

# Healthcare Resource Utilization for Adults Diagnosed with Moderate to Severe Atopic Dermatitis in Greece (APOLO STUDY)

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## INTRODUCTION

- Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a chronic, pruritic inflammatory skin disease and one of the most common chronic inflammatory diseases worldwide<sup>1-2</sup>.
- However, despite its prevalence, few data are available on Greek AD patients.
- In particular, few or no data are available on healthcare resource utilization (HCRU) of Greek patients with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis (M2S-AD).

## OBJECTIVE

- To depict the healthcare resource utilization (HCRU) by Greek adult patients suffering from moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis (M2S-AD).

## METHODS

### Study overview

- The APOLO study (Atopic dermatitis - a cross-sectional study on disease characteristics and impact on patients) was a 9-month cross-sectional study – October 2021 to June 2022 – which included patients with clinical diagnosis of M2S-AD reaching out to 13 tertiary hospital centers of reference, experienced in the management of AD in Greece.
- The patients included sought medical attention for AD in the center for the first time (no previous visit for AD), including:
  - New M2S AD patients who present themselves for the first time at the center of reference.
  - Past M2S AD patients who haven't been in regular follow-up for at least 2 years.

### Assessments

- Data on demographics, disease characteristics, healthcare utilization, treatment patterns and burden of disease were recorded in the study.
- Patient characteristics, disease burden and treatment patterns of Greek adult M2S-AD patients were included in previous reports. We herein report the HCRU of Greek adult M2S-AD patients.

## RESULTS

### Patient and disease characteristics

- One hundred eighty-four adult patients were included in the study and 51% were female.
- The median (Q25-Q75) age of the included population was 38.8 (24.7-52.7) years-old and the median (Q25-Q75) BMI was 25.0 (22.2-27.8).
- Median EASI of included population was 16.9 (10.4-23.4) and BSA 30.0 (20.0-40.0). Of the patients, 64% had moderate AD (m-AD) and 36% severe (s-AD). Median EASI score was 12.6 (8.9-16.2) for patients with moderate AD, and 26.0 (22.8-32.4) for patients with severe AD.

### Healthcare resource utilization

- 54.3% (100/184) of the study population had been referred to the study site by a healthcare professional (HCP), most commonly by a dermatologist, as reported by 77.0% (77/100) of these patients.
- In most cases the initial diagnosis was made by dermatologists, followed by allergists (Figure 1).
- The HCP specialties consulted by patients more frequently (frequency  $\geq 10\%$ ) in the past can be seen in Figure 2, for the overall population in scope, as well as for patients with moderate and severe disease, separately.

