

# Evaluation of knowledge about photosensitivity in selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor's users

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## 01 Background information:

Among the users of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), not all of them are aware of the fact that some of the drugs, commonly prescribed by physicians for depression treatment, may have serious adverse reactions such as photosensitivity mediated by the exposure to visible and ultraviolet light. Identification and counseling about the use of photoprotection should always be carried out by healthcare professionals.

## 02 Purposes:

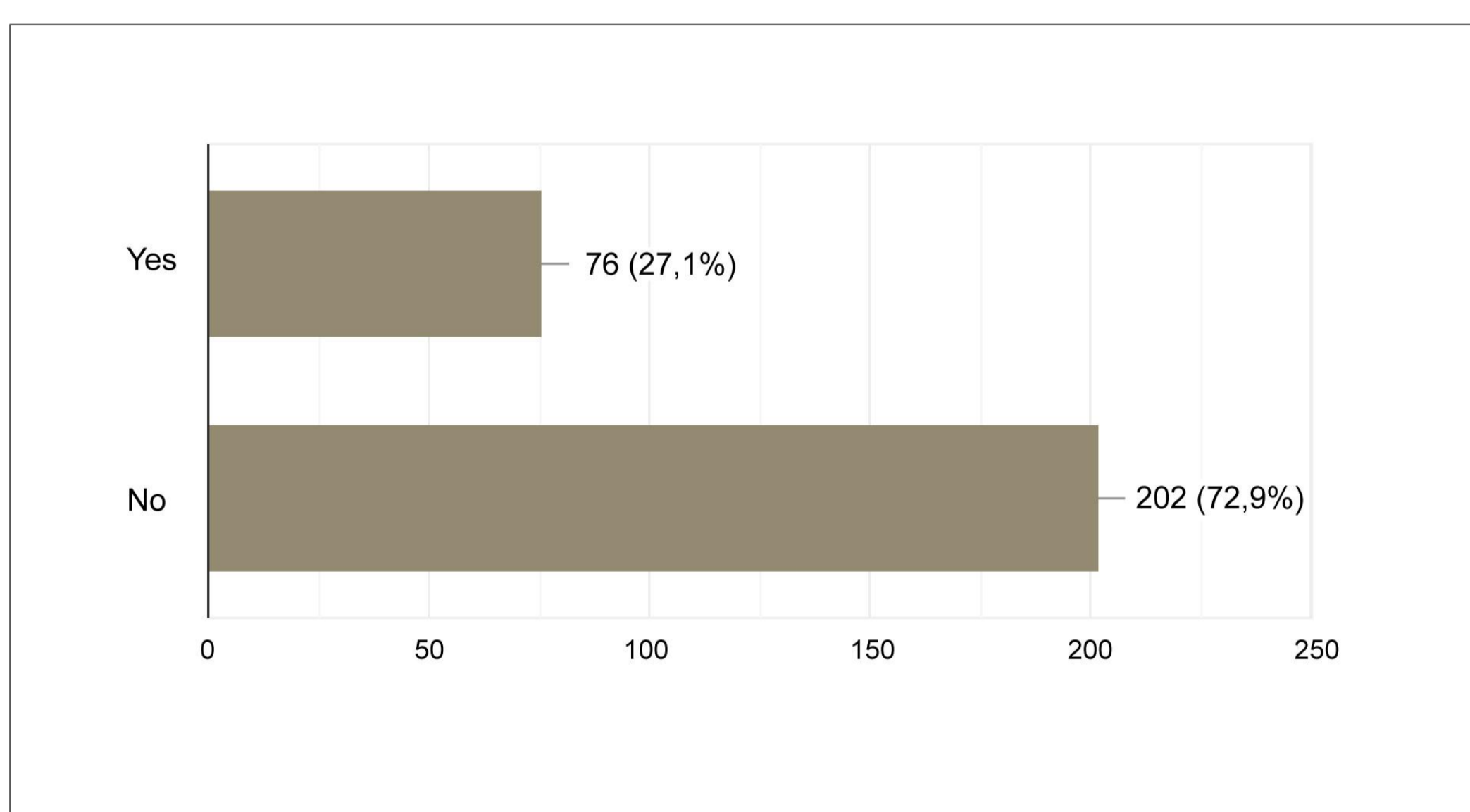
The aim is to survey SSRI's users at pharmacies in order to understand if patients recognize that antidepressant drugs use entails this specific adverse reaction.

