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis): prevalence  $\approx$  1-2%**
- **Connective tissue diseases (systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)): prevalence  $\approx$  .01%**



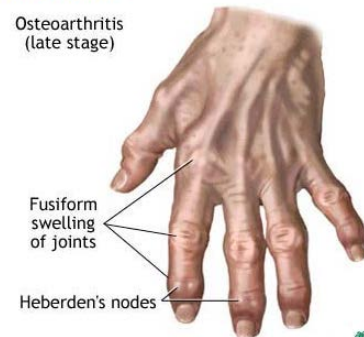
# Osteoarthritis (OA)

- deterioration of cartilage and other structures in one or more joints
- leads to joint damage, pain and stiffness
- typically affects knees, spine, hands, hips and feet



Osteoarthritis

Osteoarthritis  
(late stage)



# Importance of Osteoarthritis

- **Major cause of :**
  - **Pain**
  - **Disability (self care, mobility, employment, etc)**
- **Impact on quality of life**
- **Health care utilization**
- **Economic burden to society**
- **Mortality – increased risk of heart disease**

# **Etiology of Osteoarthritis**

**Traditionally viewed as degenerative  
(wear and tear) condition**

# Etiology of Osteoarthritis

Local Environment

↓  
Obesity  
Altered joint loading  
Abnormal anatomy  
Inflammation  
Bone remodeling  
Trauma

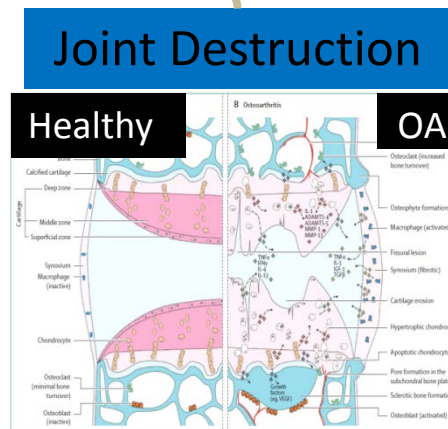


Figure 3 Signaling pathways and structural changes in the development of osteoarthritis

↑  
Matrix Destruction  
Catabolic > Synthesis  
Mechanical Failure

←  
Aging  
Sex  
Genetics

# **Etiology of Osteoarthritis**

**Traditionally viewed as degenerative  
(wear and tear) condition**

**However:**

- **OA is associated with obesity, particularly the knee, but also the hand and hip**
- **Common co-occurring conditions with OA include hypertension, heart disease, and diabetes**
- **Many people with OA have OA in multiple joints, including upper extremity joints (e.g. hands) where mechanical factors related to joint loading are less likely to be important**

# **Etiology of Osteoarthritis**

**Traditionally viewed as degenerative  
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**However:**

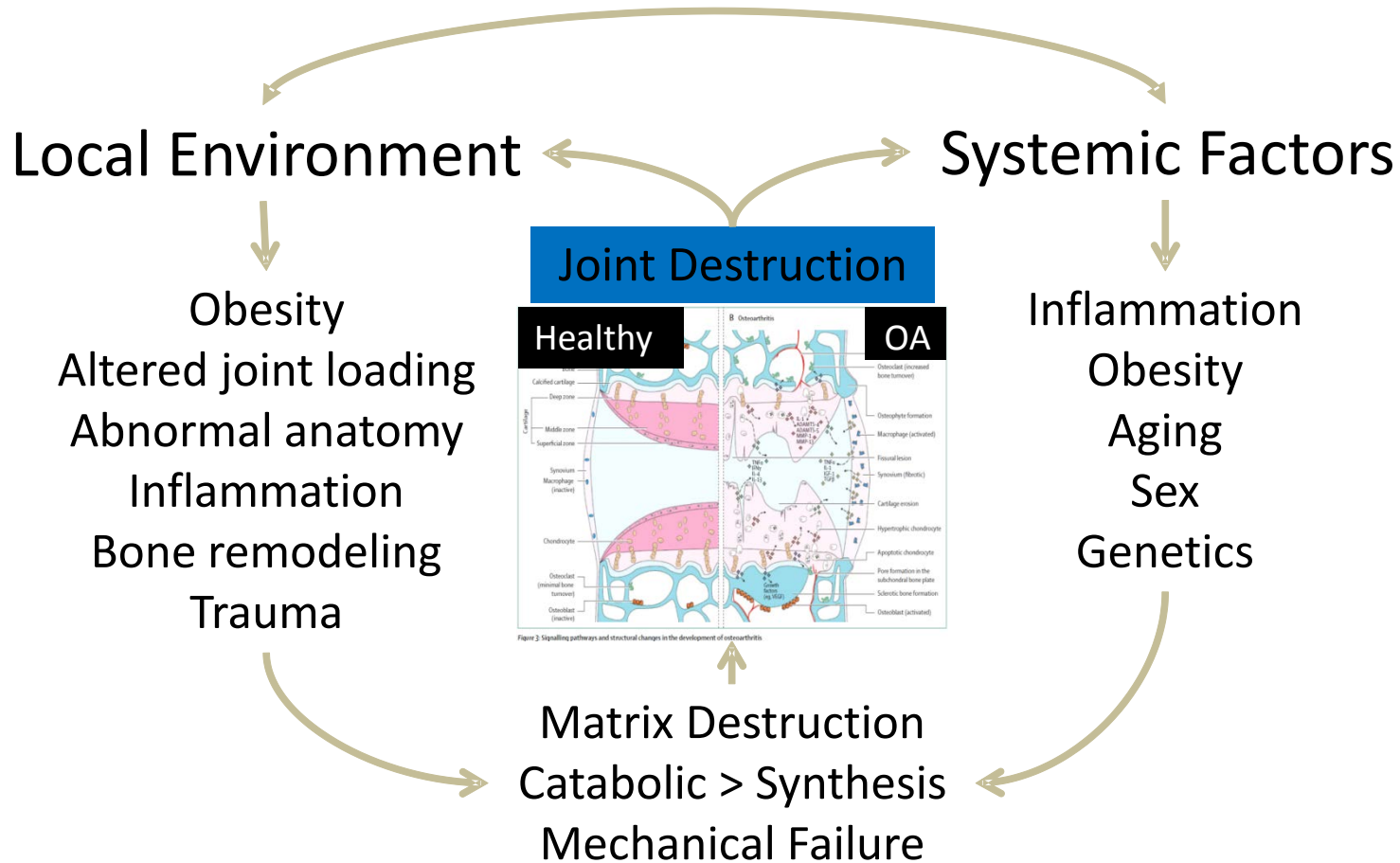
- **OA is associated with obesity, particularly the knee, but also the hand and hip**
- **Common co-occurring conditions with OA include hypertension, heart disease, and diabetes**
- **Many people with OA have OA in multiple joints, including upper extremity joints (e.g. hands) where mechanical factors related to joint loading are less likely to be important**

**Emerging research**

**OA as a heterogeneous condition: includes**

- **mechanical etiology due to joint use or injury and**
- **metabolic/systemic etiology linked to obesity and comorbidities e.g. hypertension.**

# Etiology of Osteoarthritis



# Osteoarthritis in the Population

**Most population surveys focus on arthritis in general**

**In most of epidemiological literature on OA, focus is on specific joint, most commonly the knee.**

**Special feature of CLSA – asks about OA specifically by site: knee, hip and hand, with supplementary questions about relevant joint symptoms**

**CLSA potential for unique insights into OA**



# Rationale

## Background

**OA is often perceived as an inevitable condition of aging**

## Goal

**To understand the impact of OA across the age range 45-85 years**

## Objectives

- 1. Document prevalence of OA**
- 2. To investigate the relationship between OA, obesity and metabolic comorbidities**
- 3. To document prevalence of pain and disability in OA of the knee, hip and hand**

# CLSA Arthritis questions

All participants were asked, “has a doctor ever told you that you have...”

- Osteoarthritis in the knee
  - Osteoarthritis in the hip
  - Osteoarthritis in the hand
  - Rheumatoid arthritis
  - Any other type of arthritis
- 
- Osteoarthritis: yes to any of knee, hip or hand OA



# Joint Symptom Questions

Asked to all CLSA respondents irrespective of arthritis or OA status.

## Knee

During the past 4 weeks...

1. Have you had knee pain on most days?
2. Have you had knee pain while climbing down stairs or walking down slopes?
3. Have you had swelling in the knee?

## Hip

During the past 4 weeks...

1. Have you had pain in the groin or upper inner thigh on most days?
2. Have you had pain in the groin or upper inner thigh while climbing down stairs or walking down slopes?

## Hand

During the past 4 weeks...

1. Have you had pain in the small joints closest to the fingernails on most days?
2. Have you had pain in the base of your thumbs just above wrist on most days?
3. Do you have enlargement in the small joints closest to the fingernails?\*
4. Do you have enlargement in the base of your thumbs just above your wrist?\*

\* Excluded for analyses of “symptomatic OA”

# Findings

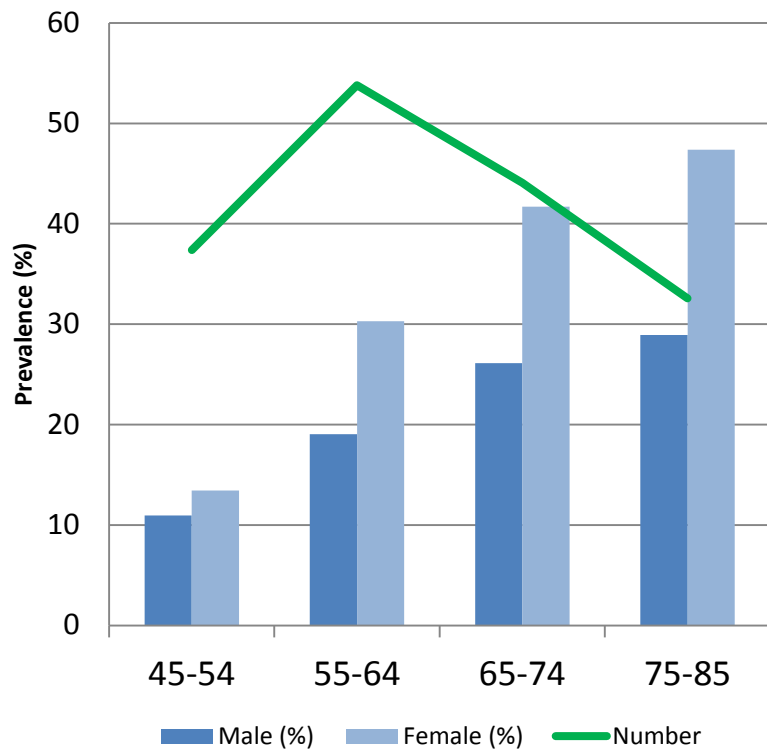
# Population Prevalence: OA and other Conditions

