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INTRODUCTION

The Teaching Resource Centre (TRC) is a pharmacological database created in the 1990's with a unique symbol language to illustrate drug action in the (patho-)physiological context in a consistent way. In 2012, the TRC became available as an app for Android and iOS.

AIM

This study objective was to assess the devices used to access the TRC, frequency of usage, and most popular functions of the TRC program. A secondary objective was to assess student attitudes towards the current 'Textbook-like' format of the TRC compared to a bullet point style format.

METHODS

- Google® Forms-survey
- Medical students at the LUMC
- Data analysis in Microsoft Excel (2007)

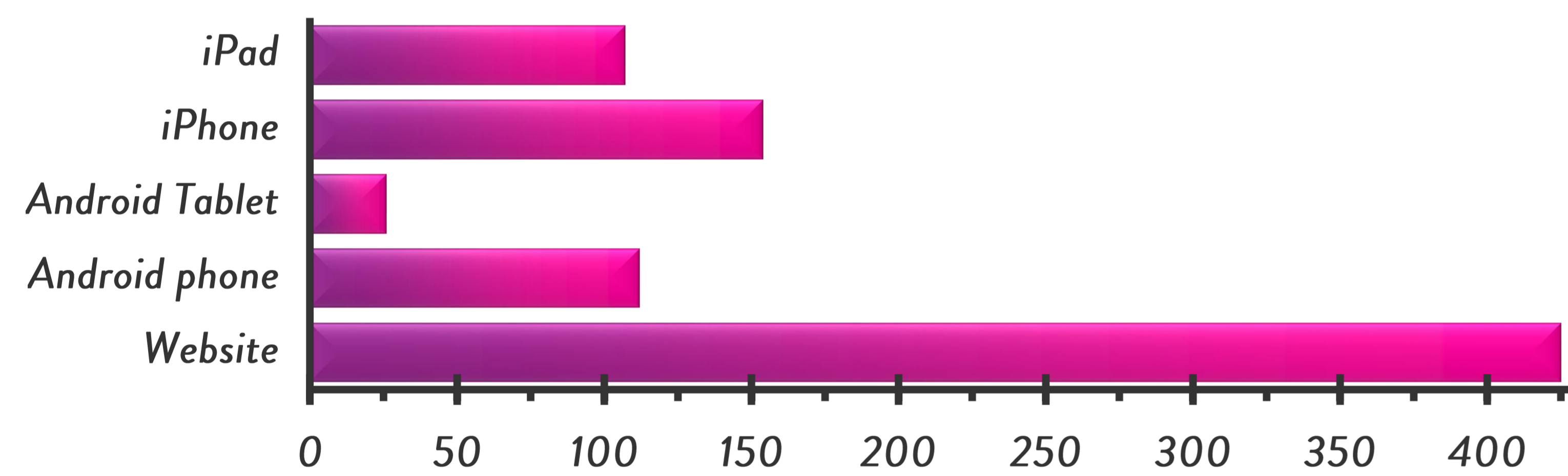


Figure 1: Devices used to access the TRC

RESULTS

Survey response

- 484 completed surveys
- 39% male, 61% female

Devices used (Figure 1)

- Website used by most respondents (88%)
- Followed by iPhone (40%) and iPad (22%)
- Not exclusive: 70.4% of iPad users kept using website
- Type of use differs between different devices

Preferred format (Figure 2)

- Strong student preference of bullet point format (78%)
- Only 11.4% preferred current format

