

# A review of conditional recommendations by the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)

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## BACKGROUND

New drugs that receive regulatory bodies' approval are assessed by the Health Technology Assessment agencies, including the CADTH, before listing by drug plans in Canada. Considering the impact of CADTH recommendations on the listing decisions, the growing number of high-cost drugs and conditional listings, conditional recommendations have always been of interest to the users of CADTH recommendations.

## OBJECTIVE

This descriptive study explores the conditions of the CADTH recommendations and their reasons.

## METHODS

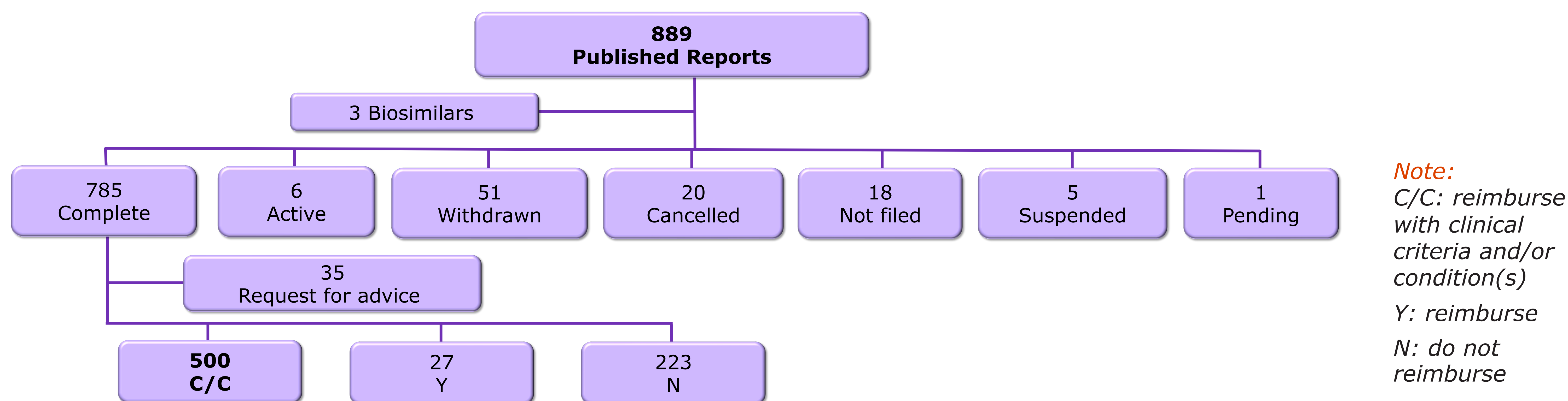
**Data source:** Final reviews of drug reimbursement recommendations posted on the CADTH website

**Selection criteria:** The complete reviews excluding 'requests for advice' since January 1, 2003 if accepted by May 1, 2021 and completed before January 1, 2022

