

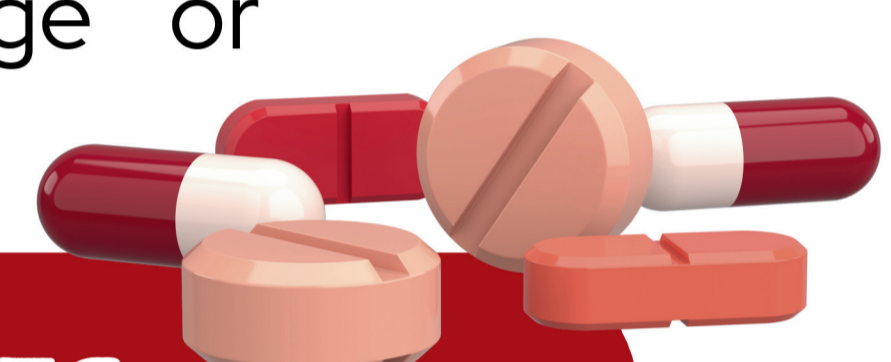
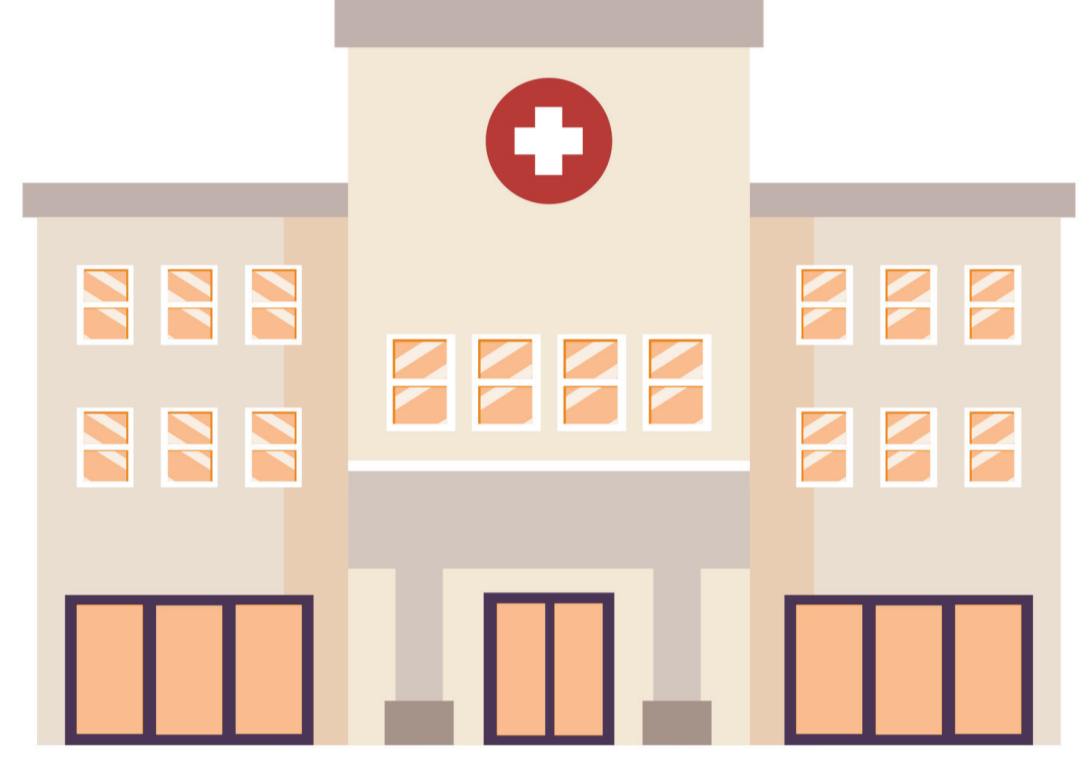
# SUSPECTED ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS IN THE EMERGENCY SETTING: ANALYSIS FOR IDENTIFICATION OF HIGH RISK POPULATIONS AS POSSIBLE TARGETS FOR PHARMACIST INTERVENTION

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## BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Suspected adverse drug reactions (sADRs) represent a significant cause of Emergency Department visits and hospitalizations, with a clinical and economic impact. Continuous investigation of sADRs enables the identification of risk patterns, particularly in high-risk populations, due to age or polypharmacy.



## AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- To describe the characteristics of sADRs leading to Emergency Department visits in a University Hospital.
- To identify high-risk populations as potential targets for pharmacist interventions.

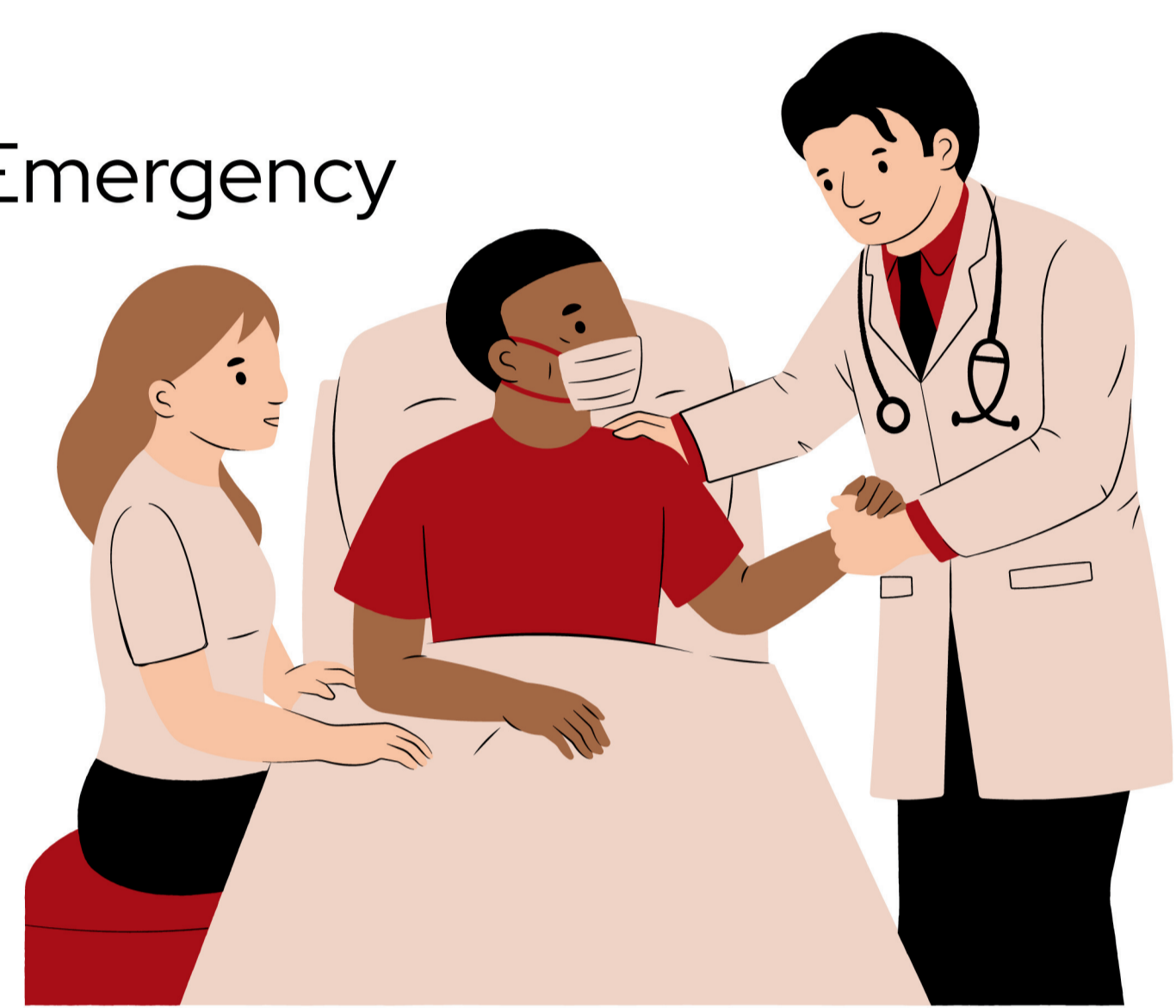
## MATERIALS AND METHODS



Suspected ADR reports submitted by the Emergency Department to the National Pharmacovigilance Network from January 2023 to July 2025.