## 03 Methods:

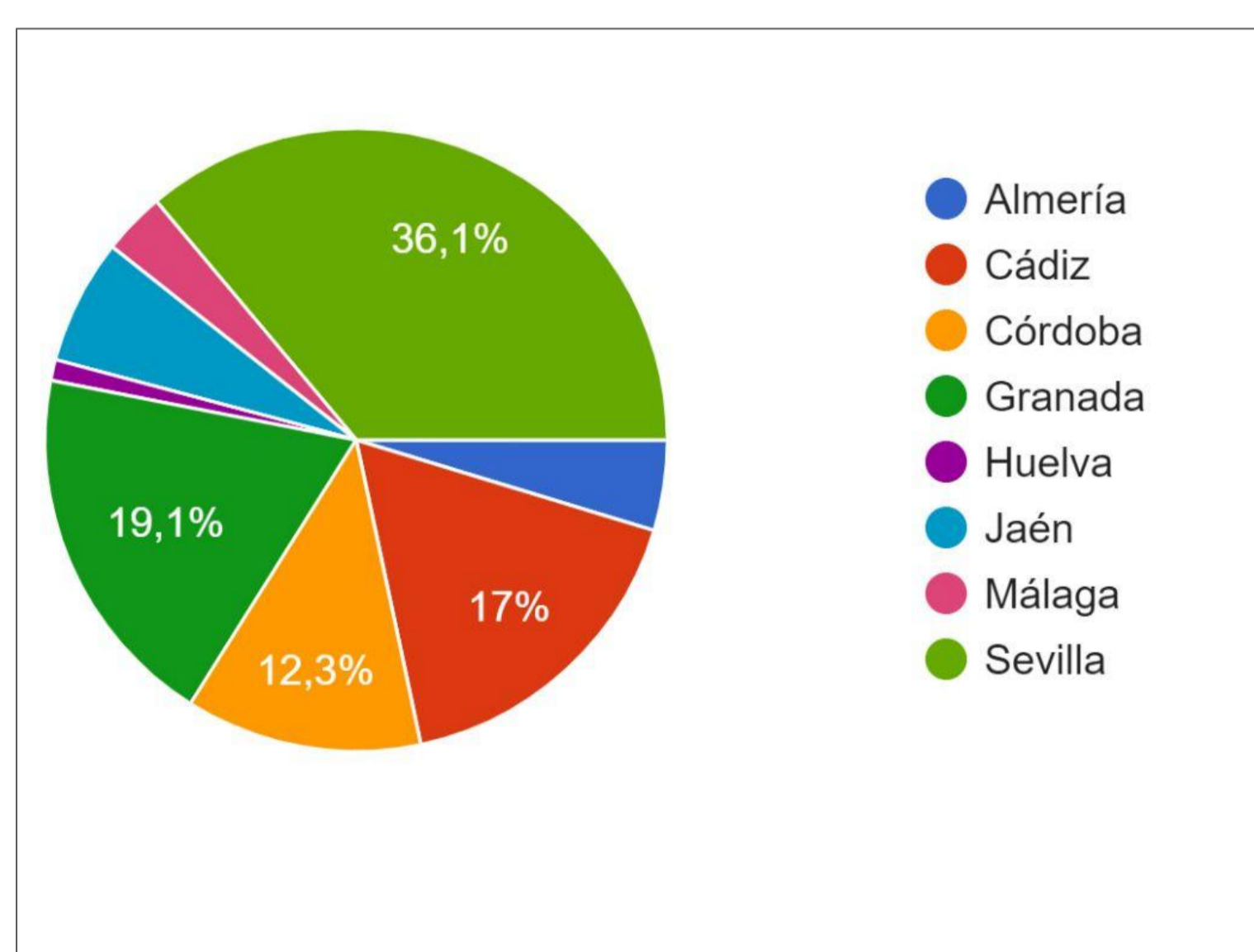
The survey has been done through a Google form after dispensation of the drug. Previously, pharmacists had been informed that they must pass a form to every single patient with antidepressant prescription. In the questionnaire it was asked the SSRIs the patient was consuming, skin phototype and the recommended UV protective. For sampling calculation the dose per a thousand habitants a day (DHD) of SSRIs in the community of Andalucía is of 64.92, with a total population of 8,5 Million. We have prepared a confidence interval with a sample of 275 and with a level of confidence of 94% to determine where does the population's mean land.

