

# Dietetic multi-disciplinary team feedback in hepato-pancreato-biliary service

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## BACKGROUND

Hepato-pancreato-biliary (HPB) patients frequently have significant nutritional complications related to their conditions which can be further exacerbated by treatment modalities.

Malnutrition and sarcopenia are highly prevalent and are often worsened by malabsorption secondary to exocrine insufficiency, catabolic disease states and pancreatogenic diabetes.

Nutrition is acknowledged as a key component of patient care with dietitians as a core member of the multi-disciplinary team (MDT).

## RESEARCH AIM

Evaluate the experience and opinions of the MDT working with dietitians in the nutritional care of HPB patients.

## METHOD

A web-based survey (Survey Monkey) was sent to all levels of medical, surgical, nursing and patient facing ward staff within the HPB service (n=98).

The survey was open for eight weeks from September 2023. Reminder emails were sent after four weeks.

The survey contained eight multiple choice questions and two free text questions and was estimated to take three minutes to complete.

## RESULTS

28 responses were received giving a 29% response rate. Figure 1 show the professions of responders.

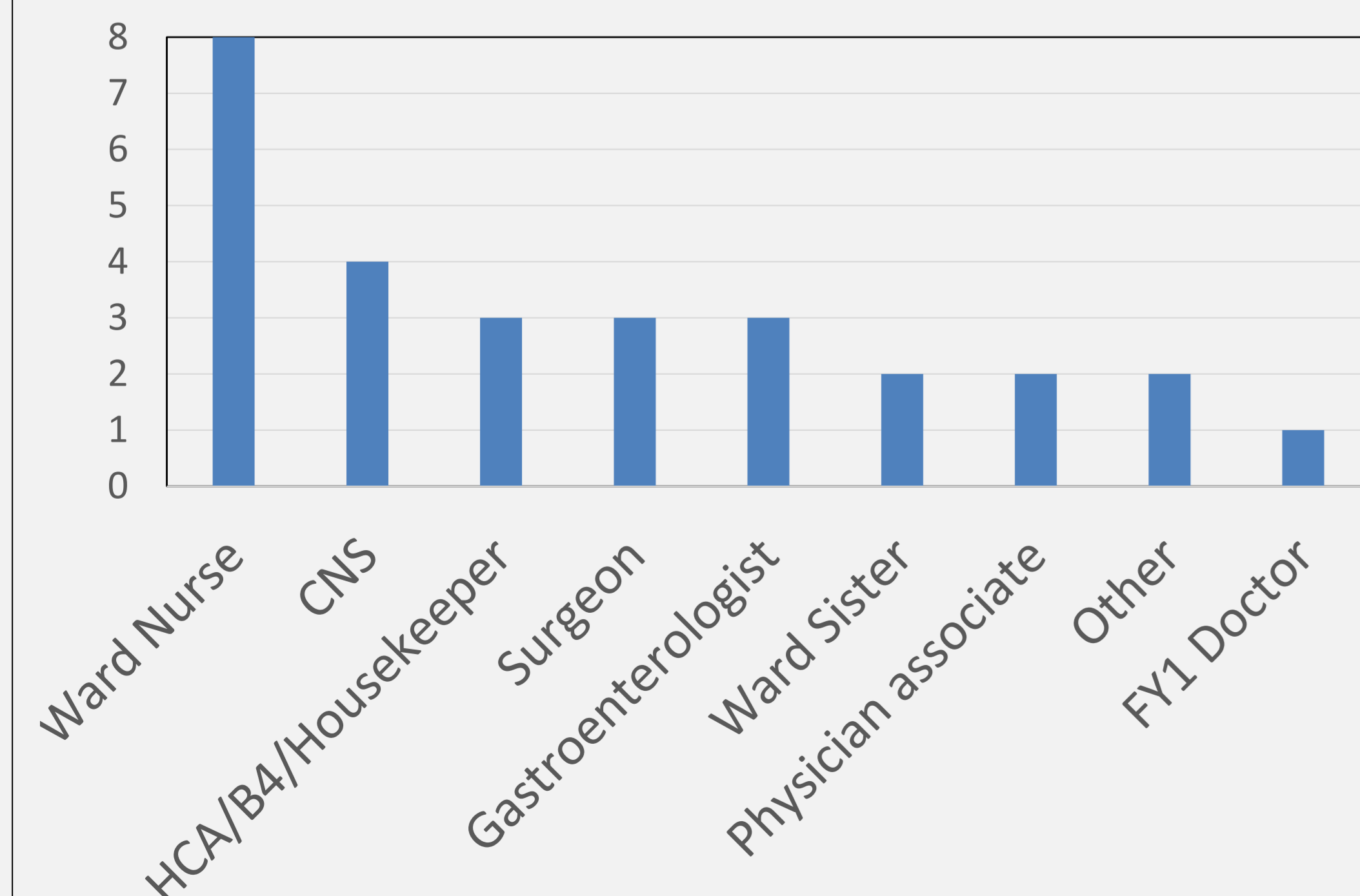


Figure 1. Professions of responders

## RESULTS

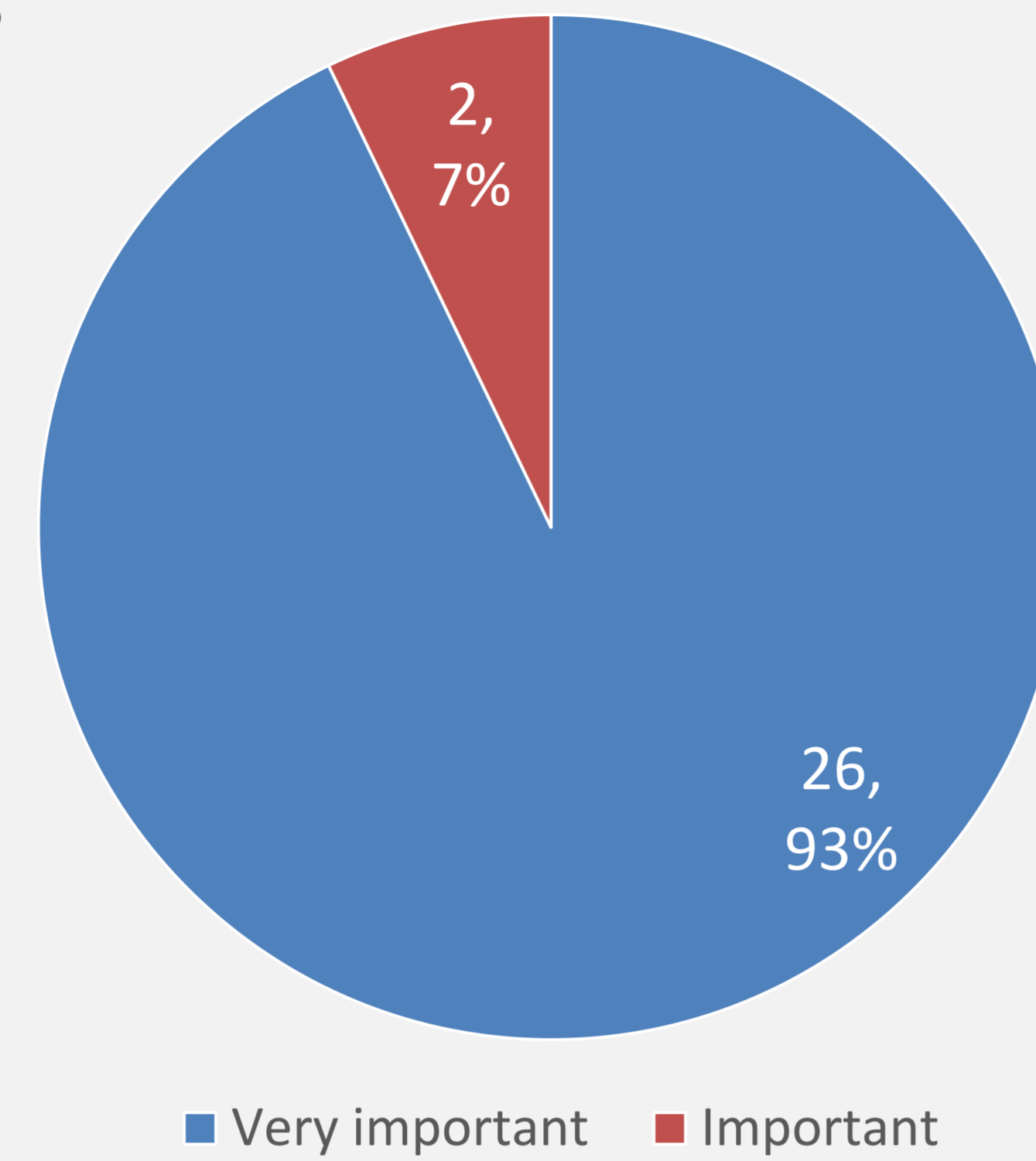


Figure 2. How important do you feel nutrition is in the management of HPB patients?

