



State Agency of Medicines of the Republic of Latvia

# **THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ON ADDITIONAL RISK MINIMISATION MEASURES' MATERIALS**

The State Agency of Medicines of the Republic of Latvia,  
Riga, Latvia, 2015



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## An overview of the survey on additional risk minimisation measures' materials

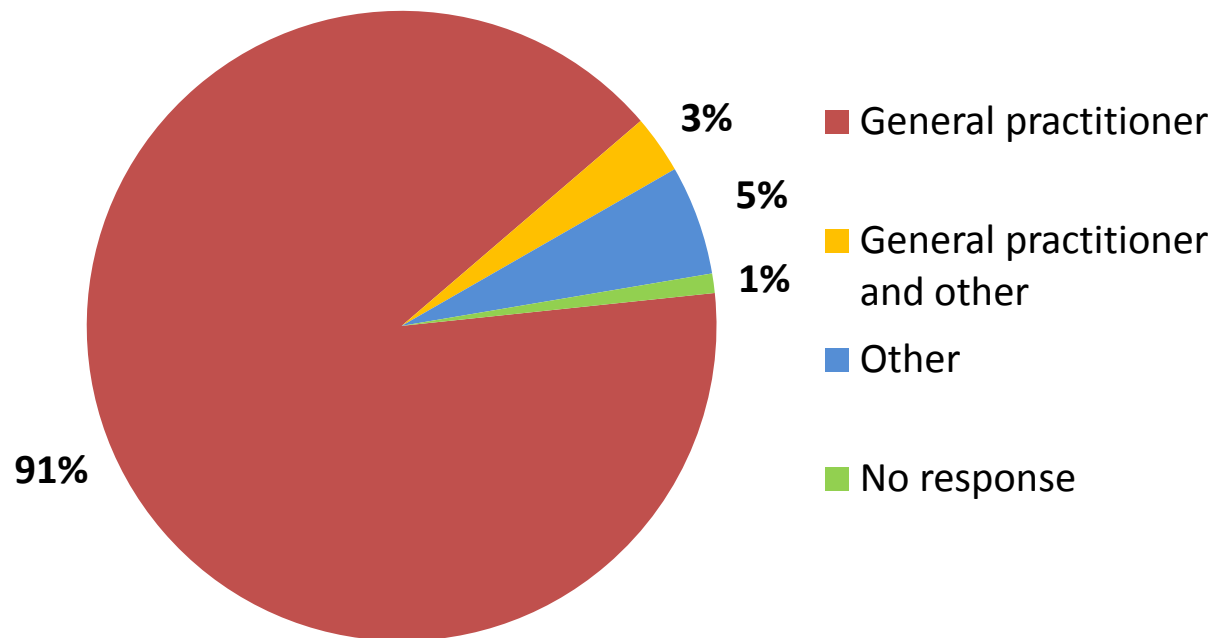
- ❑ **Conducted by:** the State Agency of Medicines (SAM);
- ❑ **A period:** 13 March – 30 April 2015;
- ❑ **The aim of the survey:** to find out how well healthcare professionals **are supplied with** additional risk minimisation measures' materials – SAM approved direct healthcare professional communications (DHPC) and educational materials on risk minimisation (further - educational materials) and **to get information** regarding **usefulness** of these materials and **suggestions for** improvements;
- ❑ **Respondents:** 301 respondents (94% - general practitioners (20% of the amount of total general practitioners in Latvia in 2015)\*; 6% - other healthcare professionals);
- ❑ **A method:** an online survey (*Google Drive*) and a printed survey disseminated during the conference organized by the Latvian Association of Rural General Practitioners.

\*Data: 26/06/2015, source: Health Inspectorate of Latvia, The Register of Medical Persons and Medical Support Persons



