

QUALITY OF SYMPTOM DOCUMENTATION IN PRIMARY HYPERPARATHYROIDISM: BEFORE AND AFTER THE INTRODUCTION OF A SYMPTOM SCORING QUESTIONNAIRE

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BACKGROUND

- International guidelines outline criteria for the treatment of primary hyperparathyroidism (PHPT).
- Symptomatic PHPT is an indication for surgery.
- Symptoms are often non-specific and subtle and may be missed, resulting in failure to refer symptomatic patients for surgery.
- The Pasieka score is a validated questionnaire¹ used to identify and assess symptoms of PHPT objectively.

AIMS

- To determine the standard of symptom documentation in patients with PHPT
- To investigate the non-referral of symptomatic patients for parathyroidectomy
- To introduce the Pasieka scoring system into a PHPT clinic and determine the subsequent impact on symptom documentation.

METHODS

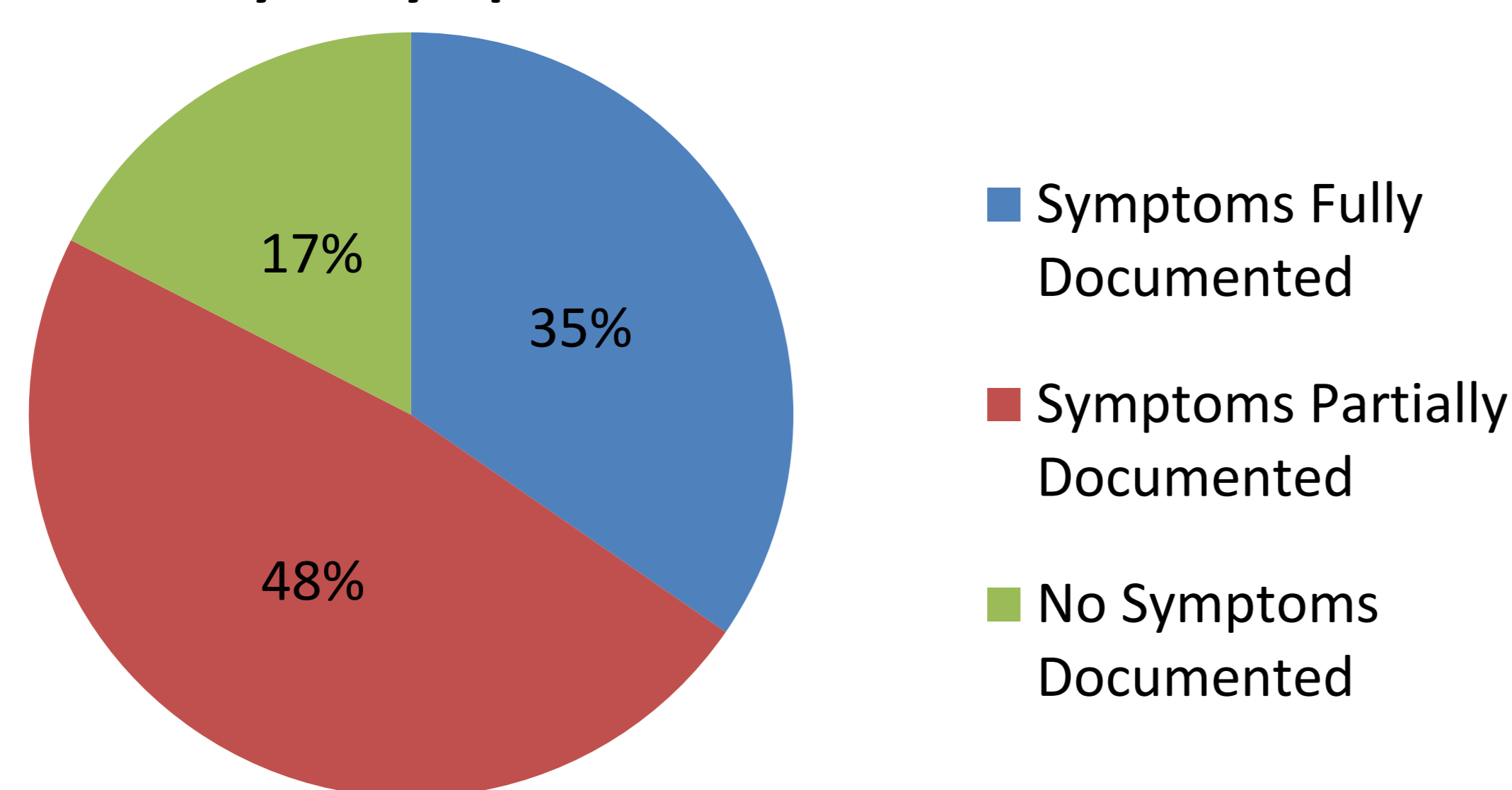
- A retrospective analysis of a previously gathered database from 2012-2017 containing 339 patients. We collected data on symptom documentation pre and post surgery.
- Prospectively evaluate use of Pasieka questionnaire between September 2017 and October 2018.

