

Controlled Substance Disposal Policies

**EMSI REGIONAL**

**QI INITIATIVE**

**2011-2012**

- EMSI along with the Bureau of EMS conducted a random inspection of ambulances within the EMSI region. The focus was on the use, documentation, and storage of controlled substances.

- ⦿ A review of patient reports where controlled substances were administered found that 10% of the patient reports did document how the unused amount of controlled substance was disposed of.
- ⦿ Of the EMS providers that did document how the drug was disposed of, the manner in which the drug was disposed varied greatly.
- ⦿ There was no one method of disposal that was the majority.

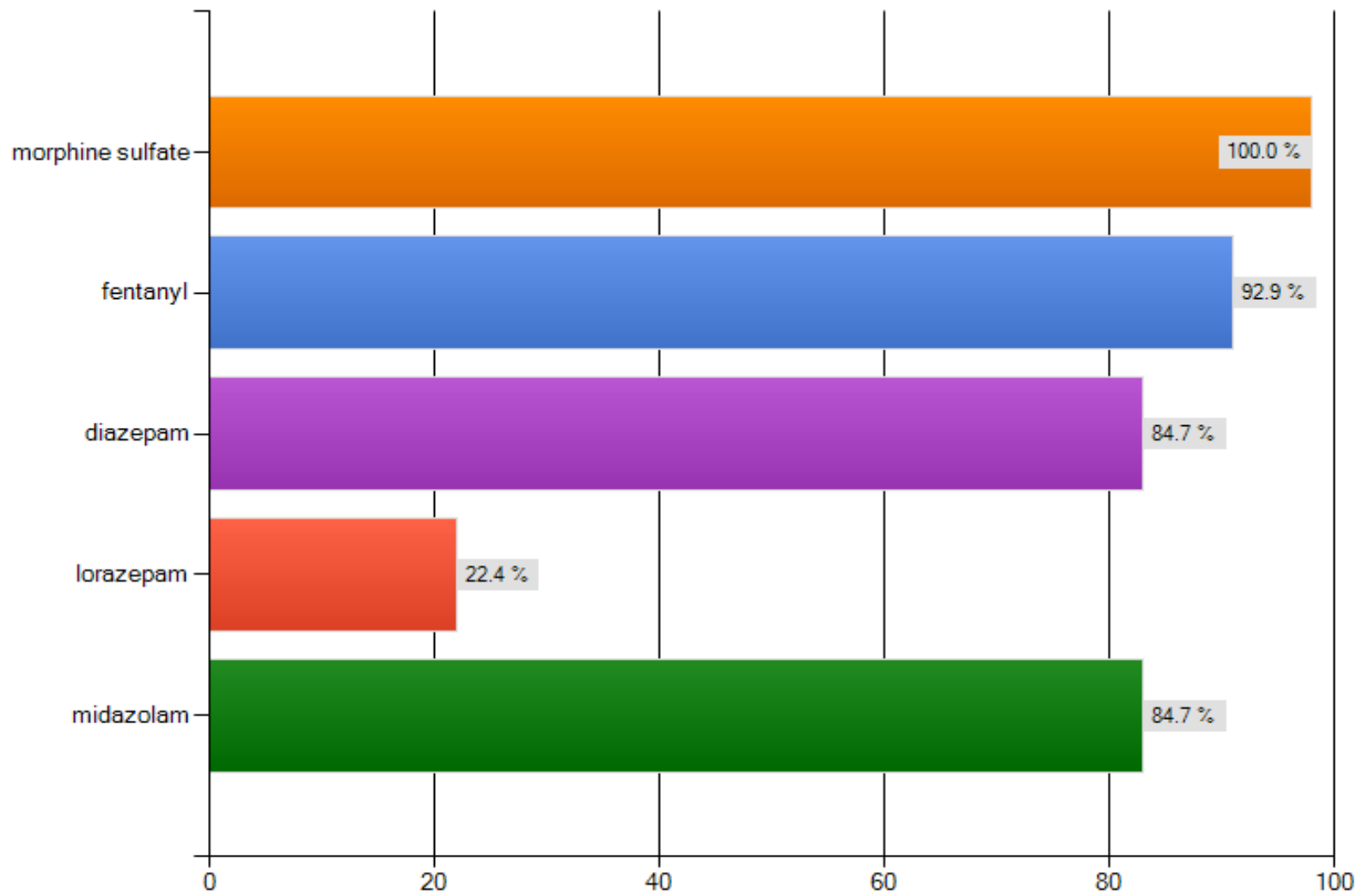
- ① Due to the increased scrutiny of the administration, storage, and documentation of narcotics and benzodiazepines to EMS patients, EMSI and regional medical directors decided to collect and survey EMS agency practices in the disposal of left over controlled substances.

