

Which electronic database do Swiss healthcare professionals consult for pediatric dosages?

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Background and aim

Pediatric dosages are often not in the summary of product characteristics.

In a Swiss pediatric university hospital 50% of all drugs are used «unlicensed» or «off-label».¹

The goal was to investigate...

- where today's pediatricians and pharmacists get their information on children's dosages from, and
- if such electronic databases are consulted and which one of them.

1. Di Paolo E.R. et al.: Unlicensed and off-label drug use in a Swiss pediatric university hospital. Swiss Med Wkly. 2006;136:218-222

Methods

An online survey in French and German was sent to 1'806 pediatricians and 2'073 pharmacists.

Main questions in the online survey

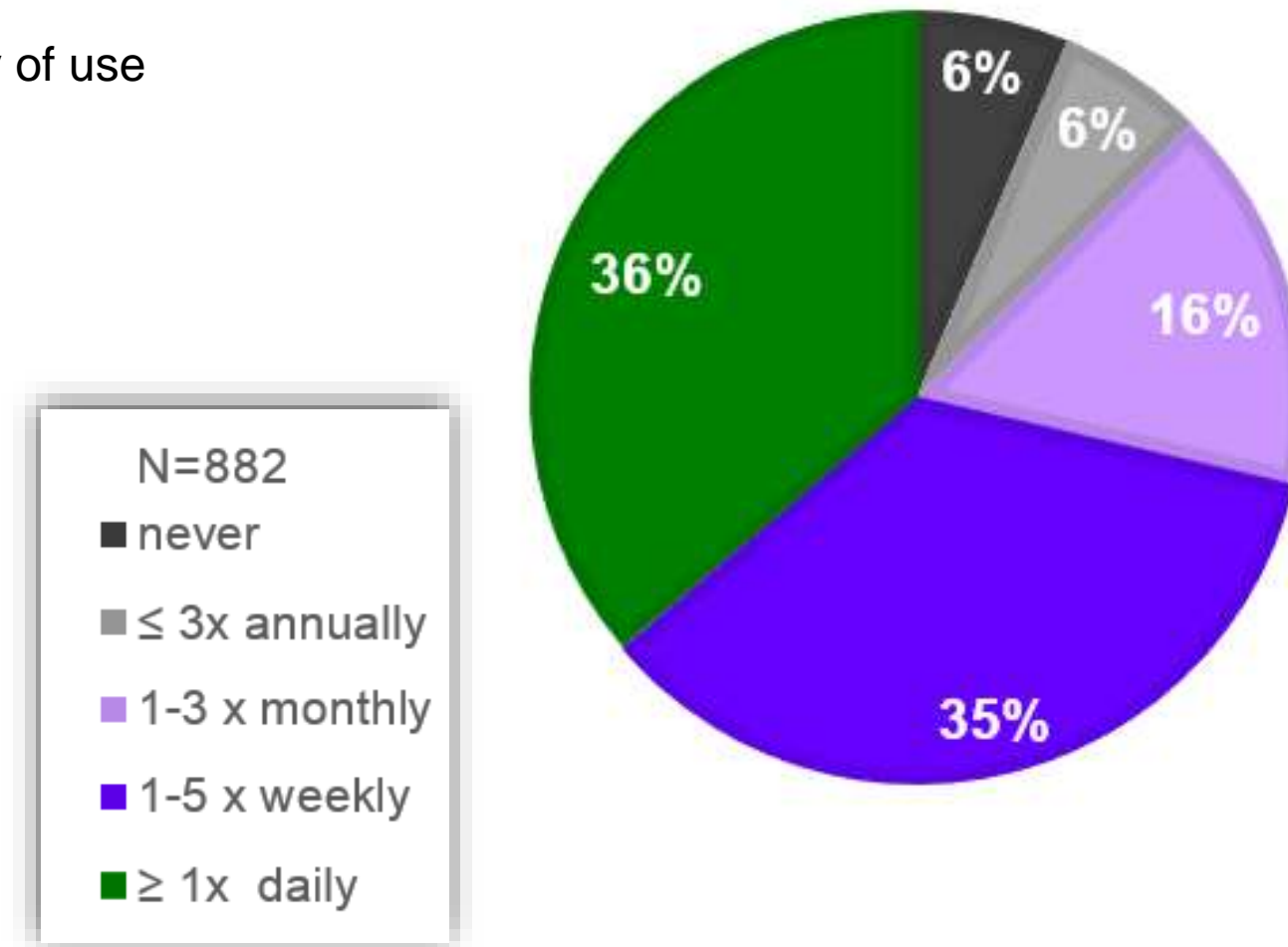
1. How often do you use electronic drug databases on average?
2. Which electronic *media* do you use for children's dosage?
3. Which electronic *database* do you consult for children's dosage?

