



# Hospitalized Patients Experiences & Reasons for Taking Prescription Opioids

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# NON-MEDICAL USE OF PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS (NMUPO)

- An estimated 11.5 million Americans have engaged in NMUPO
- Associated with an increased risk of diversion, addiction and drug overdose
- Also associated with the use of heroin
- 63,600 drug overdose deaths
  - 40% involving prescription opioids

# West Virginia & NMUPO

- Highest rate of drug overdose deaths
- 33% of WV engages in NMUPO



# TECHNOLOGY-BASED PRESCRIPTION OPIOID SAFETY EDUCATION (T-POSE)

- Educational materials created into a web-based platform
- Tailored specifically for West Virginians
- Includes information of safe use, storage and disposal of prescription opioids

# STUDY PARTICIPANTS

- 94 patients screened & 87 randomized
- Mean age 57 years old
- 98% white
- 89% were prescribed an opioid in the past
- Less than half (47%) of the participants reported never receiving information on how to safely use, store and dispose of prescription opioids

# NMUPO QUESTION

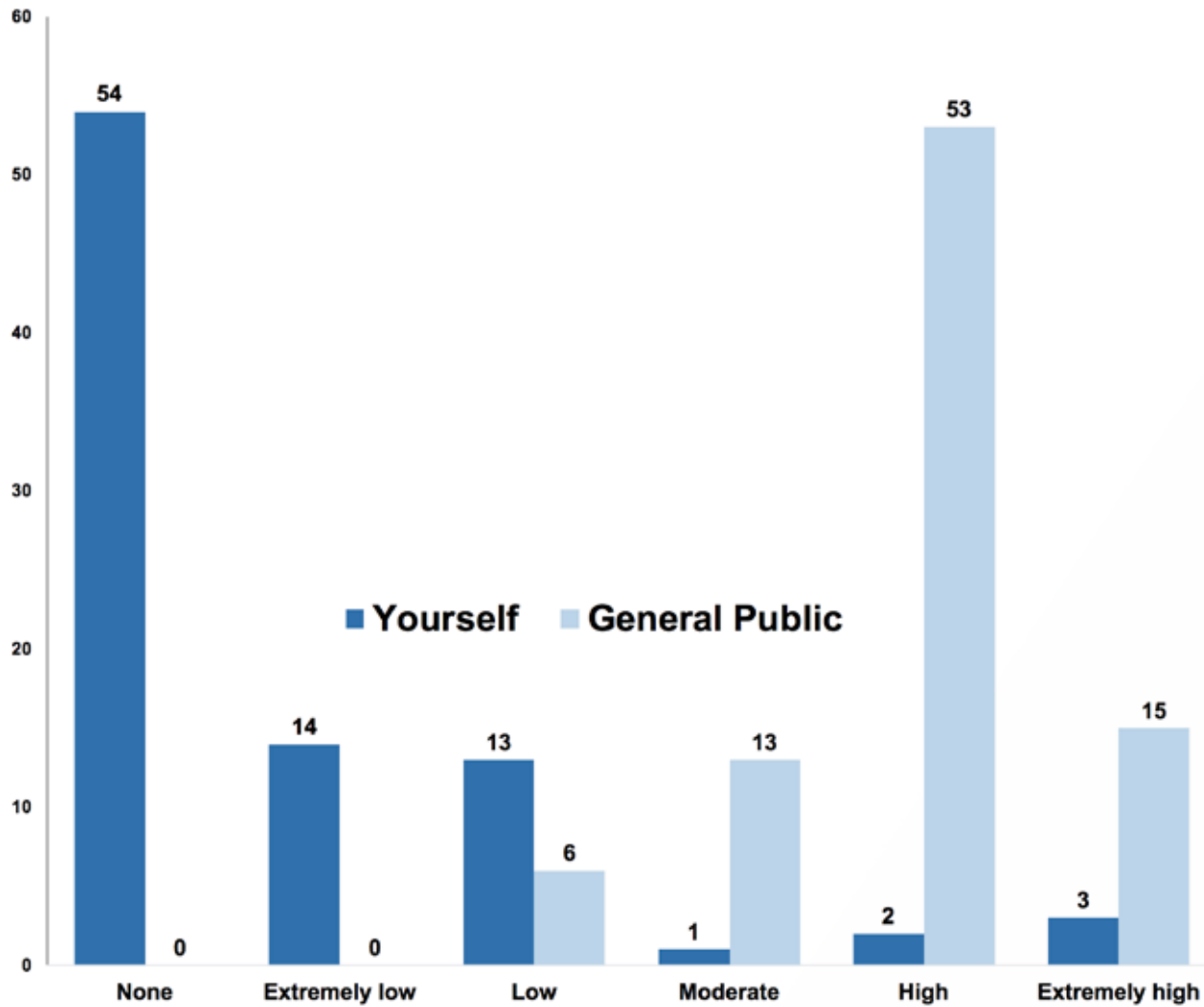
- “Have you ever, even once, used any prescription pain medication in any way a doctor did not direct you to use it?”

