

# The Effectiveness of an Acute Palliative Care Unit (APCU)

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# Introduction

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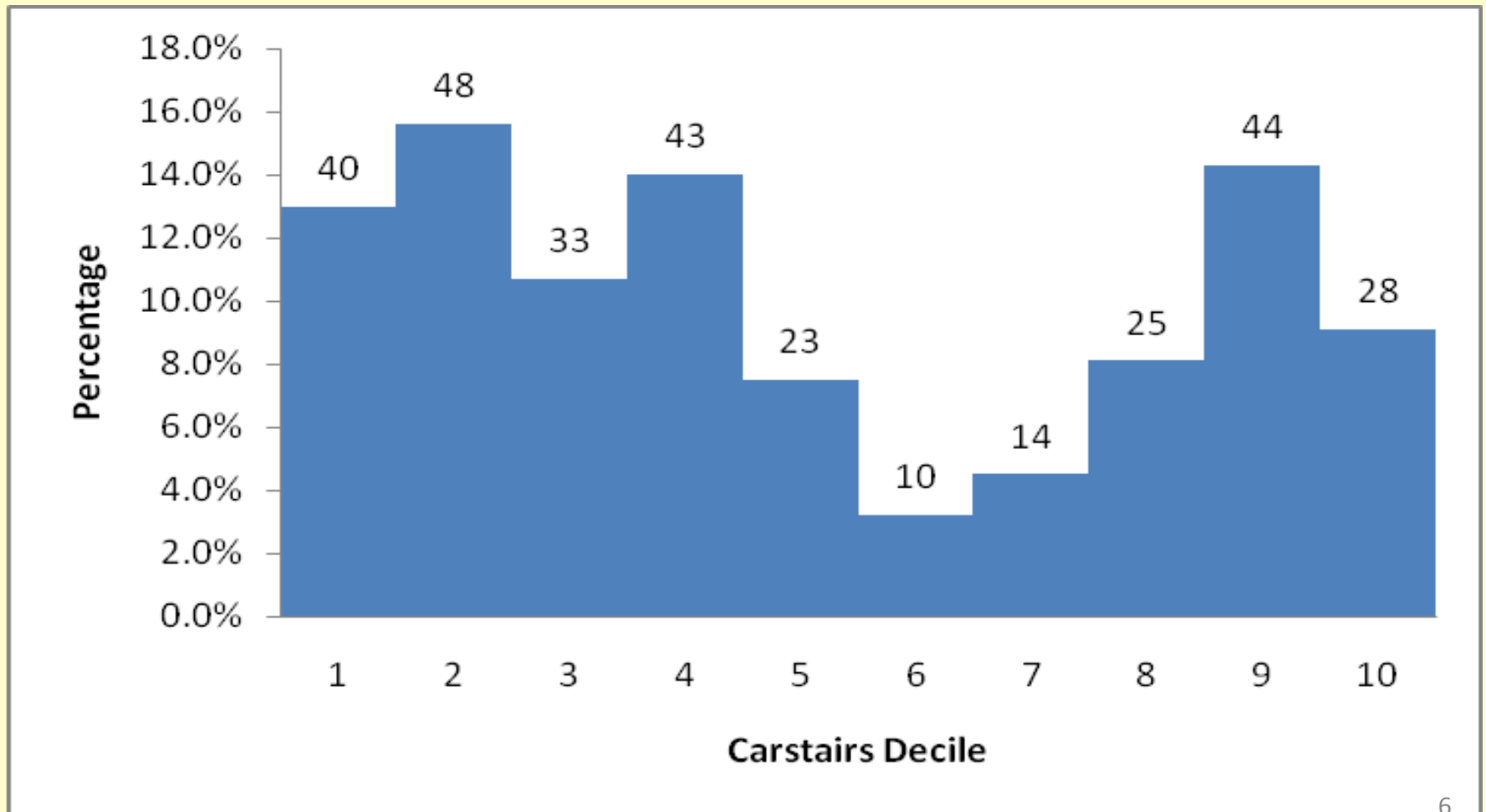
- What is an Acute Palliative Care Unit?
- Multidisciplinary, intensive interventions
- Acute, severe problems
- During earlier active treatment of advanced disease
- Aims of study: population, process, outcome and relevance

