

MONITORING ANTIEMETIC REGIMENS WITH APREPITANT IN CANCER PATIENTS

S. Martínez, J.J. García, A. Martiarena, M. Nogales, V. Goitia, M.A. Andrés, C. Martínez

Hospital Universitario de Álava-Txagorritxu center, Pharmacy, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain

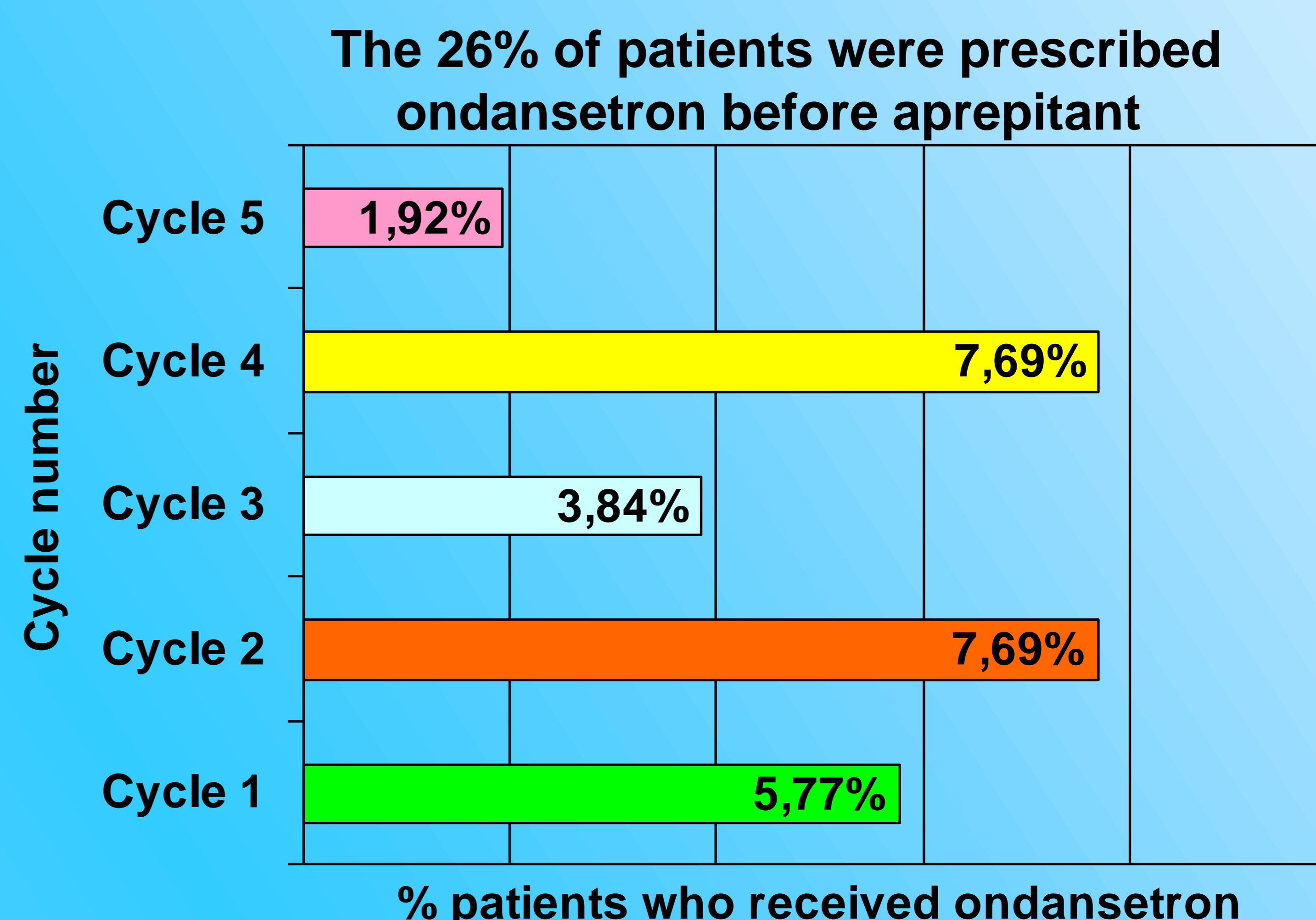
BACKGROUND: After including aprepitant in hospital's pharmacotherapeutic guide 5 years ago, we decided to check if it is being used as defined by the Drug and Therapeutic Committee that approved its use after failure of other antiemetic therapies.

PURPOSE: Analyze the use of aprepitant in the Oncology Department of our hospital.

