

Switching of Anticoagulants, A Patient Perspective

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BACKGROUND

- Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) are a mainstay of drug therapy for the treatment of both Atrial Fibrillation (AFib) and Venous Thromboembolism (VTE), two prevalent disease states in the U.S.
- The literature is lacking in head to head comparisons of DOACs in terms of patient tolerability.

OBJECTIVE

- To determine the most frequent reason for patients switching anticoagulants
- To determine if there is an underlying tolerability issue that warrants further investigation

METHODS

Study Design

Survey of patients, 52 respondents

Inclusion Criteria

- 18 years old and older taking an anticoagulant medication
- Has changed anticoagulant medications at least once
- Fills at the pharmacy where the survey was distributed

Study Measures

• Indication of medication, reasons for switching, medication utilized

Data Analysis

• Data was analyzed using mean, median, mode, and percentages.

RESULTS

Table 1: Baseline Age Distribution

Age		
Age Range (Years)	Number of Respondents	
18-29	7 (13%)	
30-39	2 (4%)	
40-49	2 (4%)	
50-59	9 (17%)	
60-69	12 (23%)	
70-79	5 (10%)	
80-89	11 (21%)	
90 and Older	4 (8%)	

Table 3: Reason For Use

Reason For Use		
Reason for Use	Number Respondents	
AFib	29 (49%)	
Leg Clots	16 (27%)	
Lung Clots	11 (19%)	
TKA or THA	3 (5%)	

Table 2: Baseline Weight Distribution

Weight	
Weight Range (lbs)	Number Respondents
Under 100	2 (4%)
100-150	9 (17%)
151-200	13 (25%)
201-250	13 (25%)
251-300	8 (15%)
301-350	0 (0%)
Over 350	7 (13%)

Table 4: Reason For Switching Reason For Switching		
Reason For Switching	Number Respondents	
Insurance Changed Covered Agent	13 (25%)	
The Copay Was Lower	15 (29%)	
A Coupon Expired	12 (23%)	
Bleeding	3 (6%)	
Clotting	2 (4%)	
New Regimen Was Simpler	7 (13%)	