# Methodology

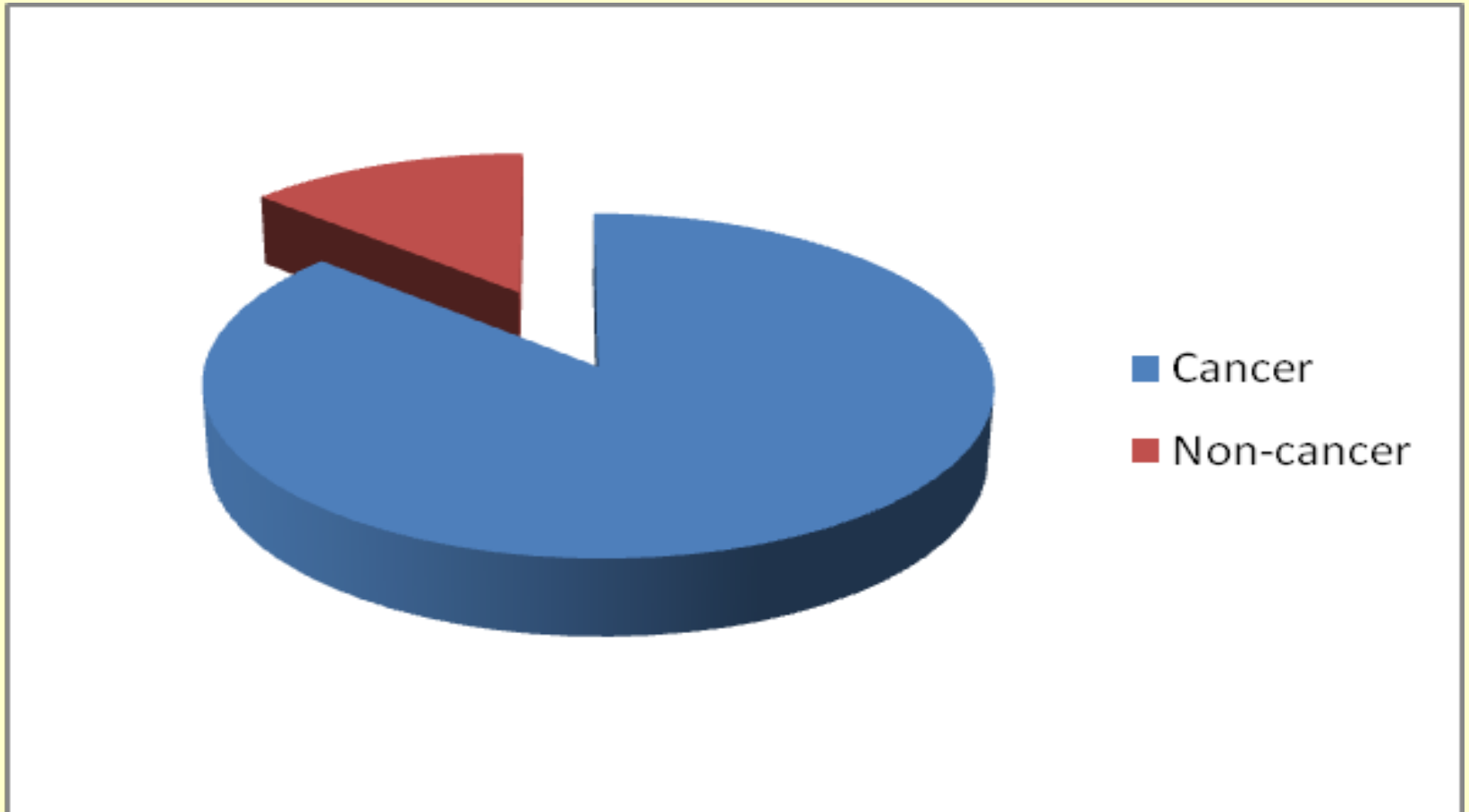
- 3 bedded APCU from Feb 2009 - Sept 2013
- Prospective database analysis
- 355 patients
- Factors to identify population and process
- Edmonton Symptom Assessment Scale (ESAS) and distress recorded at admission, 48 hours and discharge
- Descriptive statistics

