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# Implementation of the EMQ model in Croatia – insight into the pharmaceuticals use

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# Survey on Substance Abuse among the General Population in Croatia

- ❖ Conducted in 2011
- ❖ Commissioned by: Office for Combating Drugs Abuse of the Government of the Republic of Croatia (OCDA)
- ❖ Funded by: OCDA, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia, EMCDDA
- ❖ Organization and fieldwork: Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar
- ❖ Project Manager: Renata Glavak Tkalić, PhD

## Main research objective:

- ❖ To obtain data on prevalence and distribution of the consumption of different drugs in the general population, and in relevant subgroups of the population (e.g. young people, urban areas)

# Research methodology (1)

## Survey design

- ❖ Research design: single cross-sectional design
- ❖ Target population: residents of the Republic of Croatia, 15-64, living in private households (2001: 2 969 981 residents)
- ❖ Data collection: face-to-face interviewing
- ❖ Instruments: Croatian translation of *European Model Questionnaire*: 1) licit drugs, 2) illicit drugs, 3) attitudes and opinions regarding drugs and drug policies, 4) relevant respondent attributes + questions on quality of life, lifestyle and health risks

## Pilot study

- ❖ Quota sample of respondents, N=115
- ❖ Different demographical and socio-economical population categories (N=78)
- ❖ Two pre-selected target groups: drug addicts (N=18) and alcoholics (N=19) in the treatment

## Research methodology (2)

### Sampling

- ❖ Planned sample size: N= 4 800
- ❖ Main sample (15-64): N= 4000
- ❖ Oversampling (15-34): N= 800
- ❖ Final sample N=4 756
  
- ❖ The survey used the Republic of Croatia's Central Phonebook as the primary sampling frame
- ❖ The sampling frame lists Croatian households, and the coverage rate is around 98%

**Response rate** 53.1%

### Weighting

- ❖ Data were weighted to represent the distribution of birth cohort and gender in the general population in Croatia



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# Implementation of the EMQ and some results on pharmaceuticals



## Implementation of the EMQ

- ❖ All questions from the EMQ were implemented + one additional question:
  - LTP of taking sedatives or tranquilizers (additional question)
  - LYP prevalence of taking sedatives or tranquilizers
  - General frequency of taking sedatives or tranquillisers
  - LMP prevalence of taking sedatives or tranquillisers
  - Last month frequency of taking sedatives or tranquillisers
  - Source of sedatives or tranquillisers when taken last time

# Lifetime prevalence of taking sedatives or tranquillisers



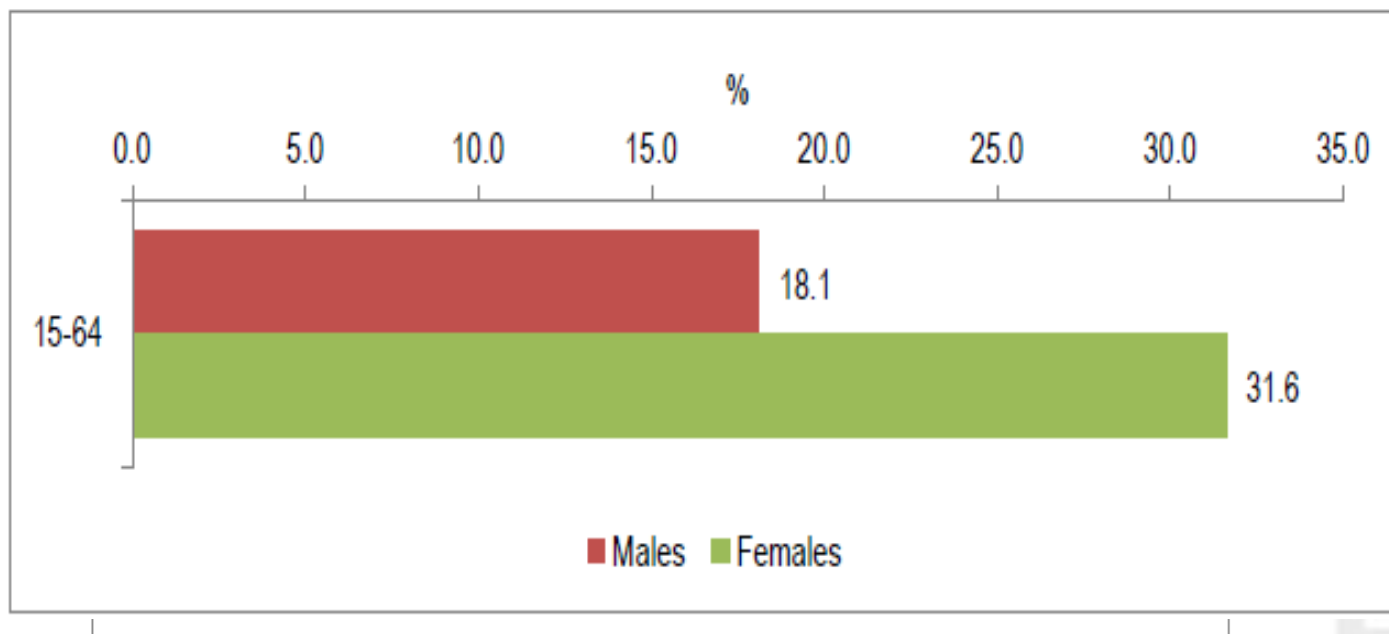
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## ❖ Additional question

