

BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

- ❖ Prescription medication sharing poses a threat to both individual and public health.
- ❖ Such behavior may lead to medication errors and increased domestic healthcare costs.
- ❖ Studies have shown that willingness is a factor relevant to behavior.
- ❖ Limited research has examined willingness in relation to medication sharing.



AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Investigate willingness to share prescription medications
- ✓ Examine medications intended for sharing
- ✓ Identify potential lenders or borrowers

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Data source

- ❖ A cross-sectional study was conducted using an online self-administered questionnaire in November 2020.

Study population

- ❖ Among 1,000 adults, data from 476 adults aged 19-69 years who had never shared one or more prescription medications were analyzed.

Statistical analysis

- ❖ Descriptive analysis was used to summarize participant demographics and information related to their willingness to share medications.
- ❖ Logistic regression analysis was performed to identify factors associated with willingness to share medications.

RESULTS

Participant Characteristics

1,000 Adults Surveyed

Analytic Sample (Never Shared) n = 476		524 Ever Shared (Shared Prescription Medications)
Male n = 246	Female n = 230	

Figure 1. Distribution of Study Participants and Analytic Sample

- ❖ Of the 1,000 adults surveyed, 476 had never shared prescription medications, whereas 524 reported having shared at least once.
- ❖ Analytic sample comprised 476 respondents who had never shared prescription medications.
- ❖ The mean age of these 476 respondents was 44.7 years (standard deviation [SD], 13.3), ranging from 20 to 69 years.
- ❖ Among the 476 respondents, 246 were male and 230 were female.

RESULTS

Willingness to Share

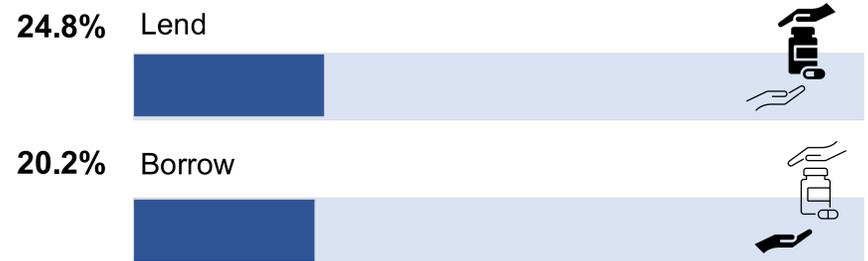


Figure 2. Willingness to Lend and Borrow Prescription Medications

- ❖ The rates of willingness to lend and borrow prescription medications were 24.8% and 20.2%, respectively.
- ❖ No demographic characteristics were significantly associated with willingness to lend or borrow in logistic regression analyses.

Medications Intended for Sharing

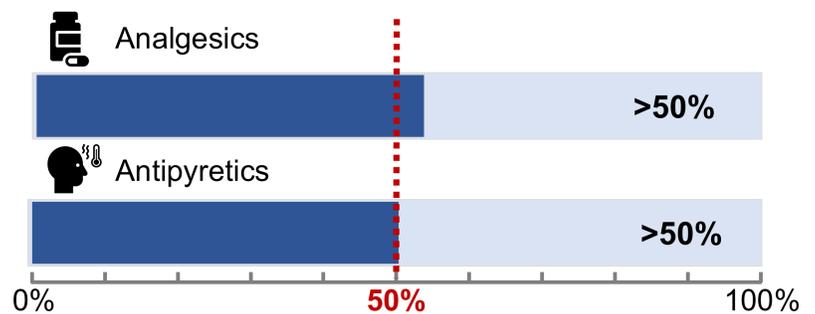


Figure 3. Types of Medications Selected for Sharing

- ❖ More than half selected the following as the medications they would share.

Potential Sharing Partners

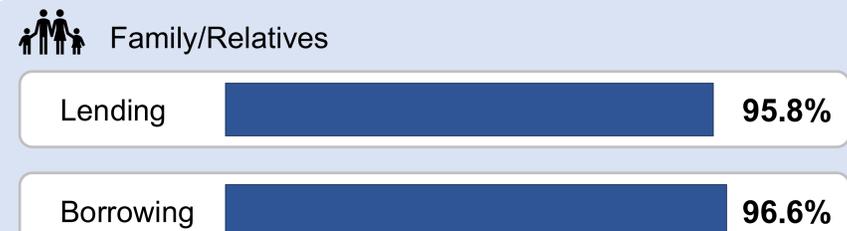


Figure 4. Types of Sharing Partners

- ❖ The most common sharing partner was family / relatives (~96%)

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

- ❖ More than 20% of respondents who had never shared prescription medications reported a willingness to share prescription medications.
- ❖ Health professionals should be aware of contexts in which medication sharing may occur and exercise caution when prescribing or dispensing medications that are likely to be shared.

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KEYWORDS & QR Code

- ❖ Prescription medication sharing
- ❖ Medication sharing
- ❖ Willingness to lend medications
- ❖ Willingness to borrow medications

