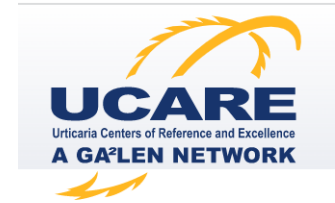


# PREFERENCE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN CHRONIC URTICARIA. CURICT-PROJECT



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## PRIMARY RESEARCH QUESTION

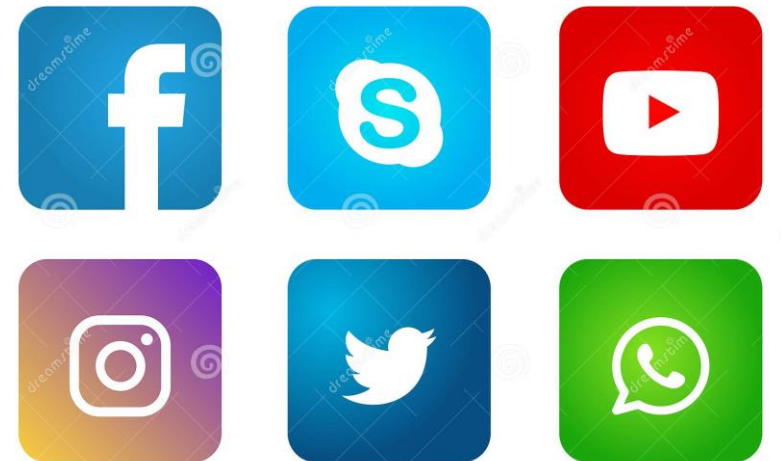
- What are the preferences and frequency of ICTs among patients with chronic spontaneous (CSU) and chronic inducible urticaria (CIndU)?

## SECONDARY RESEARCH QUESTION

- Is the use of ICTs different between CSU and CIndU patients?
- How patients with CU would like to communicate with their physician using ICT?
- How patients with CU would like to receive information about their disease using ICT?
- Are there differences between CSU and CIndU patients in receiving and communicating using ICTs?
- Are the CU patients interested in apps to monitor their disease activity and control?

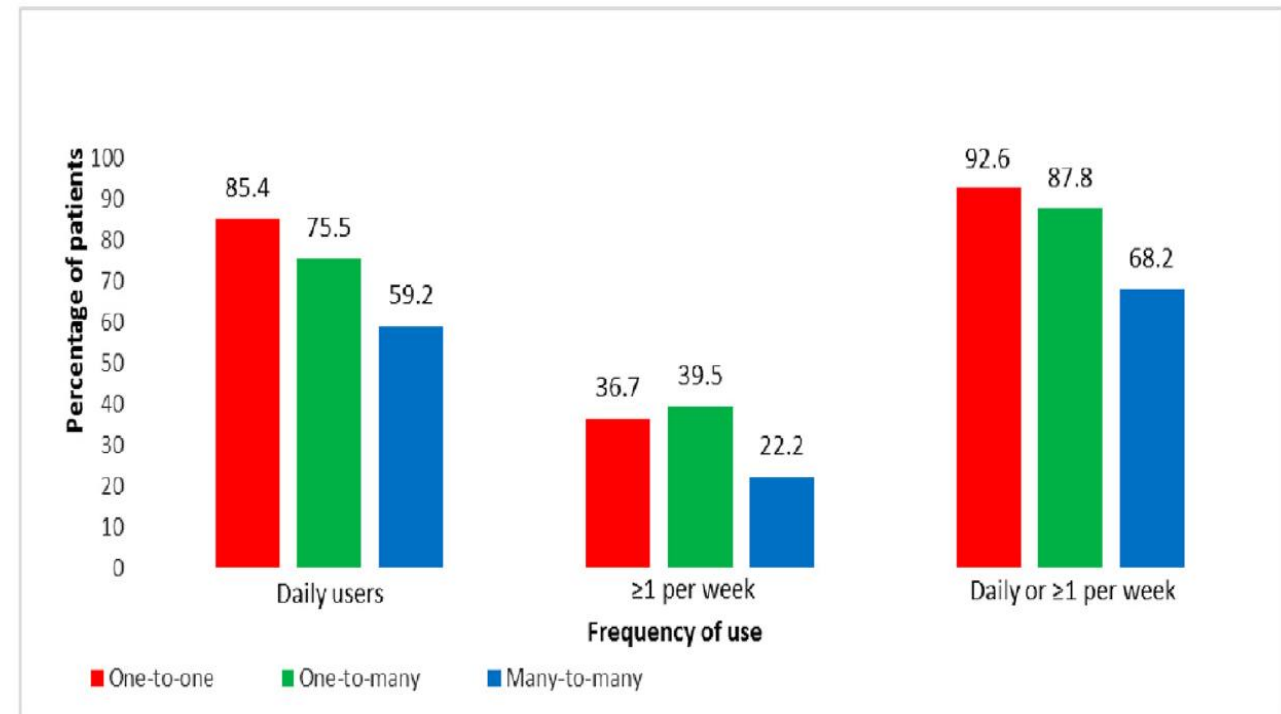
# INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY CATEGORY