# RESULTS

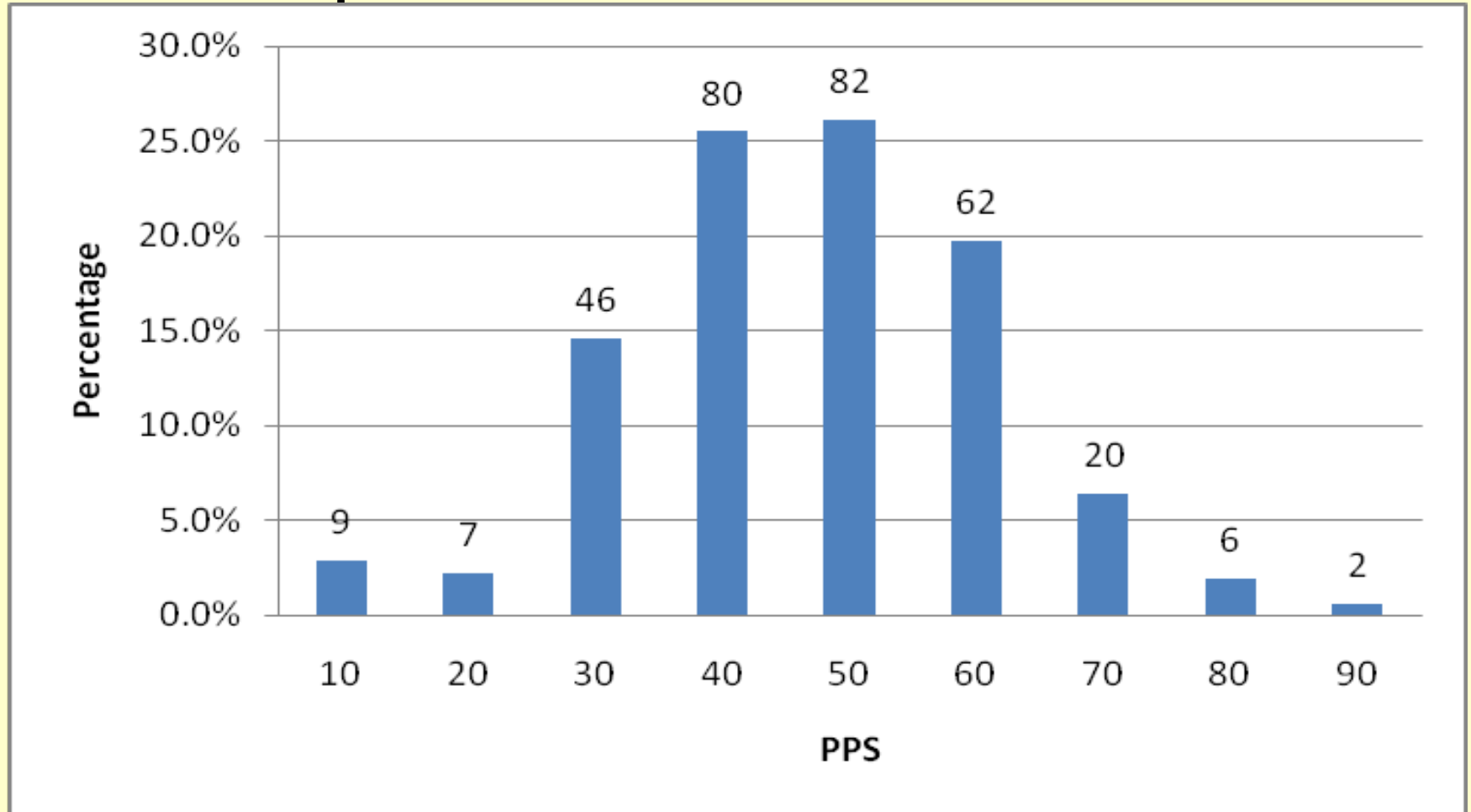
# Carstairs deprivation ranking of APCU patients



