### **COVID-19 IBD patients' perception**





This survey has been codesigned with Pr. Silvio Danese, Head of the IBD Center at Humanitas University Hospital in Milan in order to better understand the concerns and fears of the IBD community in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The data have been collected during the period March, 30th – April, 16th.







58% Crohn's disease40% Ulcerative colitis2% Indeterminate colitis

1

37% private employee21% public employee

12% student

12% unemployed

12% freelancer

6% retired

### **3815 PARTICIPANTS:**



72% female

28% male



41 y average age



40% live with children



**18%** live with elderly

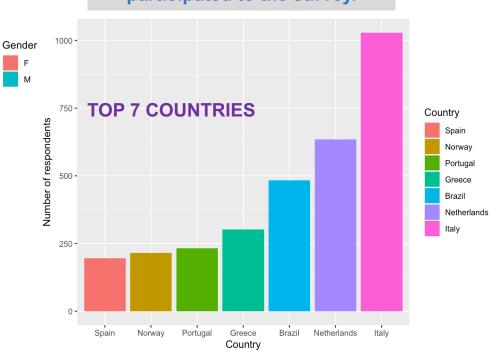


**2007** average year of diagnosis



The graph above shows how females represent the majority and overall both genders belong to the 40-45 age class.

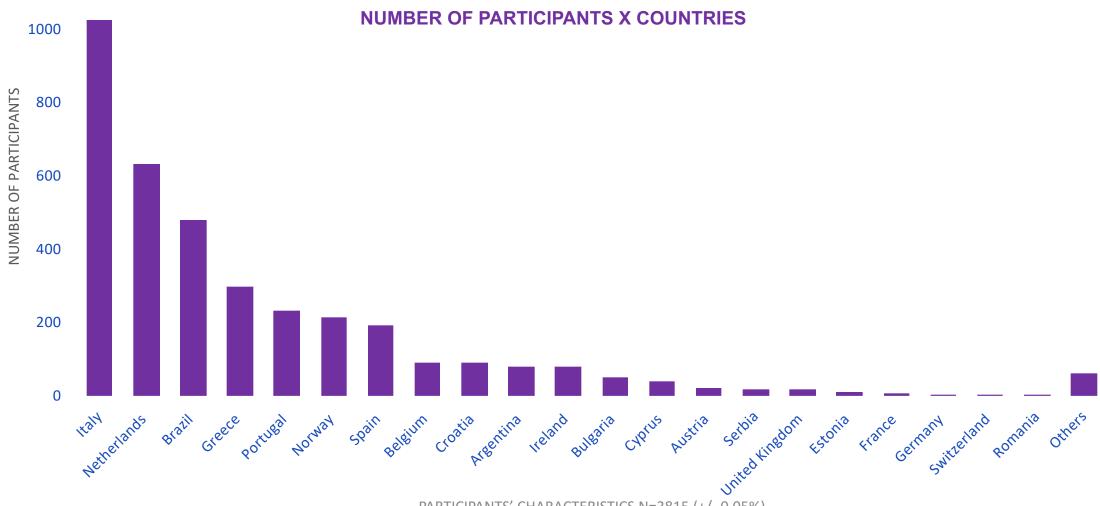
# The graph below shows the TOP 7 COUNTRIES which participated to the survey.













### GENERAL FEELINGS



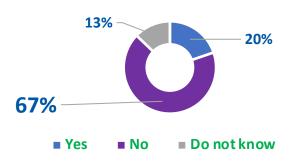
#### IS RESPIRATORY TRANSMISSION THE ONLY