RESULTS

Response Rate: 52%

100 surveys distributed and 52 responses collected

Figure 1: Reason For Switching By Weight

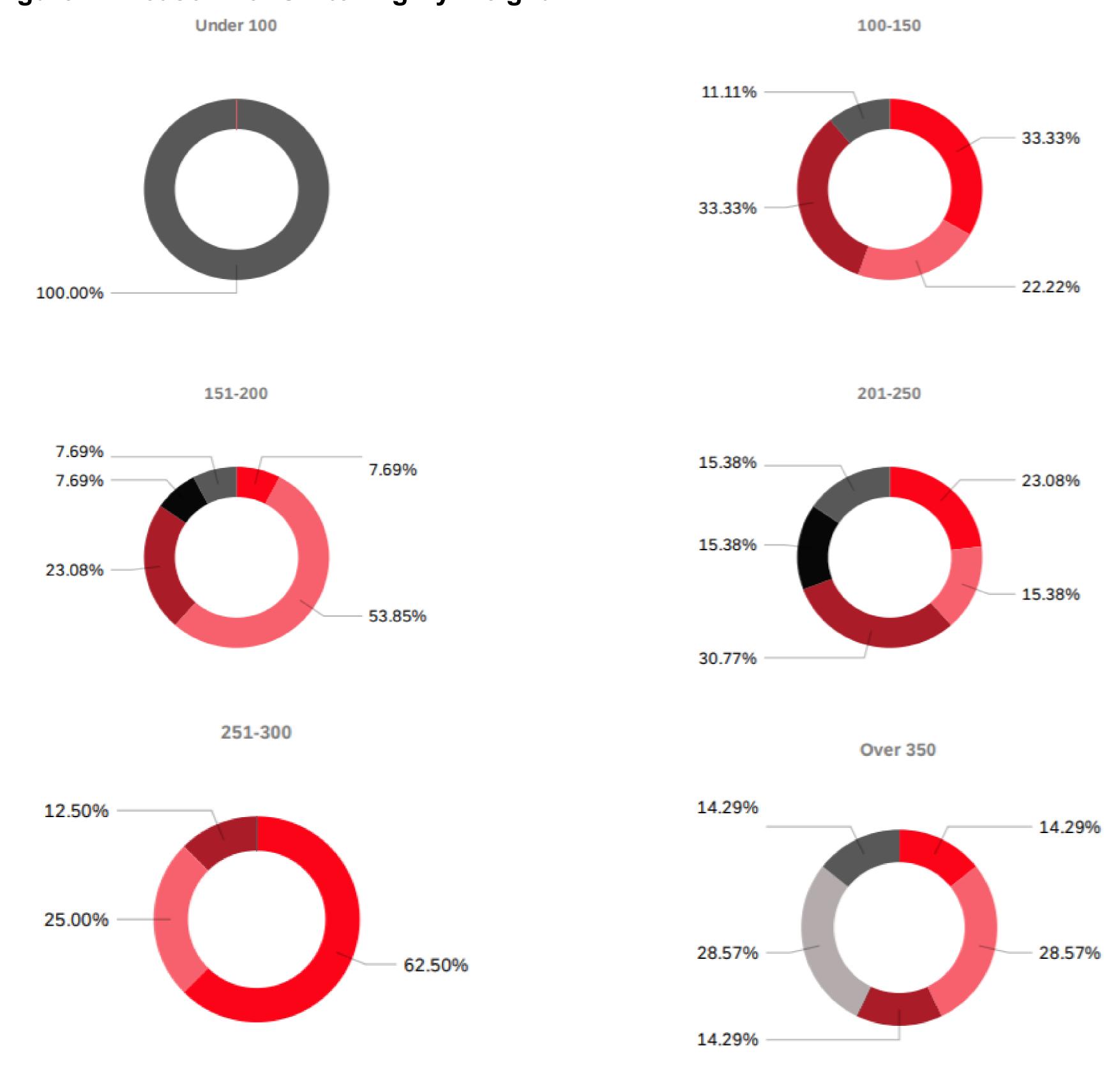
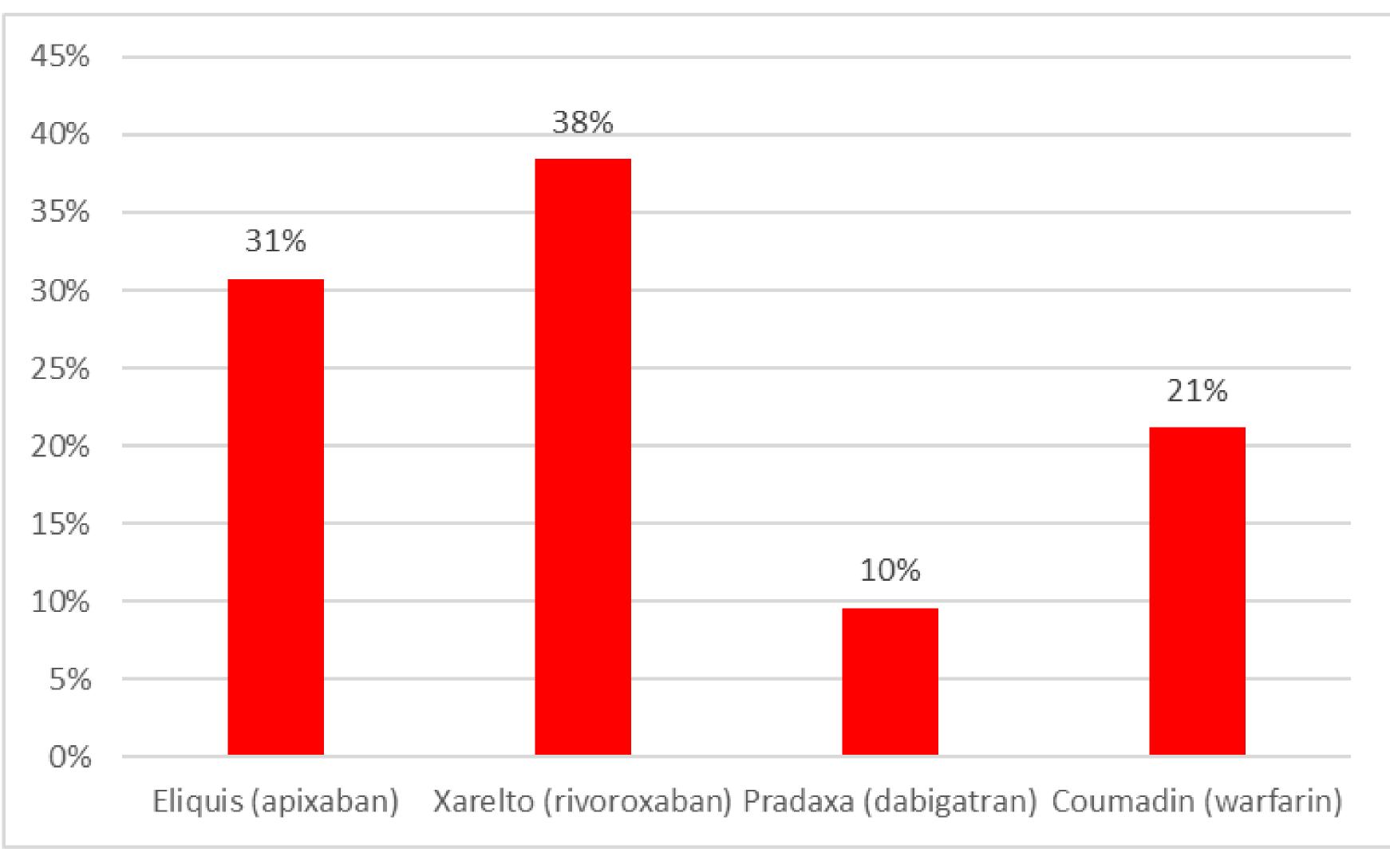


