



# Pituitary adenoma in the elderly: a 10 year experience

Sandra Pekic Djurdjevic<sup>1,2</sup>, Mirjana Doknic<sup>1,2</sup>, Dragana Miljic<sup>1,2</sup>, Marko Stojanovic<sup>1</sup>, Milan Petakov<sup>1,2</sup>, Vera Popovic<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Neuroendocrinology, Clinic for Endocrinology, University Clinical Center, Belgrade;

<sup>2</sup>University of Belgrade, School of Medicine, Belgrade, Serbia

**CONCLUSION:** In the last 10 years pituitary adenomas have been recognized more frequently in the elderly. Most were non-functioning pituitary macroadenomas which presented with visual deterioration and hypopituitarism. If hyponatremia is diagnosed in the elderly with PA, then it can be a life-threatening condition.

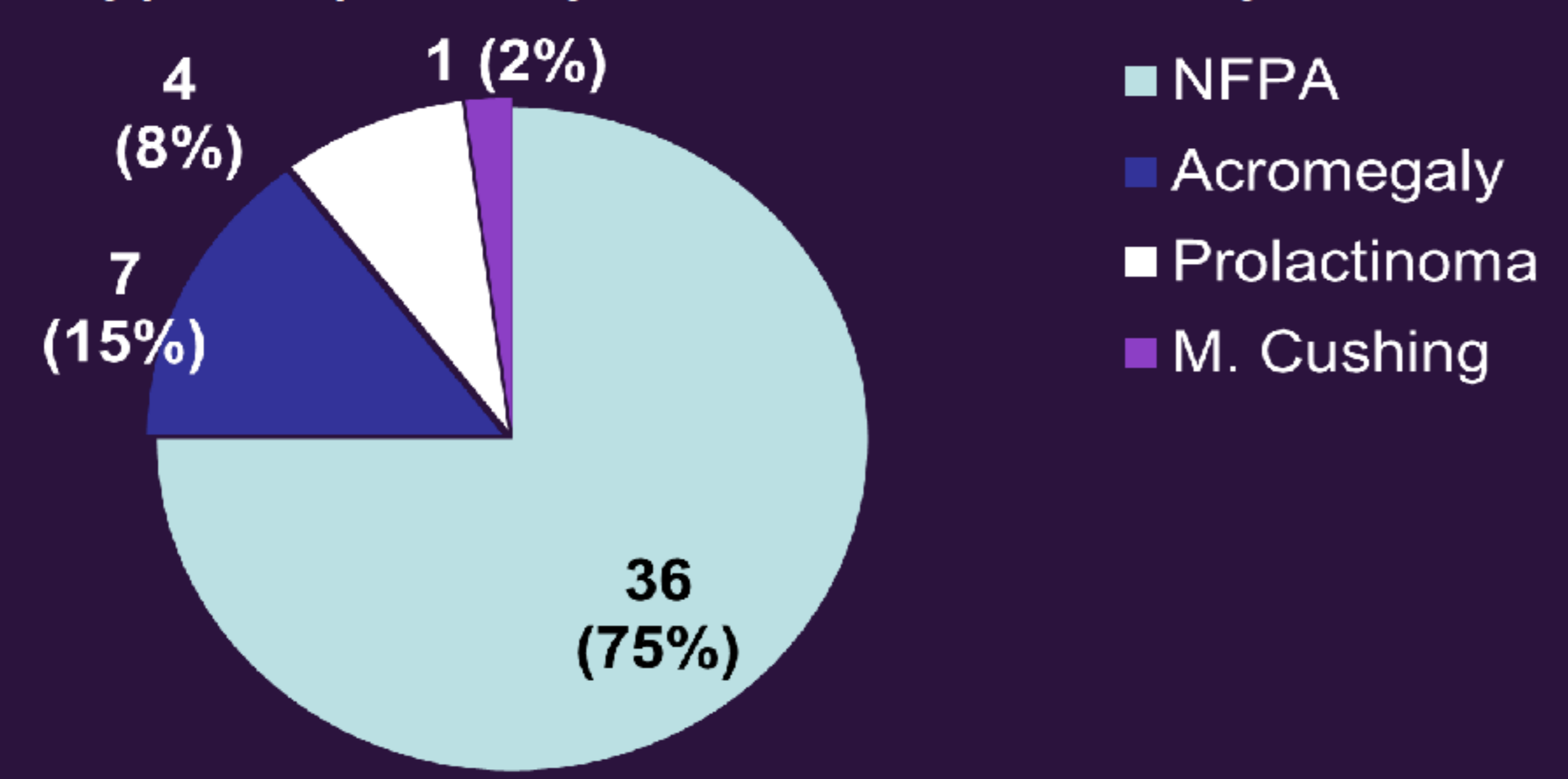
**BACKGROUND:** Pituitary adenoma (PA) is an under-investigated pathology in the elderly.

