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EFFICACY OF TWO INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN ALCOHOL PROBLEMS IN HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS. THE ROLE OF CLINICAL NURSES

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INTRODUCTION

- Since 2003 we have carried out a brief intervention alcohol program among hospitalized patients.
- Because a limited number of patients could be assessed directly by the team, **we moved on to implement systematic detection of alcohol-use to be done by clinical nurses** and only subsequent interventions to be performed by the alcohol program team upon their request.

OBJECTIVE

- **To evaluate the results of two intervention strategies according to the type of systematic detection**
 - **performed by clinical nurses**
 - **performed by the specialized nurse**

METHODS (I)

- **Setting:** 800-bed University hospital that serves an area of 1 million inhabitants.
- **Design:** prospective, observational
- **Assessment:** AUDIT-C questionnaire
- **Diagnosis of alcohol drinking pattern:** according to clinical evaluation using ICD-10 criteria

METHODS (II)

First step of our study

- Clinical nurses of three medical wards were trained in the detection of alcohol consumption using AUDIT-C. If patients screened positive, nurses should request for further evaluation by the alcohol program team.
- **Between January 1st 2009 and March 30th 2010 performances of clinical nurses in identification and subsequent intervention are compared with those obtained by the specialized nurse in patients of the same medical departments.**

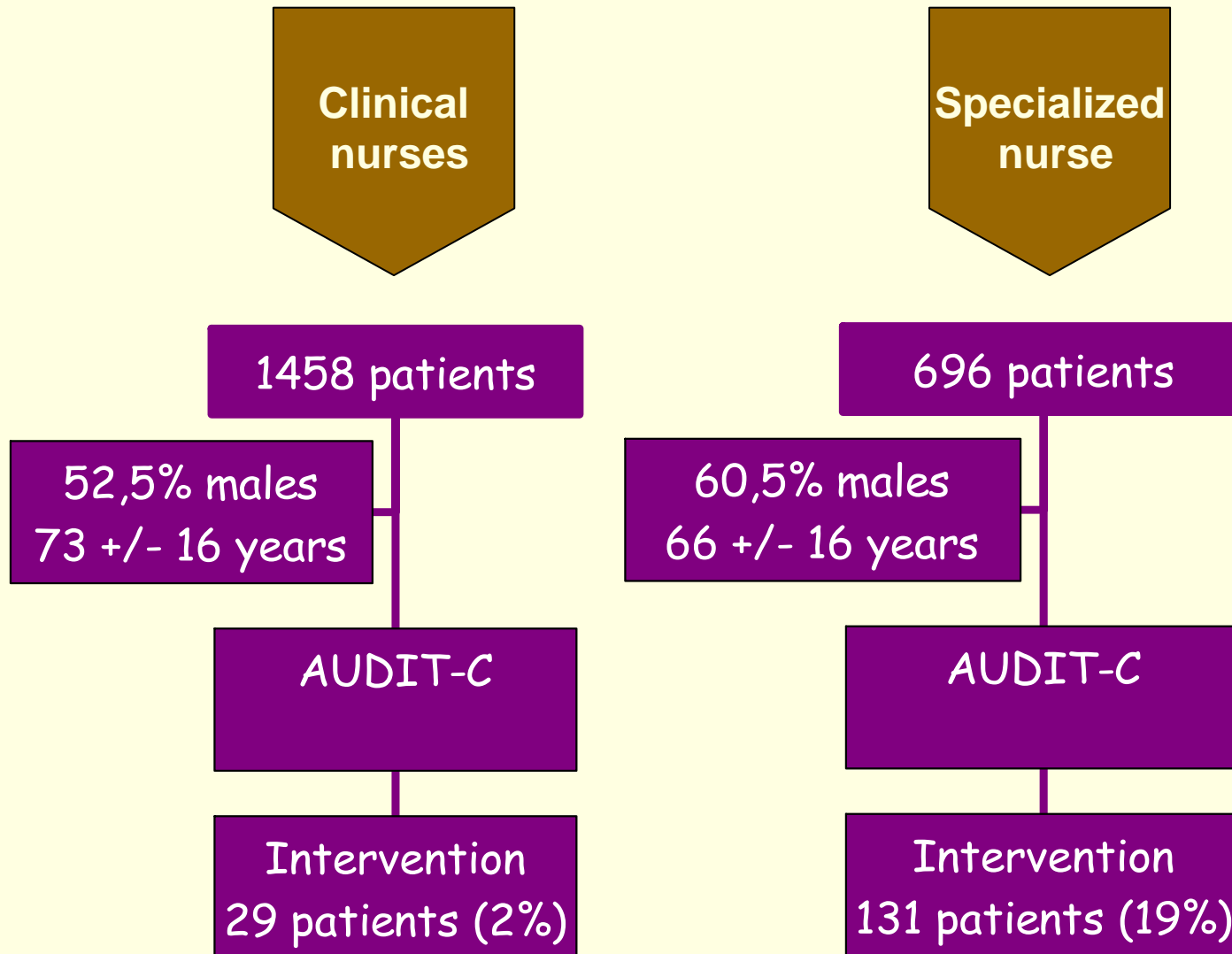
METHODS (III)

Second step of our study

- **To further evaluate clinical nurses' performances, we also did three one-day audits**
- For analysis we used the Chi-square test and the T-test, as appropriate. Logistic Regression was performed by the SPSS software package 13.0 (SPSS, Chicago).
- Level of significance was $P < 0.05$.