- Target population: patients admitted to the Emergency Department because of a sADR.
- Inclusion criteria: adults ( $\geq 18$  years old).

Data analysis: age, sex, suspected drugs, MedDRA preferred terms, seriousness, causality (Naranjo algorithm), hospitalization, polypharmacy ( $\geq 5$  medications), potential inappropriateness (Beers Criteria for  $\geq 65$  years).

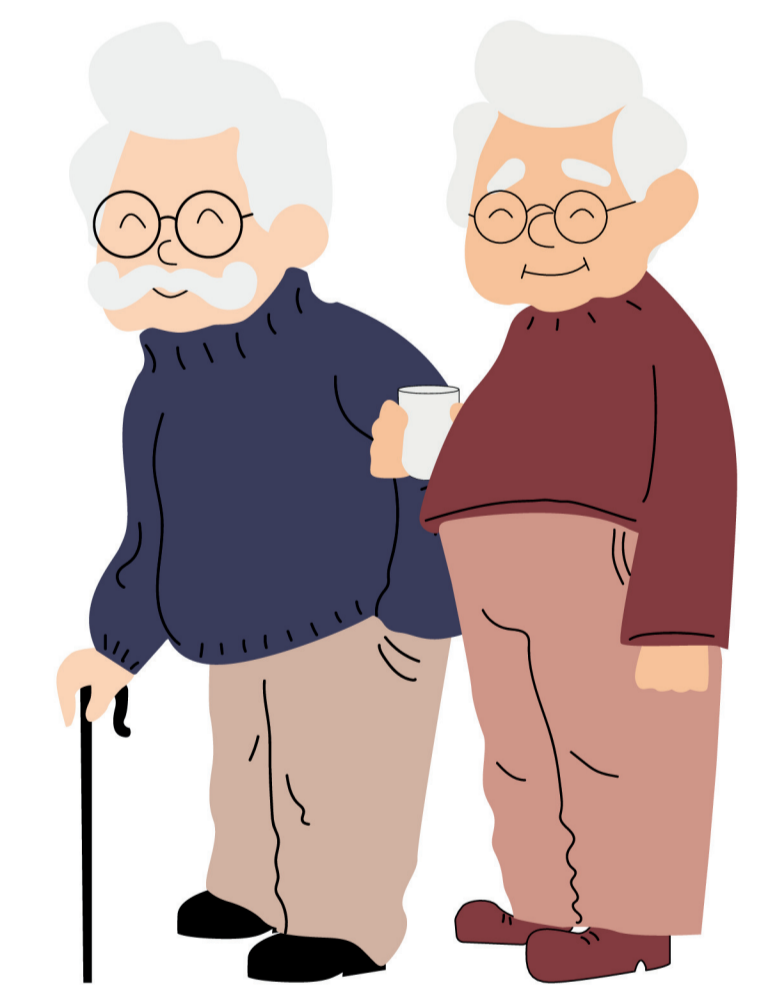


- Categorical variables expressed as frequencies and percentages.
- Continuous variables as means and standard deviations.

