

Detection and quality of alcohol consumption history-taking in a Tertiary University Hospital in Catalonia, Spain.

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Nurses often underestimate alcohol consumption in hospitalised patients with unhealthy alcohol use

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Background

- Quantification of alcohol intake is the initial step to assess adequately the alcohol drinking pattern
- There are scarce data in medical literature regarding adequacy of alcohol consumption history-taking in different clinical settings, and particularly regarding routine hospital practice.

Background

- Rates of recording quantitative alcohol consumption vary widely in different studies
 - Primary care
 - *Babor TE, 2005*
 - » 24- 50% nurses records
 - » 19- 44% medical records
 - *Bueno Ortiz JM, 1997*
 - » 24% medical records
 - General Internal Medicine Ward
 - *Lloyd G, 1982*
 - » 94% medical records
 - » underestimation of the amount consumed and dependence symptoms

Objectives

- 1) To assess the methods of registering alcohol consumption in our institution
 - medical records
 - nurses histories
- 2) To identify factors associated with recording

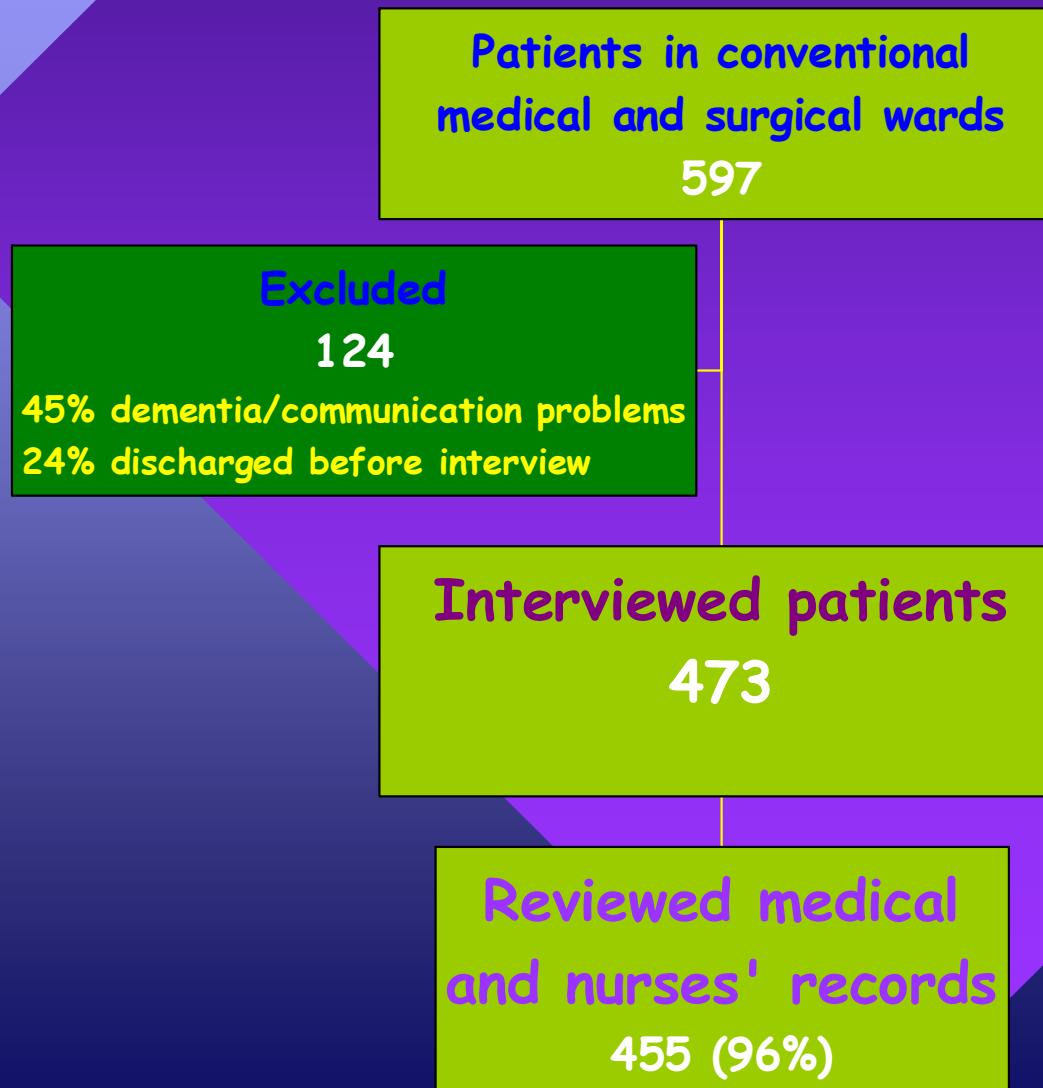
Patients and Methods

- **Design:** prospective, observational
- **Setting:** 800-bed University hospital that serves an area of 1 million inhabitants in Southern Barcelona
- **Populations studied:**
 - 1) **General hospitalized population:** All adult patients hospitalized for any reason on December 15, 2005. (cross-sectional)
 - 2) **Patients with unhealthy alcohol use:** All patients who had been prospectively identified by the brief intervention team between October 2002 and October 2005. (longitudinal)

Patients and Methods

- Information about alcohol use was collected from the medical and nurses' histories for the current admission.
- Alcohol use and drinking patterns
 - AUDIT-C, AUDIT-10, MALT questionnaires and clinical assessments.
 - Consumption was considered to be underestimated when patients were not assessed or were classified as not drinkers or "light drinkers" in nurses' records.

