

Supplemental Table 1: Multivariable Regression Analysis – Determinants Considered

Determinant	Reference Group
1) Sociodemographics as of the date of survey completion	
Age in years	Continuous variable, no reference group
Gender – female	Male gender
Non-White race and ethnicity	White only
Post-secondary education	High school diploma or equivalent or less
Household size	Continuous variable, no reference group
Relationship status – partnered	Grouped all non-partnered including never legally married; separated, but still legally married; divorced; widowed
Employment status – employed	Grouped all non-employed including student; retired; not employed, looking for work; not employed, not looking for work; unemployed; unable to work
Region of residence	Canada
2) SLE disease characteristics as of the date of survey completion	
Disease duration in years	Continuous variable, no reference group
Antimalarial use	No antimalarial use
Corticosteroid and/or immunosuppressive drugs and/or biologic use	No corticosteroid, immunosuppressive drugs, or biologic use
3) COVID-19 disease characteristics	
Diagnosis ever	No diagnosis ever
Hospitalization ever	No hospitalization ever
4) Time elapsed in days between date of survey completion and 03/11/2020	

Time elapsed in days between date of survey completion and 03/11/2020

Continuous variable, no reference group

5) Access variables

Reporting access to health information source sometimes/often/always post-03/11/2020

Reporting access never/rarely

6) Trust variables

Reporting each health information source as somewhat/very trustworthy post-03/11/2020

Reporting source as very untrustworthy/somewhat trustworthy/neutral

Reporting any news media source as somewhat/very trustworthy

Reporting all individual news media sources as very untrustworthy/somewhat untrustworthy/neutral

Reporting any social media source as somewhat/very trustworthy

Reporting all individual social media sources as very untrustworthy/somewhat untrustworthy/neutral

Supplemental Table 2: Respondent Characteristics – Patients Recruited from Observational Cohorts Only (n=1,686)

Characteristic	Total sample
Region ^a , %	
Asia	11.9%
Canada	42.3%
Europe	14.2%
Latin America	4.1%
United States	27.5%
Age (years) ^b , mean (SD) (n=1,666)	49.0 (14.3)
Female, % (n=1,681)	92.2%
Non-White race and ethnicity ^c , % (n=1,624)	37.9%
Post-secondary education ^d , % (n=1,645)	76.2%
Household size, mean (SD) (n=1,671)	2.7 (1.4)
Relationship status - partnered ^e , % (n=1,633)	65.7%
Employed ^f , % (n=1,649)	55.9%
Survey completed by December 31, 2020	70.6%
Time elapsed from 03/11/2020 to survey completion, in days (SD)	263.4 (106.6)
SLE disease duration ^g , mean years (SD) (n=1,656)	17.5 (12.1)
SLE medications taken in the past year ^h , % (n=1,681)	
Antimalarials, and corticosteroids and/or immunosuppressive drugs and/or biologics	54.9%

Corticosteroids and/or immunosuppressive drugs and/or biologics	11.8%
Antimalarials only	27.0%
None	6.4%
Self-reported positive COVID-19 test and/or doctor diagnosis, %	2.3%
Self-reported hospitalization for COVID-19, %	0.3%

^a *Region: Asia (Seoul, Singapore); Canada (Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Winnipeg, Quebec City, Halifax); Europe (Bilbao, Manchester, Pisa); Latin America (Rosario, Mexico City); United States (Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Chicago, New York City, Los Angeles).*

^b *Age (years) at time of survey completion.*

^c *Non-white race and ethnicity includes respondents who selected a race and ethnicity option other than, or in addition to, White/Caucasian.*

^d *Post-secondary education includes completion of certificate, diploma or degree greater than a high school diploma or equivalent.*

^e *Partnered includes common-law partnership or legally married (and not separated).*

