

INDIVIDUAL PERCEPTION OF DIALYSIS THERAPY AND TRANSPLANTATION OPTIONS

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INTRODUCTION

With aging of the population, there is an increasing number of patients with chronic kidney disease. Regular dialysis and transplantation treatment makes huge difference for the patient's life and affects a his/her bio-psychosocial quality of life. The patient becomes dependent on this treatment, which may undermine his/her confidence and induce various defense responses. These reactions vary depending on the nature of the patient, his/her social background and emotional characteristics. The task of the team is to provide maximum information about this type of disease, its progress and innovations in dialysis and transplantation treatment. Our aim was to find out what method of treatment of end stage renal disease (ESRD) the patients prefer and whether they wish to be put on the waiting list (WL).

METHODS

In order to identify factors that influence patients' decision making about the treatment we conducted an anonymous survey among 80 dialysis patients in our dialysis center with 59 patients actively participating on the survey.

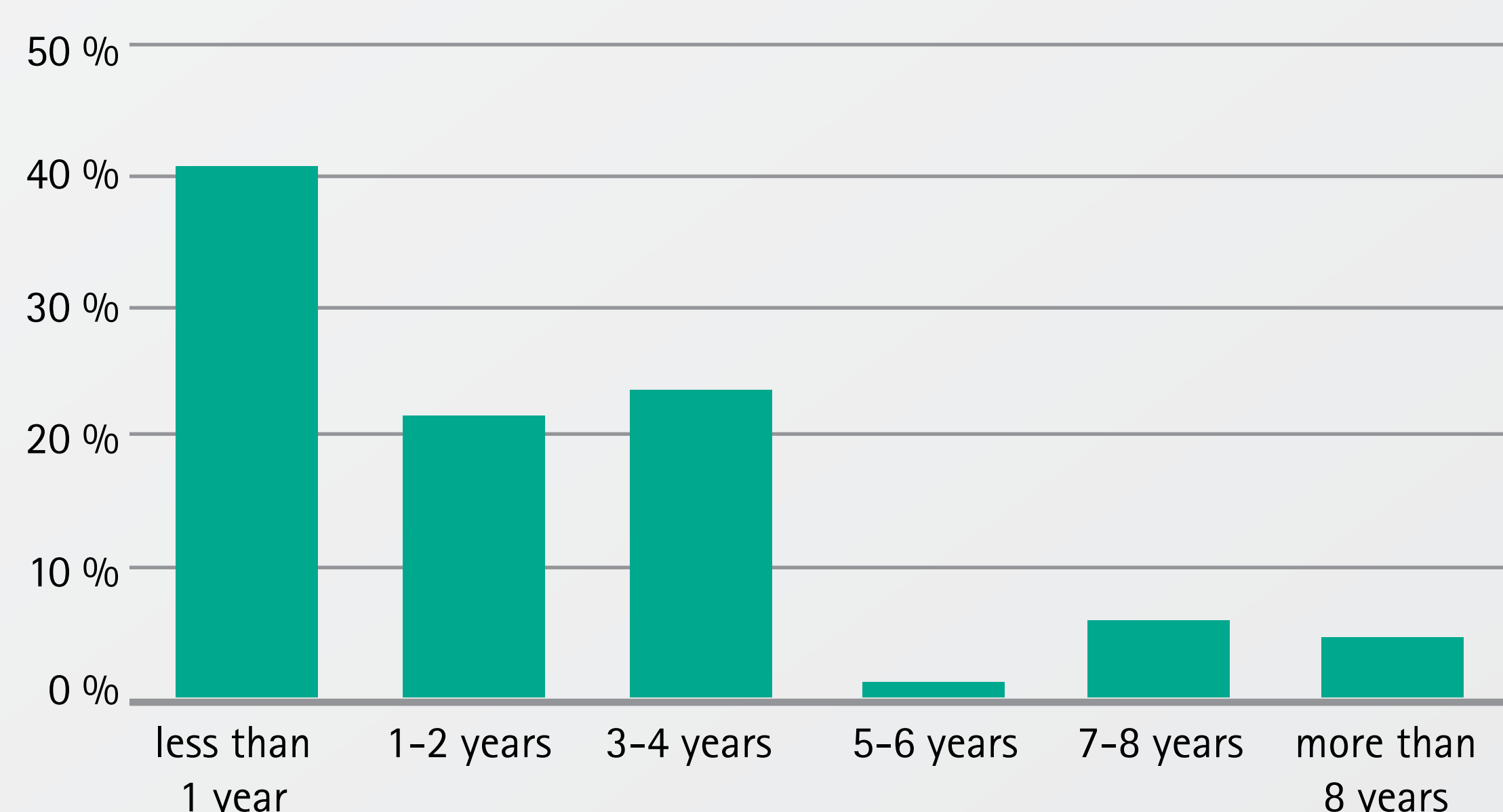
RESULTS

Mapping out how the patients with kidney disease feel about their HD treatment. Identifying the reasons the patient have to for undergoing kidney transplantation or, conversely, why they are not interested in being put on the WL. Determining what the patients prefer - dialysis or transplantation.