Osteoarthritis ranks among the most prevalent

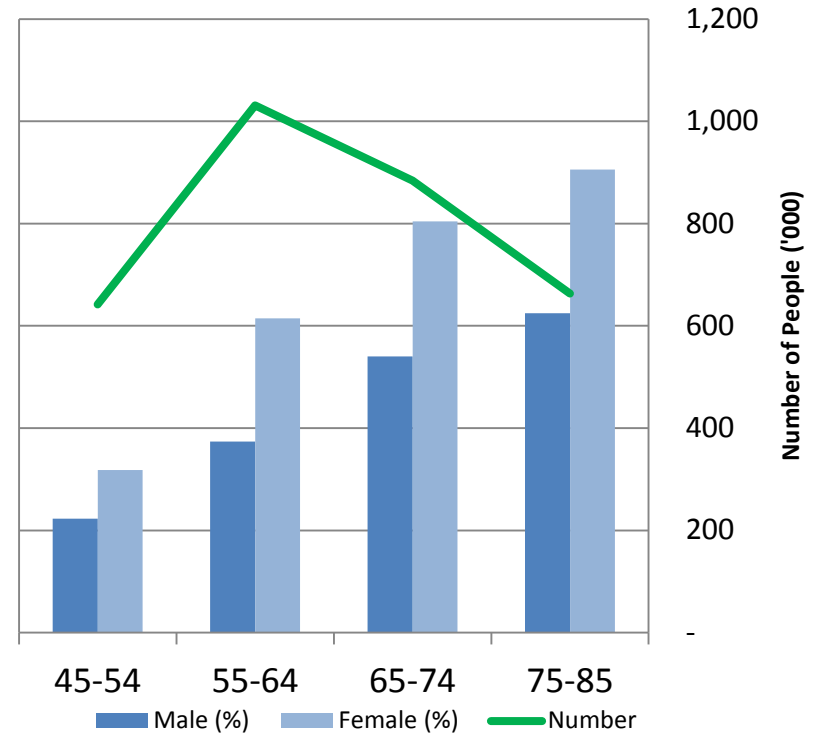
Condition	Prevalence (%)
Hypertension	38
<b>Osteoarthritis</b>	<b>26</b>
Back Problems	26
Diabetes	17
Mood Disorders	16
Cancer	16
Heart Disease	14
Asthma	12
Incontinence	10
Osteoporosis	9

