

INTRODUCTION

There is a growing consensus that involvement of patients in healthcare-based research and as equal partners in healthcare decision-making enhances their opportunity to improve service and outcomes. Our research is focused on the patient perspective in the successful implementation of antimicrobial stewardship in a hospital setup with the following objectives

STUDY OBJECTIVES

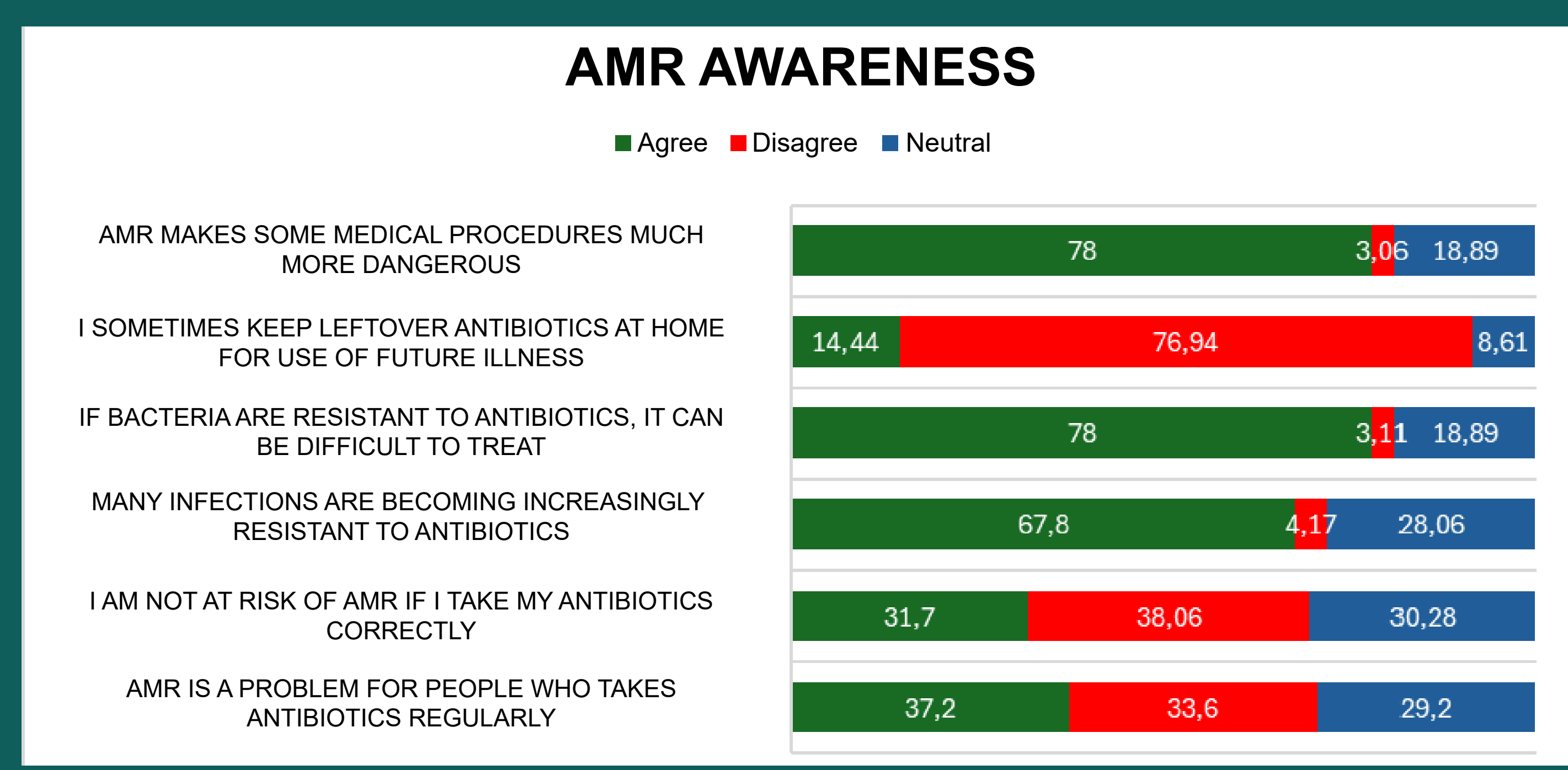
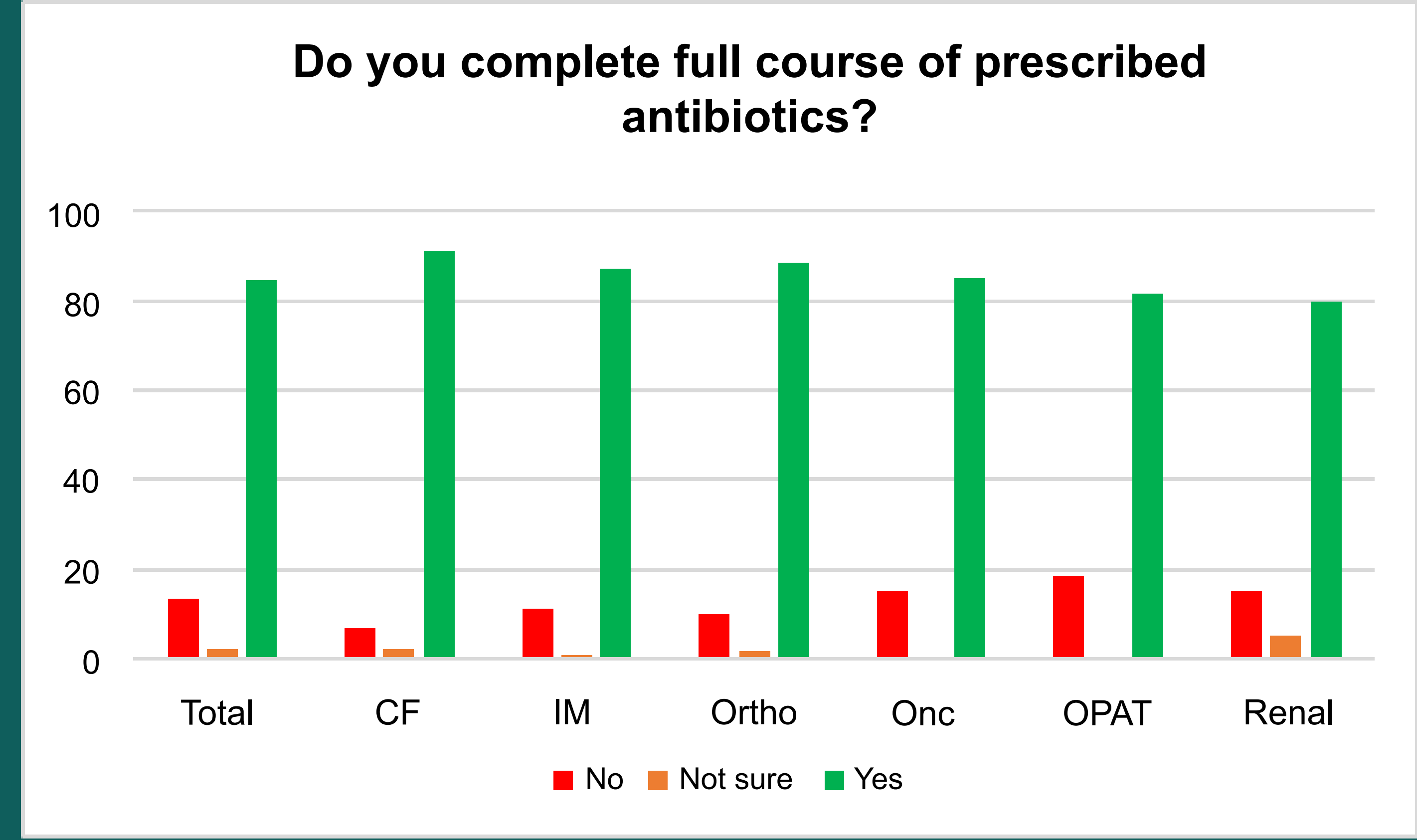
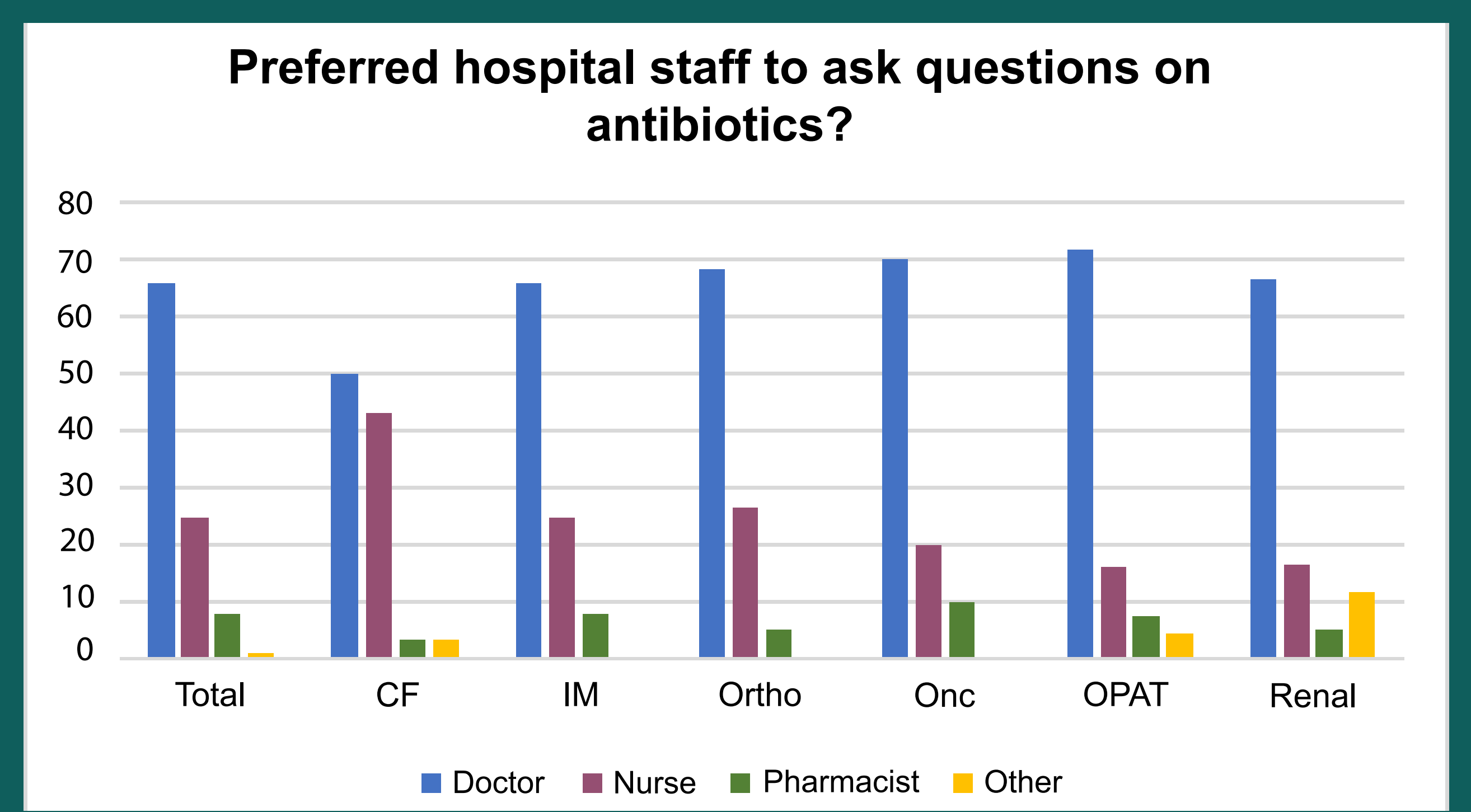
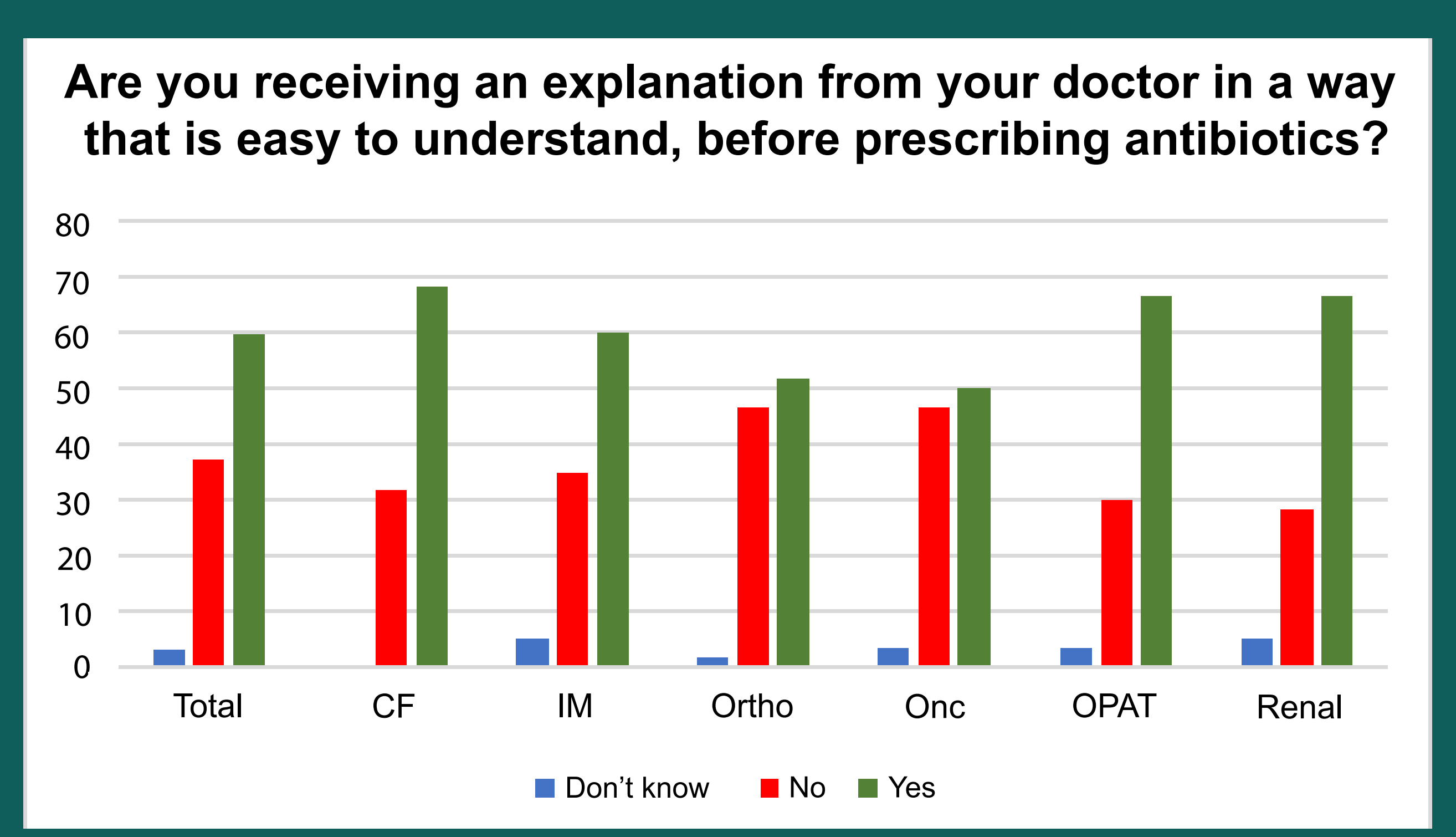
1. To explore patients' knowledge, understanding, and perceptions of antimicrobial resistance and their role in AMS.