Figure 2: Blood Thinner The Patient Takes Currently

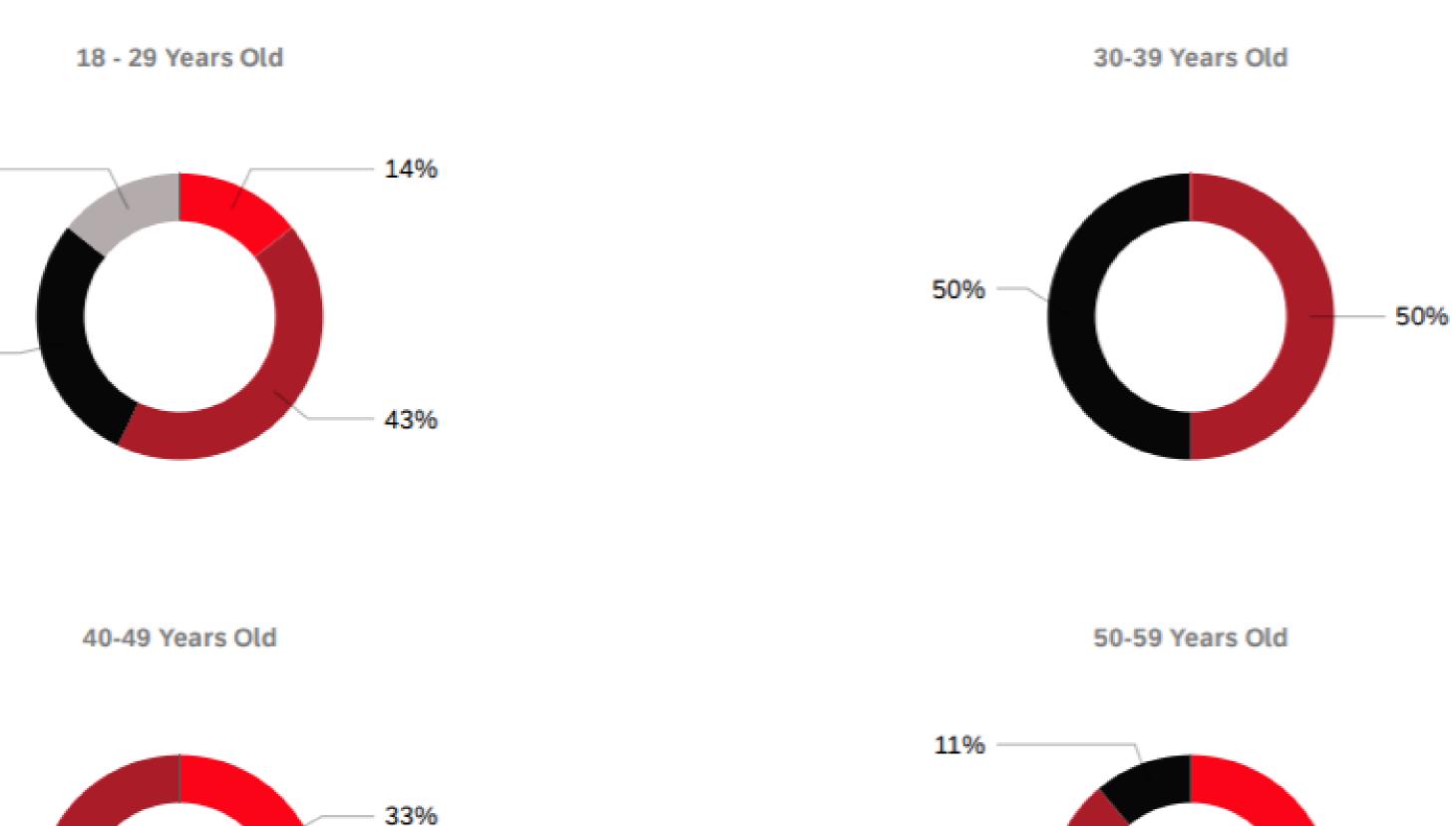
Insurance Changed Which One Was Covered The Copay Was Lower A Coupon Expired Bleeding