- ◎ An online survey was created and sent to all ALS agencies within the EMSI region.

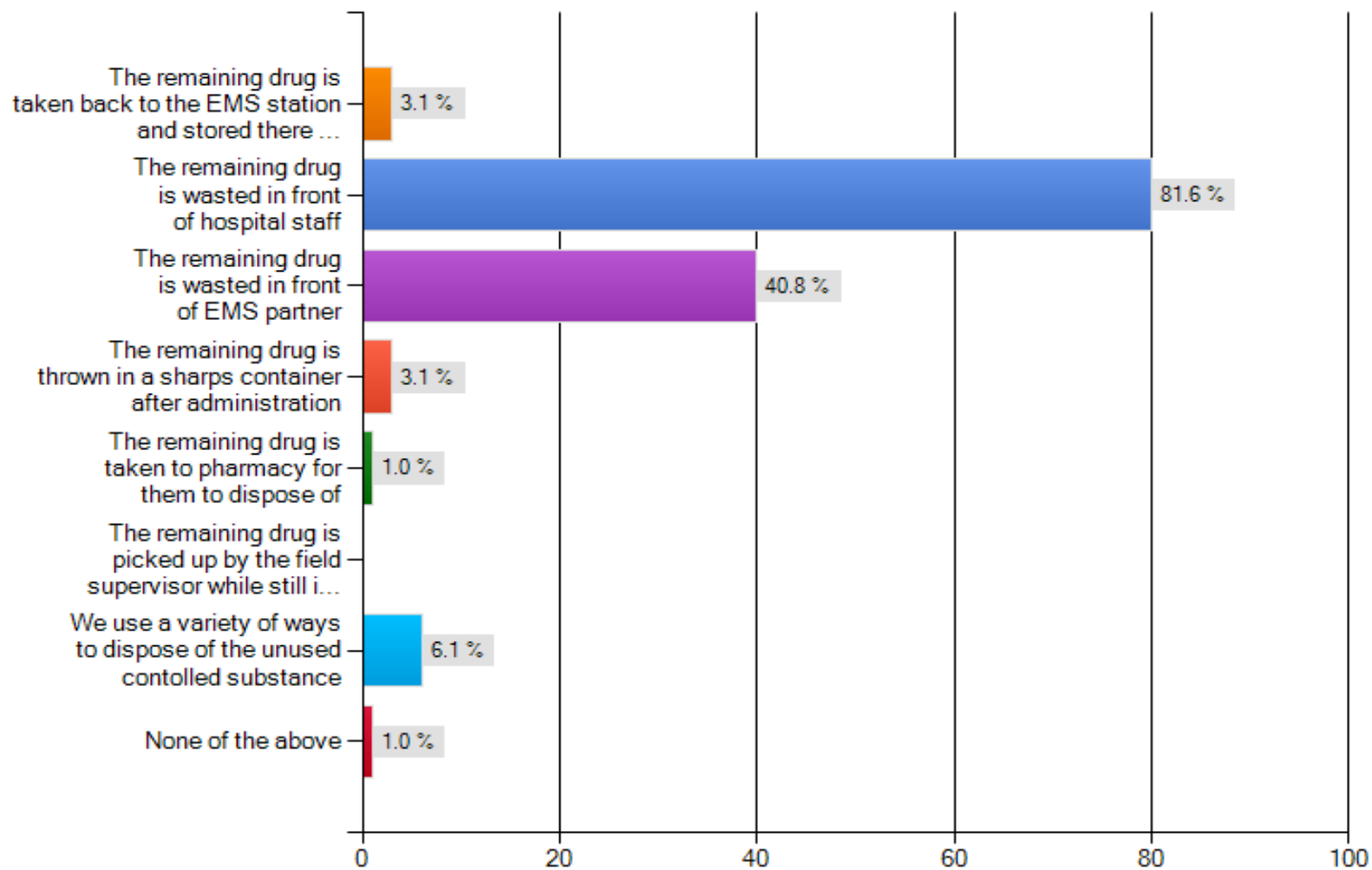
Here are the results. *(results can vary +/- 5%)*

Specific details of how each agency handles controlled substances will not be released as general information for security reasons but reviewed by the agency medical director through EMSI.