97% THINK THAT
COVID-19 INFECTION
IS TRANSMITTED
FROM PERSON TO
PERSON



91% THINK THAT AN
ASYMPTOMATIC PERSON
CAN TRANSMIT THE
INFECTION

### POSSIBLE TRANSMISSION?



96% THINK THAT A
PATIENT WITH
COVID-19
INFECTION CAN
HEAL

97% THINK COVID-19 INFECTION CAUSE DEATH

65% ARE AFRAID
OF DYING FROM

OF DYING FROM COVID-19 INFECTION

78% THINK
PROTECTIVE AIDS
(E.G. MASKS,
GLOVES,
DISINFECTANTS) ARE
ABLE TO PREVENT
CONTAGION



83% USE
PROTECTIVE AIDS
(E.G. MASKS,
GLOVES,
DISINFECTANTS)
TO PREVENT
CONTAGION

### **1DISINFECTANT**

2 MASK

**3 GLOVES** 



### **FEARS AND HABITS**

**87% ARE AFRAID** OF INFECTING **OTHER PEOPLE** 



**85% ARE AFRAID OF GETTING INFECTED** FROM COVID-19

**85% ARE WORRIED** OF PHYSICAL **CONTACT** WITH OTHER PEOPLE

**96%** DECLARED THAT HIS / HER COUNTRY **IMPOSED TRAVEL** AND DAILY LIFE **RESTRICTIONS** 

**87% ARE AFRAID OF TRAVELING** 

82% REDUCED **TRAVELS** 

**64% ARE WORRIED** OF THE ECONOMIC **IMPACT** OF QUARANTINE ON **INCOME** 



**42% Patient Association** 

**27%** Relatives

**14%** Recommendations from 3 national and international authorities

**7%** Friends

**5** 6% Physician consultation

**6** 4% Psychologist



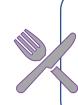


**57%** FEEL SOCIAL ISOLATION

**71% ARE NOT WORRIED** FOR **BEING IN QUARANTINE** 

**94%** THINK **QUARANTINE IS IMPORTANT** TO **PREVENT CONTAGION** 

98% HAVE NOT **UNDERTAKEN VOLUNTARY** QUARANTINE



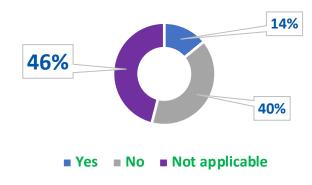
98% REDUCED THEIR DAILY HABITS (E.G. GOING TO THE SUPERMARKET. **GOING TO THE** RESTAURANT ETC)

PARTICIPANTS' CHARACTERISTICS N=3815 (+/- 0.05%)

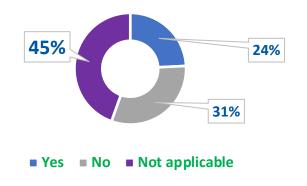


### EFCCA European Federation of Crohn's & Ulcerative Colitis Associations

### ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS IN REACHING YOUR PHYSICIAN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY?



### DID YOUR PHYSICIAN GIVE YOU INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19?



75% ARE AFRAID TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL / IBD CENTER FOR A GASTROENTEROLOGICAL CONSULTATION DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS

73% FEEL STRESSED FROM THIS SITUATION



60%THINK THE STRESS
MAY WORSEN THE
SYMPTOMS OF THE
DISEASE



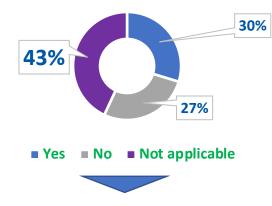
The majority of respondents are afraid to reach healthcare facilities, but equally they have no issue about reaching their doctor if needed.



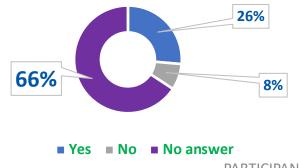
### PHYSICIAN RECOMMENDATIONS



# DID YOUR PHYSICIAN GIVE YOU SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO YOUR IBD (DRUGS, CONTACT ETC.) DURING THIS COVID-19 PANDEMIC?



# IF YOU RECEIVED RECOMMENDATIONS, ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE INFORMATION YOUR PHYSICIAN HAS PROVIDED YOU?



# ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT COVID-19 YOU WOULD LIKE FROM YOUR PHYSICIAN?





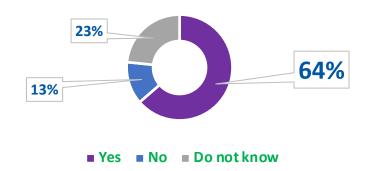
1/3 of the participants would like to receive more recommendations about COVID-19 from the physician.



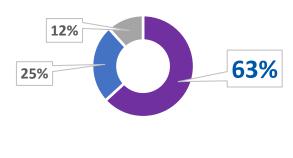
### **IBD IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE DRUGS & COVID-19**



### DO THE IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE DRUGS PREDISPOSE TO COVID-19 INFECTION?



# ARE YOU AFRAID THAT YOUR MEDICATIONS MAY INCREASE THE RISK OF COVID-19 INFECTION?



■ Yes ■ No ■ Do not know

98% OF PHYSICIANS HAVE NOT RECOMMENDED TO STOP IBD MEDICATIONS BECAUSE OF COVID-19

96% WOULD NOT LIKE IBD MEDICATIONS TO BE
DISCONTINUED DURING
THIS TIME

96% HAVE NOT STOPPED
THEIR IBD MEDICATIONS BY
THEIR OWN INITIATIVE
BECAUSE OF WORRIES

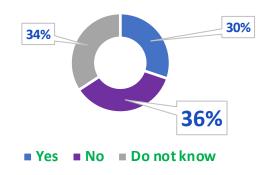


The majority of respondents declared they are afraid that medications may increase the risk of COVID-19, but at the same time they strict follow the indication of the specialist and do not intend to abandon the therapy.

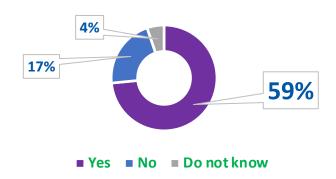




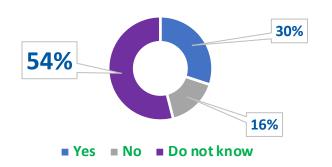
### DOES IBD PREDISPOSE TO COVID-19 INFECTION?



### SHOULD COVID-19 BE TRACKED DOWN IN ASYMPTOMATIC IBD PEOPLE?



### DOES THE COVID-19 INFECTION MAKE IBD WORSE?





While earlier there was a clear majority that think that immunosuppressive drugs can predispose to infection, as far as the disease in general is concerned, it is not clear whether it can predispose to a higher infection of COVID-19 and if it can make IBD worse.

Furthermore, the majority of respondents think that asymptomatic patients should also be tracked down.



# **EFCCA** wishes to thank the participants and local associations for being part on this survey.

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