

# Prescriptive appropriateness of orthopedic, physiatric, rheumatological, neurosurgical visits and of NSAIDs in the elderly patient

Bettina Marconi<sup>1</sup>, Irene Proscia<sup>1</sup>, Palazzi Mario<sup>1</sup>, Ferretti Eleonora<sup>1</sup>, Pisi Filippo<sup>1</sup>, Ferrari Lorenzo<sup>1</sup>, Sara Fantuzzi<sup>1</sup>, Rossella Rodolfi<sup>1</sup>, Maria Beatrice Bassi<sup>1</sup>, Samanta Valeriani<sup>1</sup>, Claudio Ferraù<sup>1</sup>, Sonia Gualtieri<sup>1</sup>, Mirco Pinotti<sup>1</sup>, Corrado Busani<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Azienda Usl-IRCCS di Reggio Emilia

## Background

The data of Reggio Emilia, Local Health-Authority Primary-Health-Care-Units, remarked some areas of inappropriateness:

- the number of request for specialist examinations in Castelnuovo ne' Monti District is higher than province and region data
- less requests for physiatric visits
- high employment of NSAIDs for more than 15 days in the patients aged over-65

A meeting was organized to share the objectives with the Primary-Health-Care-Unit Coordinators and the specialists concerned. The protocol has been revised and prescription data of specialist examinations have been checked.

## Methods

The pharmaceutical service extracted for the General-Practitioners the data of the patients aged over-65 that employed NSAIDs for more than 15 days in year 2016.

The data will be compared with those of 2017. Each practitioner analyzed his data.

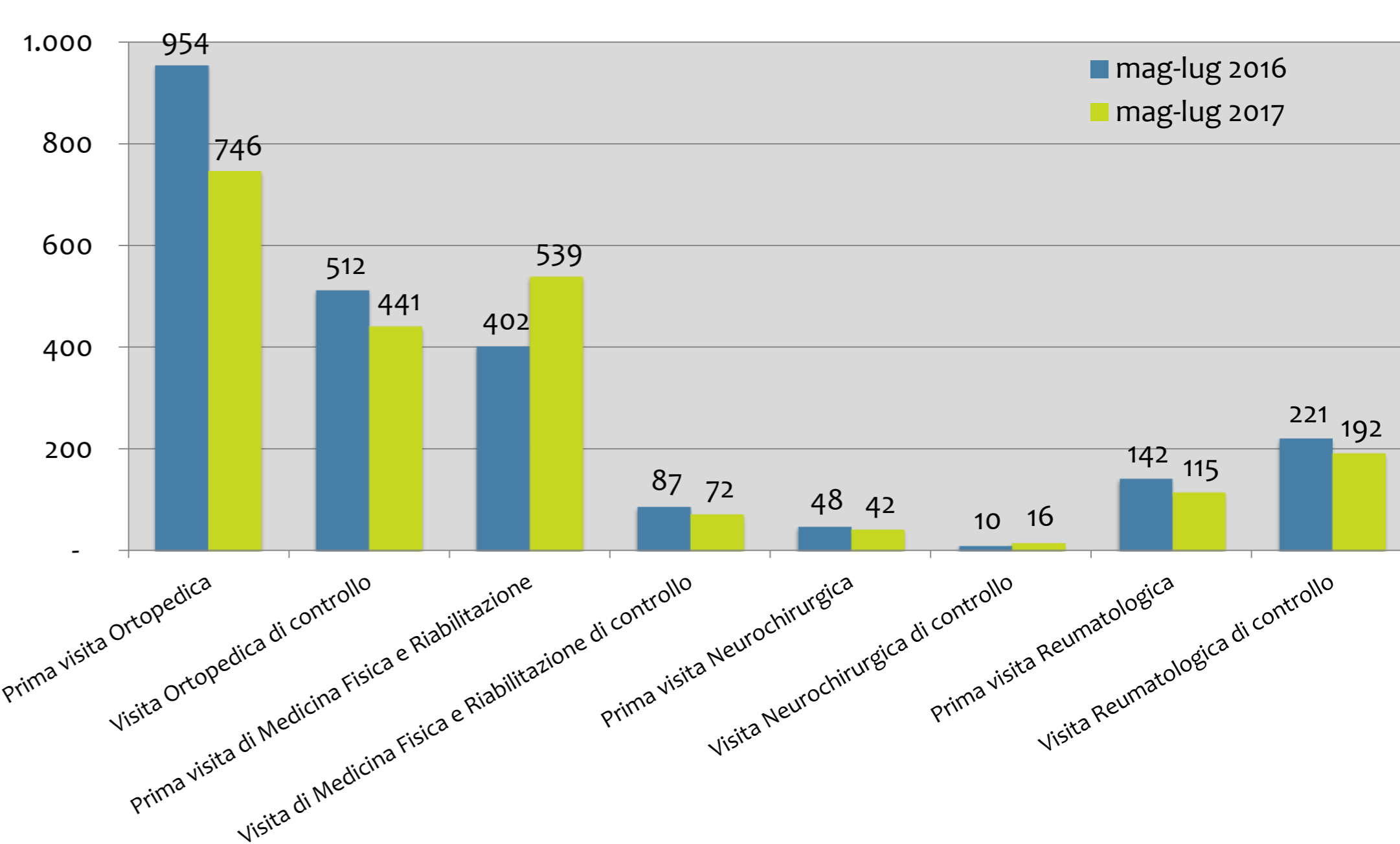
All the prescriptions of NSAIDs for more than 15 days in the patients aged over-65 were considered inappropriate, except for:

