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Buruli ulcer remains a burden in Cameroon ?

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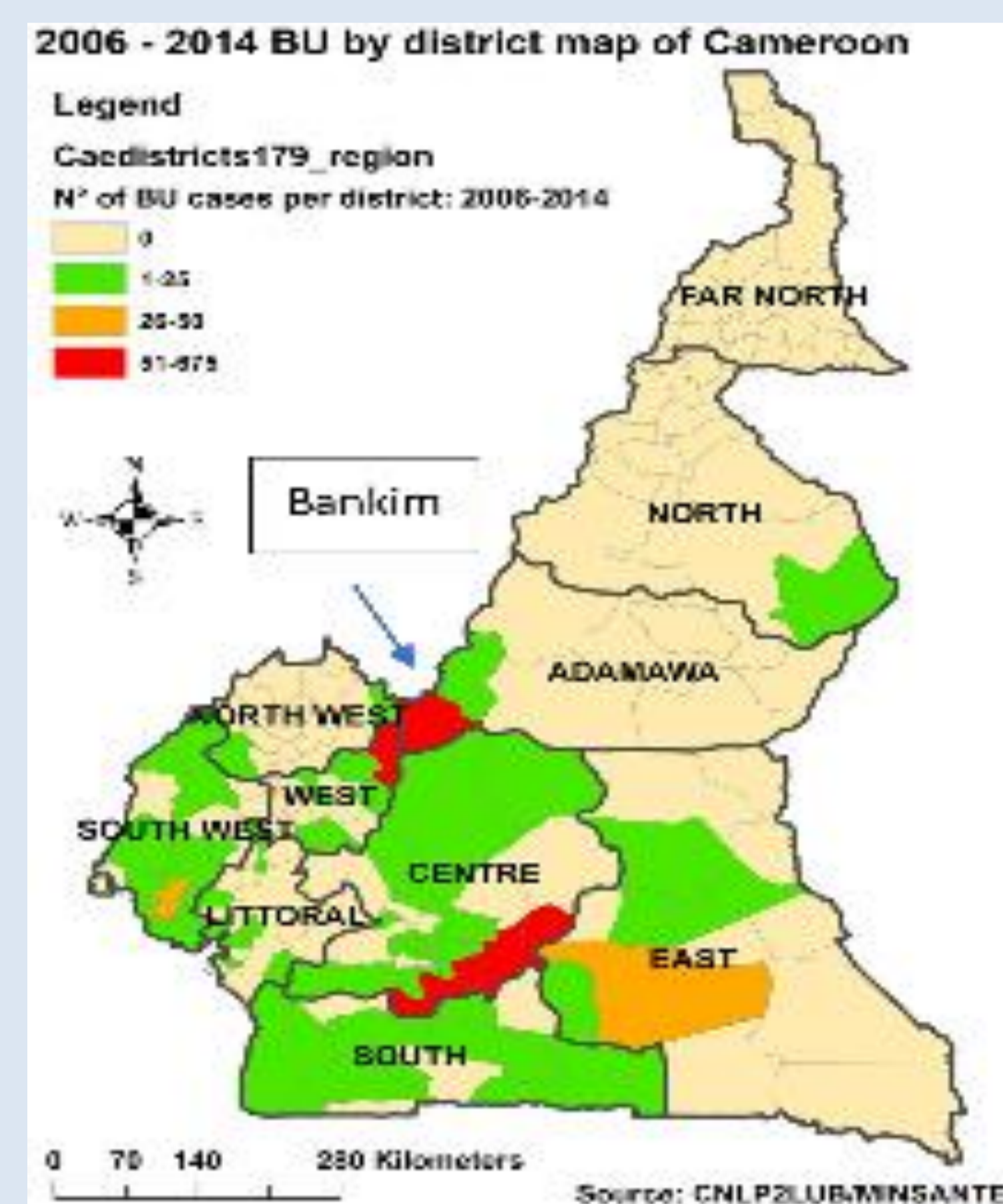
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Introduction

- Cameroon is a Buruli ulcer (BU) endemic country, yet few cases have been reported recently?
- In an ongoing BU diagnostic study, we enrolled patients with Chronic wound in endemic areas
- We assessed the burden of BU among patients with chronic wounds in the three endemic districts

Methods

- Study design: prospective diagnostic study
- Study sites and period:
 - BU endemic zones in Cameroon: Akonolinga, Ayos, Bankim,
 - January 2018 to February 2019
- Recruitment
 - Active research of patients through sensitization of Community Health Workers (CHWs), visits to health centers, village authorities, traditional healers, massive awareness campaigns in villages
 - All chronic wound patients that were eligible and those who consented were enrolled

