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TREATMENT PROFILE OF MULTIPLE MYELOMA AT AMAZONIA (NORTHERN STATES OF BRAZIL): WHAT IS SPECIAL?

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INTRODUCTION

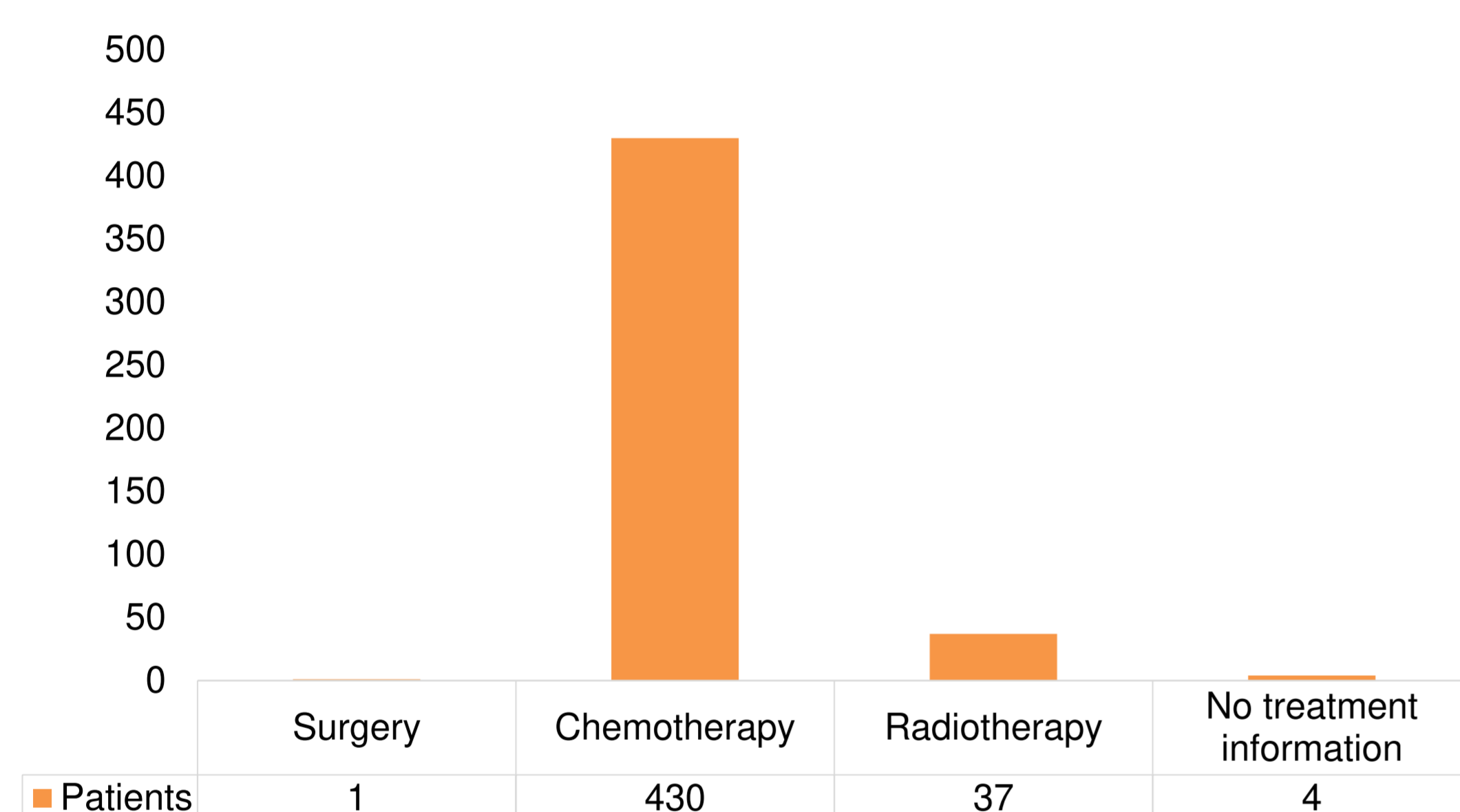
Multiple myeloma (MM) treatment goals have changed markedly over the past 20 years as a result of the introduction of more effective therapeutic strategies. Thereby, overall survival of patients has doubled in the last decade, reaching a median of 8 years thanks to these novel therapies. Therefore, Brazil stands out as an interesting scenario to analyse these strategies because of its health care system peculiarities.

