
Classification of DRPs with new prescriptions using a modified PCNE classification system



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Definition

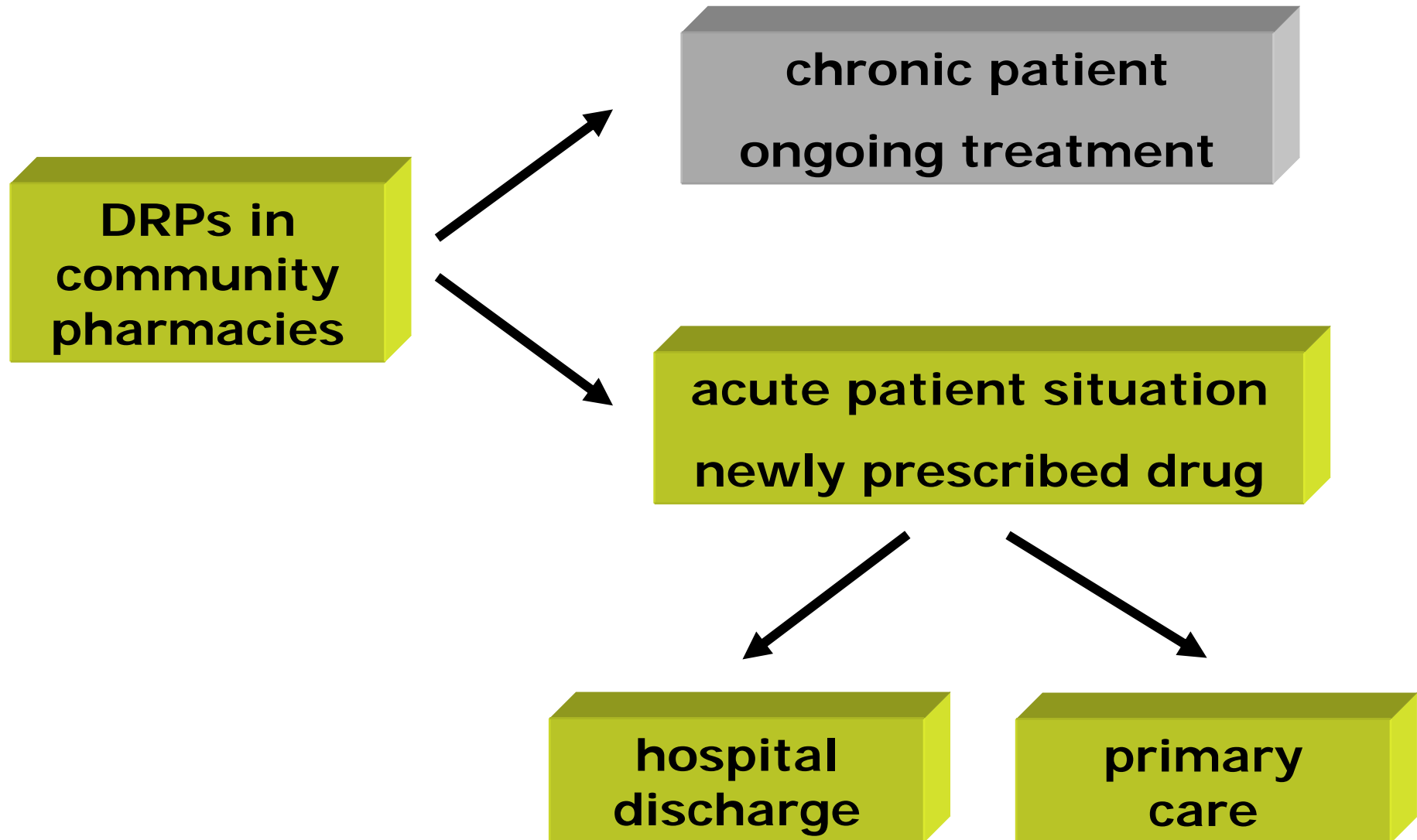
A drug-related problem is an event or circumstance involving drug therapy that actually or potentially interferes with desired health outcomes.