General hospitalized population



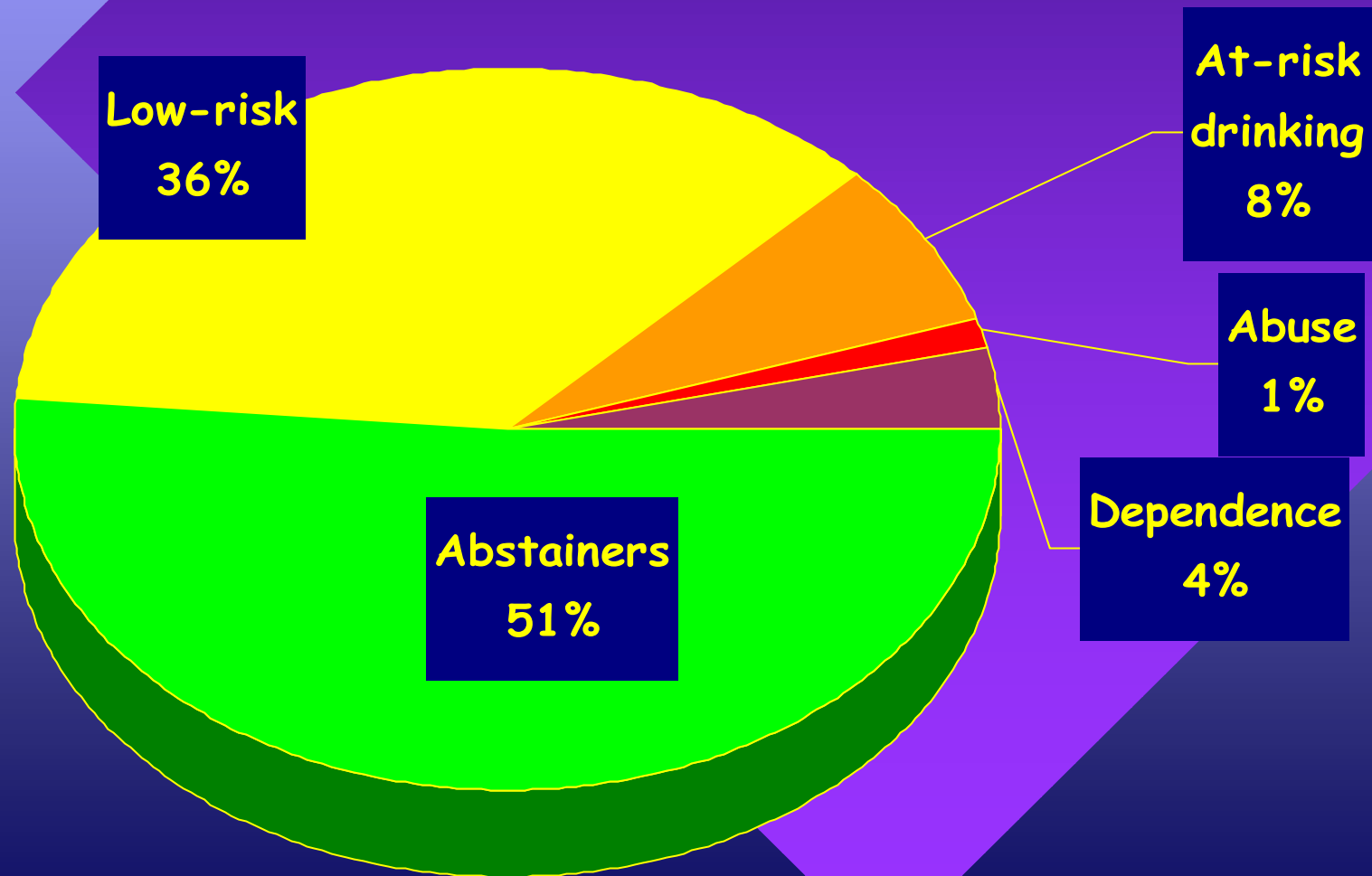
Patients' characteristics

Characteristics	n
Gender, men	259 (57%)
Age yr, $x \pm SD$	63.5 \pm 16.7
Source of admission	
Emergency	301 (66%)
Scheduled	136 (30%)
Unknown	18 (4%)
Type of ward	
Medical	183 (40%)
Surgical	272 (60%)

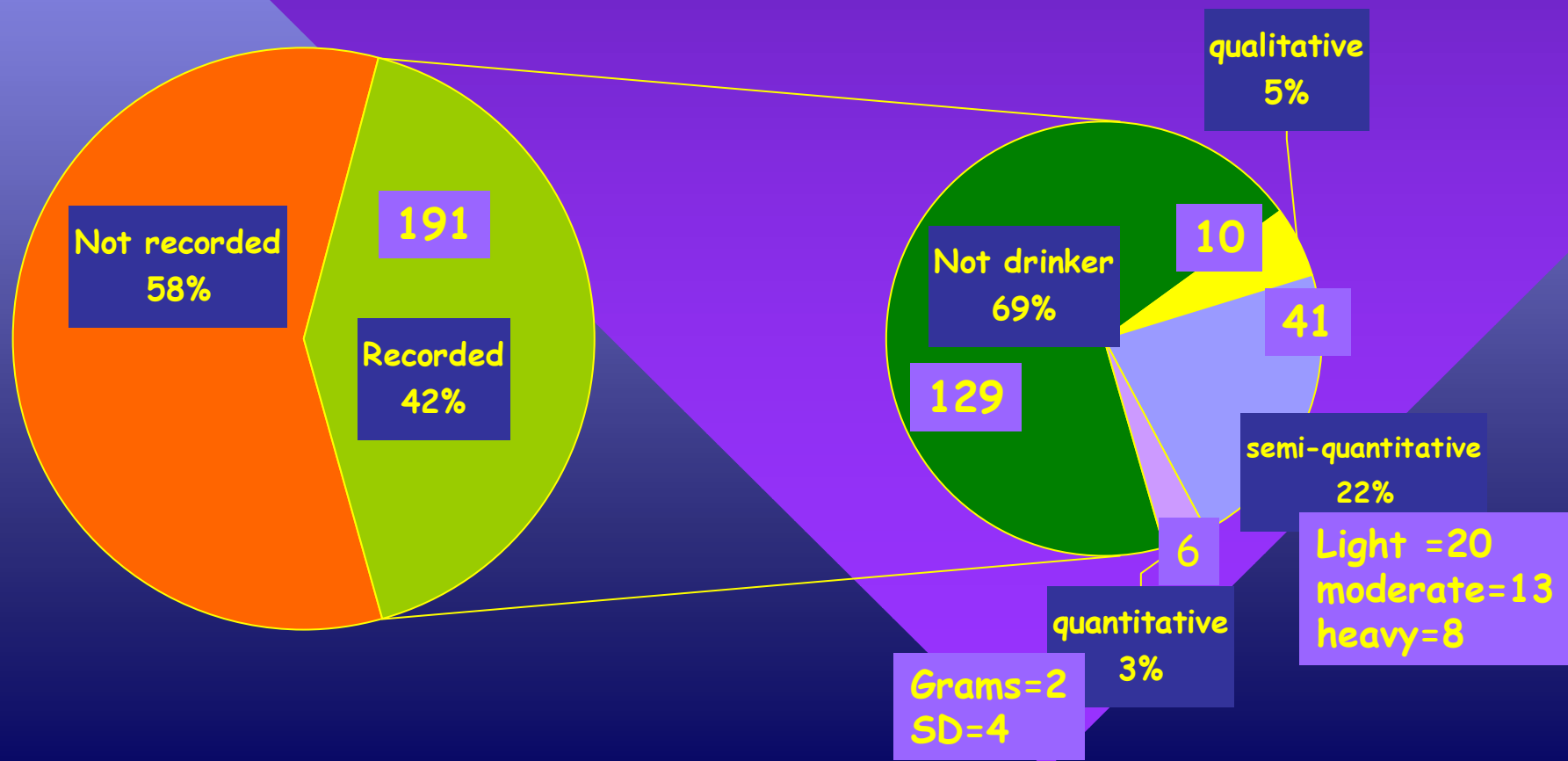
Patients' characteristics

Characteristics	$\bar{x} \pm SD$	range
AUDIT-C scores	2.0 ± 3.2	0-12
AUDIT-10 scores	2.2 ± 3.8	0-33
Daily Standard drinks consumption	1.2 ± 2.5	0-20
Weekly Standard drinks consumption	7.3 ± 17.8	0-140