**> 3.5 Million Canadians with OA aged 45-85**

# Osteoarthritis: Prevalence and Numbers by Age and Sex



Comprehensive sample

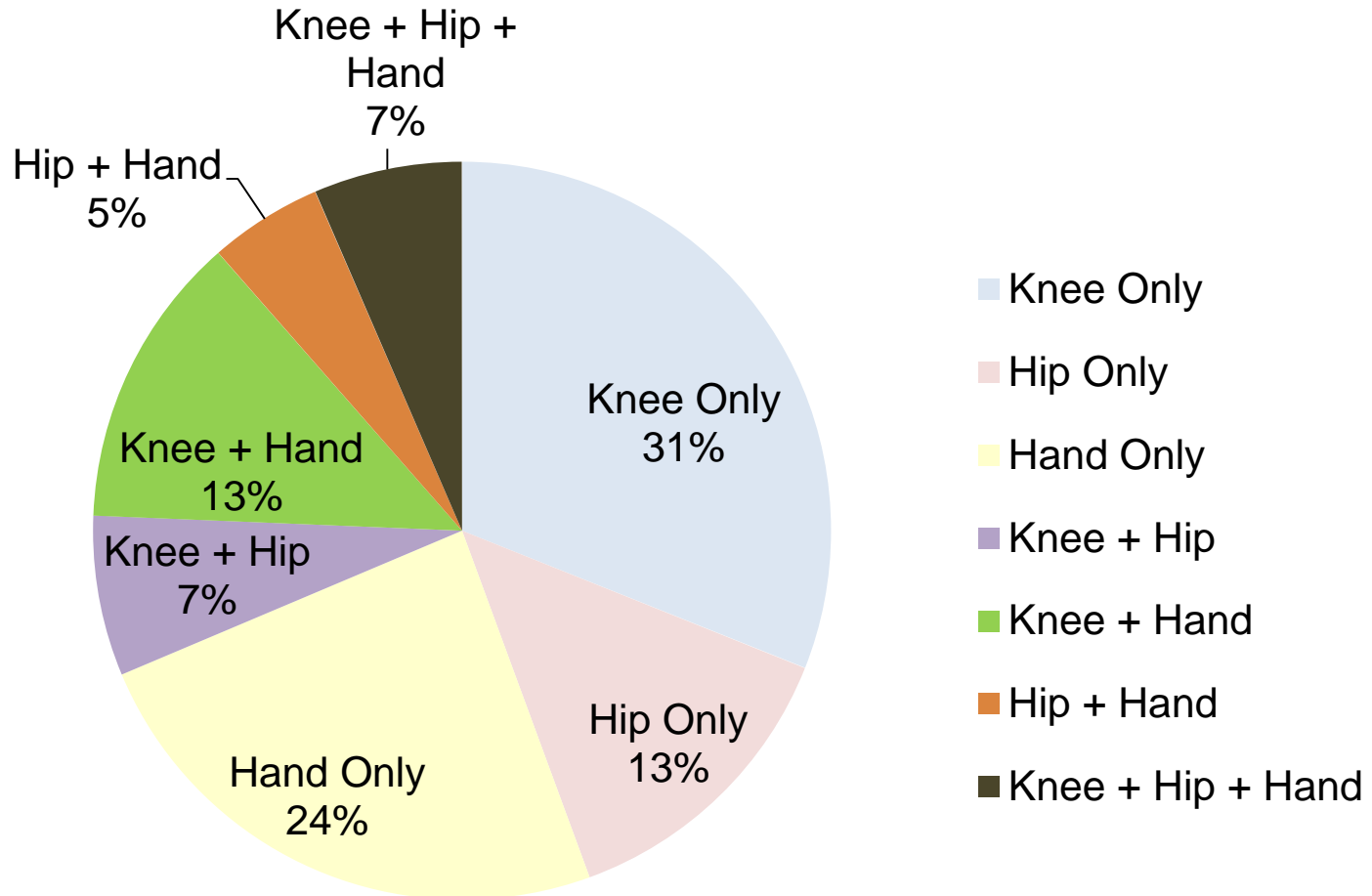


Tracking sample

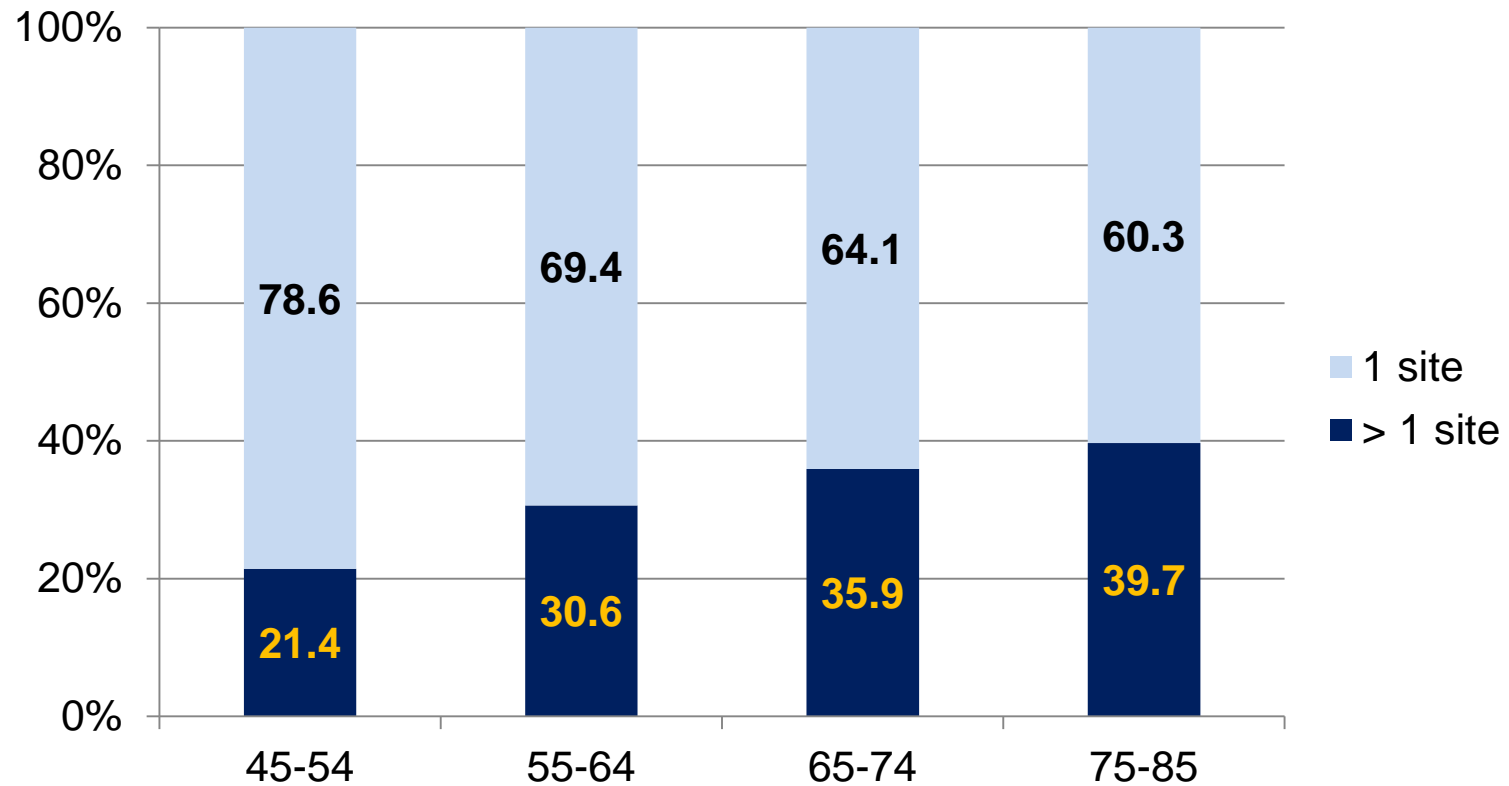
➤ 26% of the population

# Joints affected by OA

**32% of CLSA respondents with OA have OA at multiple joint sites**

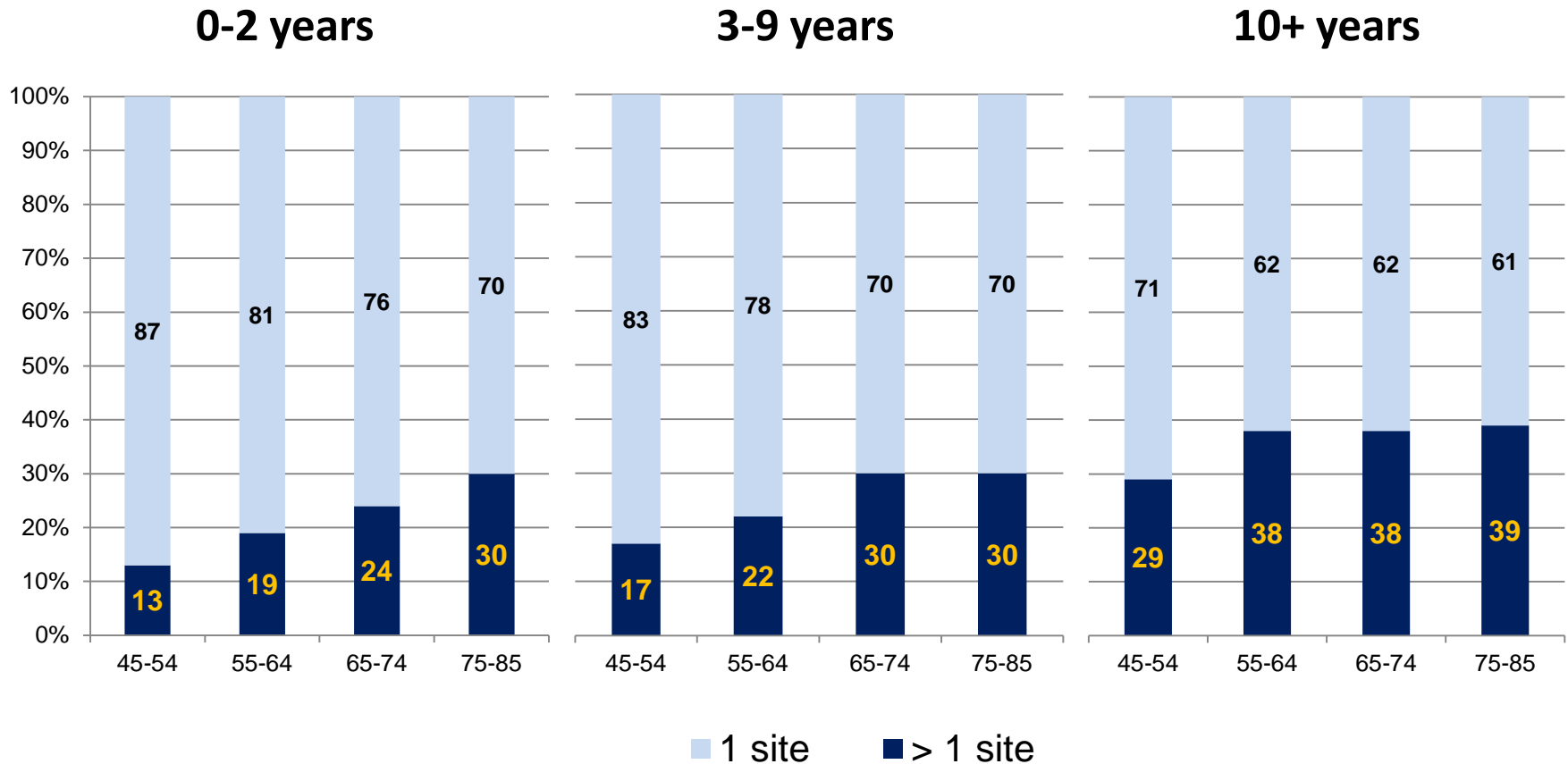


# Single vs Multisite OA by Age

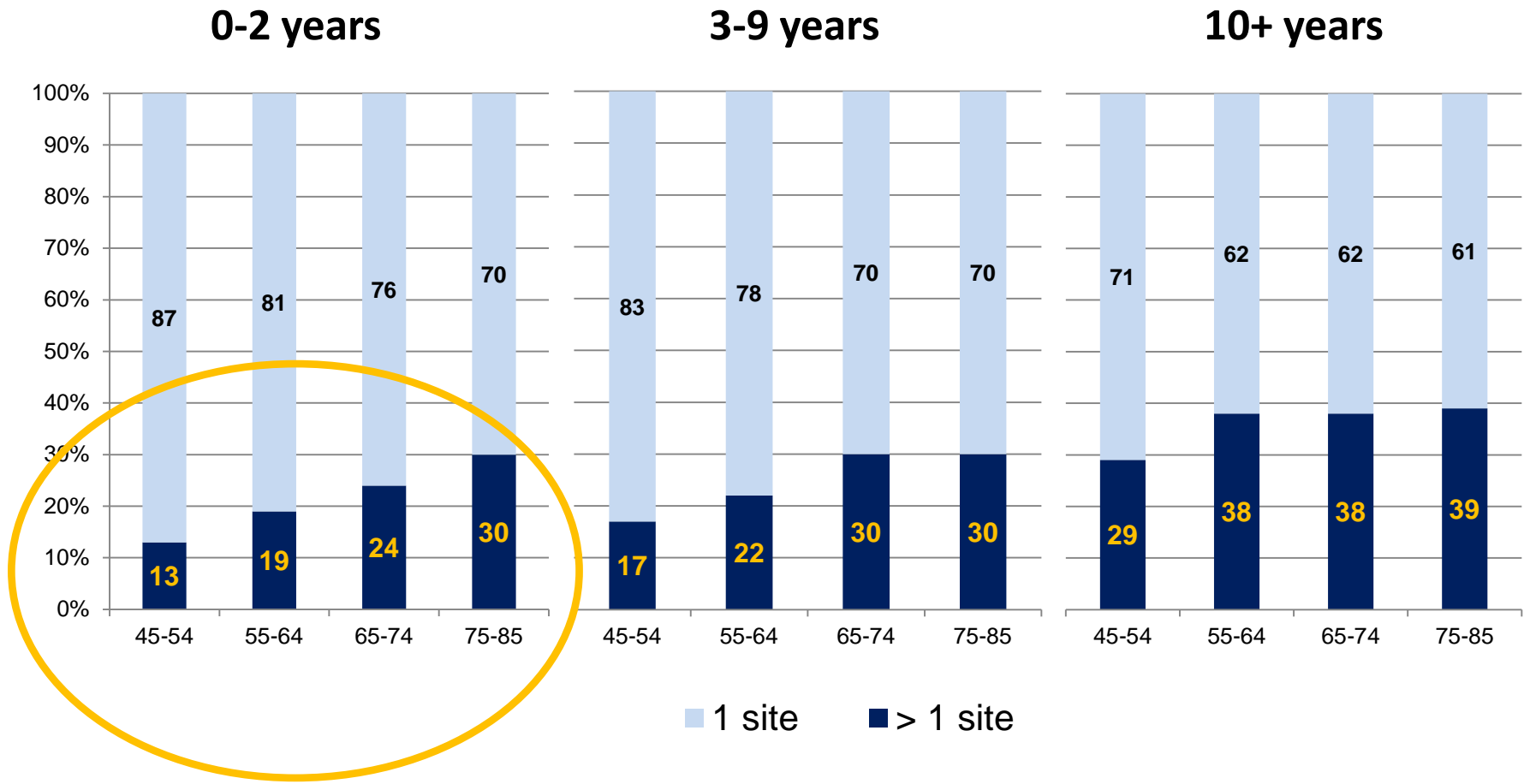




# Single vs Multisite OA by OA Duration



# Single vs Multisite OA by OA Duration



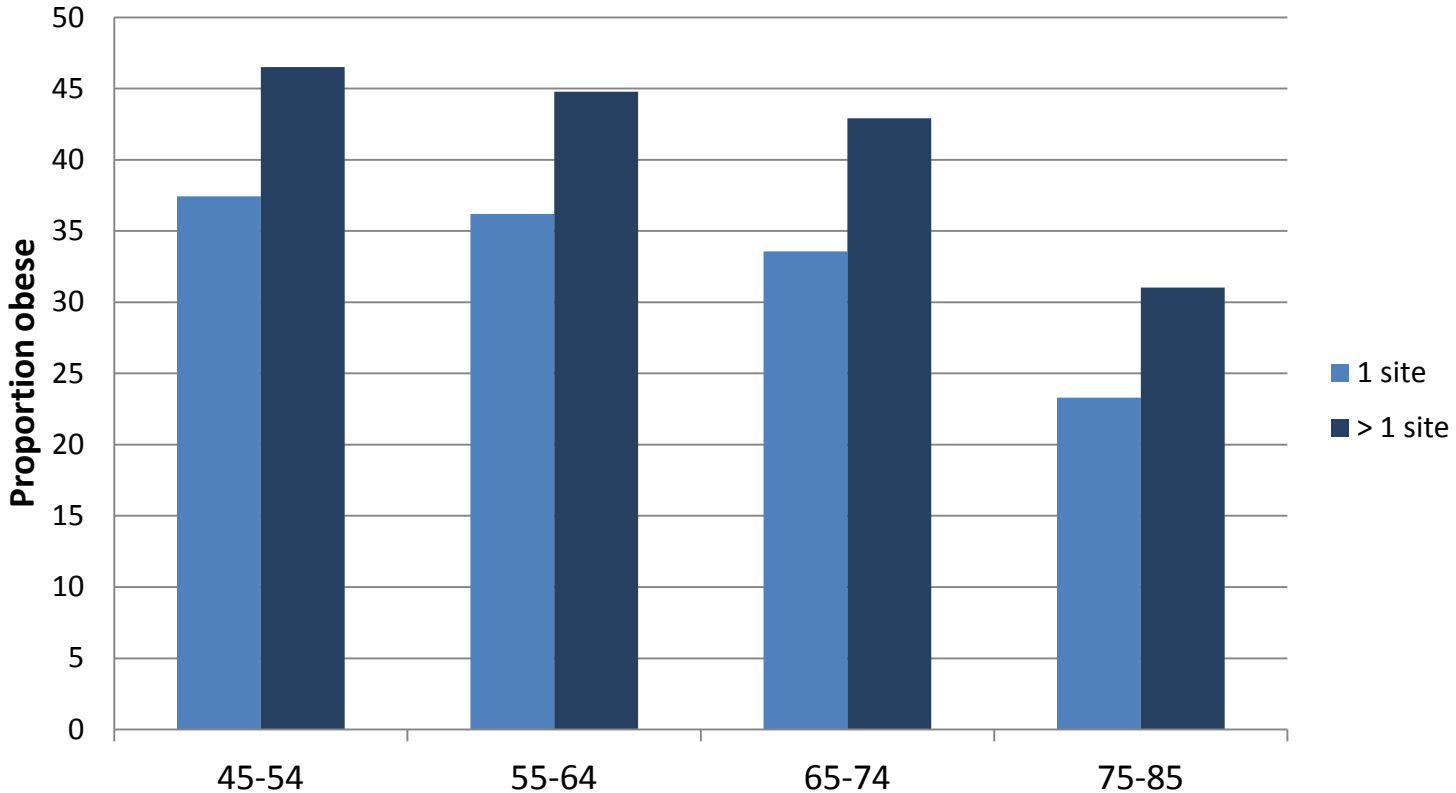
# **OA, obesity & metabolic comorbidities**

**Speculation that OA might have a systemic etiology – such as metabolic syndrome. If so:**

- 1. The relationship between obesity and OA will be stronger for those with multi-joint OA**
- 2. A higher proportion of those with multi-joint OA will report metabolic syndrome associated comorbidities (hypertension, heart disease, diabetes)**
- 3. Respondents with OA compared to those without will have a greater number of metabolic associated comorbidities adjusting for sociodemographic variables and lifestyle factors**