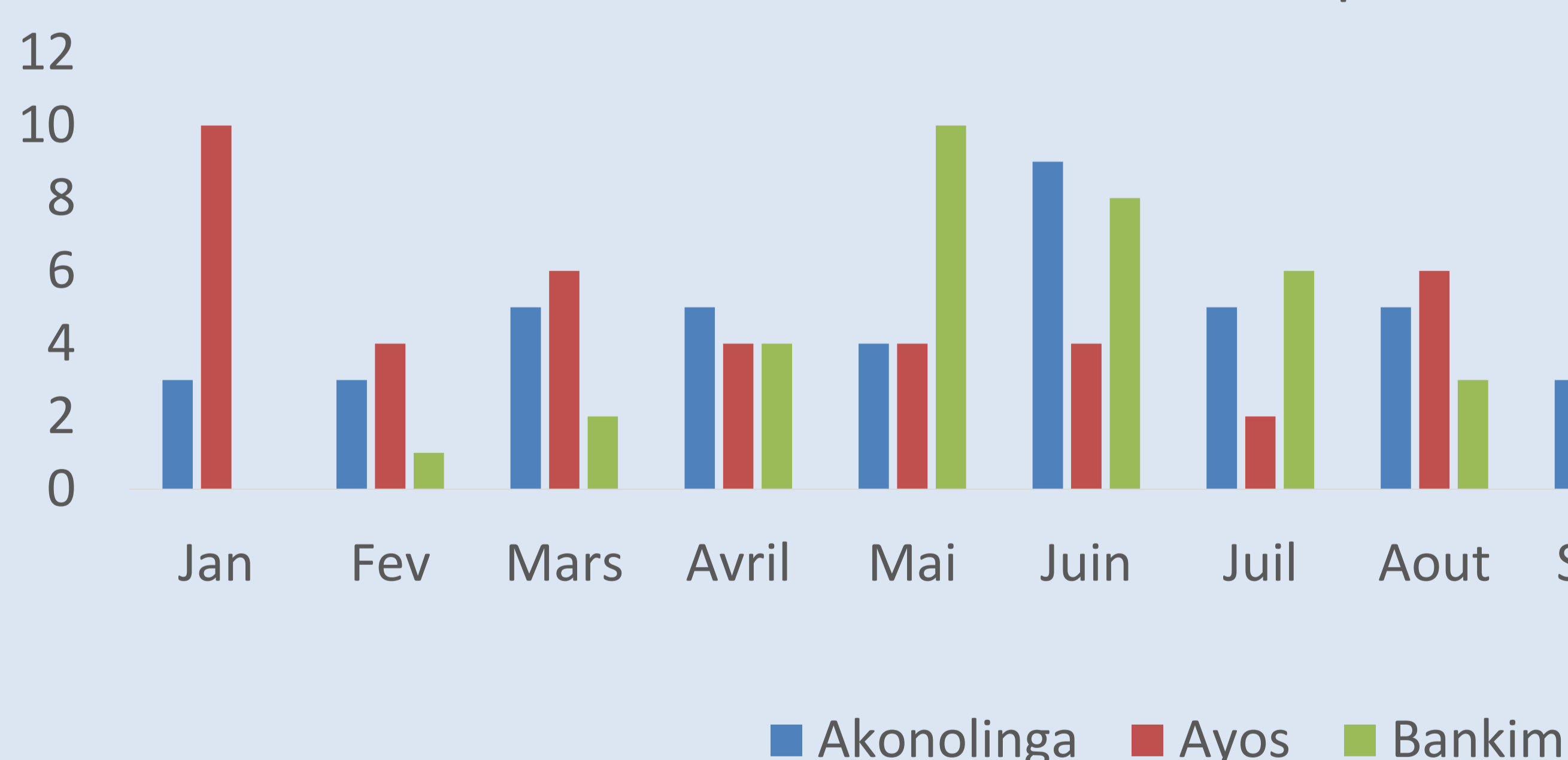


- Data and sample collection
 - Nurses and physicians performed clinical examinations, and filled out questionnaires with patients information using mobile data collection platform CommCare HQ – Dimagi. Basic
 - Swab samples from wounds were collected at health facilities and PCR analyses were performed at Centre Pasteur du Cameroun
- Data analysis
 - Data were analyzed in excel and R