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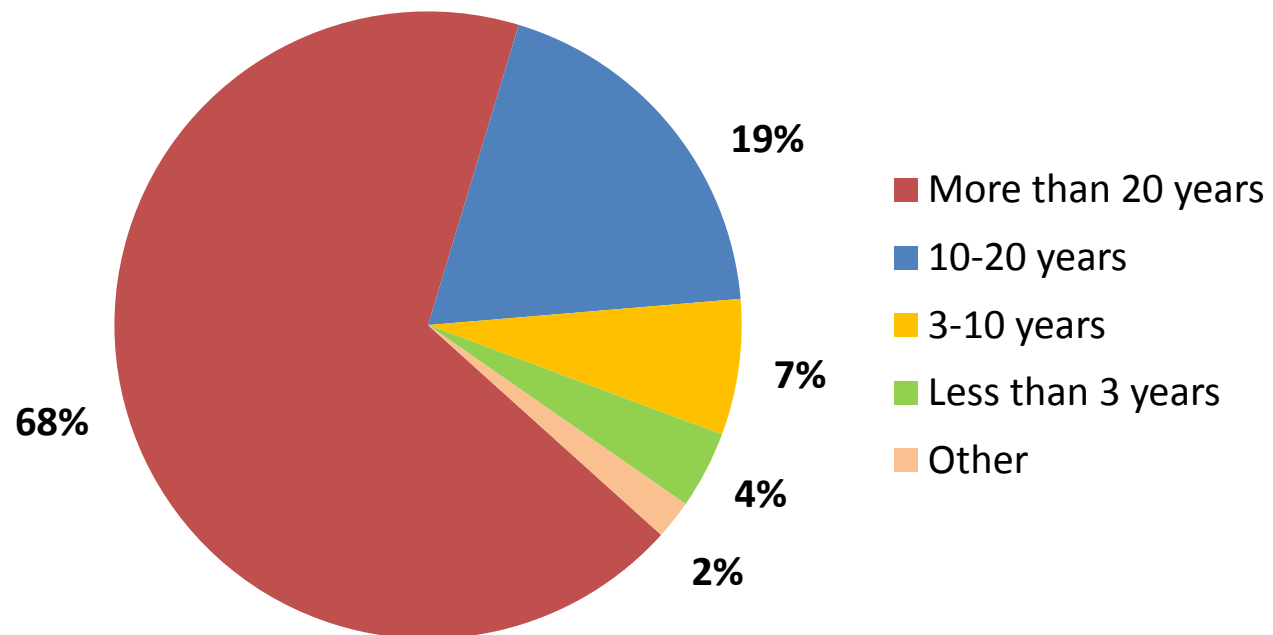
## Respondents' speciality (-ies)





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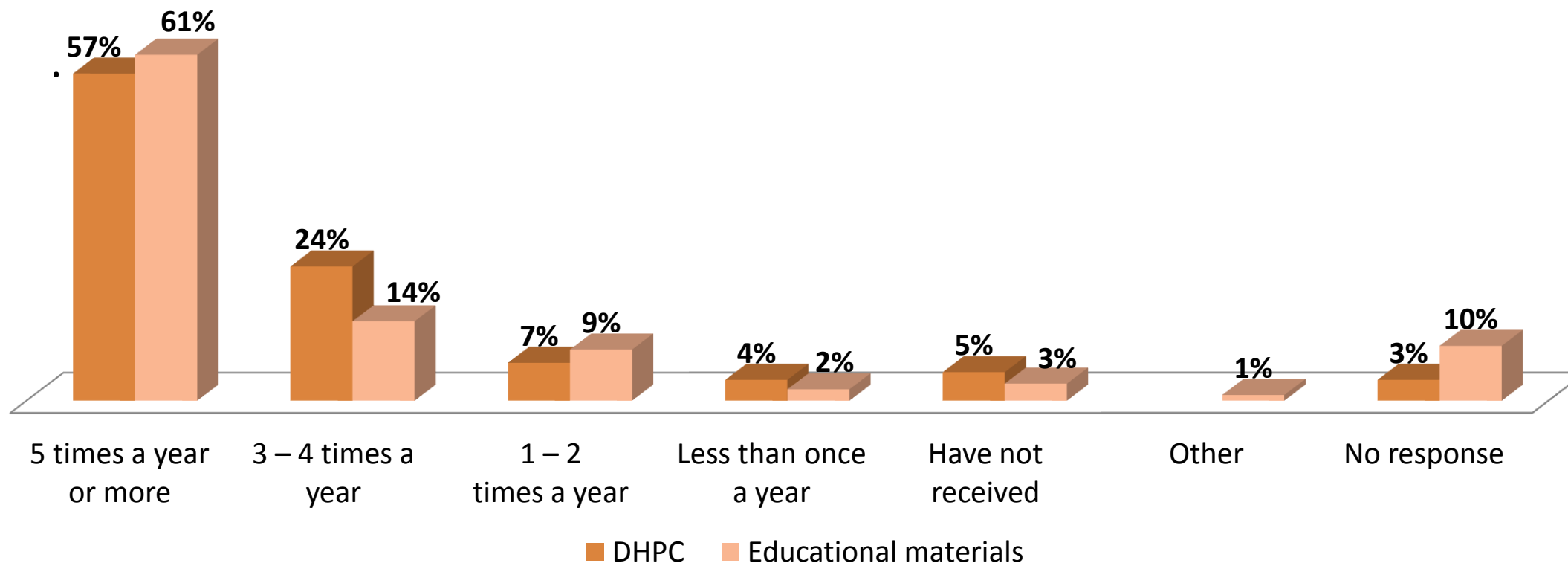
## Length of practice of the speciality (-ies)