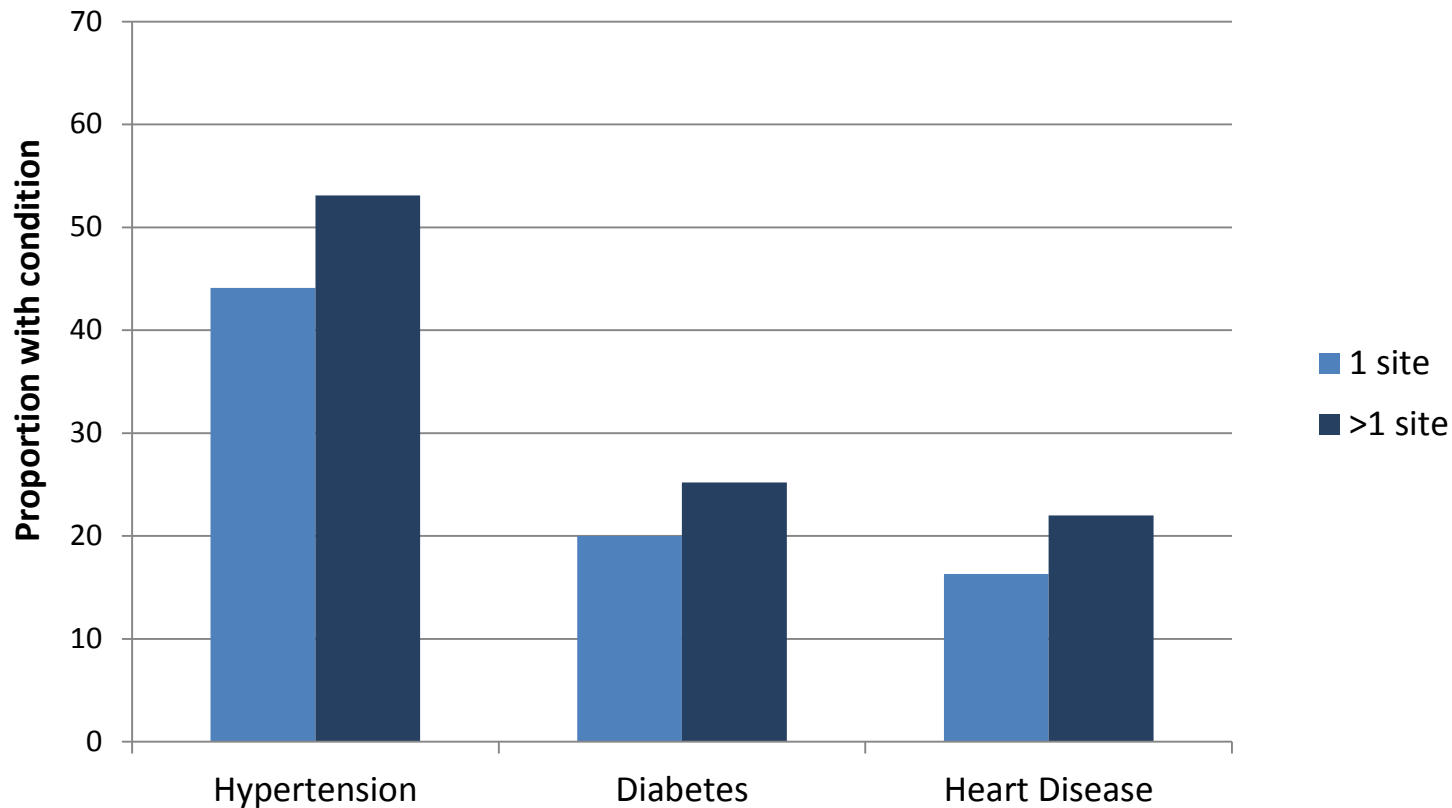
# Osteoarthritis and obesity

**Hx: The relationship between obesity and OA will be stronger for those with multijoint OA**

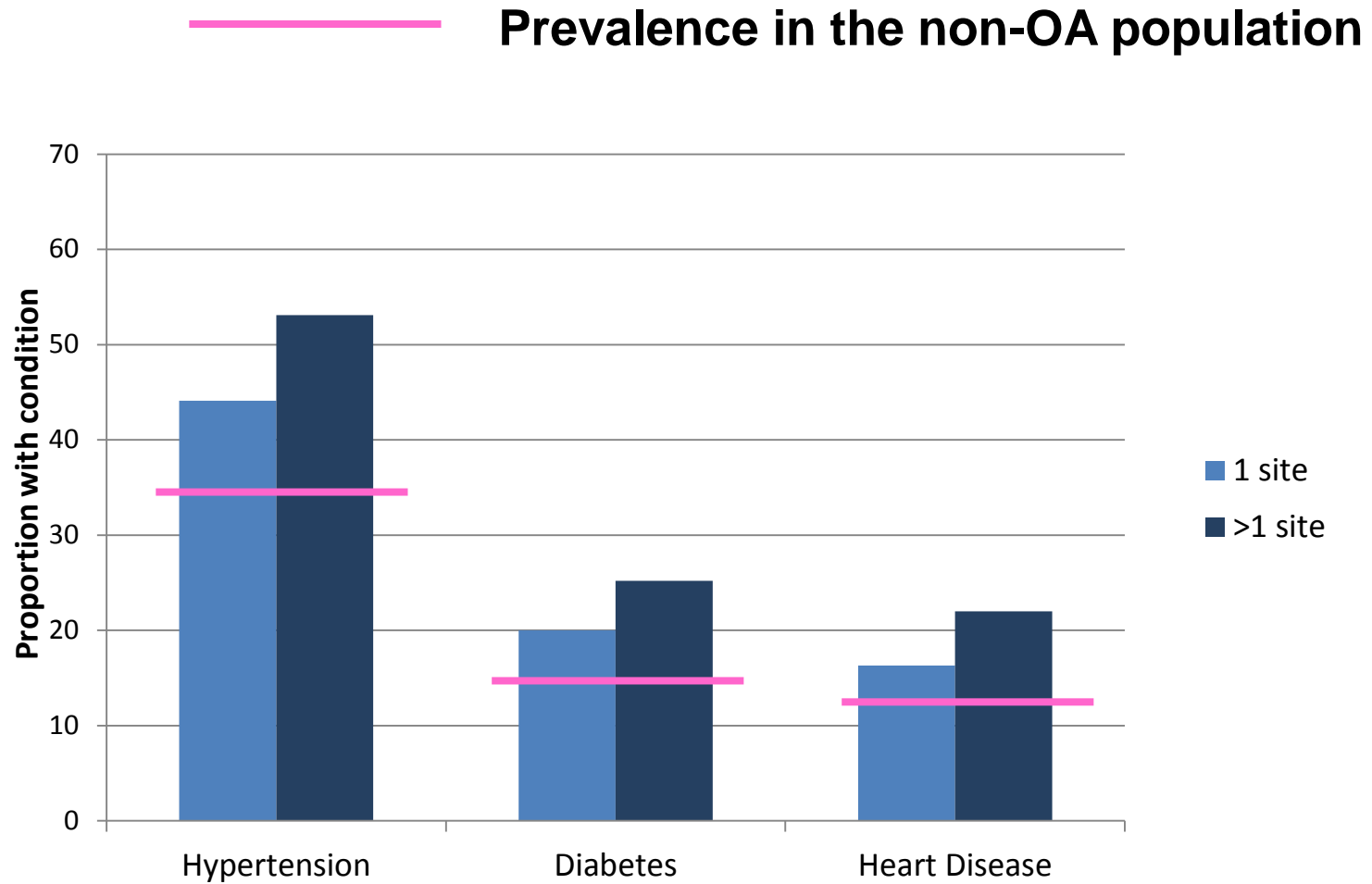


# Osteoarthritis and 'metabolic' conditions

Hx: A higher proportion of those with multi-joint OA will report metabolic syndrome associated comorbidities (hypertension, heart disease, diabetes)



# Osteoarthritis and 'metabolic' conditions



# Factors associated with OA vs no OA

## Poisson regression model

Variable	Prevalence Ratio (95% CI)
Female (ref=Male)	<b>1.46</b> (1.40, 1.52)
Age group (ref=45-54)	
55-64	<b>1.79</b> (1.68, 1.91)
65-74	<b>2.29</b> (2.15, 2.45)
75-85	<b>2.61</b> (2.43, 2.81)
Weight (ref=Normal)	
Overweight	<b>1.17</b> (1.11, 1.23)
Obese	<b>1.50</b> (1.42, 1.58)
Metabolic Conditions (ref=0)	
1	<b>1.07</b> (1.02, 1.12)
2	<b>1.18</b> (1.11, 1.24)
3	<b>1.16</b> (1.04, 1.29)
Major Conditions (ref=0)	
1	<b>1.29</b> (1.21, 1.37)
2	<b>1.51</b> (1.42, 1.61)
3+	<b>1.99</b> (1.88, 2.11)

**Adjusted for education, household income, smoking status, and alcohol consumption**

# Factors associated with multiple vs single site OA

Poisson regression model

Variable	Prevalence Ratio (95% CI)
Female (ref=Male)	<b>1.06</b> (1.02, 1.10)
Age group (ref=45-54)	
55-64	1.06 (1.00, 1.12)
65-74	<b>1.10</b> (1.04, 1.16)
75-85	<b>1.11</b> (1.04, 1.18)
Weight (ref=Normal)	
Overweight	1.03 (0.98, 1.07)
Obese	<b>1.06</b> (1.01, 1.10)
Metabolic Conditions (ref=0)	
1	1.02 (0.98, 1.06)
2	1.03 (0.98, 1.08)
3	1.05 (0.96, 1.16)
Major Conditions (ref=0)	
1	1.01 (0.96, 1.07)
2	1.05 (0.99, 1.11)
3+	<b>1.12</b> (1.06, 1.18)

Adjusted for education, household income, smoking status, and alcohol consumption

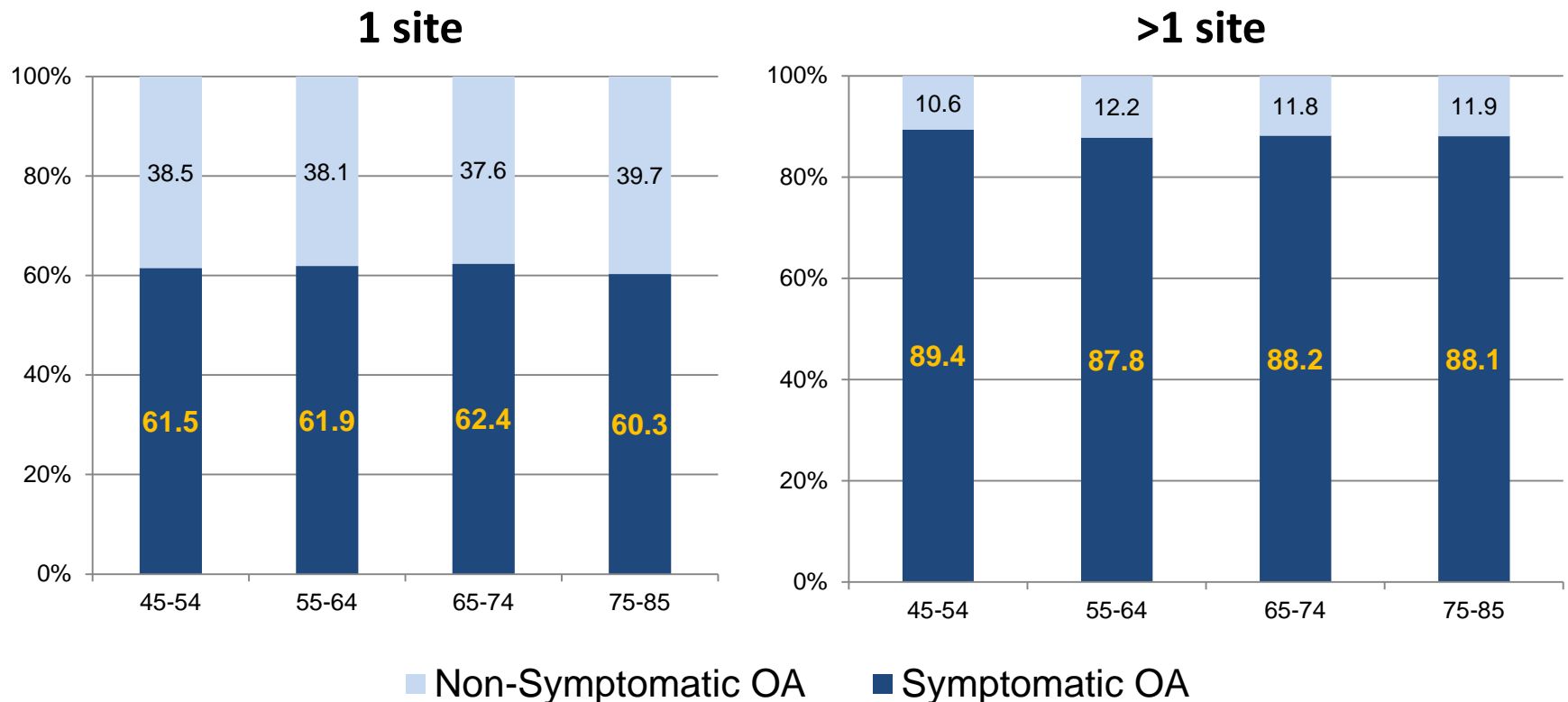


# Impact of OA

# Symptomatic OA in the past 4 weeks

Overall, 69% of respondents with OA had symptomatic OA in the past 4 weeks.