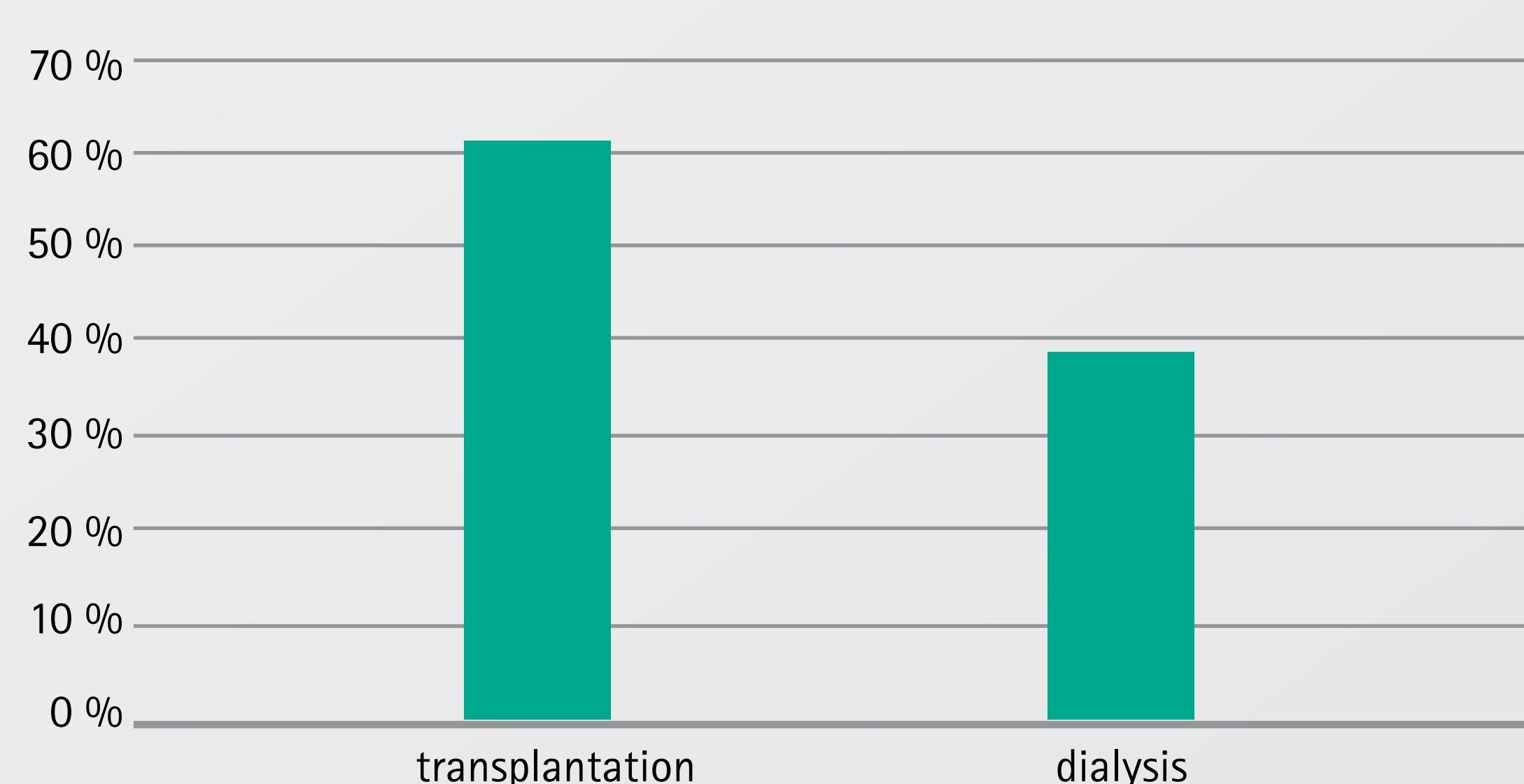
CONCLUSION

The analysis showed that the perception of the factors leading to the decision on the form of therapy is individual for every patient. Sixty-one percent of the respondents would go for transplantation and 39% of the patients refuse the transplantation. We found that the main factors of transplant refusal were fear and satisfying regular dialysis. A small percentage of the patients were afraid of infection associated with transplantation. Majority of patients are motivated by the possibility to lead a normal life without