

# DIFFERENCES IN UK HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS' KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE TOWARDS INFlixIMAB AND INSULIN GLARGINE BIOSIMILARS

Mohammed Aladul, Professor Raymond Fitzpatrick, Professor Stephen Chapman  
 School of Pharmacy, Keele University, UK.  
[m.i.m.aladul@keele.ac.uk](mailto:m.i.m.aladul@keele.ac.uk) 4CPS-131 - UKL03 - Immunomodulating agents.



## Introduction

- Biosimilars are copies of approved and expired patent biological medicines.<sup>1</sup>
- Up to February 2018, 38 biosimilars, corresponding to 14 molecules have been licensed in Europe.<sup>1</sup>
- The wider the range of biosimilars indications, the more healthcare professionals are potentially involved in the process of prescribing these medicines.<sup>2</sup>
- Studies have shown that the relatively rapid introduction of biosimilars has resulted in a gap in knowledge amongst healthcare professionals.<sup>3-5</sup>

## Objectives

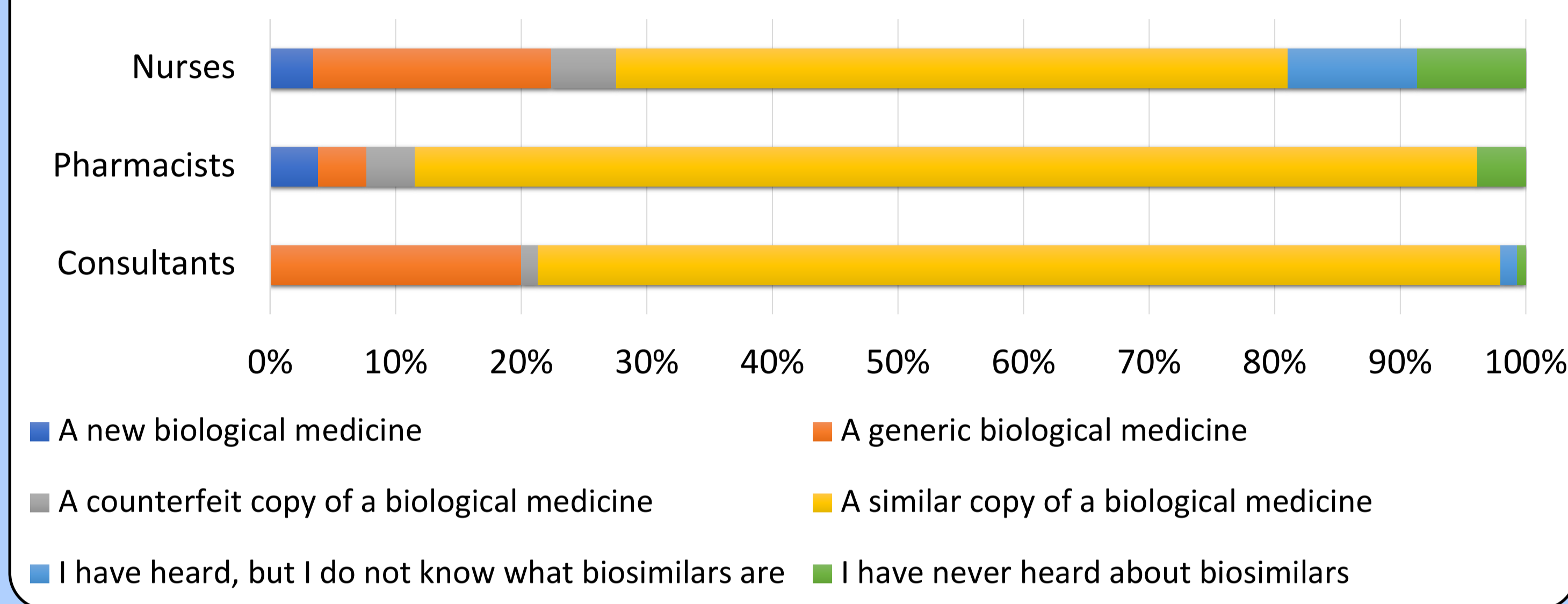
- To investigate knowledge attitudes and practice of different health care professionals in UK towards infliximab and insulin glargine biosimilars and the factors influencing their prescribing.

