

INAPPROPRIATE PRESCRIBING FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE : IS THE HOSPITAL THE INITIATOR?

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BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Adverse drug reactions for older people = Cause of hospitalization of 10 to 20% of people aged of 60 years or over

Potentially inappropriate drugs (PID) :
Medications with an unfavorable benefit/risk ratio or a questionable efficacy while other and safer therapeutic alternatives are available

EVALUATION OF THE QUALITY OF PRESCRIPTION FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

- ❖ Are PID prescribed to our patients?
- ❖ Who did the first prescription occurring for this treatment : our hospital doctors or family doctors?



MATERIALS AND METHODS

A list of PID, which contains 34 criteria, specially adapted to the French medical practice, was used as a reference (1). Only 28 concern drugs used in our hospital. We analyzed the prescriptions of patients, who were 75 years old or over, hospitalized one precise day chosen arbitrarily, in medical, surgical and obstetrical care units.

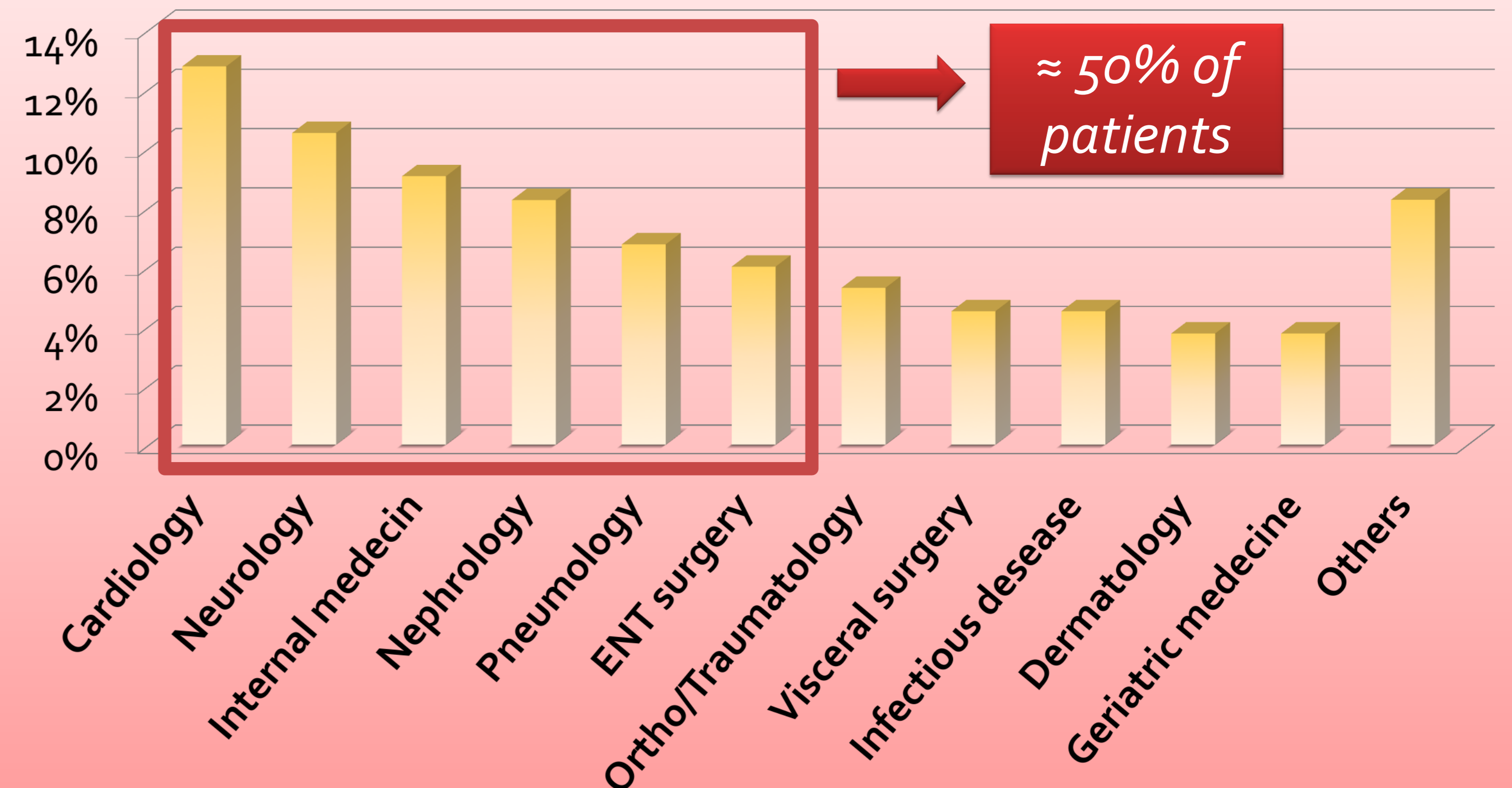
RESULTS

PATIENTS

- n = 133
 - 29,6% of hospitalized patients
 - 80 women
 - 53 men
- $p < 0,05$



NUMBER OF DRUGS PRESCRIBED	Maximum	Minimum	Average
Systemic use drugs	20	1	≈ 8
Local use drugs	5	0	≈ 0



