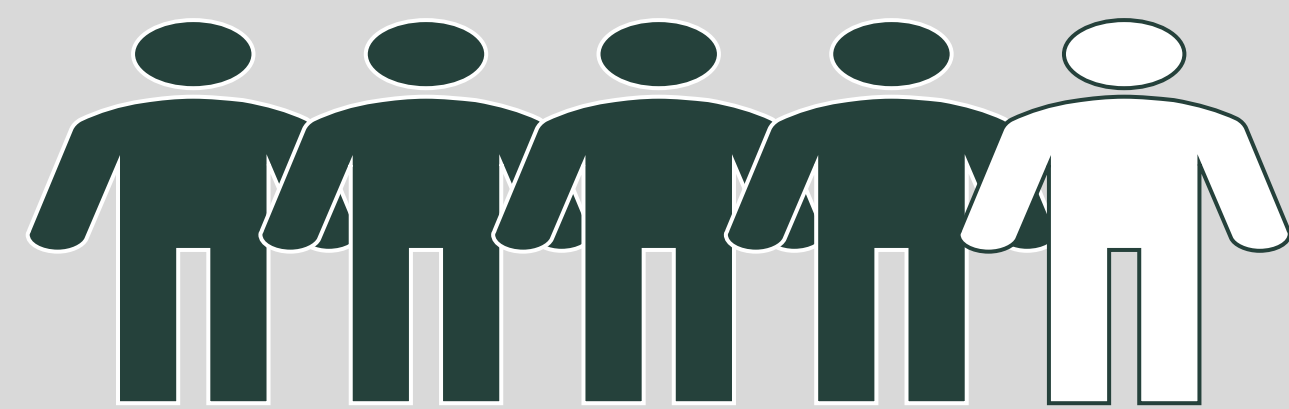


# I'm Paying How Much???: A Cross-Sectional Survey Focusing on Medication Cost for Patients Prescribed GLP-1 Agonists

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## BACKGROUND



**80% of patients**

will not know their financial responsibility prior to leaving their doctor's appointment.

An annual report conducted in 2022 revealed that 9 out of 10 Americans would like to know their financial responsibility upfront, but the same report also mentioned that only 2 out of those 10 Americans will know what their financial responsibility is at the end of the visit.<sup>1</sup>

**Why are so many patients leaving their clinic visit susceptible to future unexpected (or "surprise") costs?**

1 - (Meyer, 2023)

## OBJECTIVE

Evaluate the **likelihood of "surprise" medication cost** for patients prescribed GLP-1 agonists