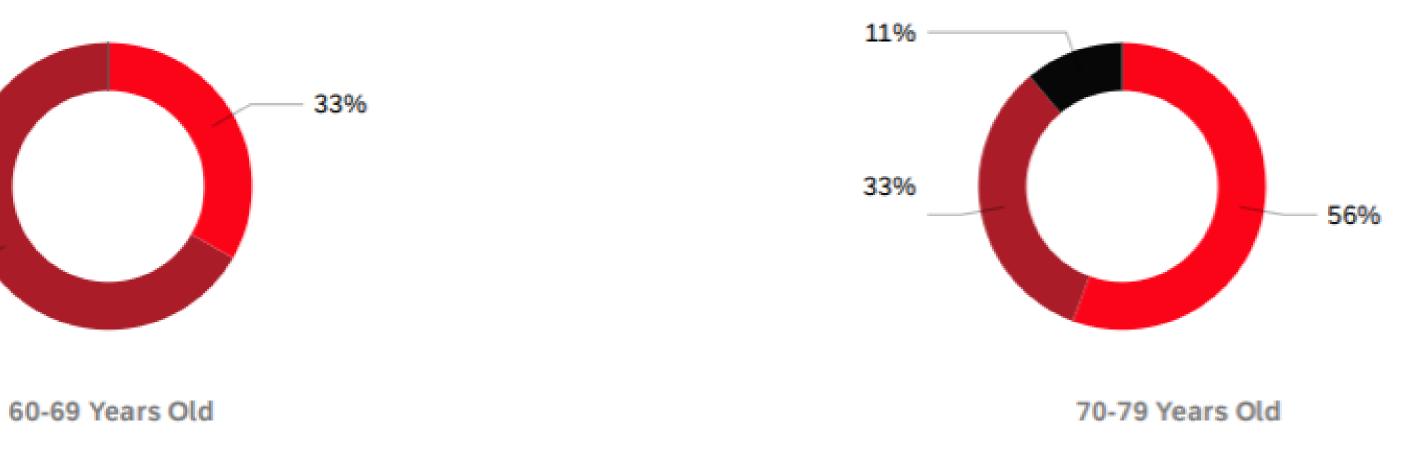


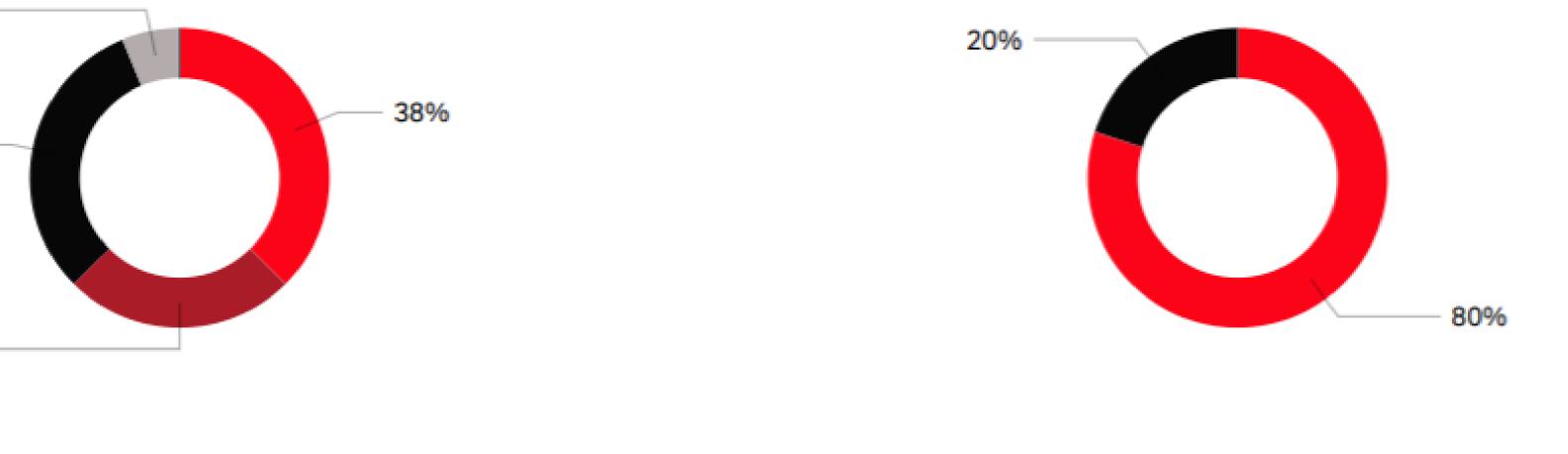
RESULTS

Figure 3: Reason For Use By Age

80-89 Years Old







90 Years Old Or Older





Hip Or Knee Replacement Other (Please Specify)

CONCLUSION

- Cost is the primary driver of anticoagulant selection
- More research into DOACs in the obese is needed

No conflicts of interest were found or reported.