**OBJECTIVE:** To review our case records of patients > 70yrs with PA, in order to evaluate presenting symptoms, hormonal results and pituitary morphology.

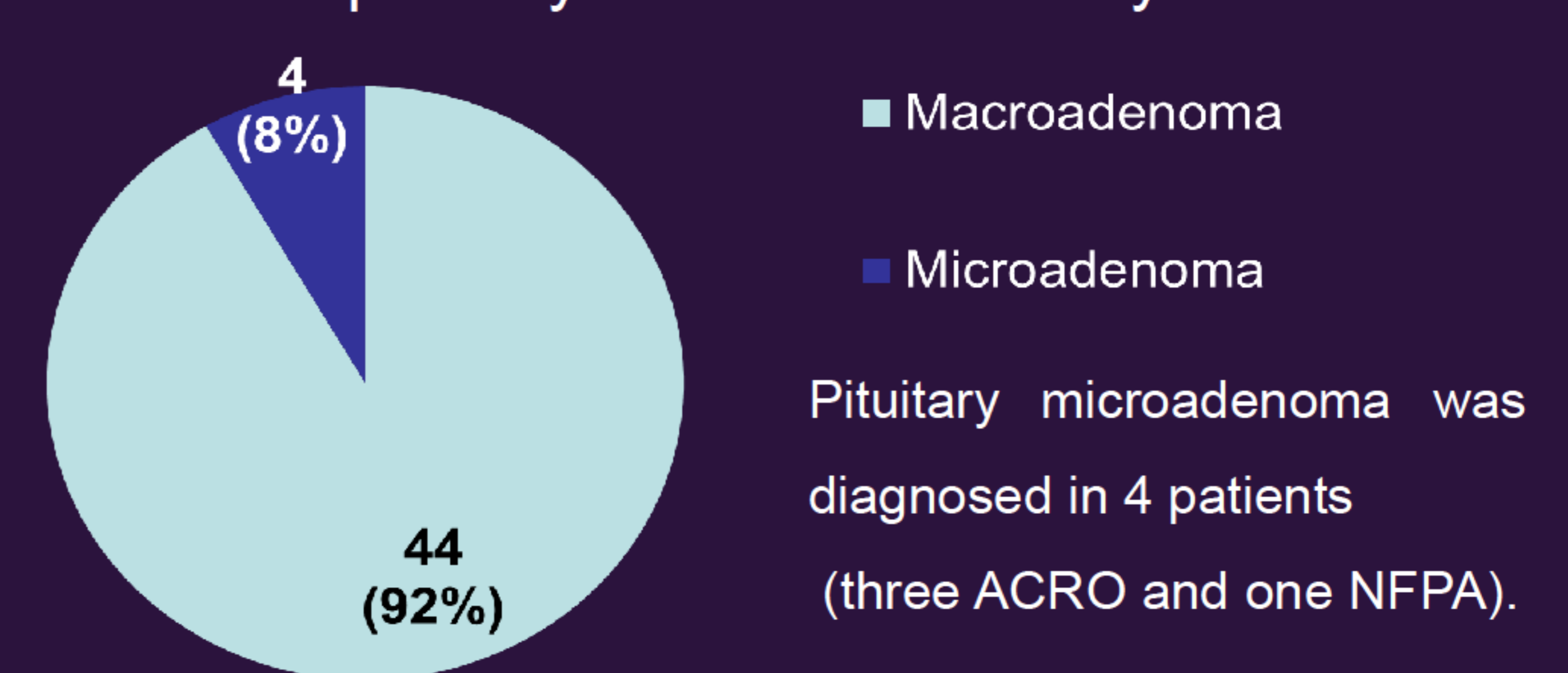
**PATIENTS:** 48 patients aged 70 years or older (21 female / 27 male) were identified from the group of 610 patients with PA (7.9%) diagnosed at Department of Neuroendocrine, Clinic for Endocrinology, Belgrade, between 2005. and 2014. Median age in our group of elderly patients was 73 years (range 70-83).