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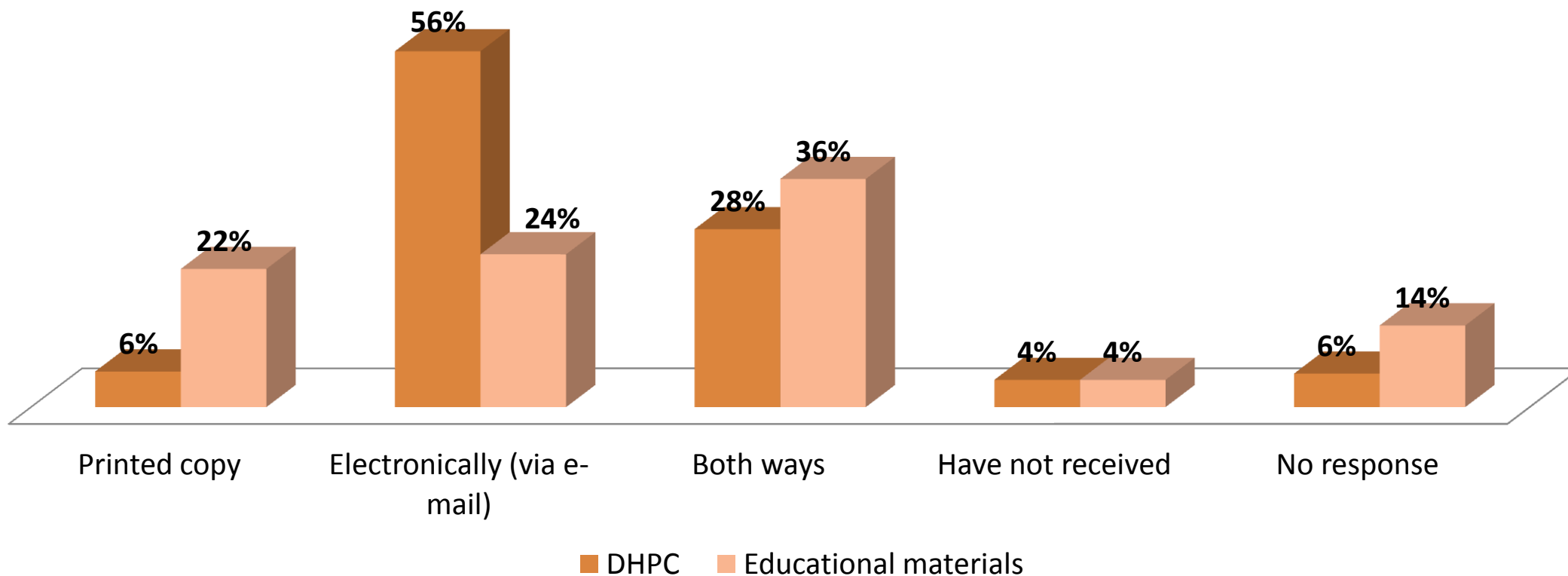
## How **often** do respondents **receive** the materials?