## METHODS



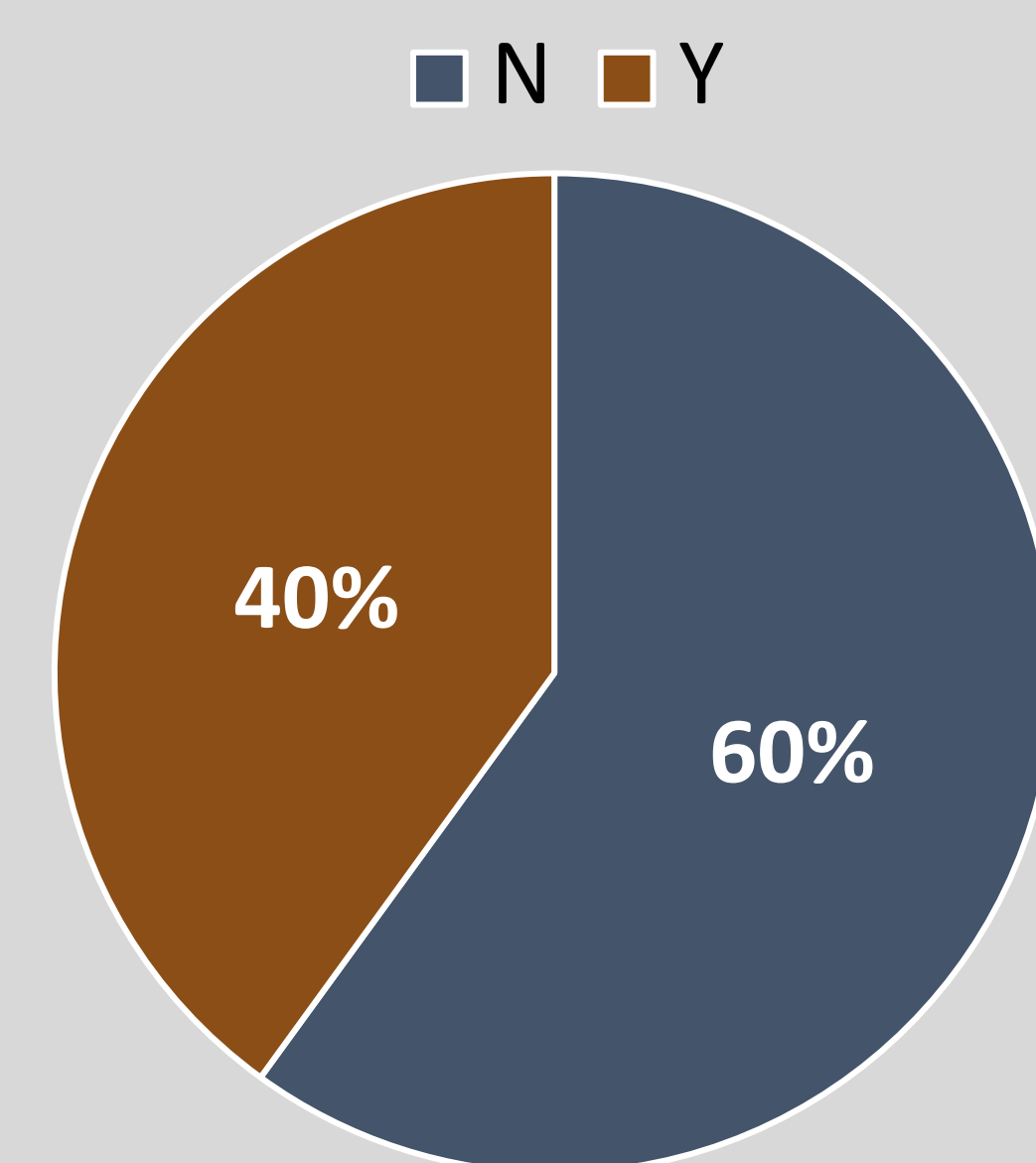
**This study includes two methodologies:**

- 1) A comprehensive literature review
- 2) A cross-sectional survey that consisted of quantitative and qualitative responses. The questions focused on:
  - Medication cost (actual, expected, & difference)
  - Cost comparison research strategies