## RESULTS



**416** reports/patients analysed  
**712** total sADRs  
**207 (50%)** patients  $\geq 65$  years old



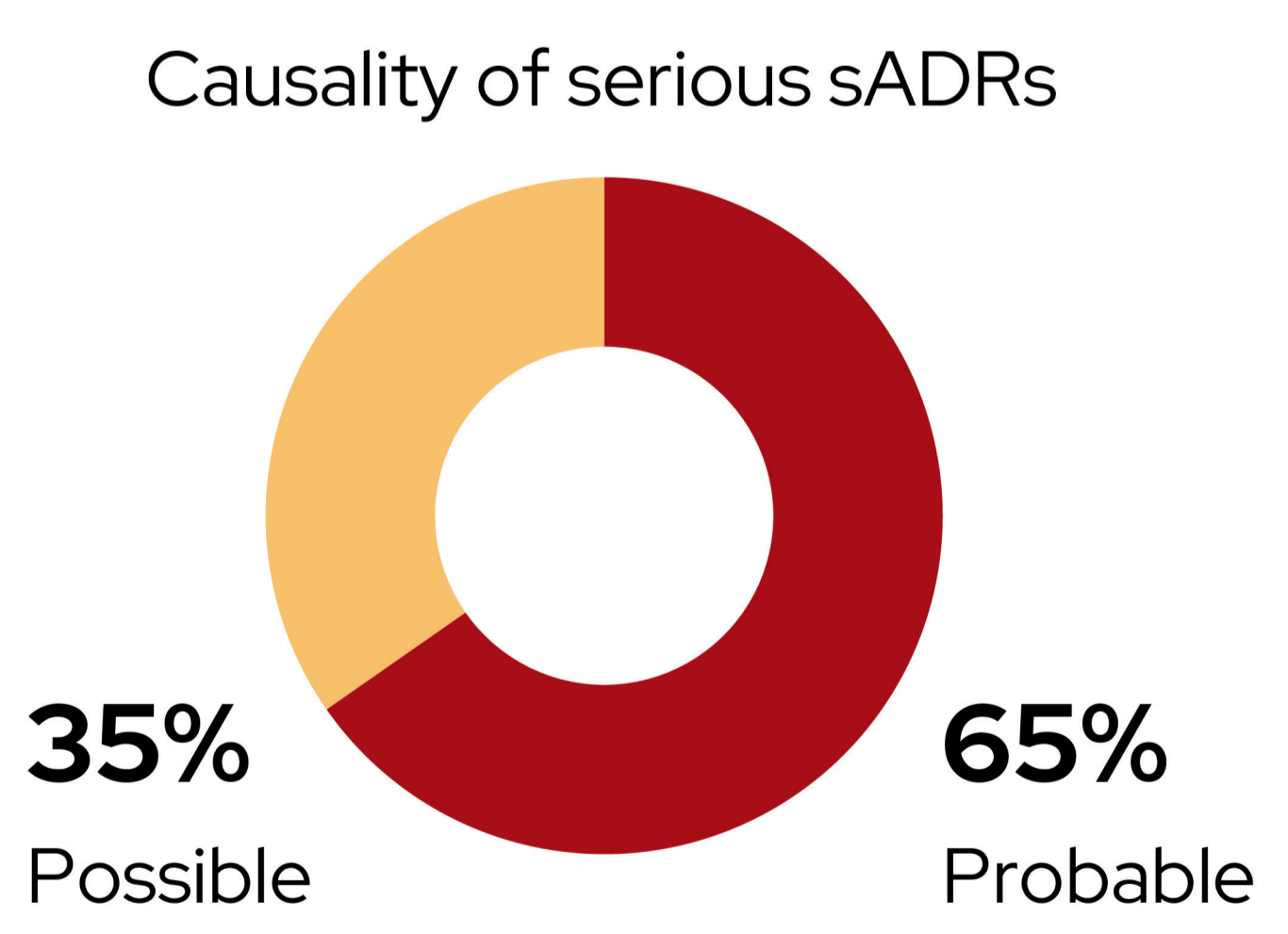
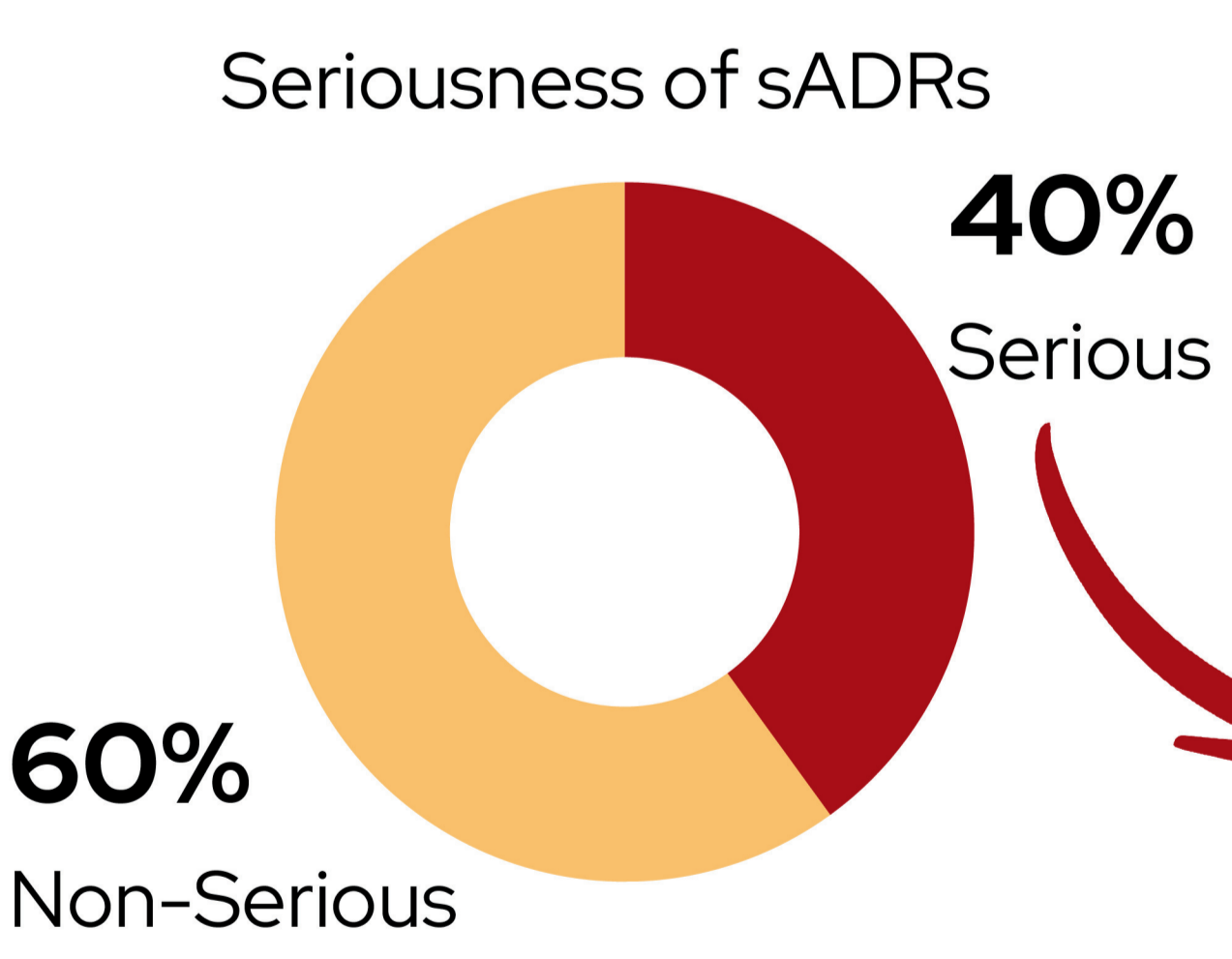
**57%** female patients  
Mean Age  **$61 \pm 21$  years**