HD; nearly 20% of patients reported that they only wanted a transplant based on the physician's recommendation, which gave us an idea on improving the education of patients provided by the healthcare professionals team with an individual emphasis. We assume that the attitude to the transplantation therapy will change in terms of increasing positive perception.

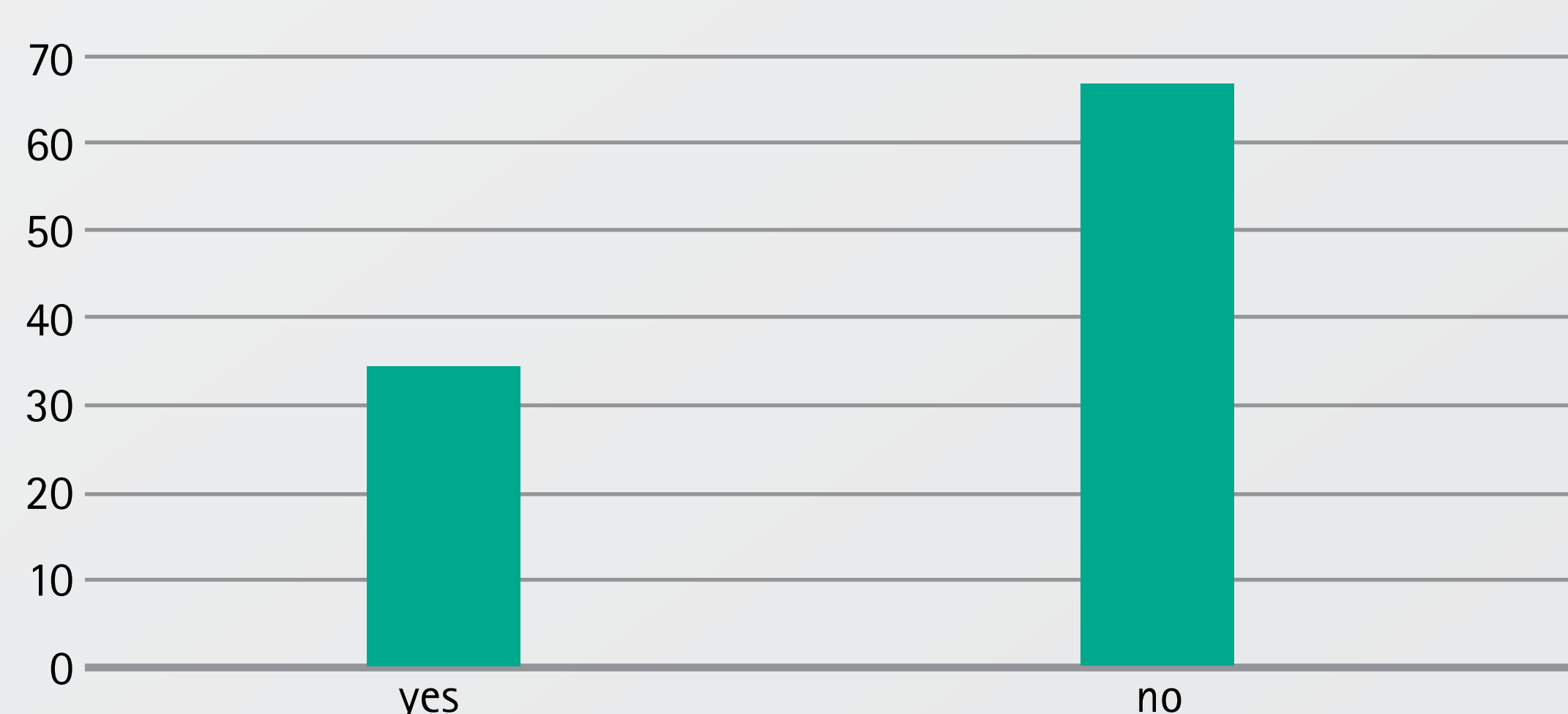
Period of time for which the patient is included in the HD program



Choice of therapy



Do you look forward to dialysis session?



Grounds for transplantation refusal

