

# PREVALENCE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF COMPLEMENTARY THERAPY USE IN PATIENTS UNDERGOING ONCOLOGICAL TREATMENT

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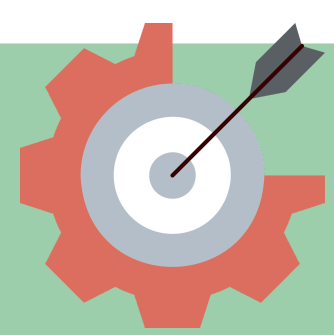
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## BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE



Complementary therapies, including **herbal products** (HP), are frequently used by cancer patients. Unsupervised use may compromise the **efficacy and safety** of anticancer treatment.

## AIM AND OBJECTIVES

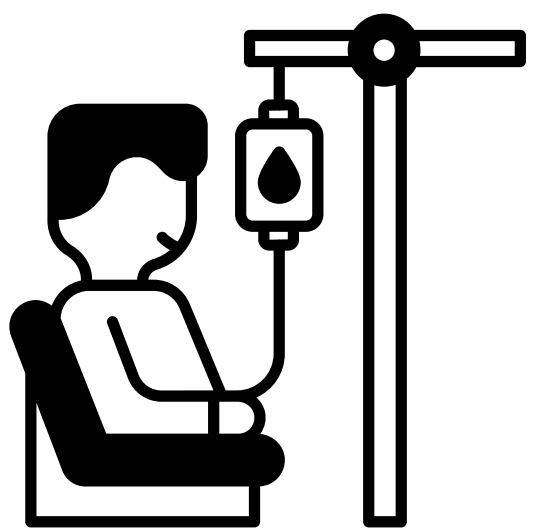


Prospective longitudinal study

To evaluate the **prevalence of HP use** in oncology patients treated at the **Hospital Outpatient Clinic** (HOC).

To identify the **most commonly used HP**, patient–healthcare professional **communication**, and **main sources** of patient information on these therapies.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

