

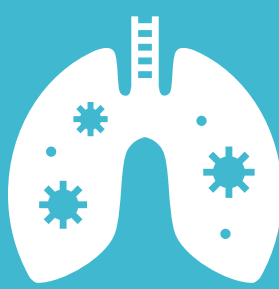
Describing the burden of RSV infection and subsequent wheezing in toddlers:
an international cross-sectional study

PCR56
carenity

Authors: Laurent Julie¹, Ficara Valentine¹, Haidar Sahar¹
1. Carenity, Online Patient Community, Paris, France

Introduction

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a leading cause of respiratory tract infection in children. While infants are at high risk, RSV remains a considerable health problem beyond infancy [1].



Objective

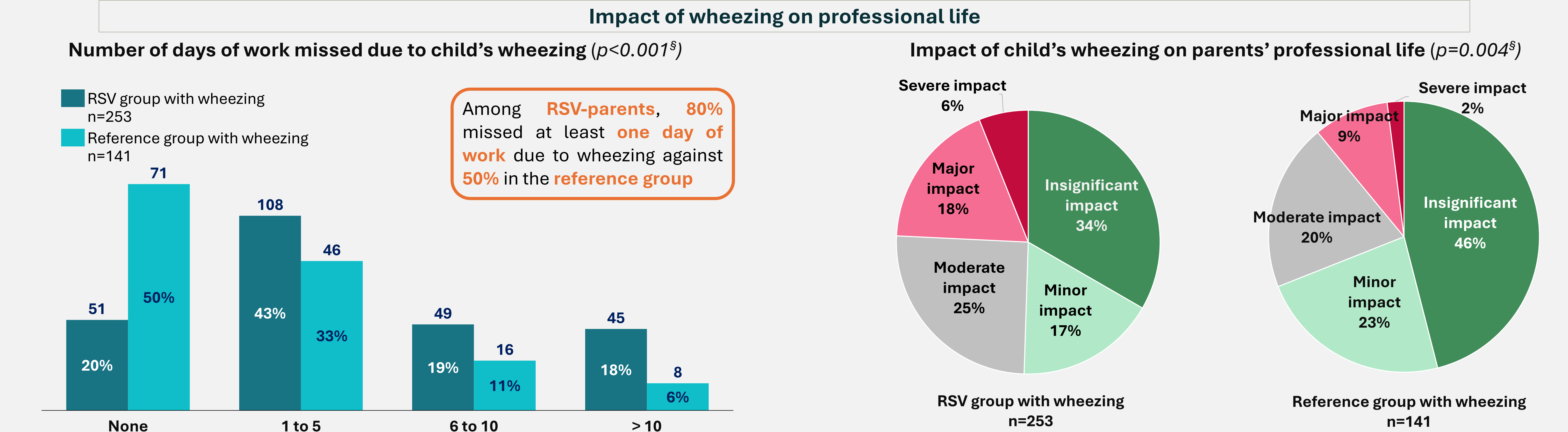
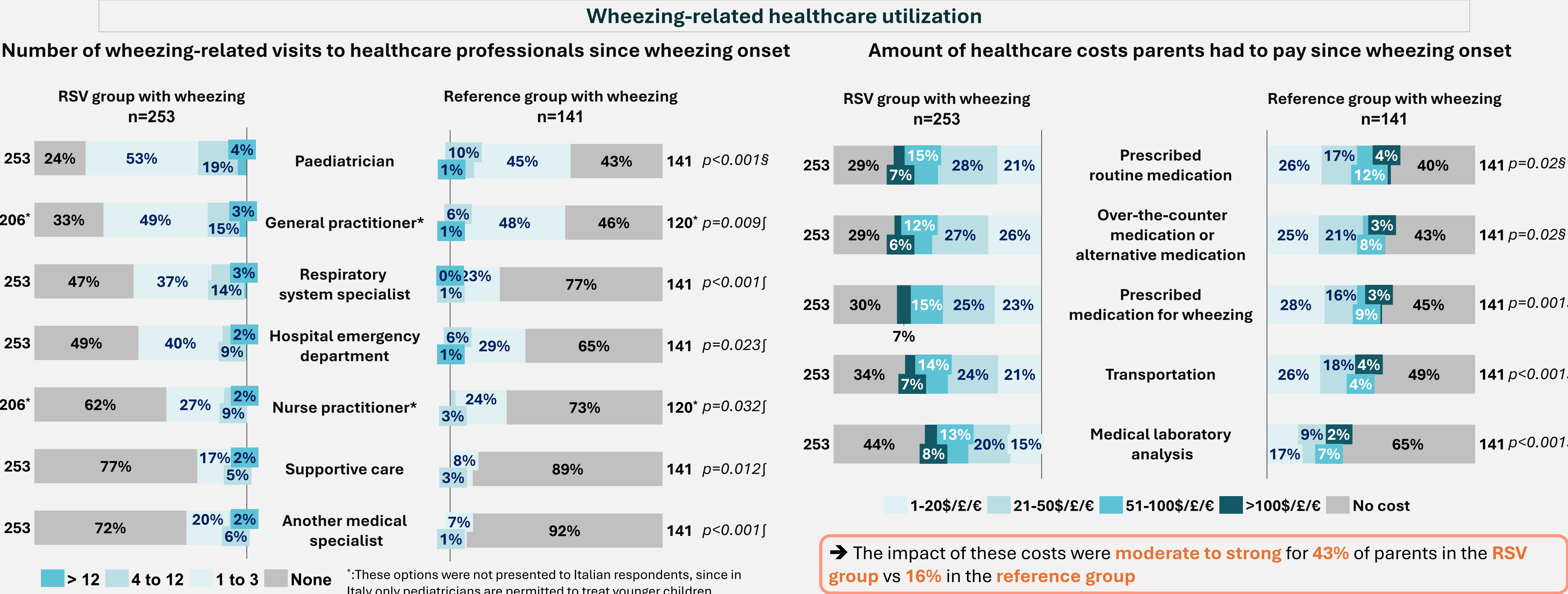
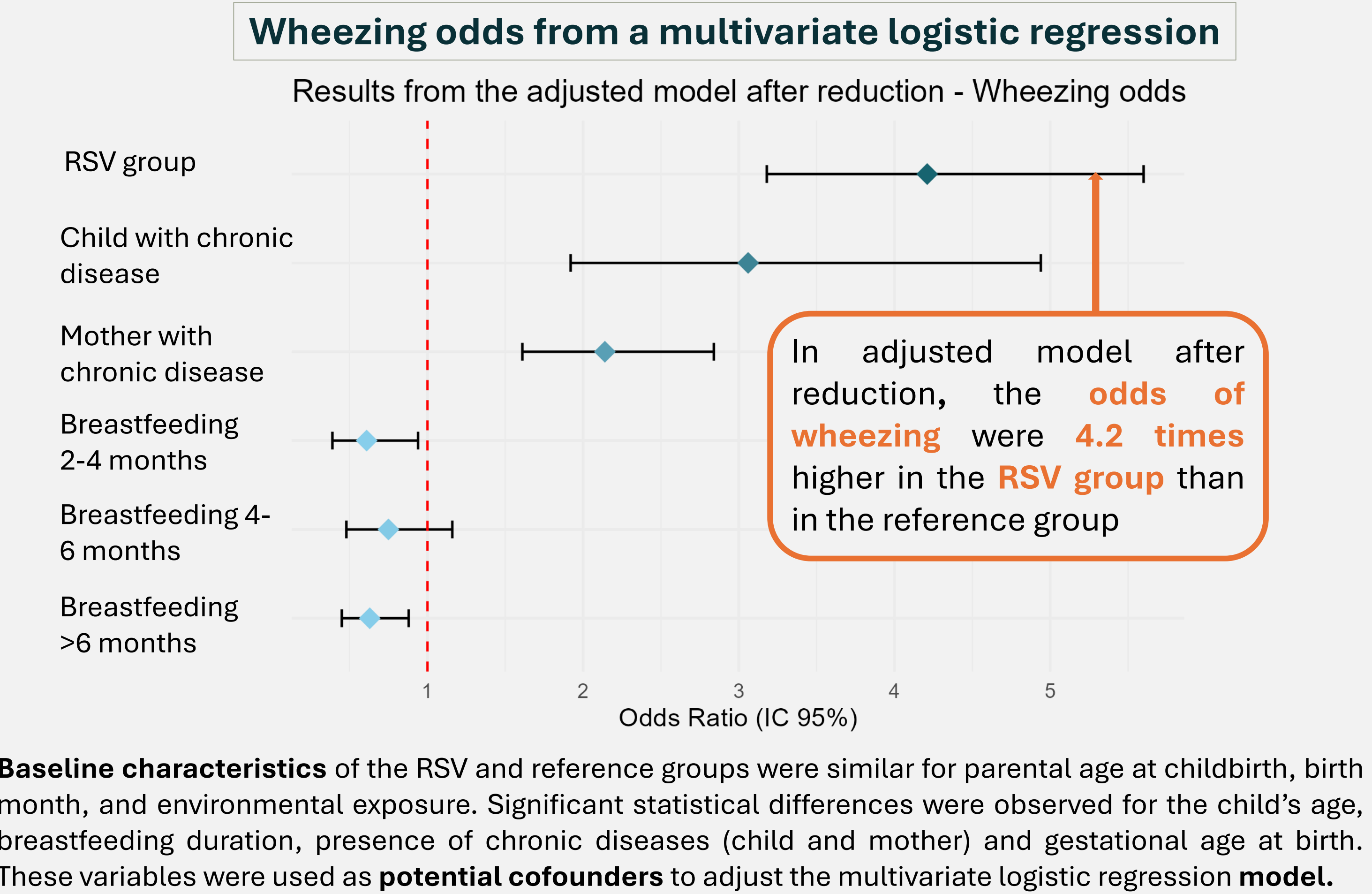
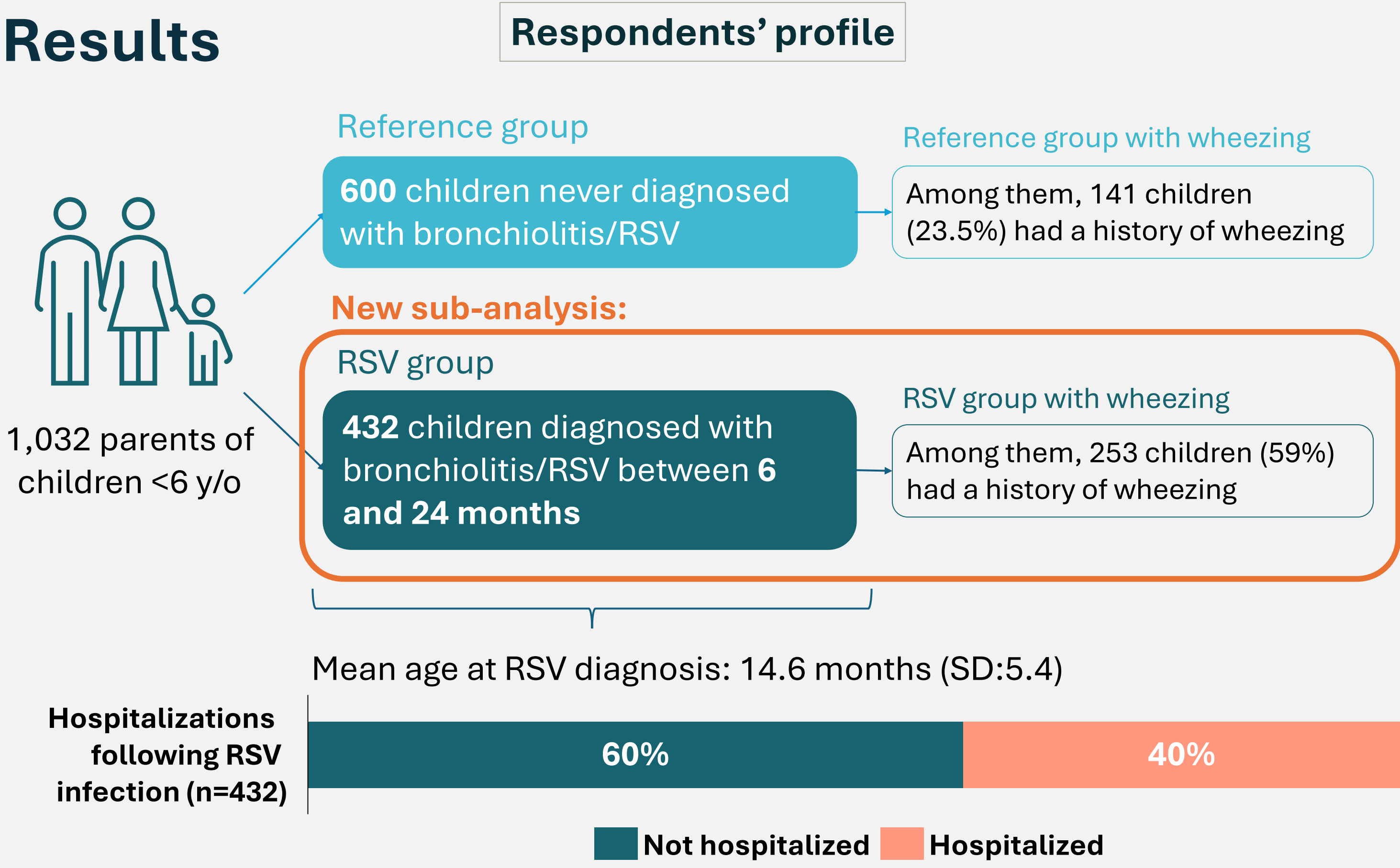
This study aimed to describe RSV and subsequent wheezing burden in toddlers aged 6 to 24 months and their parents.