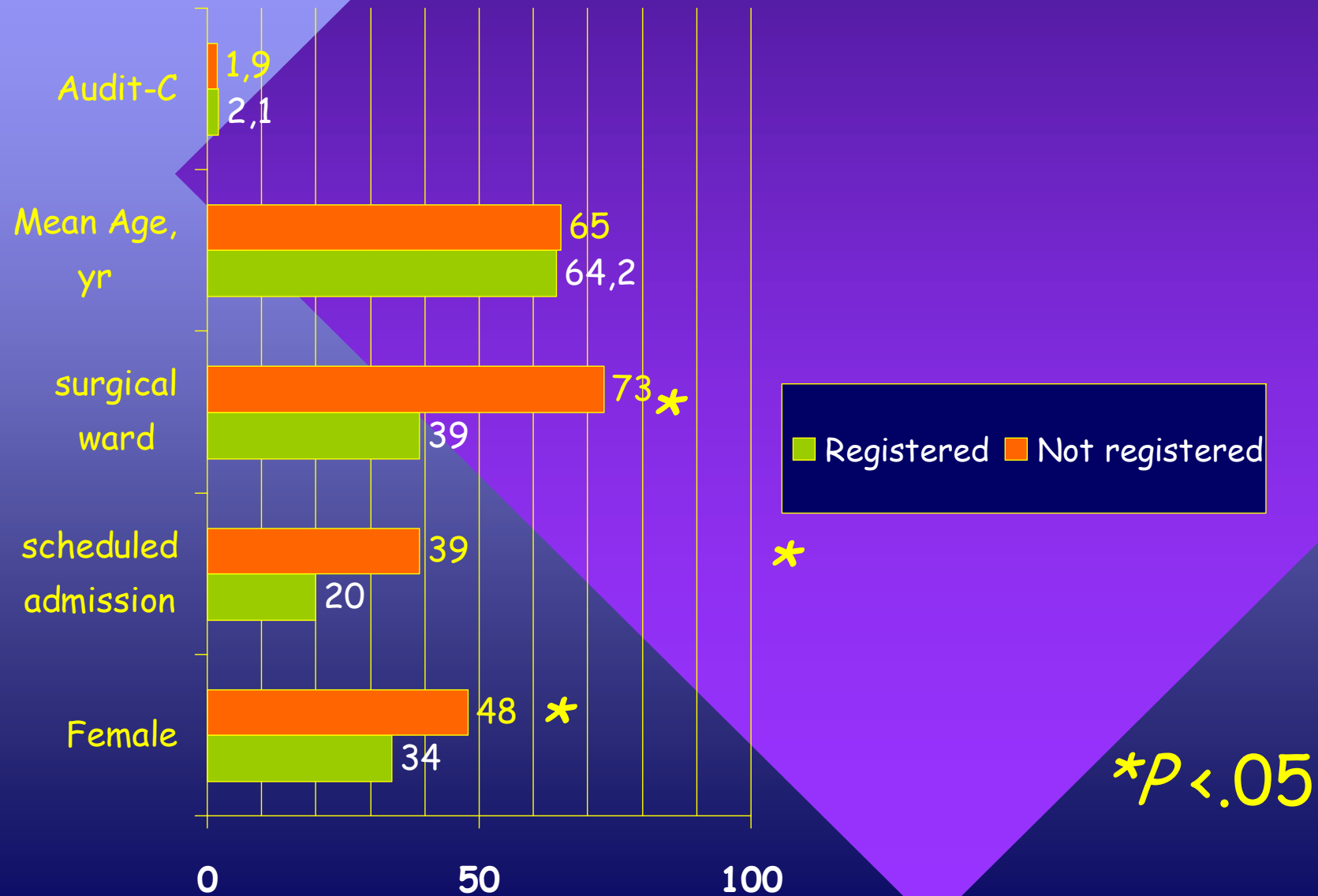
Drinking patterns in 455 hospitalized patients



Methods of alcohol consumption evaluation in medical records in general inpatient population



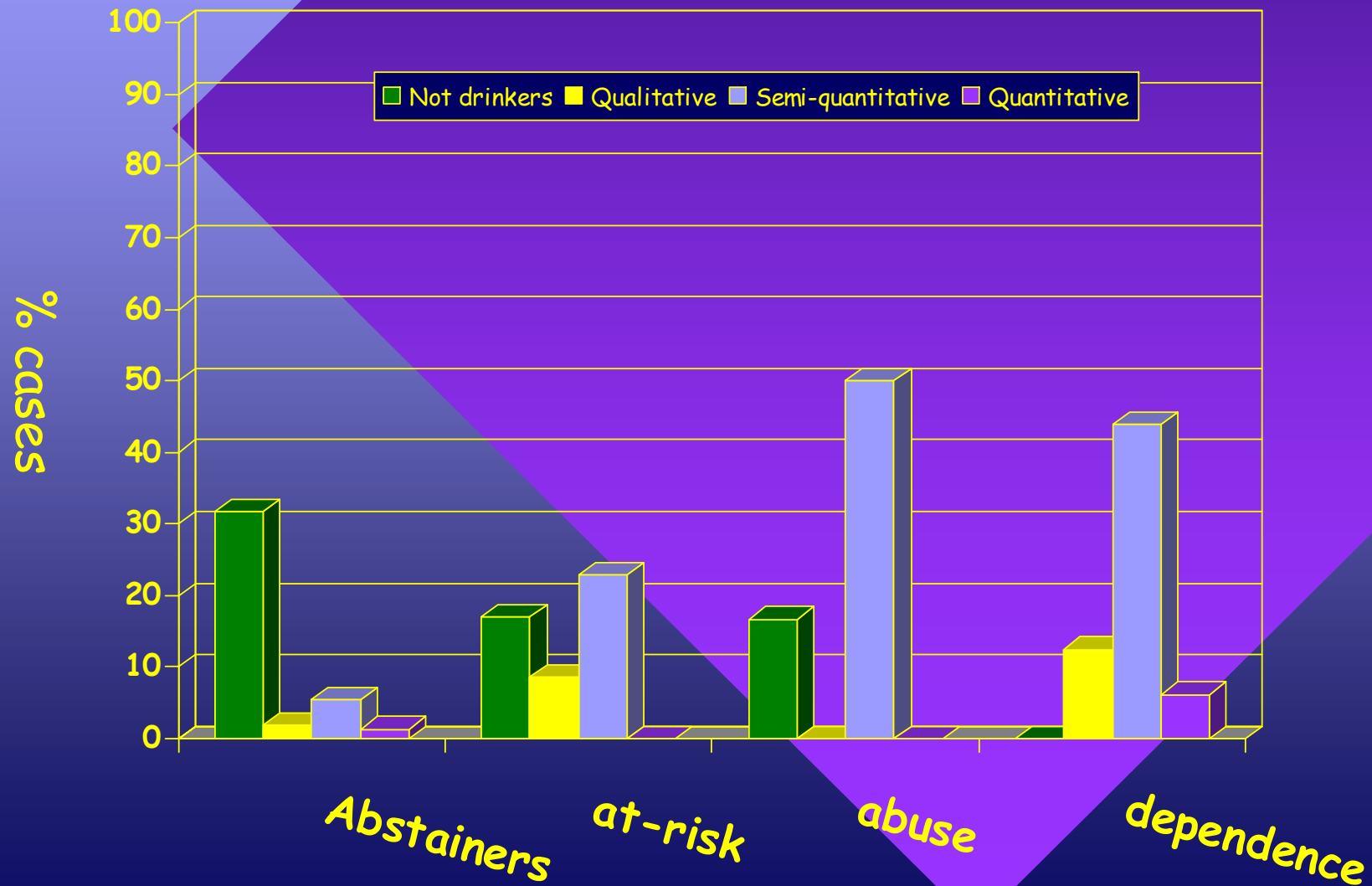
Factors associated with lack of register in medical histories