Completed by 882 professionals (return rate 23%)

- 509 pharmacists
- 360 pediatricians

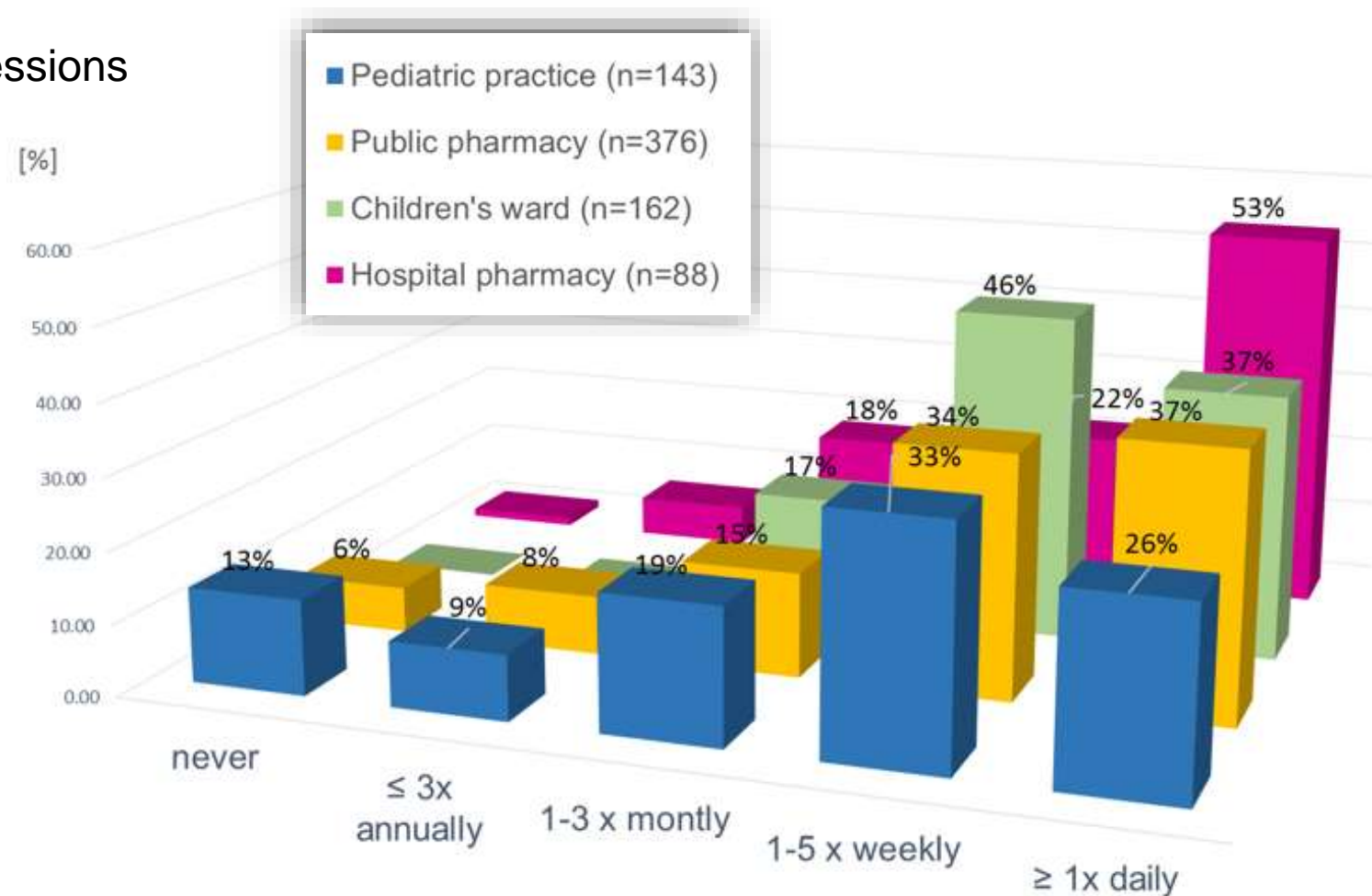
Results: How often are electronic drug databases used (I)

