

CAN CAREGIVERS OF UNDER 5 CHILDREN CORRECTLY IDENTIFY THE DANGER SIGNS OF SICK CHILDREN?

A PRELIMINARY FINDING OF A STUDY AMONG CAREGIVERS IN KUANTAN PAHANG.

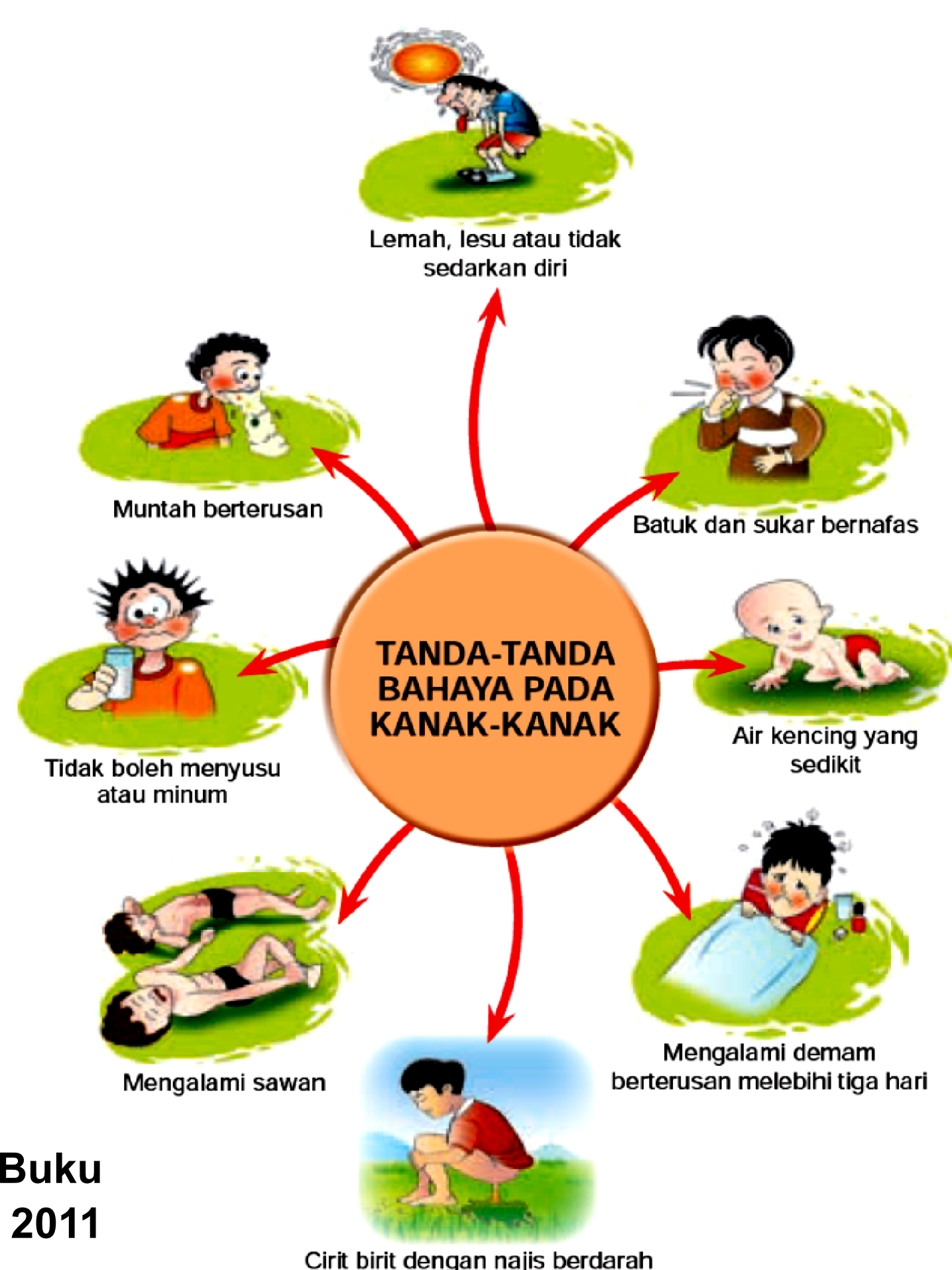
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INTRODUCTION

Preventable under 5 mortality is a global burden. Reducing it is an important target 3.2 under Sustainable Development Goals. Education on danger signs of sick children to caregivers has been practiced at primary health care. Early detection of danger signs will prompt the caregivers to seek urgent health assistance thus reduces the risk for morbidity and mortality.