Q32 Have you ever taken any sedative or tranquilliser?

1. Yes
2. No (go to Q38)

FIGURE 30: Lifetime prevalence of taking sedatives and/or tranquillisers by gender (%)



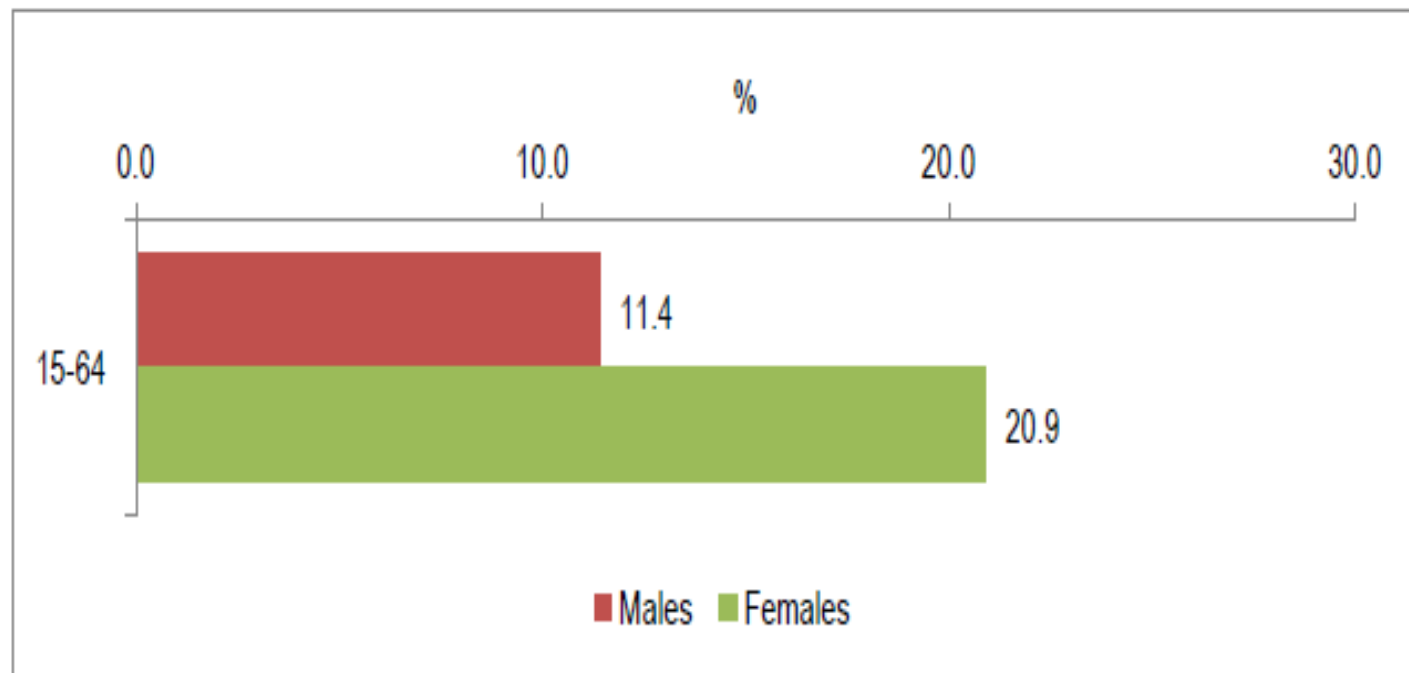


# Last year prevalence of taking sedatives or tranquillisers

Q33 During the last 12 months, have you taken any sedatives or tranquillisers?