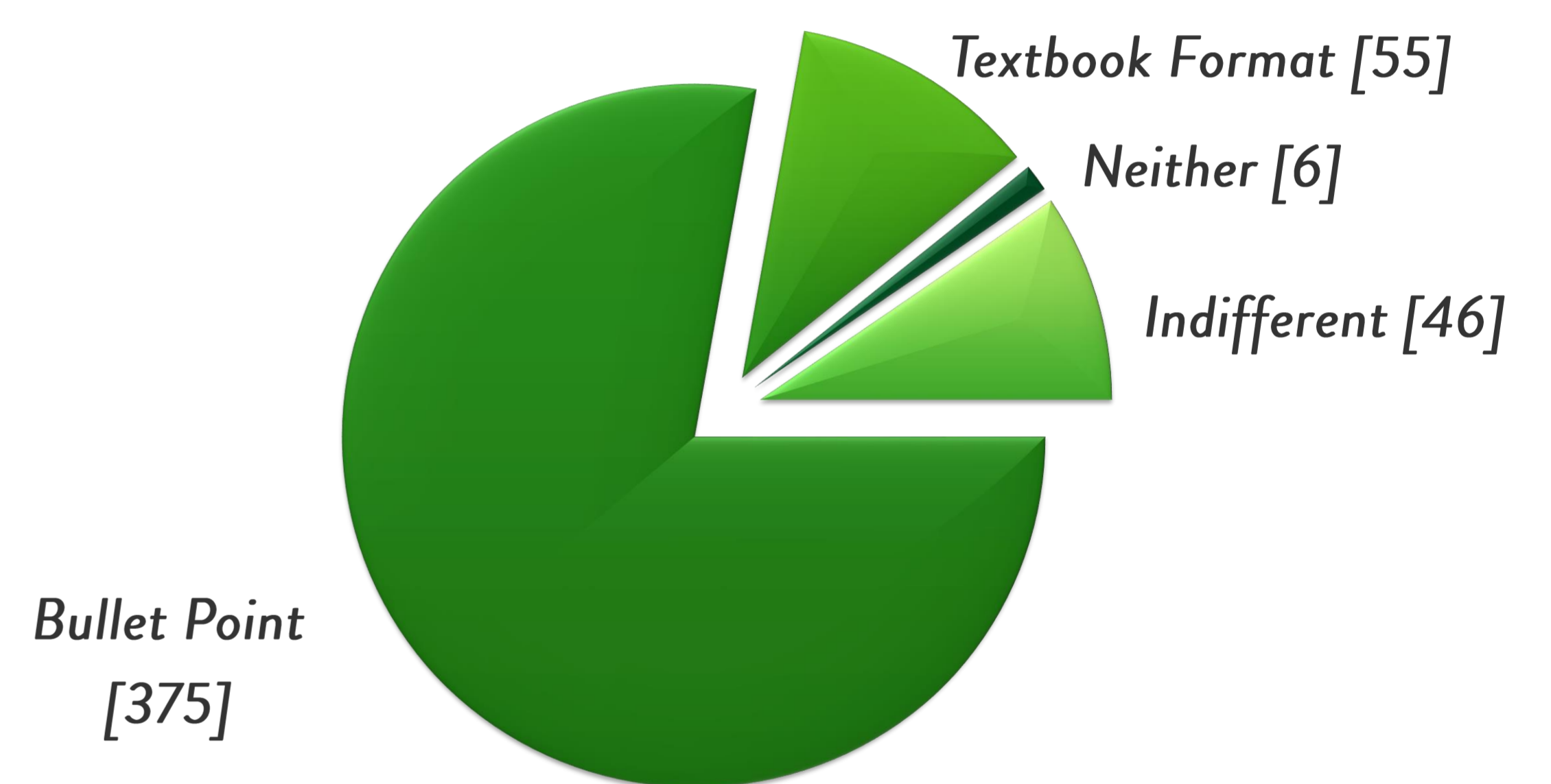


Figure 2: Student preferences towards 'bullet point' or 'textbook' style format of the TRC.

	iPhone	Android	Website	iPad
How often used? (monthly)	1-2 times (34%)	1-2 times (39%)	1-2 times (48%)	1-2 times (43%)
What function(s) used?*	Search Function (28%) Formulary (24%)	Search Function (30%) Formulary (29%)	Topic summaries (25%) Formulary (24%)	Topic summaries (25%) Formulary (25%)
Duration used for?	5-10 minutes (39%)	5-10 minutes (41%)	15-30 minutes (31%) 30-60 minutes (31%)	15-30 minutes (32%) 30-60 minutes (32%)
Where do you use the app most?*	On-the-go (23%) Study at home (24%)	On-the-go (25%) Study at home (24%)	Study at home (44%)	Study at home (35%)

Table 1: Usage assessment over multiple devices. * Relative Usage Percentages

CONCLUSIONS

The website continues to be most used device for using the TRC. However, both website and app results show that the TRC is being used for different functions. The frequency of which the TRC database is being used is identical over all devices. However the duration for which it is used varies. Unexpectedly the iPad and website have very similar usage patterns. The location of where the app is used most as well as the function used most represent the strongest differences between devices. A bullet point format will gradually be introduced into the TRC to meet students' preferences.

LITERATURE

[1] E-Learning 2.0 -The TRC Pharmacology database as app: R Rissmann, JHFM Pinckaers, AJM de Man, AC Cohen, EA Dubois., 2012 17th Annual IAMSE Conference

The authors declare no conflict of interests