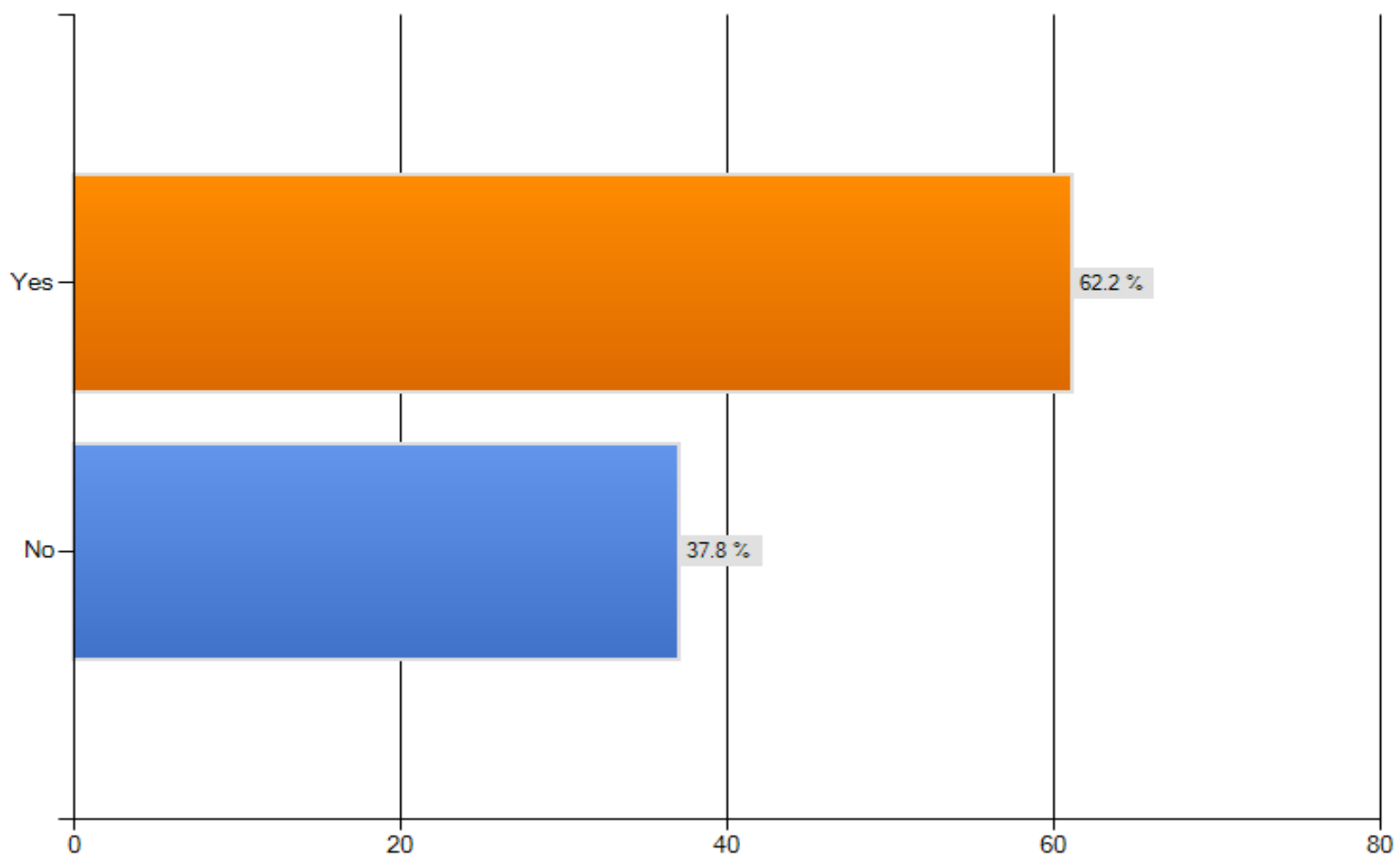
Please check which controlled substances you carry.



### Which procedure(s) describe how the EMS provider disposes of unused controlled substances after patient administration.