List of danger signs according to Buku Rekod Rawatan Kanak-kanak 2011

OBJECTIVES

We aim to explore the knowledge on danger signs among caregivers of under 5 children in Kuantan, Pahang.

METHODS

A cross-sectional study was conducted among 393 purposely selected caregivers of under 5 children who attended eight well-child clinics in Kuantan between January and August 2020. Sociodemographic and child health information were extracted from the child health records book. Concurrently, caregivers were given a checklist of signs for sick children whereby they have to choose the correct danger and non-danger signs.

RESULTS

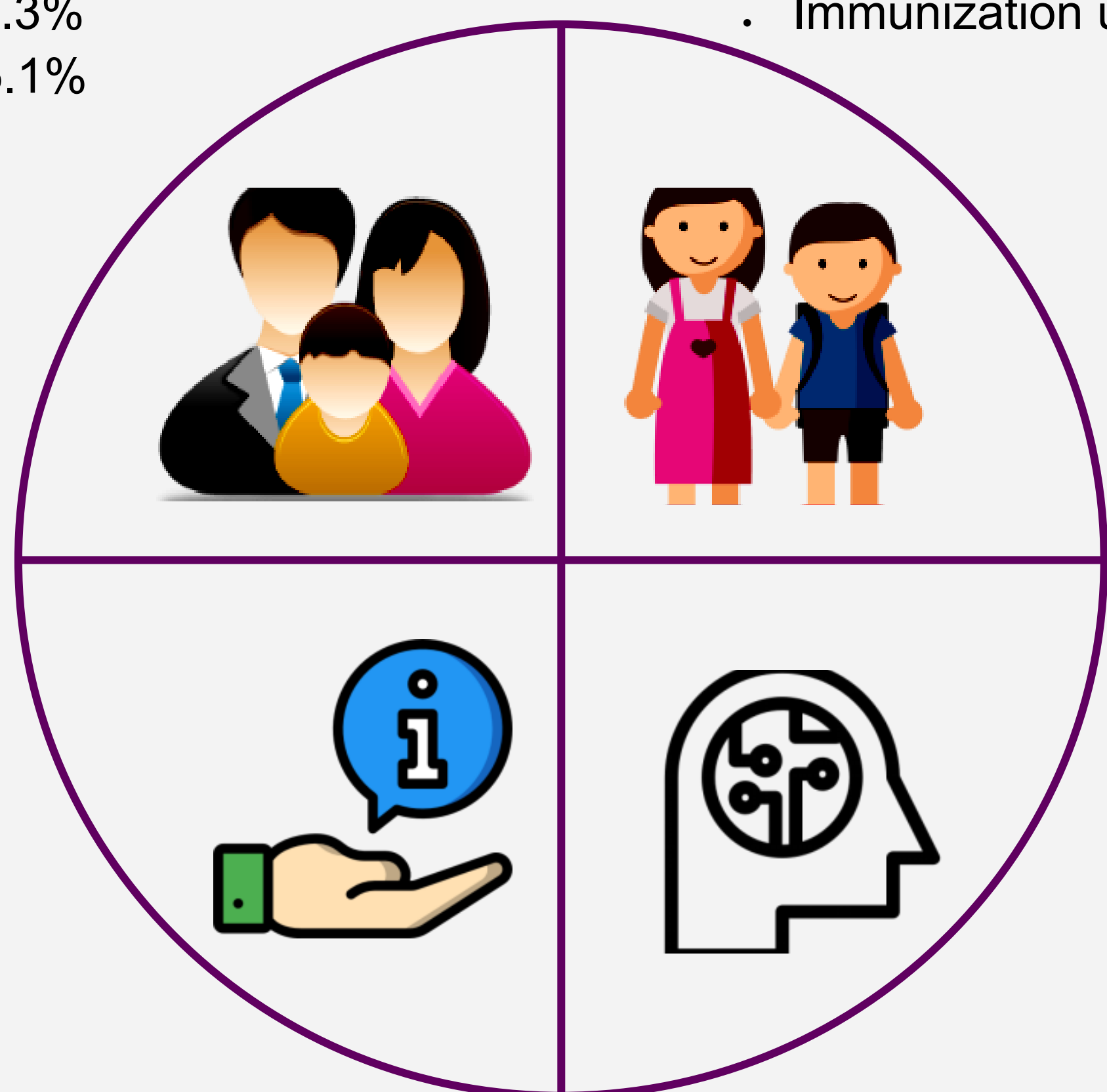
Figure 1: Sociodemography

CAREGIVERS

- Mean age 32 ± 6.070 year
- Female 90.6%
- Malay 89.3%
- Urban 75.1%

CHILDREN

- Mean age 24 ± 17.971 months
- Male: Female 1:1
- Immunization up to age 96.4%



INFORMATION SOURCE

- Health care providers 64.4%
- Child health record book 56%
- Internet 55.2%

CAREGIVERS EXPERIENCE

- Encounter danger signs 31.3%
- Chronic illness 22.1%
- Death 6.9%

RESULTS

Figure 2: Source of Information

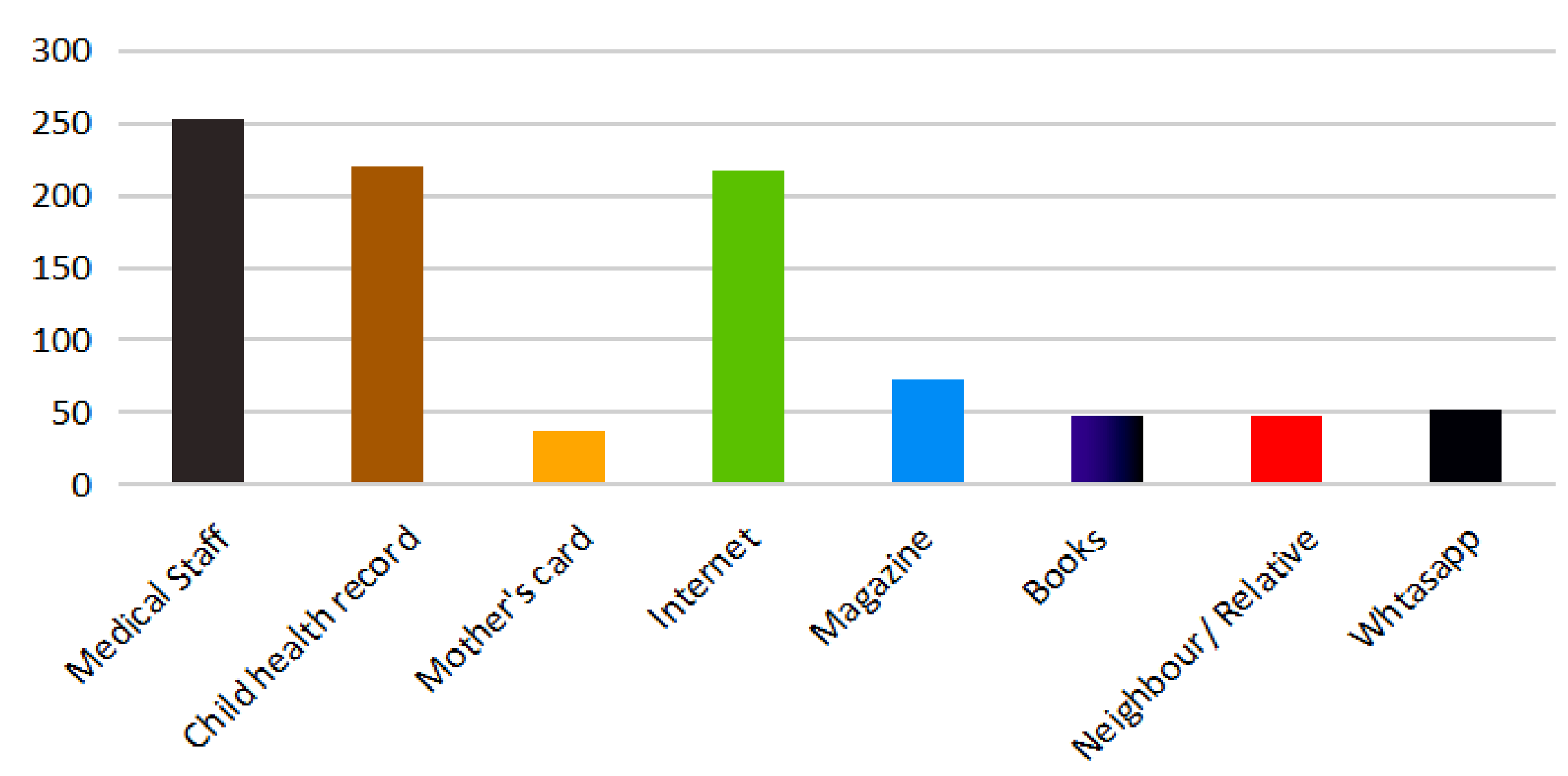


Figure 3: Proportions of correct identification of true answers on DANGER signs (n= 393)