## RESULTS:

**Figure 1.** Type of pituitary adenoma in elderly



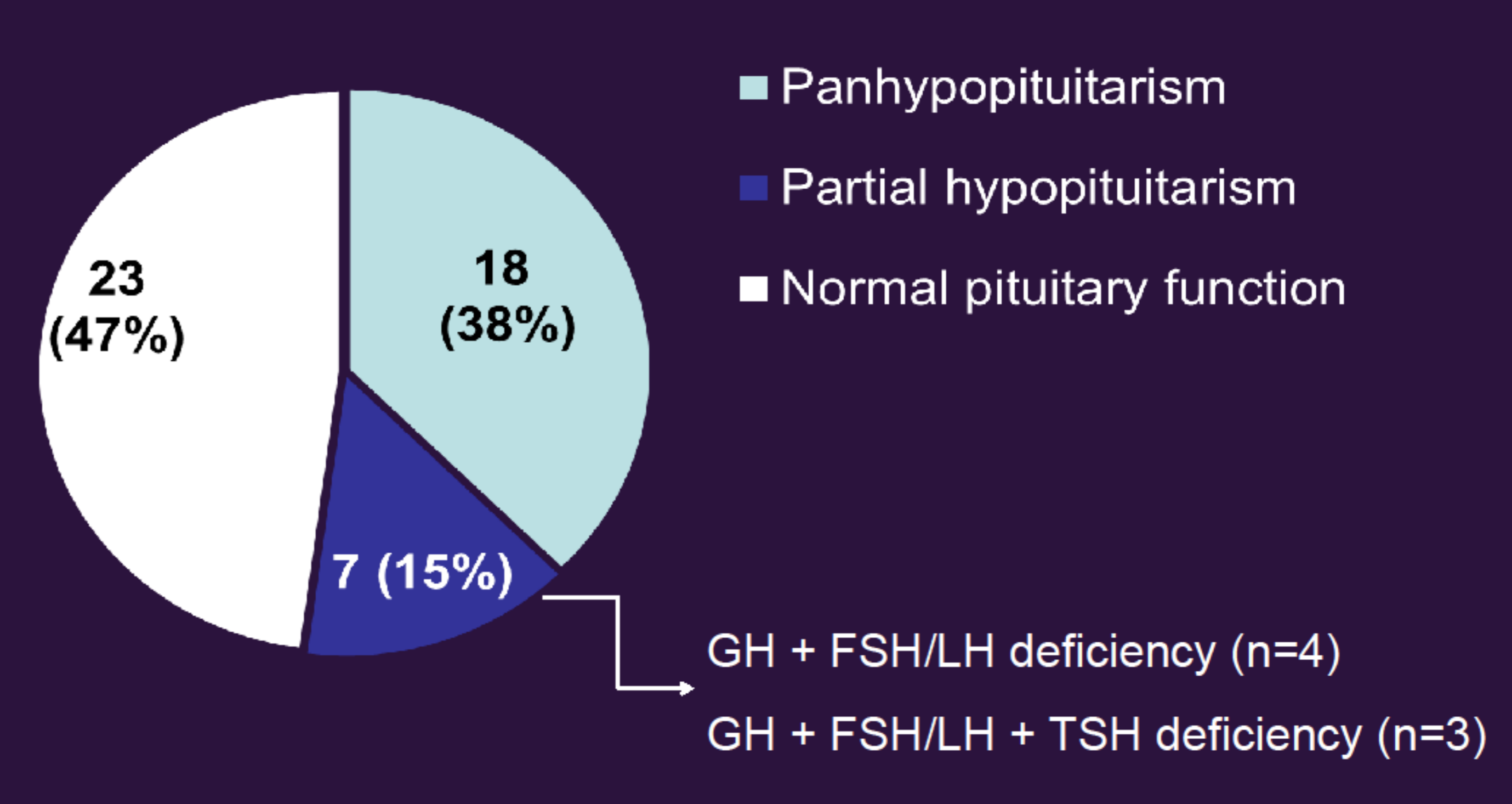
**Figure 2.** Size of pituitary adenoma in elderly