## Methods

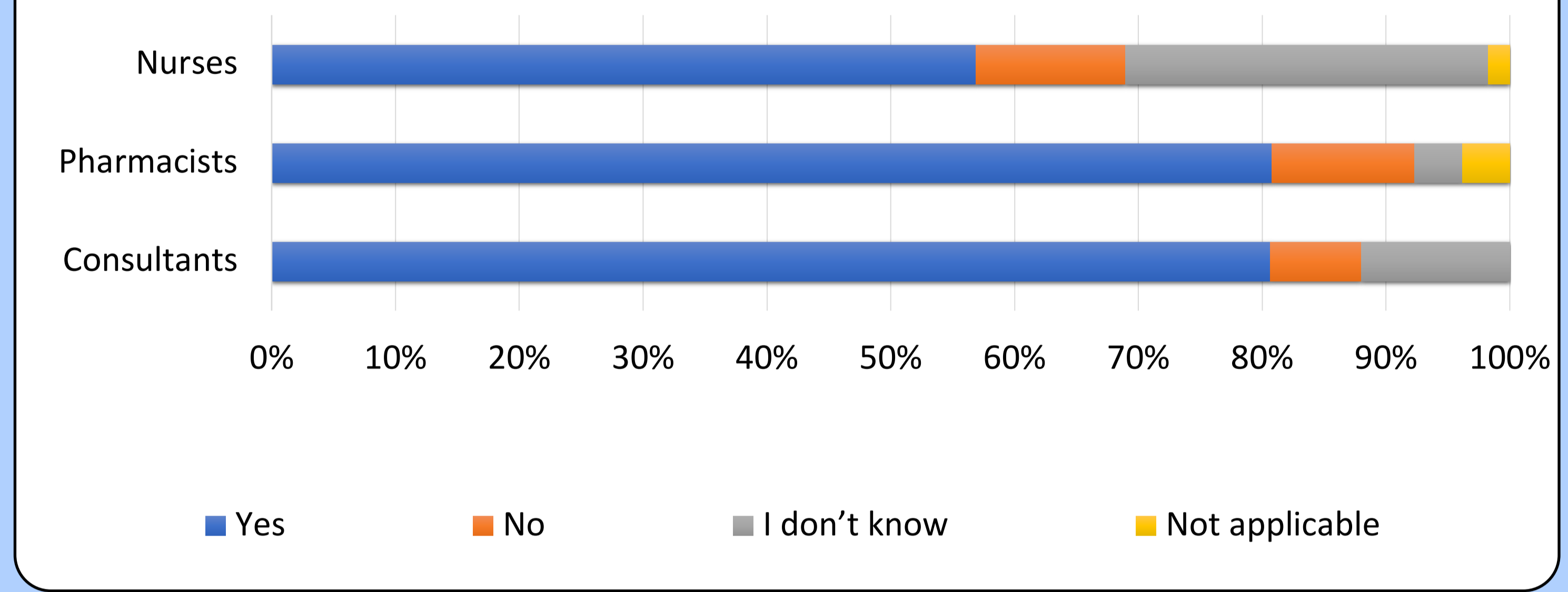
- This was an anonymised, self-administered web-based survey among UK consultants, nurses and pharmacists registered in professional associations and societies between August 2016 and January 2017.