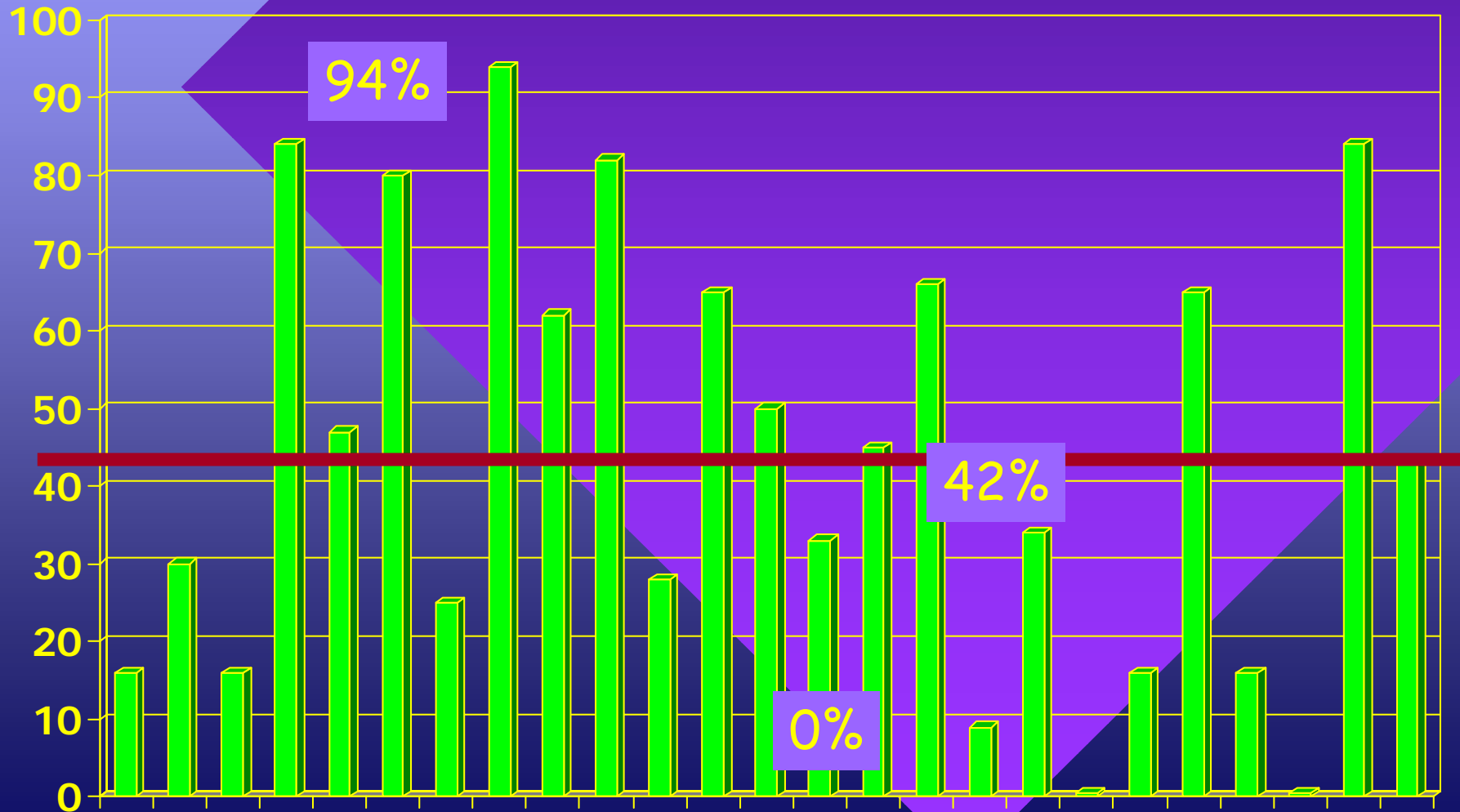
Register according to drinking pattern




Type of Register according to drinking pattern



Alcohol use register in medical histories according to speciality ward



Recording of alcohol use in nurses' records

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de Bellvitge

FULL DE VALORACIÓ

Al·lèrgies Sí No medicamentoses alimentàries
 altres _____

Diagnòstic mèdic d'ingrés _____

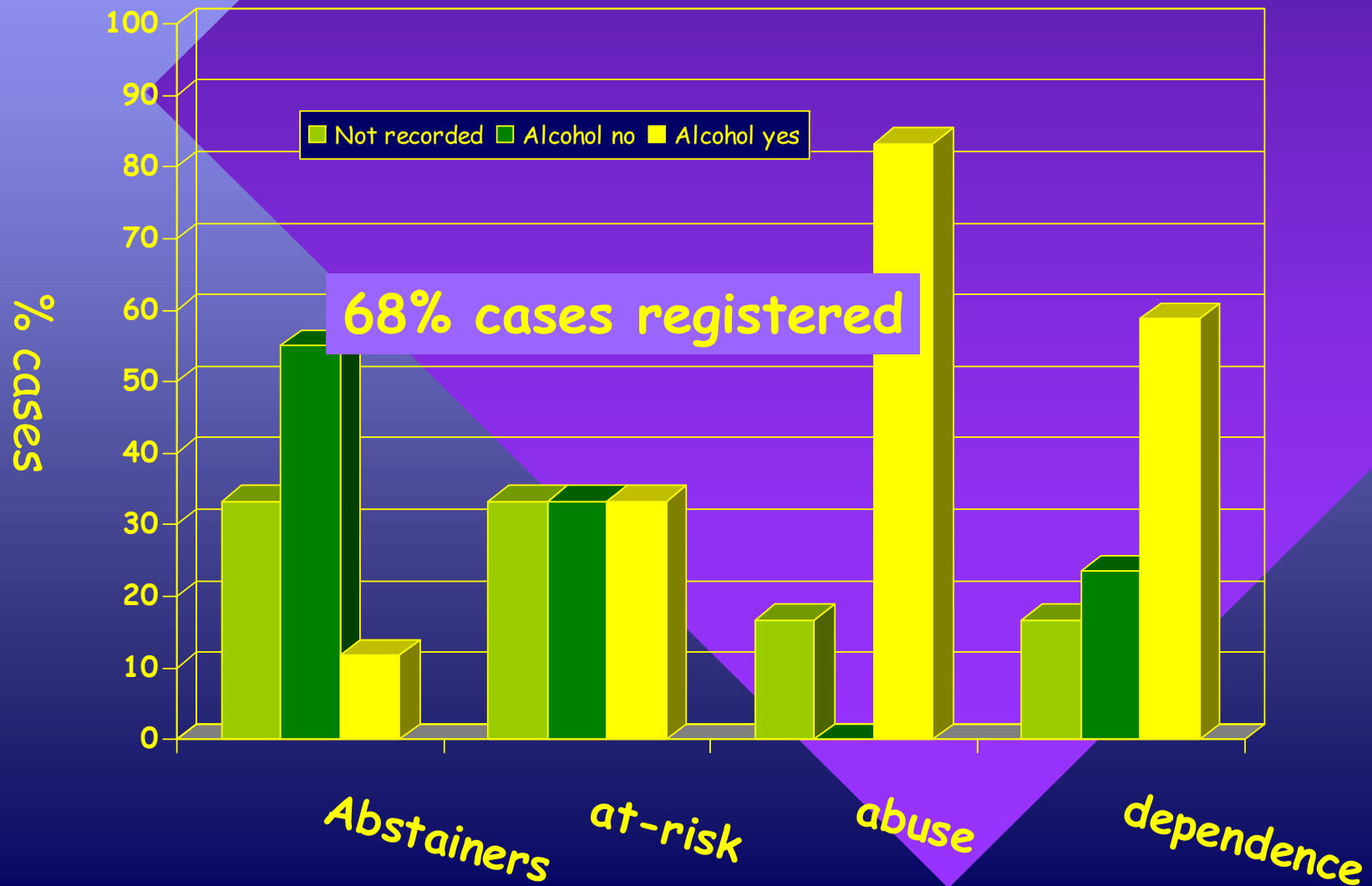
Equip mèdic _____

Procedència
 URG Programat Trasllat Ingressa per primera vegada:
Tractament actual Sí No

