

FOOD is the
ingredient
that binds us
TOGETHER[♥]

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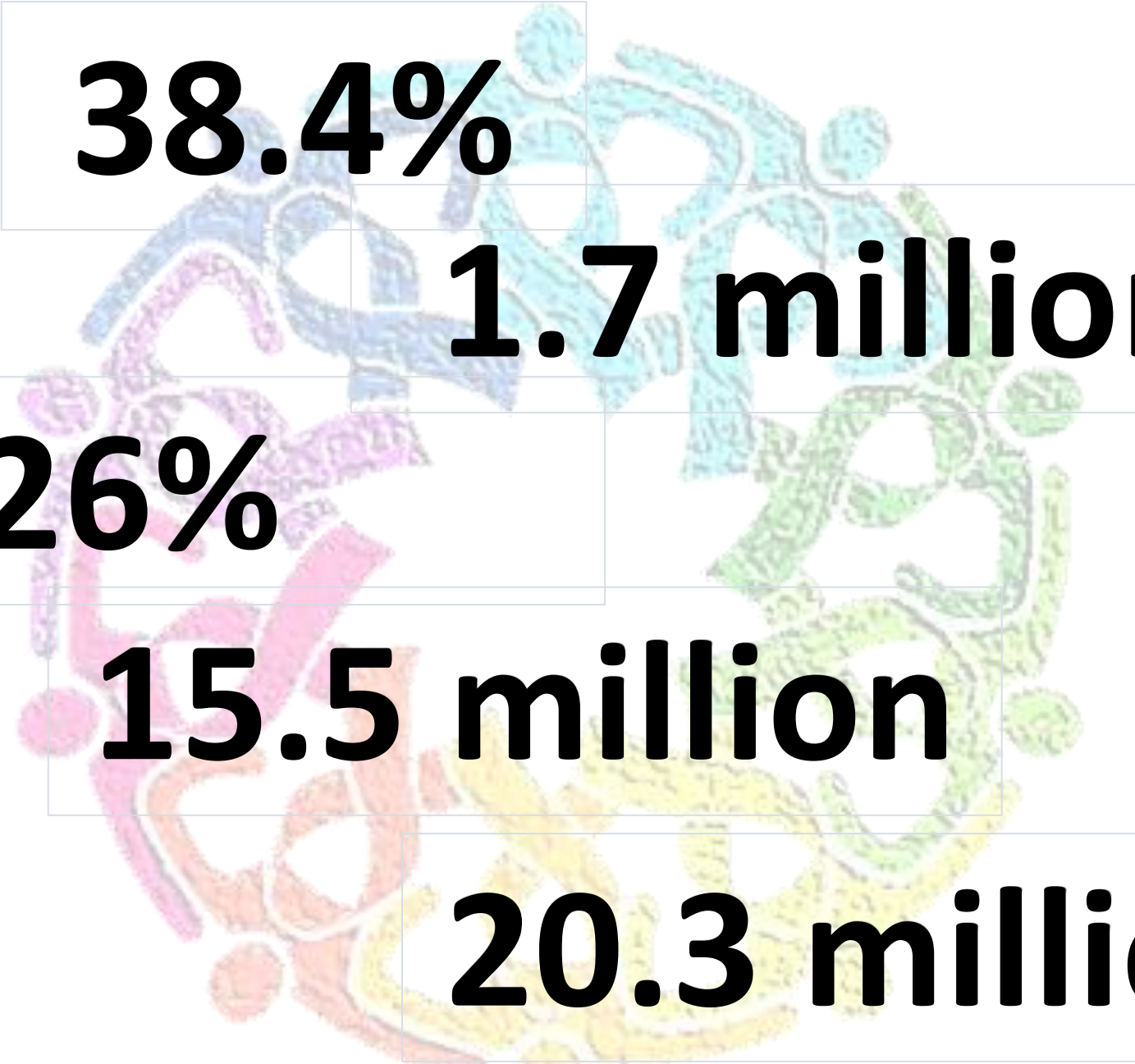


The importance of taste during cancer treatment: an interdisciplinary approach

Alissa Nolden and Danielle Reed



Monell
Celebrating
50 years
1968-2018



38.4%

1.7 million

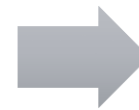
↓ 26%

15.5 million

20.3 million

Cancer Treatment

- Chemotherapy
- Radiation
- Surgery



Taste/Smell function

- Chemesthesis
- Oral processing

Taste and smell function as it relates to food behavior is understudied

Appetite, food intake & enjoyment are likely to be negatively impacted as a result of reduced taste function *during and after* cancer treatment

Reduced taste function associates with decreased appetite and food involvement

- Avoidance of certain foods (e.g., meat)
- Reduced consumption (e.g., overall calories/protein)

Clinicians and nutritionist lack the proper information to provide care

- Few strategies have undergone clinical trials
- Normalize experiences, emotional support & anecdotal experiences