



USE OF NEUROLEPTICS IN PATIENTS WITH DEMENTIA: CLINICAL EXPERIENCE IN A GROUP OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO AN OUTPATIENT DEMENTIA CLINIC OF AZIENDA SANITARIA LOCALE ROMA2



LOCALE ROMA2

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<http://congress.wooky.it/NEURO2017/>

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1) Rationale

- Following most recent guidelines, the use of neuroleptics in patients with dementia ought to be the last therapeutic option.
- Typical and atypical neuroleptics are reported to have a low tolerability profile in the elderly with high mortality index and significant incidence of cerebrovascular diseases.
- Nevertheless, the recent AIFA report on the use of drugs in Italy shows a noteworthy increase of use (+38% in 2015 and + 41% in 2016)

<http://www.agenziafarmaco.gov.it/content/luso-dei-farmaci-italia-rapporto-osmed-2016>

2) Aim of the study

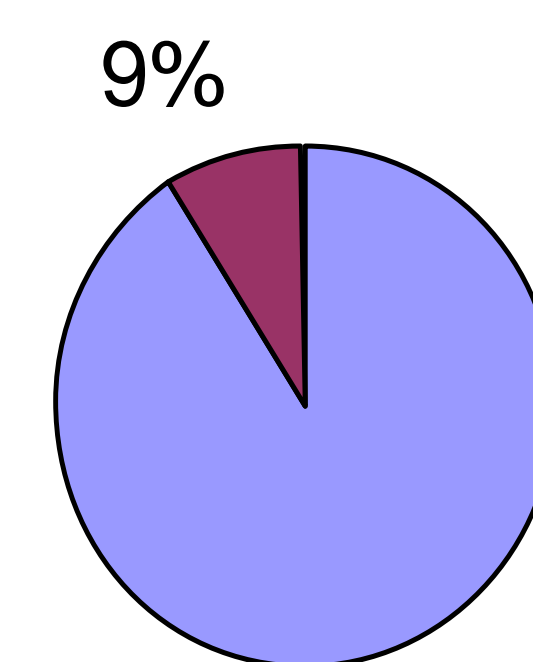
To evaluate the number of patients treated with neuroleptics (both typical and atypical) in a group of patients followed by our Dementia Centre (CDCD), referred by General Practitioners to perform a neurological visit.

3) Methods

Source of data: Patient's records, Neuroleptics request forms sent to the local Pharmacy, delivery record of drugs within the period of May 2014-2016.