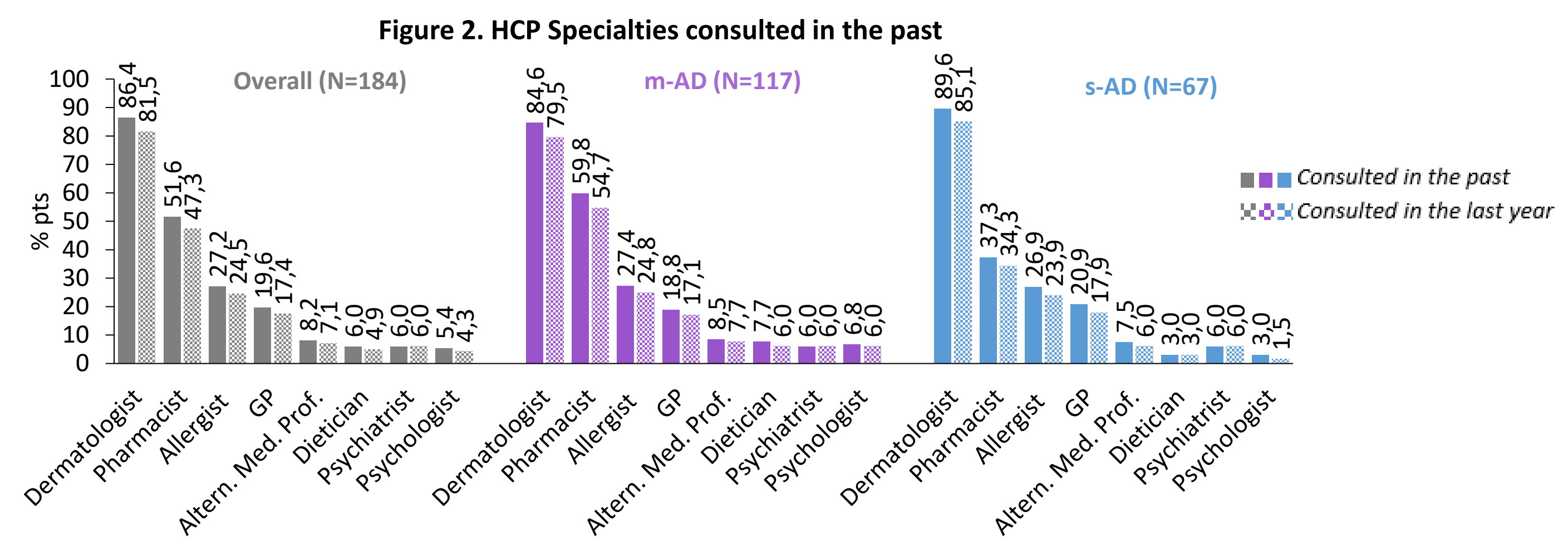
