

# Patient participation in conference with team-members shortly after admission

Eilenberger RS, RN, MHSc (Nurs), Johannesen, IL, MD  
Spinal Cord Injury Centre of Western Denmark  
Department of Neurology, Regional Hospital of Viborg

## Aims

As a new step towards more patient participation and shared goal-setting patients were invited to attend a multi-disciplinary conference with their team members and a close relative. The conference took place within fourteen days of admission. The aim of this study was to document and evaluate the experience of the patients to determine if they found the conference relevant and if the initiative should continue in the present form.

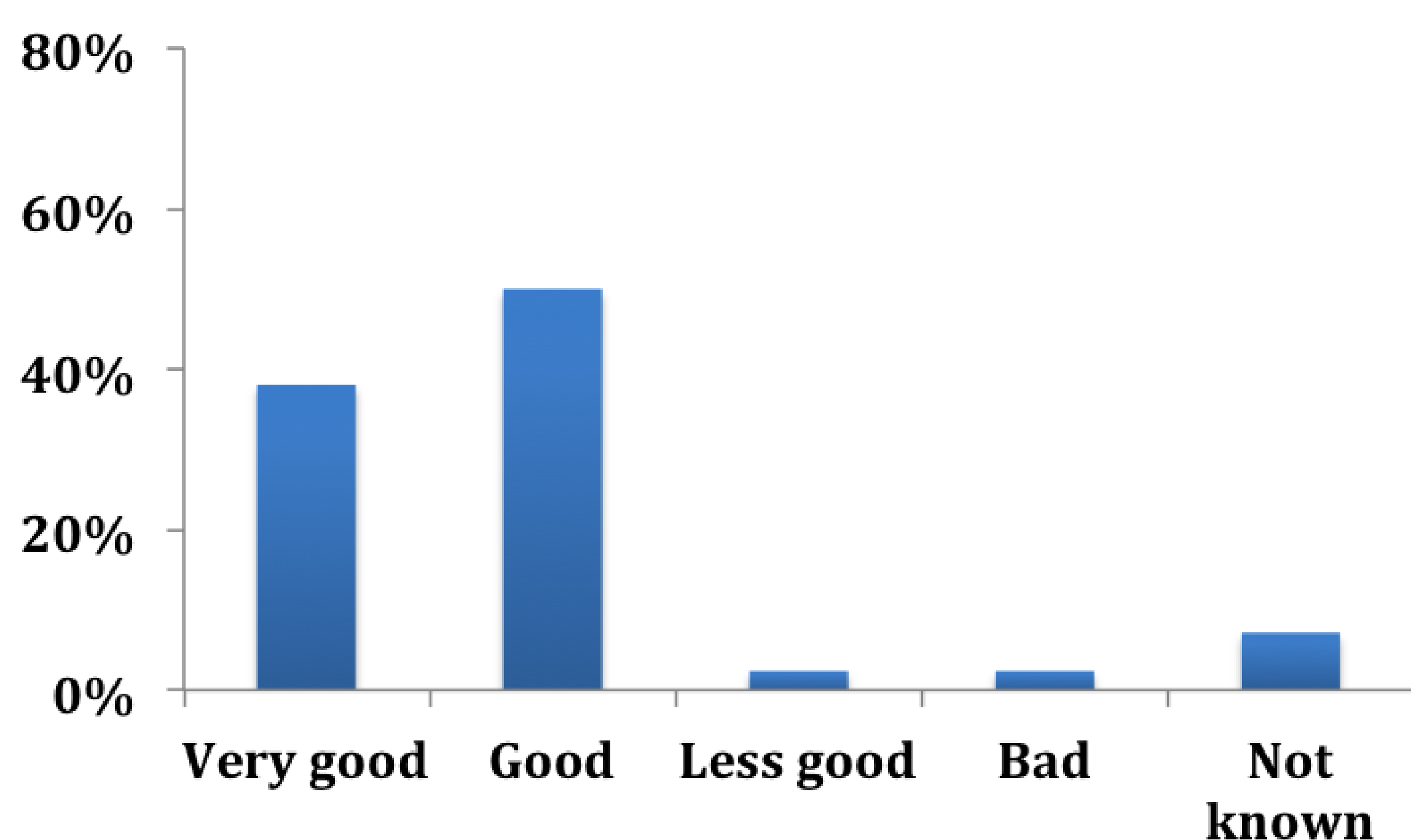
## Methods

Out of the 73 spinal cord injured patients admitted at Spinal Cord Injury Center of Western Denmark (VCR) in the period of 2010-2012 who were asked, 42 (58%) completed a questionnaire related to the setting, content and personal experience of the conference. The questionnaire was handed out by a nurse outside the team and was answered anonymously.