2. To identify barriers and facilitators of patient engagement in AMS program

METHODS

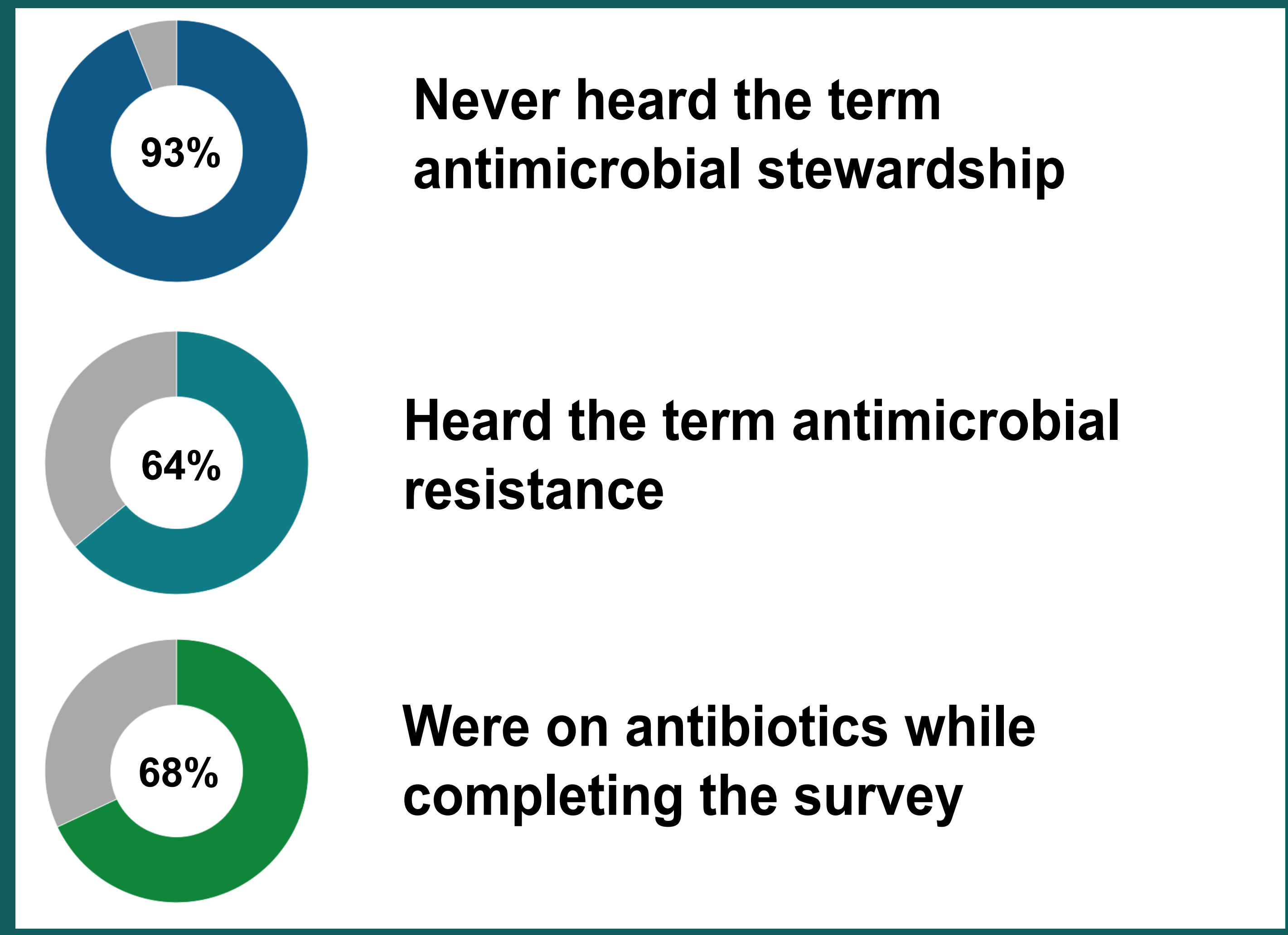
A questionnaire survey using previously validated questions on antimicrobial resistance and stewardship was conducted among 360 hospitalised patients from six patient groups [Cystic fibrosis (CF), hematology/oncology (Onc), Bone and joint infection (Ortho), Renal, Outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy (OPAT), Internal Medicine(IM)]. Sixty patients from each group were recruited using purposive sampling. Quantitative data were analysed using descriptive analysis.

