Epidemiologic study on fragile skin in 7 countries: Russia, Mexico, Germany, United Arab Emirates, Taiwan, Hong-Kong, Brazil

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INTRODUCTION

The world population is very diverse, containing many types of skins. Lifestyles and stressful environment influence the status of different skin categories and can cause fragility of epidermis. A variety of dermatological procedure aim at resurfacing the stratum corneum and sometimes further layers of the epidermis.

This epidemiologic study was set up to assess the prevalence of perceived « Fragile skin » across different skin types in a general adult population in 7 countries (Russia, Mexico, Germany, United Arab Emirates, Taiwan, Hong-Kong, Brazil) and to identify skin characteristics associated with perceived Fragile skin.

METHODOLOGY & THEORETICAL ORIENTATION

A cross-sectional subject survey was conducted in **7 countries** between 2016 and 2018 by CSA Health Institute

Subjects

A representative sample of about **600 adult individuals** (>18 years old) with a sex ratio of 1/1 between countries, except for UAE: 76.8% of subjects were male.

This online questionnaire, based on quota method on gender, age and geographical regions, was self-administered.

Quesionnaire's topics

- Socio-demographics
- Skin type
- Skin characteristics
- Skin symptoms
- Skin diseases
- Dermatological acts
- Environment & climat
- Perception of Fragile skin

Statistical tests

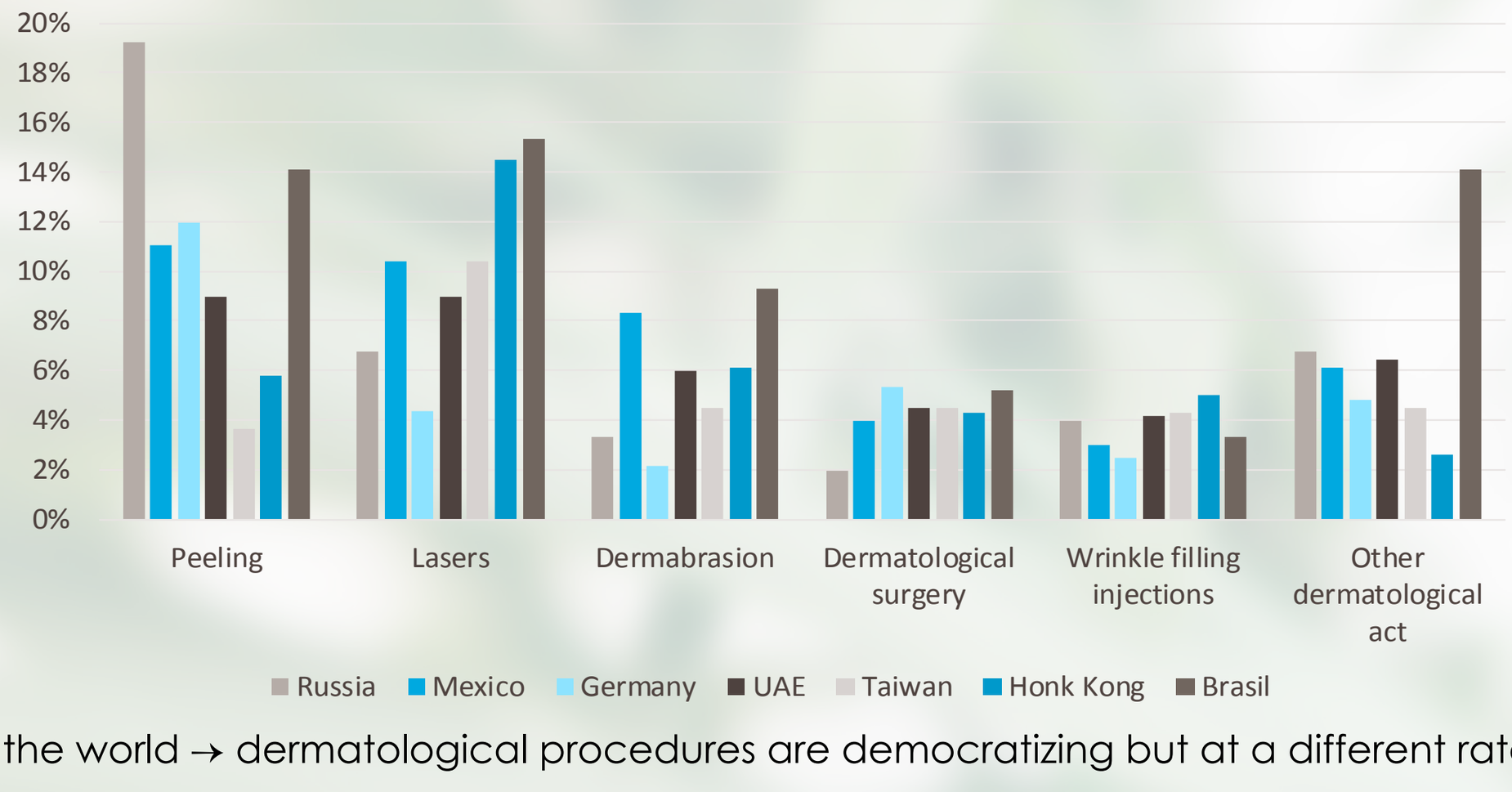
- Proportion of perceived fragile skin is based on question Q6* and the 95% CI** is calculated using the Clopper-Pearson method.

