

The Utilization of Evidence-Based Guidelines as an Approach to Choosing Aspirin for General Heart Health

Allison Schleeper, PharmD Candidate Kevin Luitjohan, PharmD

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

BACKGROUND

- More than ½ of deaths in the US result from stroke, cancer, or heart disease.
- Aspirin has been used for thousands of years for many different indications, though since the 1940's for primary prevention.
- Primary prevention guidelines were released in March 2019, changing previous though of using aspirin for every patient to cutting down use due to lack of benefit and more risk.

OBJECTIVE

- Quantify those who are at a higher risk and may benefit from aspirin therapy based on 2019 guidelines.
- Compare those who may benefit against those who receive the recommendation from their providers.

METHODS

Study Design: Cross-sectional, retrospective study using a internet-based survey

Inclusion Criteria: All US residents ages 18 and older who have not had a stroke, MI, or acute coronary syndrome

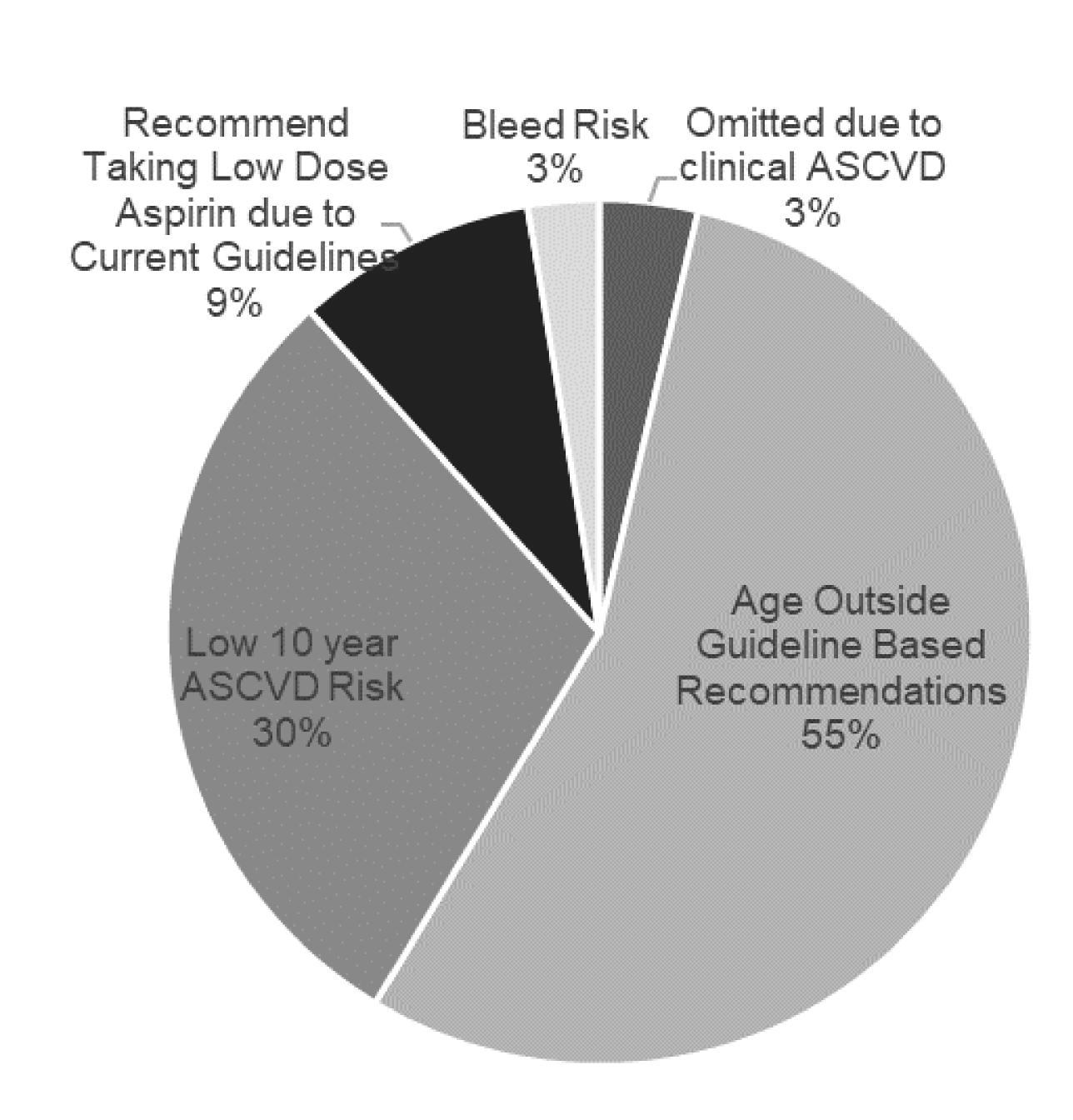
<u>Dependent Variables:</u> the use of antihypertensive medications, the use of -statin medications, total cholesterol levels, HDL levels, systolic blood pressure values, use of aspirin and strength, doctor's recommendation on aspirin use.