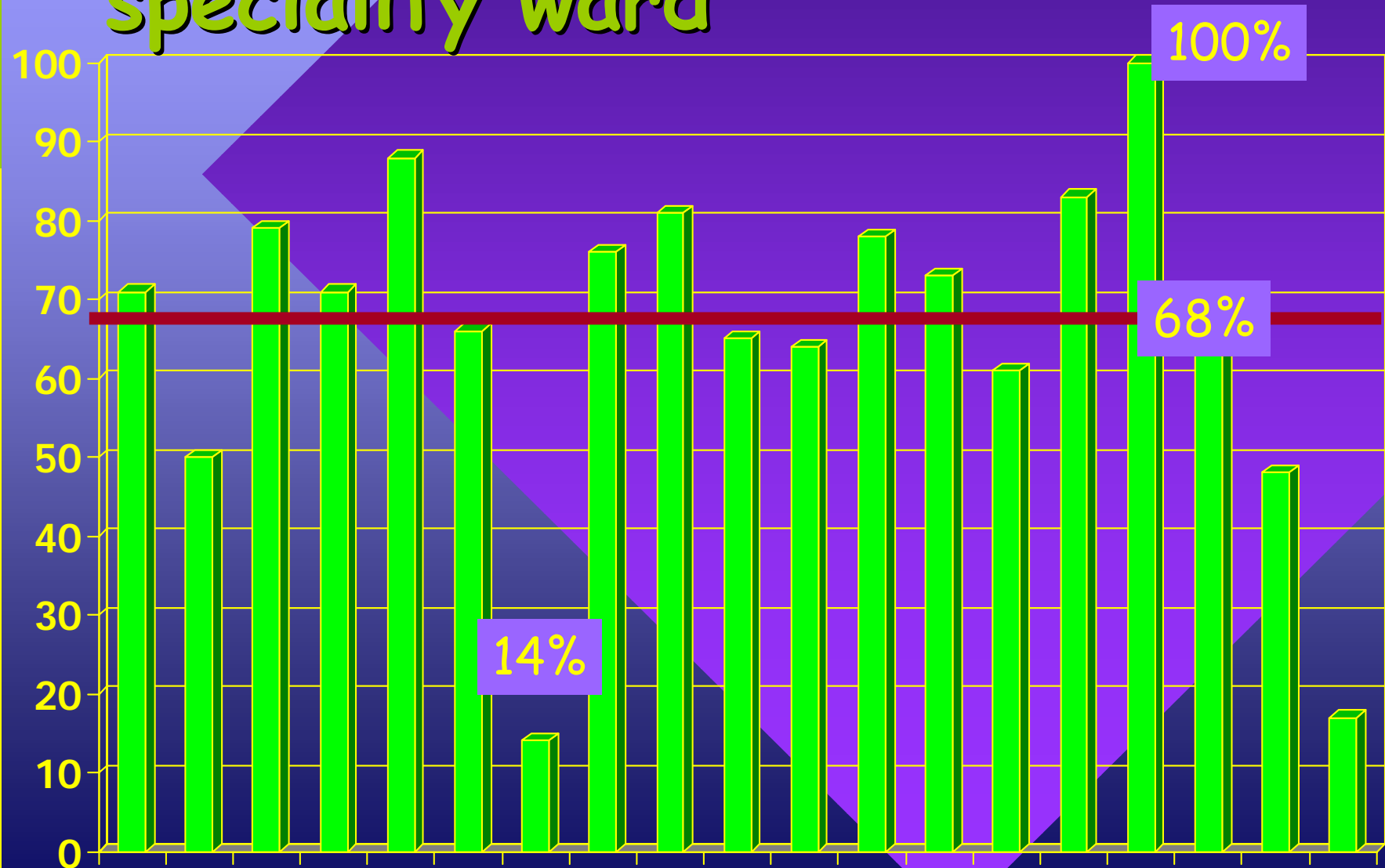
Hàbits tòxics
Tabac Sí No Alcohol Sí No
 Altres (especifiqueu quins) _____

Infermeria - Full de valoració

Type of register according to drinking pattern in nurses' records

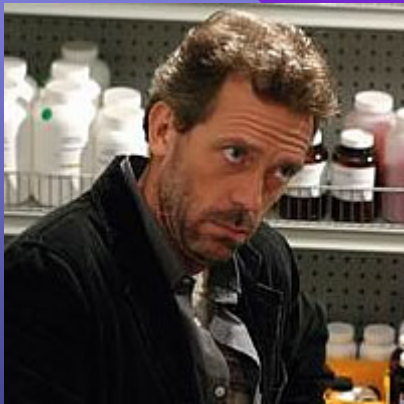


Alcohol use register in nurses' histories according to speciality ward





Screening



Drinking pattern
Organic complications
Simple advice



Drinking pattern
Motivational interview

Population with unhealthy alcohol use

Patients in medical wards
assessed by the BIT

3785

Patients with unhealthy
alcohol use

539 (14%)

Reviewed nurses records

522 (97%)

