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Pros and cons of insulin pump use and differences by age

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Insulin Pump User Survey, 2011

- NDSS registrants: T1D eligible for IPCs, consent to research
- Analysis based on 5,680 respondents – 59%
- Overall representative sample, but 15-29 year olds under-represented

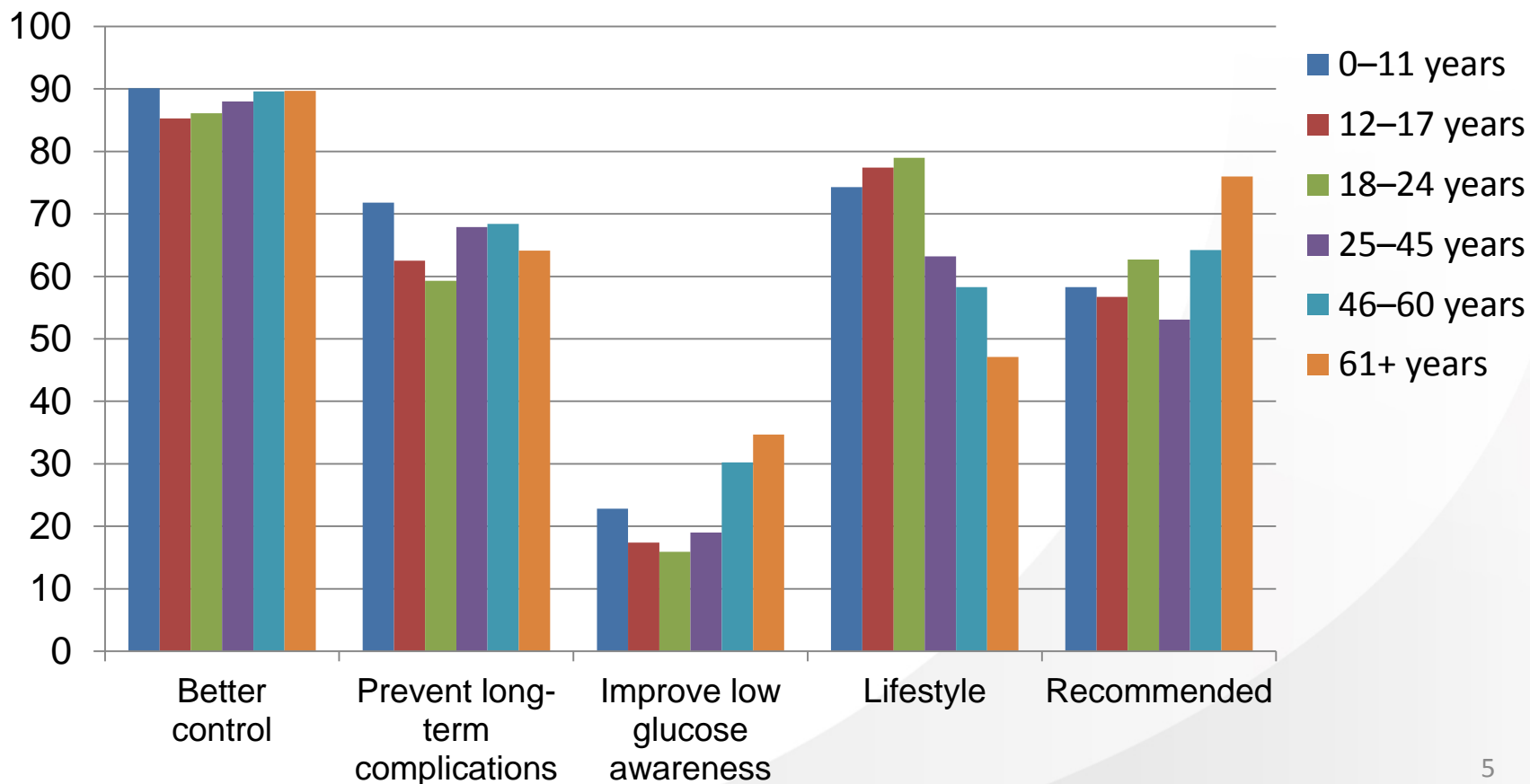
- Patient demographics
- Diabetes history
- Why chose to use pump
- Benefits
- Problems
- Breaks from using pump
- Contact with diabetes doctor or educator
- Funding of their pump

Reasons for beginning pump therapy

- Better diabetes control—88%
- Lifestyle, such as flexibility with meal times, food or being able to sleep in—67%
- Prevention of long-term health complications—66%
- Recommended by specialist—60%

Reasons for beginning pump use, by age

Respondents giving reason (%)

