

# PREVALENCE, ASSOCIATED RISK FACTORS AND MANAGEMENT OF CEREBRAL PALSY AT A TERTIARY PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY CLINIC IN GHANA



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## BACKGROUND

Cerebral Palsy, a globally recognized physical disability for children, has little documentation in Ghana. Many babies with various risk factors for Cerebral Palsy are managed in various Neonatal Intensive Care Units to the point of discharge nationwide. In the tertiary hospitals, these patients are enrolled in neurology clinics and managed with a multidisciplinary team. The prevalence, associated risk factors and management of Cerebral Palsy in the Neurology Clinic in a tertiary institution in Ghana was sought out in this study.

## OBJECTIVES

- To identify the number of attendants of the Pediatric Neurology Clinic with Cerebral Palsy from January 2020 to December 2021.
- To identify the risk factors for Cerebral Palsy in the patients identified.
- To determine preventive measures that can be instituted in referring facilities and at the teaching hospital to mitigate against risk factors for better outcomes.

## METHODOLOGY

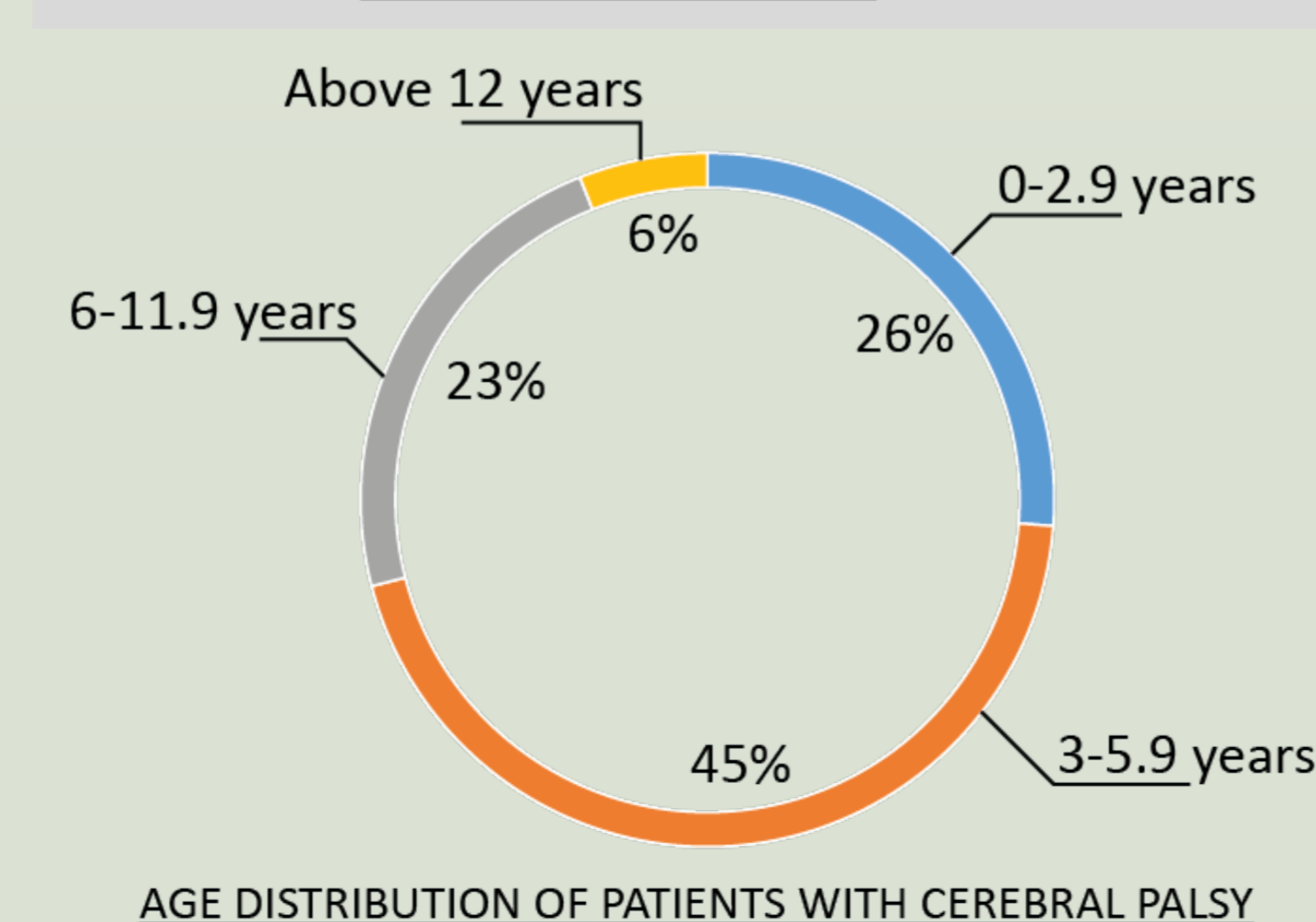
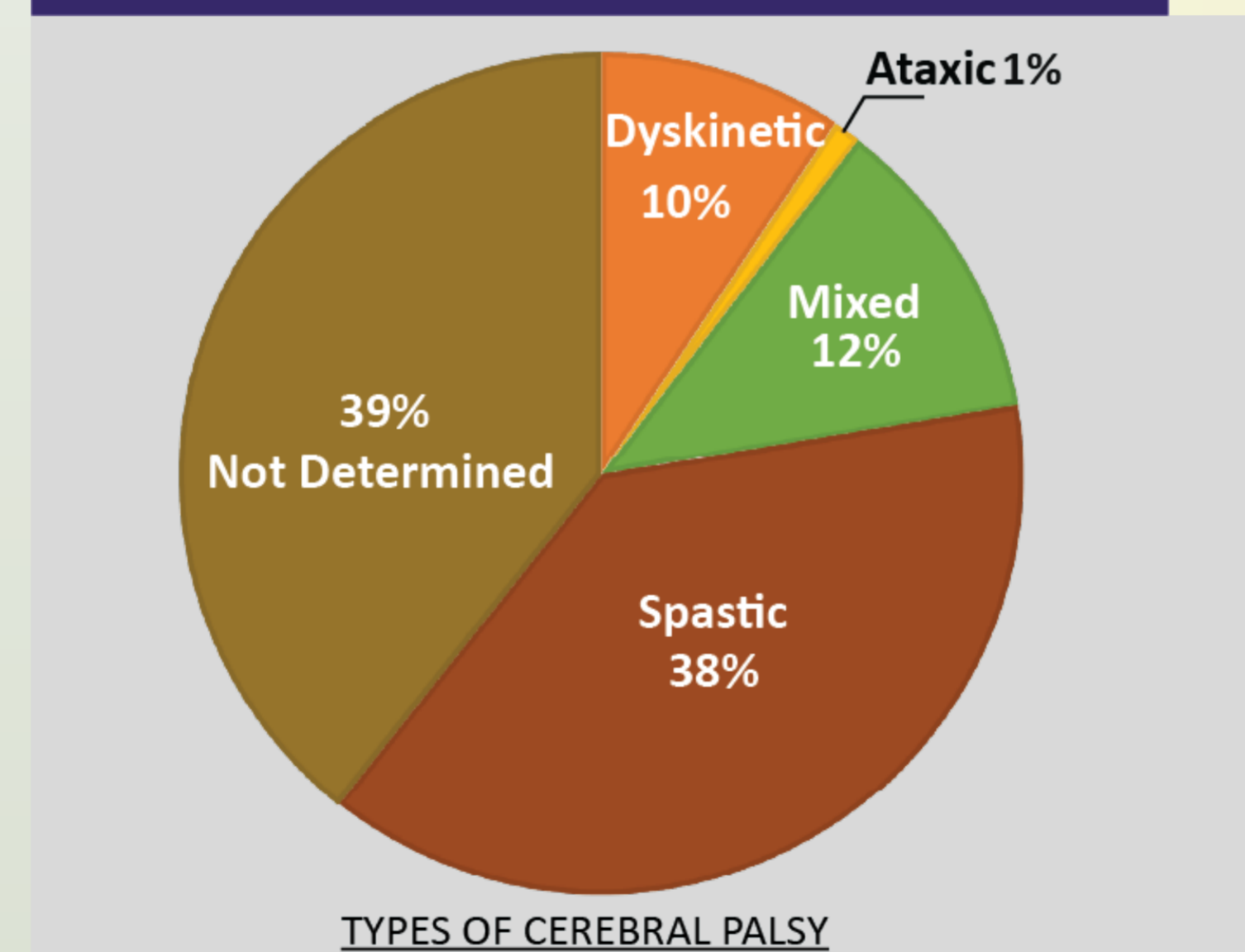
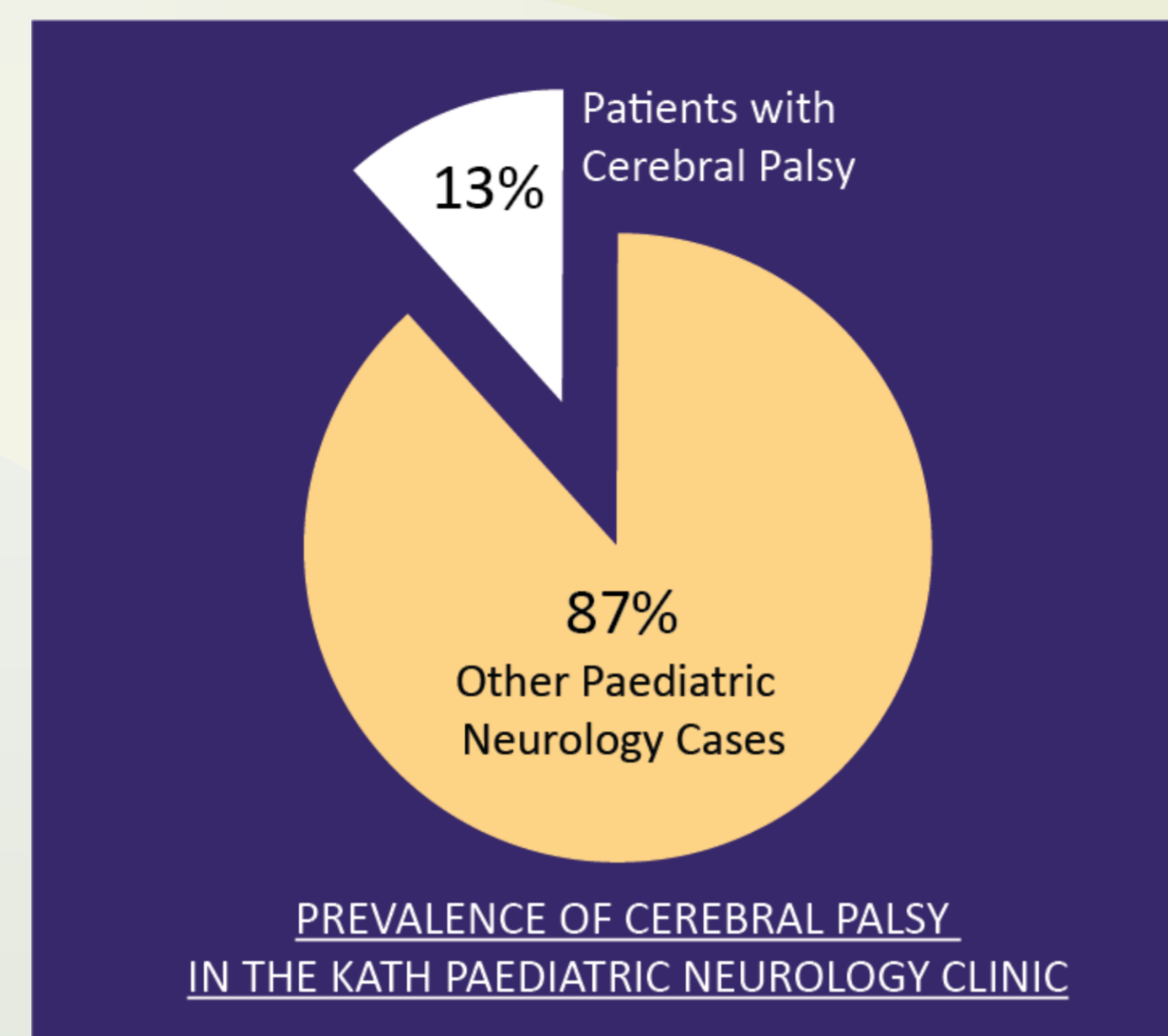
A descriptive cross-sectional study using folder review of children diagnosed with cerebral palsy at Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) from January 2020 to December 2021. Details of cases of Cerebral Palsy at the clinic were extracted from the patient database onto Microsoft Excel sheet and analyzed.

