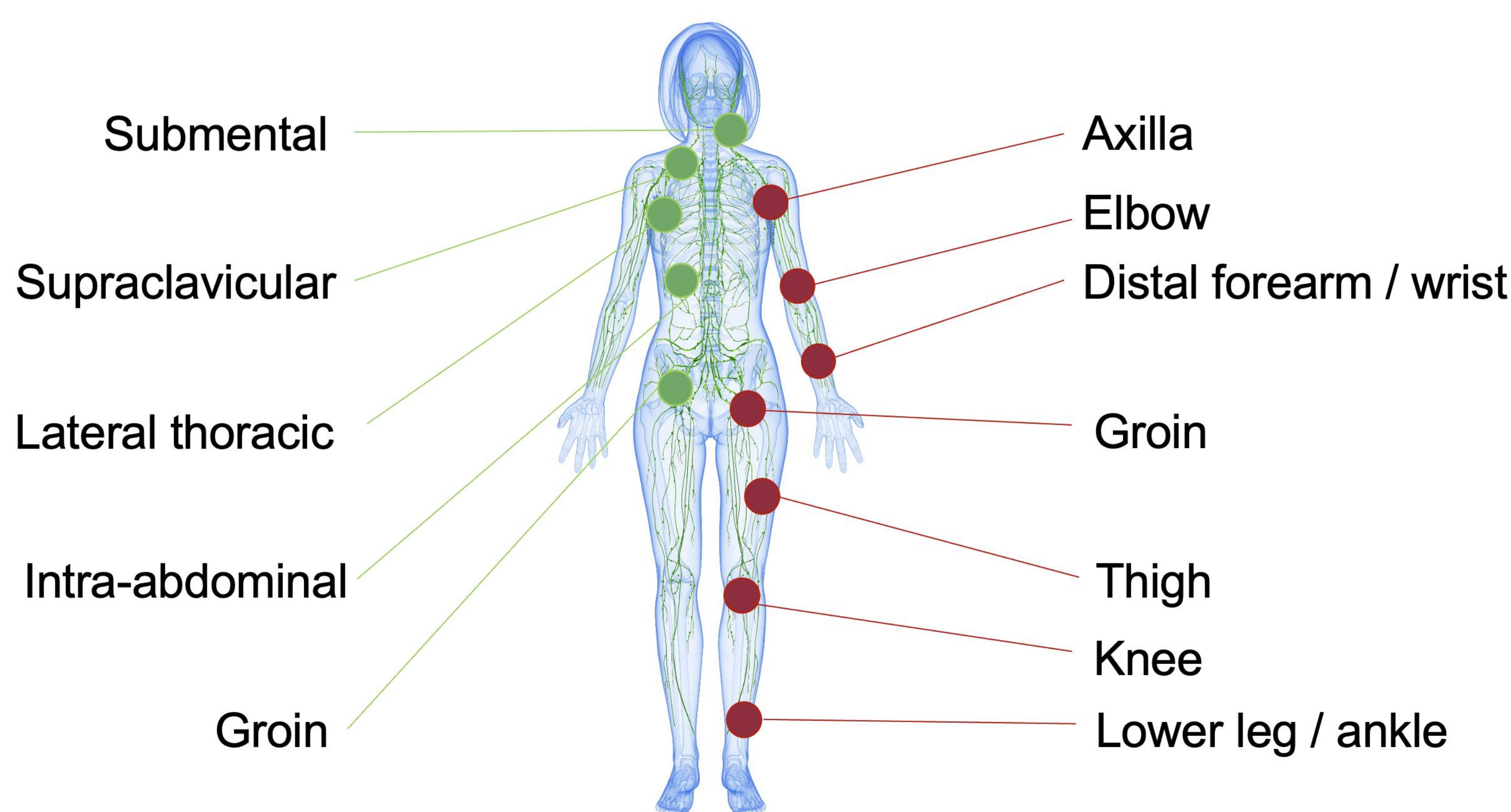


The ideal donor and recipient sites for VLNT for upper and lower extremity lymphedema

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Background

Vascularized lymph node transfer (VLNT) involves transferring healthy lymph nodes to a lymphedematous region of the body. There are various potential donor and recipient sites, thus bearing the question of an ideal donor and recipient site combination.