## 04 Results:

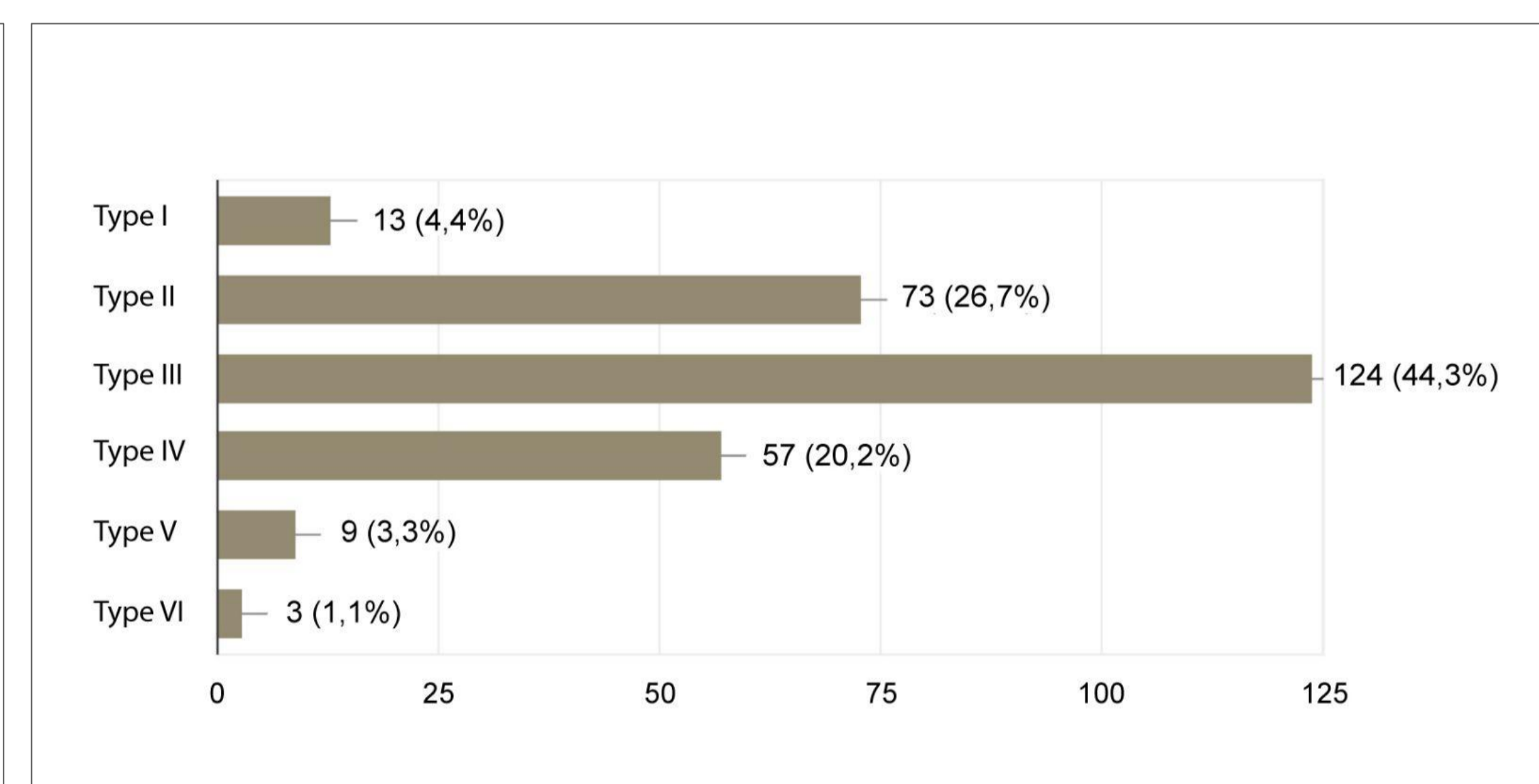
Do consumers of SSRIs that visit pharmacies know about the damaging effects of the drug on the skin? (277 answers)