^f *Employed includes full-time, part-time or self-employment.*

^g *SLE disease duration = age at survey completion – age of SLE diagnosis.*

^h *Corticosteroids and/or immunosuppressive drugs and/or biologics include: azathioprine, belimumab, colchicine, cyclophosphamide, cyclosporine, intravenous immunoglobulin, leflunomide, methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil or mycophenolic acid, rituximab, steroids, tacrolimus, ustekinumab, or other immunosuppressive drugs.*

Supplemental Table 3: Health Information Source Access^a and Trust^b, Pre and Post March 11, 2020 – Patients Recruited from Observational Cohorts Only (n=1,686)

Health Information Source	Access			Trust		
	Pre ^c %	Post ^c %	% Difference (95% CI)	Pre ^c %	Post ^c %	% Difference (95% CI)
Lupus Specialists	76.6	68.1	-8.5 (-10.6, -6.3)	91.4	91.5	0.1 (-1.2, 1.4)
Family Physicians	54.4	48.3	-6.1 (-8.4, -3.8)	74.4	74.6	0.2 (-1.6, 2.0)
Pharmacists	44.7	39.1	-5.6 (-7.8, -3.5)	68.9	67.7	-1.2 (-2.9, 0.4)
Alternative Care Providers	19.7	13.6	-6.1 (-7.8, -4.4)	27.8	24.4	-3.3 (-4.9, -1.8)
Peers	41.4	43.1	1.7 (-0.6, 3.9)	28.4	29.0	0.6 (-1.2, 2.4)
Advocacy Organizations	27.1	28.1	1.0 (-0.9, 2.9)	51.2	46.9	-4.3 (-6.1, -2.6)
News Media	53.7	63.2	9.5 (7.1, 11.8)	56.9 ^e	51.9 ^e	-5.0 (-6.7, -3.3)
Newspaper	-	-	-	32.4	29.7	-2.7 (-4.5, -0.9)
Online News Media	-	-	-	44.4	41.1	-3.3 (-5.1, -1.5)
Radio	-	-	-	29.9	26.0	-3.9 (-5.5, -2.3)
Television	-	-	-	40.3	38.0	-2.3 (-4.1, -0.5)
Social Media	36.1	38.8	2.7 (0.8, 4.7)	27.6 ^f	25.1 ^f	-2.5 (-4.1, -0.9)
Facebook	-	-	-	12.4	11.0	-1.4 (-2.7, -0.1)
Instagram	-	-	-	6.9	6.5	-0.4 (-1.5, 0.6)

Internet Blog	-	-	-	10.2	9.0	-1.2 (-2.4, 0.05)
Twitter	-	-	-	5.9	5.8	-0.1 (-1.1, 0.9)
YouTube	-	-	-	13.8	12.4	-1.4 (-2.8, -0.1)
Other Social Media ^d	-	-	-	7.8	6.6	-1.2 (-2.2, -0.1)

Significant differences in **bold**. 95% confidence intervals (CI) using McNemar tests.

^a Respondents who reported health information source access sometimes/often/always.

^b Respondents who reported source as somewhat/very trustworthy.

^c Pre and post refer to 03/11/2020.

^d Other social media include LinkedIn, Pinterest, Reddit, and TikTok.

^e Respondents were not asked to identify level of trust in news media overall. Value derived from grouping four news media sources (newspaper, online news media, radio, television) included in the survey to create a single trust in news media variable. Respondents were considered to trust news media if they reported any of the individual news media sources as somewhat/very trustworthy.

^f Respondents were not asked to identify level of trust in social media overall. Value derived from grouping social media sources (Facebook, Instagram, internet blog, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Reddit, TikTok) included in the survey to create a single trust in social media variable. Respondents were considered to trust social media if they reported any of the individual social media sources as somewhat/very trustworthy.

Supplemental Table 4: Preferred Health Information Sources, Pre and Post March 11, 2020 – Patients Recruited from Observational Cohorts Only (n=1,686)

Health Information Source	Pre ^a	Post ^a
Lupus Specialists	1	1
Family Physicians	2	2
Pharmacists	4	4
Alternative Care Providers	8	8
Peers	6	6
Advocacy Organizations	5	5
News Media	3	3
Social Media	7	7

^a Pre and post refer to 03/11/2020.