Background

Different studies with different detection rates because of:

- o different definitions of DRPs
- o different classification systems
(no standard tool)
- o variations in the methods used to identify DRPs
- o different inclusion criteria
- o different health care systems
- o different settings

To set the scene: DRPs in community pharmacies



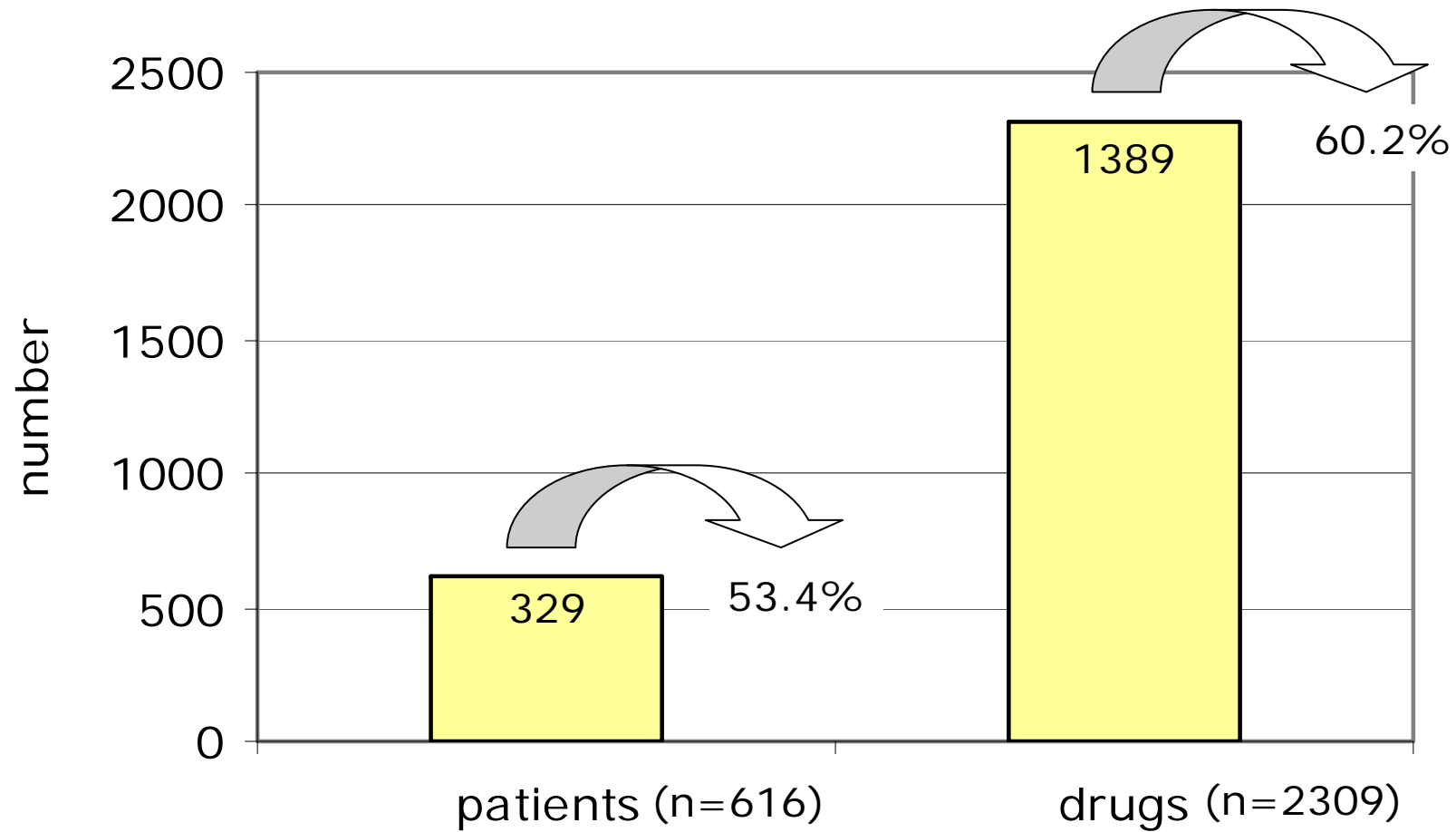
Aims of the study

- Exploration of occurrence, nature and pharmacists' management of DRPs in new prescriptions detected in community pharmacies
- Differences between new primary care and hospital discharge prescriptions
- Analysis of possible differences between electronically printed and handwritten prescriptions
- Evaluation of applicability of a modified PCNE classification system

