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BACKGROUND

In addition to the management of symptoms and the preservation of functions, interventions on social issues are essential to improve the quality of life of patients affected by Multiple Sclerosis (MS).

OBJETIVE

To identify difficulties and obstacles experienced by people with MS, highlighting the role of Social Service in promoting physical, psychological and social well-being.

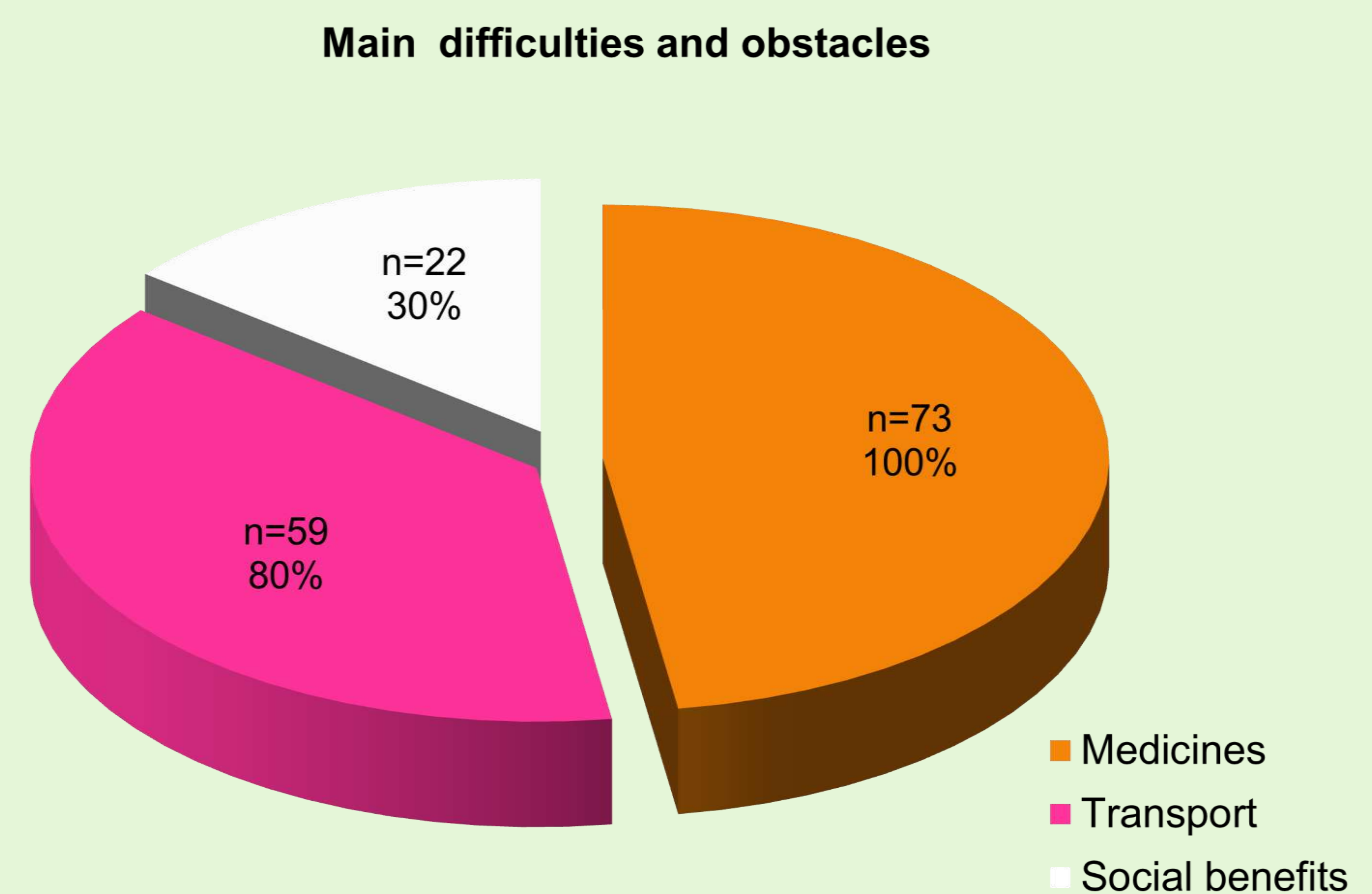
METHODS

The sample involved 73 people with MS, aged between 17 - 71 years (mean=41/SD=11.38). All responded to the semi-structured Sociodemographic Questionnaire containing 30 questions, developed specifically for this population.

Summary of the Sociodemographic Questionnaire	
1-19) Demographic data	25) Emotional
20) Coping	26) Transport
21) Outbreaks	27) Pain
22) Symptoms	28) Medicines
23) Type of MS	29) Comorbidities
24) EDSS	30) Mental health

RESULTS

It was observed that MS requires constant adaptation of patients and those who live with them. These personal issues make the role of the Social Worker fundamental for the acceptance and adaptation of the conditions imposed by the disease. Guidelines and referrals on social rights, duties and benefits were carried out, with the subjects most demanded by the participants.



CONCLUSIONS

In addition to welcoming, the difficulties identified in this study determined specific actions of social service, such as analysis elaboration, coordination and execution of plans to enable rights and access to social politics, as well as actions directed to the development of actions with multidisciplinary care.