Sorted by frequency of use



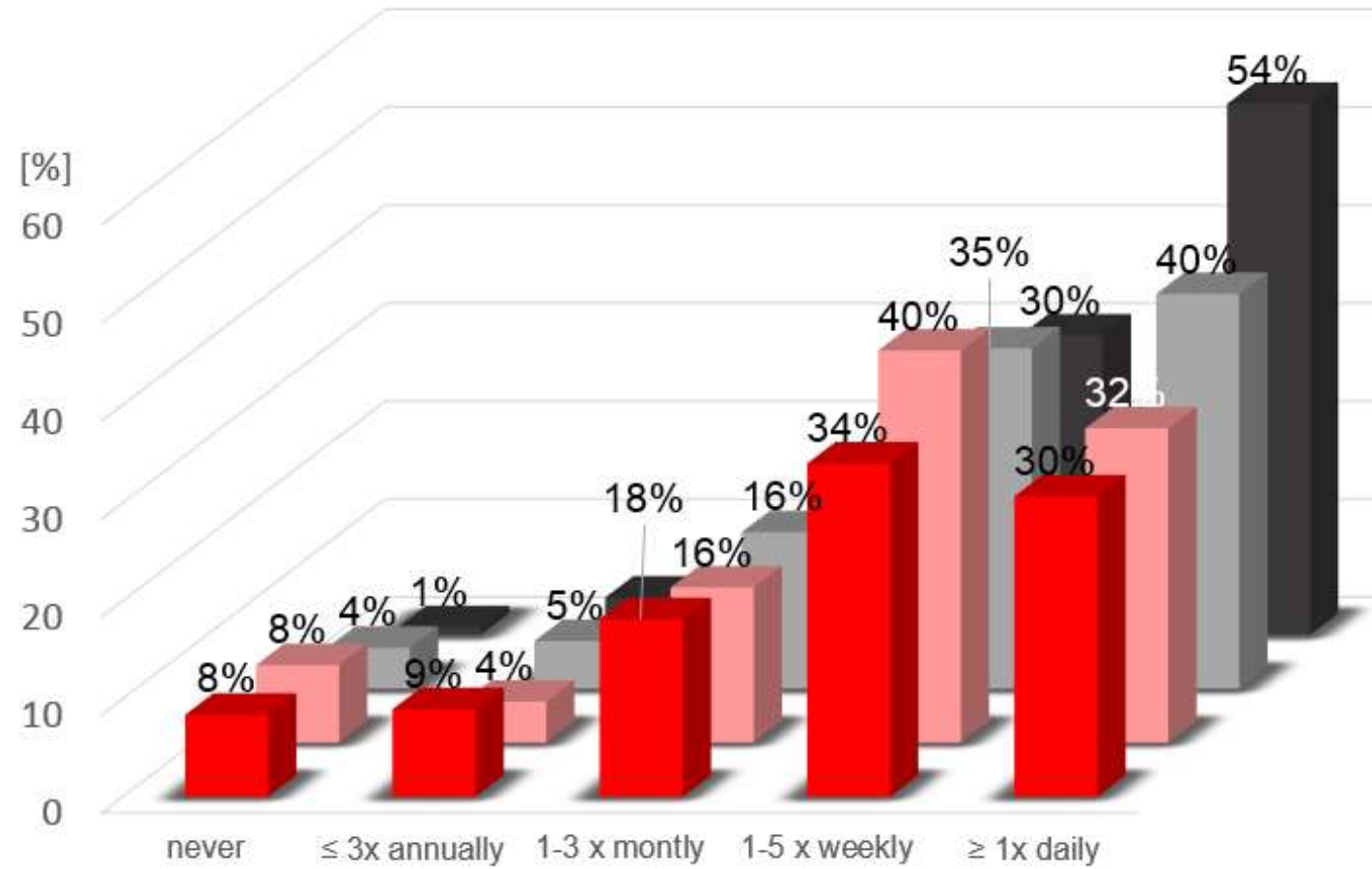
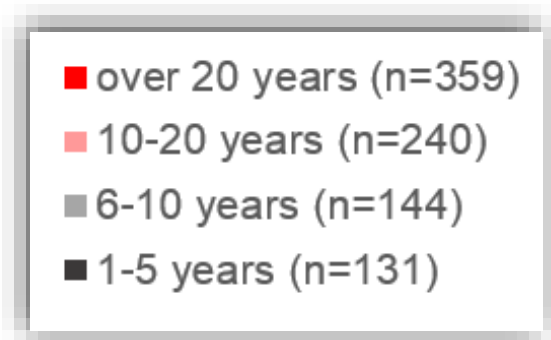
Results: How often are electronic drug databases used (II)