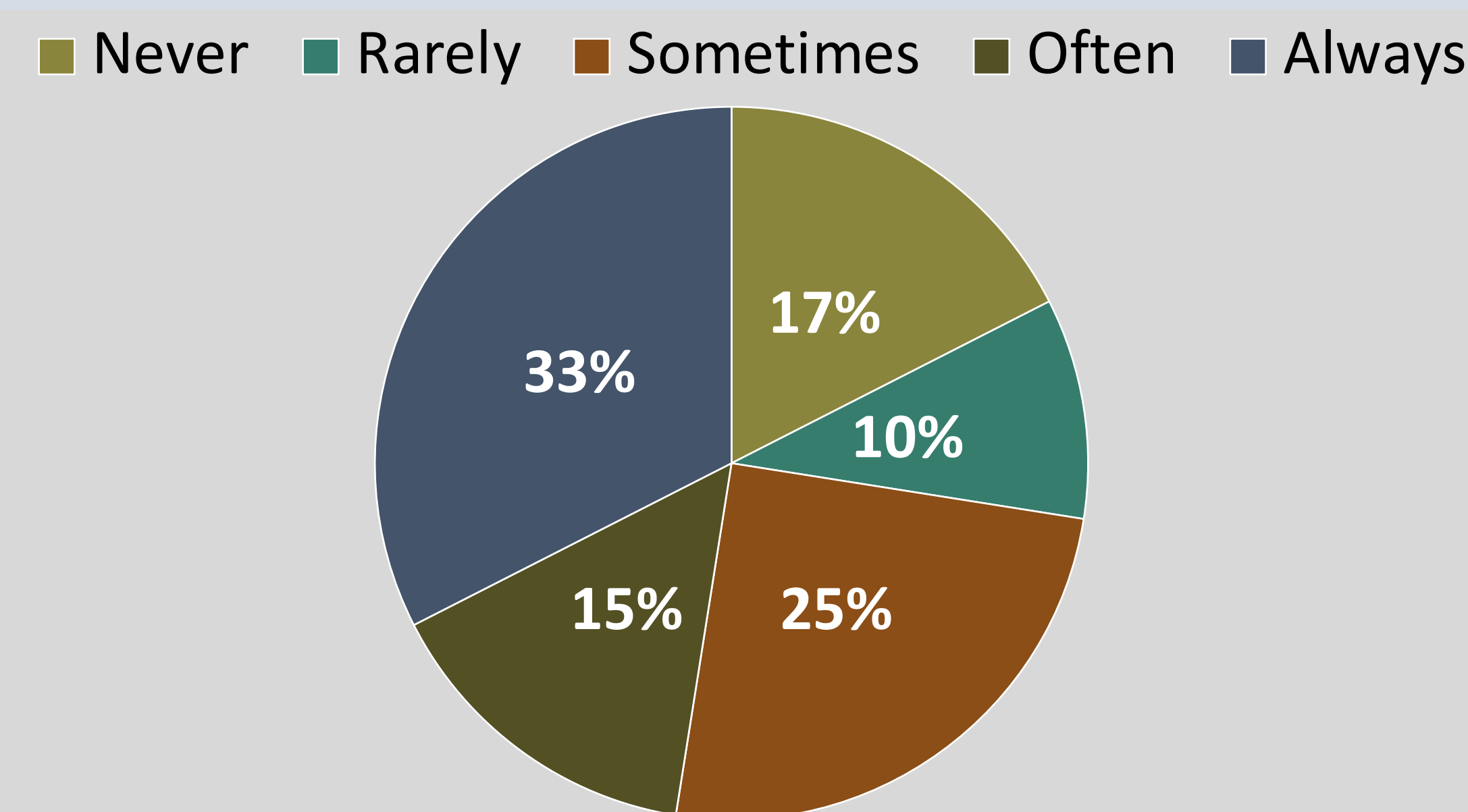
The telephone survey was administered to patients from a community-based practice in Providence, RI. The patients on this study were individuals taking GLP-1 agonists. The dataset was a convenience sample of patients prescribed GLP-1 agonists by the practice.