- Respondents with OA at more than 1 joint site were more likely to have symptomatic OA in the past 4 weeks irrespective of age.



# CLSA pain questions

General pain was assessed by asking all respondents:

- Are you usually free of pain or discomfort?

If no:

**Pain severity** was assessed:

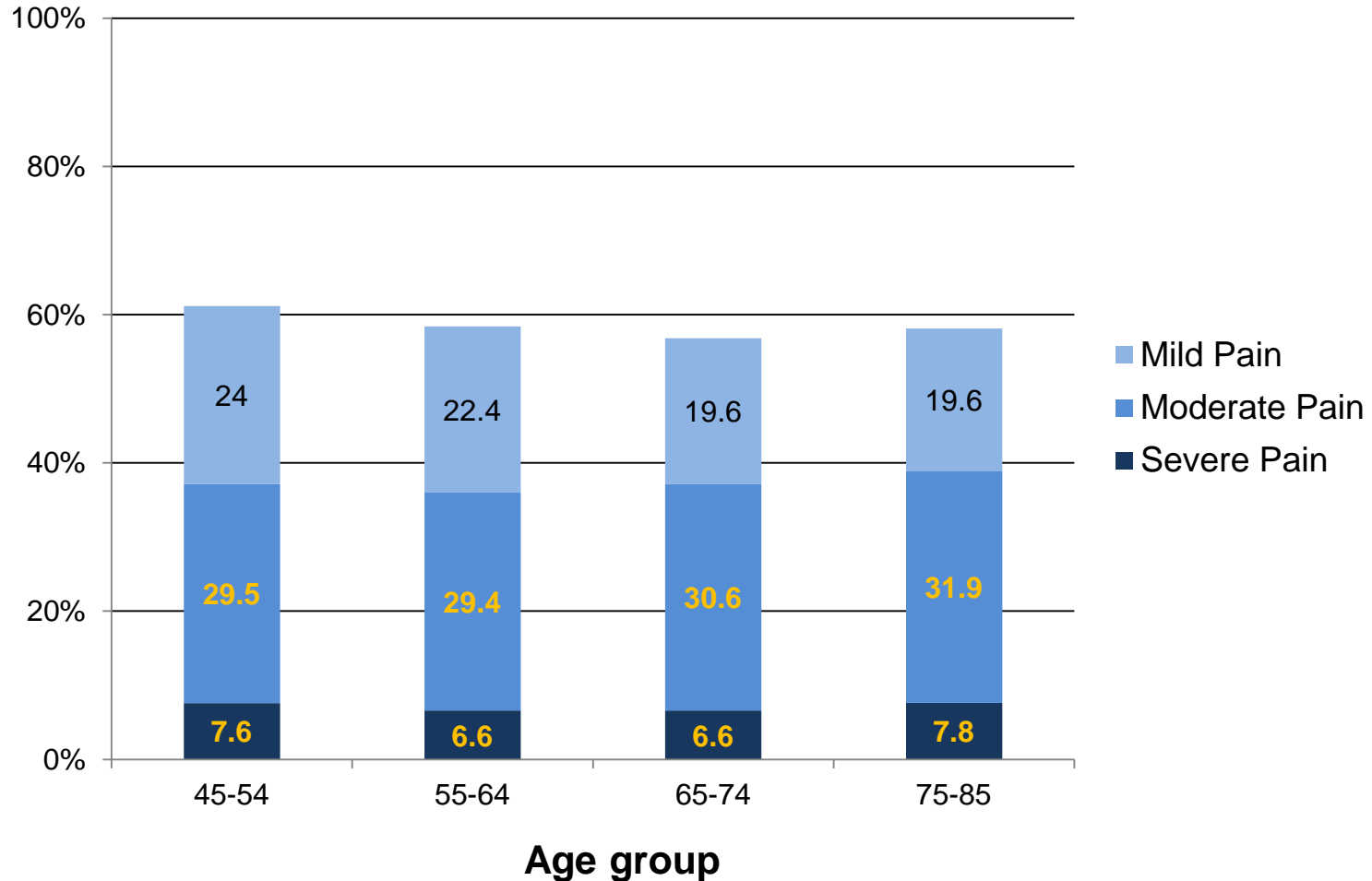
- How would you describe the usual intensity of your pain or discomfort? Would you say it is **mild**, **moderate**, or **severe**?

**Limitation in carrying out activities** due to pain was assessed:

- How many activities does your pain or discomfort prevent? Would you say **none**, **a few**, **some**, or **most**?

# Severity of Pain in OA

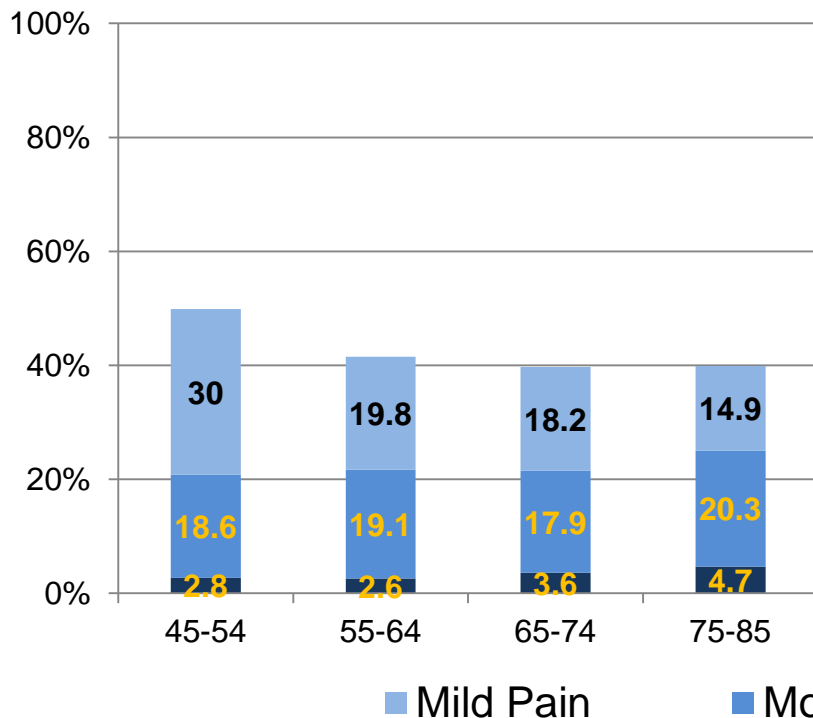
Age has little influence on experience of pain



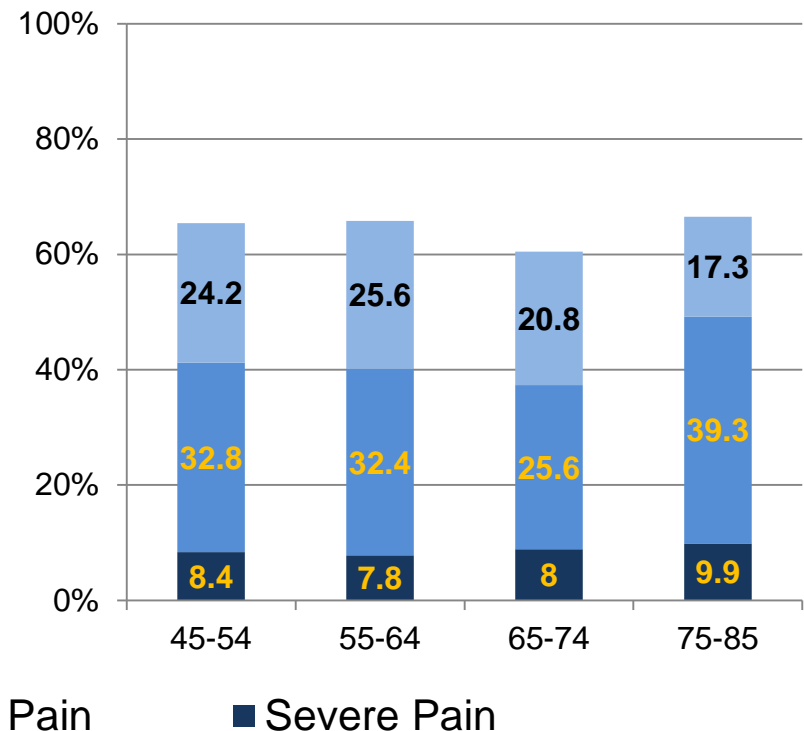
# Severity of Pain among those with symptomatic vs non-symptomatic OA

Respondents with symptomatic OA are more likely to report general pain than those with non-symptomatic OA.

## Non-symptomatic OA



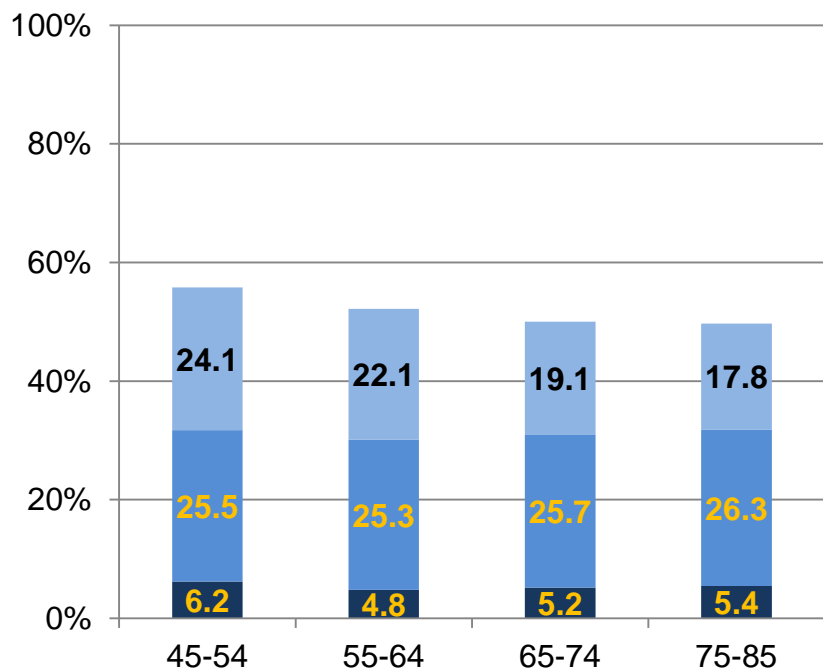
## Symptomatic OA



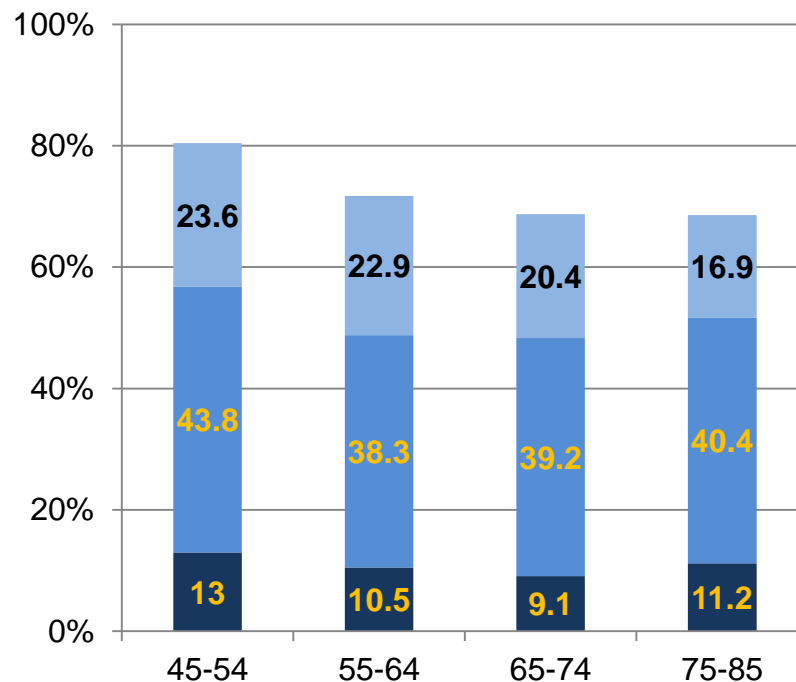
# Severity of Pain among those with single vs multiple site OA

Respondents with OA at more than 1 joint site are more likely to report general pain than those with OA at only 1 joint site.