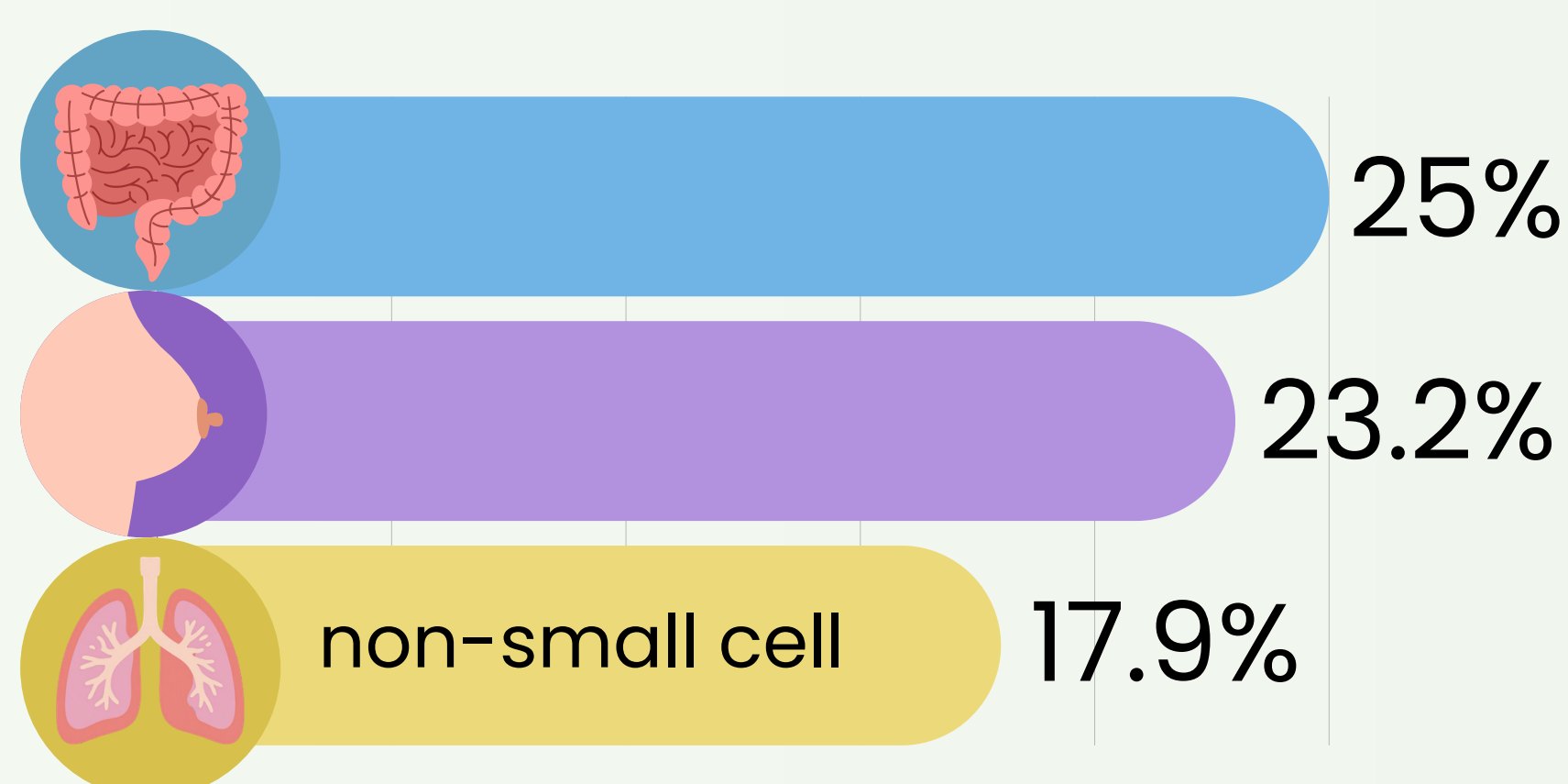


Patients receiving oncological treatment in the HOC (April–June 2025) > 18 years.