Supplemental Table 5: Multivariable Logistic Regression Results^{a,b}: Determinants of: 1) accessing^c news media for health information, 2) accessing^c social media for health information, and 3) self-reporting being negatively impacted by accessing^c health information through news/social media - Patients Recruited from Observational Cohorts Only

Explanatory Variables	News Media (n=1,686)		Social Media (n=1,686)		Negative Impacts (n=1,485)	
	Adjusted	95% CI	Adjusted	95% CI	Adjusted	95% CI
	OR		OR		OR	
Region						
Canada (ref)	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
Asia	2.69	(1.61, 4.51)	1.93	(1.25, 2.99)	0.33	(0.17, 0.66)
Europe	2.71	(1.84, 4.01)	0.92	(0.63, 1.35)	1.63	(1.07, 2.48)
Latin America	1.59	(0.57, 4.46)	1.40	(0.75, 2.59)	1.59	(0.82, 3.07)
US	1.27	(0.94, 1.73)	0.73	(0.53, 1.004)	1.18	(0.82, 1.70)
Sociodemographics						
Age	1.01	(0.999, 1.02)	0.97	(0.96, 0.98)	0.98	(0.97, 0.99)
Female	0.95	(0.60, 1.50)	1.33	(0.82, 2.18)	2.09	(1.03, 4.25)
Post-secondary education	1.63	(1.19, 2.23)	0.89	(0.65, 1.22)	1.00	(0.69, 1.45)
Europe x Post-secondary education ^d	-	-	-	-	-	-
Latin America x Post-secondary education ^d	4.61	(1.05, 20.27)	-	-	-	-
Access^c/Trust^c in Health Information Sources						
Access – Pharmacists	-	-	1.34	(1.04, 1.73)	-	-

Access – Peers	2.95	(2.25, 3.87)	2.07	(1.61, 2.66)	1.53	(1.13, 2.07)
Access – Advocacy Organizations	2.47	(1.80, 3.40)	1.68	(1.27, 2.23)	-	-
Access – News Media	-	-	6.98	(5.11, 9.53)	-	-
Access – Social Media	8.89	(6.37, 12.39)	-	-	-	-
Access – Alternative Care Providers	0.65	(0.45, 0.95)	-	-	-	-
Trust – Family Physicians	0.71	(0.52, 0.96)	0.73	(0.54, 0.995)	-	-
Trust – Alternative Care Providers	-	-	1.36	(1.01, 1.81)	-	-
Trust – News Media ^f	5.66	(4.32, 7.44)	-	-	0.58	(0.43, 0.79)
Trust – Social Media ^g	0.53	(0.38, 0.76)	4.57	(3.43, 6.08)	-	-

Significant covariates in bold.

^a Sociodemographics, disease characteristics, number of days to survey completion since 03/11/2020, and access to and trust in sources were considered in the models. Only significant variables are presented here.

^b Variables with a - were not included in the final model. Region, age, gender and post-secondary education were forced into the models, and other variables were chosen through backwards stepwise selection.

^c Respondents accessing source for health information sometimes/often/always post-03/11/2020.

^d Interaction between region and post-secondary education was added to explore the relationship of post-secondary education in different regions. Only significant interactions included in the final model.

^e Respondents reporting source as somewhat/very trustworthy post-03/11/2020.

^f Respondents were not asked to identify level of trust in news media overall. Value derived from grouping four news media sources (newspaper, online news media, radio, television) included in the survey to create a single trust in news media variable. Respondents were considered to trust news media if they reported any of the individual news media sources as somewhat/very trustworthy.

^g Respondents were not asked to identify level of trust in social media overall. Value derived from grouping social media sources (Facebook, Instagram, internet blog, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Reddit, TikTok) included in the survey to create a single trust in social media variable. Respondents were considered to trust social media if they reported any of the individual social media sources as somewhat/very trustworthy.