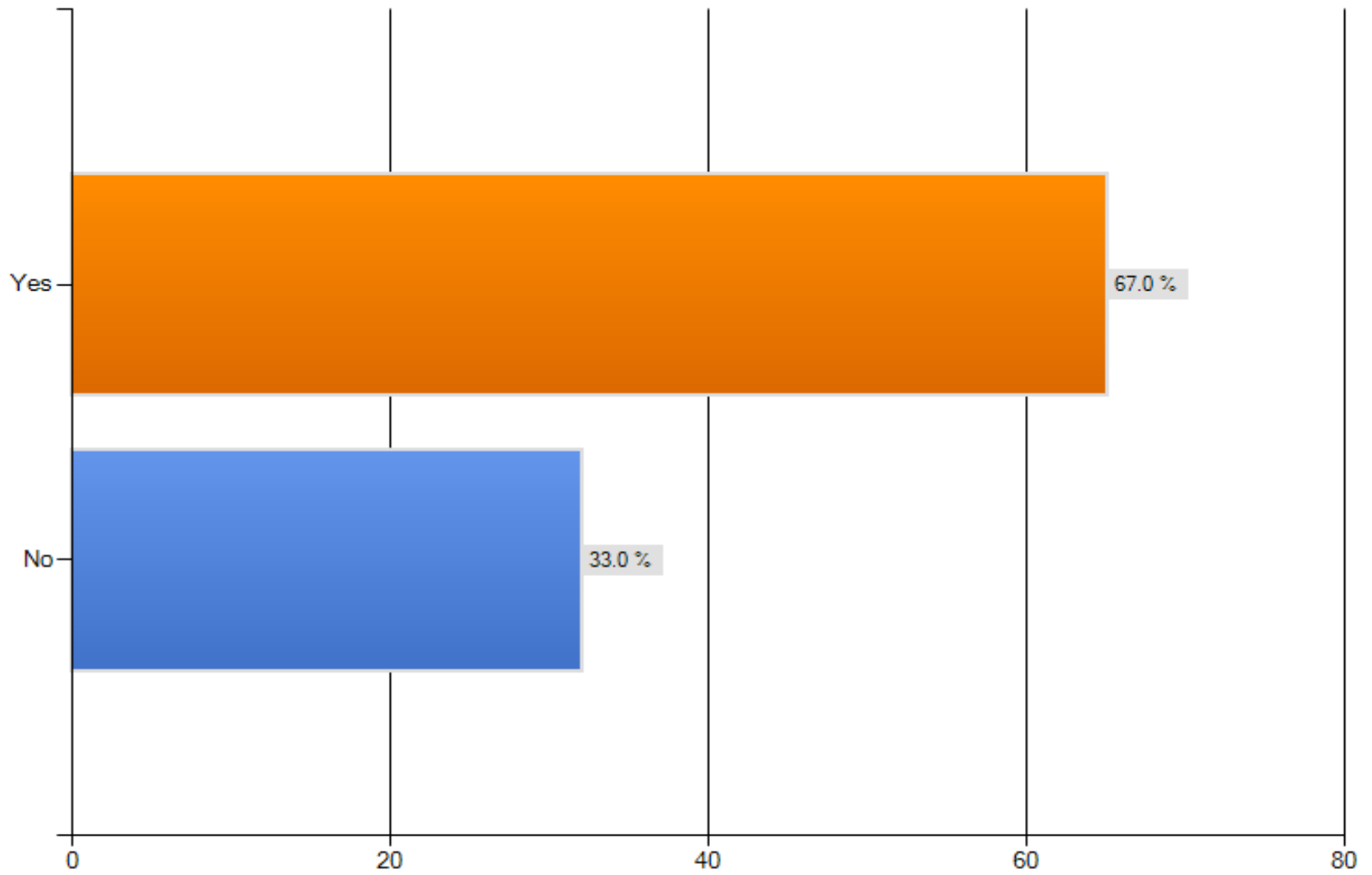


### Is disposing of unused controlled substances and the procedure documented on the patient report?





## Do you use an internal controlled substance usage form?



- ◎ Each EMS agency was asked to explain in detail how these drugs are disposed of. The policy will be kept on file at EMSI.
- ◎ Review of policies can be requested by the agencies medical director

# Regional QI Participation

- ⦿ 119 ALS Agencies, ALS Squads or Air Ambulances
- ⦿ 94 Responses
- ⦿ 79% Compliance
- ⦿ Survey notification sent multiple times

# No response from:

- Citizens Vol. Hose Co.#2
- SouthBridge Emergency Medical Service
- Allegheny Ludlum Ambulance
- A-K Pulser, Inc
- Freeport EMS
- Saxonburg VFC Ambulance
- South Butler Vol. Fire Dept.
- Point Marion VFD Ambulance
- Bentworth Ambulance
- Meadows Ambulance
- McDonald VFD
- Sewickley Township Ambulance
- Lower Burrell Volunteer Fire Company No. 3
- Trafford EMS Company #1
- Vandergrift Ambulance Service
- Excela Health
- Alcoa Medic 141
- C&S Ambulance Service, Inc
- Stellar Ambulance

# Thank you for Your Participation!



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