1 site



>1 site



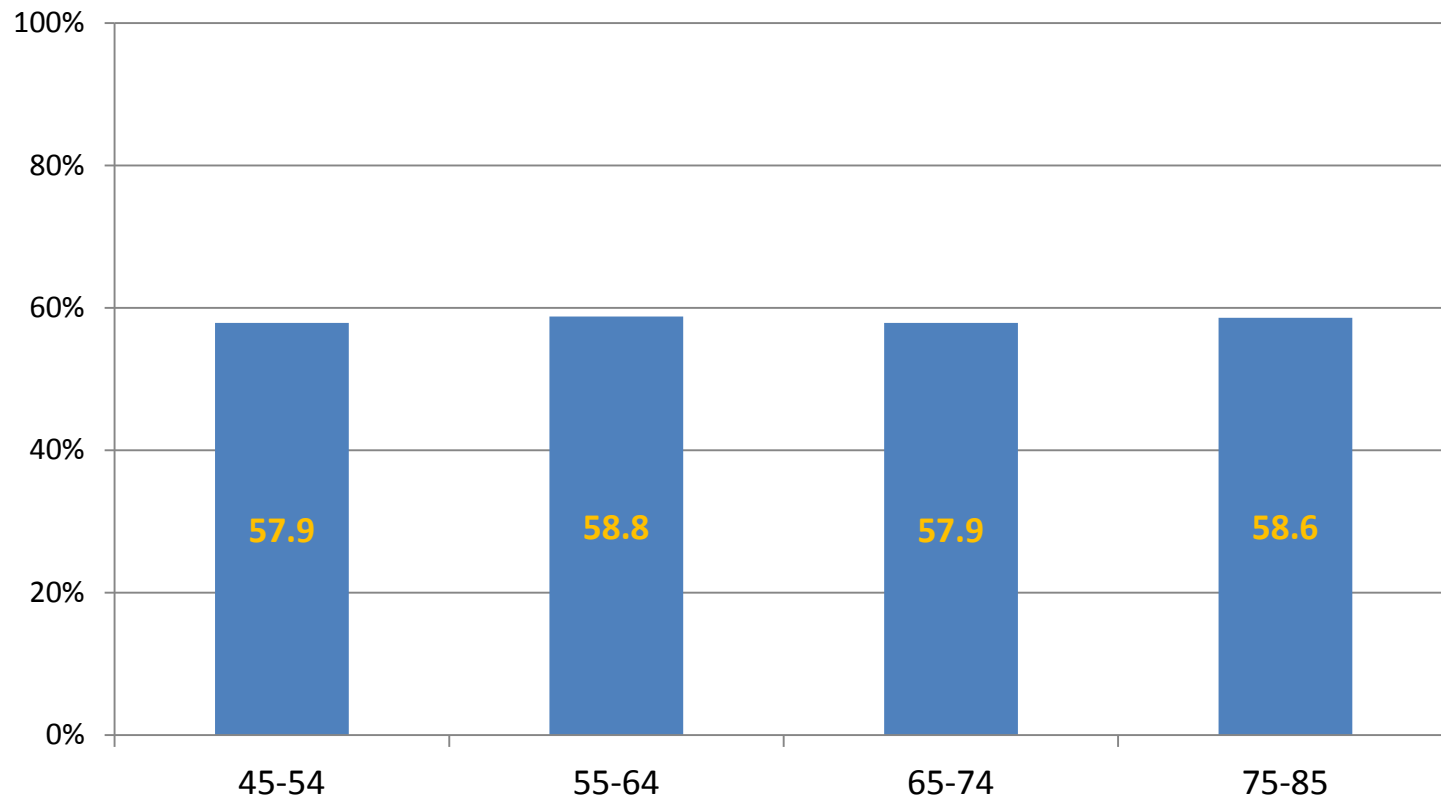
■ Mild Pain

■ Moderate Pain

■ Severe Pain

# Pain resulting in limitation in carrying out activities

Among those with OA, age has little influence on whether or not pain limits participation in activities.



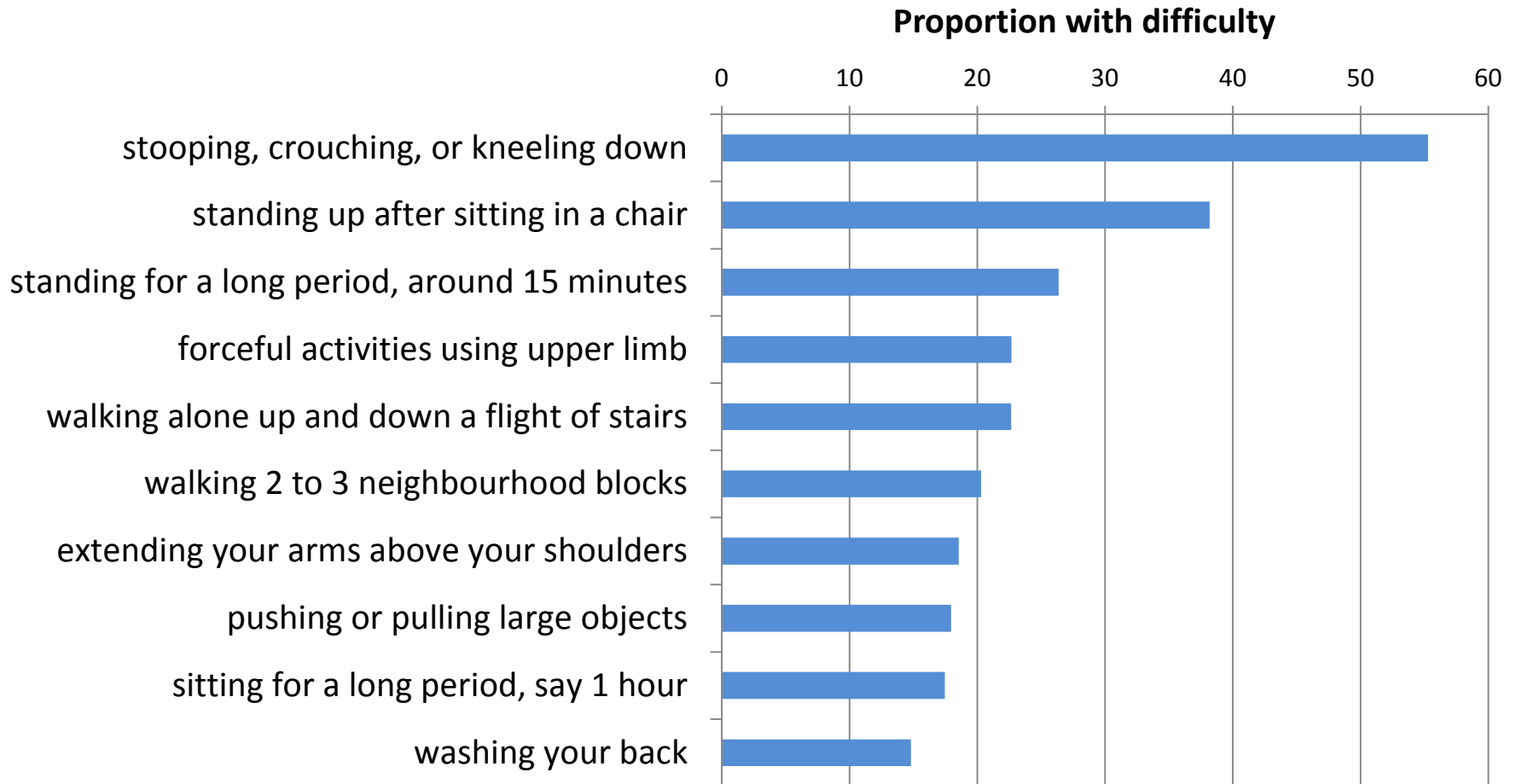
# Difficulty with daily activities

**Participants in the tracking sample were asked about difficulty with 14 activities.**

**Those who replied they could not do these activities or did not do them on doctor's orders were coded as having difficulty**