Various donor and recipient sites

Aim

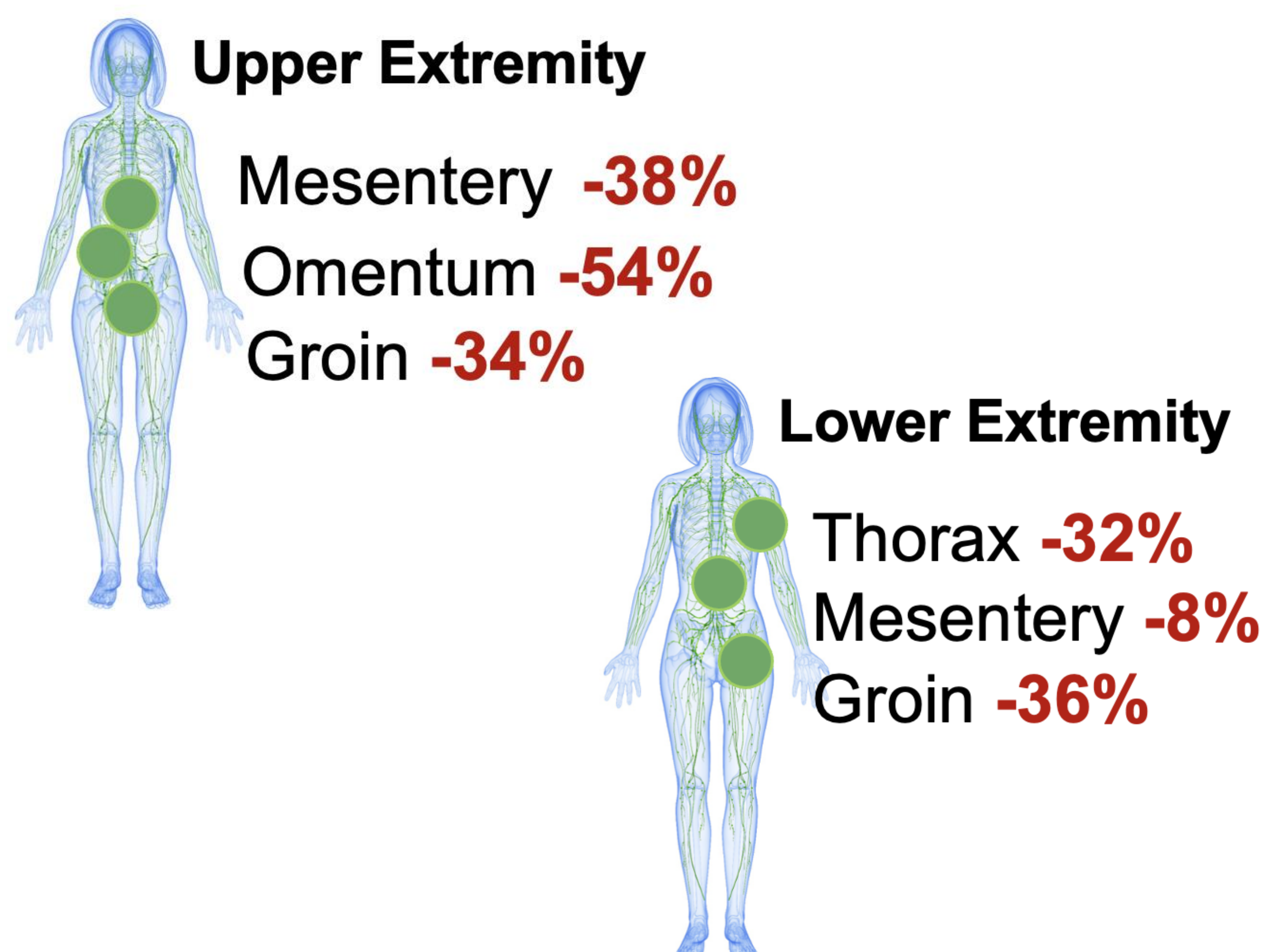
Comparison of the long-term effectiveness of different donor and recipient sites.