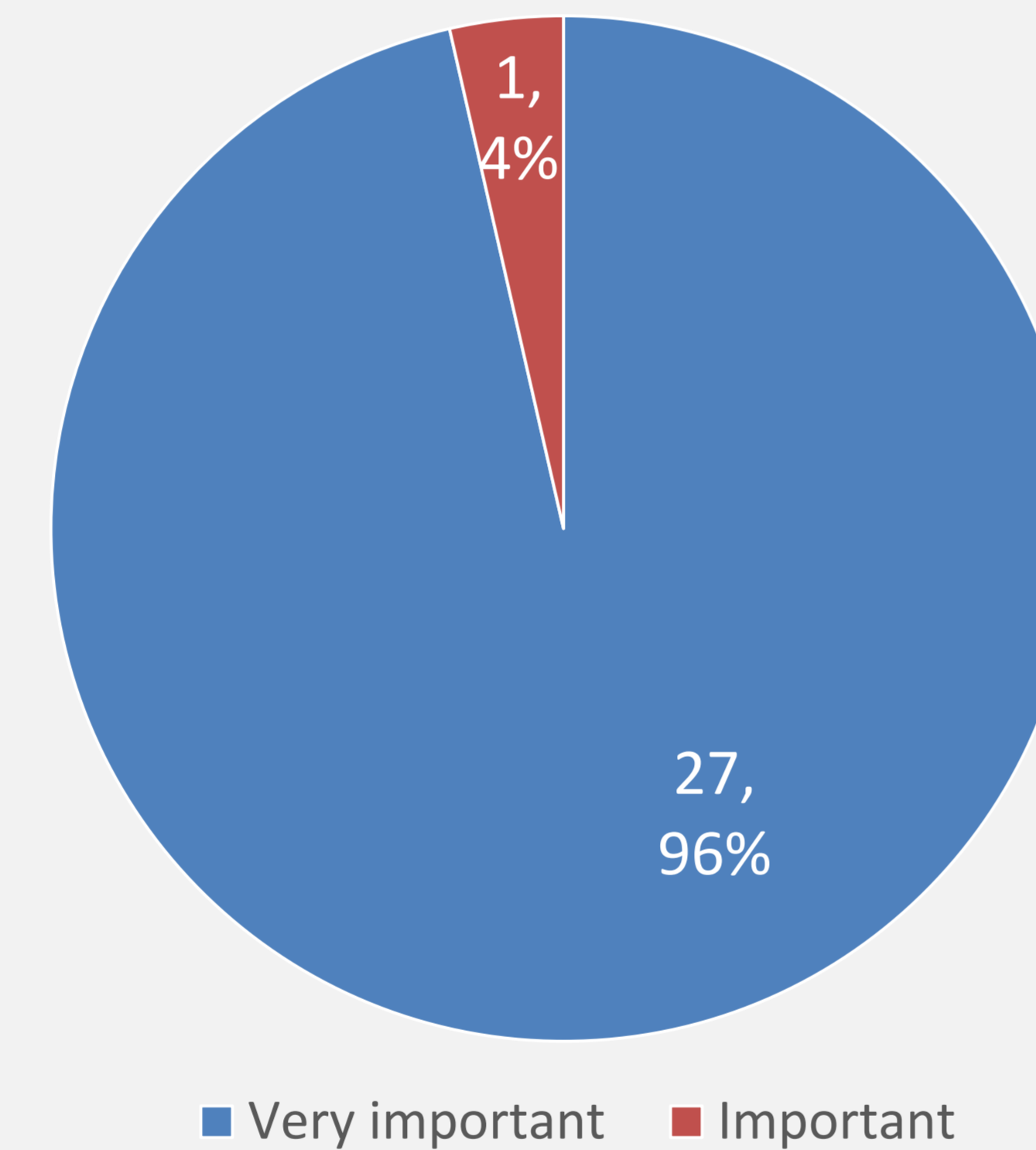


Figure 3. How important do you feel dietitians are in the nutritional management of HPB patients?