Required hospitalization  
**132 (19%)** sADRs  
**107 (81%)** sADRs classified as serious  
**72 (17%)** patients

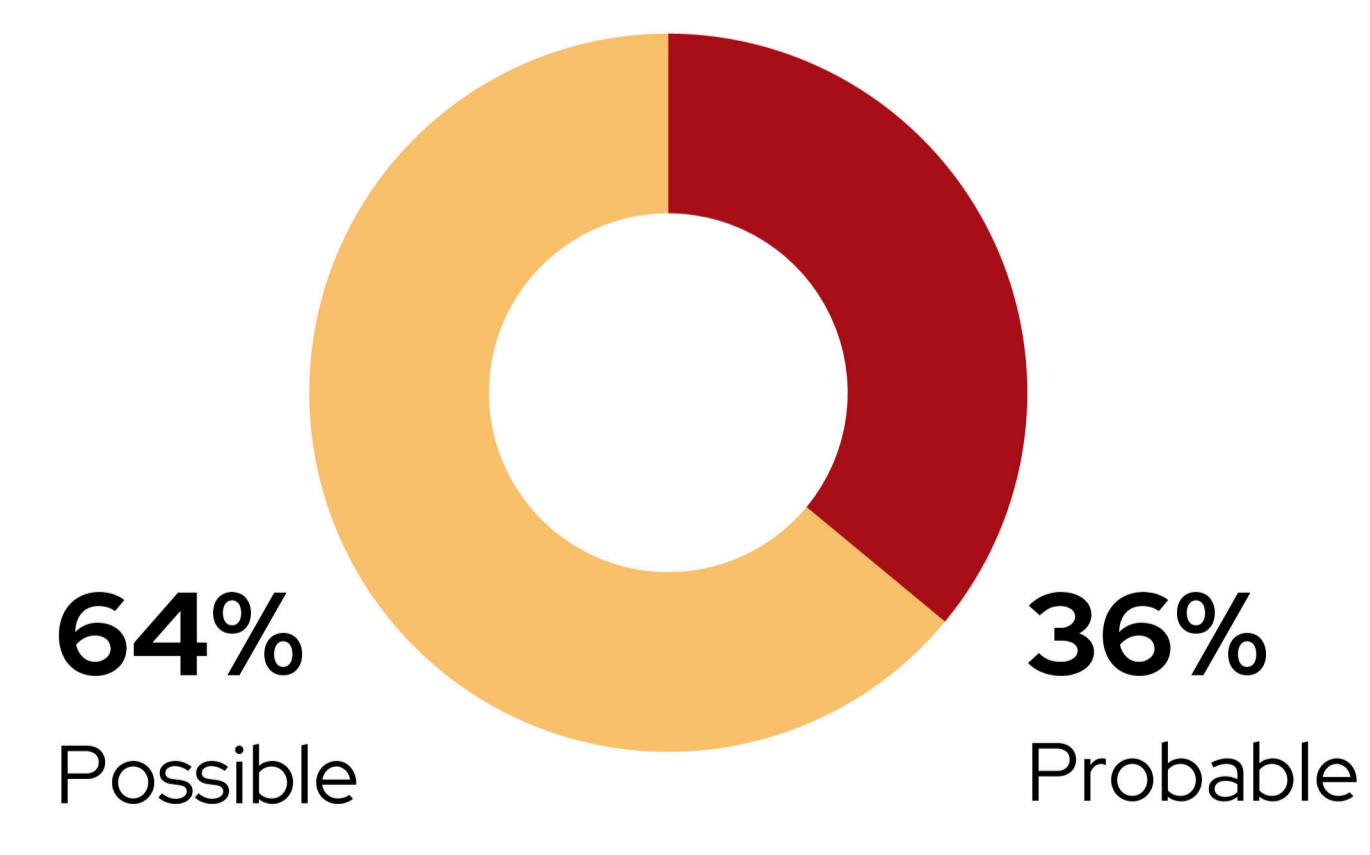
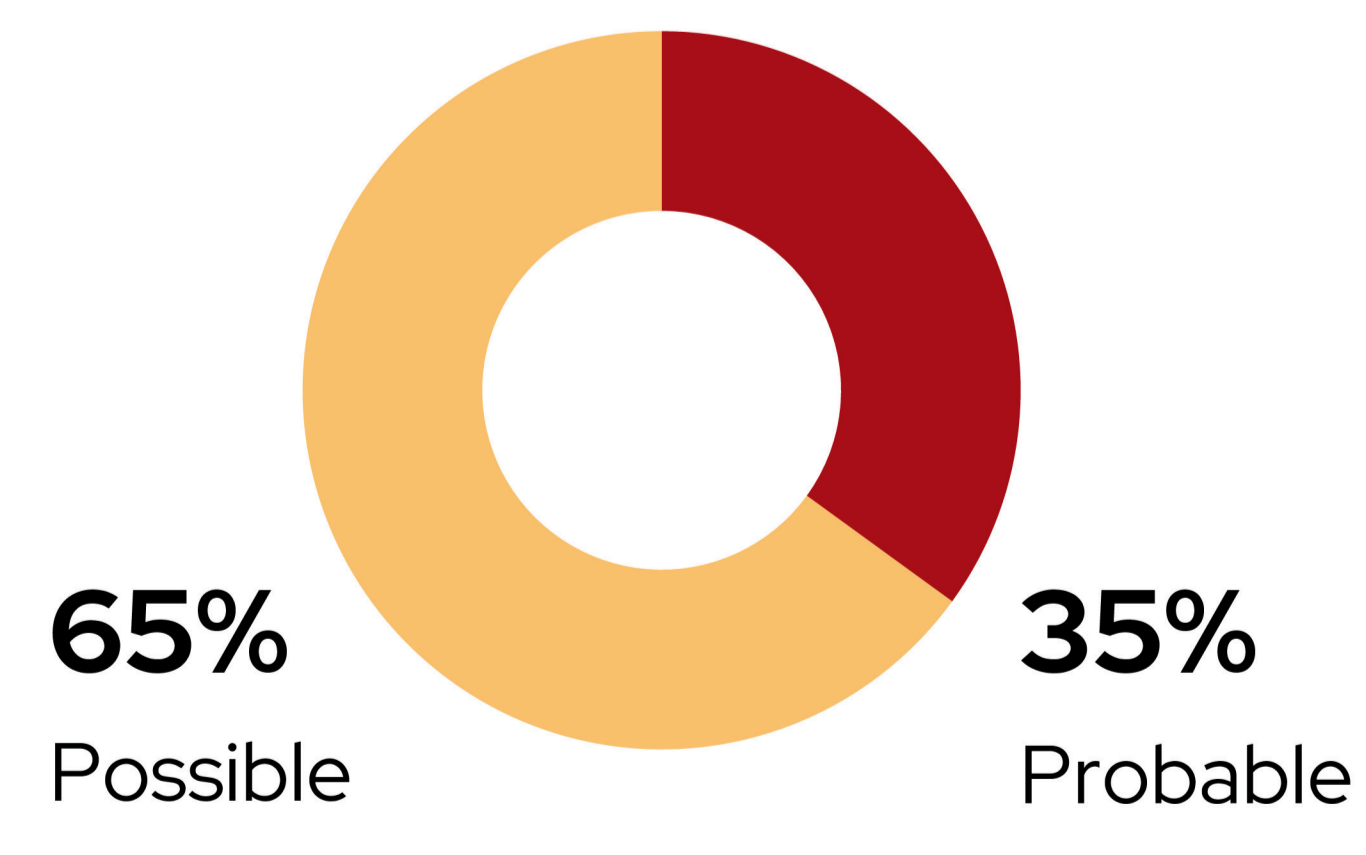
**16 (4%)** patients  $\geq 65$  years old with potentially inappropriate medications according to Beers Criteria  
Causality of serious sADRs (potentially inappropriate medications)

**48 (12%)** patients with polypharmacy  
Causality of serious sADRs (polypharmacy)



**Frequent Preferred Terms**  
- Allergic reactions - Nausea  
- Hemorrhage - Rectorrhagia

**Most commonly suspected drugs**  
- Amoxicillin/clavulanate - Apixaban  
- Rivaroxaban - Ibuprofen



## CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

Characterization of Emergency Department sADRs was essential to detect high-risk populations as possible targets for pharmacist interventions. Approximately 16% of all Emergency Department sADRs requiring hospitalization (12% related to polypharmacy and 4% to potentially inappropriate prescriptions) could represent potential targets for such interventions. Anticoagulants would be the main drug class to attention.

**Frequent Preferred Terms in hospitalized patients**

- Cerebral hemorrhage
- Rectorrhagia
- Melena



**Most commonly suspected drugs in hospitalized patients**

- Rivaroxaban
- Warfarin
- Dabigatran etoxilate