## Results

### How did you feel about participating?

88% felt it was good or very good to participate in the conference and only 4% felt it was less good or bad to participate.

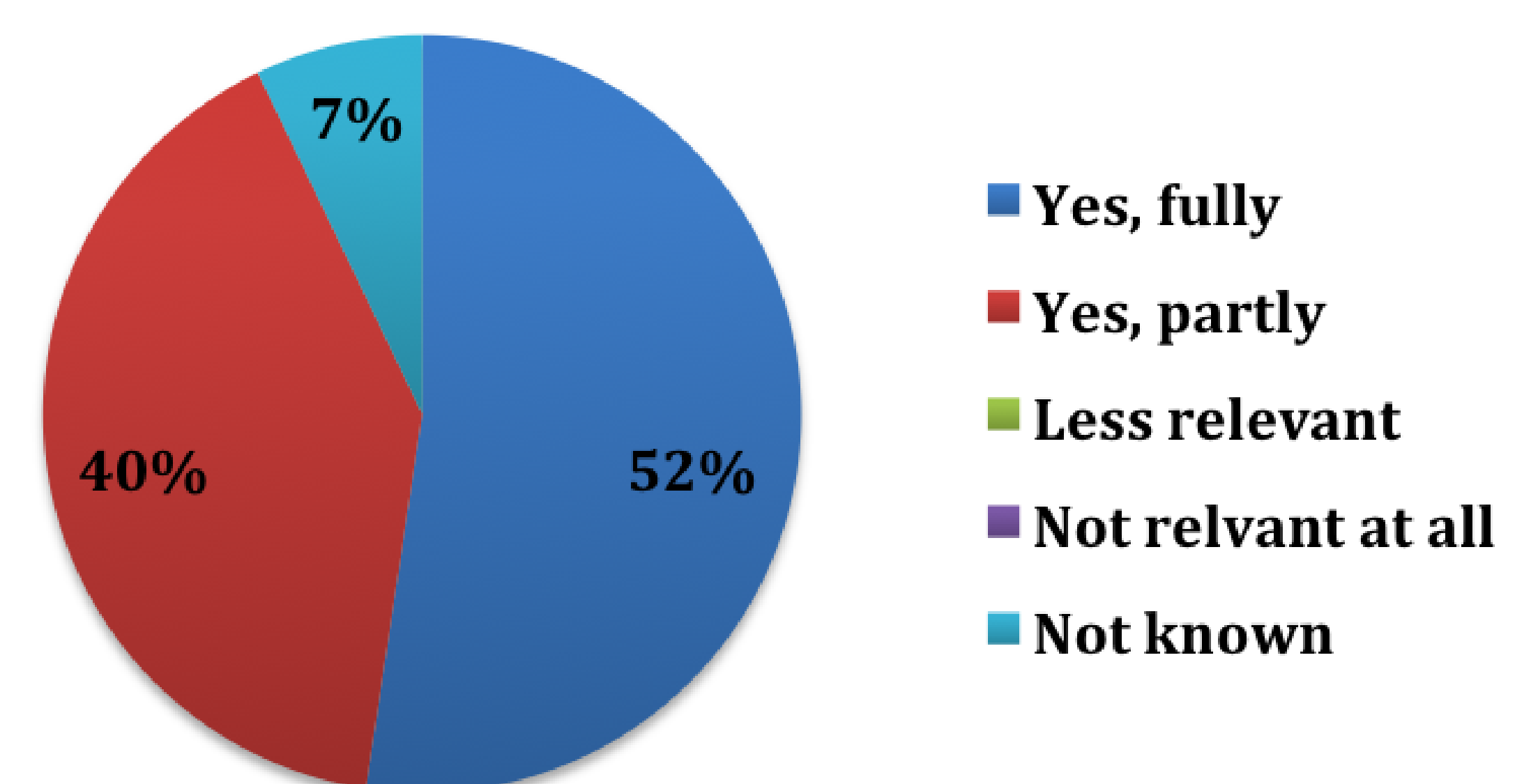


## Conclusions

Patient participation in a conference with team-members close to admission is viewed positively by the patients and the content is considered relevant. However it is important that the patients are informed about the form, content and setting in advance.