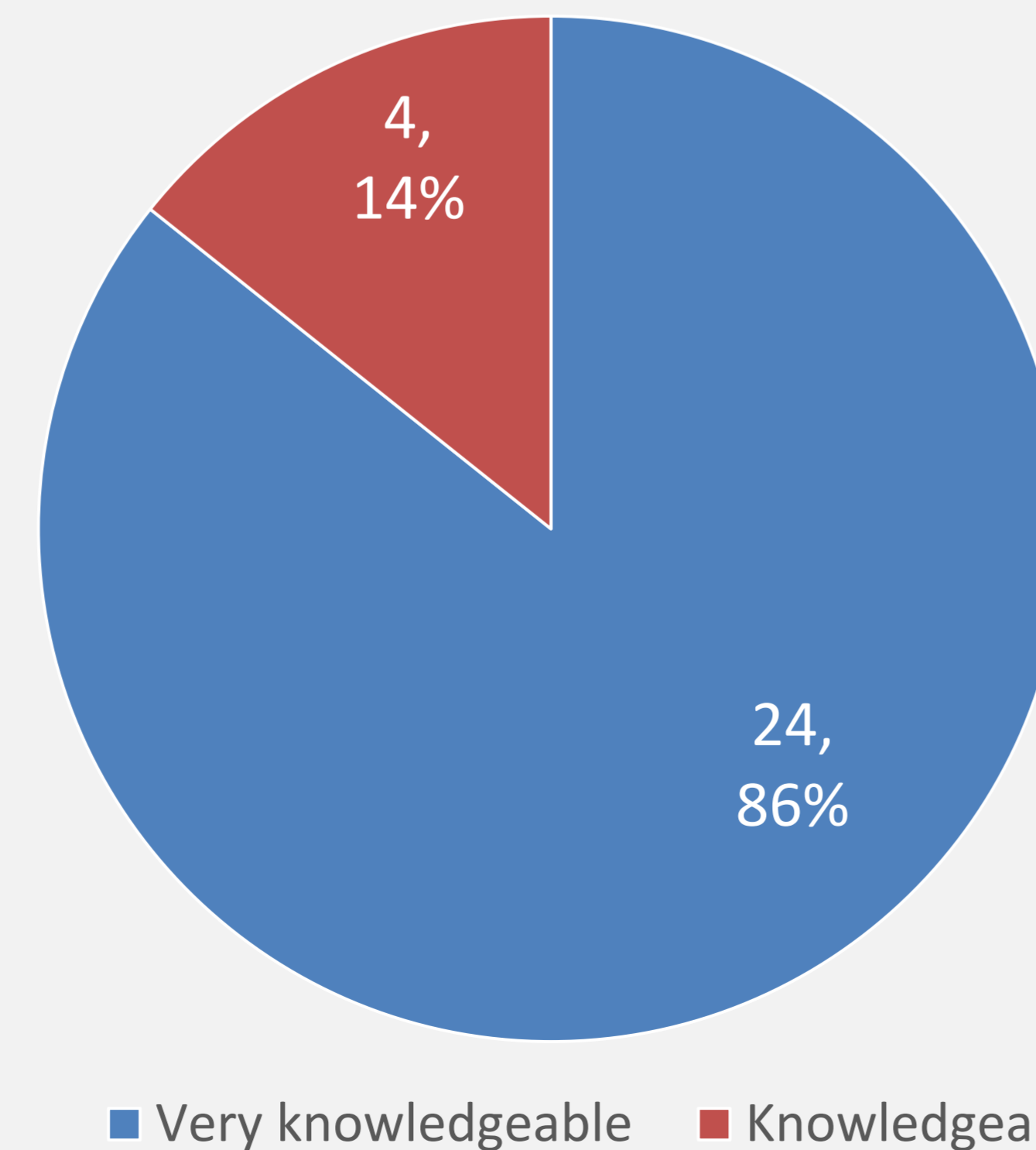


Figure 4. How knowledgeable do you feel the dietitians are with regard to nutritional management of HPB patients?