RESULTS (I)

Interventions between January 1st 2009 and March 30th 2010



RESULTS (II)

Independent factors associated with intervention, univariate and multivariate analysis

UNIVARIATE ANALYSIS

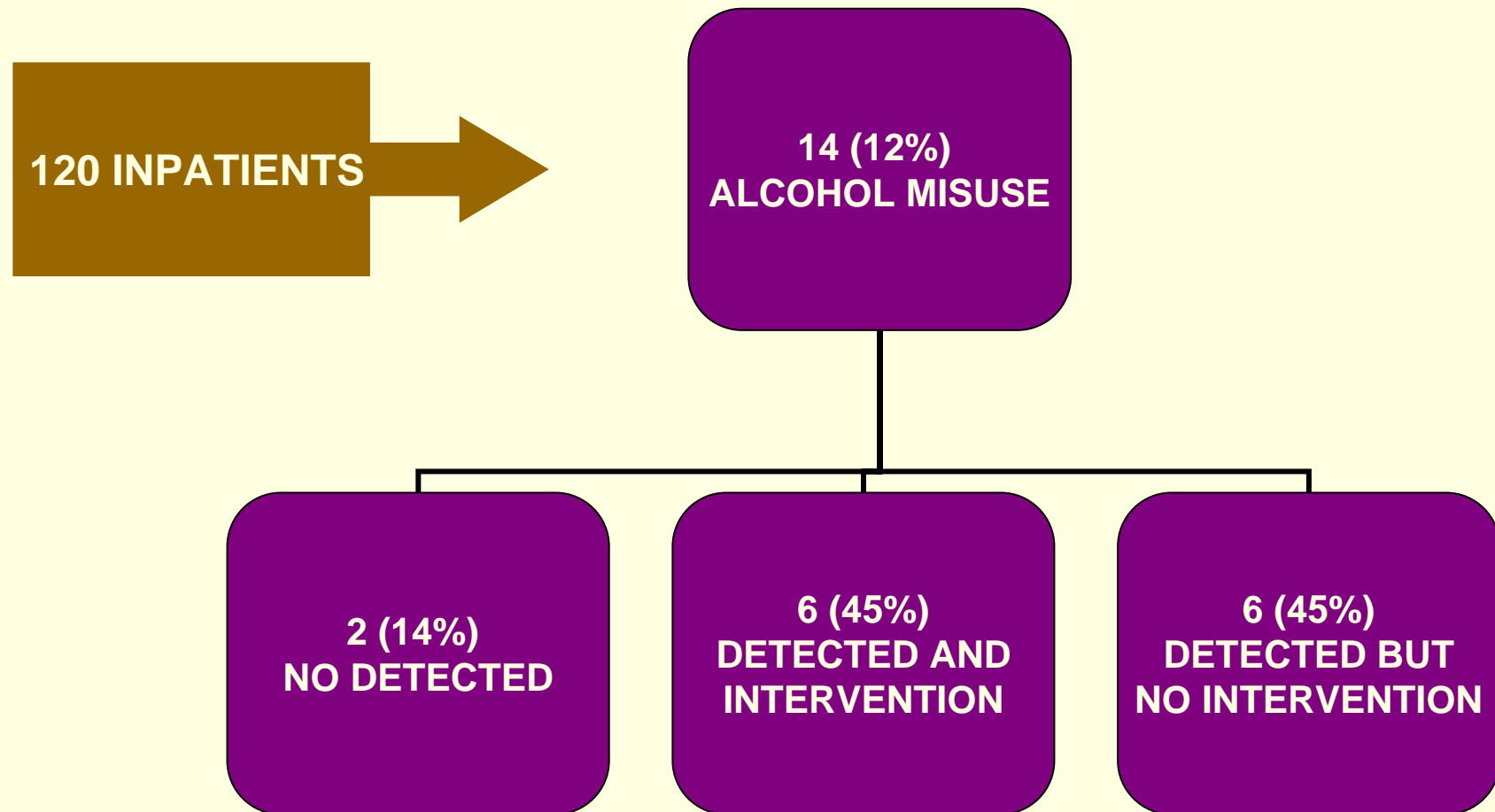
FACTORS	Odds ratio	95%CI
Younger age (<75y)	13.73	7.58-24.90
Team intervention	6.02	3.77-9.61
Male gender	11.42	7.55-17.28

MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS

FACTORS	Odds ratio	95%CI
Younger age (<75y)	9.11	4.96-16.73
Team intervention	9.34	6.10-14.31
Male gender	4.69	2.88-7.65

RESULTS (III)

Evaluation of clinical nurses' performance. Three one-day audits



CONCLUSIONS

- Intervention was performed more frequently among patients evaluated by the team.
- This was mainly due to the lack of requesting further assessment after detection rather than to the lack performance of systematic detection itself.
- **Consequently, in the near future we will focus in increasing consultation after detection.** The recent implementation of the electronic medical files might propitiate this aim.