Sorted by professions

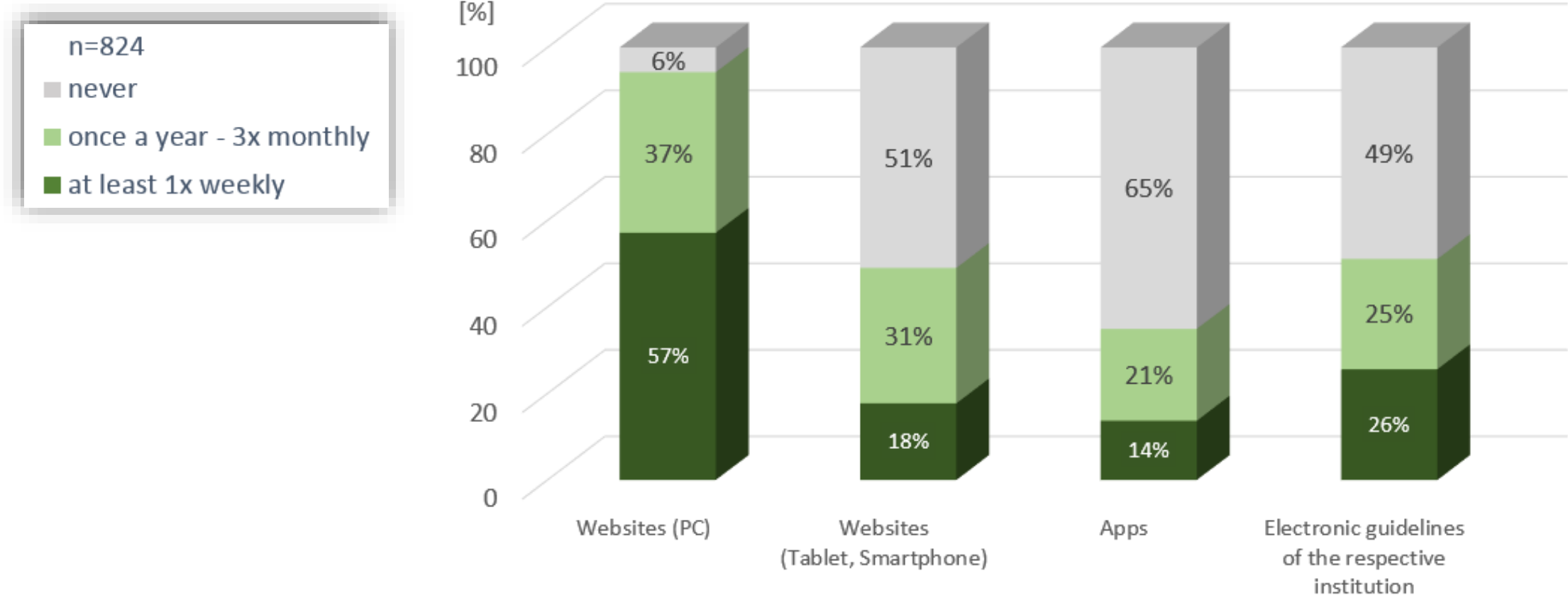


Results: How often are electronic databases used (III)