## RESULTS

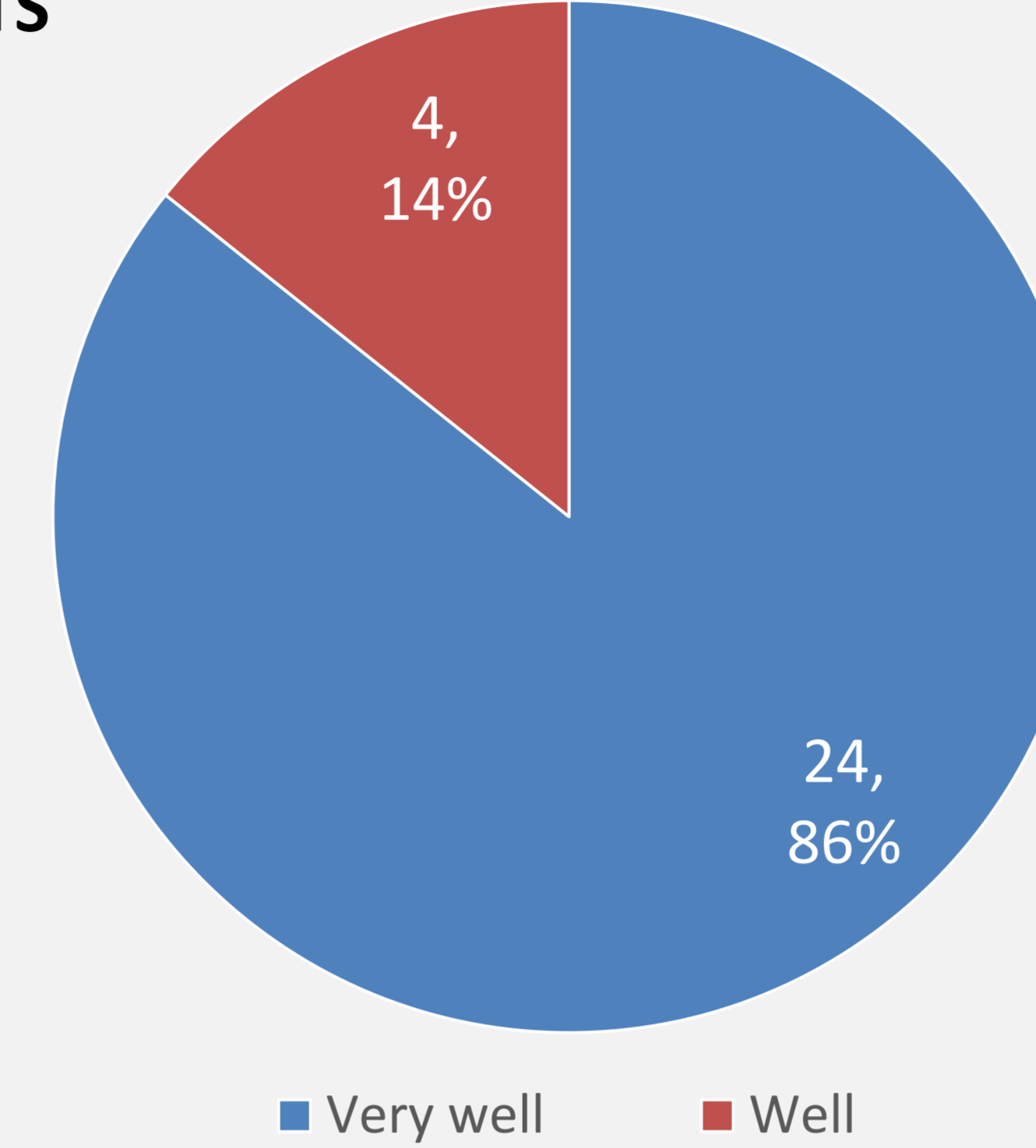


Figure 5. How well do you feel the dietitians manage the nutrition of HPB patients?