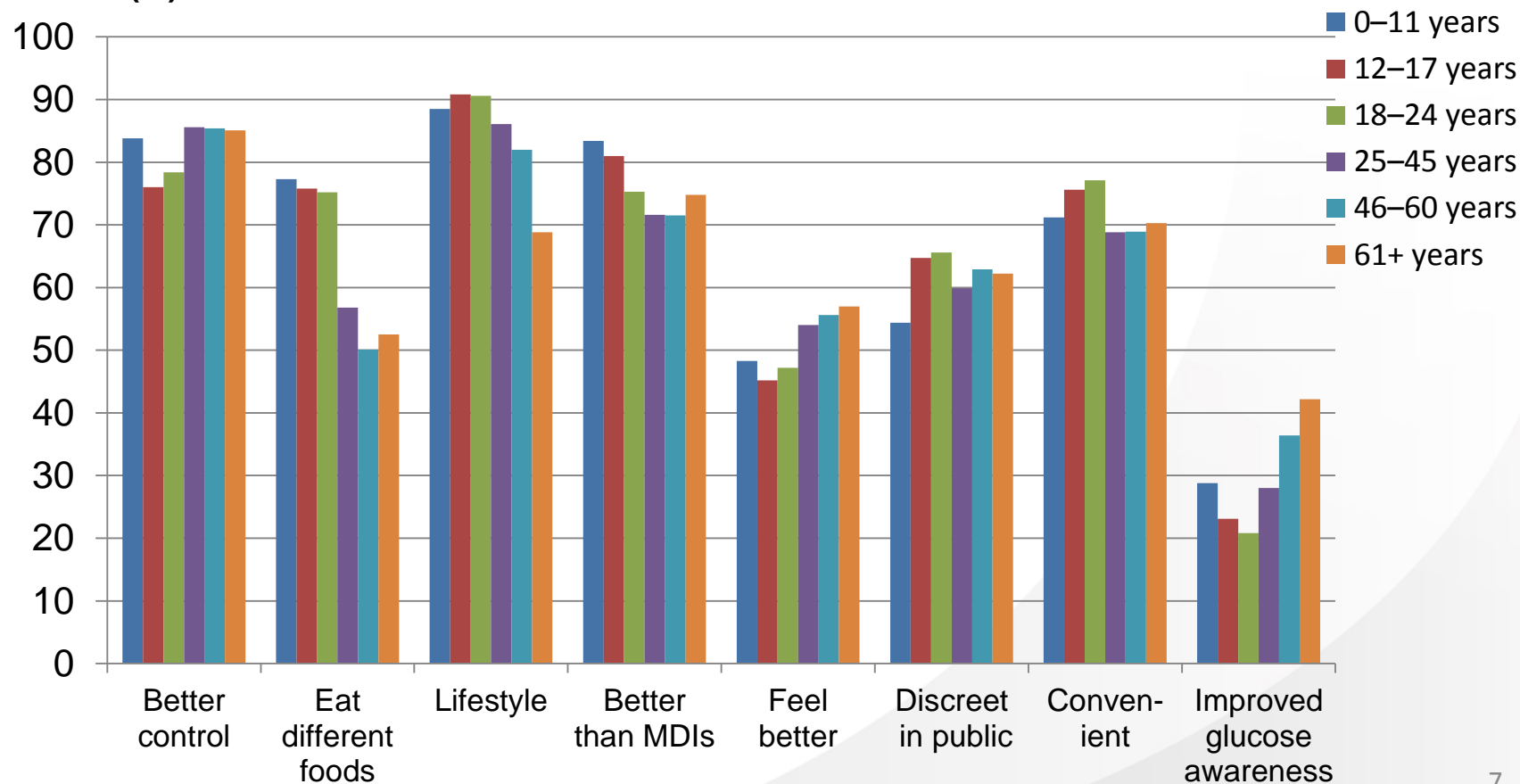


Benefits of pump use

- Fitted in with lifestyle—86%
- Better diabetes control—83%
- Relocating cannula better than MDI—76%
- Convenient—71%

Benefits of pump use, by age

Respondents indicating benefit (%)

