



# THE OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE PROFILE, QUALITY OF LIFE AND COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION OF PATIENTS WITH BURN INJURIES POST- DISCHARGE IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA



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# INTRODUCTION

Patients with burn injuries require rehabilitation after discharge from hospital

- scar management and mobility
- ability to assume previous lifestyle and roles <sup>1</sup>
- integration into both their home and community life<sup>2</sup>

Present with decreased health related quality of life<sup>3</sup>

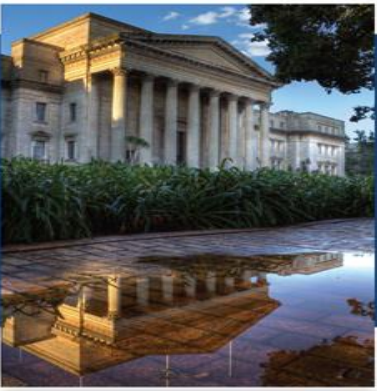




## In South Africa

- lack of rehabilitation services at a primary health care level
- majority of patients come from poor socio economic status
- dropout rate from rehabilitation -90% after one year<sup>4,5</sup>





## One burns unit in North West Province

- an area of 106 512 square kilometers
- a population of 3 509 953

Need to extend rehabilitation services to other sites including at PHC level





# PURPOSE AND METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

A study to determine the activity limitations and participation restrictions post discharge from the burns unit was completed.

A longitudinal study design

- **Performance profiles** were established for pre injury, at 1 month and 6 months post discharge
- **Community integration** and **health related quality of life** were established 6 months post discharge







# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

55 patients included in the study. 27 remained after 6 months - dropout rate 50.9%

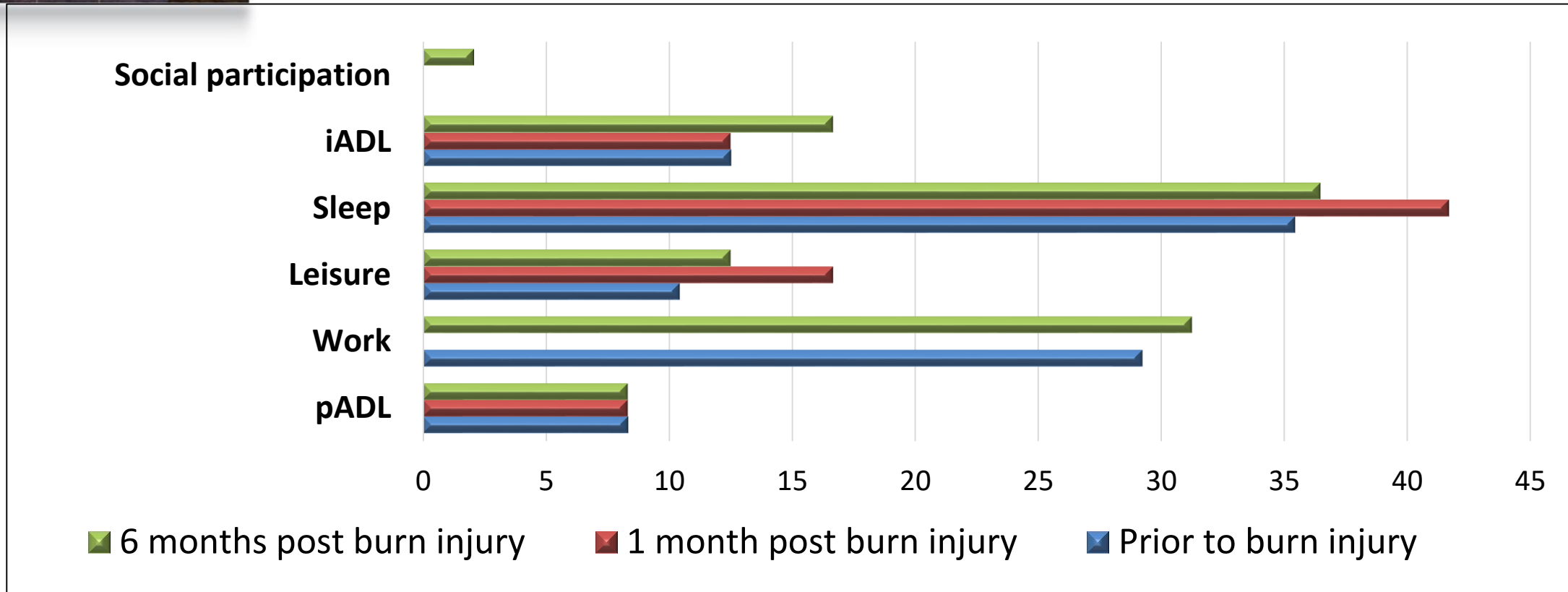
Gender	61% male participants
Age	67% below 40 years of age
Employed	51%
Mean length of stay	46.7 days