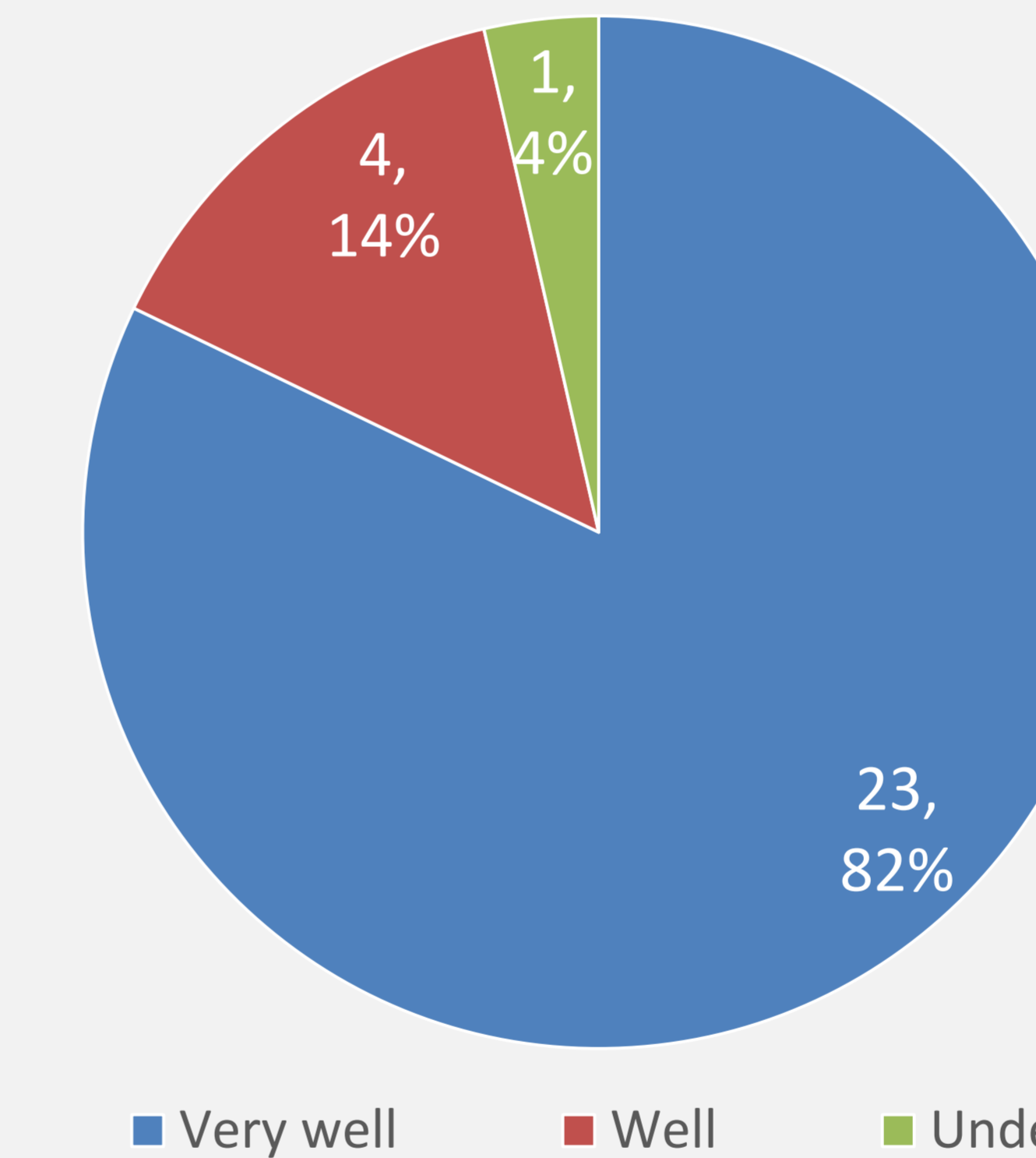


Figure 6. How well do you feel the dietitians involve HPB patients in their own nutritional care?