# Advanced condition

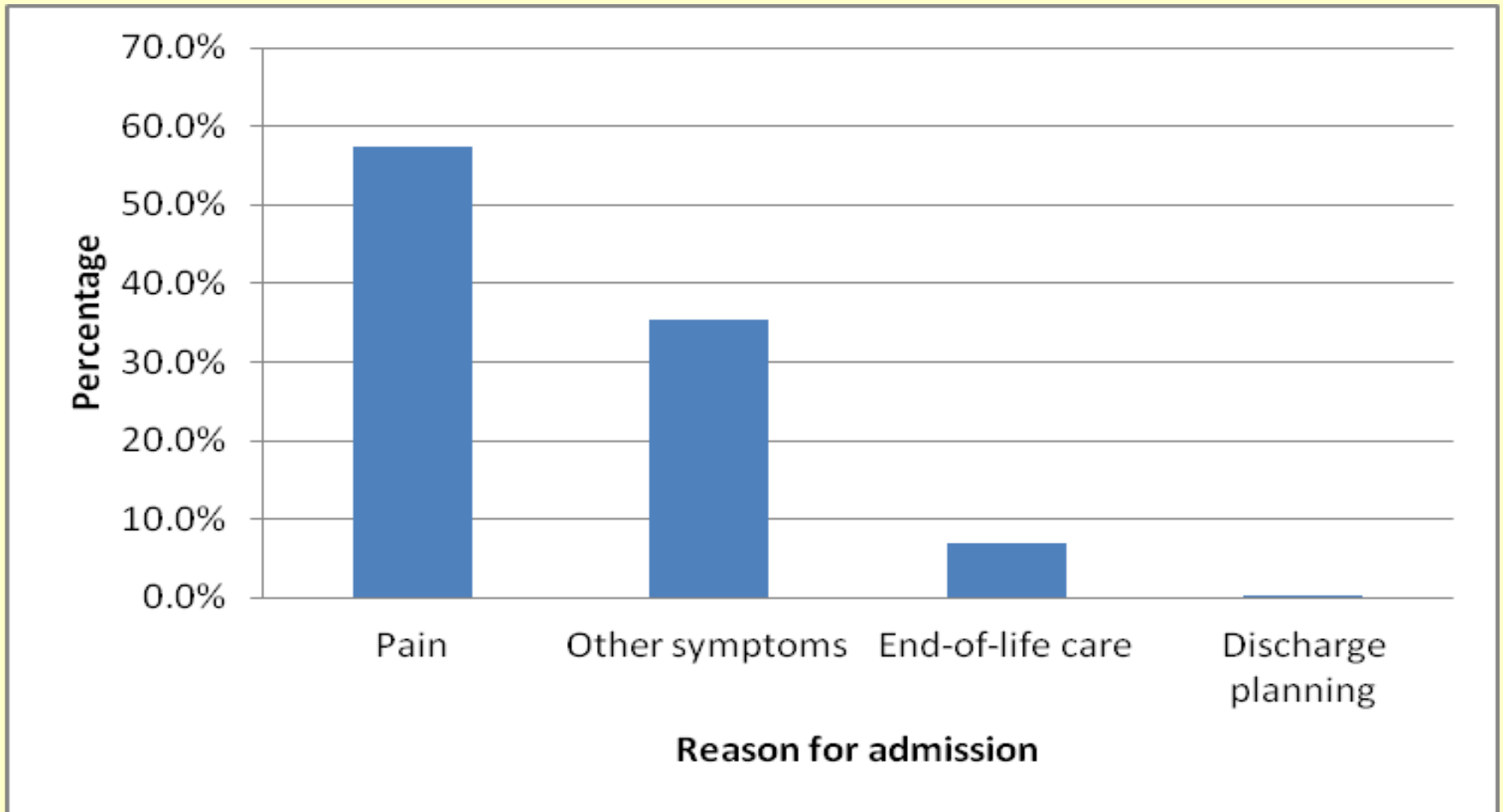


# Palliative Performance Status of APCU patients on admission

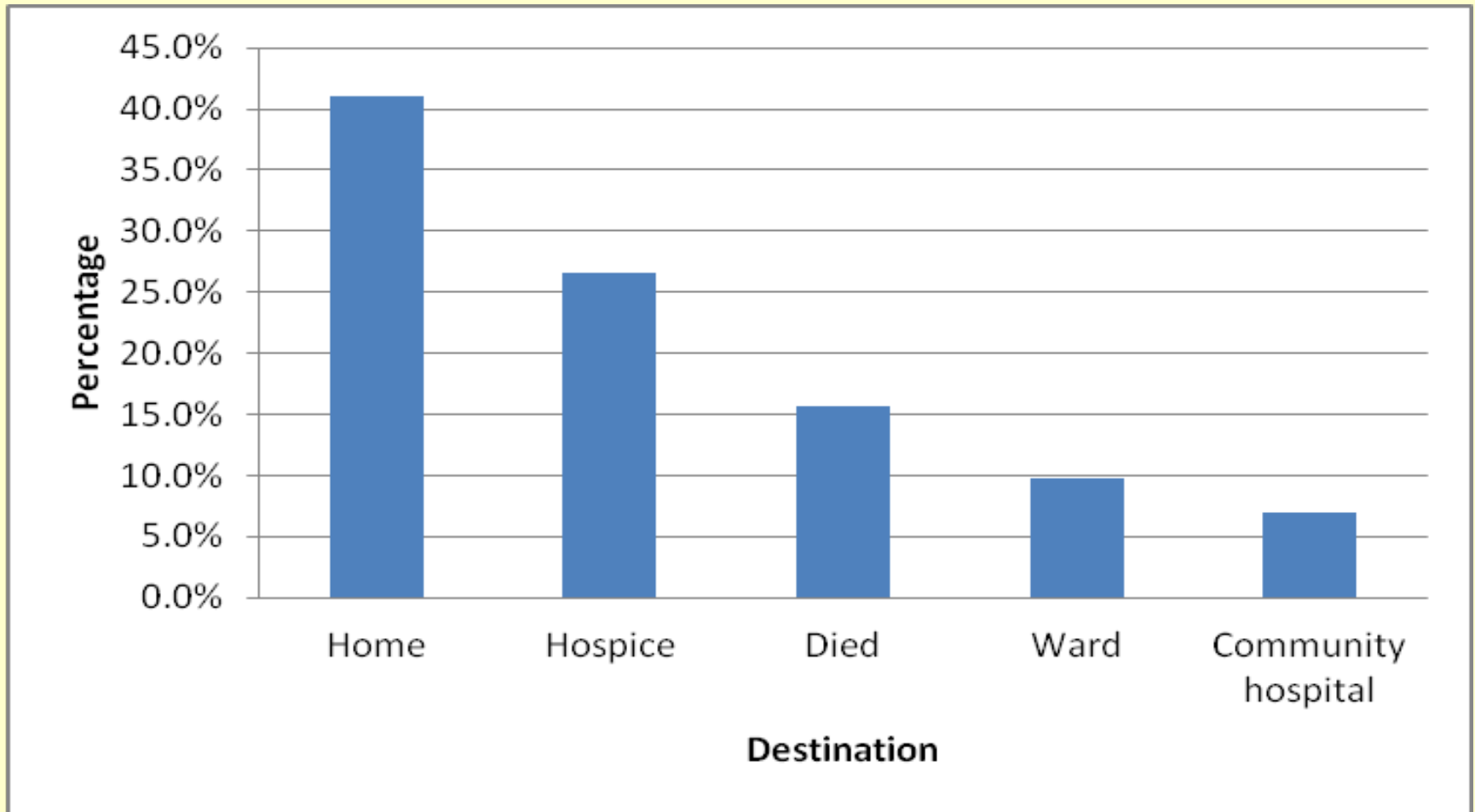




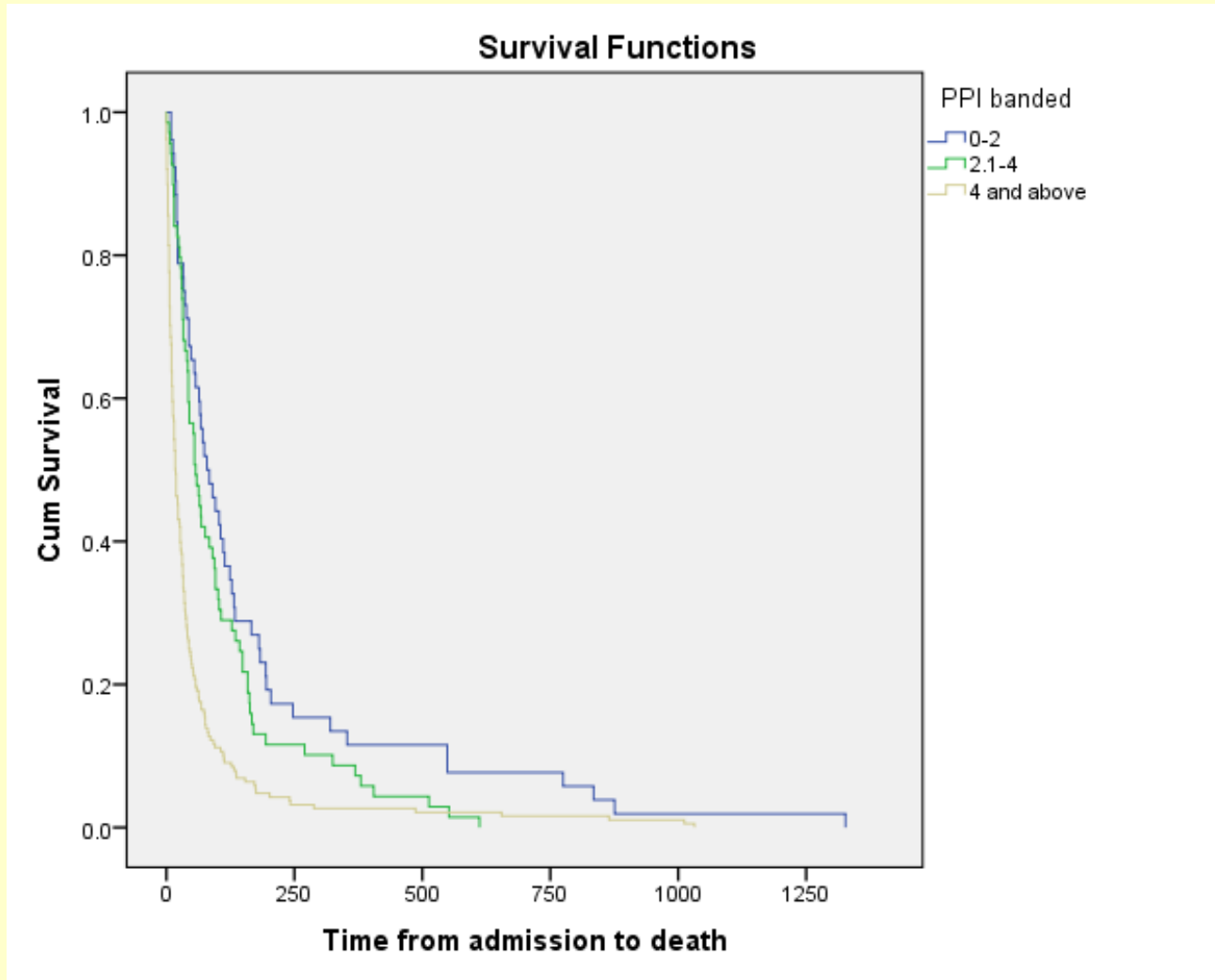
