



● BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Drug shortages pose an enormous challenge to health care systems globally. However, the data available is limited, as there are 53 surveys in the literature and only 54,7% (29) contain any information regarding the prevalence of drug supply issues.

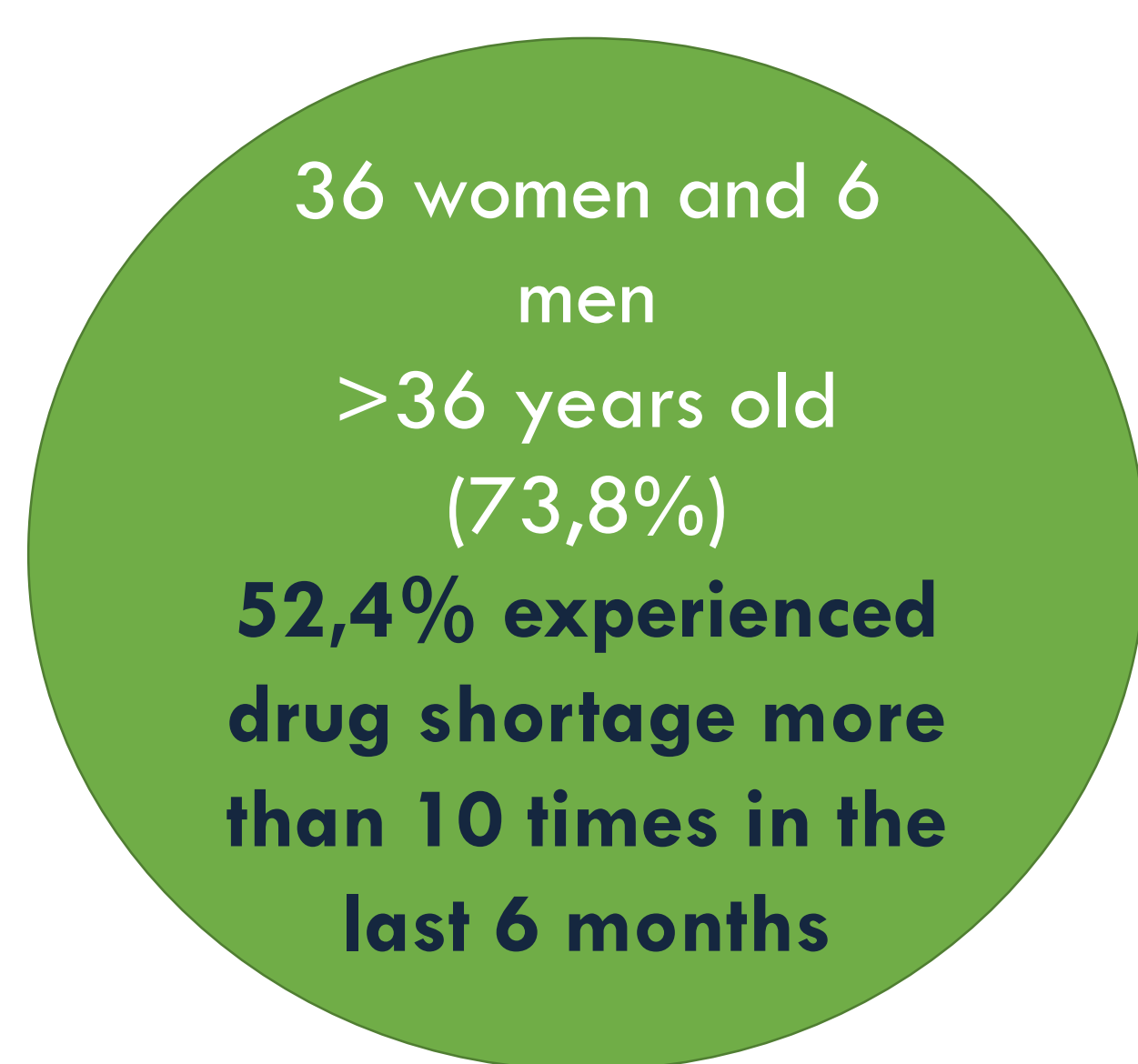
● AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Our aim was to develop a questionnaire based on the available surveys and collect evidence of drug shortages in the Hungarian hospitals.