1. Yes
2. No

FIGURE 32: Last year prevalence of taking sedatives and/or tranquillisers by gender (%)





# Last month prevalence of taking sedatives or tranquillisers

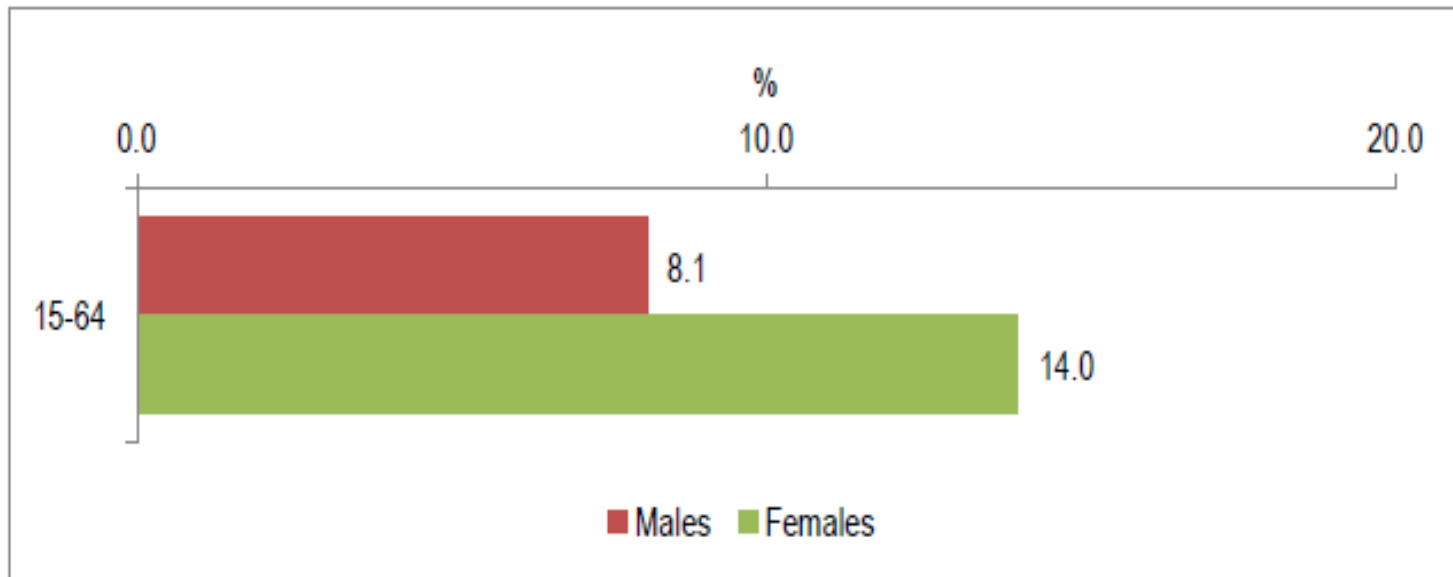


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Q35 During the last 30 days, have you taken any sedatives or tranquillisers?

1. Yes
2. No

FIGURE 34: Last month prevalence of taking sedatives and/or tranquillisers by gender (%)



# Last month frequency of taking sedatives or tranquillisers



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Q36 During the last 30 days, on how many days did you take sedatives or tranquillisers?

1. 20 days or more
2. 10-19 days
3. 4-9 days
4. 1-3 days

FIGURE 37: Frequency of taking sedatives and/or tranquillisers during the past month by gender (%)