RESULTS

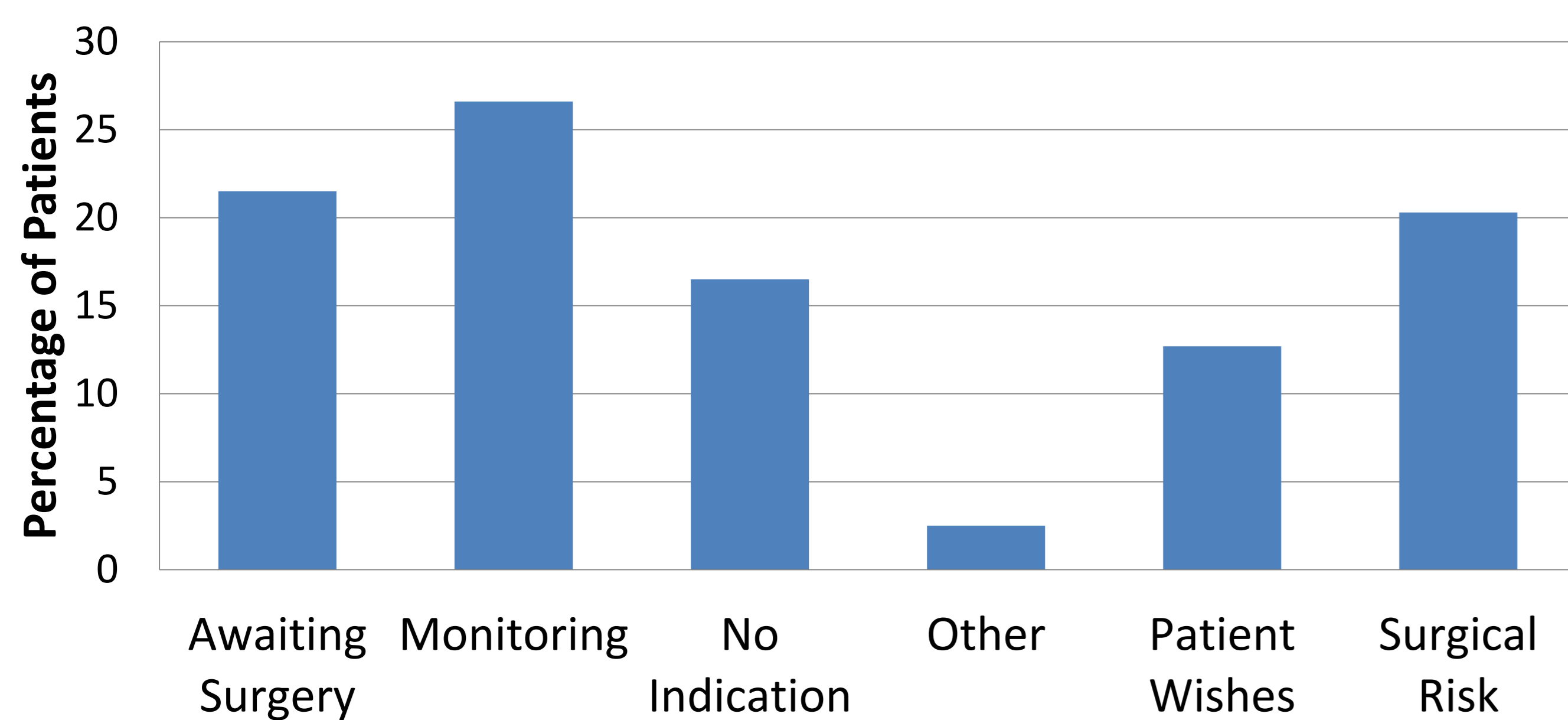
- 339 patients
- 82.5% female

INITIAL SYMPTOM DOCUMENTATION

Quality of Symptom Documentation Overall