4) Results

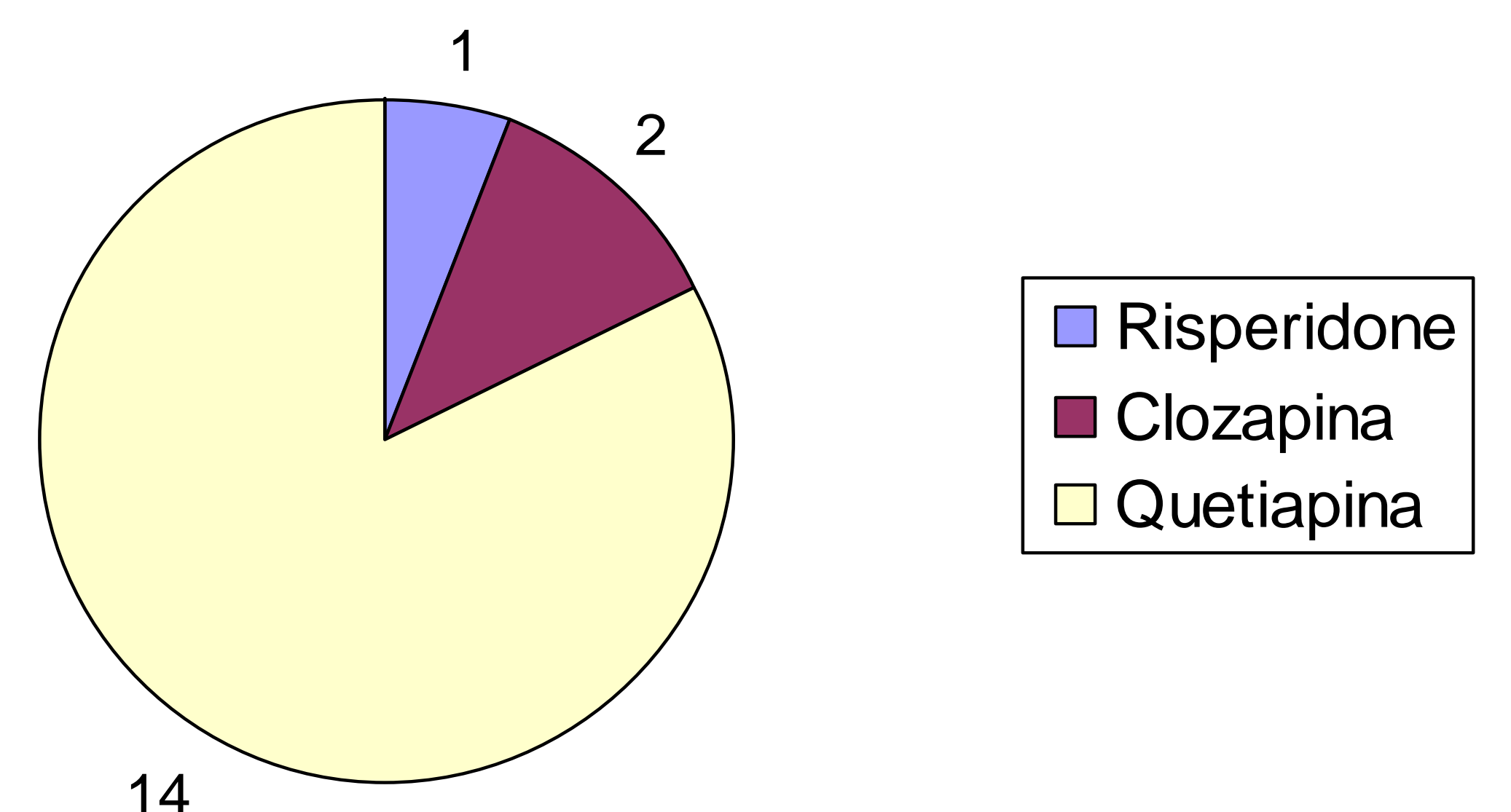
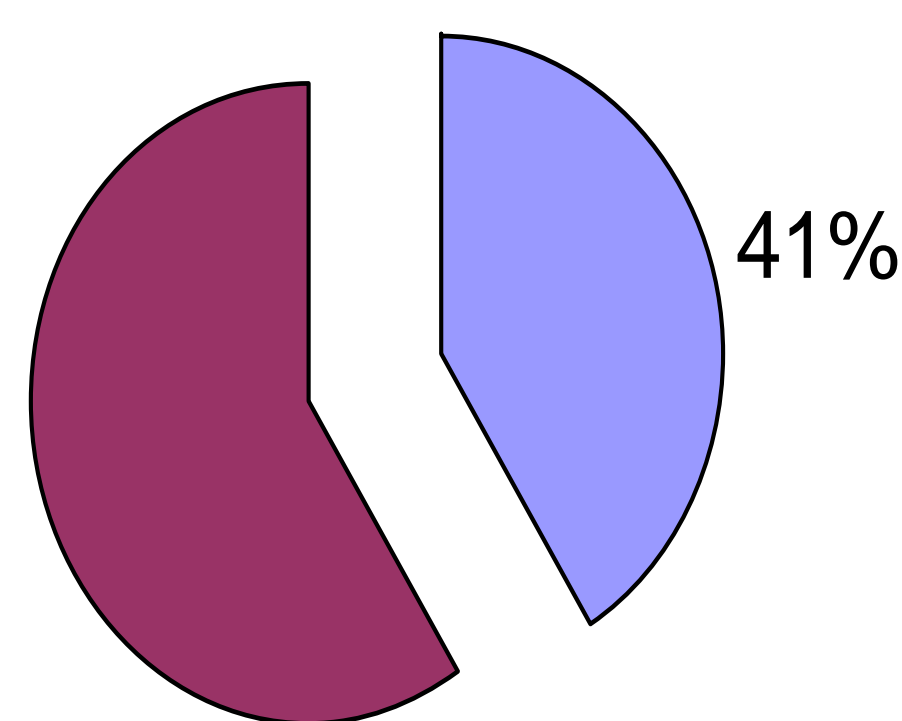
pts taking neuroleptics
(total number: 190
mean age: 82,5 ± 7
126 F 64 M)



Clinical characteristics of patients taking neuroleptics (n=17)

mean age (± ds)	80,4 ± 9,4	
gender	female	11
	male	6
diagnosis	Alzheimer's	15
	LBD	1
	post-stroke	1
setting	out patient	10
	homecare	7
MMSE	not assessable	10 pts
	range	5-23/30

% pts prescribed memantine and/or AChEi (n=17)



5) Conclusions

In our population of patients with dementia, only 9% needed to be treated with neuroleptics to manage their BPSDs, the great majority had severe dementia and were treated with low doses of quetiapine, while 41% of the patients took memantine and/or AChEi. Our data show that a careful management of patients with dementia and their caregivers, as happens in dedicated outpatient clinics, allows a very limited use of neuroleptics. It is our opinion that these kind of local dementia centres should be empowered in all the national territory, in order to limit the indiscriminate use and thus reduce direct and indirect costs of these drugs.