- acute lumbosciatalgia,
- cancer pain,
- acute rheumatic diseases,
- potentially inappropriate: NSAIDs in mono-administration with a number of tablet >15.

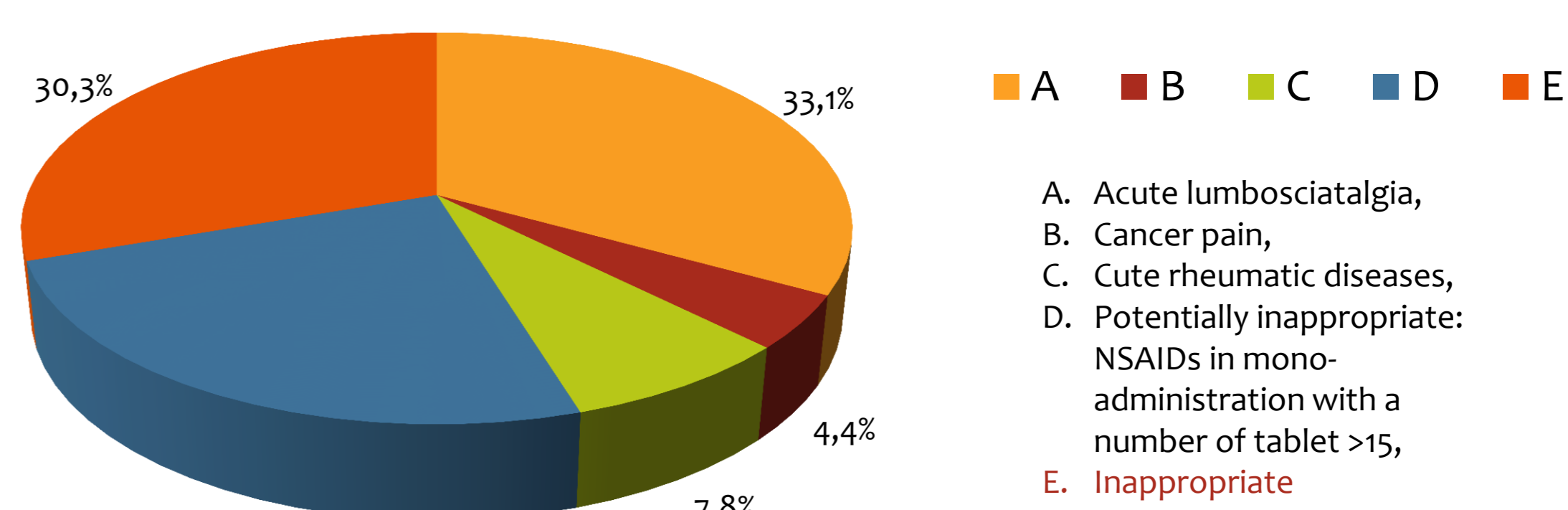
## Results

An intermediate meeting after the first intervention has been organized. Specialistic examinations and NSAIDs prescriptions in the first months of 2017 were compared with the same period of 2016. The number of specialist visits, especially orthopedic, was reduced. The number of the physiatric visits increased. The prescriptions of NSAIDs for more than 15 days in the patients aged over-65 were reduced. In each Primary-Health-Care-Unit were remarked the percentages of totally inappropriate prescriptions and with which NSAIDs.