# Source of sedatives or tranquillisers when used last time

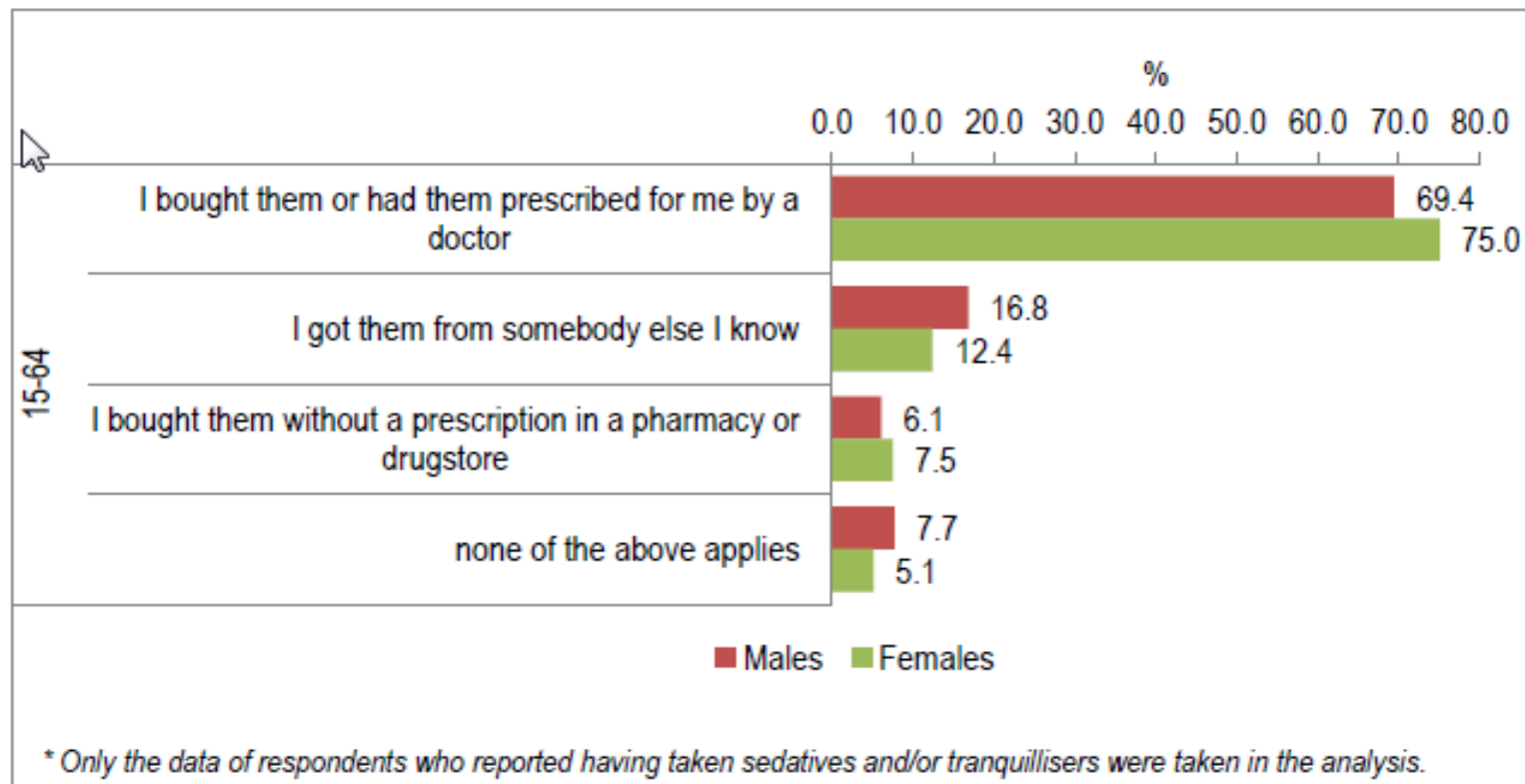


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Q37 How did you obtain sedatives or tranquillisers the last time you took them?

1. I bought them or had them prescribed for me by a doctor
2. I got them from somebody else I know
3. I bought them without prescription in a pharmacy or drugstore
4. None of the above applies

FIGURE 40: Source of sedatives and/or tranquillisers when used last time by gender (%)\*





## Conclusion

- ❖ All questions from the EMQ were implemented + one additional question
- ❖ Considering the problem of taking sedatives and/or tranquillisers it is important to emphasise that 73.0% of all adults and 47.5% of young adults reported that the last time when they used sedatives and/or tranquillisers they had them prescribed by a doctor
- ❖ Next survey will be conducted in 2015

## The results are available at:

- ❖ Glavak Tkalić, R., Miletić, G.M., Maričić, J., Wertag, A. (2012). Zlouporaba sredstava ovisnosti u općoj populaciji Republike Hrvatske. Istraživačko izvješće. Zagreb: Institut društvenih znanosti Ivo Pilar. (Glavak Tkalić, R., Miletić, G.M., Maričić, J., Wertag, A. (2012). Survey on Substance Use among the General Population in Croatia. The Scientific Report. Zagreb: Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar.)
- ❖ [http://www.pilar.hr/images/stories/dokumenti/elaborati/substance\\_abuse\\_among.pdf](http://www.pilar.hr/images/stories/dokumenti/elaborati/substance_abuse_among.pdf)
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**Thank you for your attention!**

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