

What happened next?

Impact analysis of presentations from MSF Scientific Days 2023



Ononna Thuli, Holly Baker

Manson Unit, Médecins Sans Frontières, London, United Kingdom

Introduction

The Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Scientific Days is an annual gathering where researchers, healthcare professionals, and global health experts convene to collaborate and disseminate crucial research findings aimed at tackling pressing health issues worldwide.

MSF has established itself as a key player in the field of international health research, with contributions significantly influencing global health policies, yielding tangible benefits for the individuals and communities we serve.

Relevant and impactful

All MSF research should be relevant to current or future MSF medical humanitarian programmes, with teams being able to link their work to change in MSF and/or externally.

The aim of this study is to evaluate the dissemination and impact of the research presented at the MSF Scientific Days 2023.

Methodology

In March 2023, 14 speakers presented their research studies at MSF Scientific Days (London) and were asked to complete a short survey in March 2024. Each presenter was asked to report on the following themes: where research had been disseminated beyond their presentation at MSF Scientific Days; whether there were impacts on patients, policies, or programmes; and whether presentation at the event was of value to the study team.

Follow-up emails were sent to those that did not initially respond.

Limitations

3 of 14 (21%) presenters did not respond to the survey.

This survey includes research and dissemination efforts from speakers only. No information from poster presentations was included.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone involved in MSF Scientific Days, and particularly those who responded to this survey. For questions or comments contact: scientificday@london.msf.org



What has helped your research have impact?

"A well thought out dissemination strategy"

"Support from the project team – co-design!"

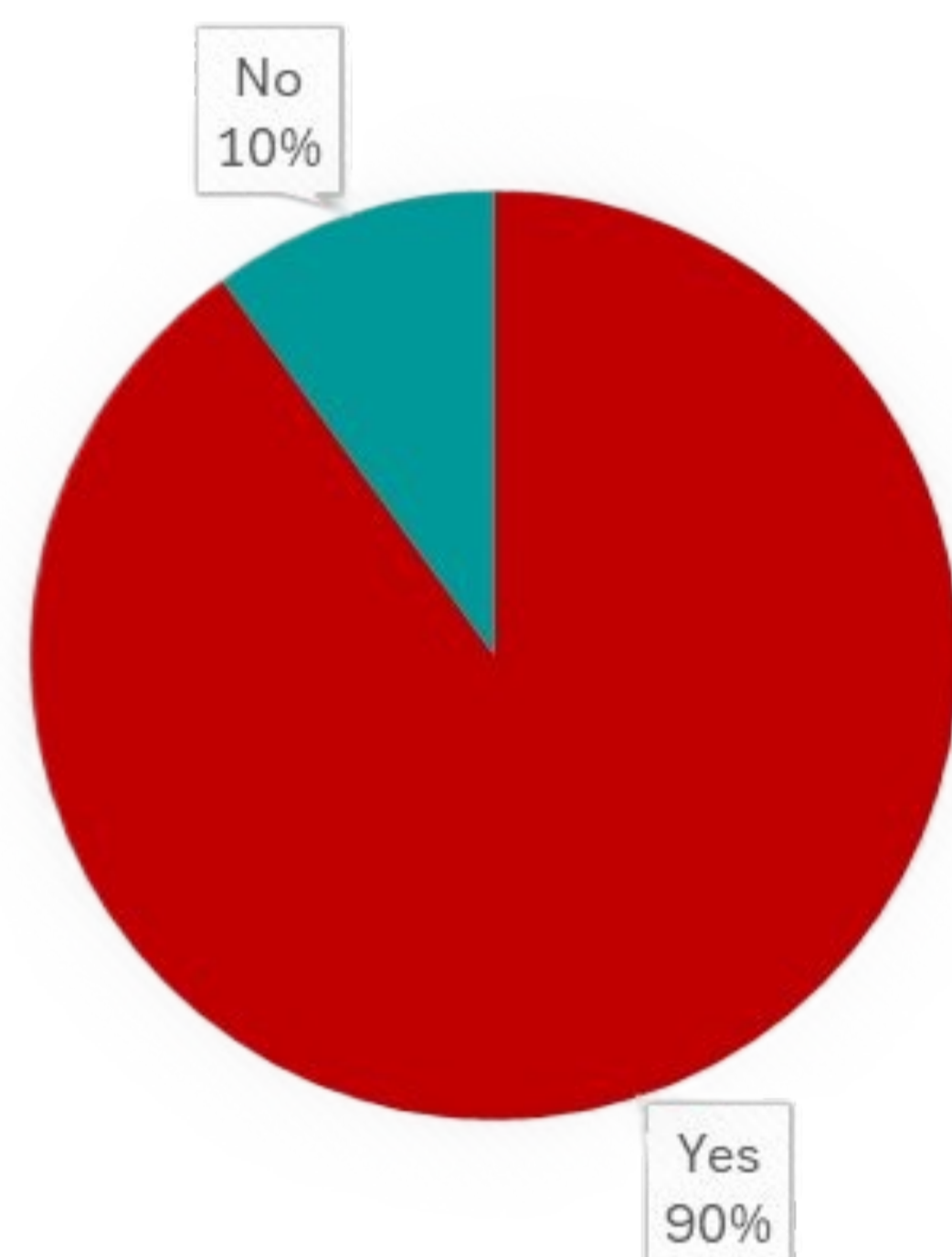
"Collaborations with external organisations"