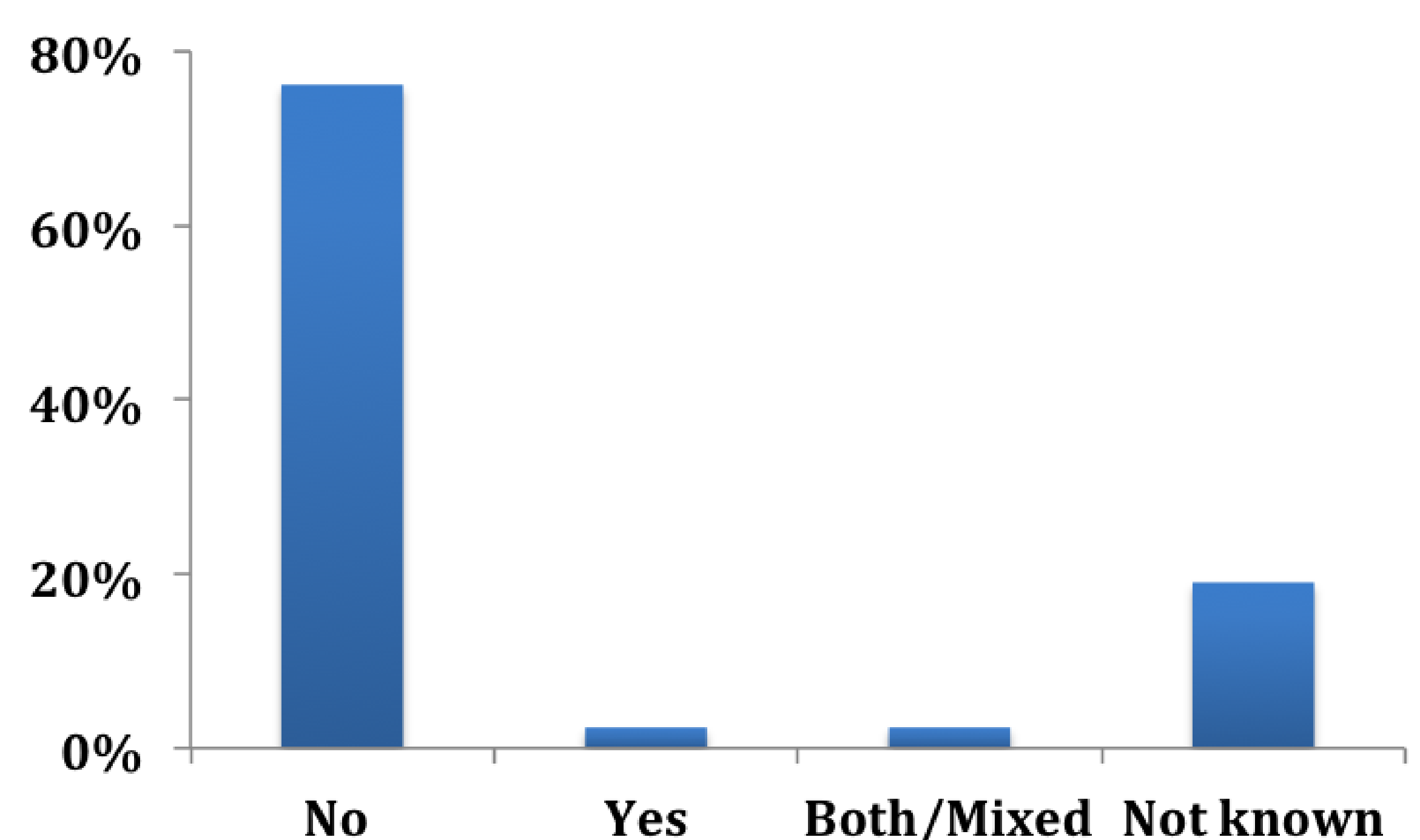
### Did you find the content of the conference relevant?

52% found the content of the conference very relevant. 41% found the content to have some degree of relevancy and 7% considered it less relevant.



### Would you rather have been without participating?

2% would have preferred not to participate and 76% would not be without participating in the conference.



The study also showed that it is important that patients receive a written agenda prior to the conference and have time to prepare themselves.