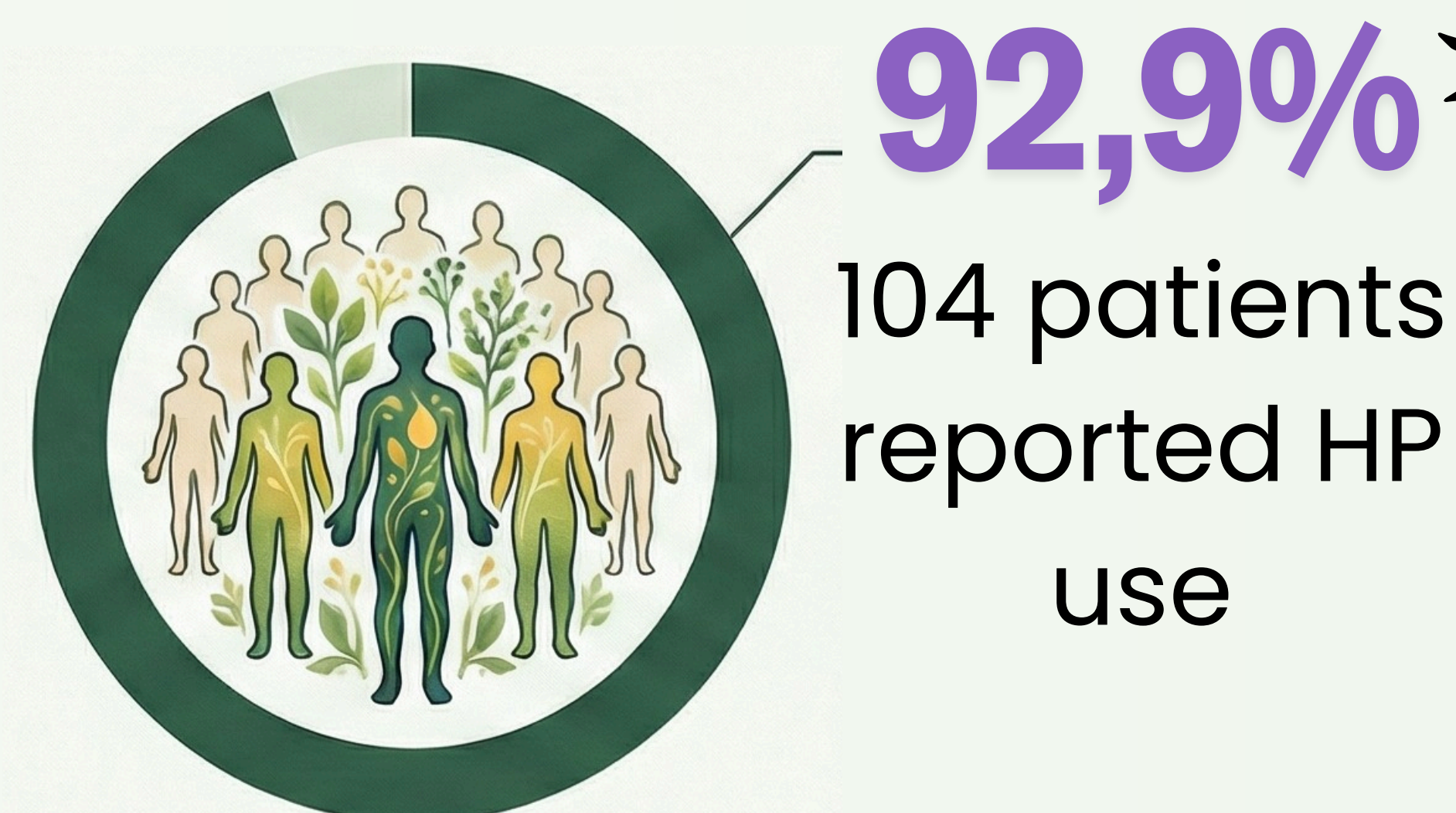
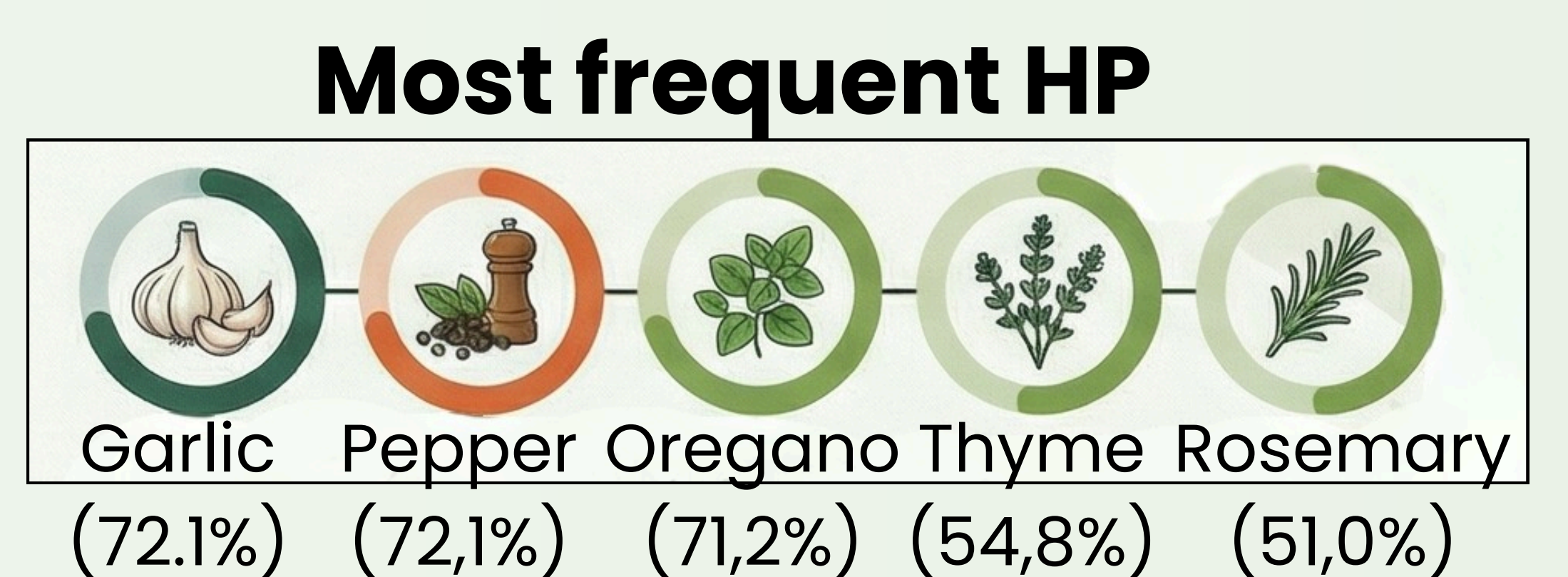
HP use was assessed through a **7-item survey** designed by the research team based on validated questionnaires. Multiple responses were allowed.