# Reason for admission



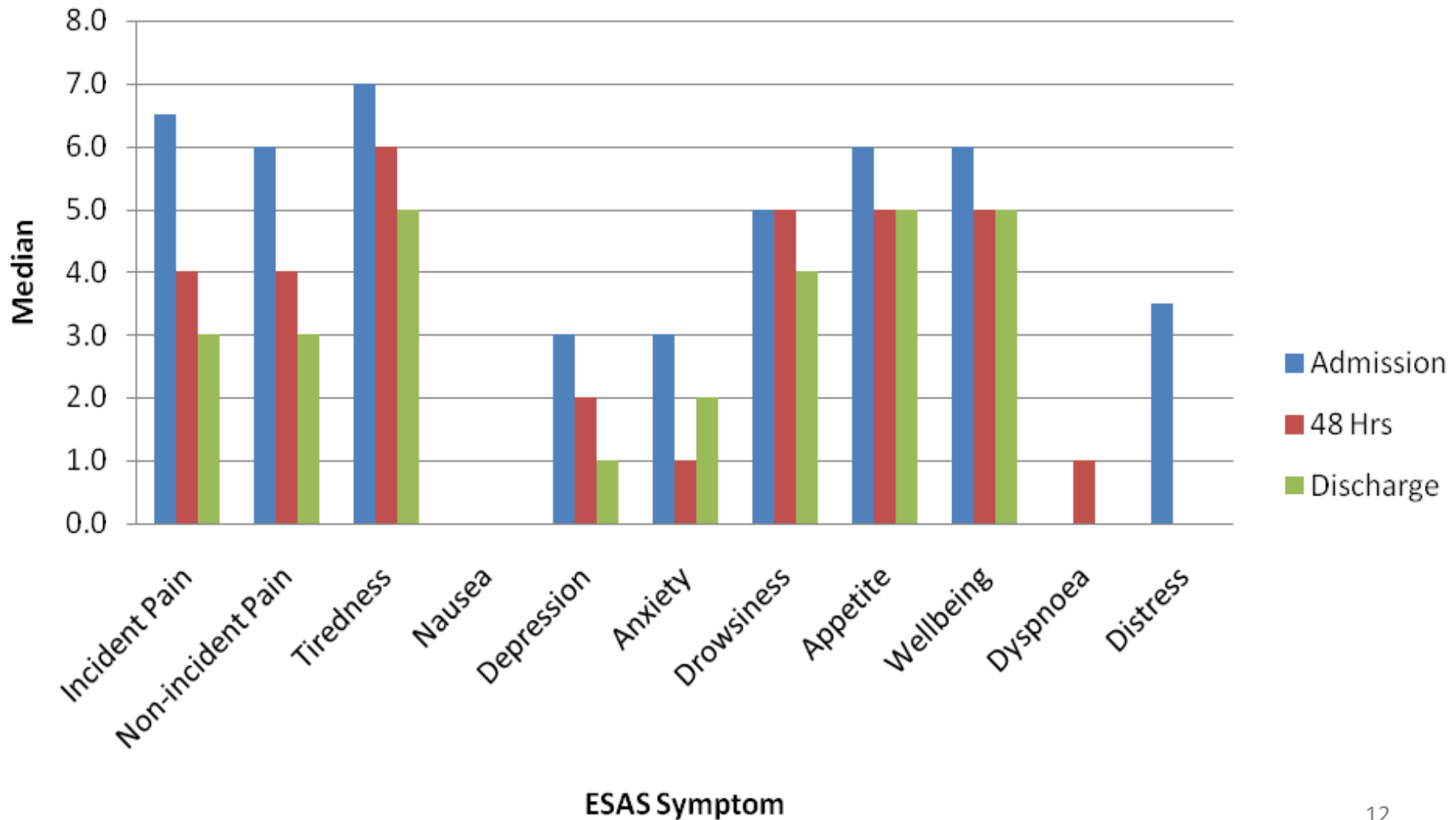
# Outcome of admission



# Survival curves from admission according to PPI



# Median ESAS scores at admission, 48 hours and discharge



# Discussion

- Population is not end-of-life
- Low mortality rate
- Short-stay ward
- Symptom control
- Early impact
- Collaboration and culture change
- Use of resources

# Conclusion

- Differs from traditional palliative services
- APCU achieves acute symptom control in a short-stay ward for complex patients predominantly before the end-of-life phase.
- Effective model
- Better and faster outcomes
- Positive impact

Thank-you

Any questions?