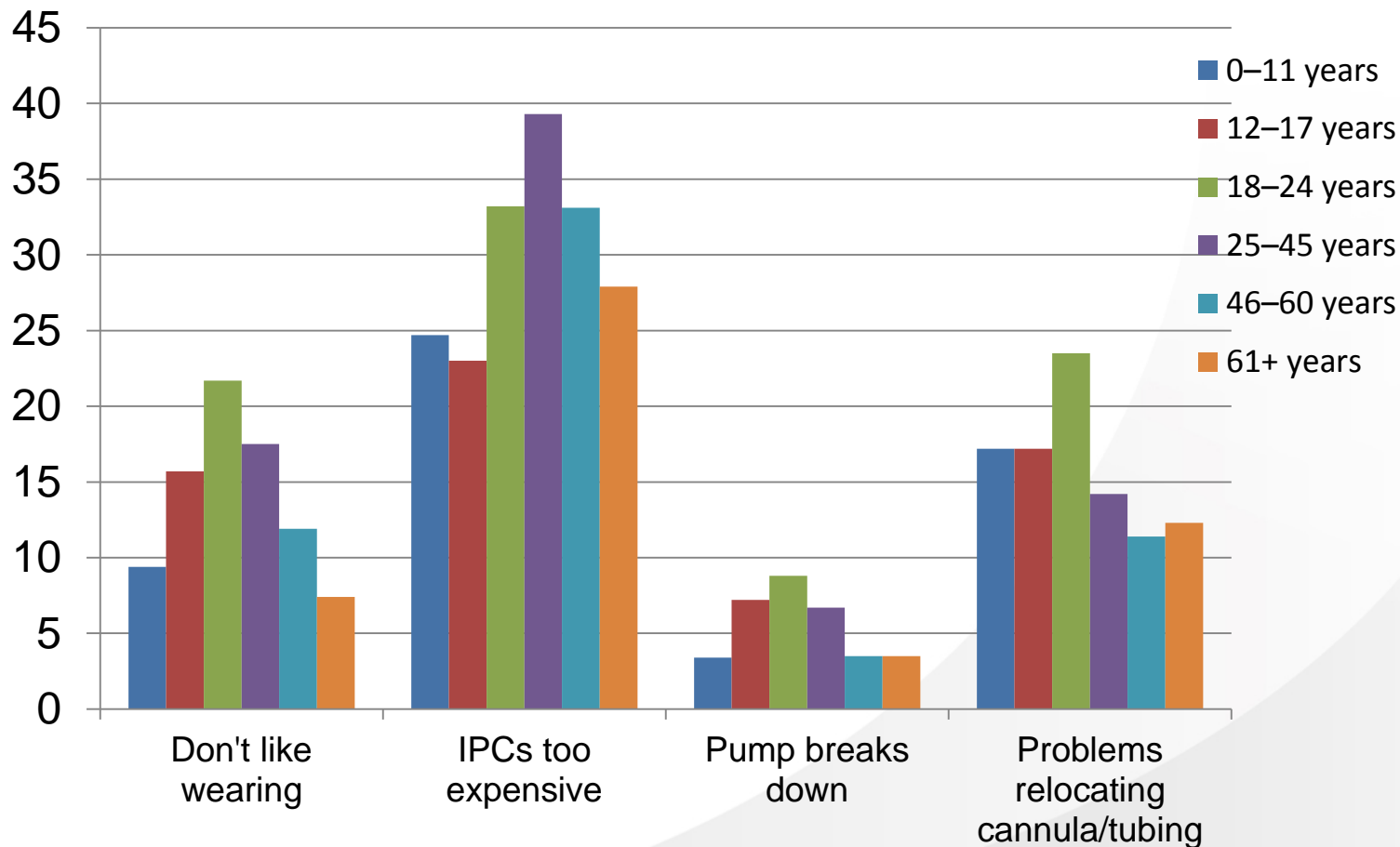


Negatives of pump use

- Expense of insulin pump consumables—the biggest negative—32%
- Other problems less frequently cited
 - Relocating cannula or tubing—16%
 - Did not like wearing—15%