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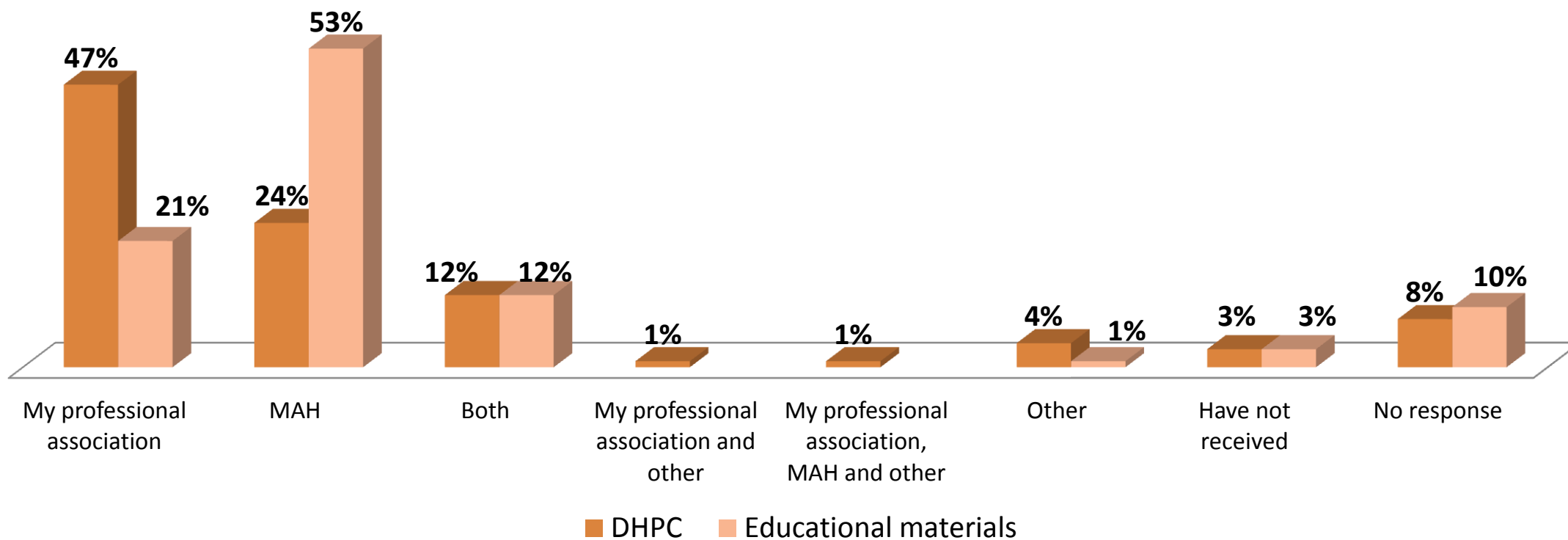
## Delivering options





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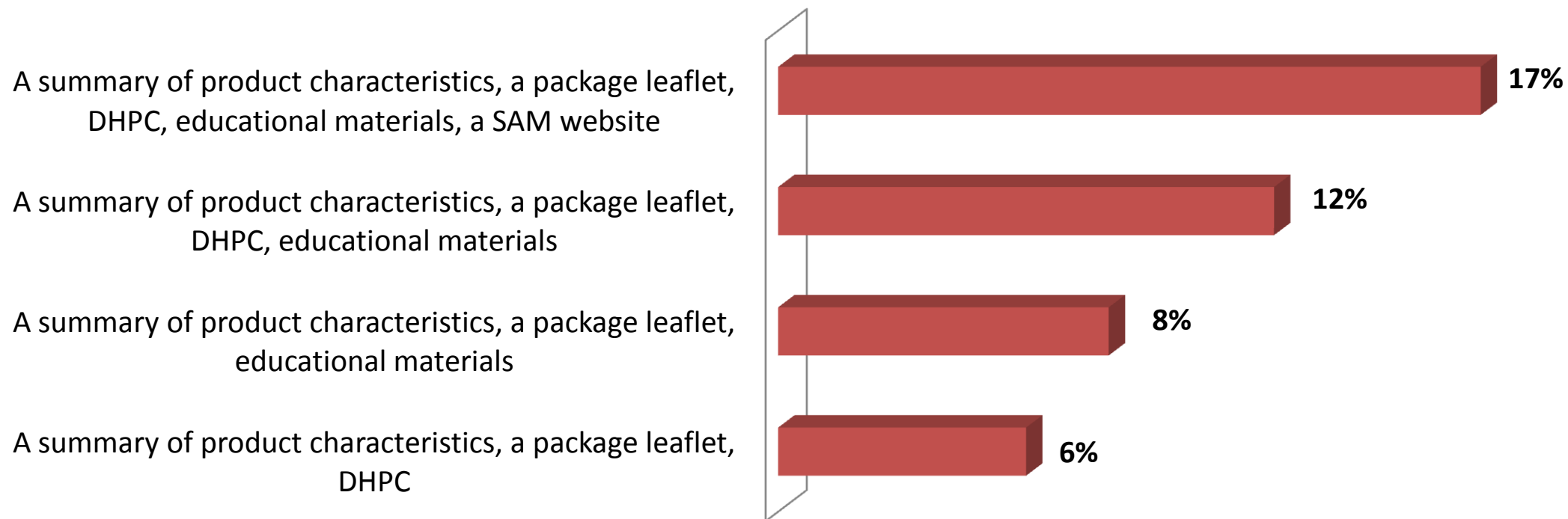
## Who delivers the materials?