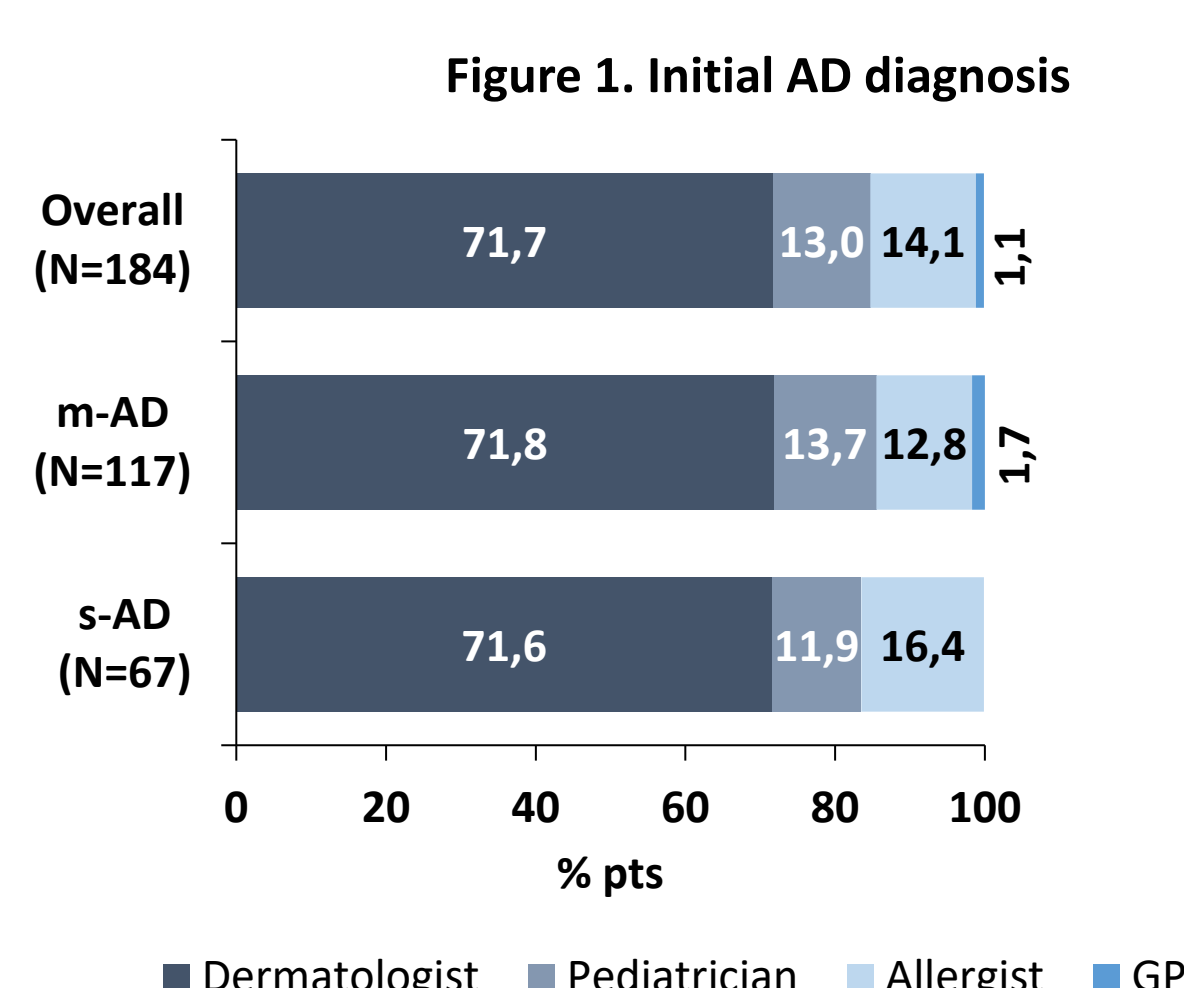