Sorted by experience

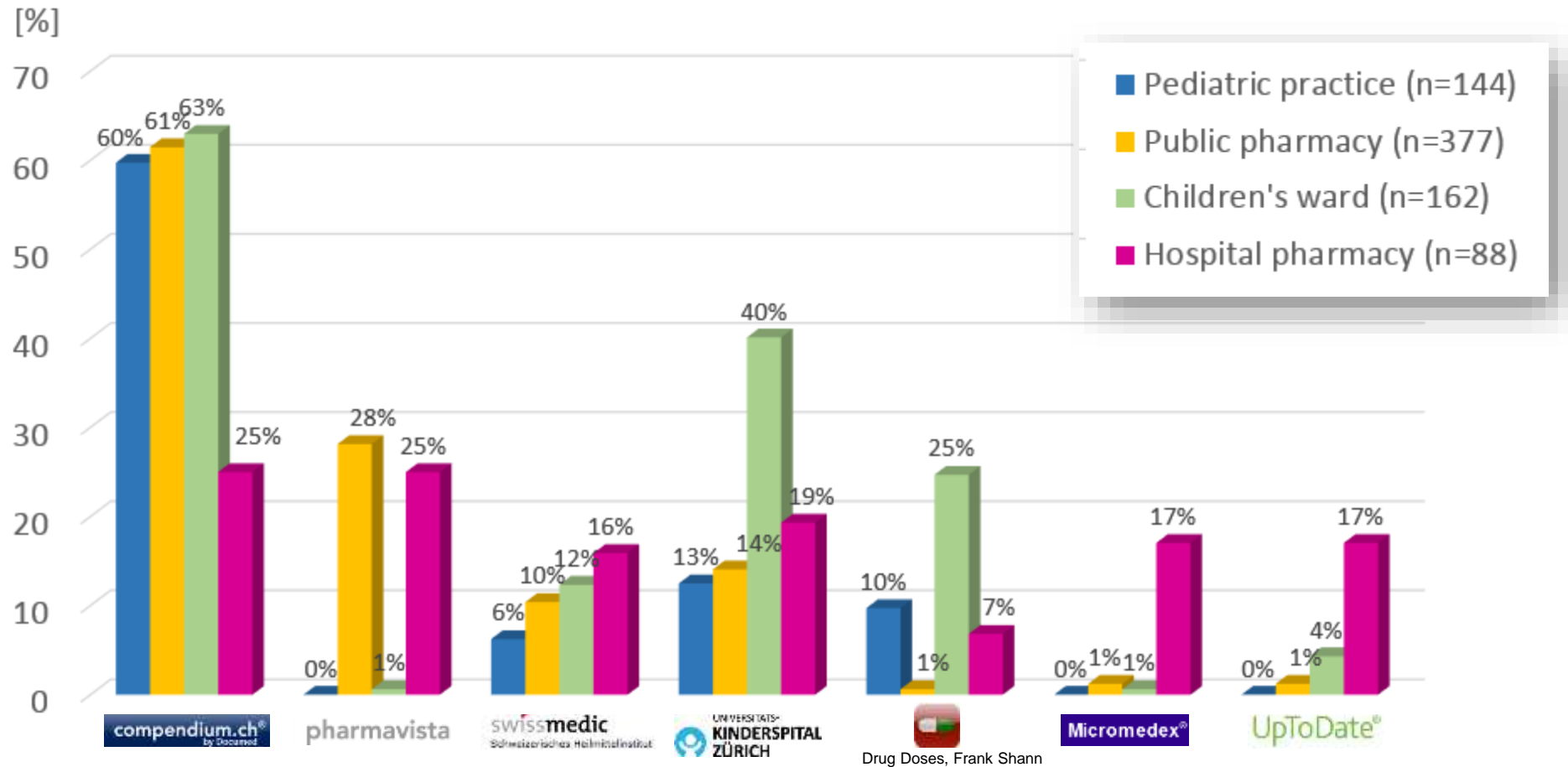


Results: Which electronic media are used for children's dosage



Results: Which electronic databases are used for children's dosage

Dosing databases used at least **once weekly**



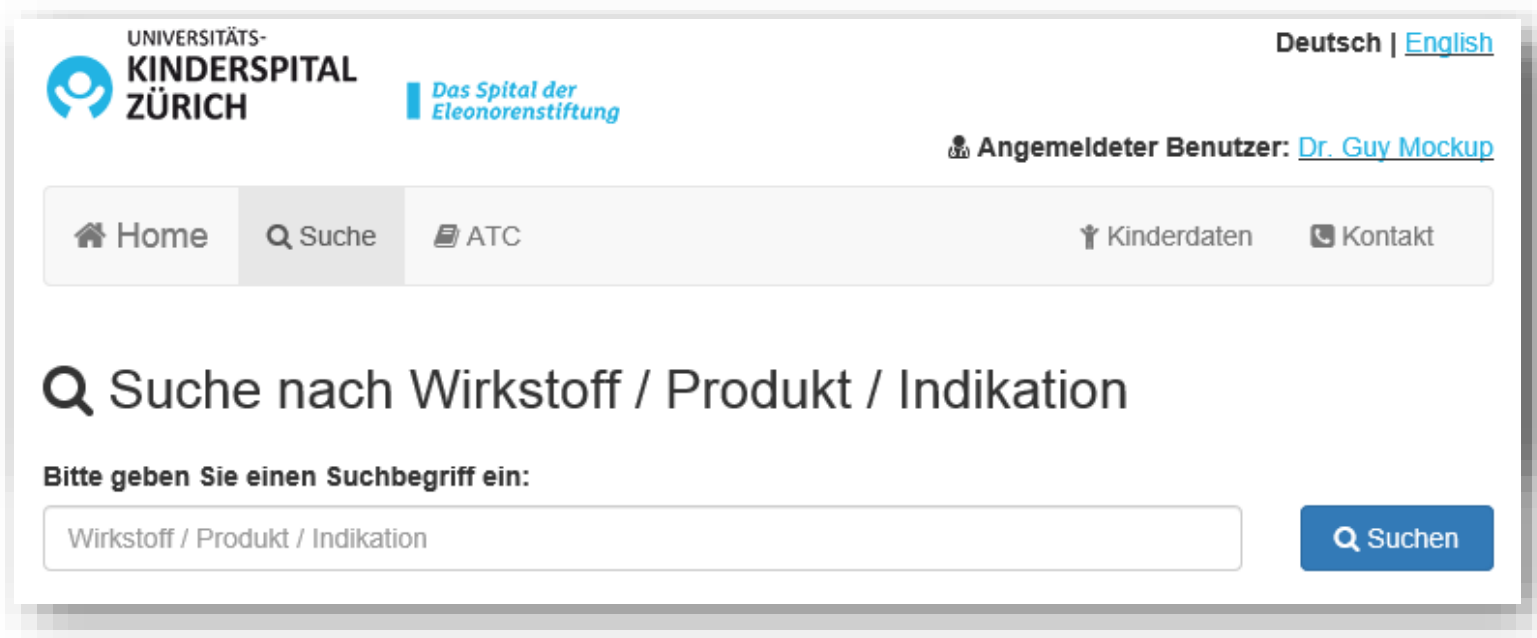
Conclusion

- Electronic drug databases are crucial.
- Websites are most important, however Apps are rarely used.
- The most popular source for pediatric dosages is the summary of product characteristics, followed by the website **www.kinderdosierungen.ch** of the Children's Hospital Zurich.



Label use: Summary of product characteristics is sufficient
Off-label use: Other databases are crucial

www.kinderdosierungen.ch 2.0 – coming soon...



Version 2.0 available spring 2018

- Professionalization (for example: responsive design)
- Conformity as medical device

Acknowledgment

Dr. Priska Vonbach, kinderdosierungen.ch 2.0, University Children's Hospital Zurich
Dr. Corina Glanzmann, University Children's Hospital Zurich



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