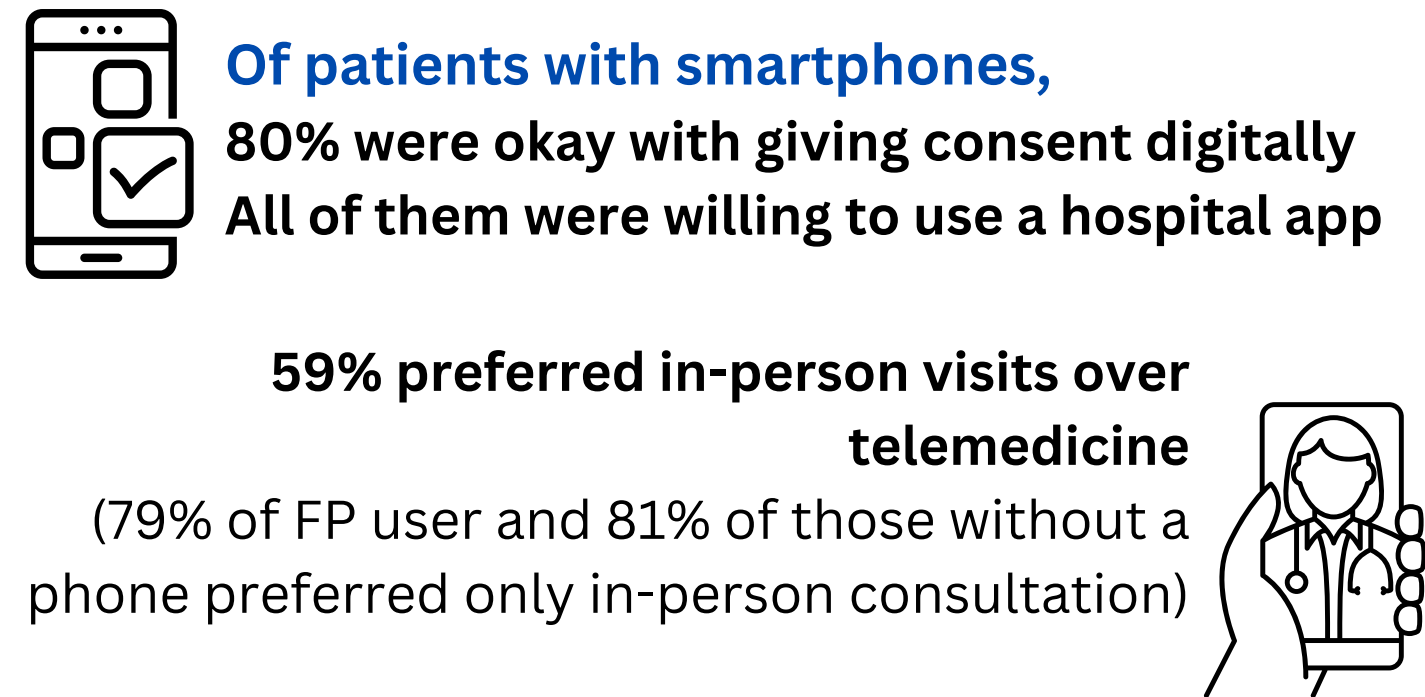
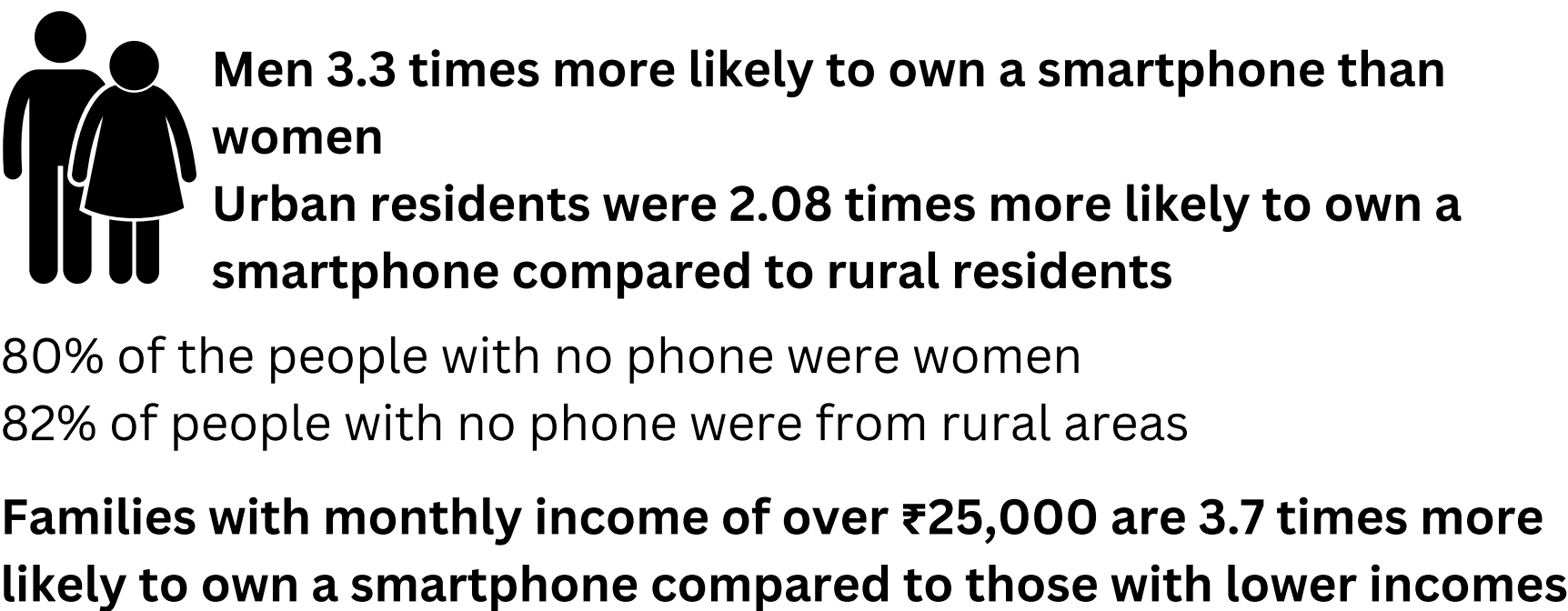
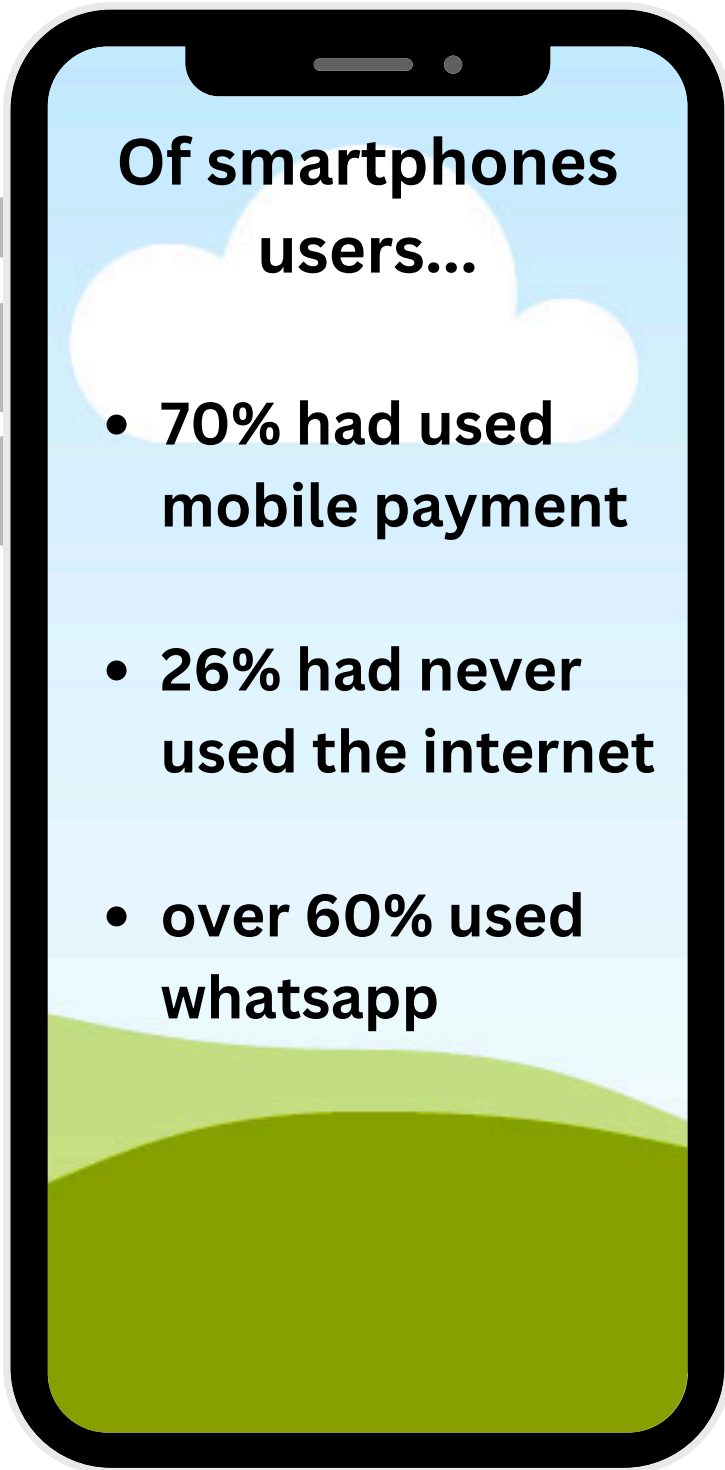
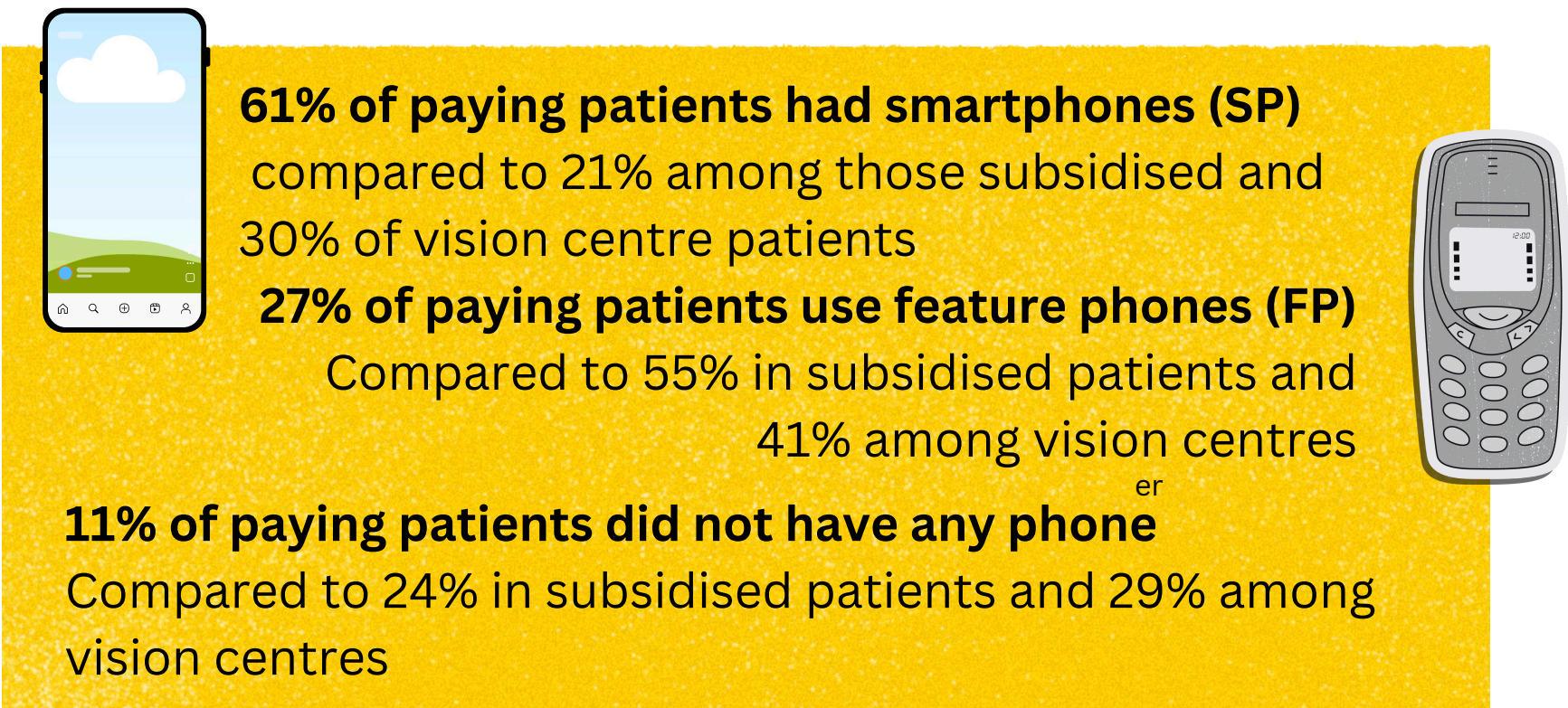


Assessing mHealth readiness among different patients groups in South India

Sage Leland (1), Selvaraj Jerrome (2), Murugaraj (2), Ramalakshmi Raman (2), Dhivya Ramasamy (2)
1School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA
2Lions Aravind Institute of Community Ophthalmology, Aravind Eye Care System. Madurai, India

Mobile health (mHealth) tools hold promise for improving care access and patient engagement. However, this depends on access to smartphones, capability and willingness to use them. This study explores mHealth readiness among different patients groups.



The study highlights a digital divide driven by age, gender, education, and location. While younger, urban males often own smartphones, many still use feature phones, and 20% lack any device. **With smartphone sales plateauing and feature phone sales rising in India, access to mHealth may lag. It's essential to retain communication options for those without smartphones.**