"MSF Scientific Days has helped reach a wider audience"

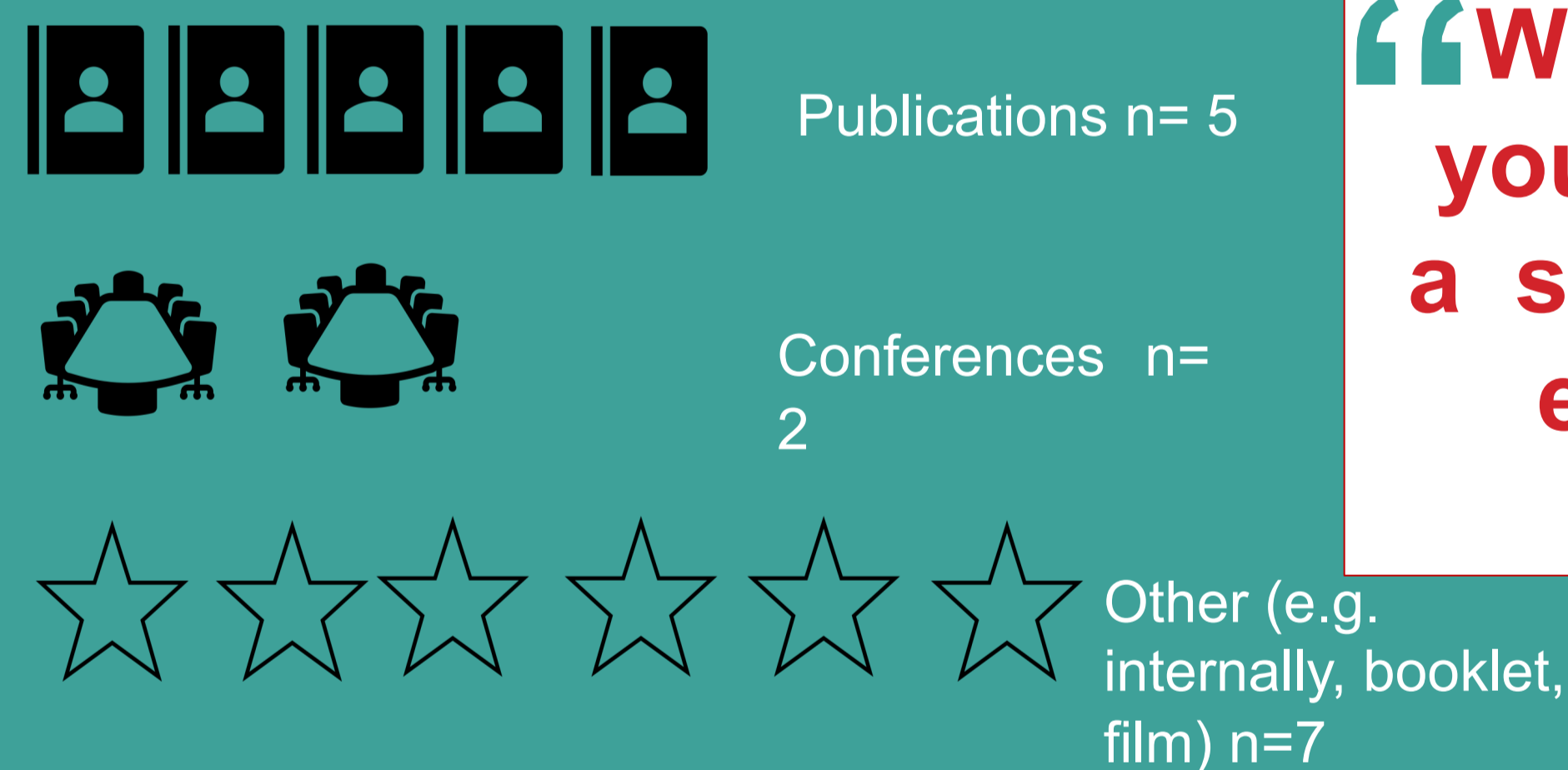
Results

Overall, 11 of 14 (79%) presenters responded to the survey.