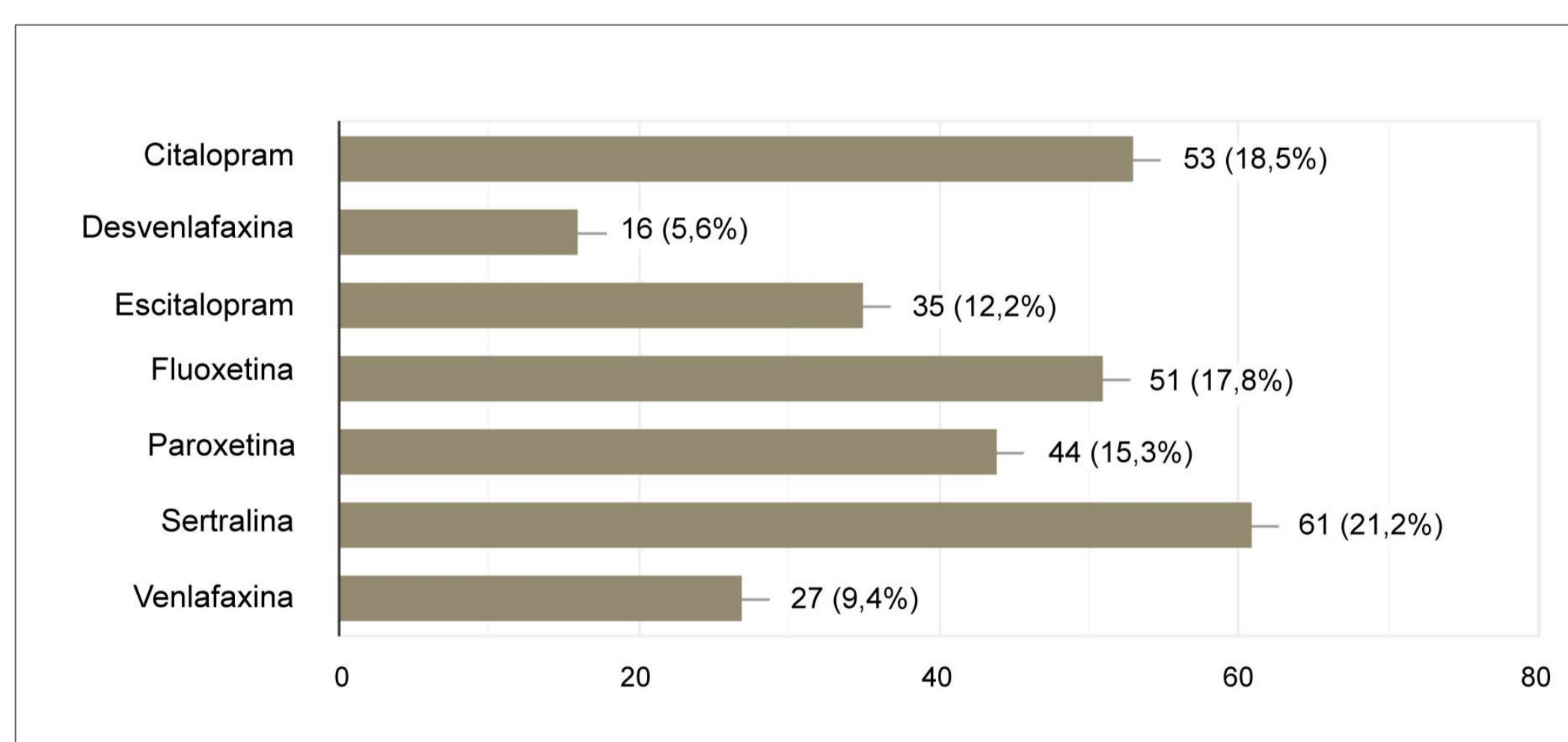
Area of study (277 answers)



