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# What do oncologists and pharmacists think and want from a Complementary and Alternative Herbal Medicine (CAHM)-drug interaction checker? A broadscale survey to assess expectations.

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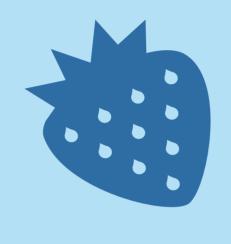
#### **BACKGROUND**

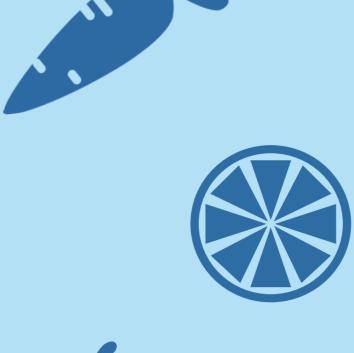
- Widespread use of CAHMs by cancer patients
- Potential consequences of CAHM-drug interactions (CAHMDI): toxicity or decreased efficacy with therapeutic failure
- A CAHMDI-tool may provide health care professionals with evidence-based information
- A CAHMDI-tool may facilitate open communication without neglecting patient's beliefs and preferences





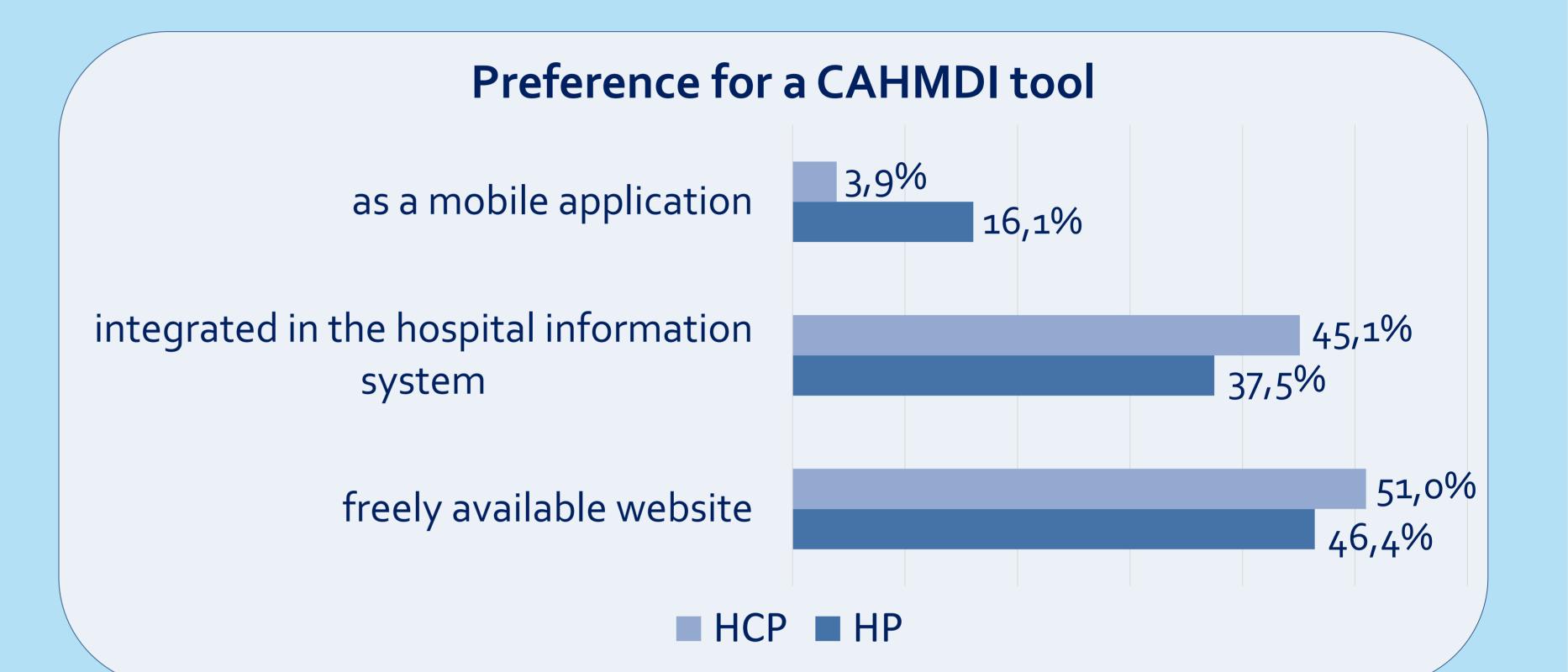






#### AIM

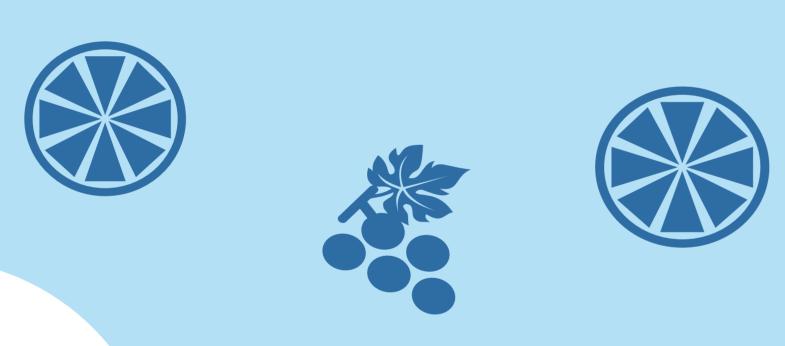
Assessing future users' expectations of a practical tool to manage CAHMDI.





#### **METHODS**

By conducting a survey on health care professionals in oncology practice (HCP) and hospital pharmacists (HP).