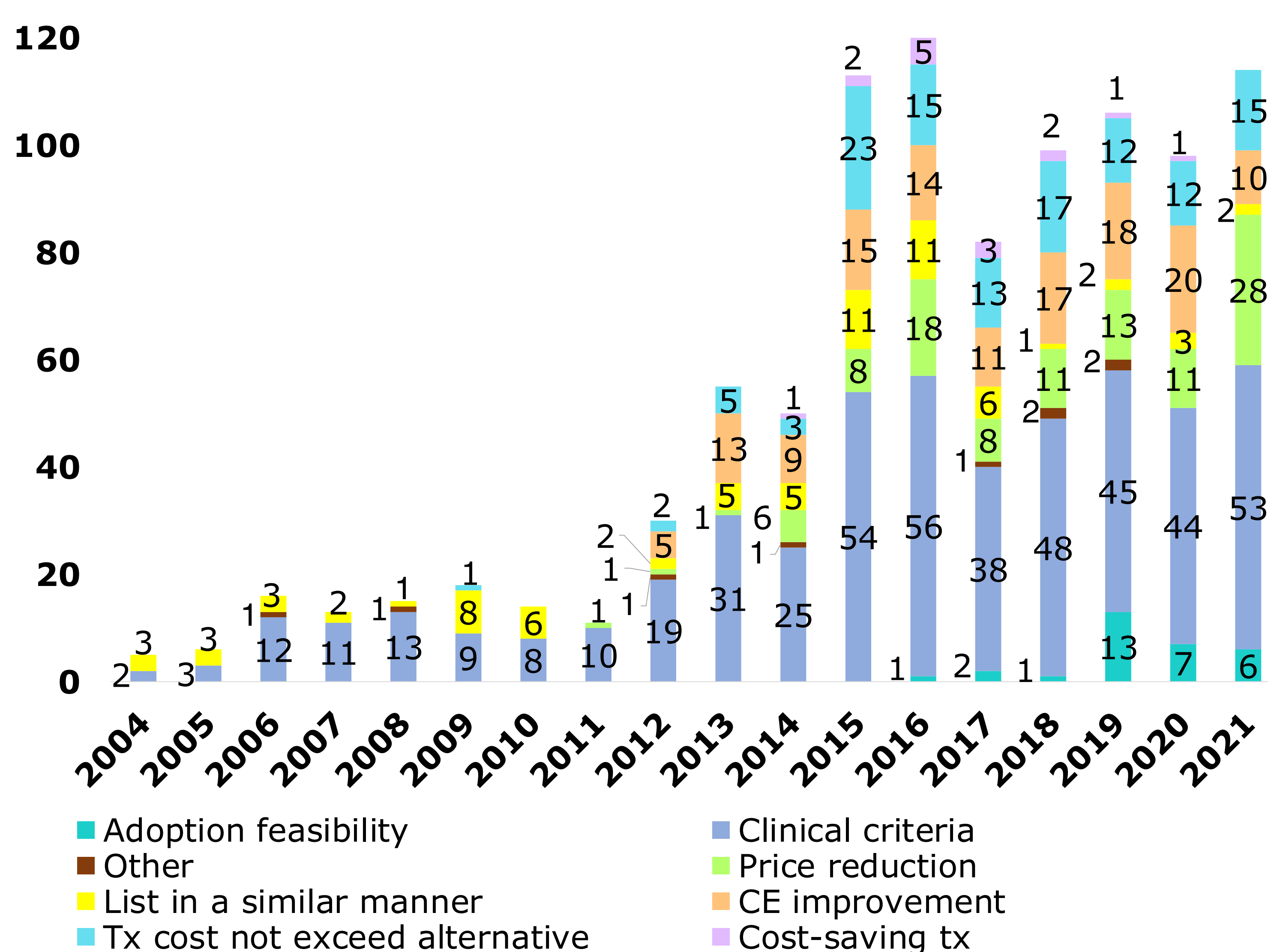
**Data extraction:** Recommendation type and date, the conditions of the recommendation, and their reasons

