



# Session V – Availability of medicinal products after February 2019

*A hospital pharmacy perspective*

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# Report on medicines shortages in European Hospitals by EAHP in 2014

- Largest survey of its kind
- Addressed the lack of information on shortages at European level
- Investigated questions relating to impact of shortages, supply to hospitals and proposed solutions

<http://www.eahp.eu/practice-and-policy/medicines-shortages>



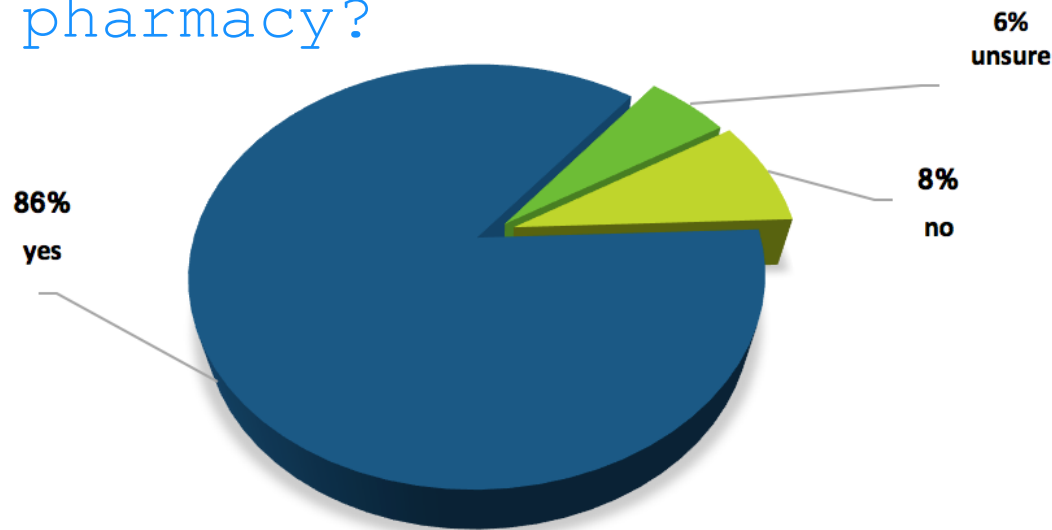


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Are medicines shortages a current problem in the hospital you work in, in terms of delivering the best care to patients and/or operating the hospital pharmacy?



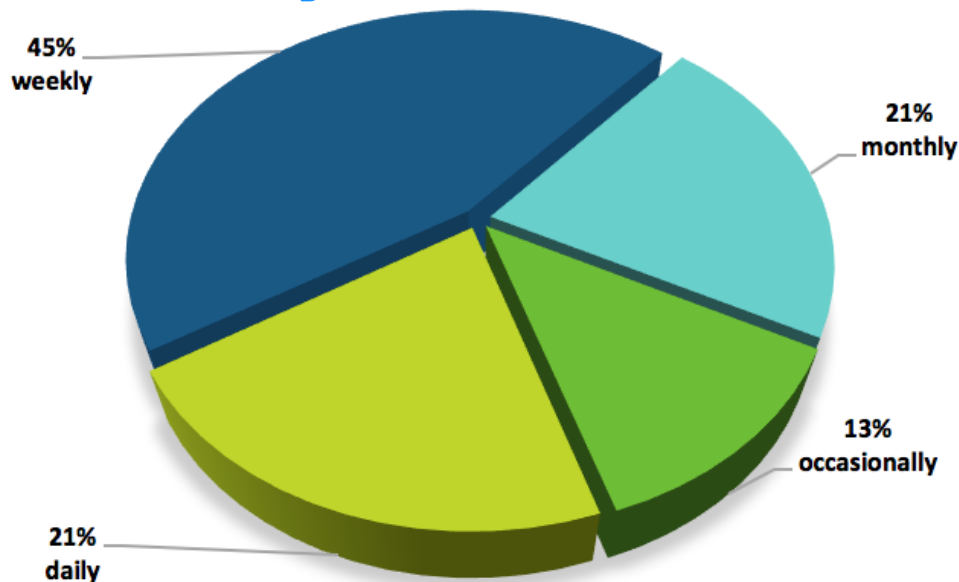


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How often does your hospital pharmacy experience shortages?



