

# THE ROLE OF PHARMACISTS IN DECREASING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE BY EDUCATING PARENTS

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## Introduction

Irrational and uncontrolled use of antibiotics within the children population with acute respiratory infections is one of the main causes of raising AMR today.

## Aims

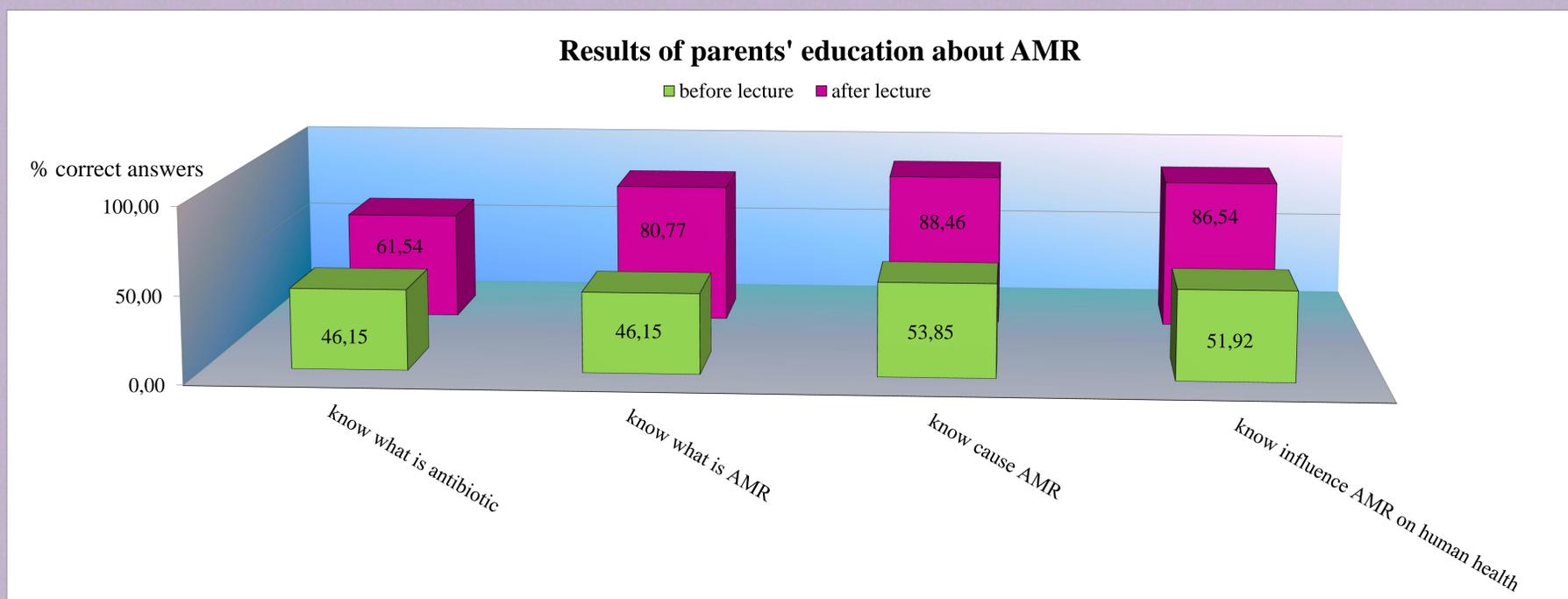
To make inquiry among parents about their former knowledge about antibiotics and meaning of AMR as well as giving them all necessary information about importance of rational therapy.

## Methods

Parents of 82 children who are attending kindergarten in the city of Donji Milanovac were given a questionnaire with 15 questions. The next day a pharmacist gave an interactive lecture about antibiotics and AMR. After the lecture, parents were given a new questionnaire with the same questions in order to evaluate the lecture.

## Results

The lecture attended 53 parents (64,63%). Acute respiratory infection is the most common reason for visiting the pediatrician (77,36%). Before the lecture, 27 parents (50,94%) did not recognize the meaning of antibiotics and antimicrobial resistance and its influence on human health. If we divide results in groups by children's age: 1-3 years 20%, 3-5 years 47,06%, 5-7 years 65,38%. Nevertheless, parents give their children antibiotics only if a doctor prescribes 92,45% and as long as a doctor/pharmacist recommends 86,79%. Incorrect answers about dosage of antibiotics were given by 54,72% of parents, but drug prescription was read by 62,26% of parents.



## Conclusion

In Serbia, a country in transition, availability and appropriate use of antimicrobials are poorly controlled. The workshop „AMR and we” held in Donji Milanovac, showed that a pharmacist can have an important role in health-education campaigns. The most of parents understand that their adherence to therapeutic regimen is very important not only to the effectiveness of therapy today, but also to reducing bacterial resistance tomorrow.

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