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## Sources of information respondents use in their practice



\* Other different combinations of the materials mentioned above – 57%

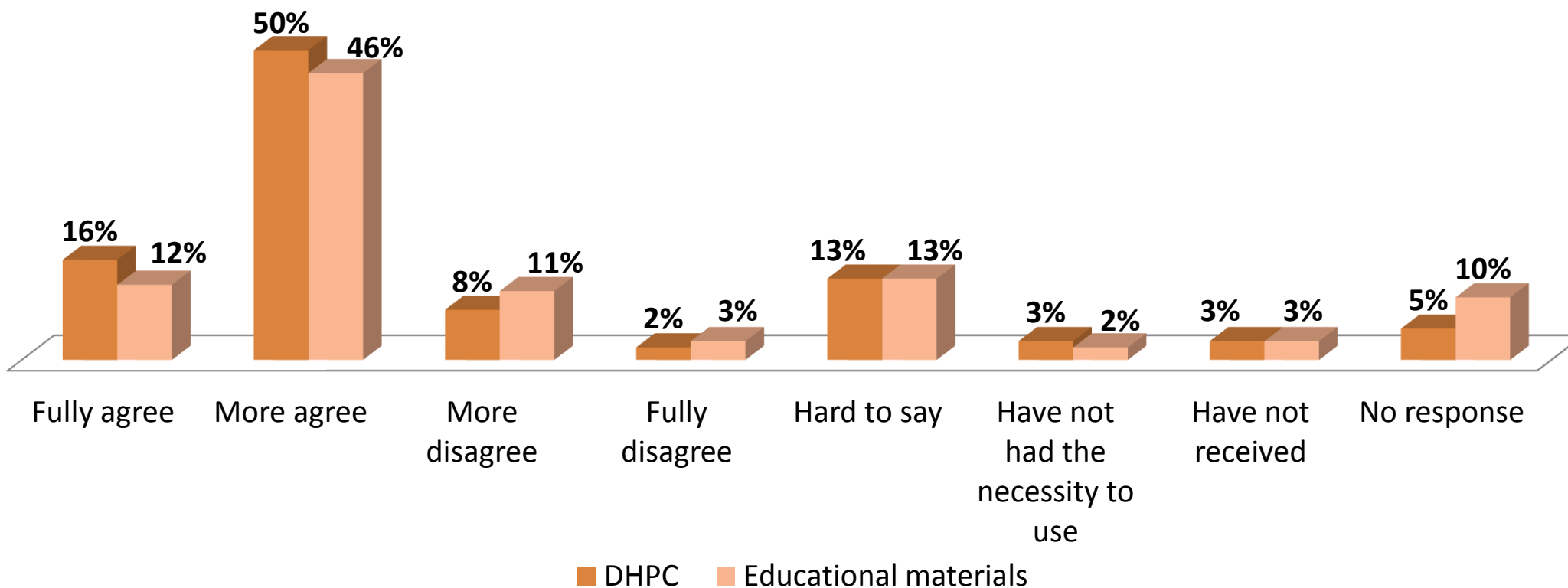




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## Opinions regarding the statements

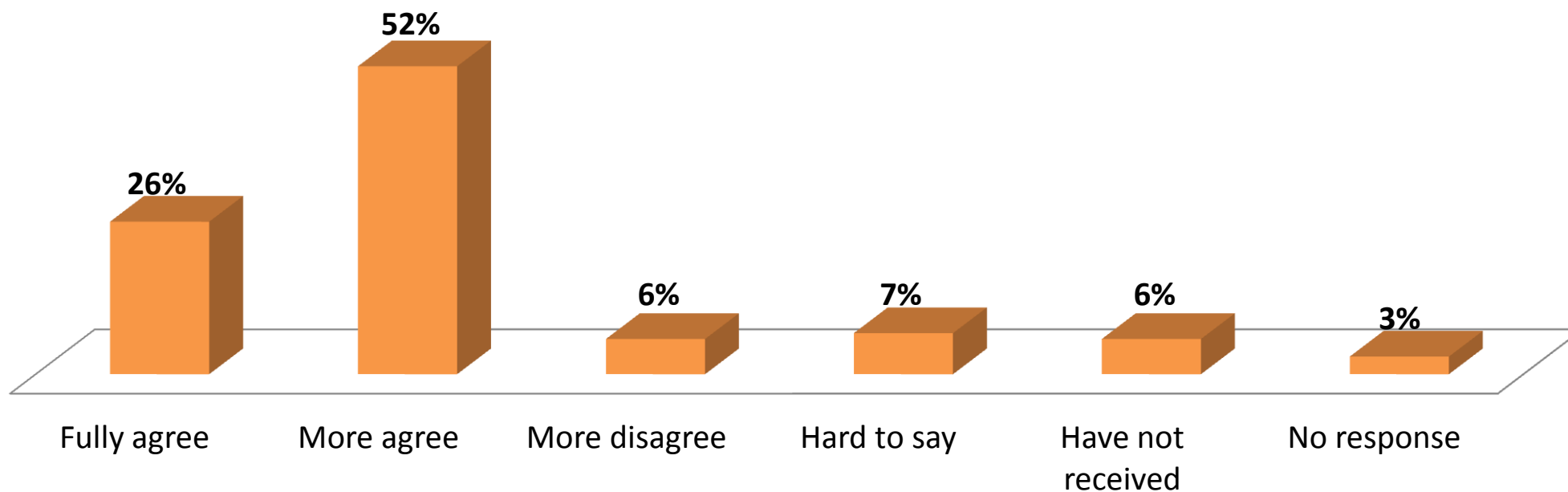
### 1.1. «The received DHPC and/or educational materials change my prescription practices»