Data collection

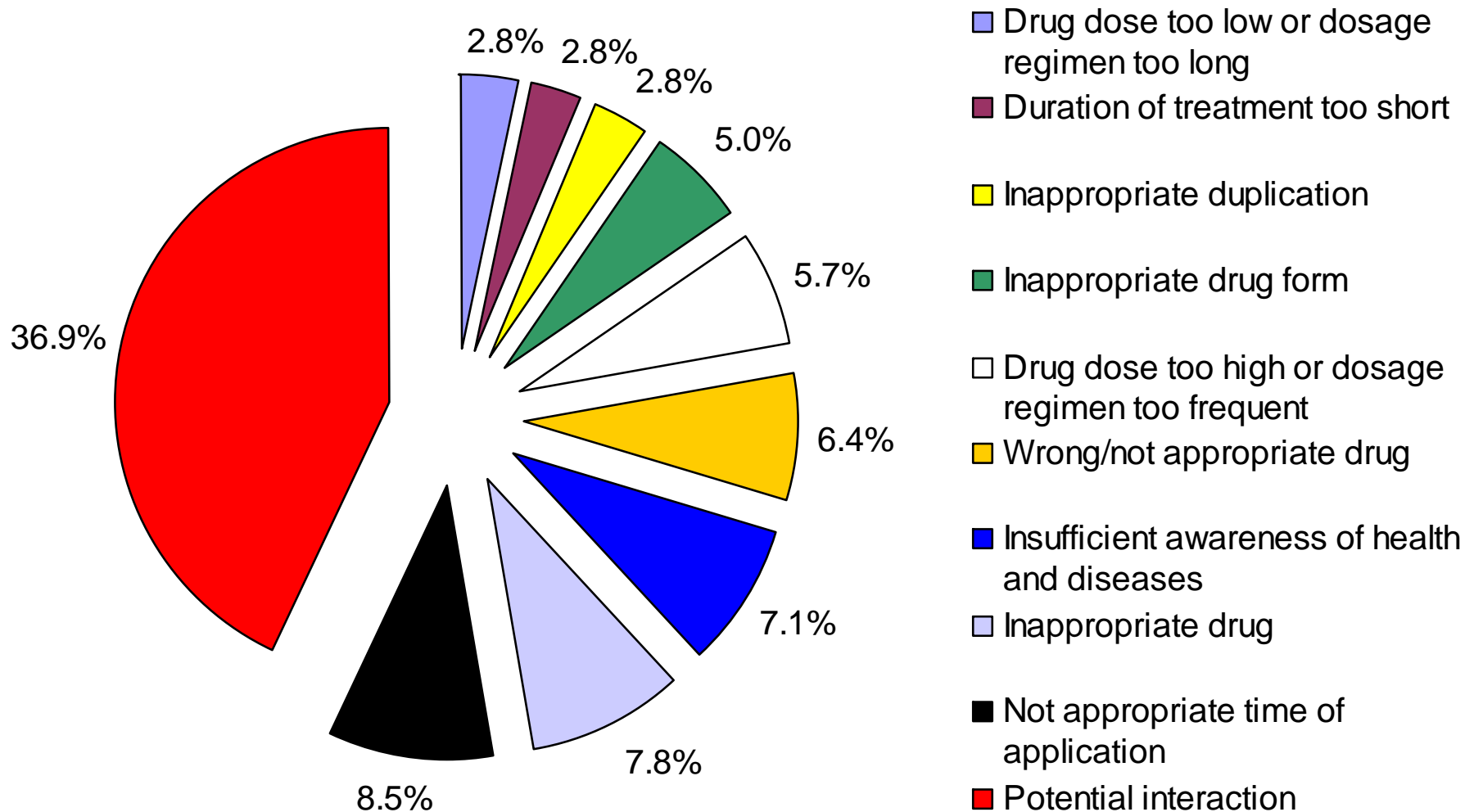
During internship, trained fifth-year pharmacy students collected in a consecutive way 5 hospital discharge and 5 primary care (incl. outpatients) prescriptions with newly prescribed medicines