Figure 3. AD-related hospital/specialized centers consultations, hospitalizations, and ER visits performed in the last year.

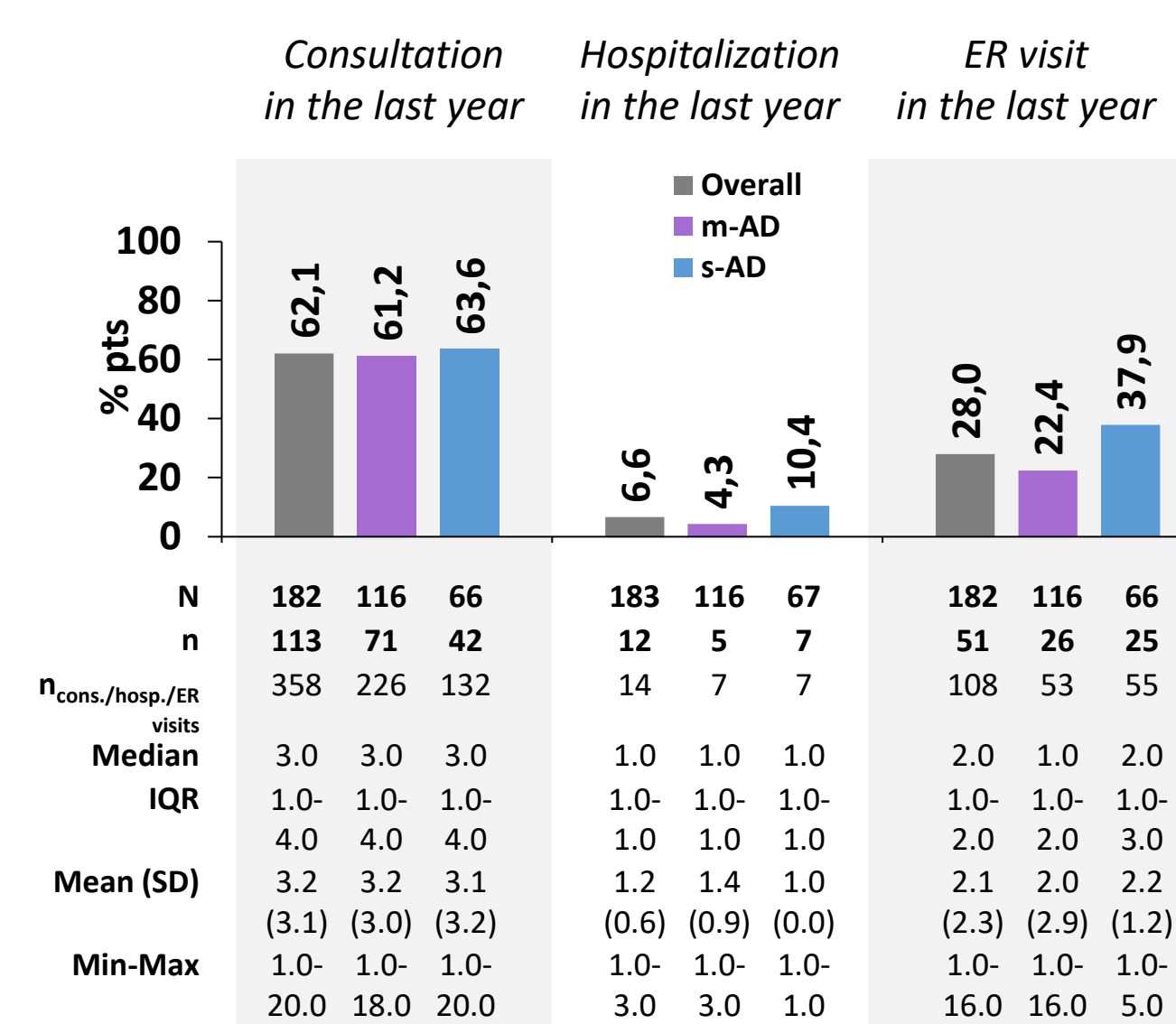
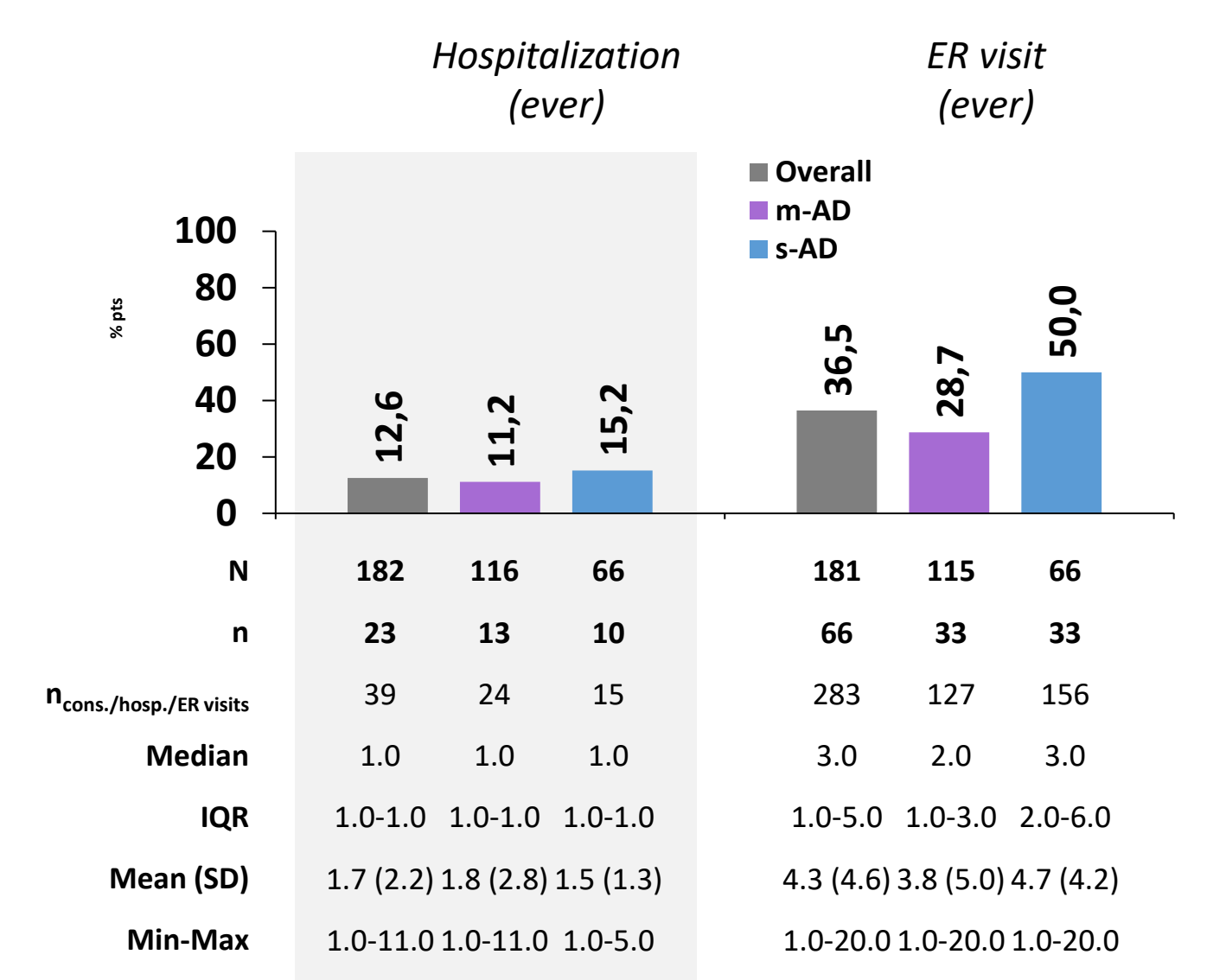