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## 1.2. «The materials for patients included in the set of educational materials help in communication with patients, thus, promoting safe use of medicines»

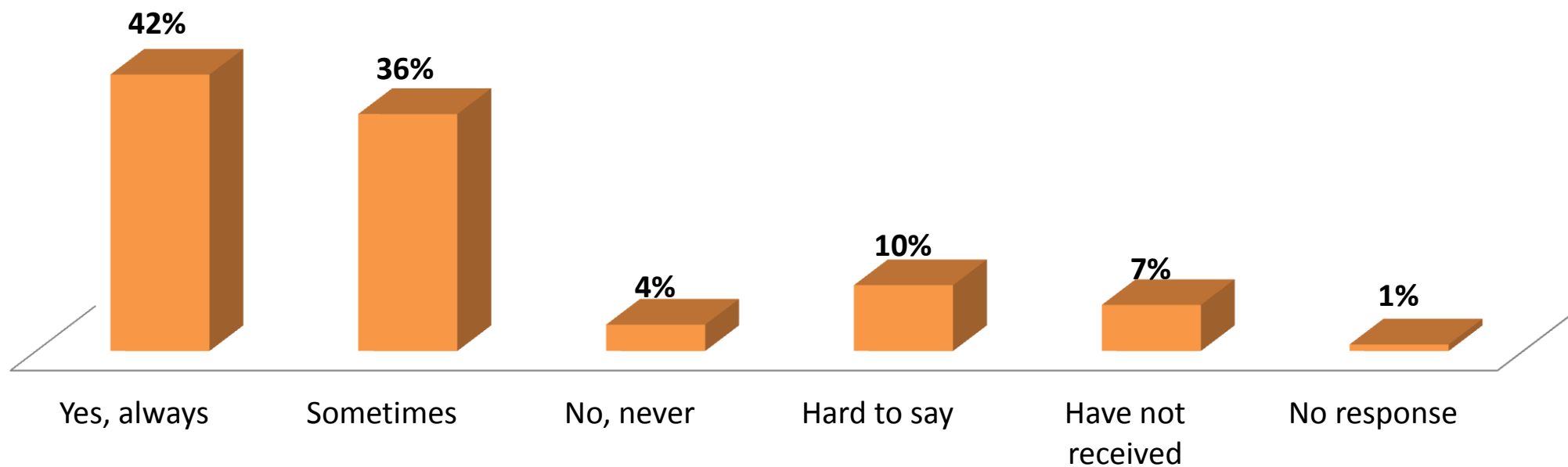


\* **Materials intended for patients** can be given only by a doctor or a pharmacist.