## Results

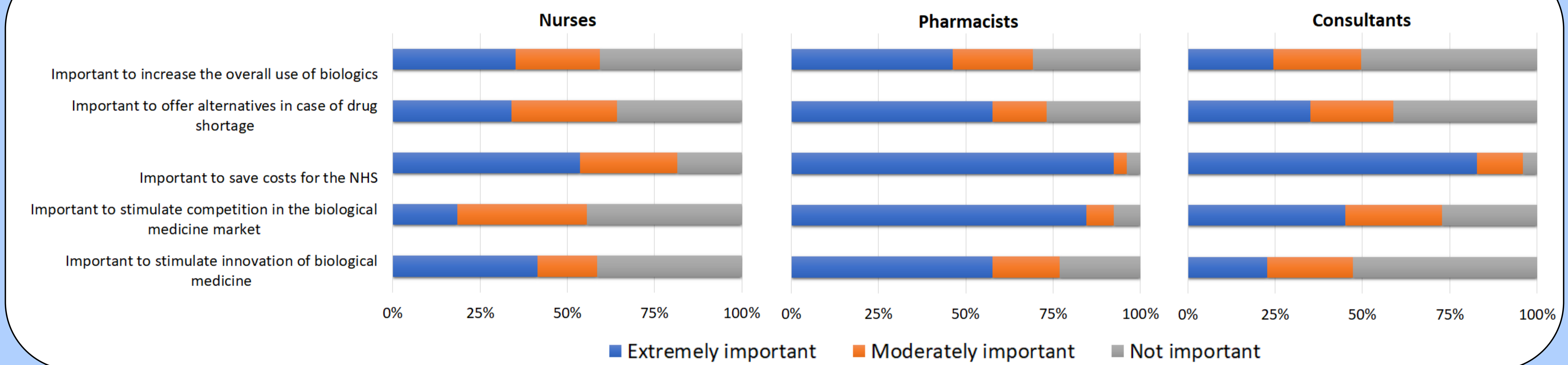
Knowledge of biosimilars among HCPs



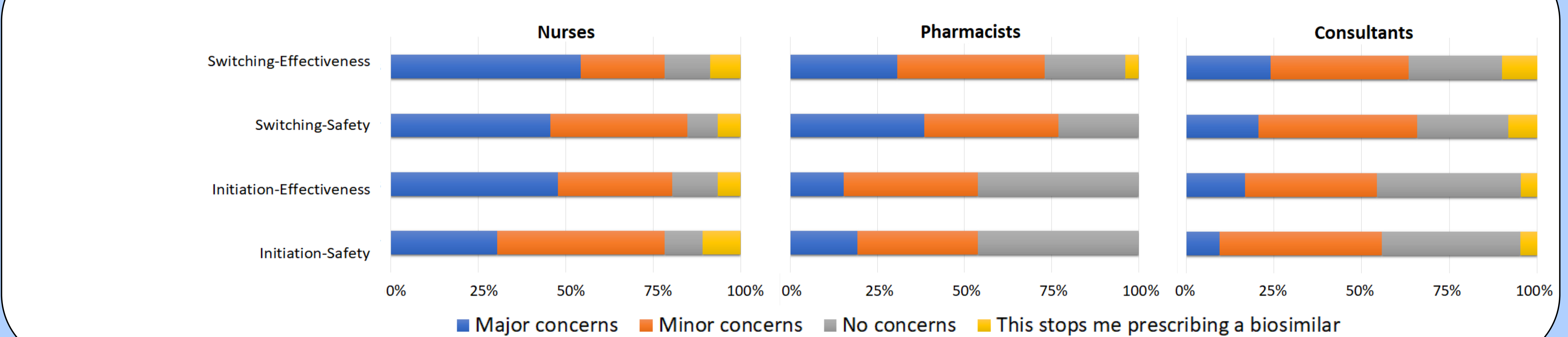
Awareness of biosimilars among HCPs



Reason for intention to prescribe biosimilars



Safety and efficacy concerns towards prescribing biosimilars



## Conclusions

- British consultants and pharmacists were well informed about and had a comparable level of awareness of biosimilars.
- Nurses were less informed about biosimilars.
- Consultants, pharmacists and nurses differed in their opinion as to which factor would influence their use of biosimilars.
- All healthcare professionals had higher level of concerns in relation to switching compared to initiation of biosimilars.

## References

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