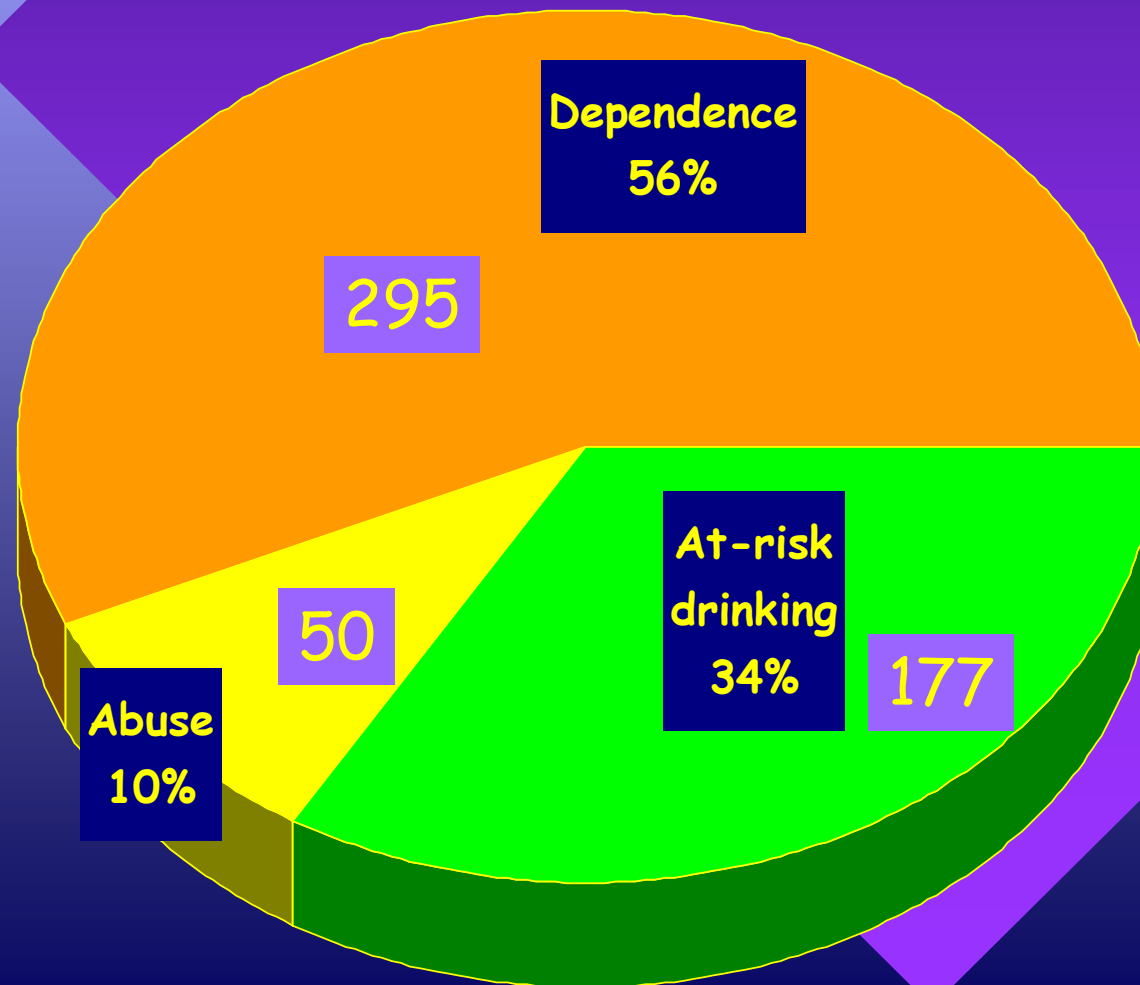
Patients' characteristics

Characteristics	N=522
Gender, men	438 (84%)
Age yr., $\bar{x} \pm SD$	54.1 \pm 15.1
Marital status	
Single	81 (15%)
Married	224 (43%)
Divorced/separated	61 (12%)
Other	43 (8%)
Unknown	112 (21%)
Employment	
Employed/working	132 (25%)
Unemployed	48 (9%)
Retired	178 (34%)
Other	53 (10%)
Unknown	110 (21%)


Patients' characteristics

Characteristics	N=522
Source of admission	
Emergency	470 (90%)
Scheduled	21 (4%)
Other	30 (6%)
Type of ward	
Internal Medicine	277 (53%)
Psychiatry	61 (12%)
Gastroenterology	177 (34%)
Previous diagnosis of dependence/abuse	231 (44%)
AUDIT-C, mean (range)	9.3 (4-12)
AUDIT-10, mean (range)	15.3 (6-36)
MALT, mean (range)	11.1 (0-44)
Standard drinks per day, mean (range)	10 (0-90)

Drinking patterns in 522 patients with unhealthy alcohol use



Recording of alcohol use in nurses' records

 Institut Català de la Salut
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de Bellvitge

FULL DE VALORACIÓ

Al·lèrgies Sí No medicamentoses alimentàries
 altres _____

Diagnòstic mèdic d'ingrés _____

Equip mèdic _____

Procedència
 URG Programat Trasllat Ingressat a Urgències
Tractament actual Sí No

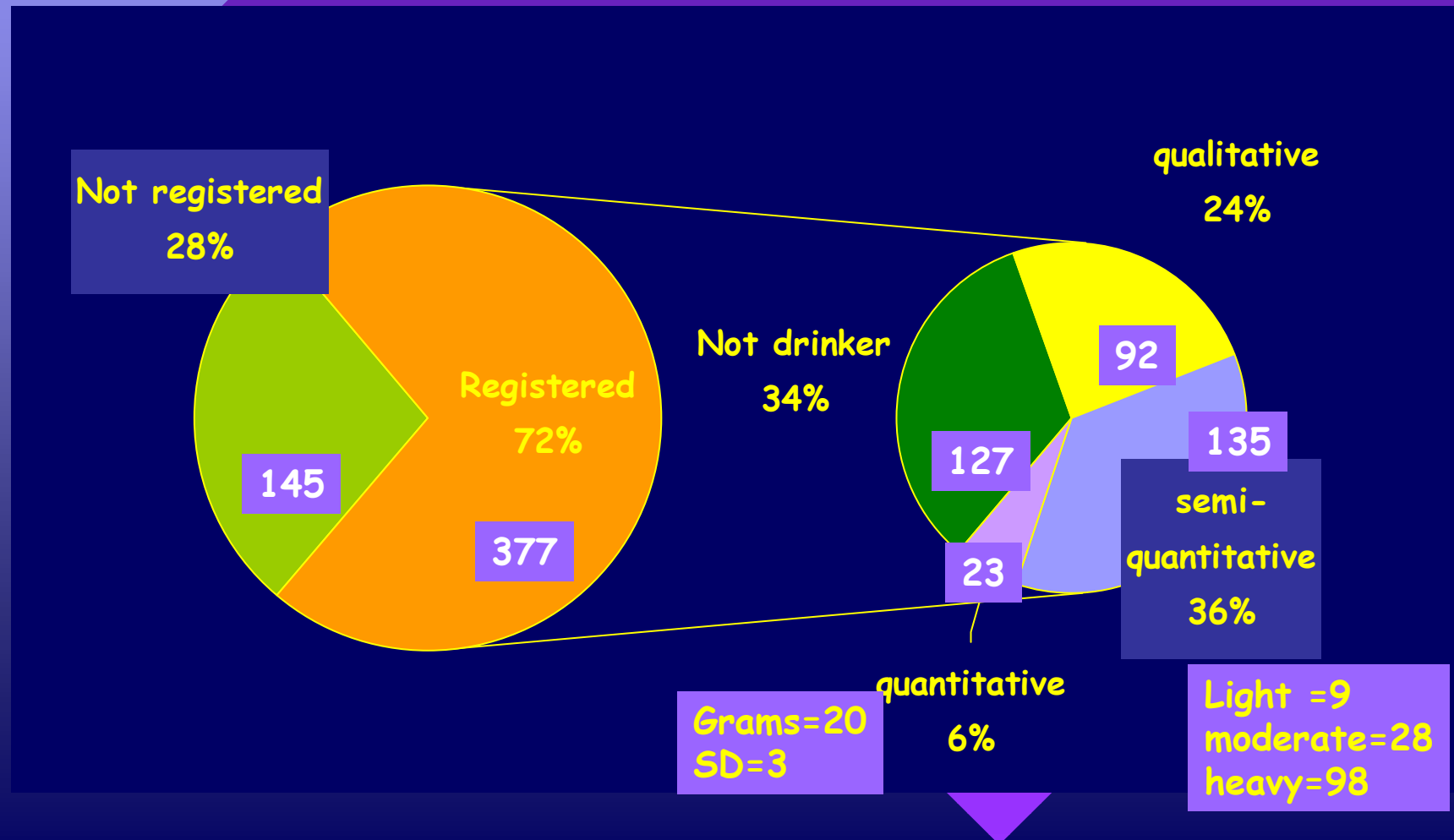
Hàbits tòxics
Tabac Sí No Alcohol Sí No
 Altres (especifiqueu quins) _____

