

# BECOMING AN HOSPITAL PHARMACIST: AN OBSERVATIONAL CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY ON THE EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS FROM STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE



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## Background

Despite the Common Training Framework project, routes to become an hospital pharmacist in Europe remain extremely patchy. Enrollment in a post-graduate Hospital Pharmacy School (SHP) is the way to become a hospital pharmacist in Italy. Despite a harmonizing effort occurred in 2015, students still describe a heterogeneous real life situation of SHPs between different universities which results in learning difficulties and lack of scholarship.

## Purpose

The main objective of our study is to **evaluate**, through the first national survey, **the possible differences in the educational** pathway of Italian SHP students.

## Methods

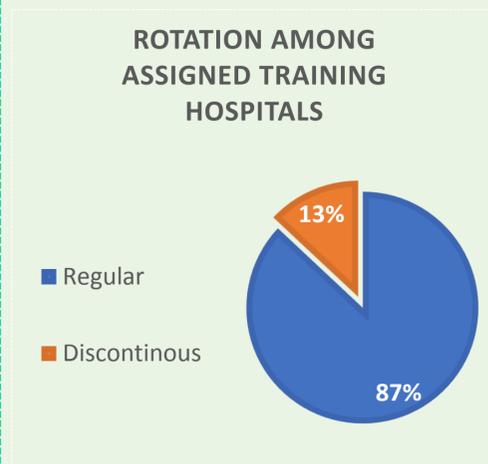
This is an observational cross-sectional students-oriented study. We investigated, through a questionnaire, 5 main topics:

- structure of residency training,
- study plan adherence,
- relationship between students and tutors,
- economic compensation,
- research activity.



## Results (1)

68% (172/278) of national SHP students voluntarily participated to the survey.



87% of students rotate between hospitals assigned for residency training, but 66% of them thought that lessons' schedule didn't fit with residency.

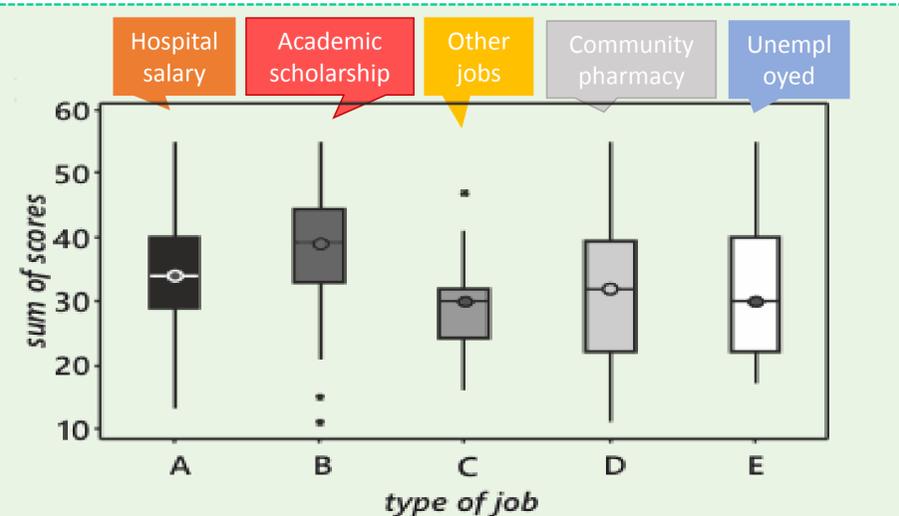
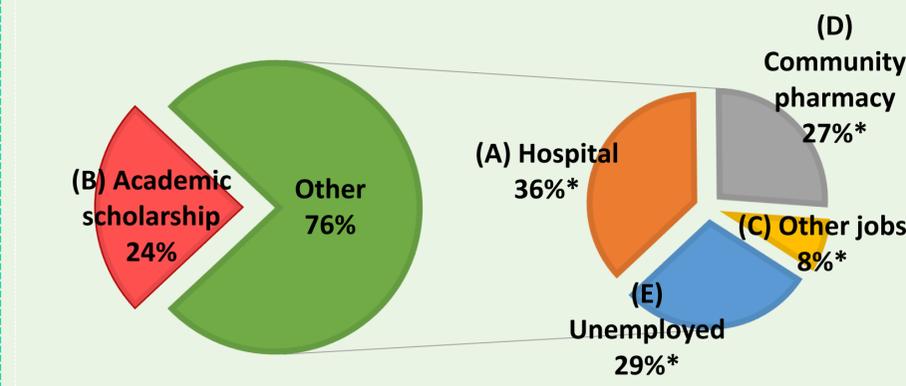
## Results (2)

We asked students to score the adherence to study plan in 11 key topics for training as hospital pharmacist.



## Results (3)

### WHERE DO STUDENTS FIND THEIR SALARY?



Despite SHP required a full-time residency, only 24% of students received a scholarship funded by university. \*Among the other students: 36% were employed by hospitals, 27% by community pharmacies, 8% worked out of pharmaceutical field and 29% didn't received any salary.

Students receiving an academic scholarship reported a higher adherence to study plan ( $P < 0.001$ ) and better educational scores.

## Conclusion

National SHPs still presented a patchwork-organization and as long as an academic scholarship is not granted to all SHP students, the competing interests of employer institutions and academia may lead to **important differences** in training. Thus, we hope that our results encourage more investments in SHPs also in the view of the growing responsibility of our profession.