Figure 4. AD-related hospitalizations and ER visits performed ever.



- Hospital/specialized center consultations as well as hospitalizations and emergency room (ER) visits before the study visit are presented in Figures 3 and 4.
- The median (IQR) out-of-pocket cost of the included population for emollients and skin care products in the last month was 30€ (30-40); 25€ (20-35) and 30€ (20-40) for patients with moderate and severe AD, respectively.
- Cost of items purchased by patients for better management of AD (such as dust-mite impermeable mattress covers, special clothing, etc.) are presented in Figure 5.
- Among the subgroup of patients who were employed/self-employed/students at the study visit with available data, 29.7% (44/148) reported absence from work or school due to AD for  $\geq 2$  days in the last month. Work productivity and activity impairment in the past seven days as assessed by WPAl:GH, in the overall population as well as in those who reported any impairment is presented in Figures 6a and 6b.

Figure 5. Cost of items purchased by the patients

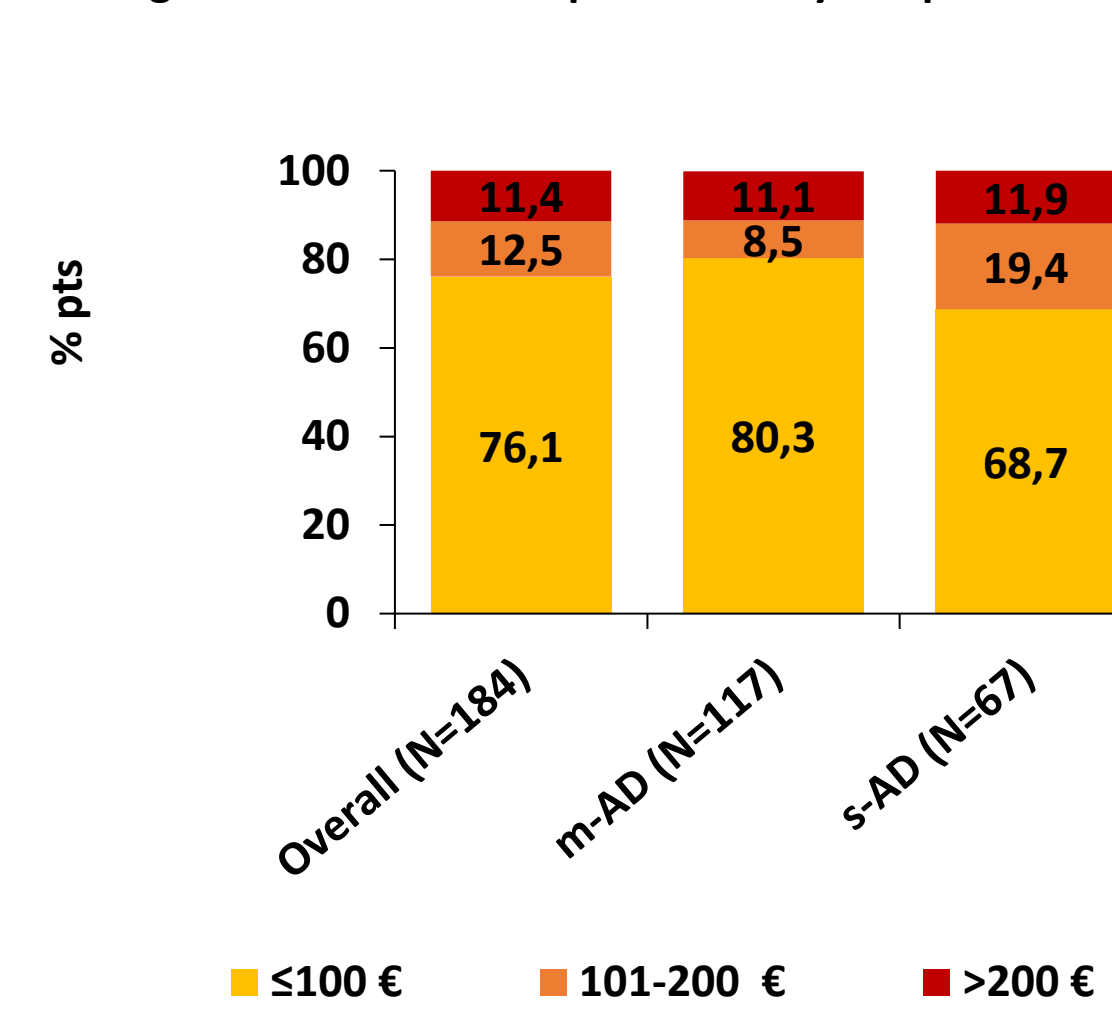


Figure 6a. Work productivity and activity impairment in the past seven days as assessed by WPAl:GH