NECESSITAT D'OXIGENACIÓ

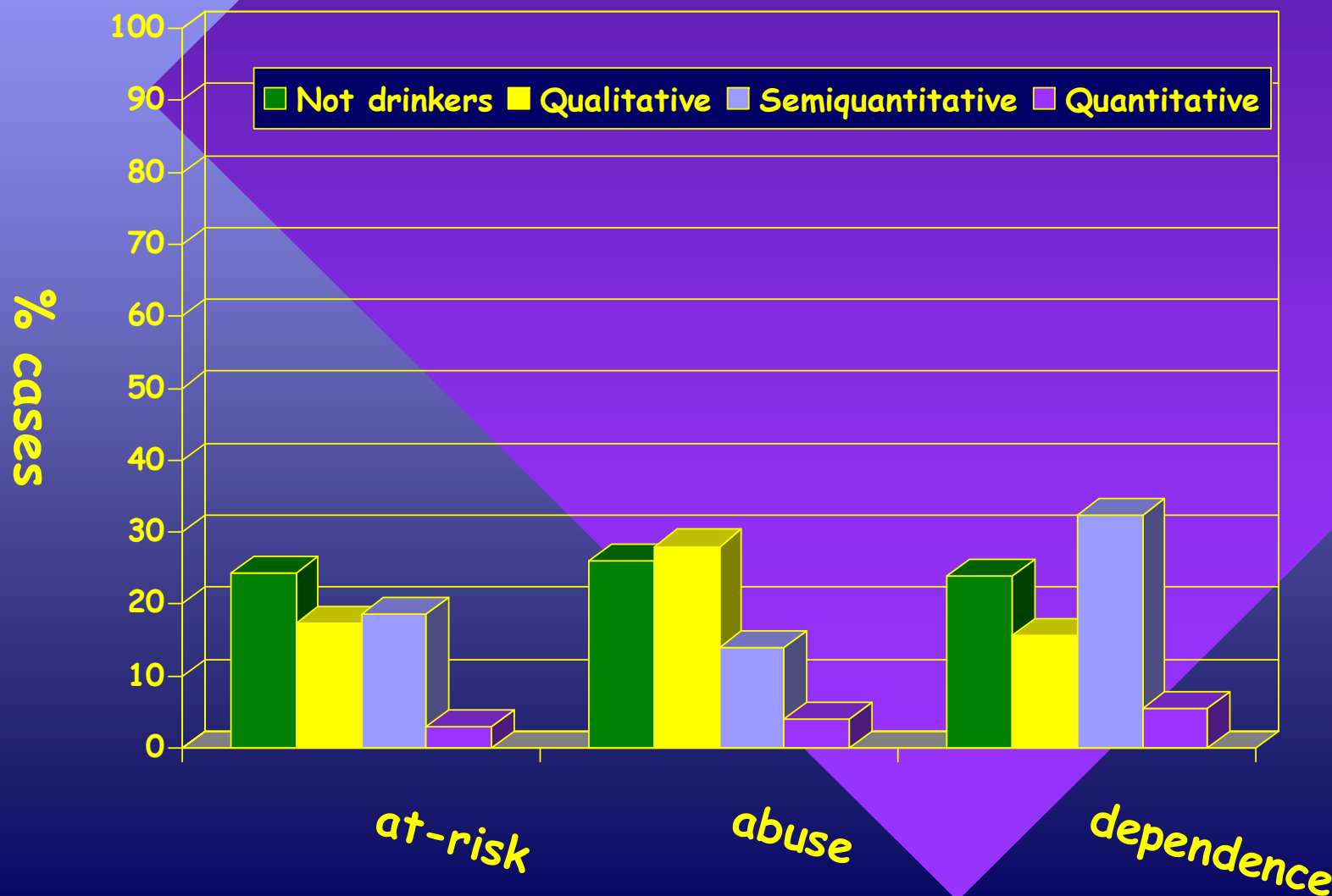
Infermeria - Full de valoració

Side notes

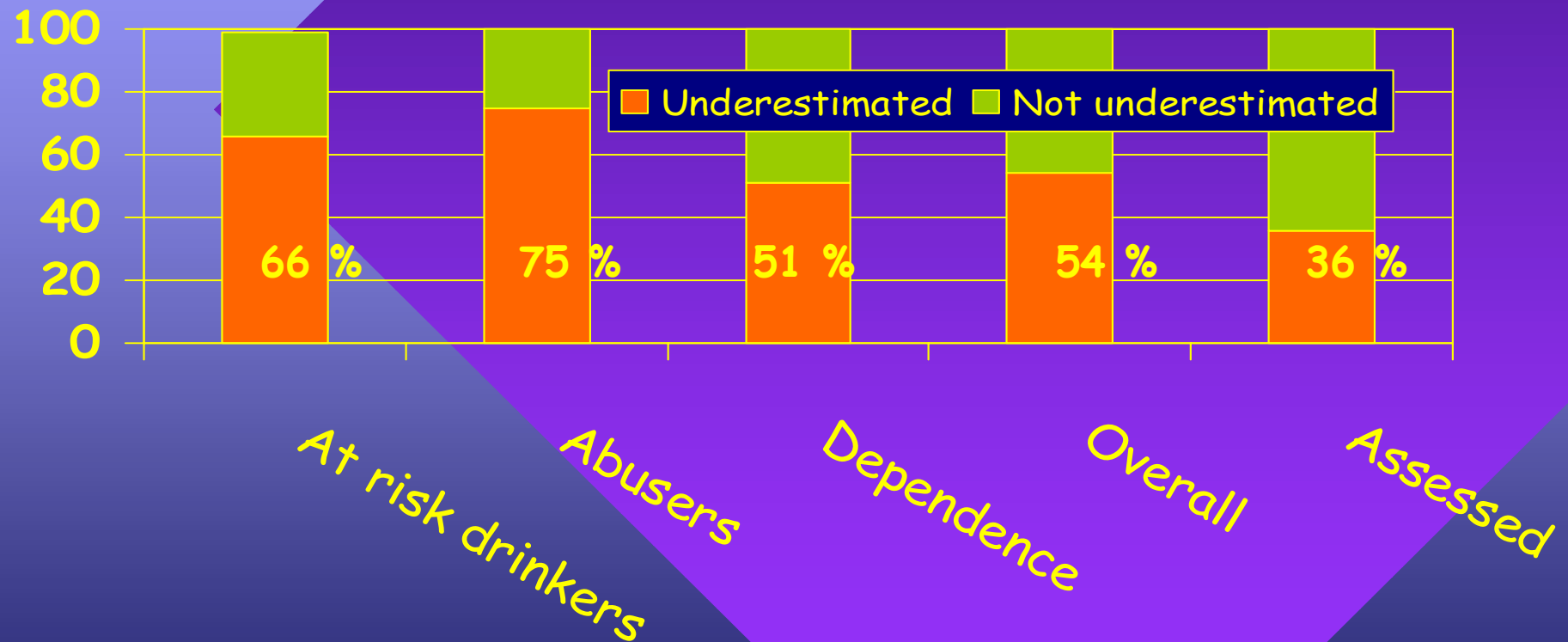
Methods of evaluation of alcohol consumption in nurses' records in 522 patients with unhealthy alcohol use



Type of register according to drinking pattern in nurses' records of 522 patients with unhealthy alcohol use



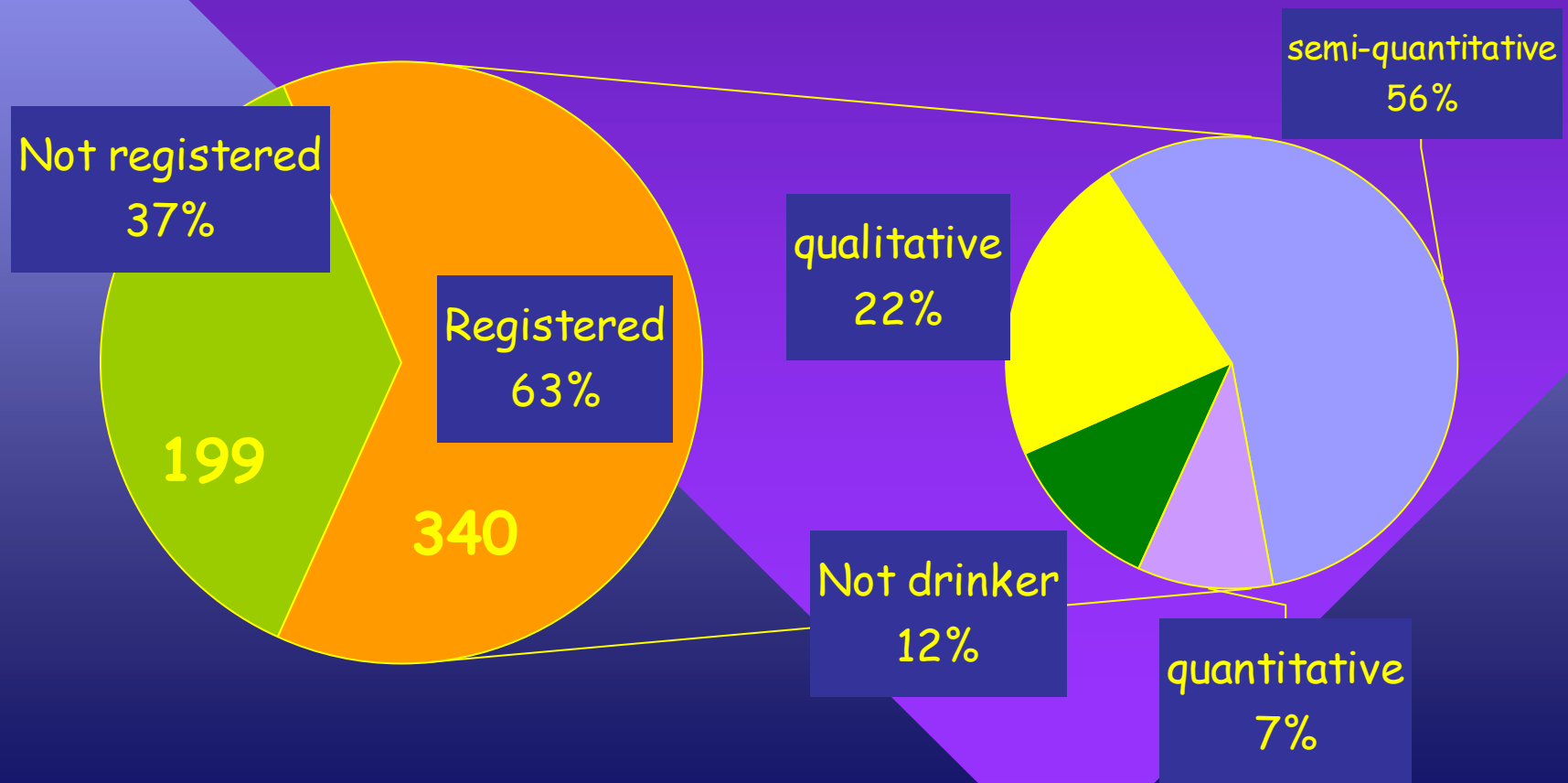
Factors associated with underestimation of alcohol consumption in nurses' records



- Women gender 15% vs 9%
- Standard drinks per day 10 vs 12

* patients without register were included in the analyses as underestimated

Methods of evaluation of alcohol consumption in medical records in 539 patients with unhealthy alcohol use



Conclusions

Regarding medical records in general hospital population

- Adequate quantitative alcohol history taking was rarely performed.
- The need of increasing alcohol use records should be stressed, particularly in females, surgical wards and scheduled admissions.

Conclusions

Regarding nurses histories in population with unhealthy alcohol use

- Nurses register alcohol consumption in most inpatients, however quantification is rarely performed.
- Alcohol use is often underestimated by nurses, particularly in women and at-risk drinkers and abusers

Conclusions

For the BIT

- Urgent need to standardise and improve methods of alcohol consumption register in our hospital
- Differences between nurse and medical staff should be assessed
- Need to control the evolution of the quality of the nurses and medical records regarding alcohol use