POTENTIALLY INAPPROPRIATE DRUGS (PID)

❖ 31 patients (23,3%) with at list 1 PID

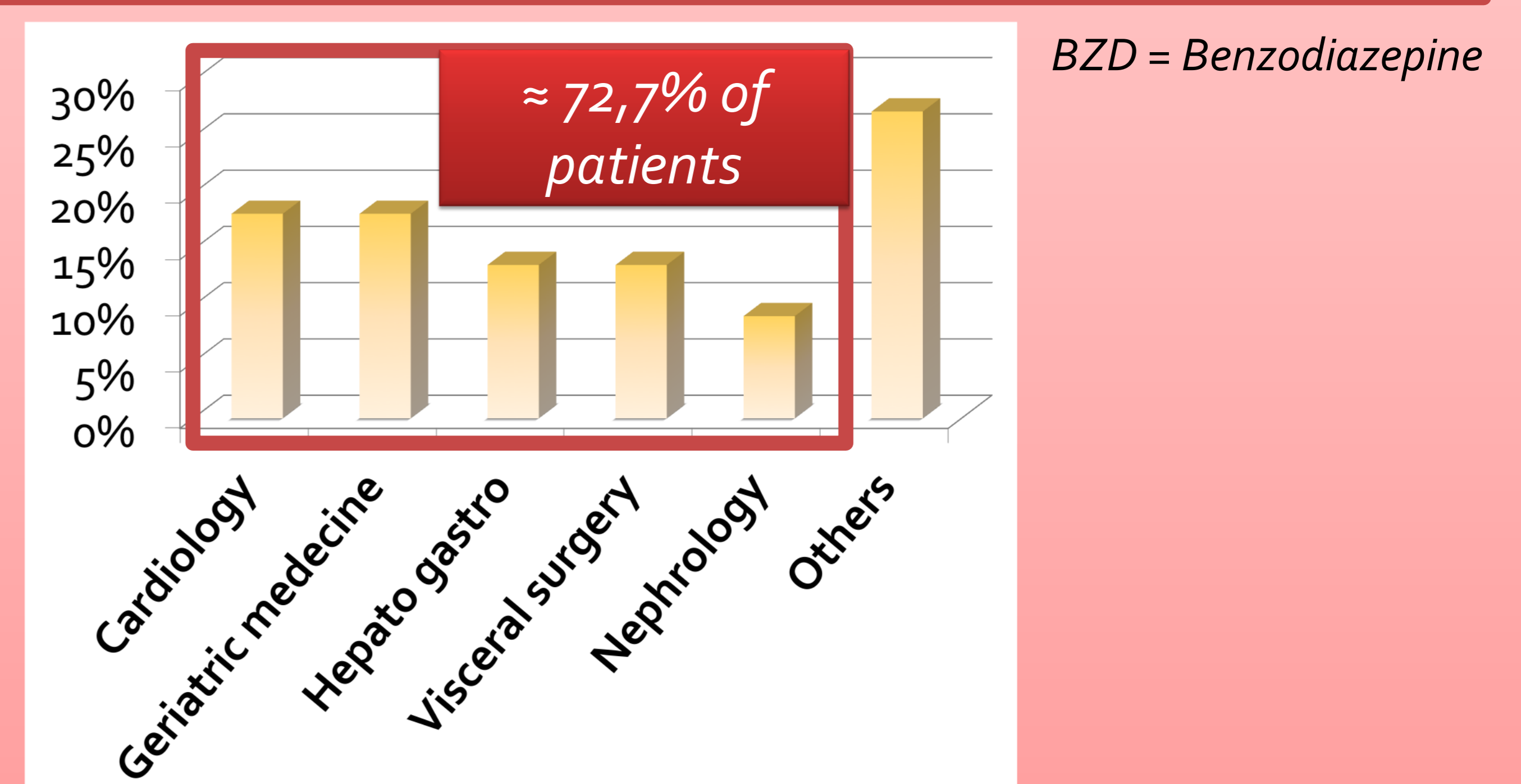
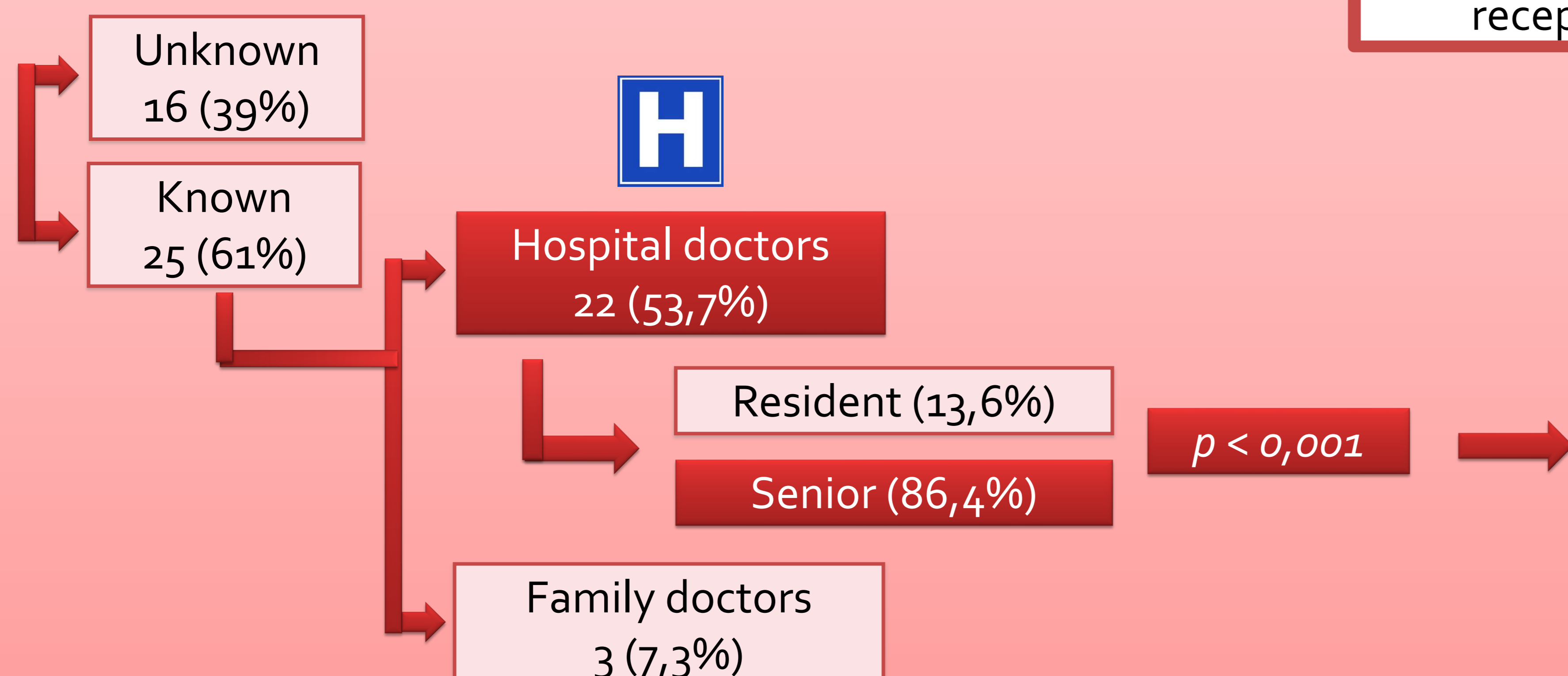
❖ 41 PID and 8 criteria of the PID list concerned

NUMBER OF PID	n	%
Patients with 1 PID	24	18%
Patients with 2 PID	5	3,8%
Patients with 3 PID and more	2	1,6%

N°	Content	n	%
6	Hypnotics with anticholinergic properties	1	2,4%
7	Antihistamines H1	3	7,3%
10	BZD and BZD receptor-agonists with long half-life	10	24,4%
11	Alpha-agonists with central acting	6	14,6%
24	Drugs with anticholinergic properties	1	2,4%
26	Cerebral vasodilators	2	4,9%
27	BZD or BZD receptor-agonist with doses superior to the half -dose of young adult	10	24,4%
33	Co-prescription of 2 and more BZD or BZD receptor-agonists	8	19,5%

68,3% = inappropriate prescription of psychotropics drugs

❖ PID initiators



CONCLUSIONS

Studies showed that PID are responsible for 6% of adverse events due to medications. These results were diffused to care units concerned to improve the prescription's quality for elderly people. Collaborating with geriatrics specialists, we will elaborate a tool able to aware doctors about psychotropic drugs' prescriptions.