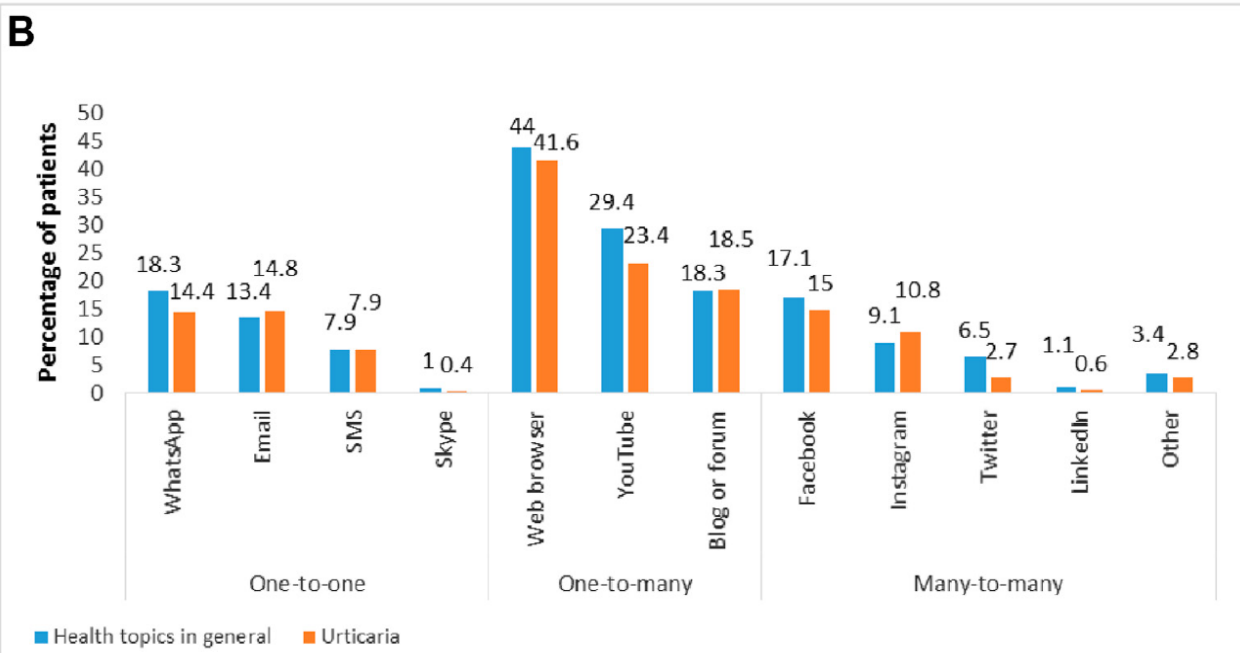
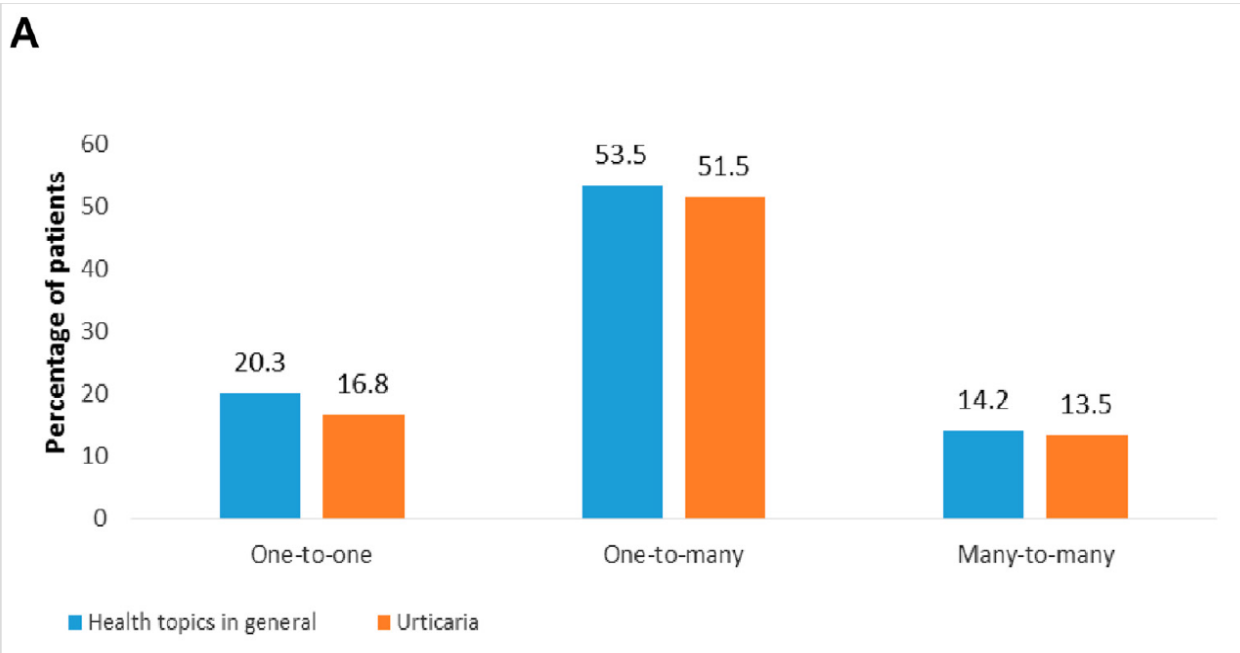
- One-to-one (dialogic): SMS, WhatsApp, Skype, and email
- One-to-many (informative): YouTube, web browsers, and blogs or forums
- Many-to-many (social): Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn



# The usage, quality and relevance of information and communications technologies in patients with chronic urticaria: A UCARE study. World Allergy Organization Journal (2020) 13:100475

- 96% of CU patients have access to ICTs and use these regularly
- Usage of ICT platforms ↑ in patients with higher education across all 3 ICT categories.
- ICTs were used more frequently for general health/CU-related information in patients with shorter (1-2 years) vs longer disease duration.
- Usage of ICTs in Iran, China, and Greece is low; it is relatively high in India, Turkey, the UAE, Peru, and the Netherlands.

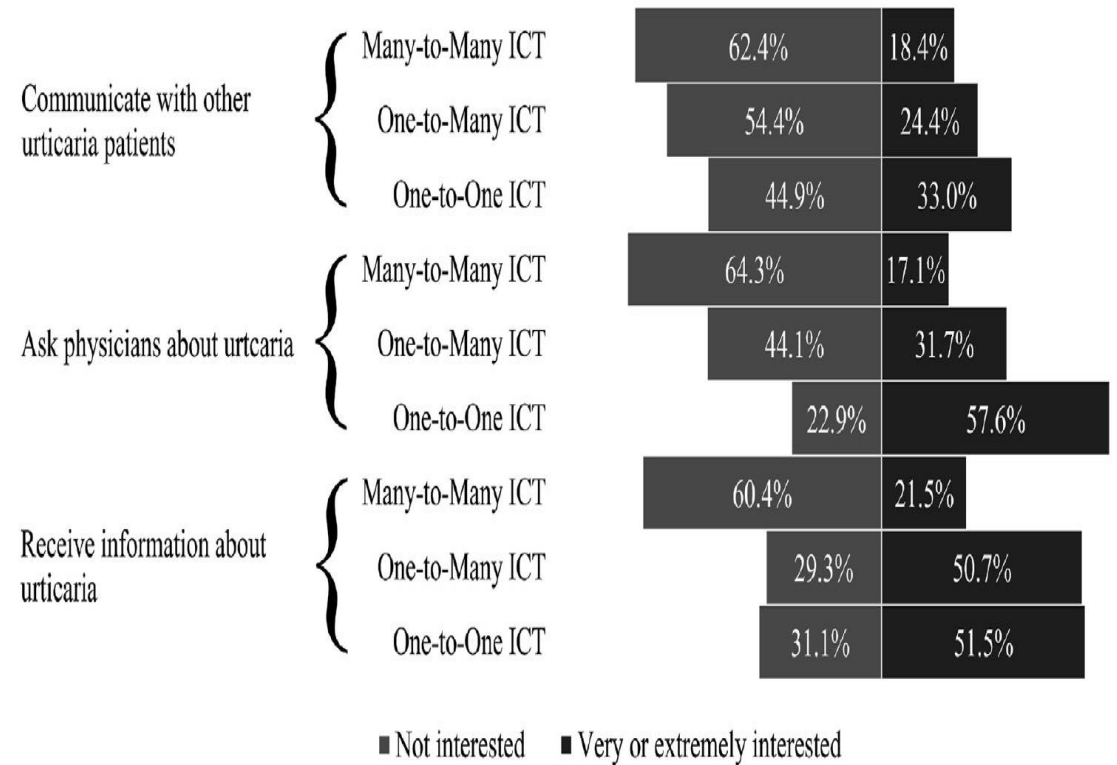




- Web Browsers are the most frequently used ICT by CU patients to obtain general health information and CU-related information. This is the case for three out of four patients.
- The next most popular service, YouTube, was used by only about one-fourth of patients.
- There were no significant sex differences.
- A high demand exists among patients for one-on-one communication and information. 70% of patients use WhatsApp.

# How are patients with chronic urticaria interested in using information and communication technologies to guide their healthcare? A UCARE study. World Allergy Organization Journal (2021).

- The vast majority of patients (87.3%) expressed interest in using ICTs to receive CU information, as well as to ask physicians about CU (84.1%) and to communicate with other patients (65.6%).
- Urticaria patients prefer to ask physicians about urticaria by e-mail.
- For ICT-based communication with other patients, CU patients prefer to use WhatsApp