*[Include using it without a prescription of your own, using it in greater amounts, more often, or longer than you were told to take it; using it in any other way a doctor did not direct you to use it]*”

# NMUPO REASONS

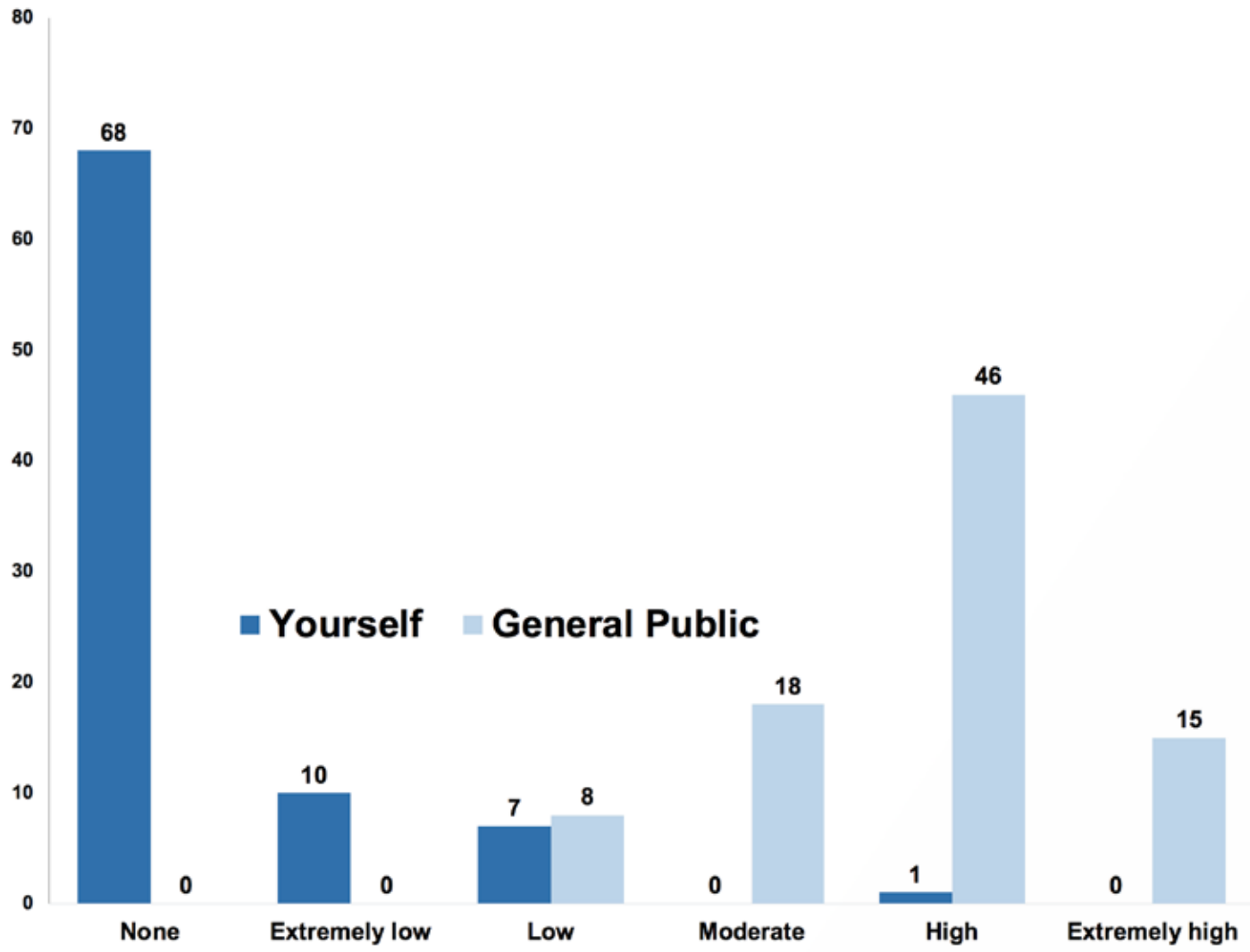
- 100% (n=35) to relieve physical pain
- 48.6% (n=17) To get through the day
- 45.7% (n=16) to be able to work
- 20.0% (n=7) for sleep
- 11.4% (n=4) to relax
- 8.6% (n=3) because you are/were “hooked”
- 5.7% (n=2) to avoid withdrawal
- 0% for emotions
- 0% to get high
- 0% to experiment
- 0% for another reason

**Figure 1: Risk of Addiction Associated with Prescription Opioids**





**Figure 2: Risk of Overdose Associated with Prescription Opioids**



# CONCLUSIONS

- There is some evidence to suggest that a patients' report of NMUPO may depend on how the patient is asked the question
- Reasons as to why patients use prescription opioids may yield more in-depth information
- More research is needed to confirm these findings

# REFERENCES

- Banerjee, G, Edelman JE, Barry DT, Becker WC, Cerdá M, Crystal S, Gaither JR, Gordon AJ, Gordon KS, Kerns RD, Martins SS, Fiellin DA, Marshall BDL. Non-medical use of prescription opioids is associated with heroin initiation among US veterans: a prospective cohort study." *Addiction* 111, no. 11 (2016): 2021-2031
- Abuse, Substance, and Mental Health Services Administration. "2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health." (2016).

# QUESTIONS

