

**THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE HOSPITAL PHARMACY TO THE HEALTHCARE OF PATIENTS ON ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY: AN IDENTIFICATION OF PATIENT NEEDS AND AN EVALUATION OF SERVICES PROVIDED.**

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**KEY QUESTIONS:**

How could the collaboration **between** the Hospital Pharmacy and the Infectious Diseases Unit contribute to the improvement of health care services provided to ambulatory **HIV patients**? Which are the **needs** of these patients?

**STUDY DESIGN:**

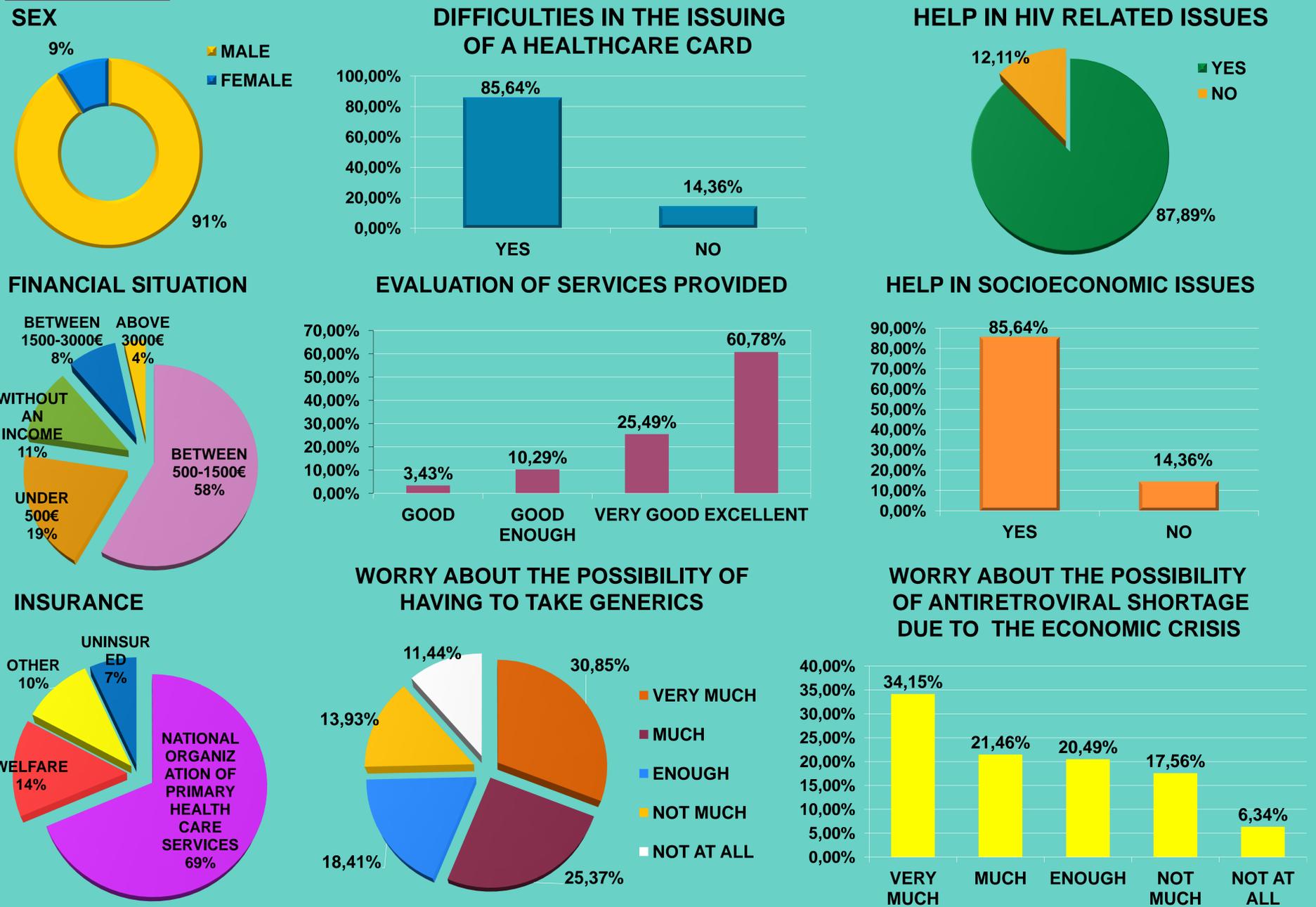
☞ In Greece, HIV-positive patients are monitored by Infectious Diseases Units of designated hospitals.

☞ A social worker employed by the Infectious Diseases Unit **but** offering services in the hospital pharmacy has assisted in the dispensing of medications, since November 2010.

☞ 210 patients of the Infectious Diseases Unit, receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) from the hospital pharmacy participated in the study from February 2013 to July 2013.

☞ **Demographic data** were collected and **services** were assessed through the use of an anonymous questionnaire and were analyzed by EXCEL.

**RESULTS :**



**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS:**

☞ **The extracurricular cooperation** between the two departments of the Hospital **contributed to** the improvement of the provided healthcare services to patients under ART in our country.

☞ **Difficulties** and **needs** were identified and most of them addressed.

☞ **The presence of the social worker** in the hospital pharmacy was considered **effective** and **valuable** and the **collaboration is on-going**.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

*We would like to thank especially the patients that agreed to participate in the study and the personnel of both departments.*