RESULTS

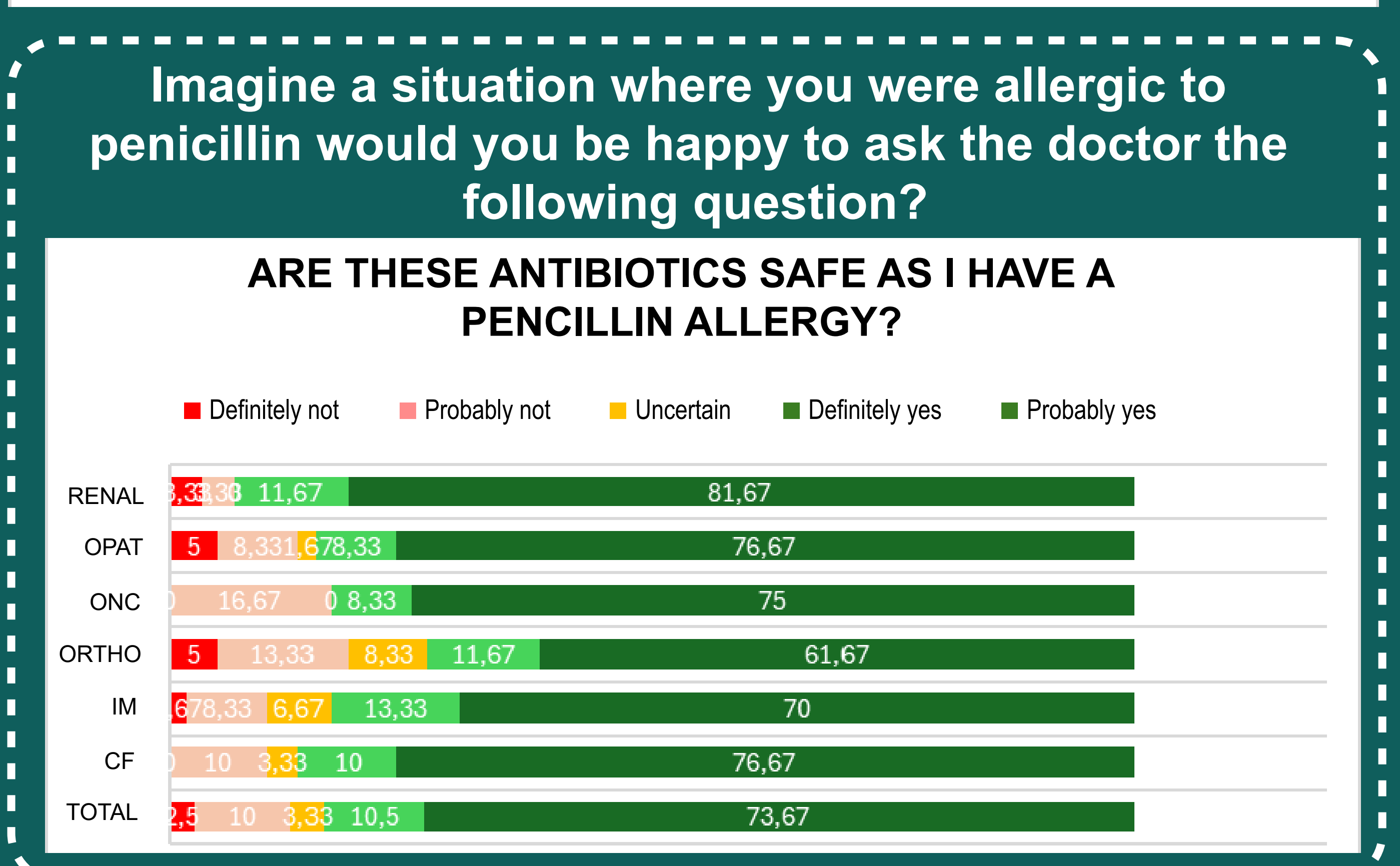
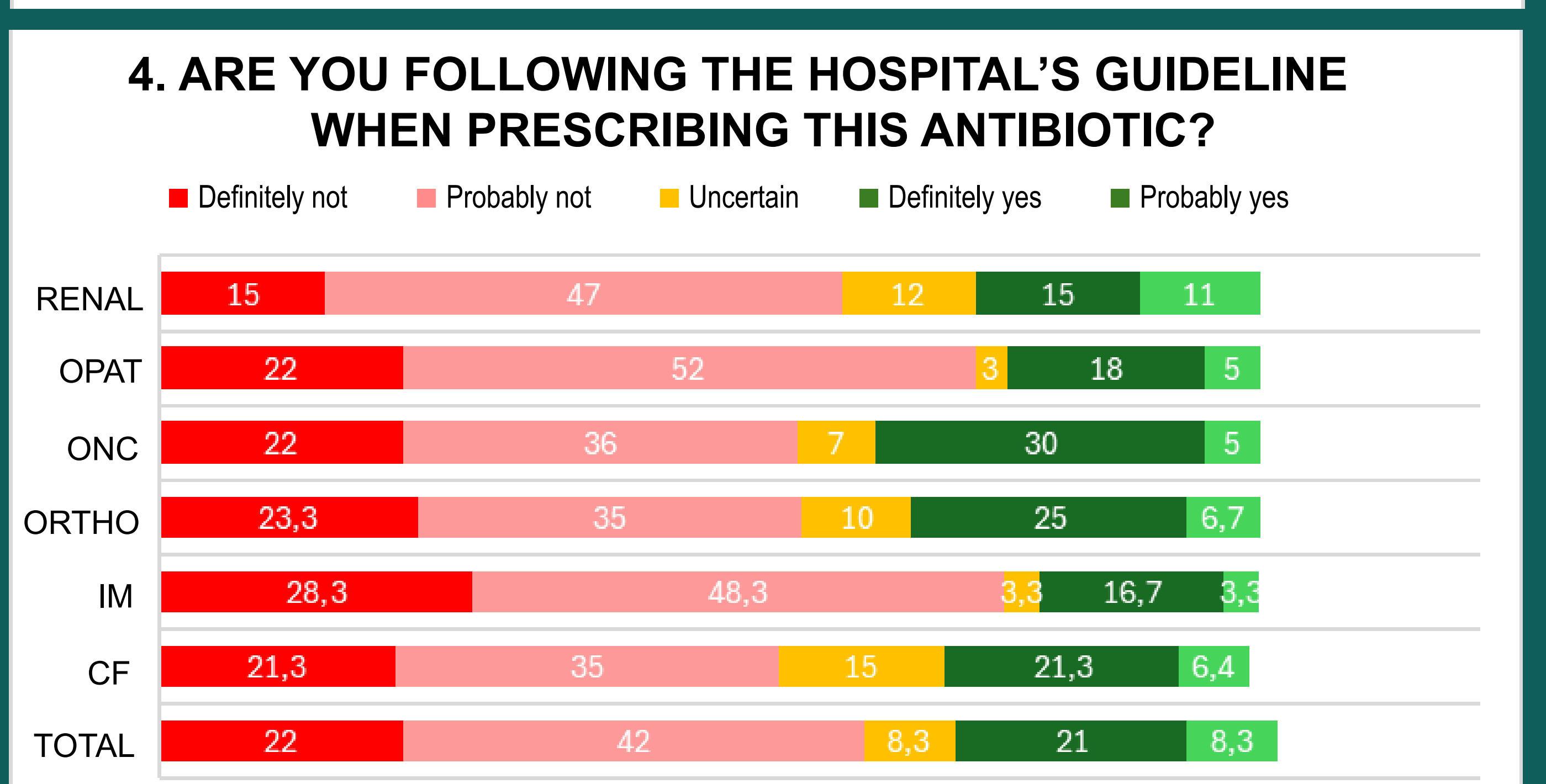
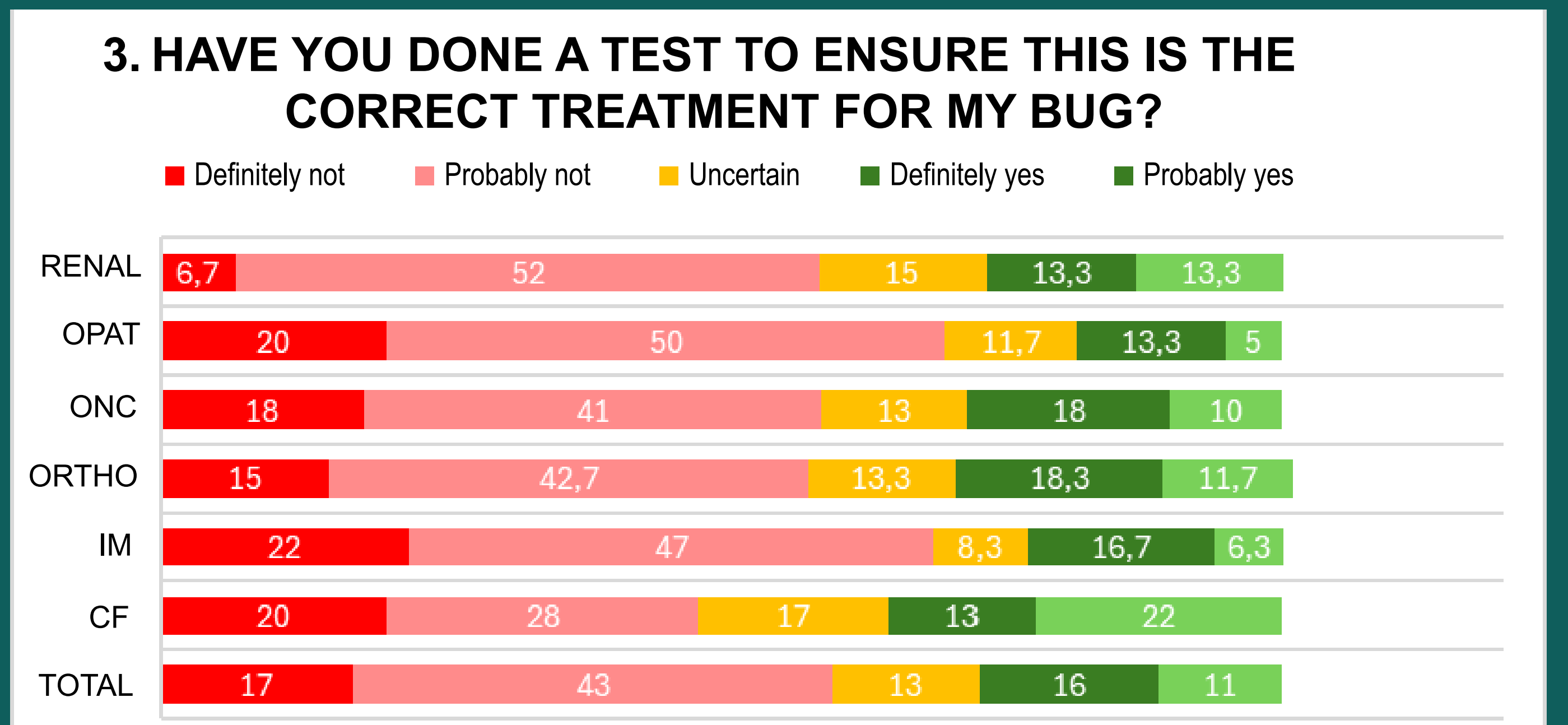
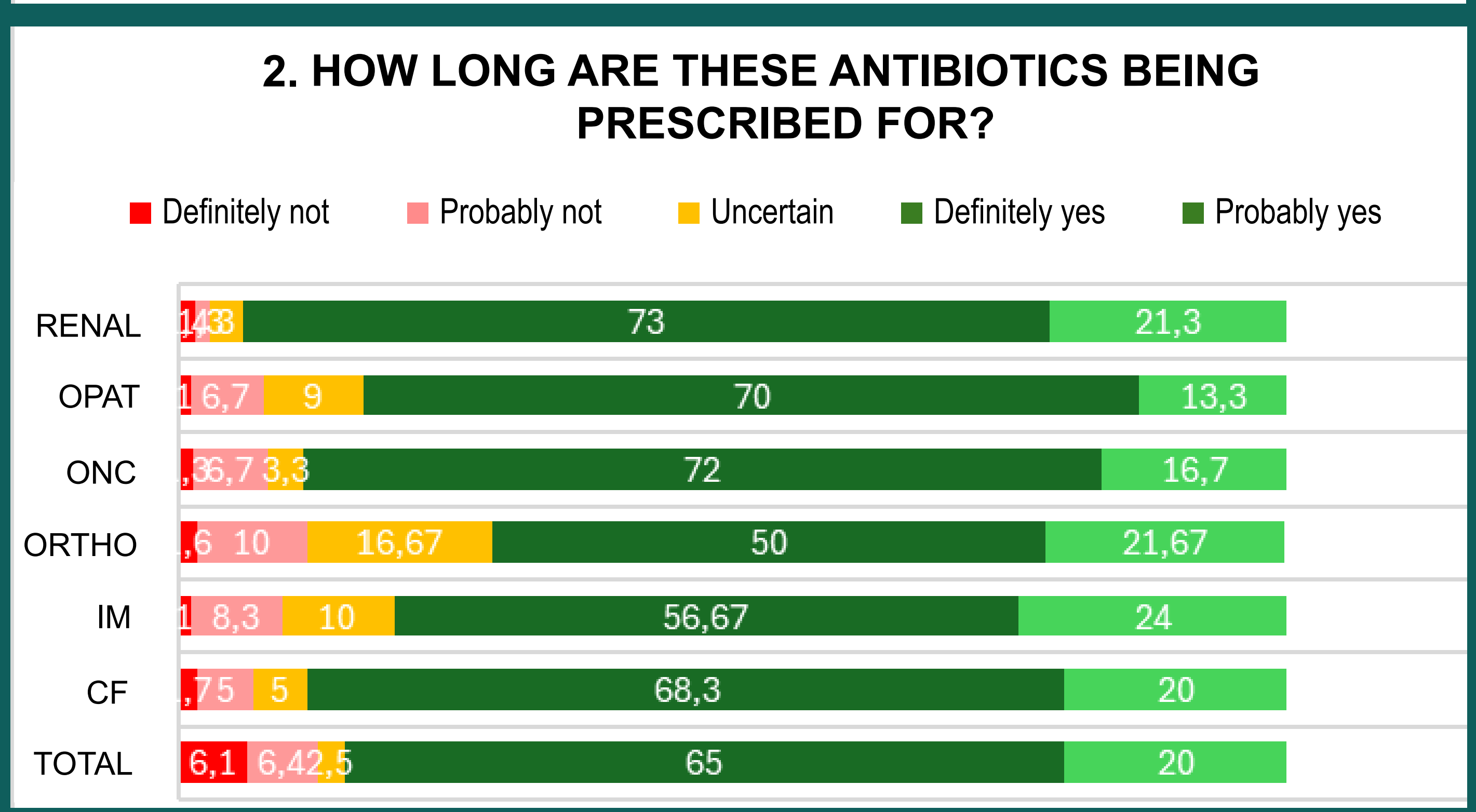
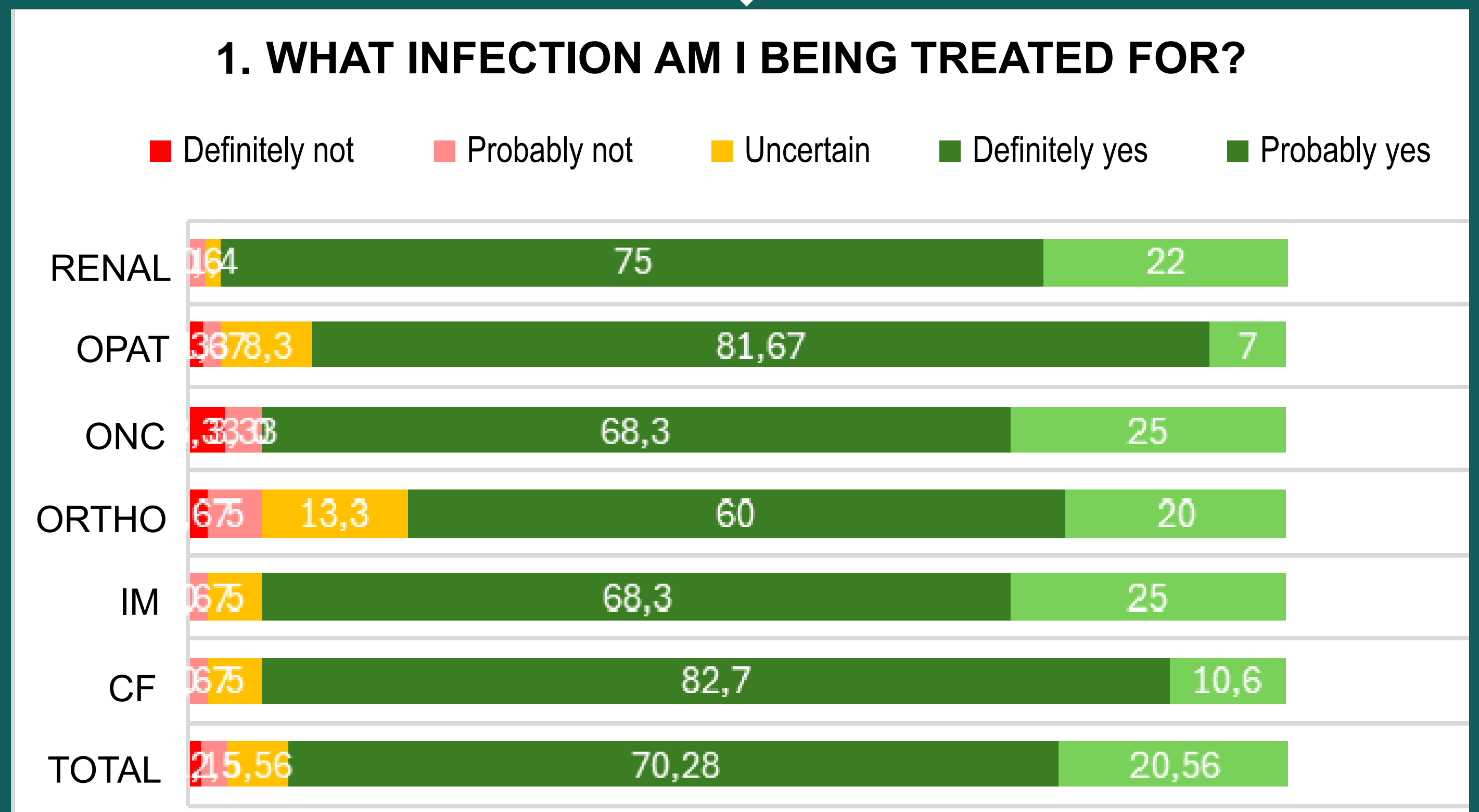
Characteristics		
Gender	n	%
Female	167	46.3
Male	192	53.3
Other	1	0.28
Age groups		
18-25	24	6.67
26-35	39	10.8
36-45	66	18.3
46-55	88	24.4
56-65	84	23.3
≥66	58	16.6
Education		
Doctorate	6	1.67
No qualification	4	1.1
Postgraduate	52	14.4
Primary school	35	9.7
Secondary school	189	52.5
Undergraduate	74	20.5
Employment status		
Employed	183	50.8