Descriptive statistics

- Overall population

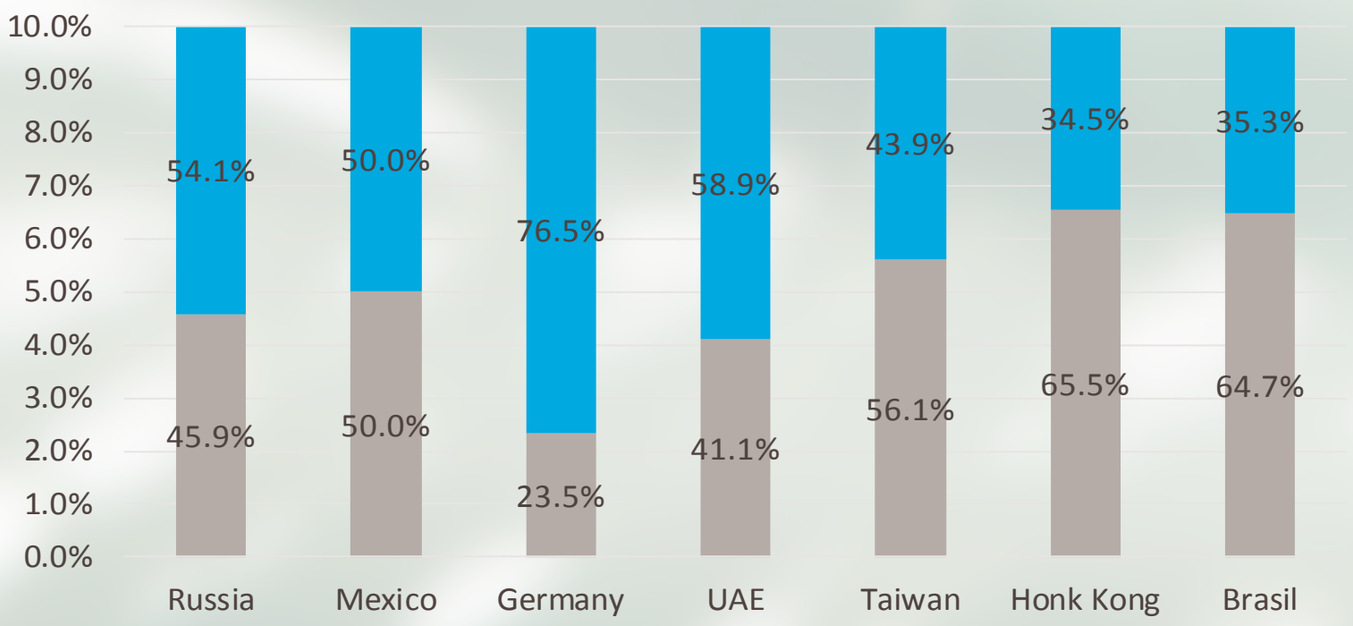


FINDINGS



Across the world → dermatological procedures are democratizing but at a different rate.

- **Brazil** → Peelings, lasers, dermabrasions → more performed in Brazil than in the other countries.
- **Hong-Kong** → important frequency of lasers during the past 12 months.
- Other countries such as **Germany** → low rate of dermatological acts.



Fragile skin prevalence in the world is variable, ranging from 65.5% in Hong-Kong to 23.5% in Germany

CONCLUSION

Fragile skin prevalence in the world is variable, ranging from 65.5% in Hong-Kong to 23.5% in Germany. The results show that countries in which people frequently perform dermatological acts also have a higher perception of fragile skin. Thus, this study confirms that dermatological acts cause fragility of the epidermis.

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