## PATIENT KNOWLEDGE RESULTS

**Fig. 1 Completed Prior Research**



**Fig. 2 Knowledge of Cost Prior to Medication Pick-Up**

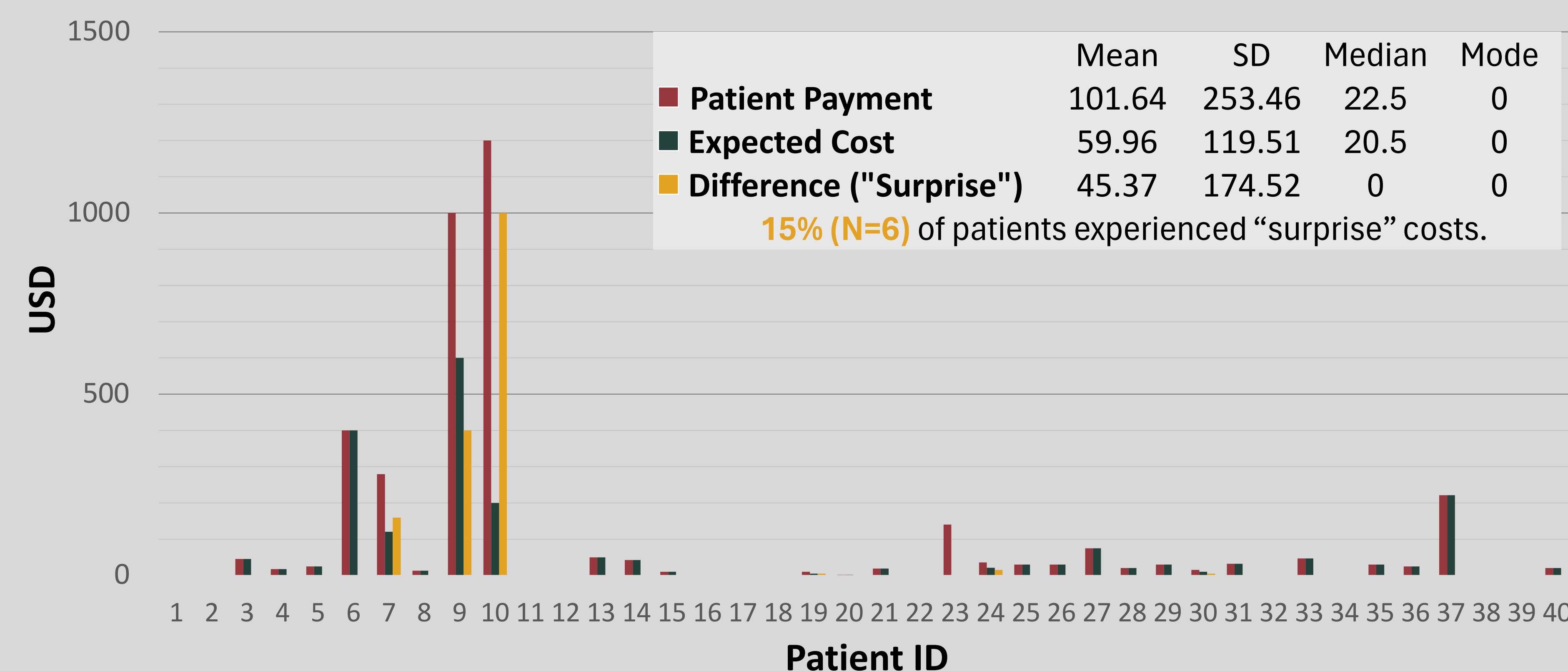


## DEMOGRAPHICS

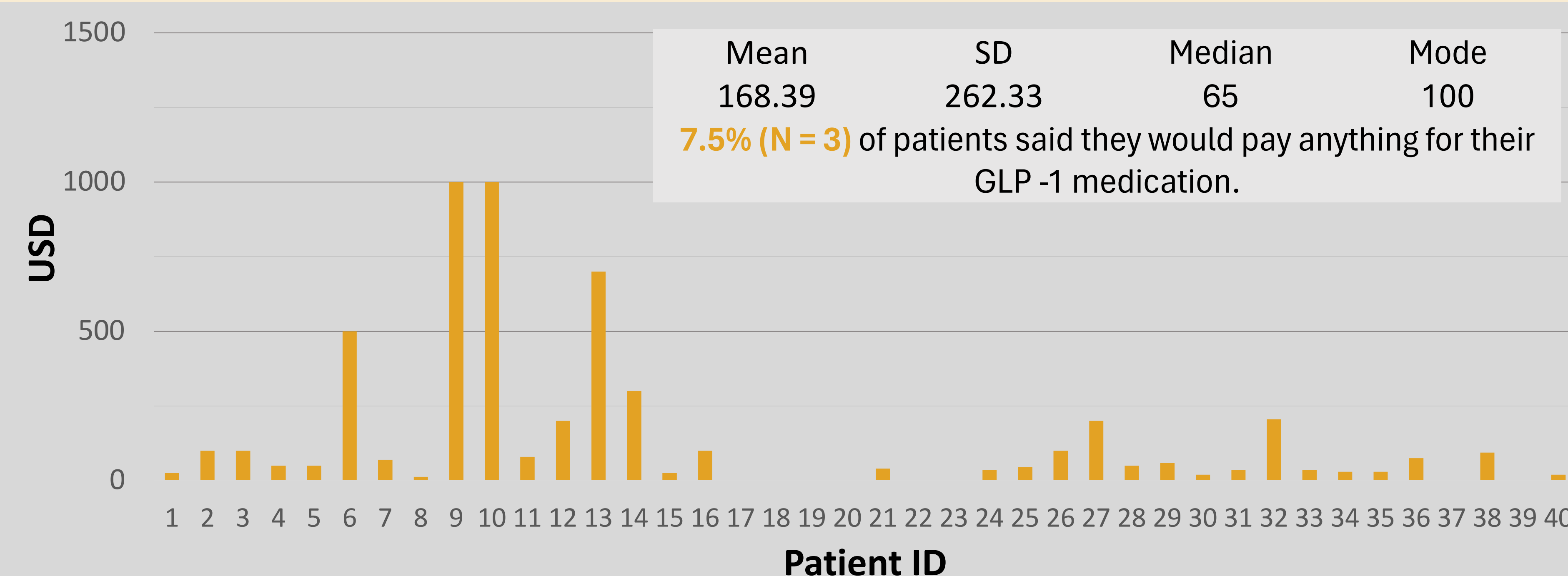
| Patient Characteristics (N = 40)     | N  | Percent | Mean | SD   |
|--------------------------------------|----|---------|------|------|
| <b>Gender</b>                        |    |         |      |      |
| Male                                 | 20 | 50      |      |      |
| Female                               | 20 | 50      |      |      |
| <b>Age</b>                           | 40 |         | 61.2 | 12.8 |
| <b>Race/Ethnicity</b>                |    |         |      |      |
| Asian                                | 1  | 2.5     |      |      |
| White                                | 31 | 77.5    |      |      |
| Hispanic                             | 1  | 2.5     |      |      |
| Other                                | 7  | 17.5    |      |      |
| <b>Days Prescribed GLP-1 Agonist</b> | 40 |         | 475  |      |
| <b>Prescribed GLP-1 Agonist</b>      |    |         |      |      |
| Mounjaro                             | 15 | 37.5    |      |      |
| Ozempic                              | 10 | 25      |      |      |
| Rybelsus                             | 12 | 30      |      |      |
| Victoza                              | 3  | 7.5     |      |      |
| <b>Insurance Type</b>                |    |         |      |      |
| Public Insurance                     | 15 | 37.5    |      |      |
| Private Insurance                    | 25 | 62.5    |      |      |
| <b>Reasons for GLP-1 Agonist</b>     |    |         |      |      |
| Diabetes                             | 33 | 82.5    |      |      |
| Weight loss                          | 2  | 5       |      |      |
| Other                                | 5  | 12.5    |      |      |

## PATIENT COST RESULTS

**Fig. 3 Patient Payment vs. Expected Cost vs. Difference ("Surprise")**



**Fig 4. What is the maximum amount you would pay out of pocket for your medication?**



## DISCUSSION

- This survey reveals that although most patients at this practice **did not encounter an unexpected cost** for their medication, there is a **minority of patients where this is an issue.**
- These results provide the opportunity for **continued patient-physician conversations** regarding prescription medication cost especially for GLP-1 agonists.
- **Next steps** could include future research on what interventions or strategies can be implemented to mitigate unexpected cost.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Please see reference handout for complete list.