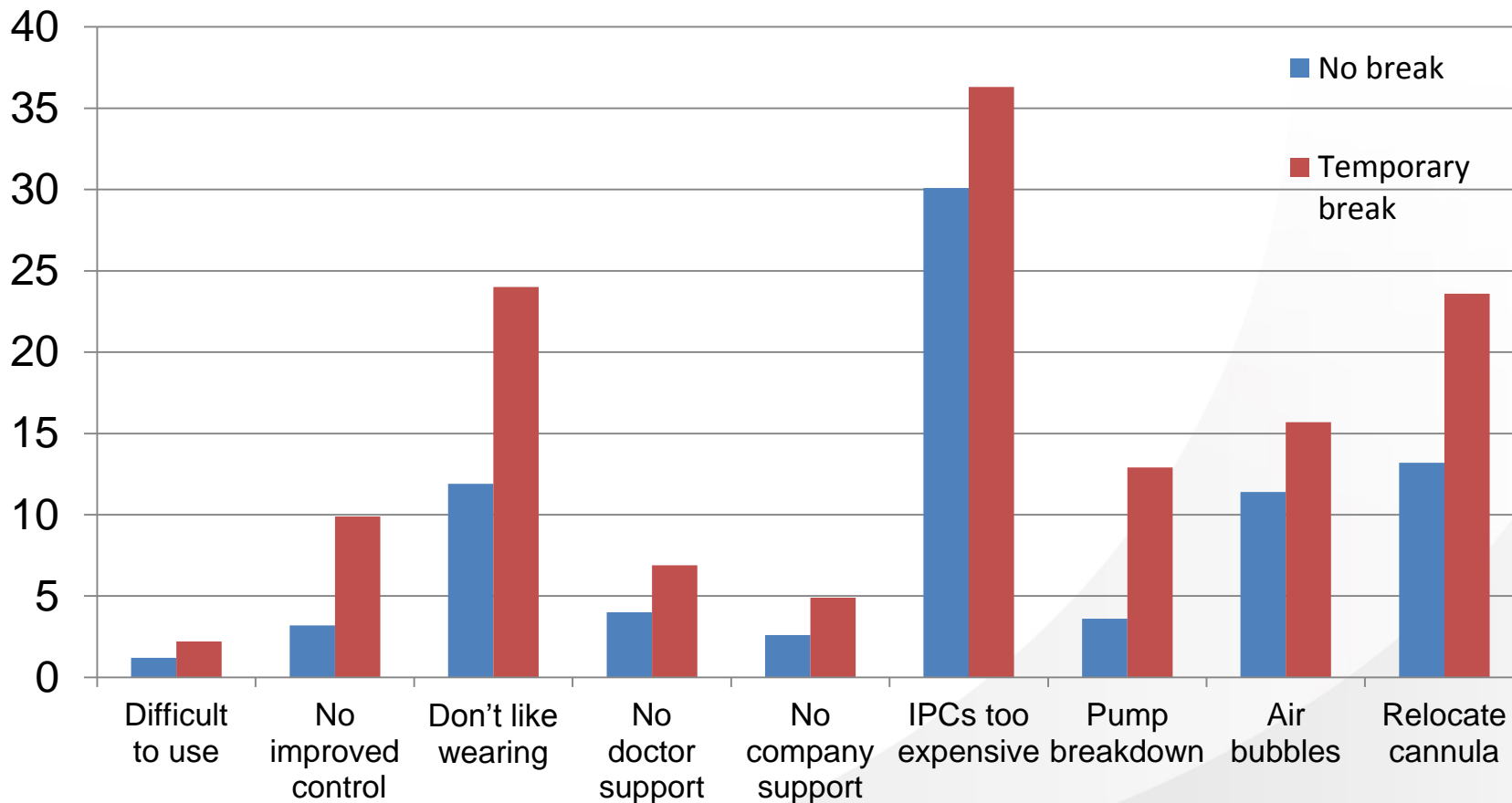
Negatives of pump use, by age

Respondents indicating problem (%)



Temporary breaks from pump use

Respondents
indicating problem (%)



In summary

- Pros and cons of pump use identified are consistent with international findings
- More benefits than problems
- But age played a role in this, reflecting lifestyle priorities

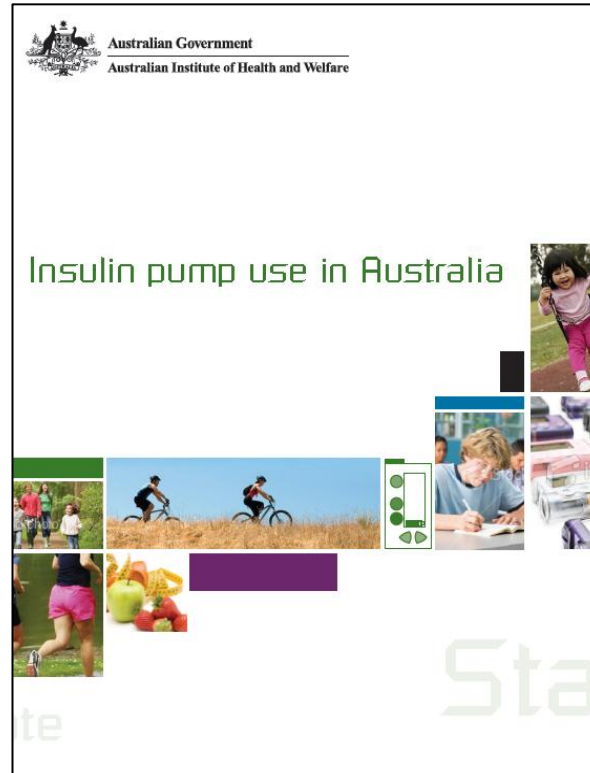
Implications

- Different age groups, different priorities → tailor conversations with users to age group
- Cost a significant issue for adult pump users
- Perception of pump problems differs by age
- People who experience problems are more likely to take temporary break

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More information



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