

## ESTIMATION OF ALCOHOL POISONINGS IN CHILDREN

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### Introduction

Alcohol abuse is the seventh leading risk factor for both death and the burden of disease and injury. According a report released by the World Health Organization (WHO) worldwide, 3 million deaths each year result from harmful alcohol consumption, accounting for 5.3% of all deaths (25% in aged 15-29). The average age teen boys first try alcohol is age 10, for teen girls it's 11. Persons aged 12-17 years consume alcohol weekly. Childhood alcoholism is most often diagnosed between the ages of 10-14. In Russia, out of 2 million alcoholics, 60000 are children under 14 years. According to the Global Report on Alcohol Consumption and Health, in Republic of Moldova consumption in 2016 was equal to 15.2 litres of pure alcohol consumed per person aged 15 years or older (males: 25.2 litres, females: 6.1 litres).

### Keywords

Alcohol, poisonings, children

### Purpose

Estimation of cases of harm to children through alcohol consumption.

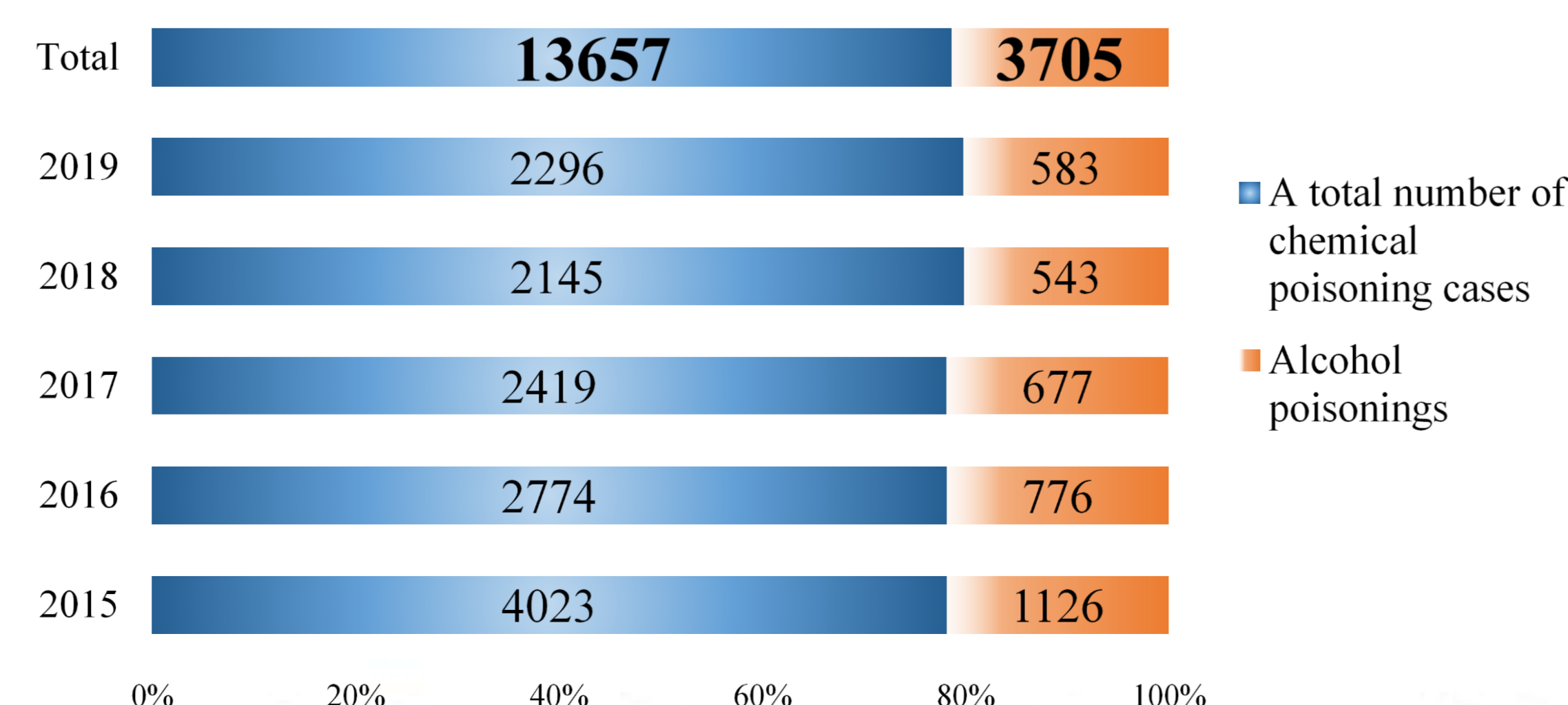
### Material and methods

Statistical Forms 18-san. "Statistical report on state surveillance and control of public health in the district, municipality" and no. 360-1/e „Register of persons with acute exogenous non-professional poisonings of chemical etiology" were analyzed during the 2015-2019.

### Results

During the 2015-2019, 13657 cases of acute chemical poisonings were registered of which 3705 were intoxications with alcohol (figure 1).

Figure 1. The total number of reported acute poisoning cases from 2015-2019



Alcohol abuse is the second leading cause of chemical poisonings. In the period under review, excessive alcohol consumption affected 2937 (79.3%) adults and 768 (20.7%) children, being a risk factor for severe antisocial behaviors (aggression, murder, accidents), abuse, addiction (figure 2).

Regarding alcohol abuse, compared with women, men consume more alcohol. Thus, 70% of alcohol poisonings were registered among men and 30% of women (figure 3).

Figure 2. Distribution of recorded children/adults poisonings caused by consumption of alcohol