Was your research further disseminated?



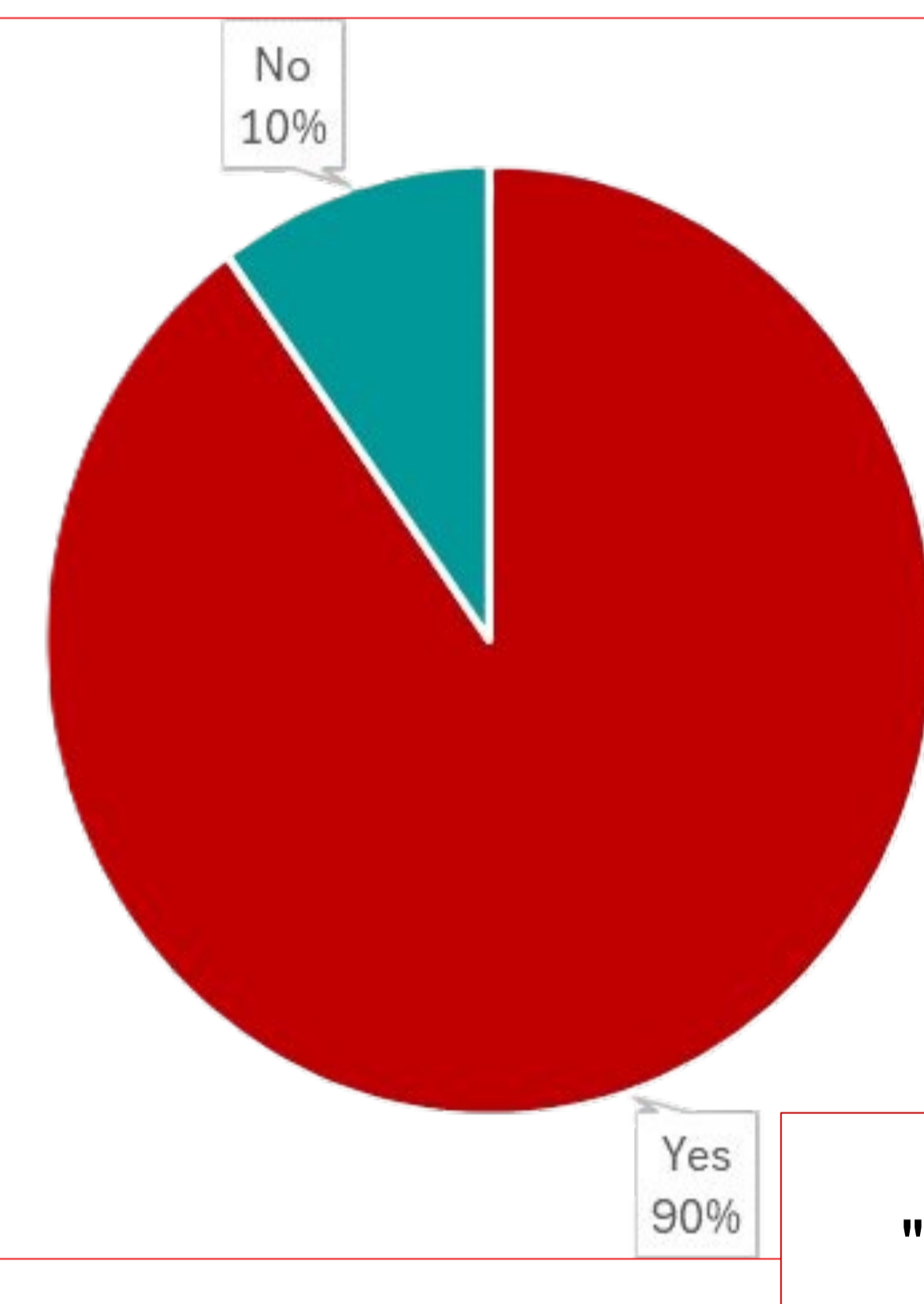
How was your study further disseminated?