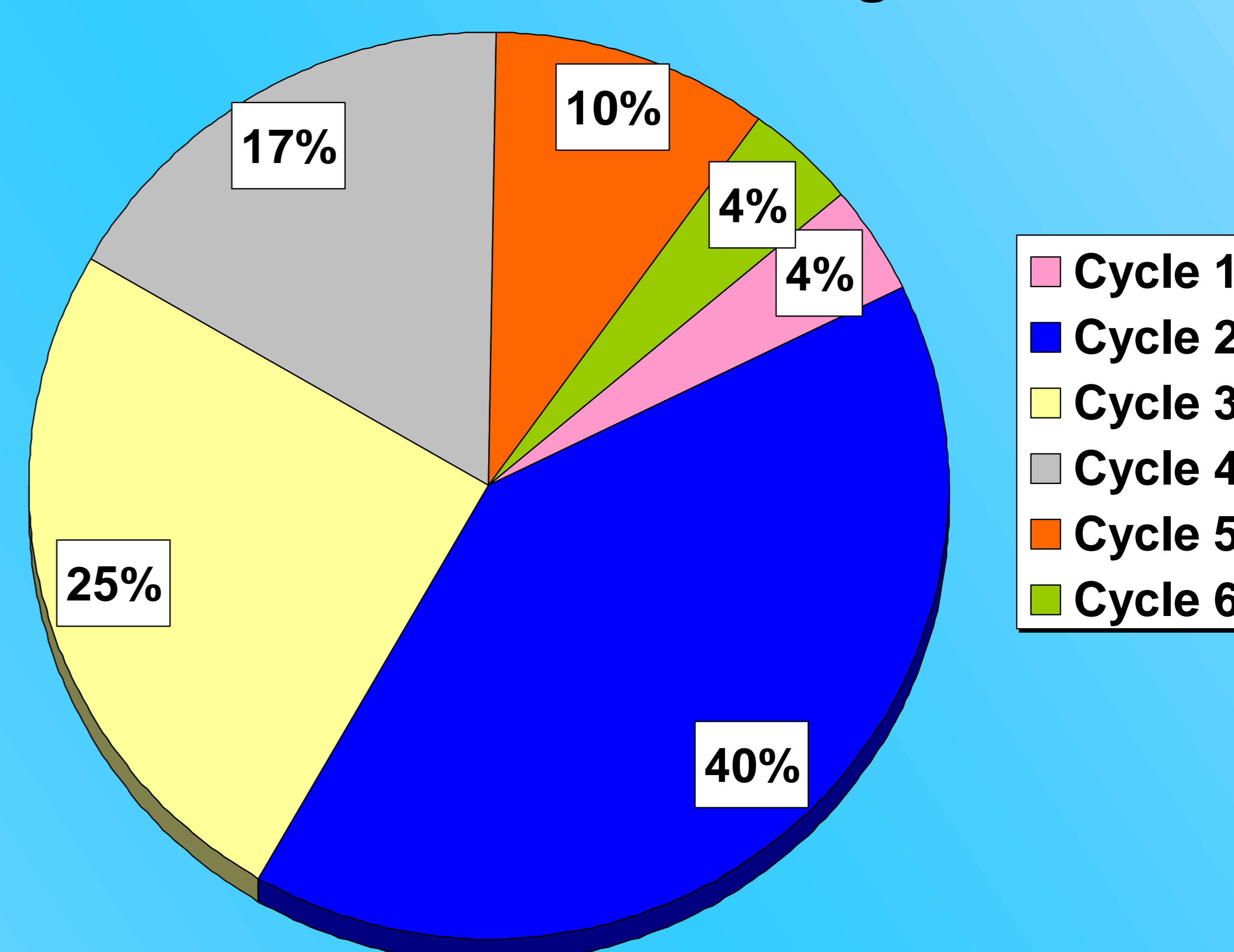
MATERIAL AND METHODS: We used the cytostatic prescription program (Oncofarm Farmis-version 9.0.0.27) and dispensing program (AS-400) to obtain the patients treated with aprepitant. The study period was from May 2010 to December 2011.

RESULTS:

Number of patients	52 (84% female)
Average age	49 (range 19-69)
Diagnosis	65% Breast cancer Rest: Non small cell lung cancer (5,76%), colon cancer (3,84%), ovarian cancer (3,85%)...
Stage	27% stage I 29% stage II 24% stage III 16% stage IV
Chemotherapy scheme	55% FEC 500-100-500
First line antiemetic therapy	Metoclopramide ± Dexamethasone
Radiotherapy	9,6%



Cycle number change to aprepitant after another antiemetic regimen



CONCLUSIONS: In our hospital aprepitant is mainly used in chemotherapy regimens that include anthracyclines in combination with cyclophosphamide. It is prescribed after first line antiemetic regimen failure; fulfilling indications established by Drug and Therapeutic Committee.

However, it would be advisable to check periodically antiemetic guidelines to comply with the reference guides such as NCCN, ASCO, MASCC ...