## RESULTS

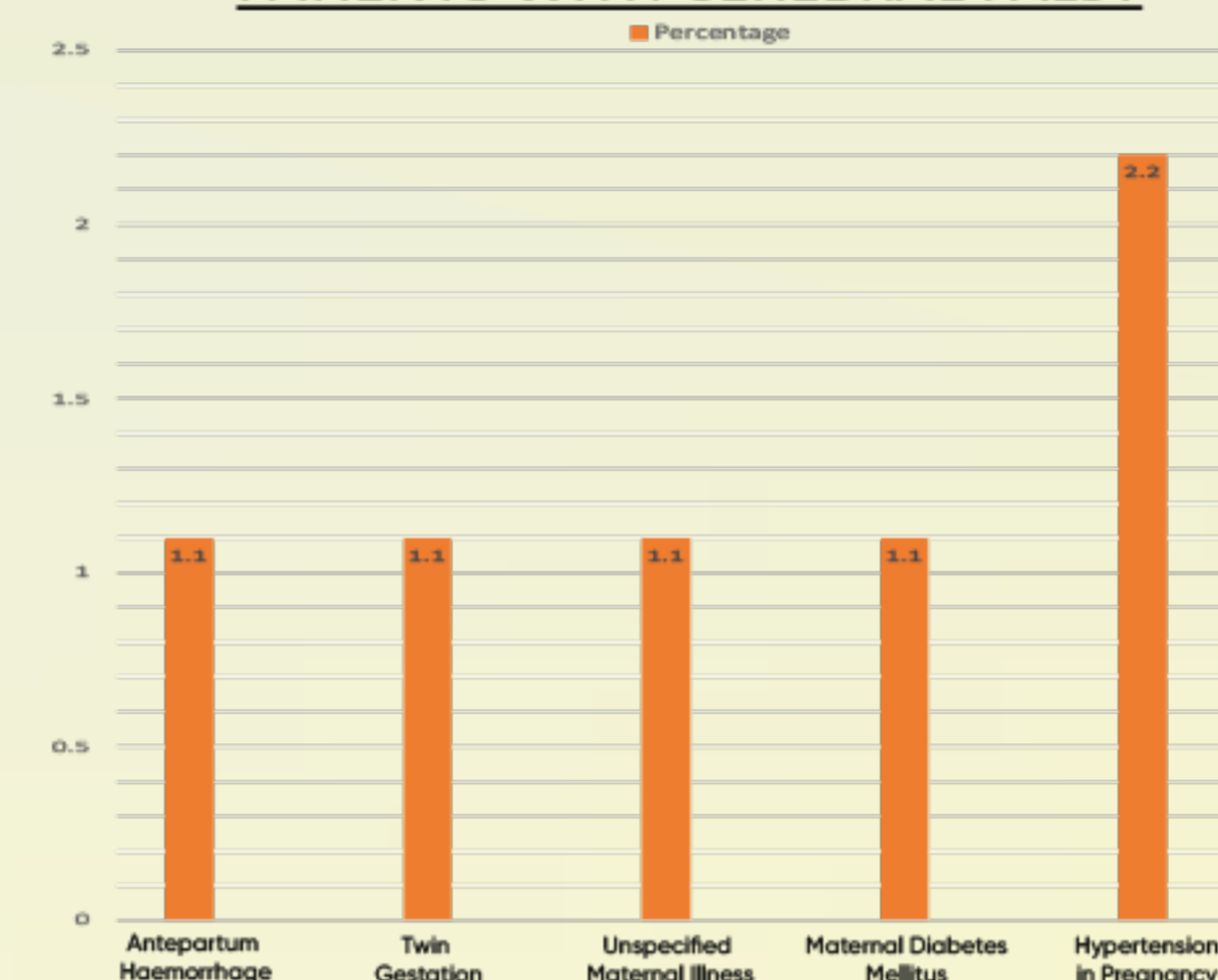
### SEX DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS WITH CEREBRAL PALSY