"We received interest from a young director and produced a short documentary that was entered in the WHO 2023 competition"

"Closure of care services during research was a barrier"

Did your study achieve its intended impact?



"Presentation received a lot of interest"

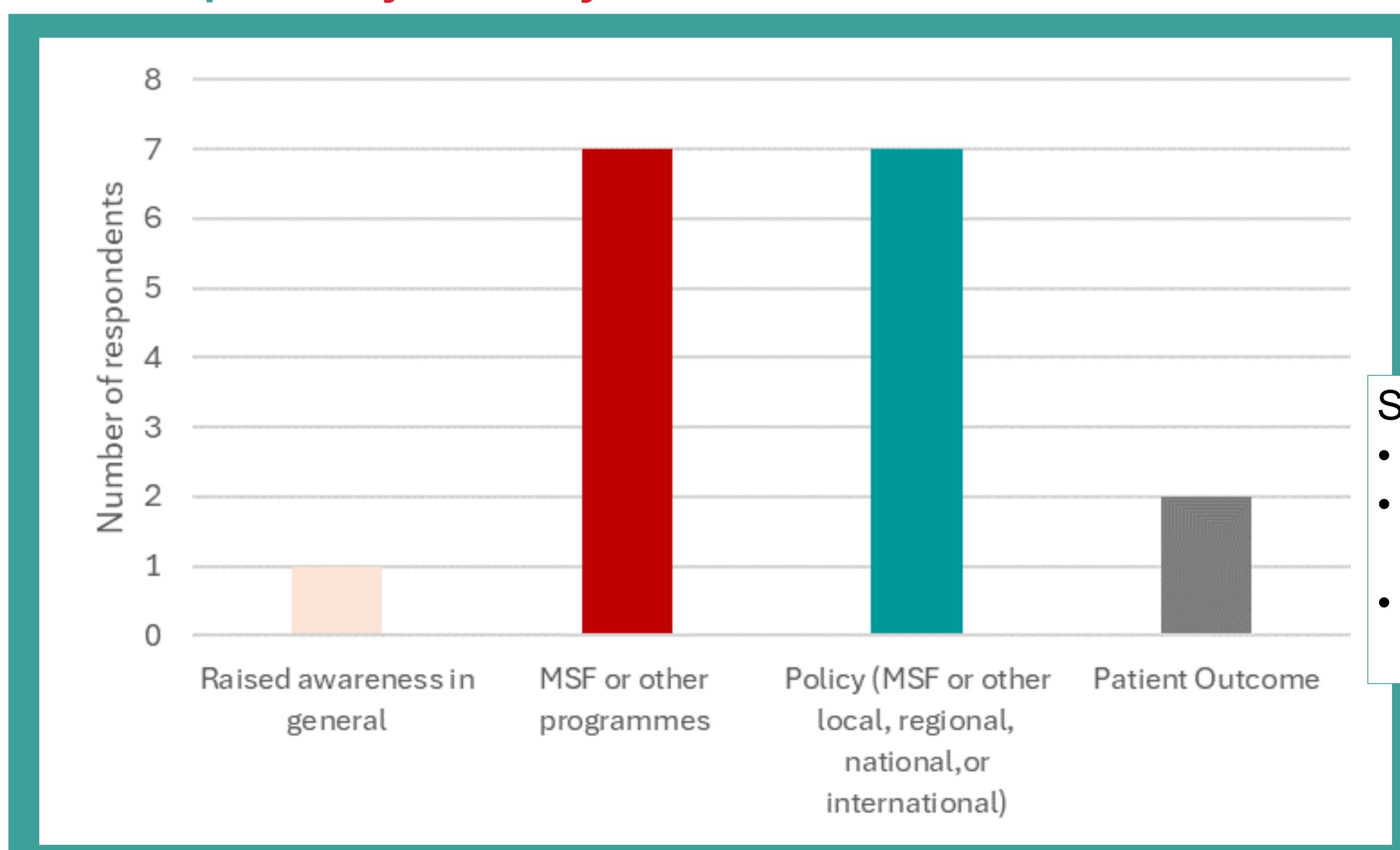
"Contacted by other trials interested in our study"

"Created an opportunity to engage with stakeholders"

"There was impact in the intended country"

"Informed partners, actors, and academic community to our intentions"

What impact did your study have?



Specific examples of impacts:

- Updated WHO guidelines
- Inspired a feasibility assessment for new regimens
- Used to help guide adaption of local clinical protocols by MSF