Reg Disabled	32	8.9
Retired	84	23.3
Student	7	1.94
Unemployed	54	15



Patients with graduate-level or higher education (36%) answered AMR knowledge questions correctly more often than those with primary school education or below (11%), with an odds ratio of 3.7 (95% CI = 1.5-3)



If you were receiving antibiotics in a hospital, would you be happy to ask a DOCTOR the following questions



- DISCUSSION
- Patients understand AMR well and are open to discussing infection treatment plans with healthcare professionals.
  - Higher level of education has a positive outcome on AMR Knowledge.
  - Patients knowledge of AMS and their trust in the health care team may be a barrier to questioning antimicrobial prescription.
  - Higher awareness of AMR and more positive behaviour toward AMS practices were evident among the CF group indicating their frequent interaction and continuous support from their healthcare team.
  - Doctors were the preferred patients' choice for clarifying antimicrobial-related queries - exploring the role and workflow of the multidisciplinary team should be considered.
  - In the next study phase, to explore the noticeable difference in response among the six groups and how patients can support AMS efforts

CONCLUSION

Patients appear to have a good understanding of AMR and are open to discussing infection treatment plans with healthcare professionals, though they may not be familiar with the terminology used. The next phase of our study will use qualitative methods to explore how patients might have a role to play in AMS.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**PERSPEcT Study**  
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