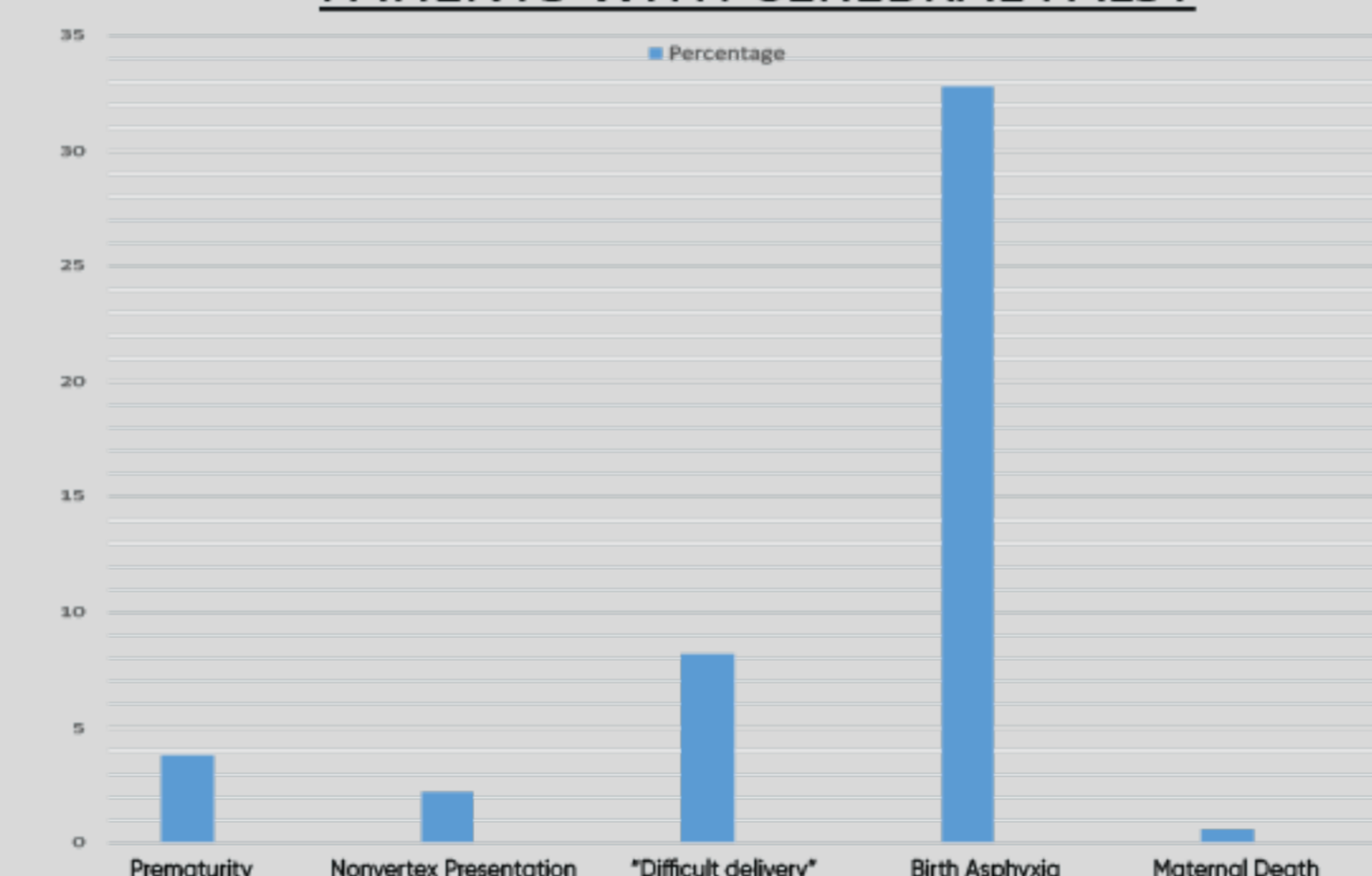
## RESULTS (CONTINUED)