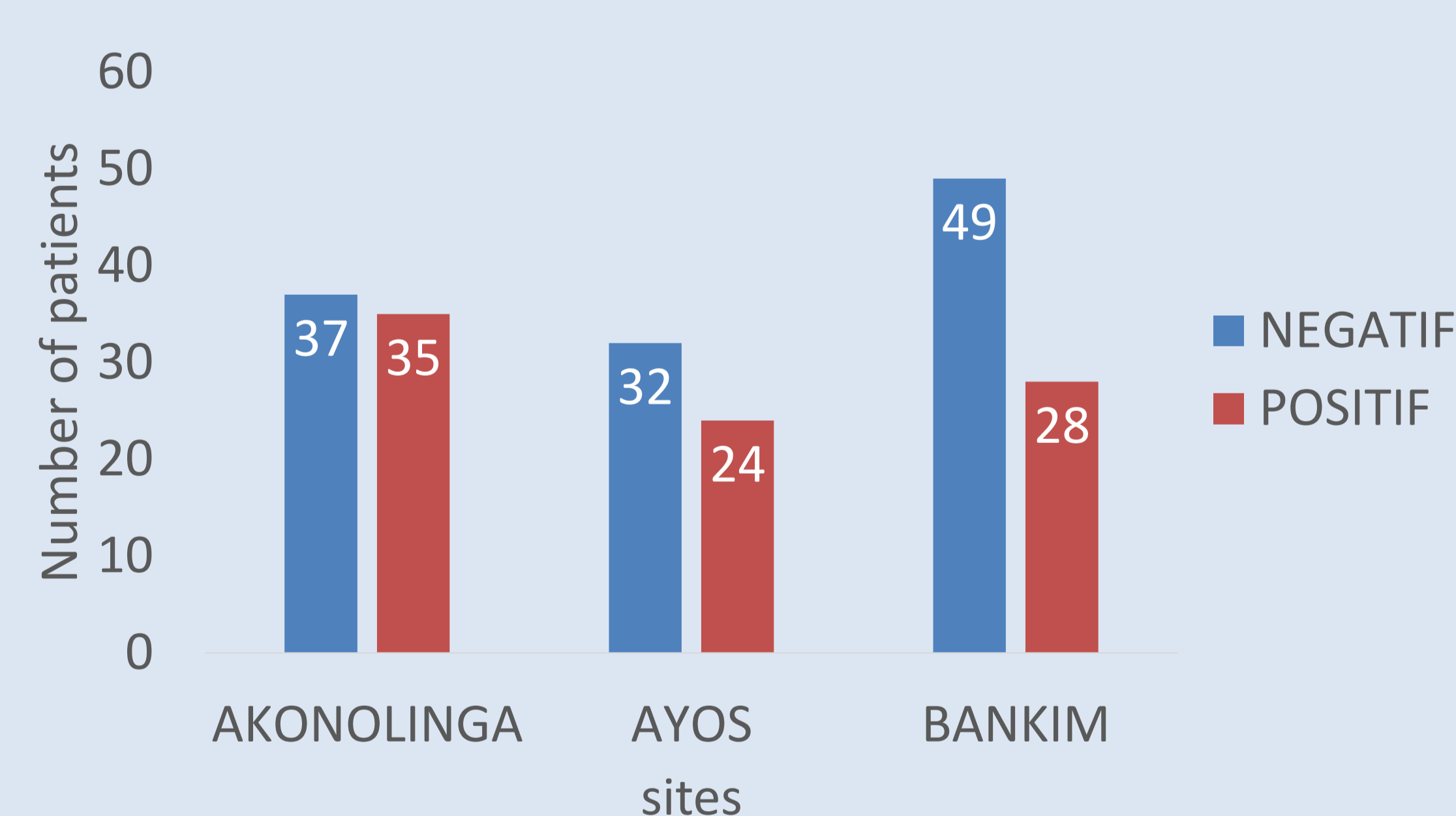
Results

- We included 207 patients aged 1 to 89 (Mean=34; SD=22), of which 64% were male.
- We found 87 (42,4%) PCR confirmed cases of Buruli
- Akonolinga has the highest burden (43,7%) of BU patients

Evolution of inclusion with time and per site



Buruli Ulcer PCR results per site



Conclusion

- Despite the decrease in reporting of BU in Cameroon we have confirmed 87 cases in about 1 year, in only three districts.
- This highlights the importance of surveillance, community awareness and integration of traditional healers to reach patients and ensure that individuals with chronic wounds receive proper diagnosis and treatment.

Acknowledgments

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