A retrospective and quantitative analysis was made using online data provided by Brazilian Health Ministry (DATASUS) on MM in the Brazilian Amazonia - northern states (BA-ns) from 2015 to 2019.

RESULTS

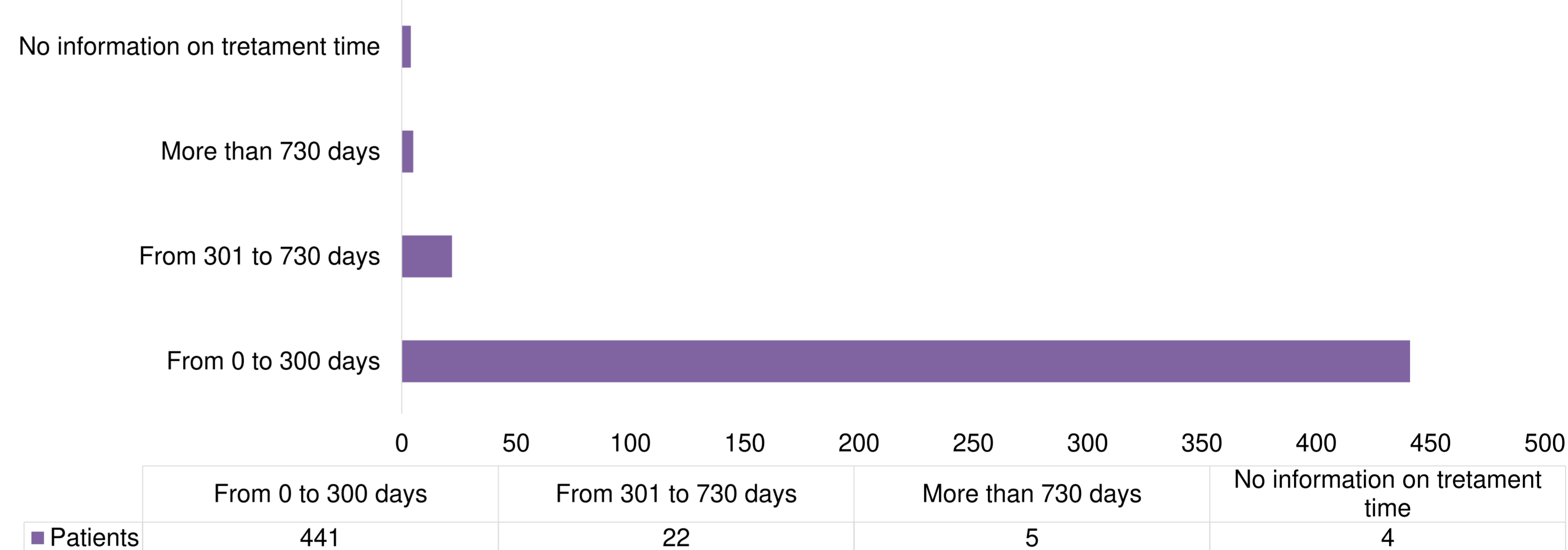
In those years, there were 472 reports of MM, with 430 patients treated with chemotherapy and only 37 patients using radiotherapy. Chemotherapy, especially daratumumab, carfilzomib and dexamethasone, is a systemic treatment used to symptom's control. Radiotherapy, is mainly used in cases of palliative antalgic therapy. Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation (ASCT), an important treatment modality, is not described in this site. It was observed that 441 patients were treated for only 300 days, what is insufficient considering expected parameters that more than 30% of patients could survive over 5 years with chemotherapy and 10 years with ASCT. Mortality data (2015- 2018) reveal 12669 patients in Brazil having the basic cause of death registered as MM. Of those, 417 patients lived at BA-ns.

Graphic 1: Treatment modalities for multiple myeloma in the Brazilian Amazon, from 2015 to 2019



Source: Brazilian Health Ministry (DATASUS), 2020

Graphic 2: Treatment time for multiple myeloma in the Brazilian Amazon, from 2015 to 2019



Source: Brazilian Health Ministry (DATASUS), 2020

CONCLUSION

After all these investigation, we can assume that treatment in Amazonia still does not have adequate coverage as worldwide levels, and analysis must take into account longer periods. Mortality data suggests that, even though treatment coverage is not the most desirable, only 3,3% of MM deaths occur at this part of Amazonia. For sure it's necessary to investigate deeper focusing in specialized treatment, in particular, chemotherapy with ASCT support, aiming to better describe the survival of these patients.

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