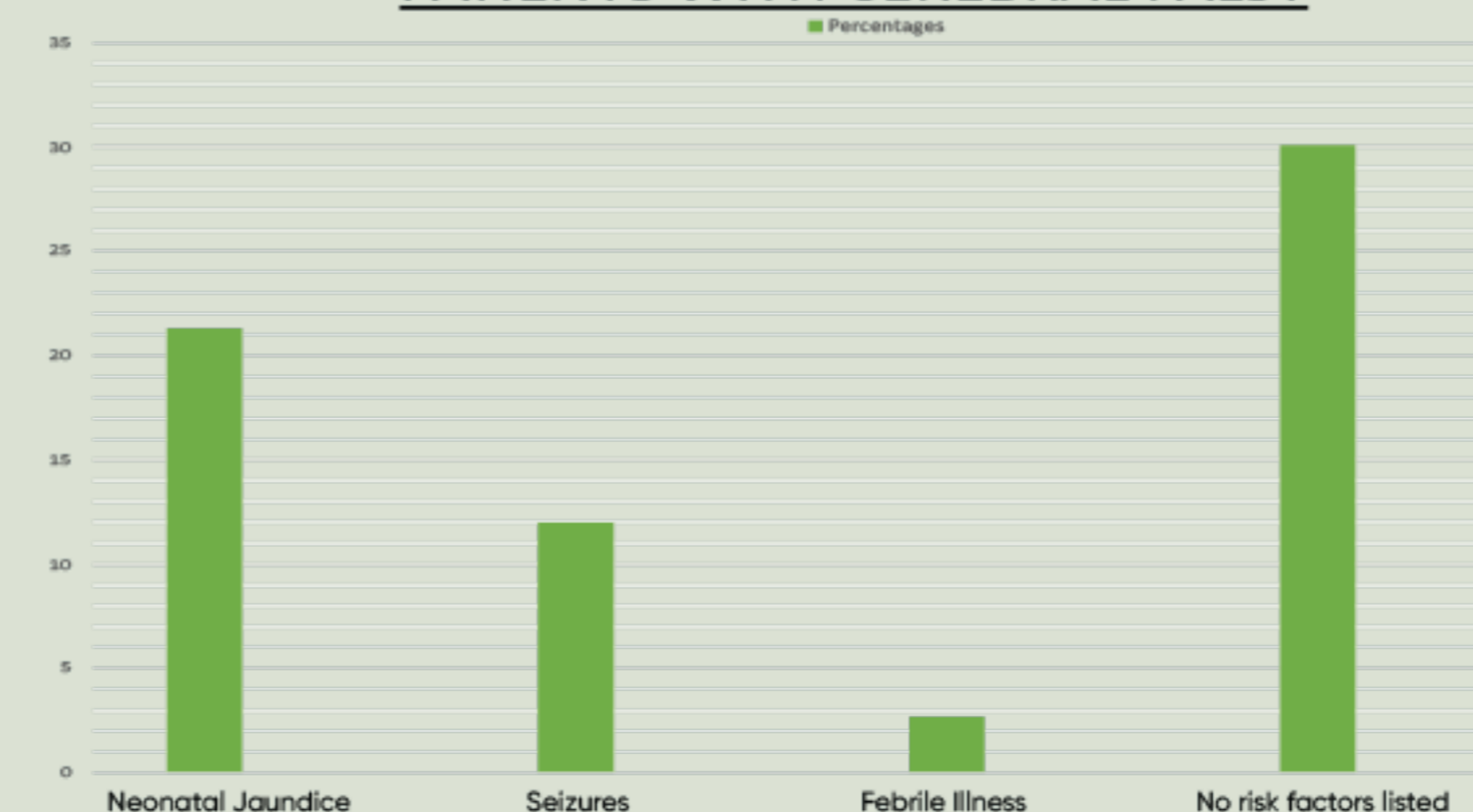
### PRENATAL RISK FACTORS NOTED AMONG PATIENTS WITH CEREBRAL PALSY



### PERINATAL RISK FACTORS NOTED AMONG PATIENTS WITH CEREBRAL PALSY



### POSTNATAL RISK FACTORS NOTED AMONG PATIENTS WITH CEREBRAL PALSY



## CONCLUSION

The prevalence of Cerebral Palsy at the Pediatric Neurology Clinic at KATH is 13%, with spastic Cerebral Palsy being the most prevalent.

Birth asphyxia is the commonest risk factor. Management involves Multi-Disciplinary Approach. Steps targeted at prevention and prompt management of birth asphyxia should be employed to decrease the occurrence of Cerebral Palsy.

The second most common etiology is Neonatal Jaundice. Widespread education at its recognition, management and complications must be tackled on various fronts from the communities referrals are from to healthworkers.

## REFERENCES

- Małgorzata S, Sarecka-Hujar B, Kopyta I. Cerebral Palsy: Current Opinions on definition, epidemiology, risk factors, classification and treatment options. *Neuropsychiatr Dis Treat.* 2020; 16:1505 – 1518. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7297454/>. . doi: 10.2147/NDT.S235165
- All other references are duly acknowledged in the full paper

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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