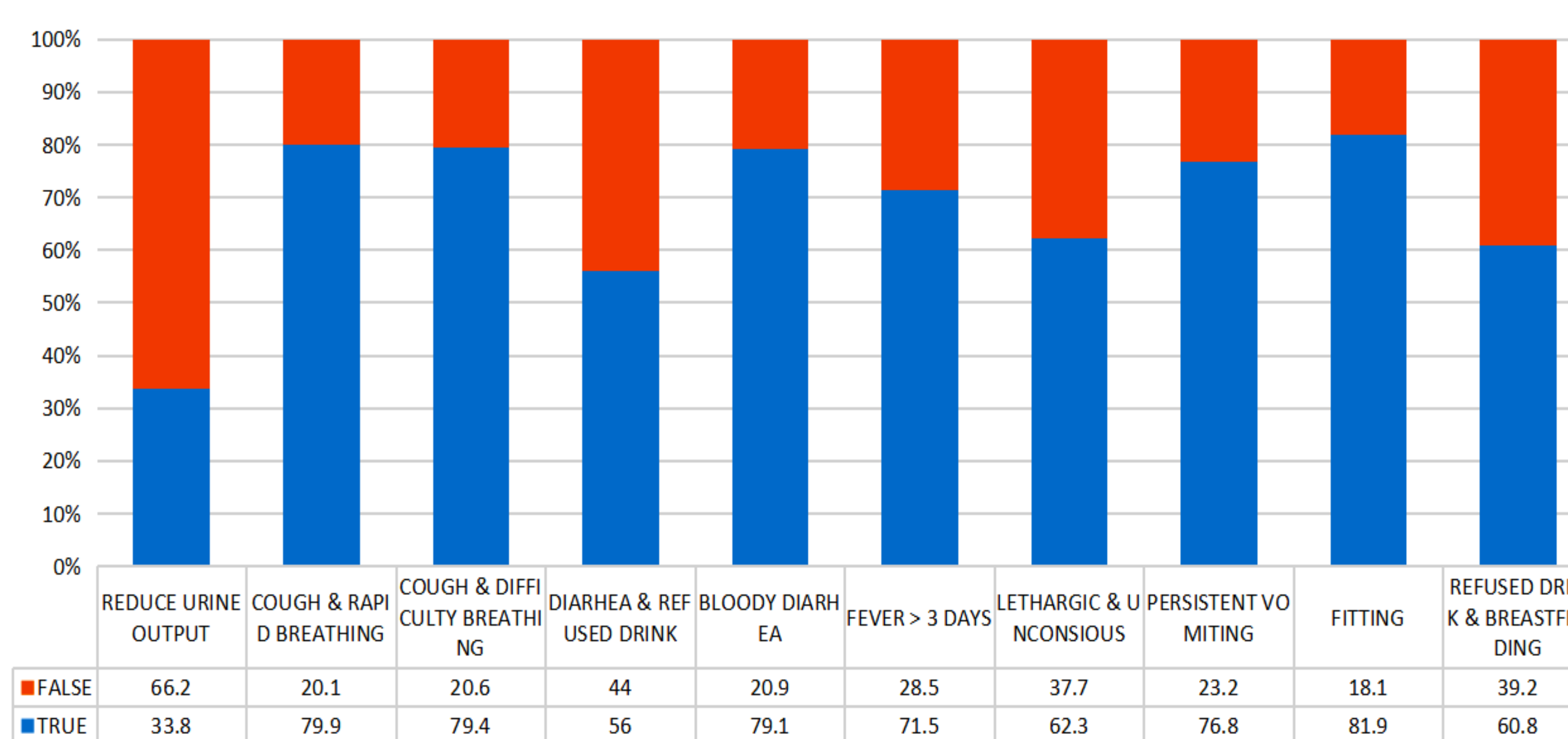
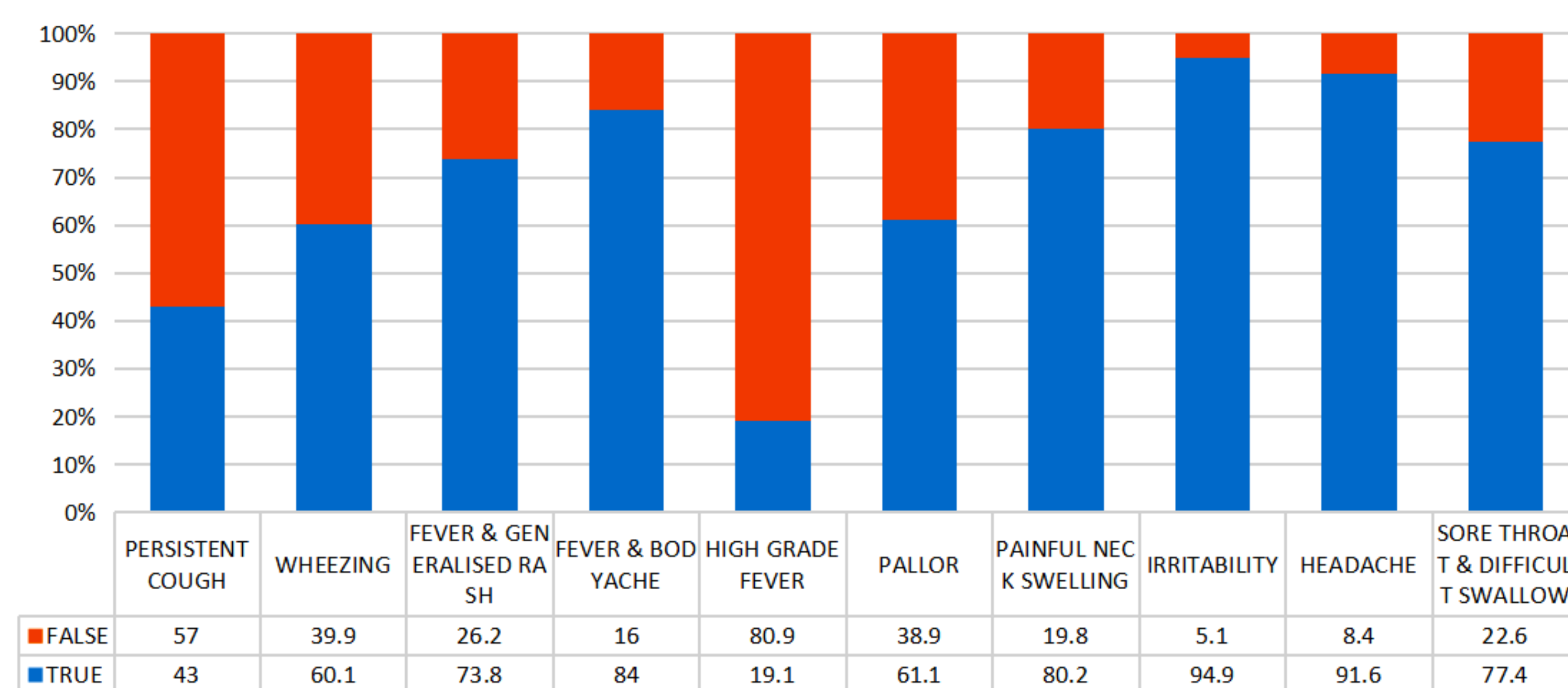


Figure 4: Proportions of correct identification of true answers on NON DANGER signs (n= 393)



CONCLUSION

The majority of the caregivers have proper knowledge regarding the danger signs among sick under 5 children with formal health care providers remain as an important source of information. The deliverance of information on danger signs needs to broaden and not to rely heavily on traditional resources.

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