Independent Variables: sex, age, race, chronic conditions such as smoking status, hypercholesterolemia (total cholesterol and HDL, hypertension, CKD, diabetes, steroid use, NSAID use, anticoagulant use, internal bleeding, need for secondary prevention due to stroke/ACS/MI, time since last doctor visit.

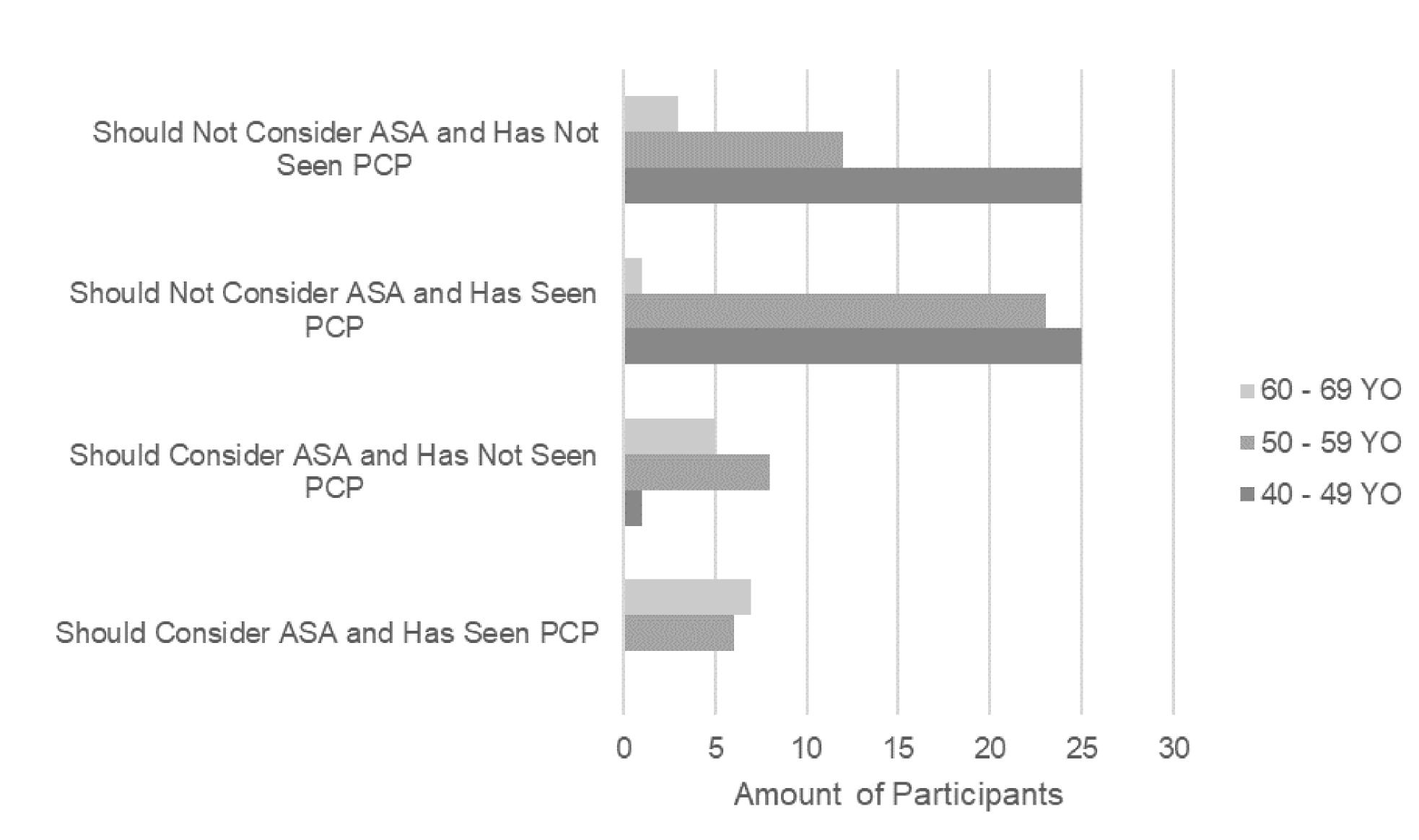
Data Analysis: relied on percentages to describe and compare sample.