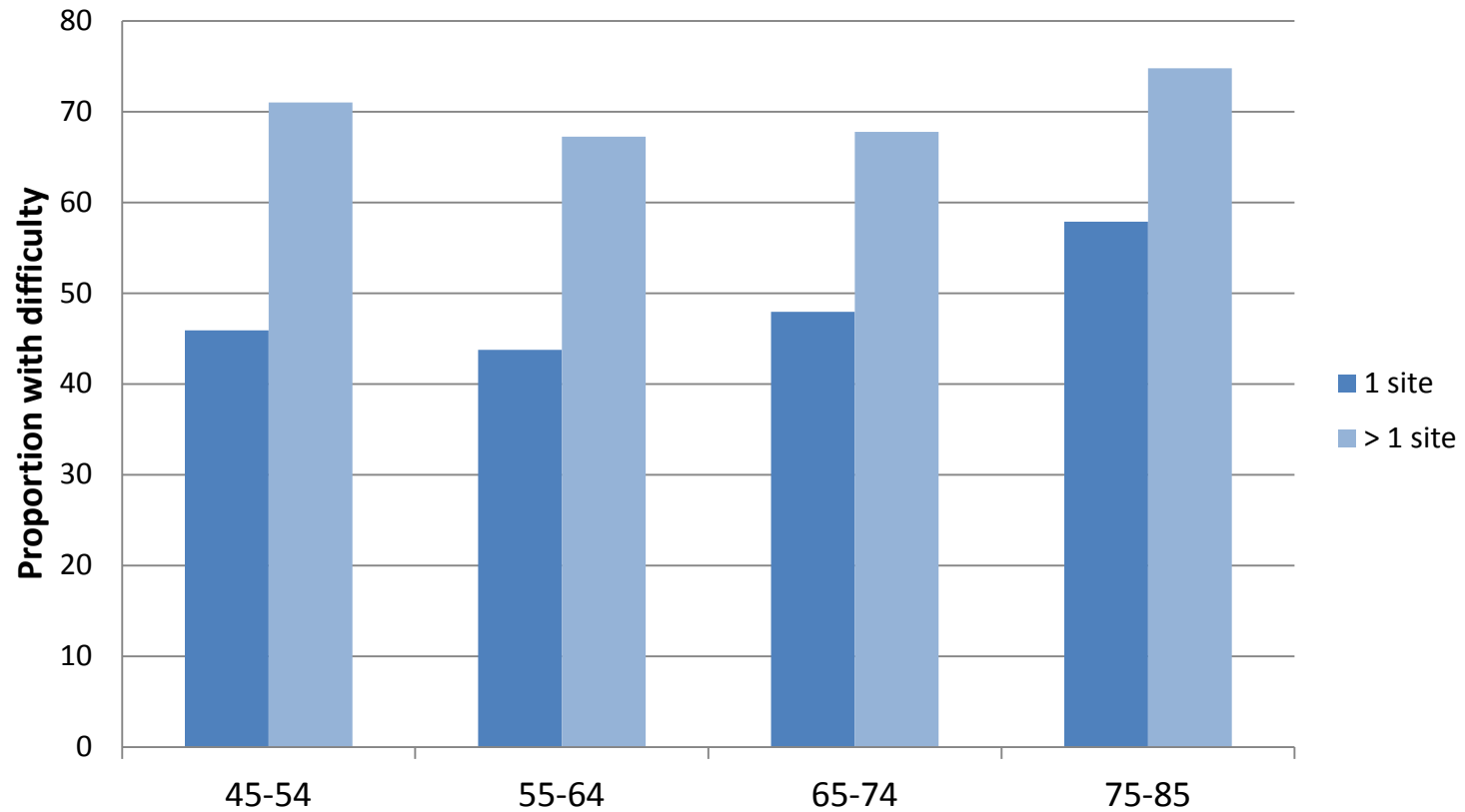


# Difficulties with daily activities in OA: Top 10



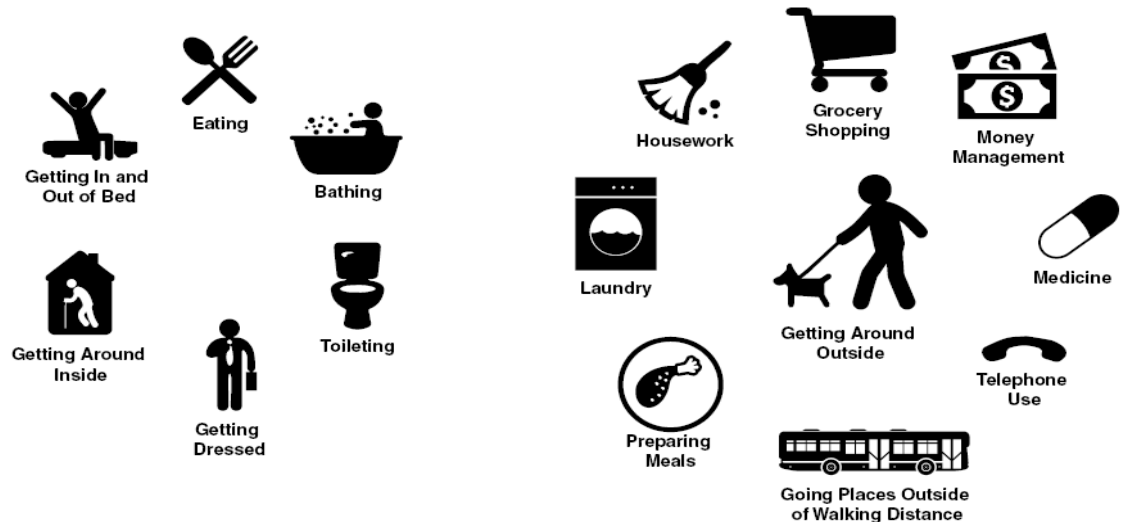
**Proportion with: 1 difficulty 76% . 2 difficulties, 57%**

# 2+ difficulties with daily activities in OA



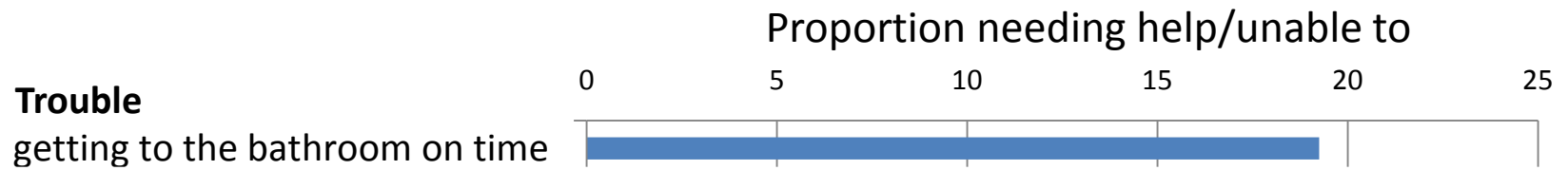
# Activities of daily living: carry out without help, with help or not at all

- dress
  - feed
  - take care of appearance
  - walk
  - get out of bed
  - take a bath
  - use the phone
  - travel
  - shopping
  - prepare meals
  - housework
  - take medicine
  - handle money
- 
- trouble getting to the bathroom on time