## RESULTS

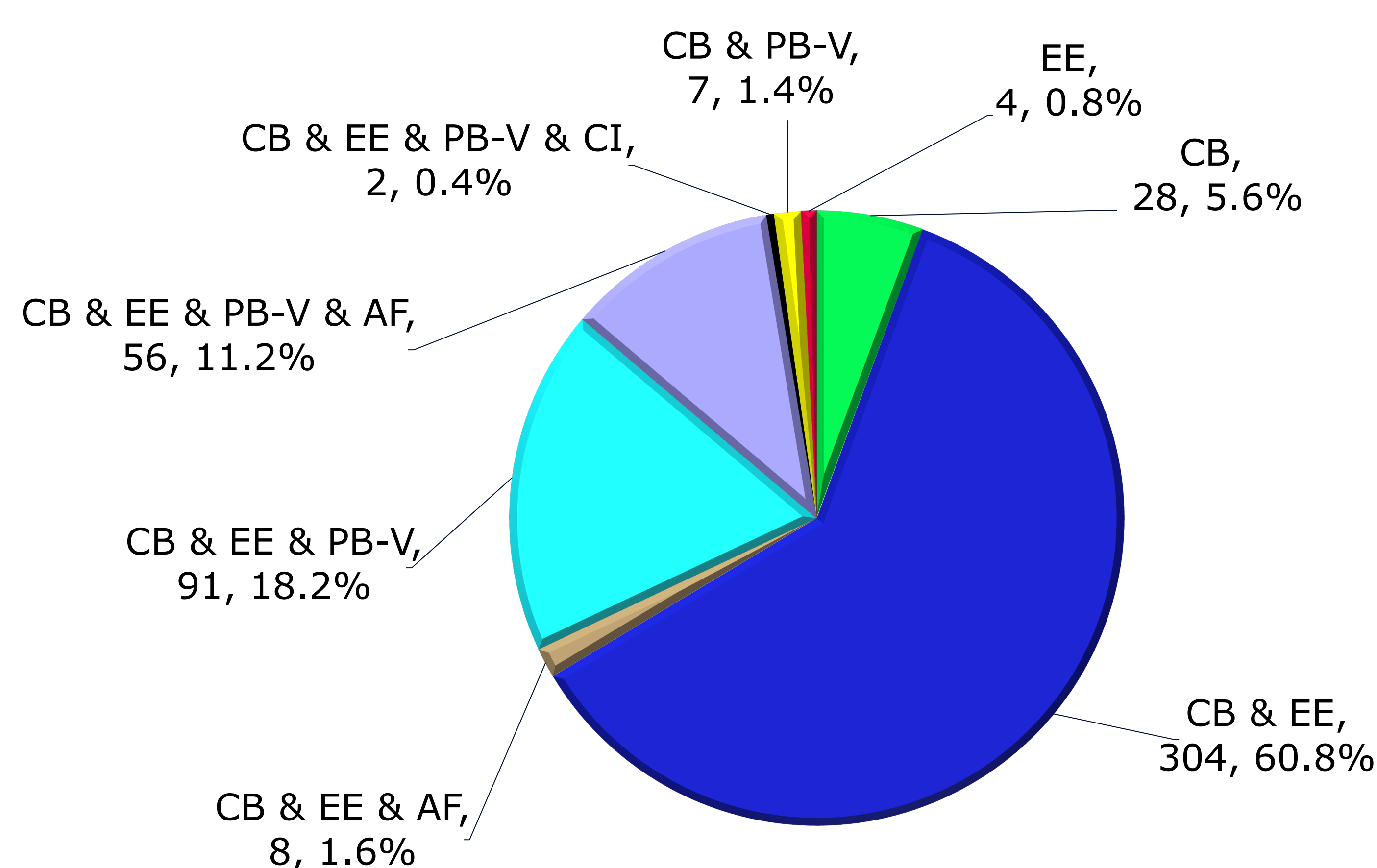
**Figure 1:** CADTH drug recommendations published on the CADTH website between 2003 and May 2021



**Figure 2:** Condition(s) reported in complete drug recommendations by CADTH between 2004 and January 2022



**Figure 3:** The reasons for complete conditional recommendations issued for drugs by CADTH between 2004 and January 2022



**Note:** CB; Clinical benefit, EE; Economic evaluation, AF; Adoption feasibility, PB-V; Patient-based values, CI; Clinician input

## CONCLUSION

CADTH has provided patients access to innovative drugs even with limited evidence by conditional recommendations rather than rejecting the new drugs. The clinical criteria is the cornerstone of conditional recommendations. CADTH has developed the assessment process and added patients' engagement to ensure meeting their values.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Ms. Irena Milenkovic from CADTH for her quick availability and for clarifying the expressions used by CADTH over time.