In their current daily practice, the most commonly consulted resources for checking CAHMDI by HCP were consulting a clinical pharmacist (33,9%) and Lexicomp Drug Interactions® (21,4%).

HP mentioned Stockley's Herbal Drug Interactions® (21,3%) and Lexicomp Drug Interactions® (21,3%).

## **RESULTS**

The survey was completed by 37 HCP and 27 HP. The results clearly demonstrated an interest in a CAHMDI tool, as confirmed by 94,6% and 100,0% of the HCP and HP, respectively.



# Frequency of questioning patients about the use of CAHMs by HCP \_13,5%

35,1% 27,0% 24,3%

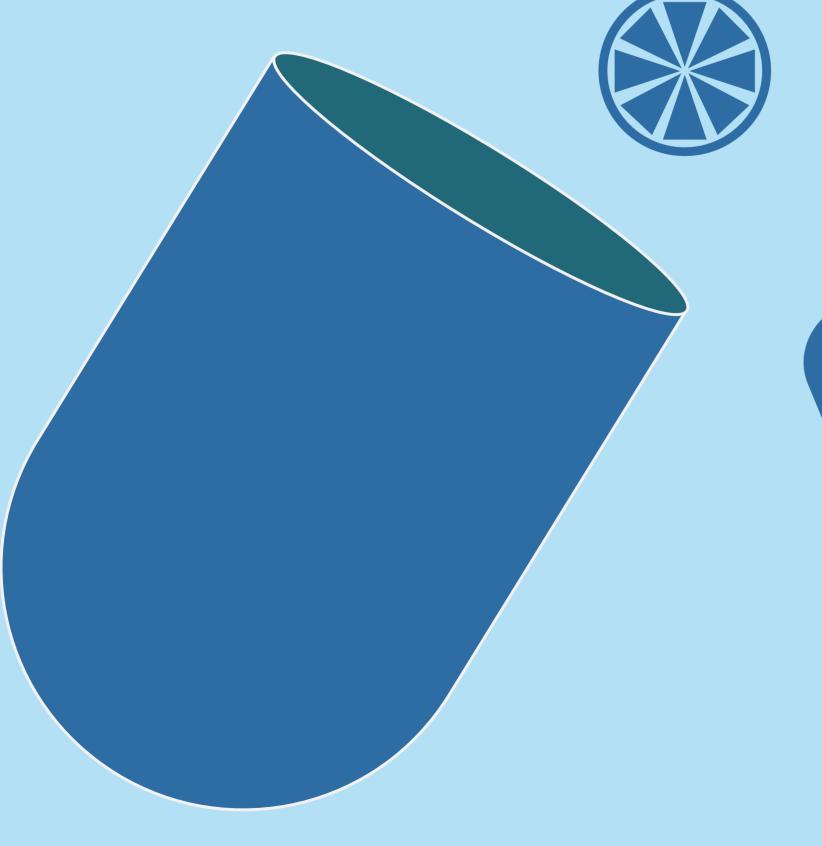
■ never ■ often ■ rarely ■ sometimes

## Top 5 most popular CAHMs reported by HCP

- 1. Cannabis products
- 2. Turmeric
- 3. Combination preparations
- 4. St John's wort
- 5. Homeopathy

## Top 5 most popular CAHMs reported by HP

- 1. Combination preparations
- 2. Valerian
- 3. Turmeric
- 4. St John's wort
- 5. Omega 3 acids





CONCLUSION

Developing a user-friendly CAHMDI checker would be helpful for HCP and HP. Alerting about CAHMDI could enhance prescribers' knowledge and awareness about this topic and enable them to inform patients about the potential adverse effects of these easily accessible CAHMs.