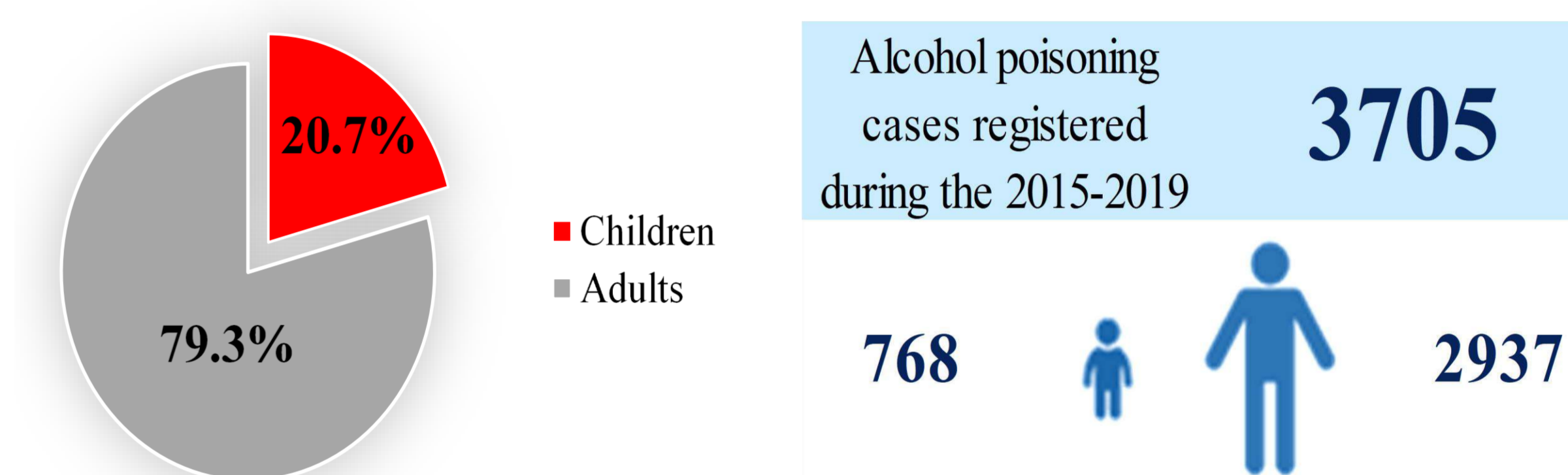
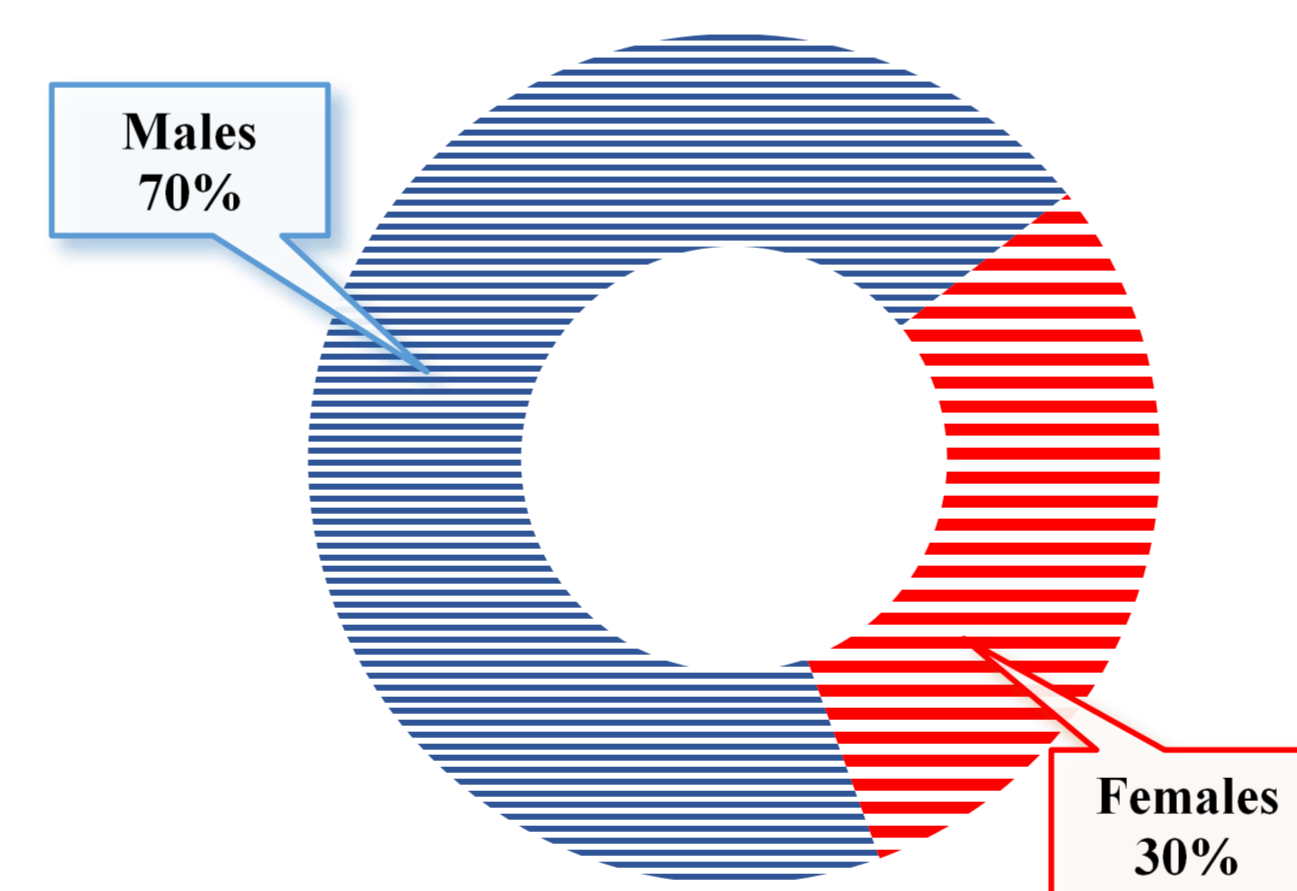
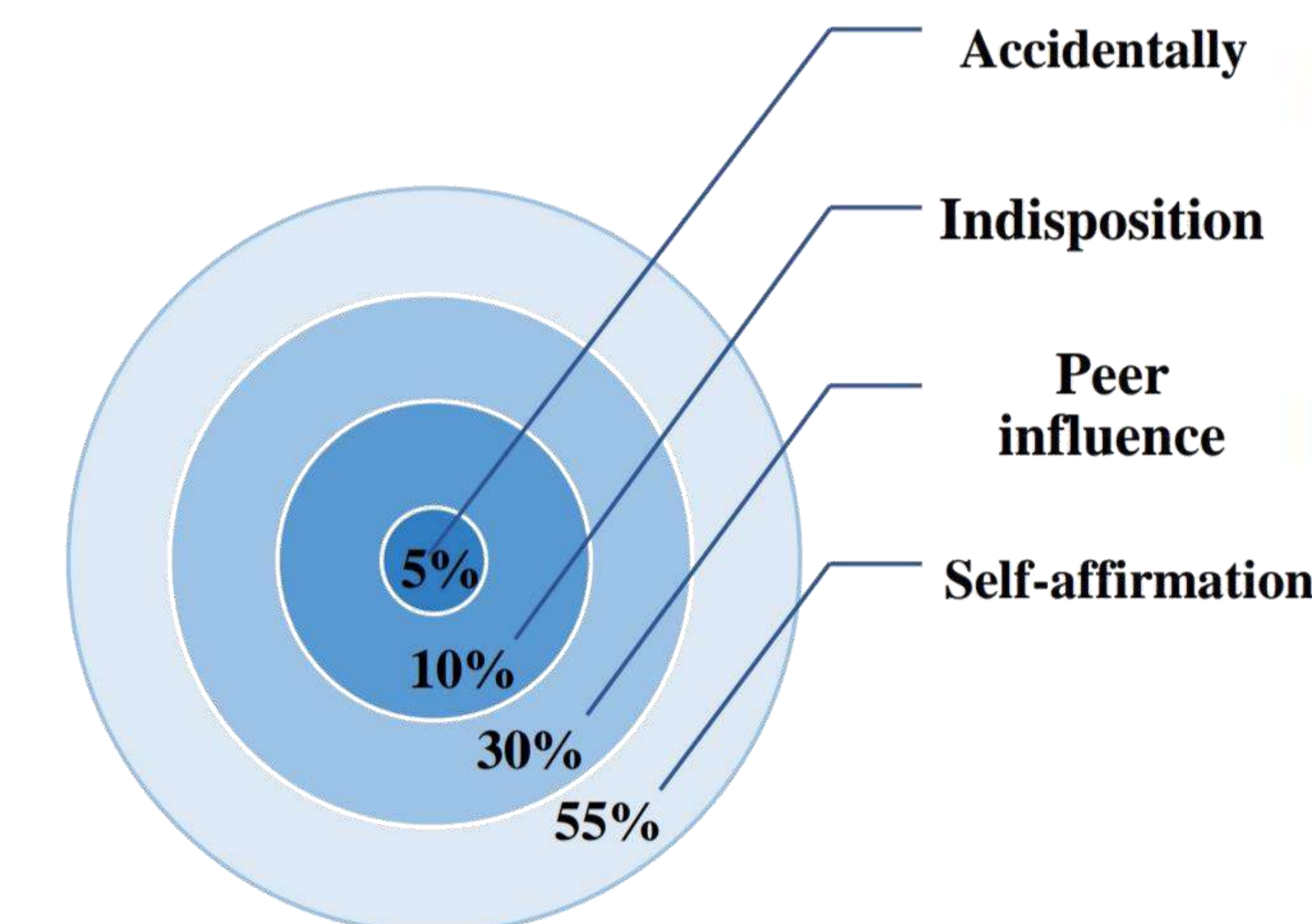


Figure 3. The percentages of alcohol poisonings, by sex



Reasons for consumption: self-affirmation -55%, peer influence -30%, indisposition -10%, 5% - accidentally (figure 4). Approximately 35% of those who poisoned the first time, consumed alcohol at home, being produced in their household and 2% of intoxicated children were diagnosed with alcoholic coma.

Figure 4. The reasons for alcohol consumption



### Conclusions

The situation of alcohol consumption is a life threatening. Annually 27.1% of persons have alcohol poisonings. Thus, the limit of alcohol access, education of children about the harm of alcohol, the involvement of parents, authorities-all of this are essential for achieving a healthy society.