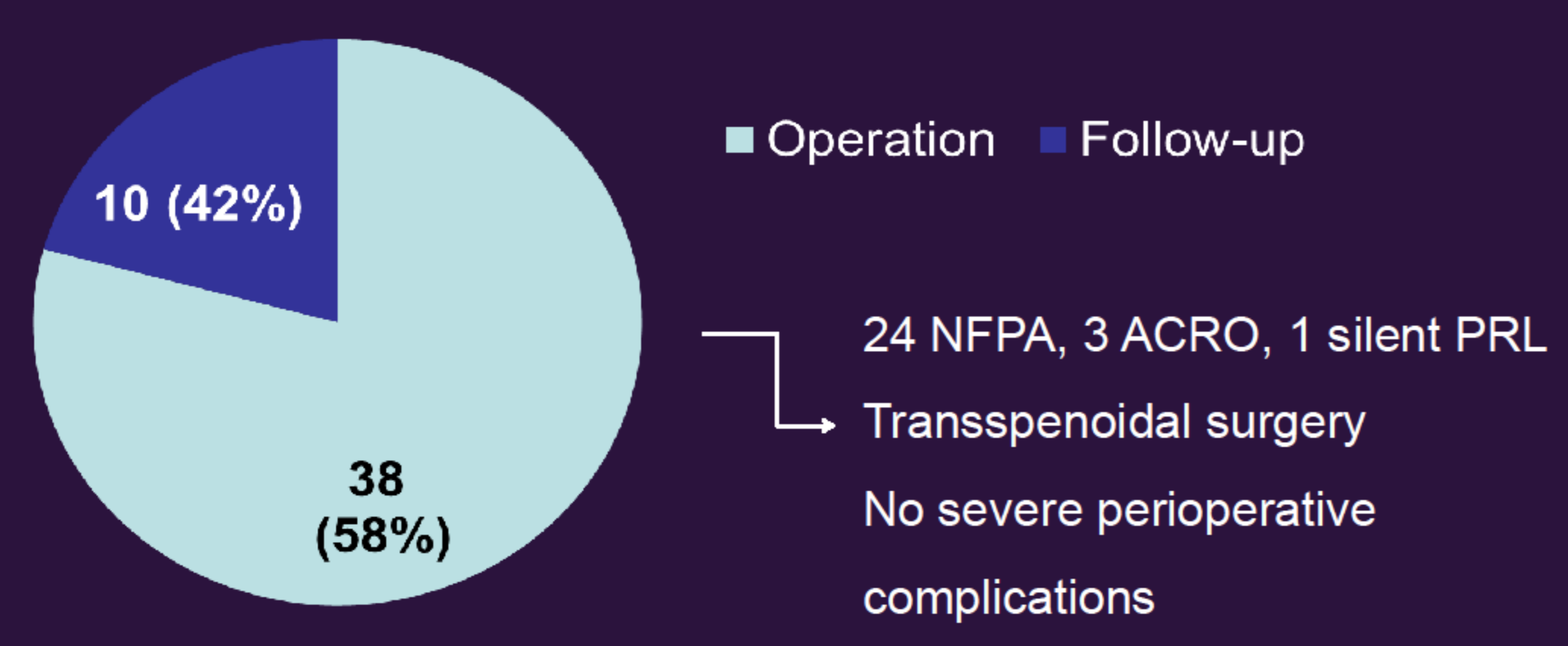
**Table 1.** Presenting symptoms of pituitary adenoma in elderly

Presenting symptoms of pituitary adenoma (PA)	N (%)
Visual deterioration	23 (48%)
Headache	22 (46%)
Hyponatremia (due to secondary hypocorticism)	8 (17%)
Loss of consciousness	5 (10%)
Dizziness	5 (10%)
Loss of memory, confusion, depression	5 (10%)
Incidentally discovered PA (during CT of MRI for cerebral ischemic attack)	4 (8%)

**Figure 3.** Endocrinological evaluation



**Figure 4.** Treatment of pituitary adenoma in elderly



**Table 2.** Immunohistochemistry of pituitary adenoma in elderly

Immunohistochemistry of pituitary adenoma (n=12)	N
NFPA positive for gonadotropins	7
NFPA GH sparsely granulated	1
NFPA null cell pituitary adenoma	4

Ki-67 antigen expression was indicative of low proliferative activity.