Methods

An international cross-sectional survey was conducted in the US, UK, Spain and Italy from February to April 2023 and enrolled 1,200 parents of children under 6 years old, allocated into 2 groups: a reference group (n=600 children never diagnosed with bronchiolitis/RSV) and a RSV group (n=600 children diagnosed with bronchiolitis/tested RSV-positive before 2 years old and in the past 5 years) [2]. In this secondary analysis exploring RSV infections in toddlers, we focused on the subgroup of children who contracted RSV/bronchiolitis between 6 and 24 months (n=432). Bivariate analyses were conducted to compare them to the reference group (using chi-squared test, noted § or Fisher’s exact test, noted J), and multivariable logistic regressions were used to assess the association between RSV and wheezing.

Results



Conclusions

Wheezing represents a considerable burden for toddlers and their families and appears to be more frequent and more impactful in children with RSV history, affecting notably parents’ finances and professional lives.



References & Funding statements

1. Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization. WHO position paper on immunization to protect infants against respiratory syncytial virus disease. Weekly epidemiological record. 2025;100(22):193-218.
2. Custovic A, Mestre-Ferrandiz J, Kragten-Tabatabaie L, et al. Parent’s perception of respiratory syncytial virus and subsequent wheezing burden: A multi-country cross-sectional survey. Pediatric Allergy Immunology. 2024;35(6):e14169. doi:10.1111/pai.14169

Funding statement: This study was funded by Sanofi.
Conflict of Interest statement: LJ and FV are employees of Carenity, which has been contracted by Sanofi for the project. HS is a former Carenity employee.