Methods

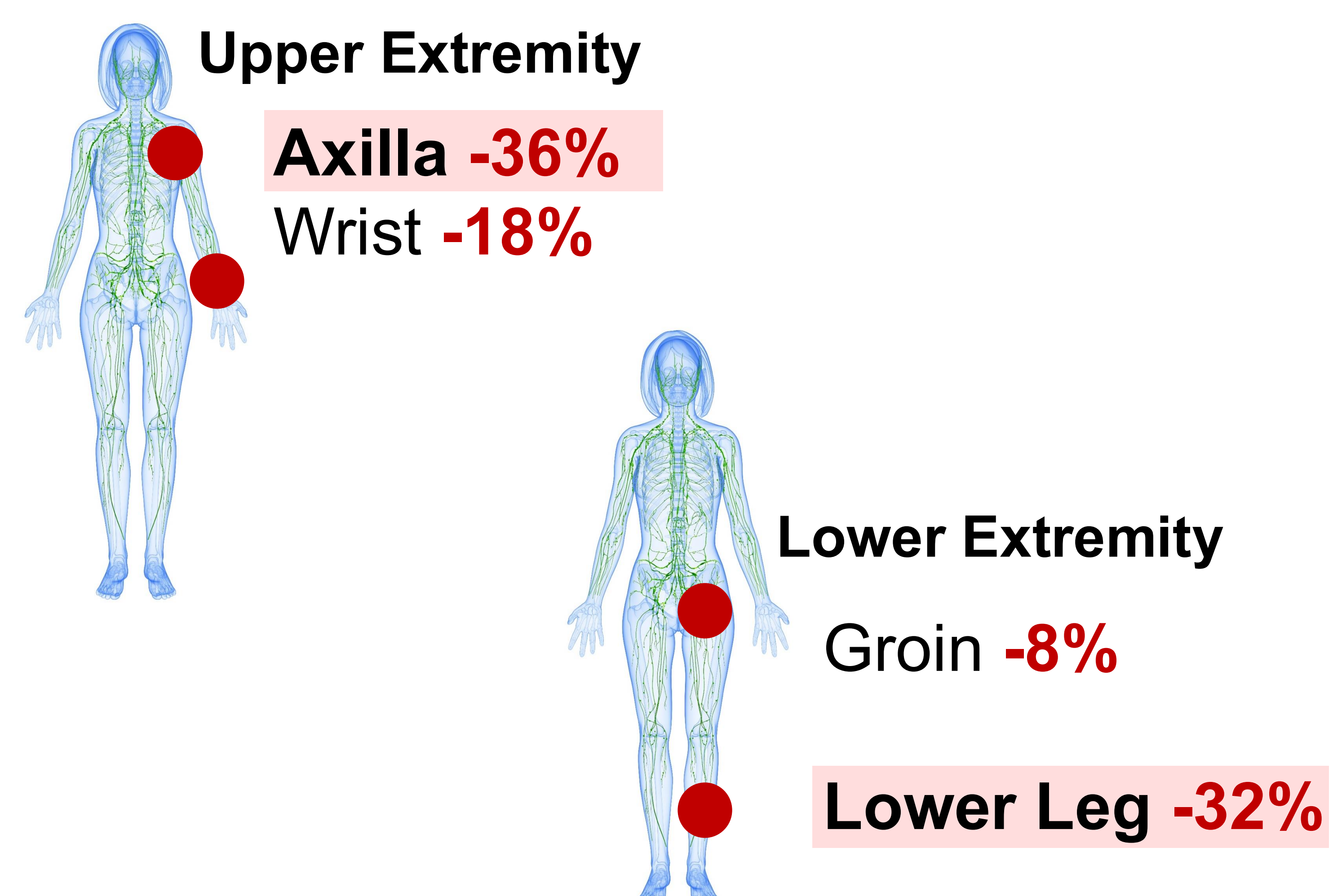
Prospective registry of patients undergoing **unilateral VLNT** for lymphedema of the extremity. Measurement of limb circumferences before and after VLNT.

Results

All **donor sites** demonstrate comparable long-term effectiveness, regardless of whether patients undergo additional liposuction. In contrast, **recipient site** selection significantly affects long-term effectiveness.



Long-term **donor site** effectiveness



Long-term **recipient site** effectiveness

Conclusion

All included **donor sites** demonstrate comparable long-term effectiveness. Consequently, donor site selection should be individualized to minimize donor site morbidity. In contrast, **recipient site** selection significantly influences long-term effectiveness, with the **axilla** and the **lower leg** achieving the greatest reductions in upper and lower extremity lymphedema, respectively.