Patients and drugs with DRPs

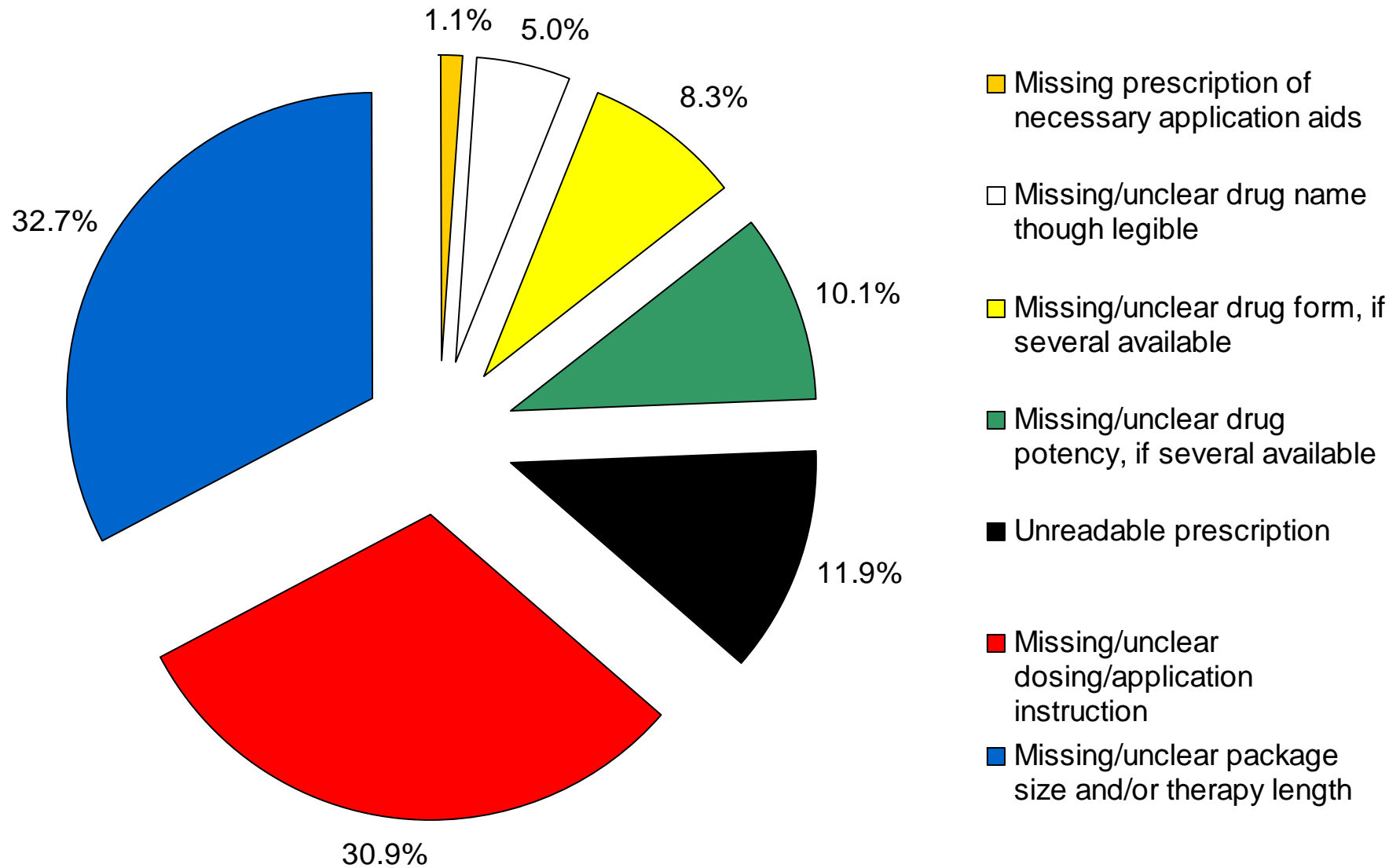


Top 10 of clinical DRPs (single items)