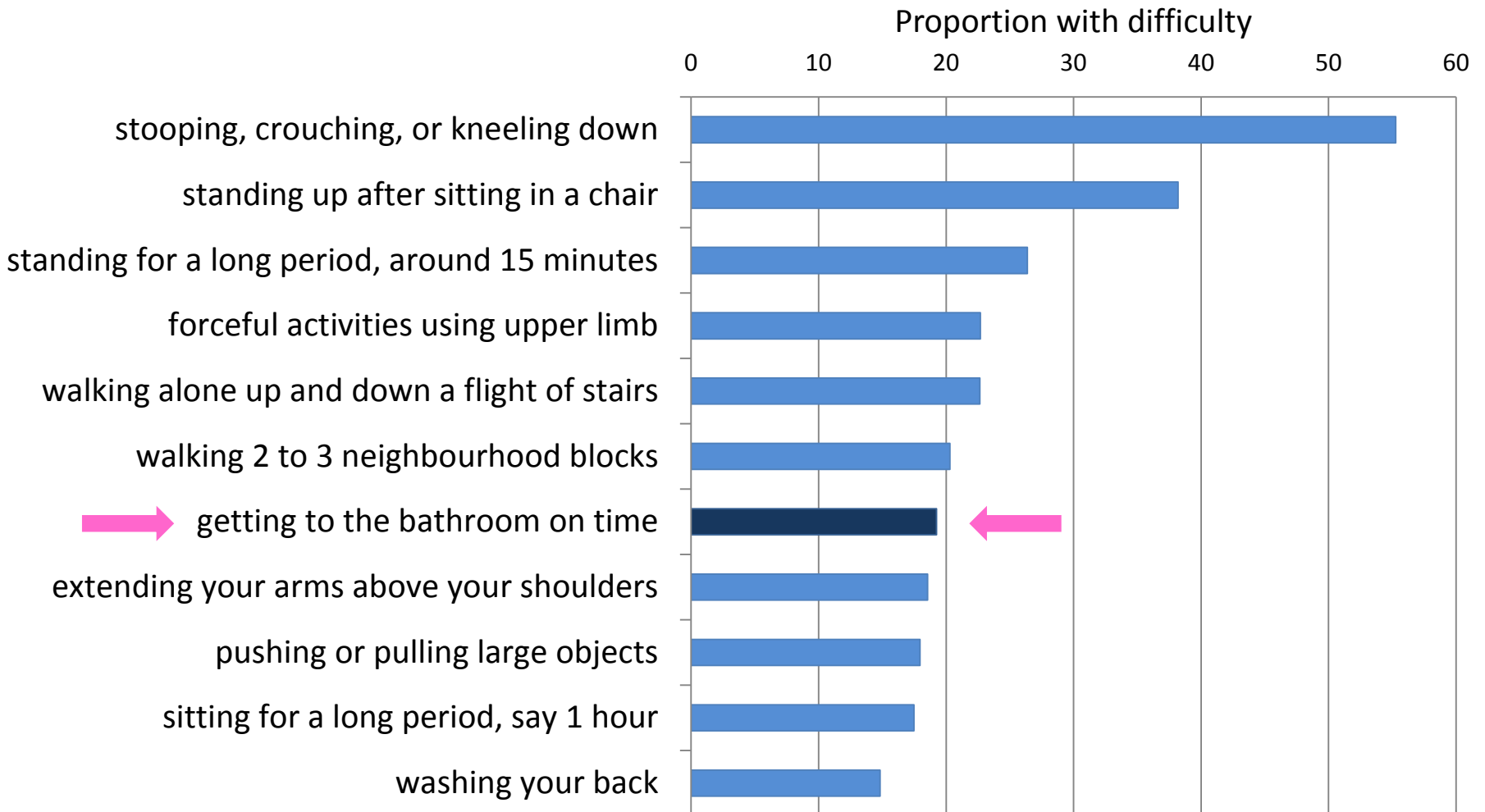


**OARS: Older American Resources and Services multi-dimensional functional assessment**

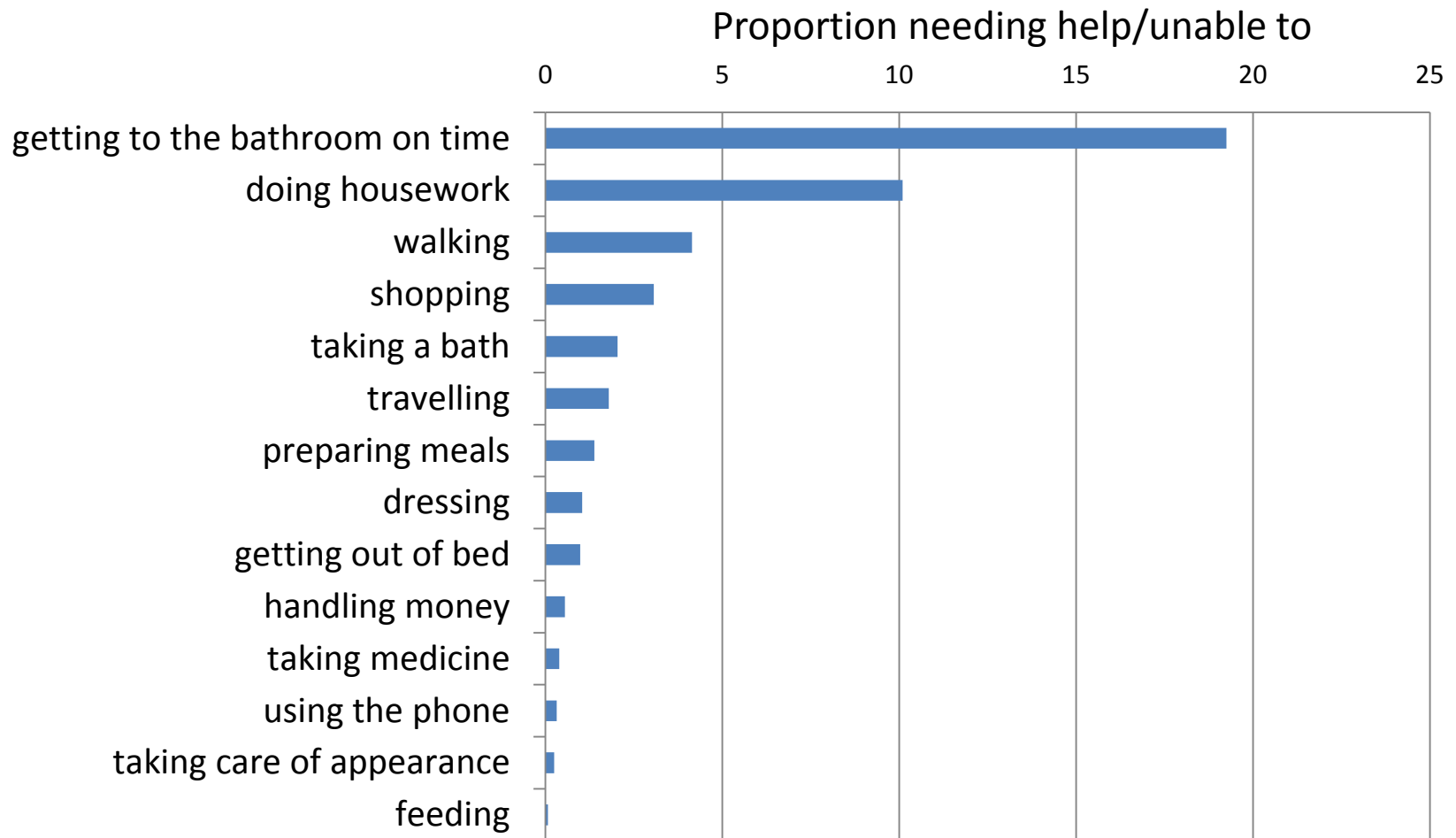
# Activities of daily living in OA



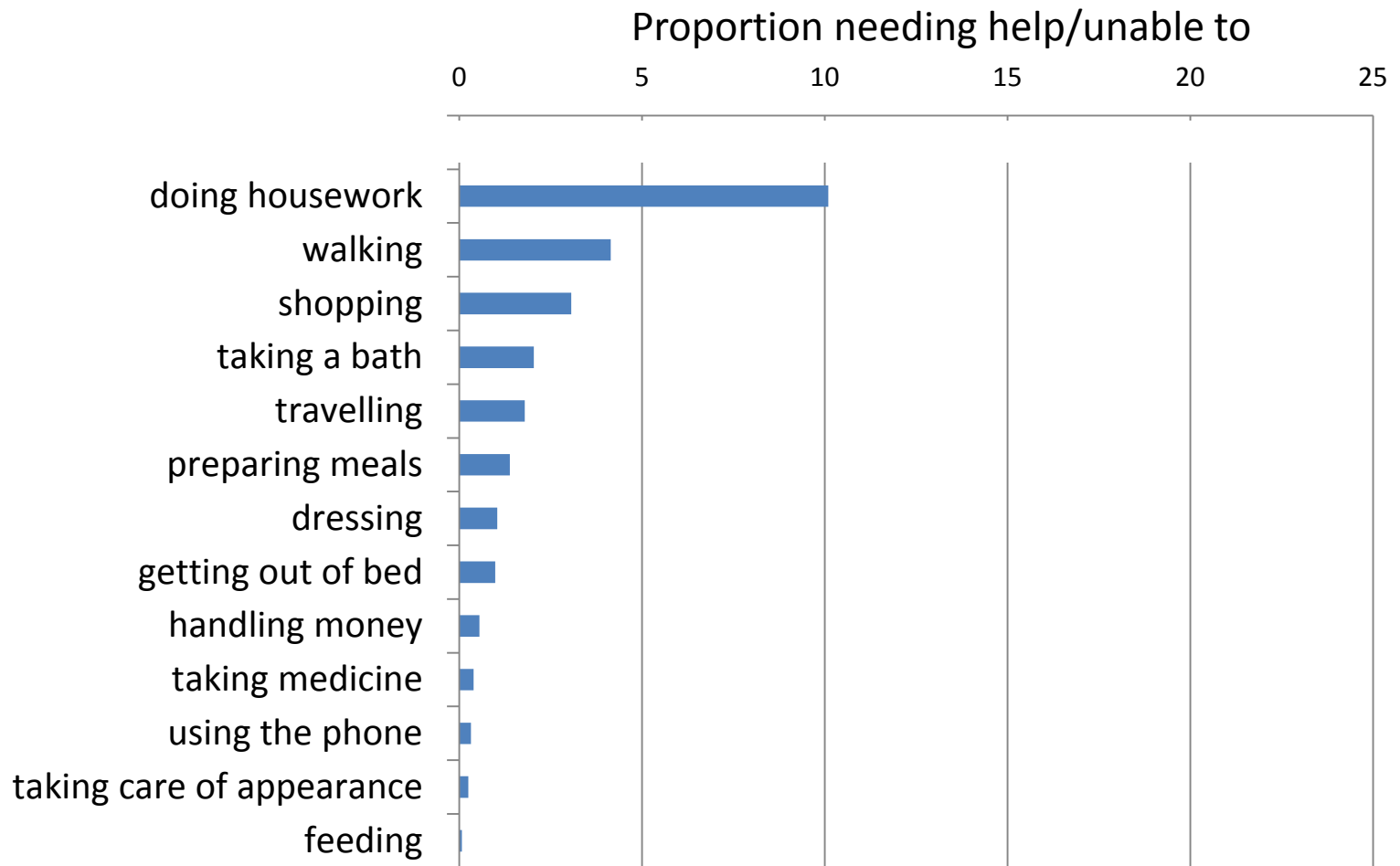
# Difficulty with daily activities in OA



# Activities of daily living in OA

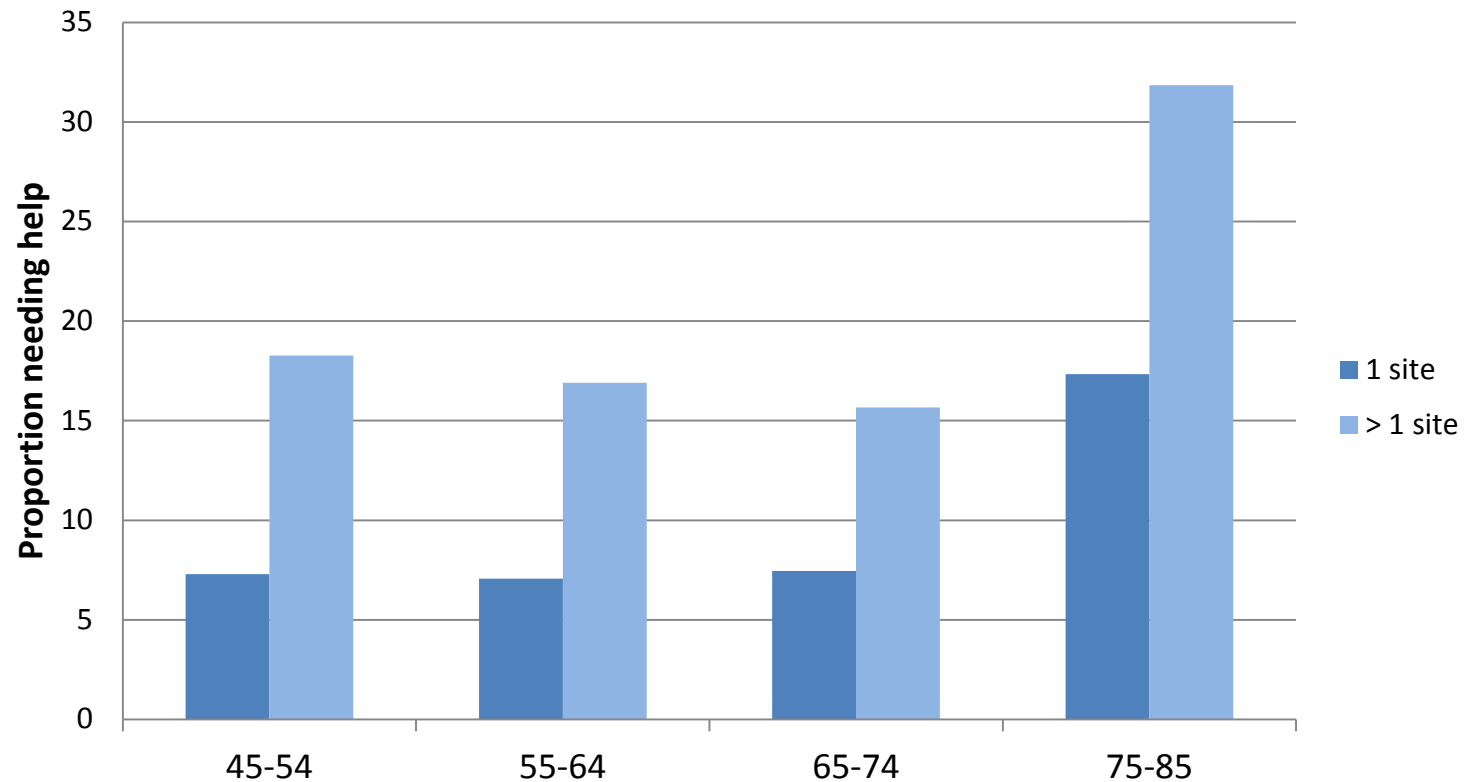


# Activities of daily living in OA



**14% report needing help or being unable to do  
8% if housework excluded**

# Needing help with at least one ADL (among people with OA)



**Excludes trouble getting to the bathroom on time**



# Summary and Conclusions

- The majority of people with OA below the age of 65
- Some evidence for a metabolic/systemic component to OA
  - How we conceptualized metabolic syndrome was crude. Further studies will include biologic measures from the physical measures component.
- Little difference by age in the proportion with symptomatic OA, severity of pain, difficulty with activities or needing help
  - Raises question about implications for aging with OA, including implications of living many years with pain, disability, and multi-morbidity
- People with multi joint OA generally worse off
  - More attention needs to be paid to OA as a multi-joint condition

# Implications for future cycles of CLSA

- **OA in 3 sites misses OA in other joints. Suggest ask questions about:**
  - **OA in other joints including the back**
  - **Include a homunculus (or list) asking about symptoms in all major joints**
- **Need to ask about difficulty with ADL and IADL (not just needing help).**
  - **Ask ADL and IADL difficulty questions to tracking and comprehensive samples so we can study the evolution of dependence (and frailty), and relate this to physical measures**
  - **Modify the OARS questions to add a difficulty response option?**
- **Better pain measures (relevant to many conditions)**
  - **Discomfort is not the same as pain**
  - **People may respond differently to general versus site specific pain**
  - **Consider including site of pain, quality of pain, temporality etc**

# Future directions of our research

## *A Biopsychosocial Approach to Understanding the Impact of Osteoarthritis on Social Participation*

CIHR secondary analysis grant

- **Conceptual framework: WHO International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health**
- **Goal to deconstruct the relationship between OA and social participation considering several domains:**
  - **site of joints involved in OA, pain, activity and mobility, and**
  - **whether contextual personal (e.g. gender, age) and environmental factors (e.g. social support) modify these relationships.**

**Major issue is how to operationalize participation.**

# Acknowledgments

## Funding



## Research Associates

- **Dov Millstone**
- **Calvin Yip**

# Questions?



# Upcoming CLSA Webinars



**“They are older now: a snapshot of self-identified Veterans in the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA)”**

Dr. Christina Wolfson

November 13, 2017 | 12 p.m. EST

Register: [bit.ly/clsawebinars](http://bit.ly/clsawebinars)