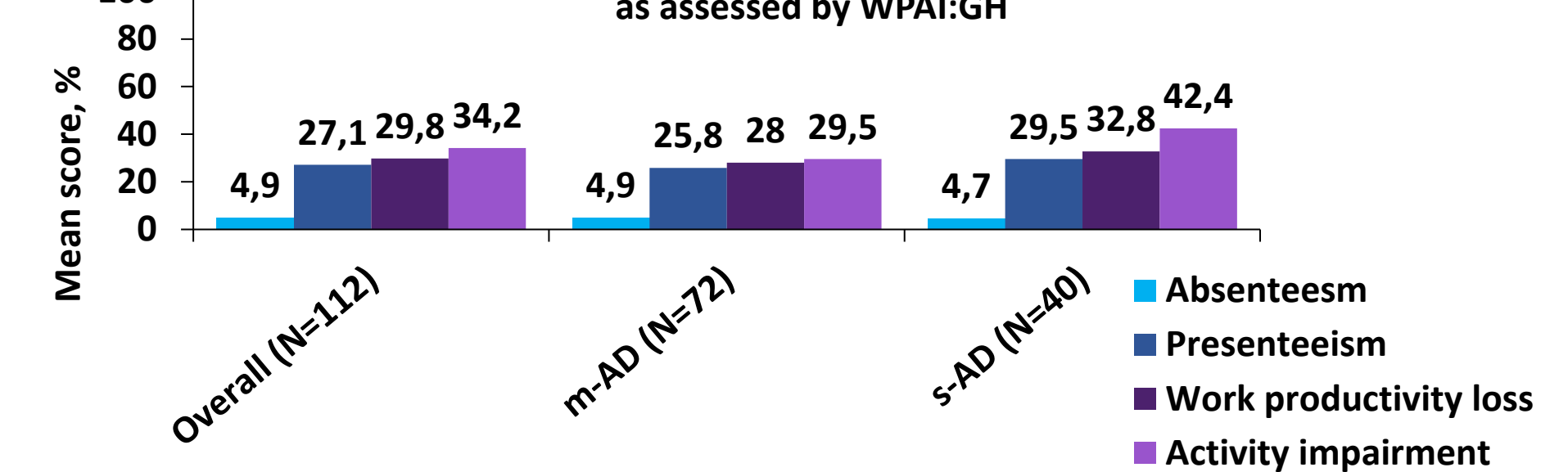
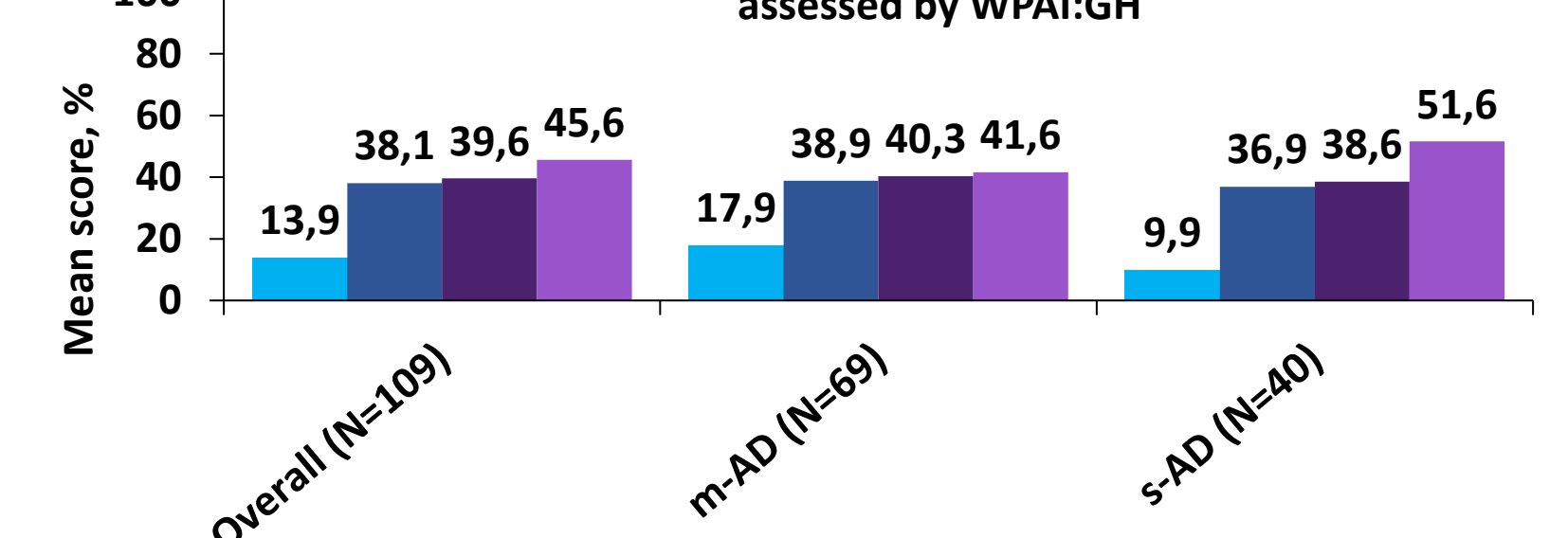


Figure 6b. Any work productivity and activity impairment in the past, as assessed by WPAl:GH



## CONCLUSIONS

- Patients with moderate and severe AD reaching specialized centers in Greece present with substantial AD-associated HCRU, in terms of physician visits to various HCP specialties, hospitalizations and ER visits.
- Patients experience impairments in work productivity, daily activities and QoL due to their disease.
- There are also significant out-of-pocket payments incurred by patients, related to the management of their disease.
- In conclusion, this study indicates that there is a significant burden for both moderate AD and severe AD patients, highlighting the current unmet need for therapies that can adequately manage the disease.

### DISCLOSURES

The study has been sponsored by Pfizer Hellas SA.

### REFERENCES

- Langan S et al. Lancet 2020; 396: 345–60
- Weidinger S et Novak N. Lancet 2016; 387: 1109–22