RESULTS

Breakdown of Total Participants



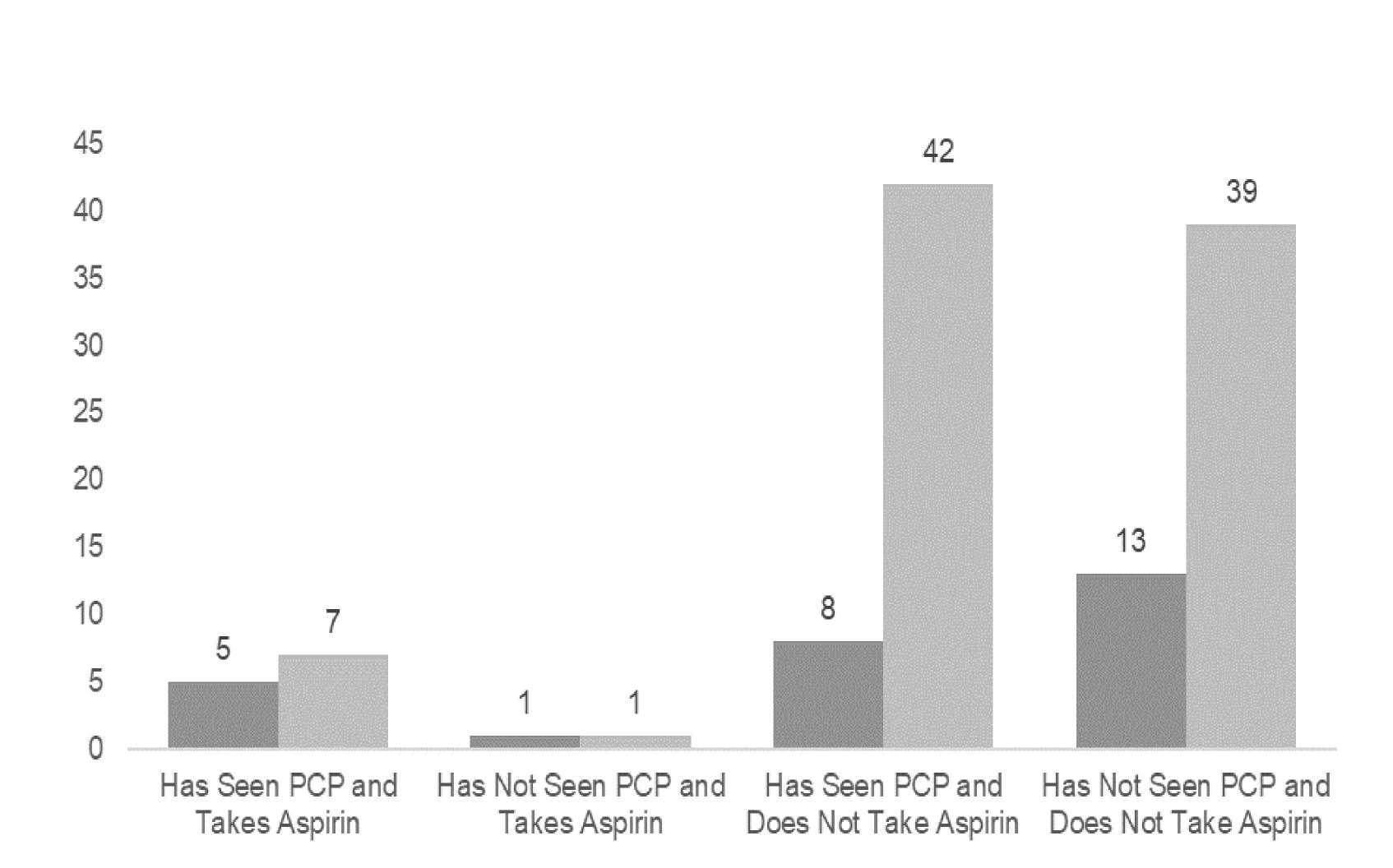
Age Analysis of Office Visit Since Guideline Update and Use of Primary Prevention



Participants Based Off Office Visit Since Guideline

Update and Current Use of Aspirin

RESULTS



Should Consider Aspirin for Primary PreventionLow 10 year ASCVD Risk, But Within Age Limitations

CONCLUSION

- Staying up to date is one of the most challenging and rewarding feats a provider can do to help their patients.
- Three months after the change in guidelines, less than 40% of patients actually took daily low dose aspirin of those who should be considered for the medication as a primary preventative for clinical ASCVD events.
- Future data should be constructed to follow up on the integration of new guidelines included in provider recommendations.