Flame burns	48%
Partial thickness burns	69%
Total body surface area	80% < 20% TBSA
Head, upper limbs and trunk	30% of participants <sup>4.5</sup>



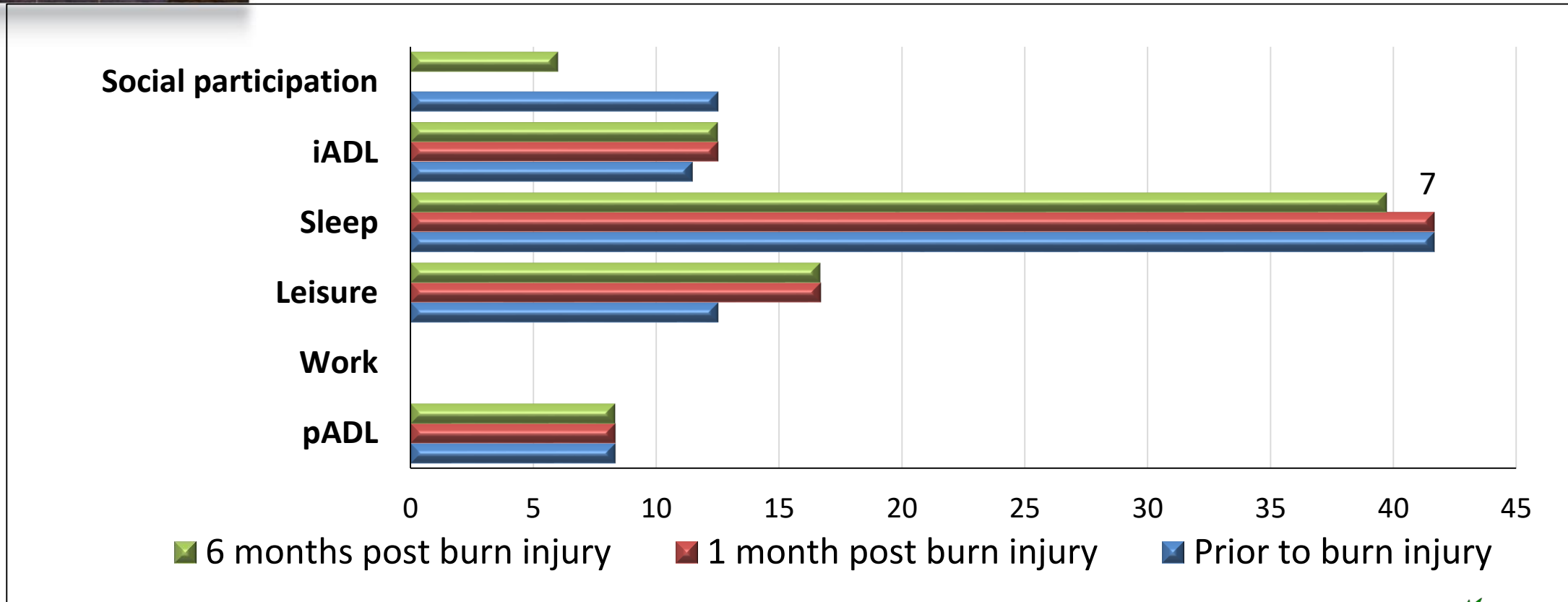


# WEEKDAY PERFORMANCE PROFILE





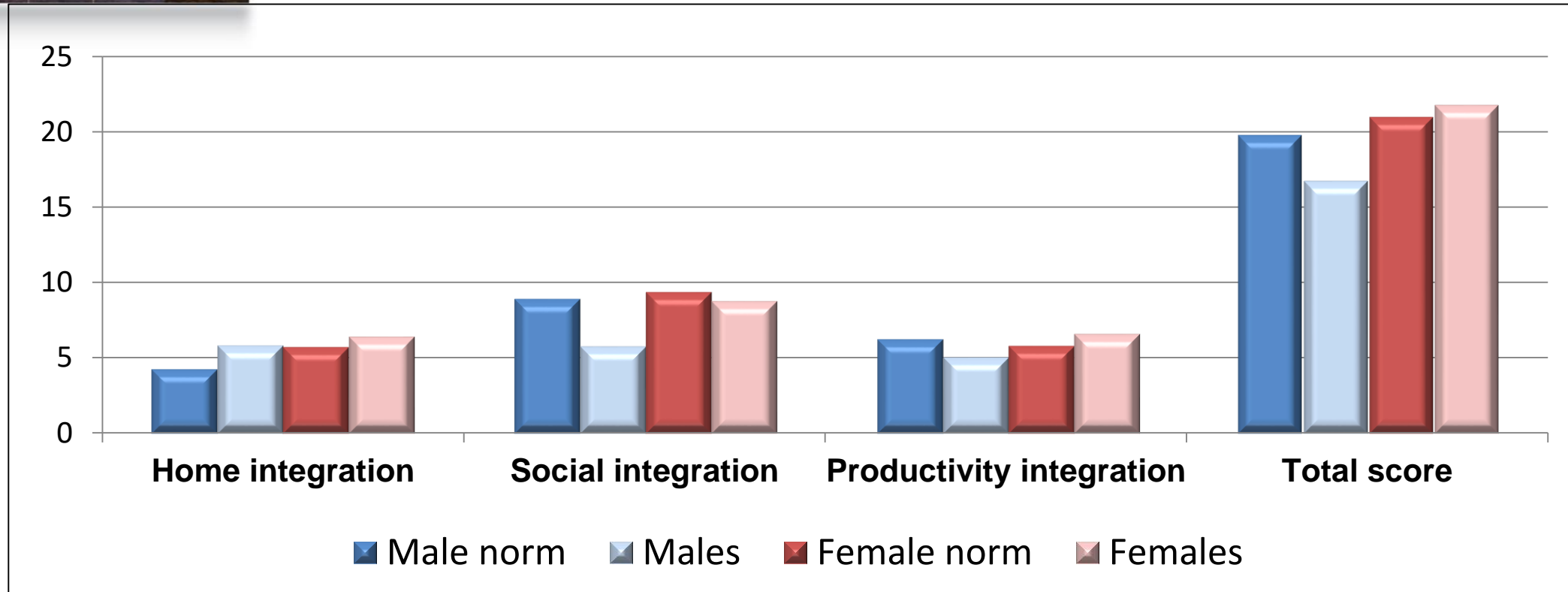
# WEEKEND PERFORMANCE PROFILE





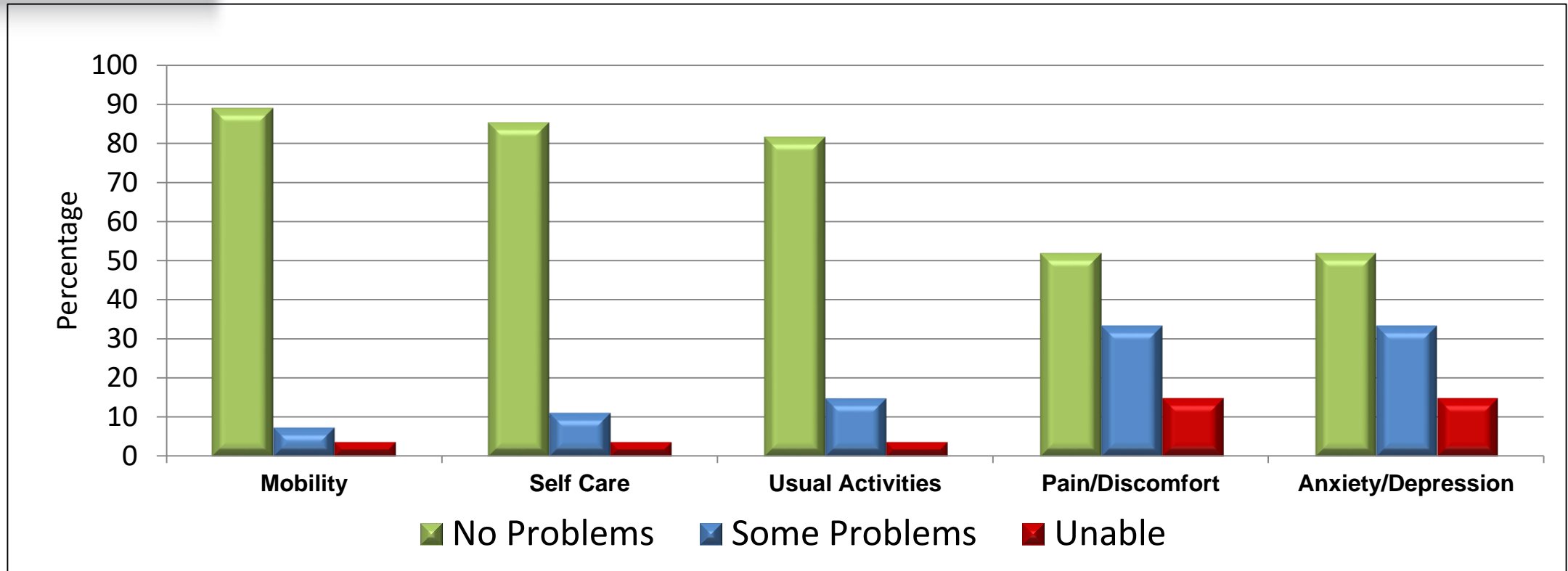


# INTEGRATION INTO COMMUNITY 6 MONTHS POST DISCHARGE





# HEALTH RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE 6 MONTHS POST DISCHARGE





# ACCESS TO THERAPY

- distance of the patients' homes from health services
- lack of finances
- strongly associated with poor health related quality of life ( $r=0.67 - 0.73$ )



# CONCLUSION



Results support

- the recommendations for community based occupational therapy to improve rehabilitation outcomes
- the establishment of support groups for patients with burn injuries in community settings





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