## RESULTS

**112 patients** were included, 55.4% women, median age 64 (57–72) years

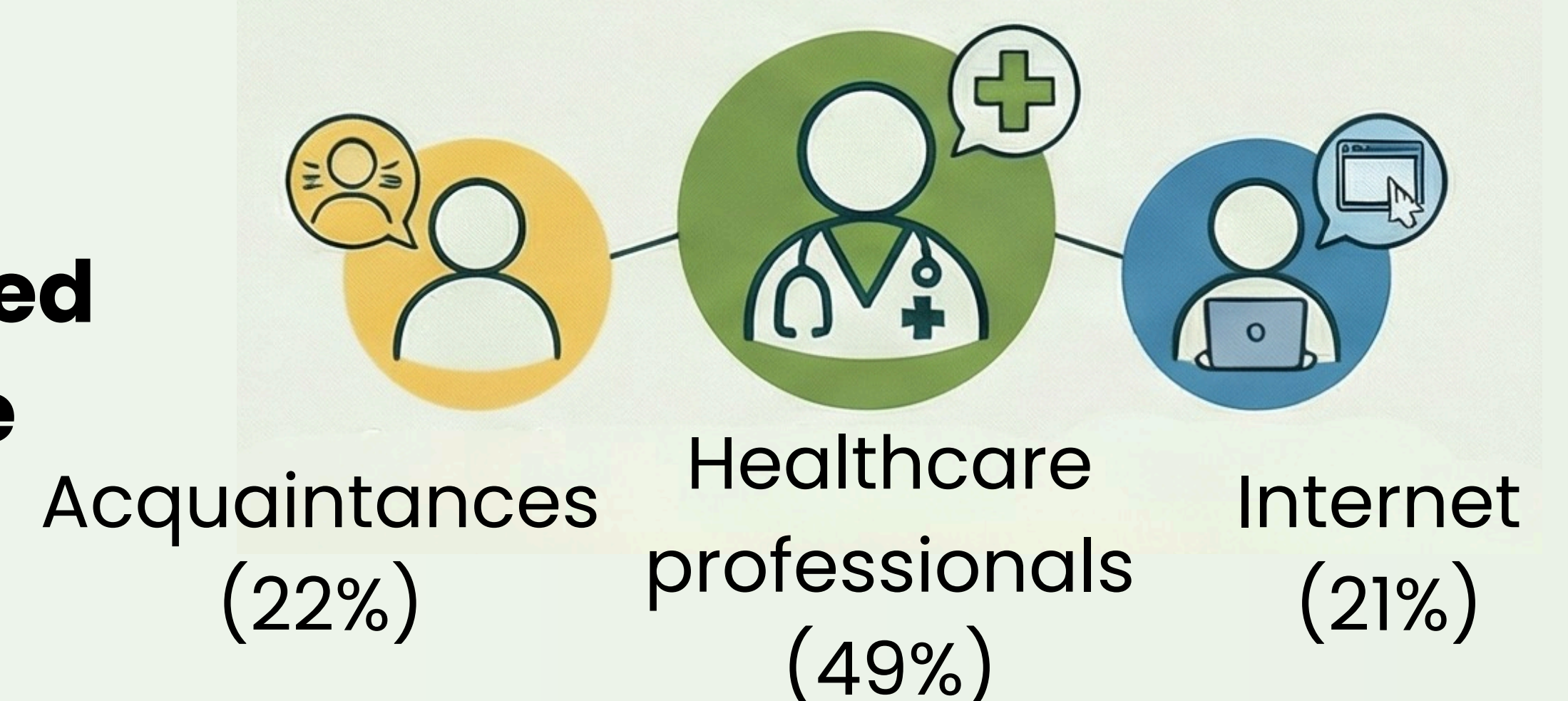


**A total of 46 different HP were reported**



**70.2% had not been asked about it by healthcare professionals**

### Main sources of information



## CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

Oncology patients HP use is highly prevalent and may result in interaction risks.. Systematic recording and patient education are recommended to ensure safe treatment.