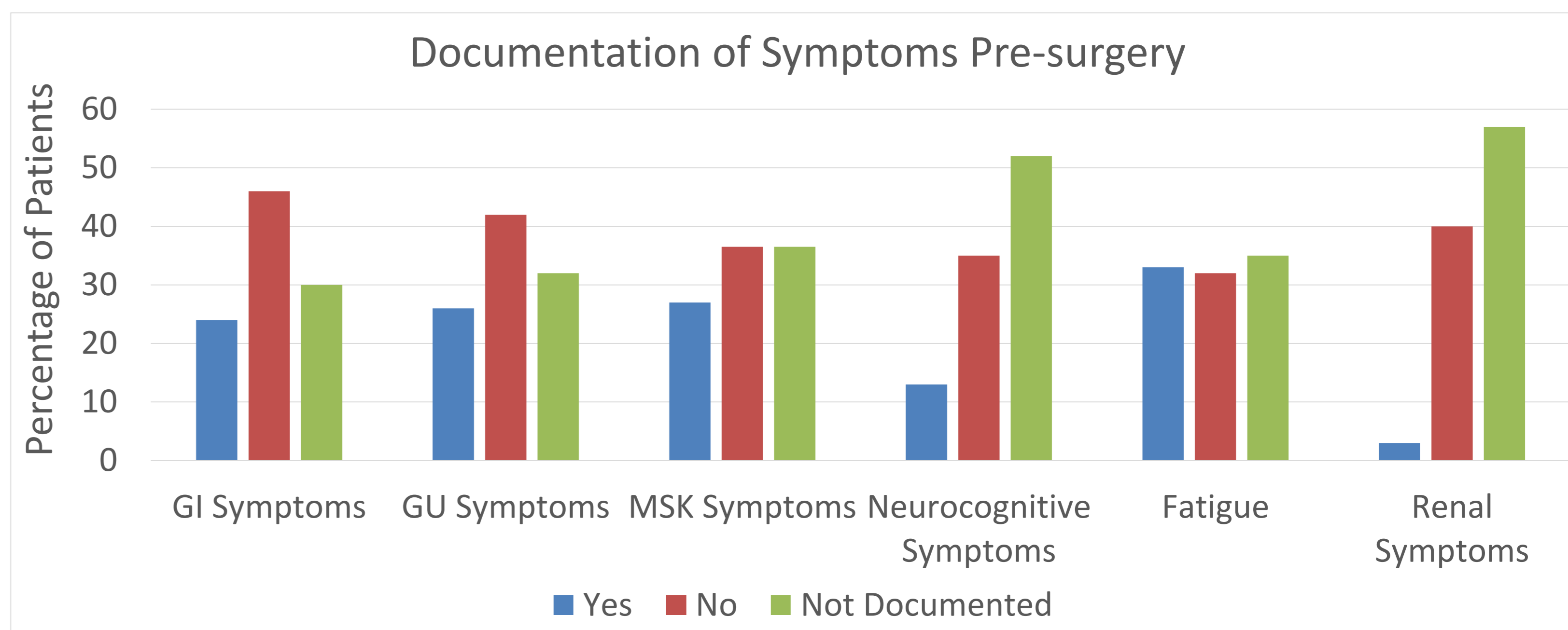


Documented Reasons for symptomatic patients not referred for surgery

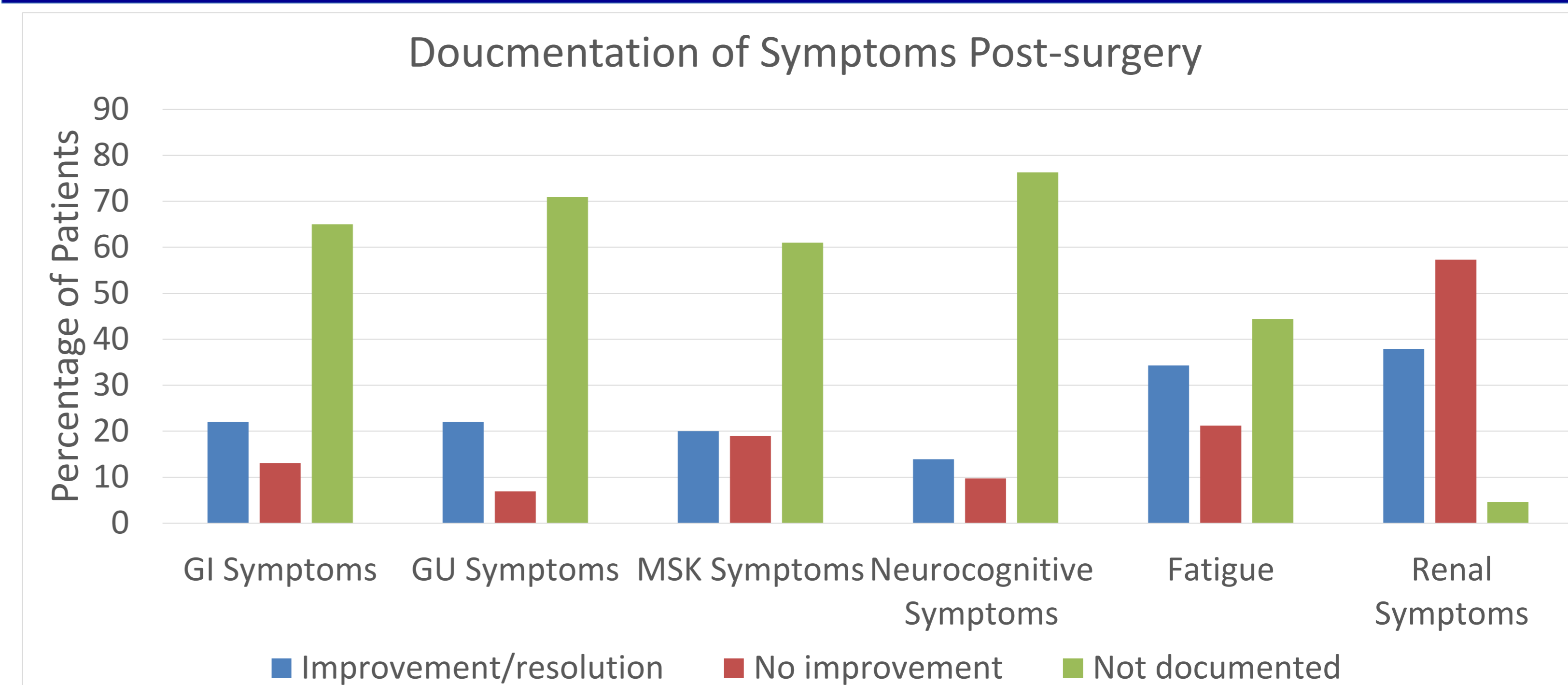


- 17% of patients were not referred for surgery due to "no indication" despite being deemed symptomatic on retrospective analysis