**Totale prestazioni erogate ai residenti del distretto di Castelnuovo ne' Monti. Periodo considerato 01/05 - 31/07 degli anni 2016-2017**

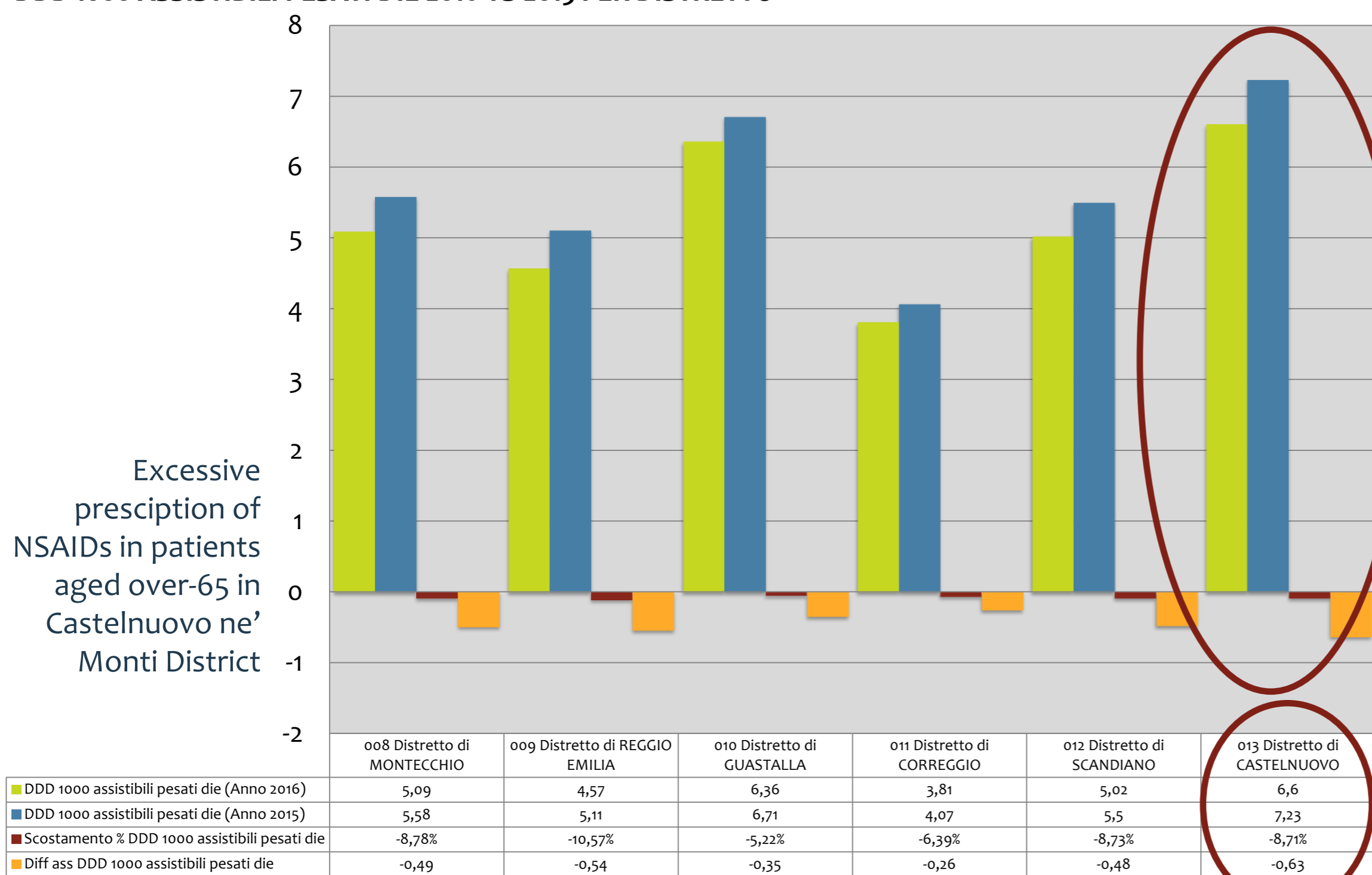


**Prescrizioni totali distretto di Castelnuovo ne' Monti per tipologia**

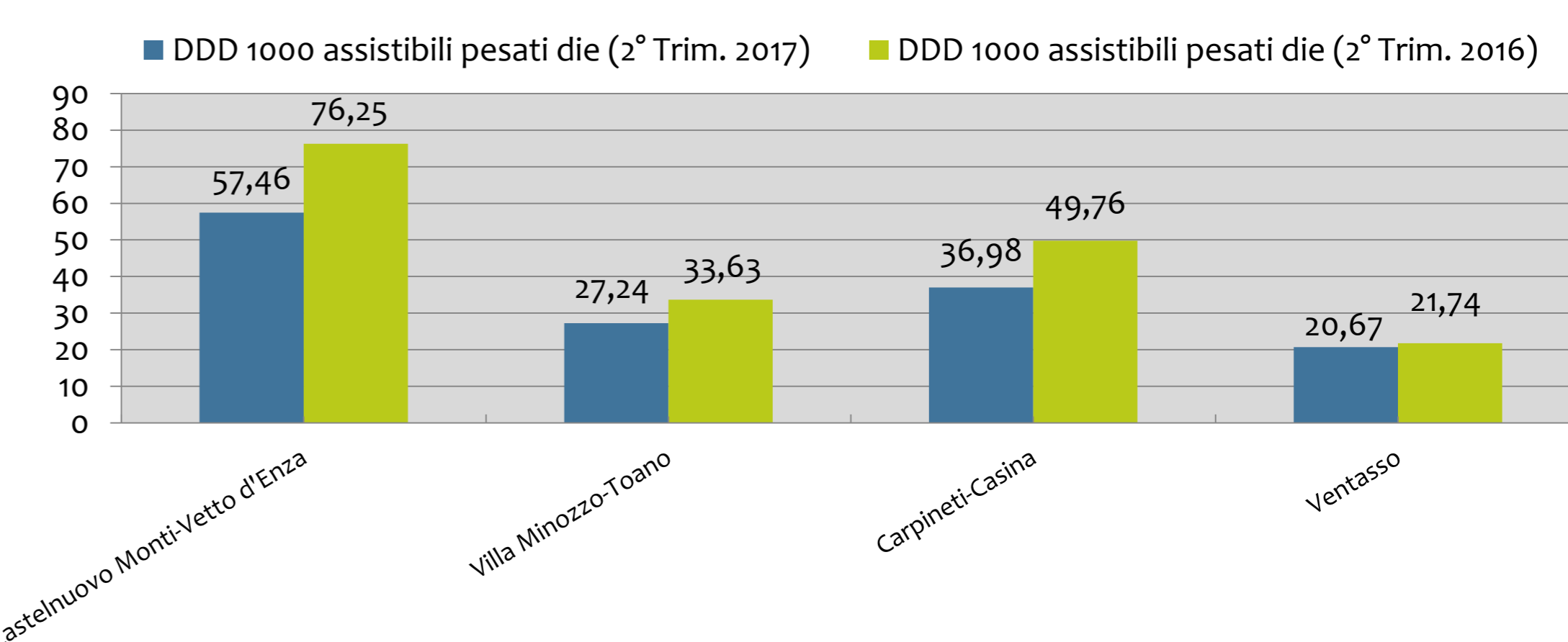


**NSAIDs prescriptions in Azienda Usl Districts**

**DDD 1000 ASSISTIBILI PESATI DIE 2016 VS 2015 PER DISTRETTO**



**Ddd 1000 assistibili pesati die fans over 65 prescritti nel distretto di Castelnuovo ne' monti 2° trimestre 2016 vs 2° trimestre 2017**



## Conclusions

The intermediate data, waiting for the complete data of 2017, showed a reduction of specialist examinations considered inappropriate and an increase in physiatric visits. Meanwhile, it has been pointed out a reduction of the prescription of NSAIDs for more than 15 days in the patients aged over 65.