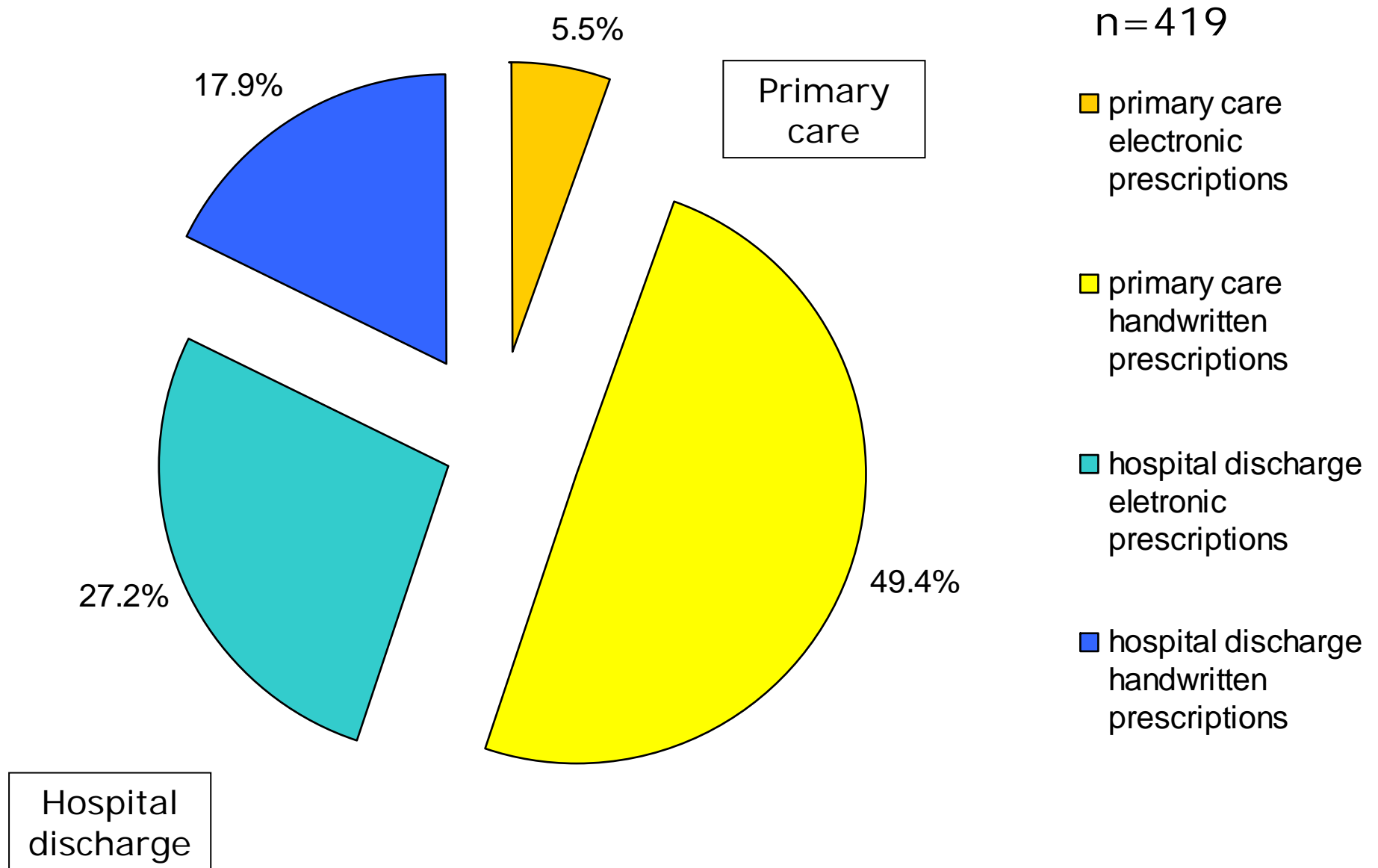
n=141



Technical DRPs (n=278)



Problems in electronic and handwritten prescriptions



Conclusions

- In Switzerland, half of all new prescriptions show a DRP; two-thirds are technical DRPs.
- The PCNE classification V5.1 needs to be amended, to include technical DRPs.
- The occurrence of clinical or technical DRPs is only influenced by the number of prescribed drugs. It is not relevant if the prescriptions were electronically printed.