# Chronic urticaria patients are interested in apps to monitor their disease activity and control: A UCARE CURICT analysis. Chronic urticaria patients are interested in apps to monitor their disease activity and control: A UCARE CURICT analysis. *Clin Transl Allergy*. 2021.

- More than half of patients with CU are very to extremely interested in an app to monitor disease activity and control
- Comorbid CIndU in patients with CSU is linked to higher levels of interest in the use of an app .
- Female patients and those with higher education are significantly more likely to use apps.
- Older age was identified as a significant predictor for less interest in app development

TABLE 1 Adjusted logistic regression reporting patient interest in app development to assess urticaria activity and control

	Disease activity	Disease control
Variable	Very to extremely interested in app development	Very to extremely interested in app development
	OR (95% CI)	OR (95% CI)
Age	0.97 (0.96-0.98)	0.97 (0.96-0.98)
Gender <sup>a</sup>		
Female	1.24 (0.98-1.56)	1.47 (1.17-1.85)
Education level <sup>b</sup>		
Secondary/Highschool	2.33 (1.53-3.53)	1.75 (1.17-2.62)
Undergraduate/college	3.60 (2.37-5.48)	2.82 (1.88-4.23)
Postgraduate studies	2.56 (1.64-3.99)	2.36 (1.53-3.64)
Economy <sup>c</sup>		
Upper middle income	0.52 (0.38-0.73)	0.47 (0.34-0.66)
Urticaria type <sup>d</sup>		
Both (CSU & CIndU)	1.26 (0.95-1.67)	1.36 (1.03-1.79)

# CONCLUSION

- Almost all patients had access to ICT platforms.
- ICTs to acquire information about CU is web browser.
- We need to develop CU-specific ICT to optimized, tailored disease and management disease
- Prioritize the One-to-many category ICT particular focus on websites and YouTube videos from accredited Urticaria experts and center: UCARE network
- Urge necessity to develop an apps to monitor disease activity and control