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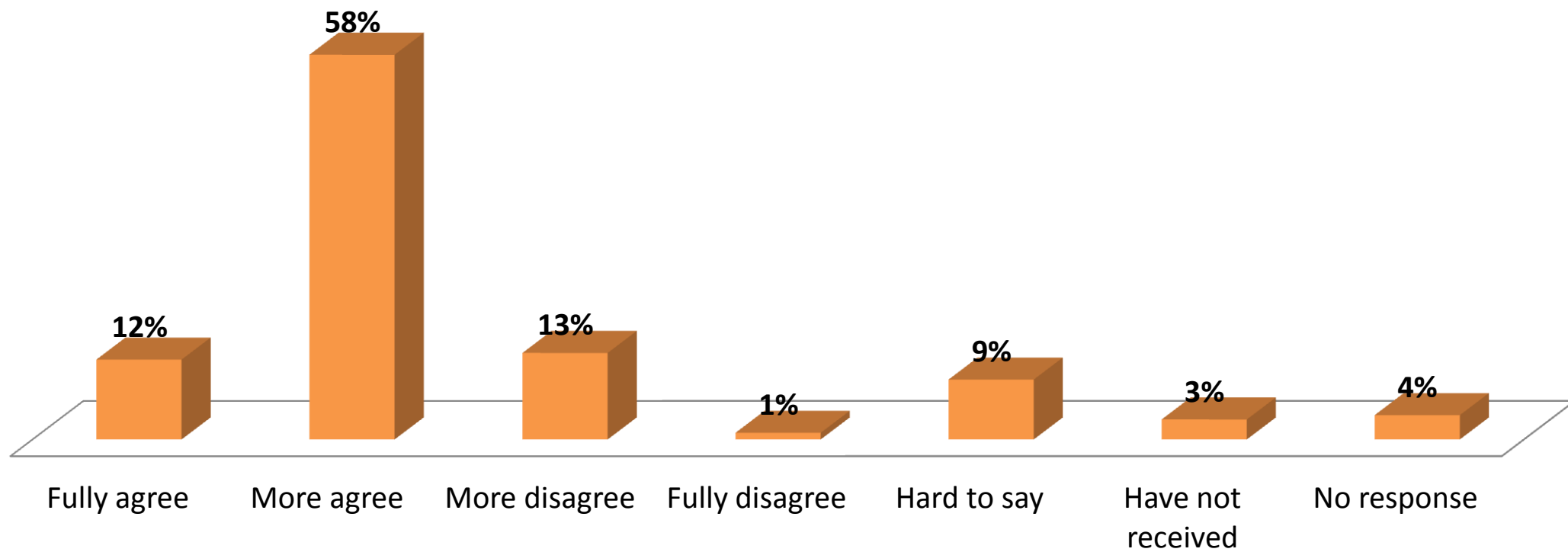
### 1.3. «A number of printed copies of educational materials (including educational materials for patients) delivered is sufficient»





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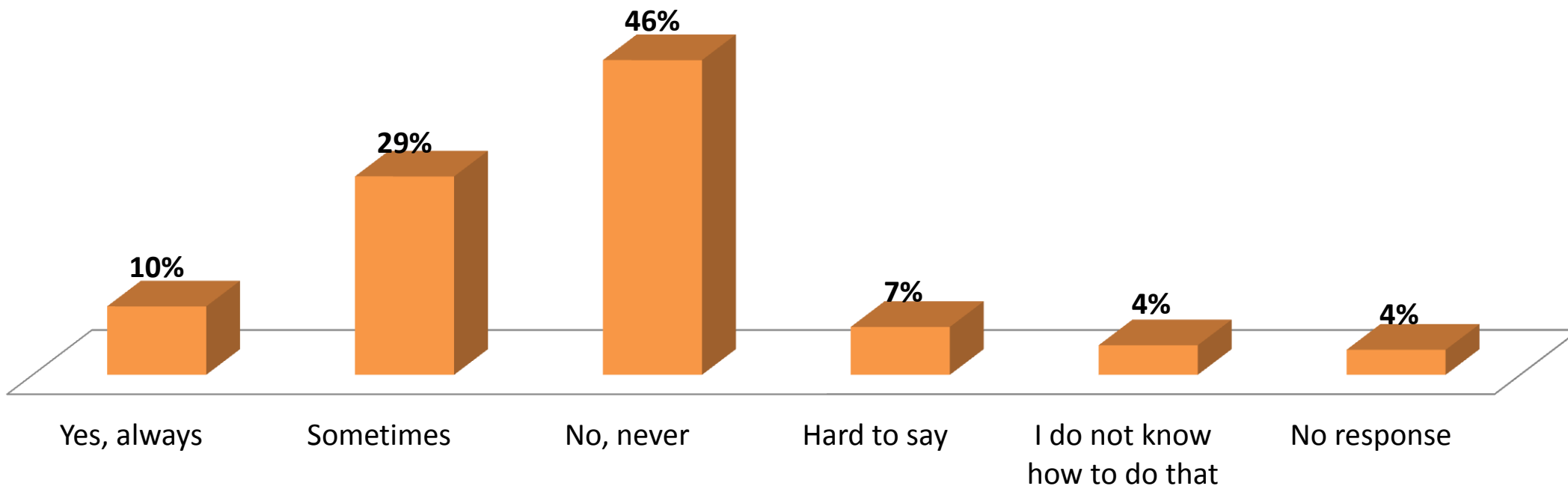
## 1.4. «Educational materials can be easily understood»





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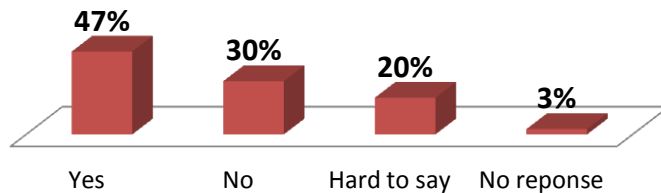
Do respondents **make sure whether** the received materials **have been approved by the SAM on the website of the SAM [www.zva.gov.lv](http://www.zva.gov.lv)**?