● MATERIAL AND METHODS

With an extensive literature search between 1-15., April in 2019, we identified the relevant surveys and questionnaire, and afterwards developed a Hungarian version with 45 questions categorized in 5 main sections: 1. Institutional data and demographics; 2. Prevalence and background; 3. The management of drug shortages; 4. Information sources; 5. Consequences of drug shortages. Data was collected between 15. May and 30. June, 2019 with an online survey among hospital pharmacists.

● RESULTS



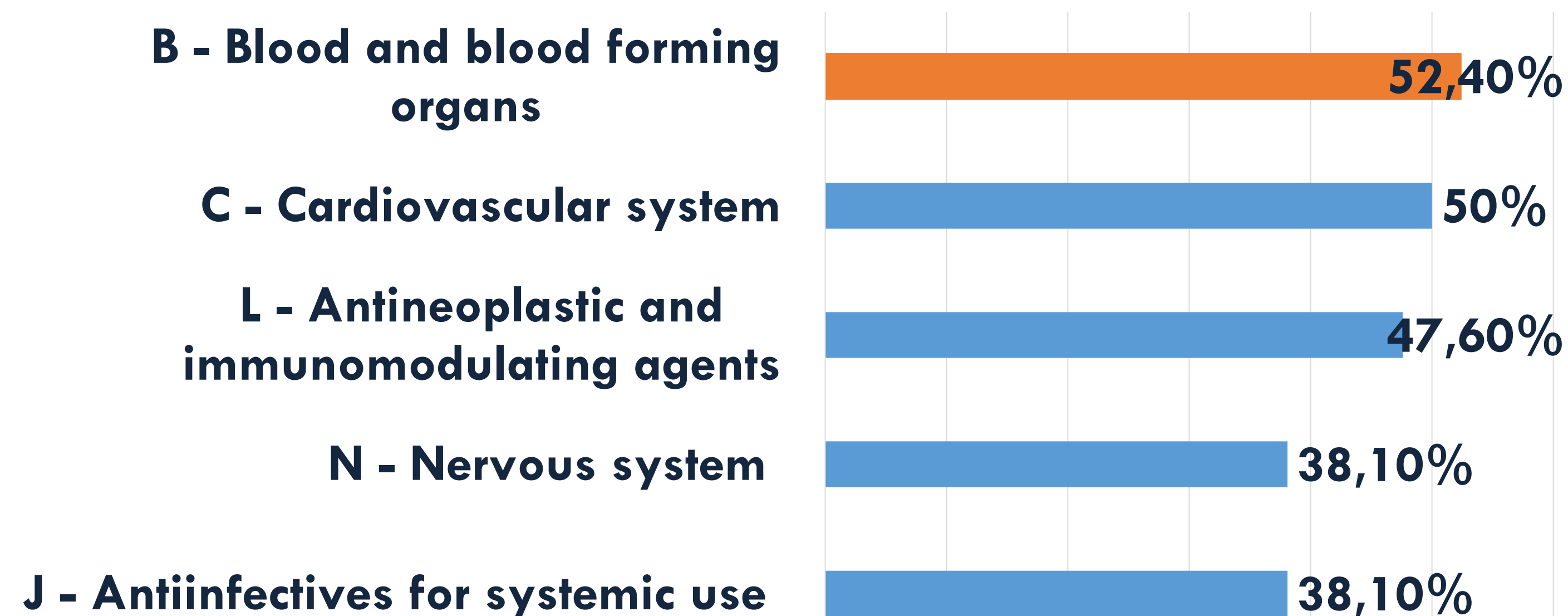
Examples for active pharmaceutical ingredients:

- Immunoglobulins
- Digoxin
- sodium ferric gluconate
- Phytomenadione
- Idarubicin
- Amoxicillin/clavulanic acid