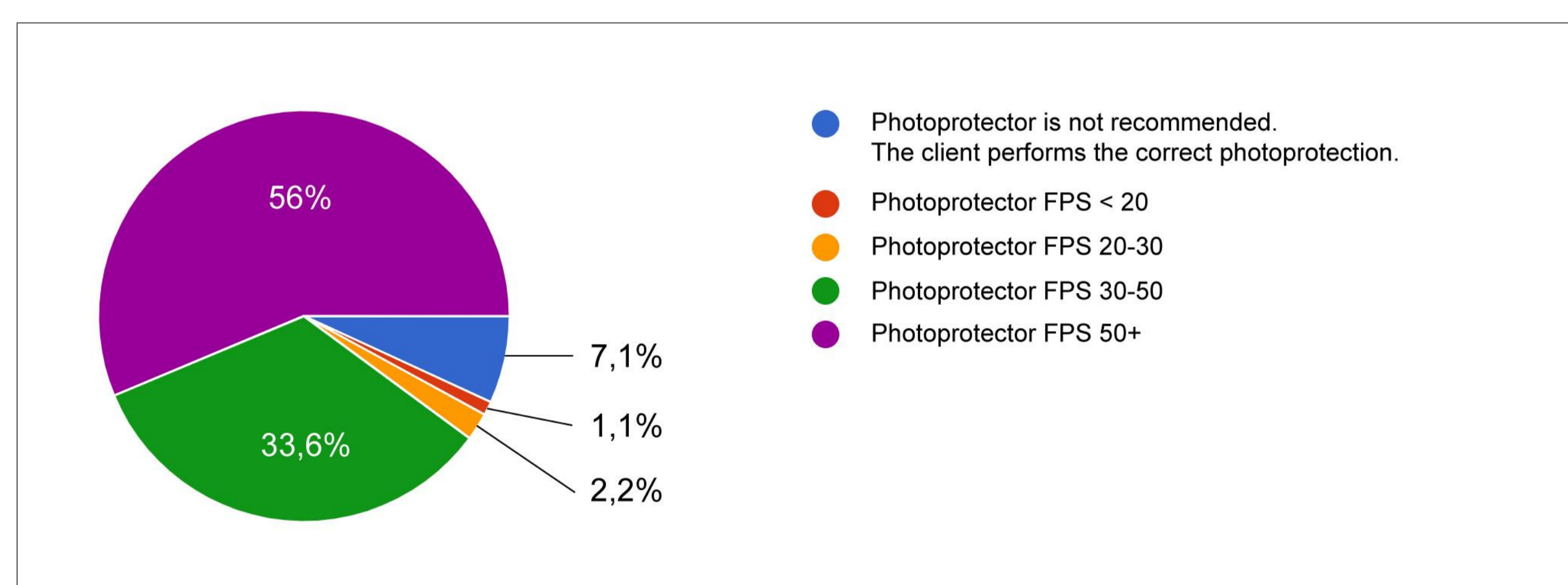
Patients' phototypes tested (277 answer)



Type of treatments for depression (277 answers)



Recommendation of UV protectives (277 answers)



## 05 Conclusions:

Most of the patients prescribed SSRI's do not know they can suffer from photodermatosis after sun exposure. The pharmacist, who is an expert on the subject, is the most suitable professional to recommend appropriate UV protectives to patients prescribed photosensitizing medication as well as different instructions to follow in order to avoid this type of reactions.