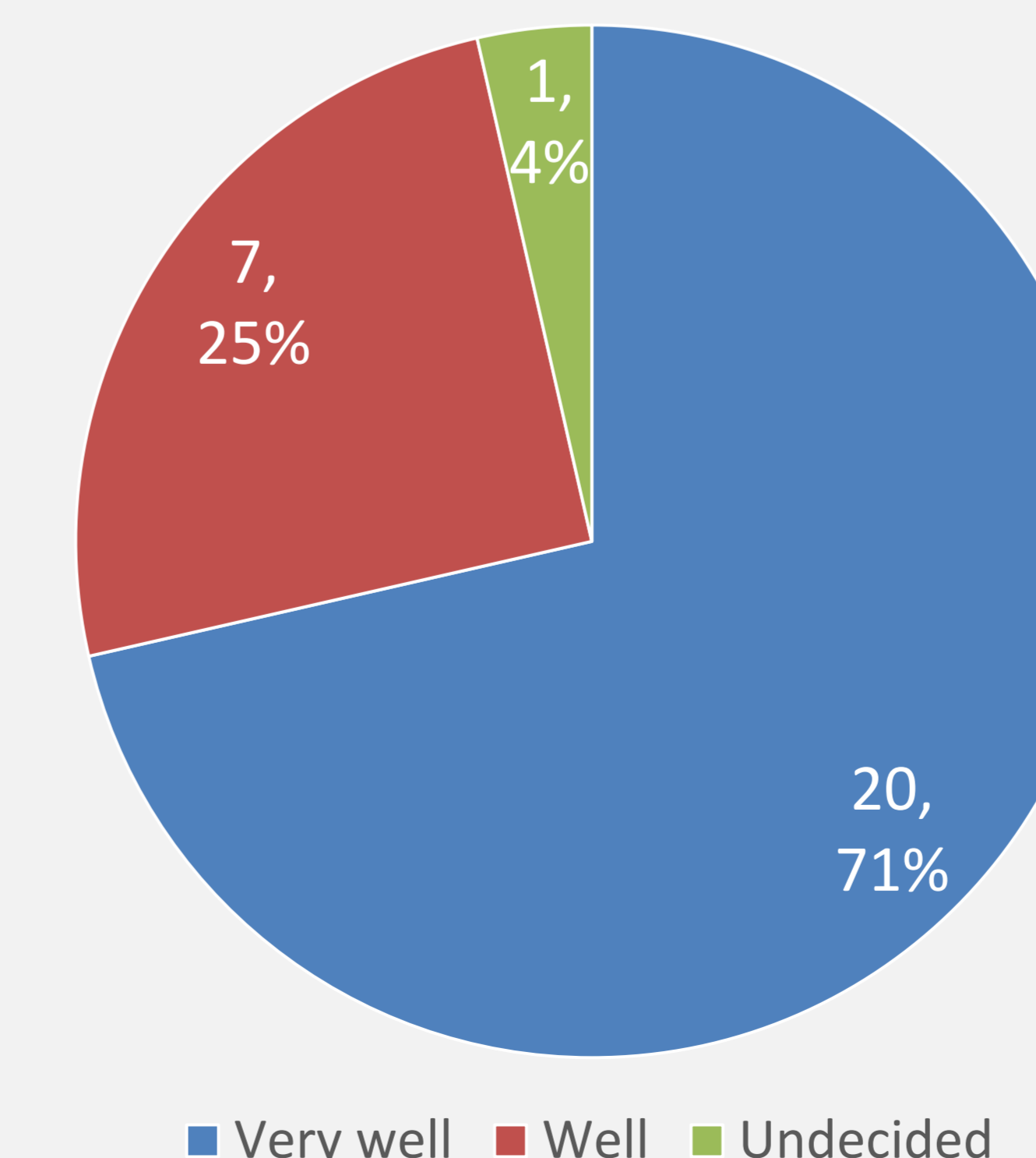


Figure 7. How well do you feel the HPB dietitians work within the MDT?

## RESULTS

Are there any ways you feel the HPB dietitians could improve the service they deliver to patients?

11 responses were received. The most frequent comments related to increased outpatient provision (n=4), increased teaching (n=2), increased staffing (n=2) and attendance of MDTs (n=2).

*“More outpatient slots to manage the increasing volume of patients with HPB disease.”*

Is there anything else you would like to say about the HPB dietetic service?

12 responses were received with 12 positive comments about the service and two comments about insufficient staffing.

*“A superb team - very well motivated and crucial to patient outcomes.”*

*“Brilliant team, always accessible and available to advise on queries. All friendly and a valued member of the MDT's within the Trust.”*

## CONCLUSIONS

Responders feel that nutrition is important in the care of HPB patients.

The dietetic team provide an excellent, accessible service with patient centred care being delivered to a high standard and the dietitians work well within the team.

Limitations of the work include response rate and possible responder bias.

Aspects highlighted in free text questions have been highlighted by the dietetic team, confirmation of this from the MDT reinforces these critical issues in dietetic service provision and nutritional care of HPB patients.