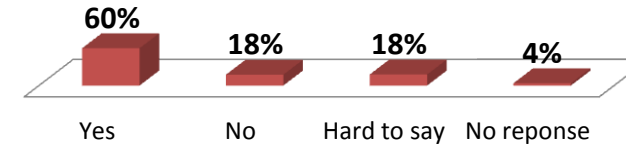


## Received DHPCs in 2014/2015 (mentioned in the survey)

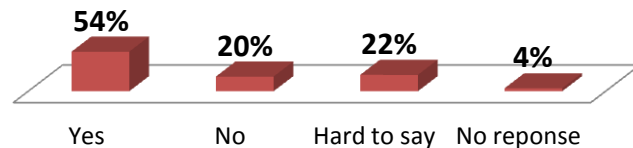
1. "Medicines containing valproic acid and related compounds: risk of pathological outcome of pregnancy" - approved by SAM on 10.12.2014.



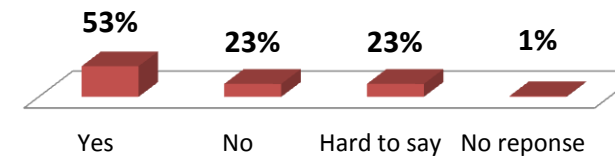
2. "Domperidone (Motilium, Domperodon Actavis, Oproperidys): new recommendations for minimisation of cardiac risk" - approved by SAM on 22.08.2014.



3. "Important additional safety data in the summary of product characteristics of carvedilol containing medicines" - approved by SAM on 21.08.2014.



4. "Transdermal fentanyl patch: a reminder regarding potential life-threatening harm from accidental exposure to transdermal fentanyl patches" - approved by SAM on 16.06.2014.

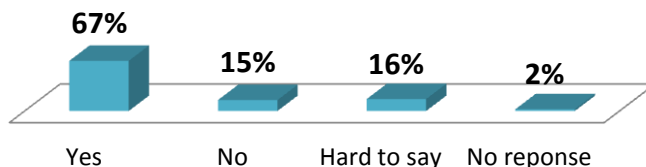




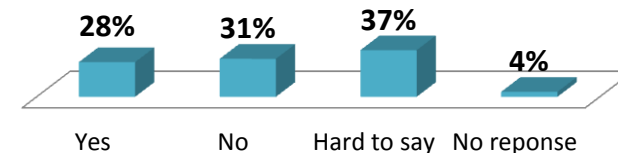
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## Received educational materials in 2014/2015 (mentioned in the survey)

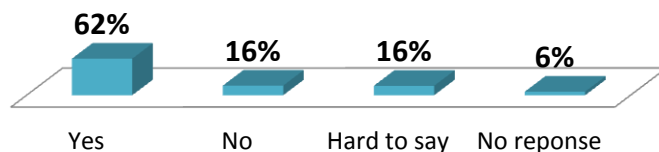
1. For the medicinal product Pradaxa – approved by SAM in June 2014?



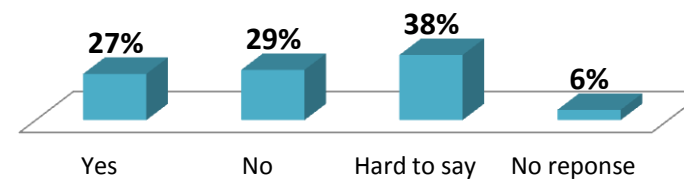
2. For the medicinal product Eliquis – approved by SAM in December 2014?



3. For intravenous iron preparations – approved by SAM in December 2014?



4. For the medicinal product Ebetrex (methotrexate) – approved by SAM in October 2013?





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## The most useful received materials: examples

- All received materials were useful (51 respondents)
  - Provided useful information regarding medicines safety;
- DHPC: “*Domperidone (Motilium, Domperodon Actavis, Oroperidys): new recommendations for minimisation of cardiac risk*” - approved by SAM on 22.08.2014.:
  - I have a lot of patients who must use these medicines;
- “Educational materials for the medicinal product *Pradaxa*” - approved by SAM on 06.2014:
  - Useful when choosing between medicines *Pradaxa* and *Xarelto*;
- “The most useful were practical educational materials that I used after the operation of varicose veins.”





## Suggestions

- To include only the key message(s) - clear and brief statements (in both DHPC and educational materials);
- Request to continue to deliver;
- Necessity for independent information from the pharmaceutical industry.

### The preference of **receiving the materials in the future**