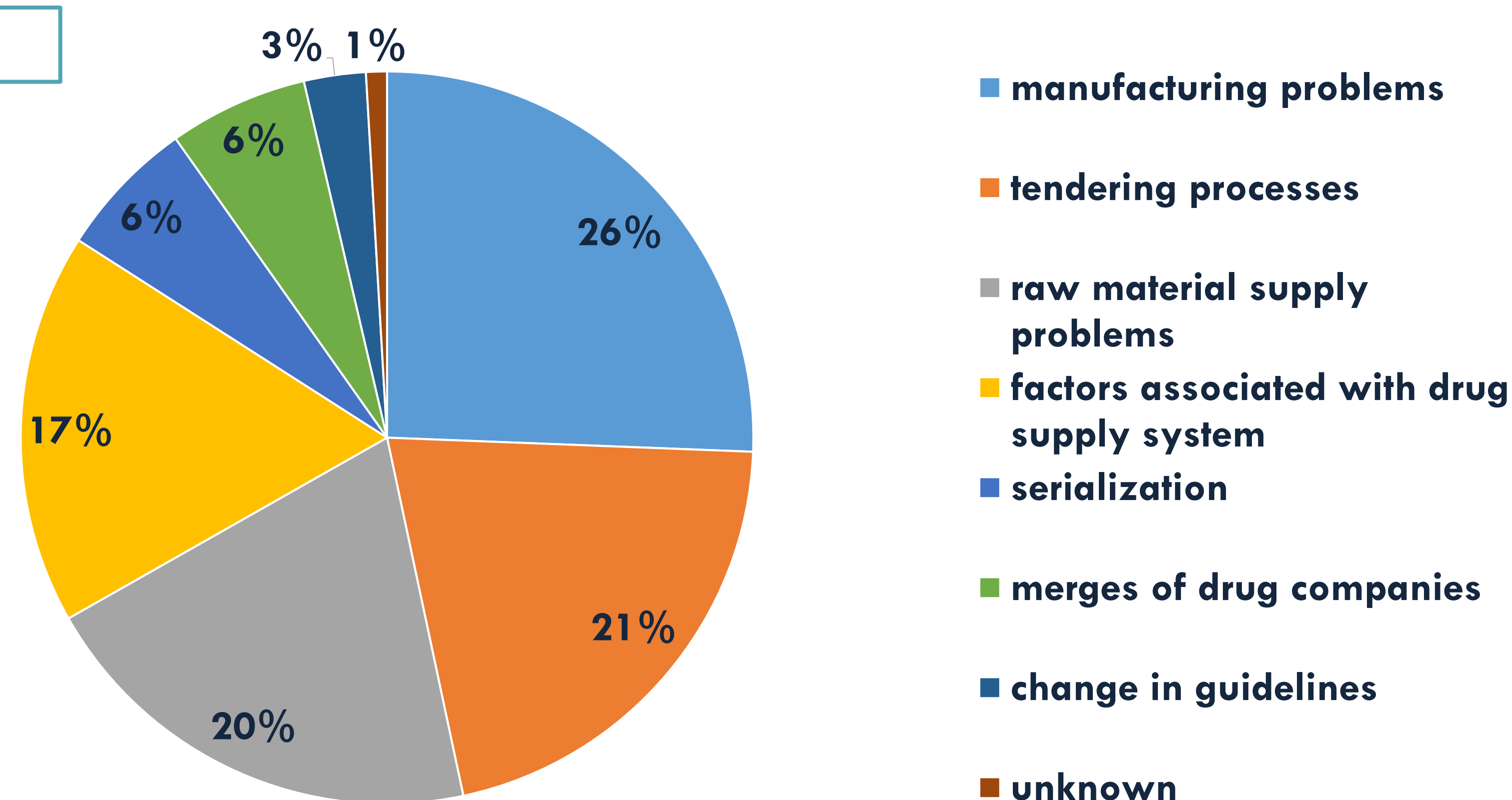
Original and generic drugs, parenteral and oral dosage forms were equally affected

53,7% usually lasts for months

The top 5 ATC groups



The main reasons behind drug shortages



- Gathering information and communication with manufacturers and wholesalers
- Identification of generic and therapeutic alternatives
- Inventory management
- Individual import and contingent supply

According to the participants the official drug shortage list is not the primary source of information!

Associated with 30-50% price augmentation – have cost effect on the institutional work

Strategies used occasionally:

1. Compounding
2. Quota system
3. Change in the Formulary

● CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

This is the first time a drug shortage survey focusing on Hungary was completed. The data and tendencies collected are mainly in accordance with results of previous surveys and global tendencies. However it is a new result that drugs belonging to ATC group B are affected the mostly by supply disruptions in Hungary. In addition, this is the first time that the serialization is linked with drug shortages in a survey.