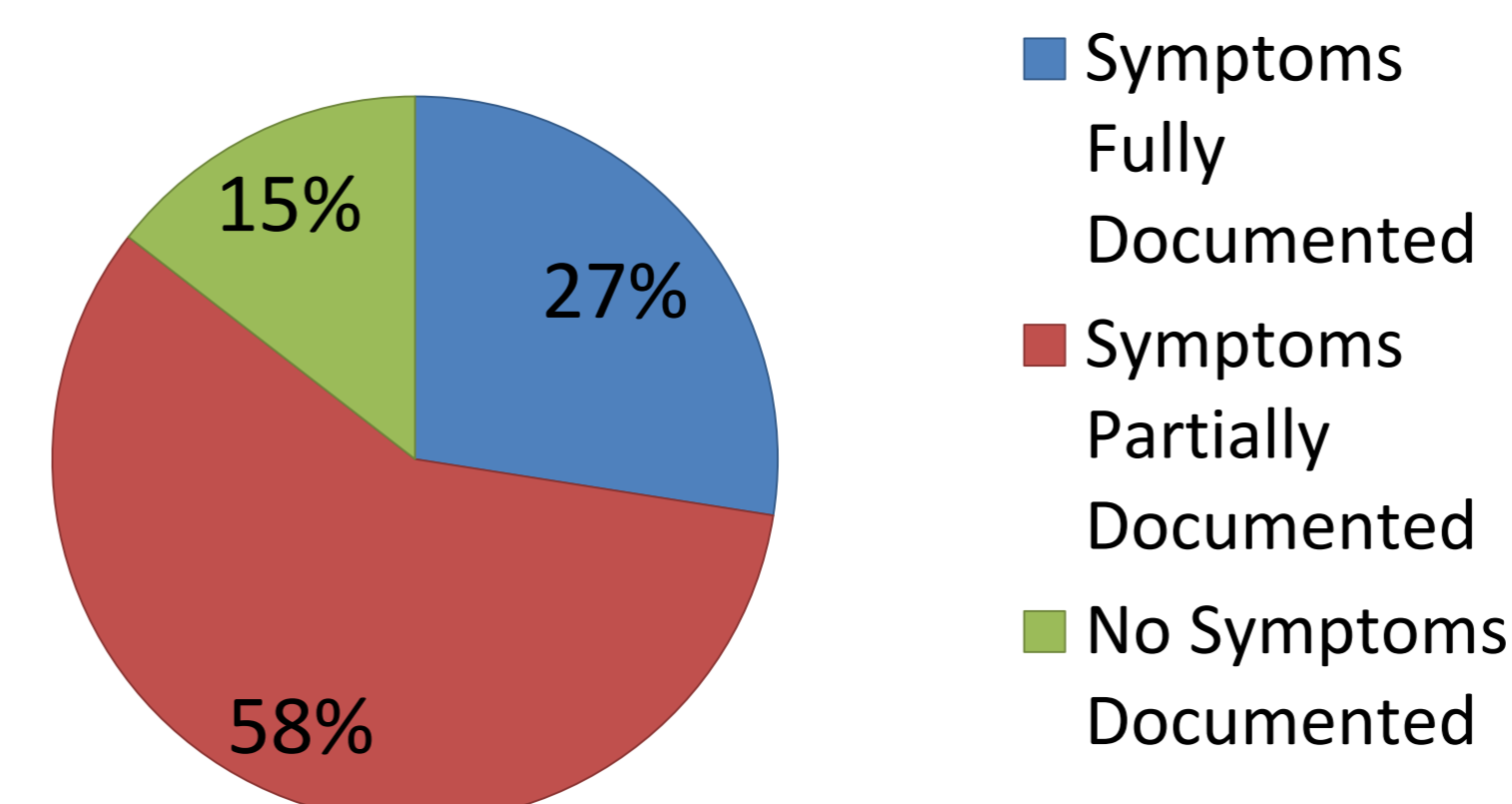
PRE-SURGICAL DOCUMENTATION



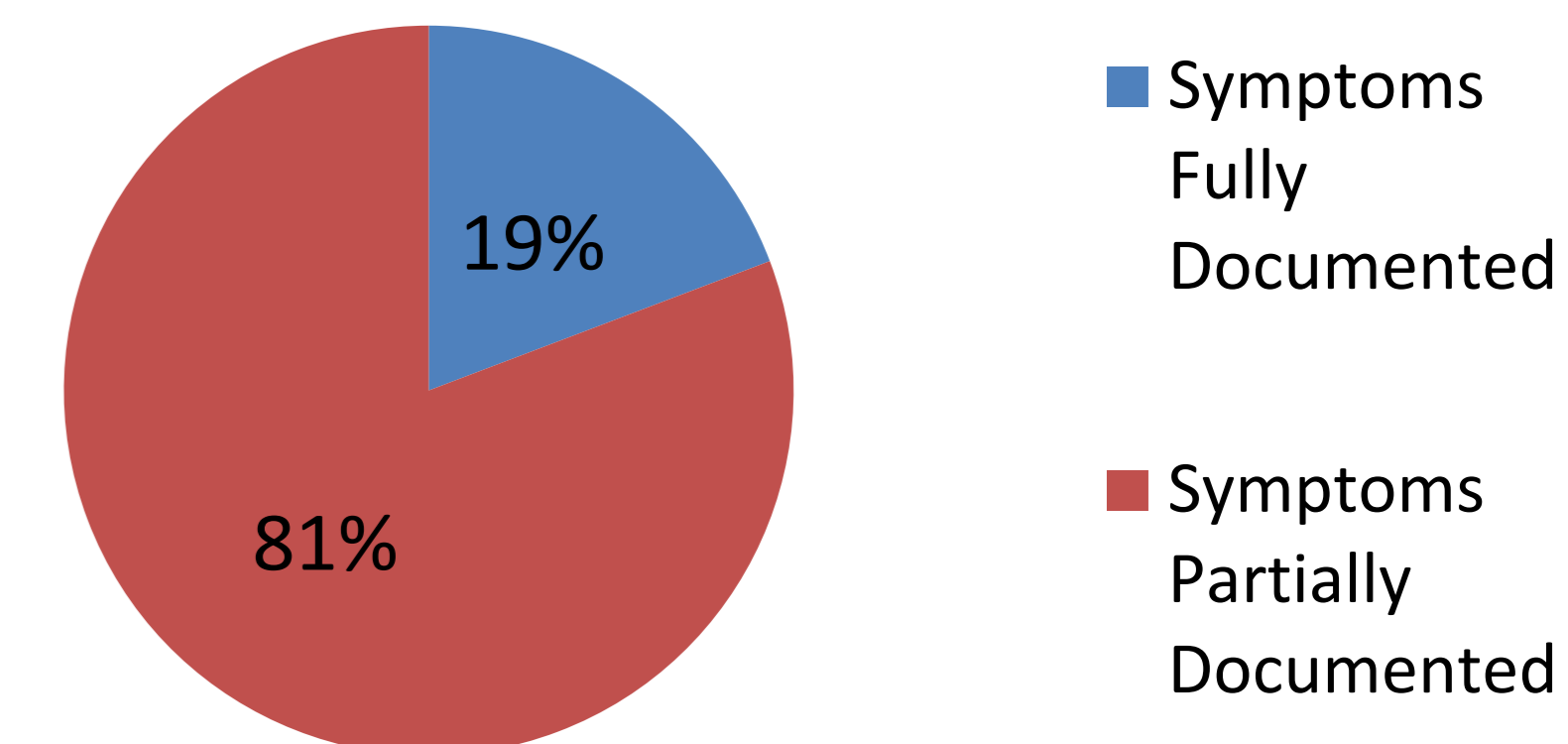
POST-SURGICAL DOCUMENTATION



Quality of symptom documentation in patients undergoing surgery



Quality of symptom documentation for patients undergoing surgery solely on the basis of being symptomatic



QUESTIONNAIRE IMPLEMENTATION

- Prior to the use of the Pasieka tool, 52% of patients were recorded as symptomatic.
- 68 patients completed the self-rated symptom scoring tool.
- Symptomatic threshold score is 200¹. Our cohort had a mean pre-surgery symptom score of 529 (range 0-1300)
- 77% of patients scored over the 'symptomatic' threshold

CONCLUSION

- The majority of symptoms were partially documented or not documented.
- This single-centre analysis in a large cohort of patients with PHPT, highlighted the need for improved documentation.
- The use of a specific symptom self-rating questionnaire captures a greater proportion of symptomatic patients than by clinician documentation alone.
- Implementation of such questionnaires in routine clinical practice may help to identify more patients who would benefit from surgery.

References: ¹Greutelaers, B., Kullen, K., Kollias, J., Bochner, M., Roberts, A., Wittert, G., Pasieka, J. and Malycha, P. (2004). Pasieka Illness Questionnaire: its value in primary hyperparathyroidism. ANZ Journal of Surgery, 74(3), pp.112-115