- Increase of shortages in comparison to EAHP survey activity in 2013
- 66% of respondents said that medicines shortages affect their hospital pharmacy on a daily or weekly basis in 2014
- 63 % respondents indicated that shortages are a daily or weekly occurrence in 2013

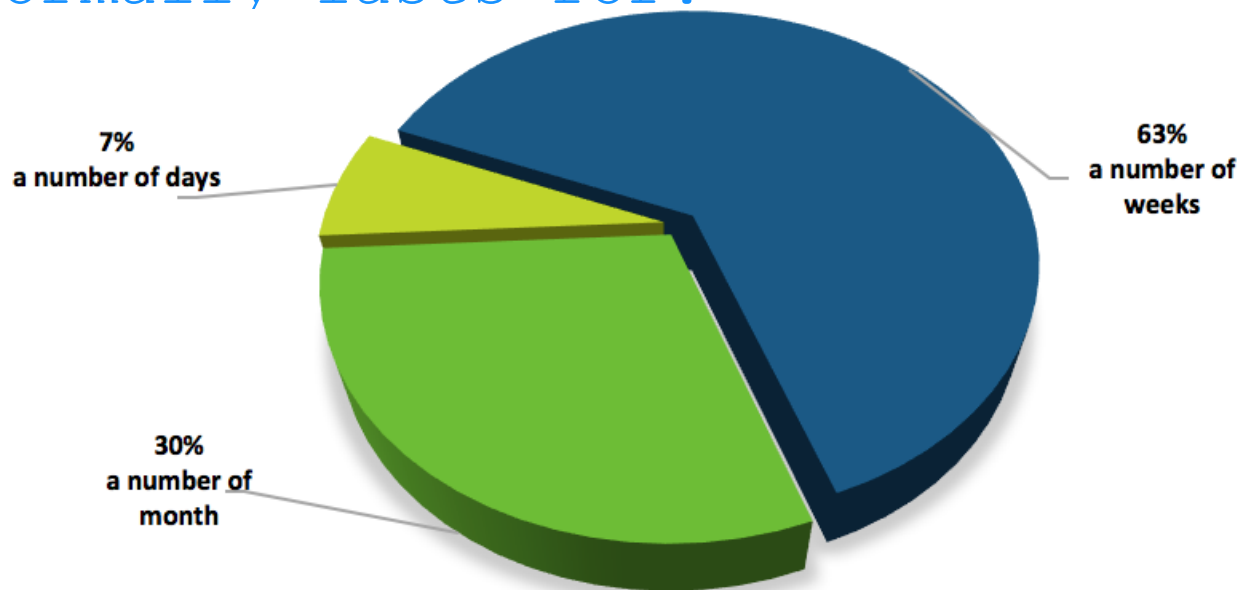


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In your experience, how long would you estimate the average or typical medicines shortage normally lasts for?



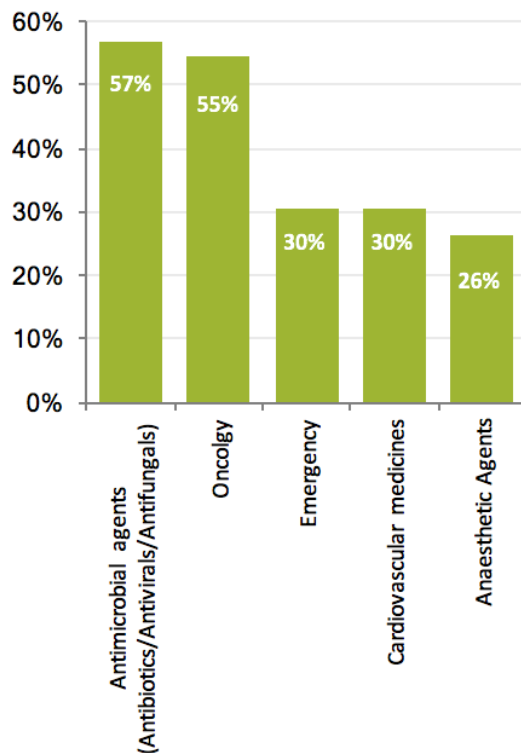


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In which area of medicine does your hospital experience shortage most commonly?



Impacts recorded in the survey included:

- Delayed chemotherapy treatments with consequent distress for patients, carers, families and healthcare professionals
- Patient safety incidents
- Significant disruption to healthcare professional time and other service provision and development



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# Factors contributing to medicines shortages

Causes and drivers of medicines shortages include but are not limited to:

- Demand spikes
- Raw material problems
- Parallel trade
- Production issues

*COST Action – European Medicines Shortages Research Network* is analysing the different disruption causes further



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## Availability of medicinal products after February 2019?

- Lack of availability of medicinal products is already an issue as shown by EAHP 2014 survey report on medicines shortages
- Difficult to predict if availability of medicines will worsen or improve after February 2019, since medicines shortages can be caused by many different factors
- Impact of EMVS on medicines availability is difficult to assess, since it's not a track-and-trace system





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Thank you!

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