

# Application of Green Practices within the Distribution Sector

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## INTRODUCTION

Wholesale dealers and distributors can adopt greener practices to decrease the carbon footprint related to distribution of pharmaceuticals.<sup>1</sup>

The application of greener practices in pharmaceutical distribution over an extended period of time lead to processes which are more energy efficient, cost effective and improves the image of companies.<sup>2</sup>

## AIM

To assess the application of green practices within the distribution sector

## METHOD

A questionnaire targeted for wholesale dealers and distributors was developed and validated to evaluate the application of green practices within the sector

The questionnaire was disseminated to wholesale dealers and distributors

The data collected from the questionnaires was analysed using Microsoft Excel®

## RESULTS

- Seventy-three participants answered the questionnaire (45 males and 28 females). The ages varied between 25-35 (n=22), 36-49 (n=24) and 50+ (n=27). The majority of participants were Responsible Persons (n=25) and company managers (n=22).
- Green measures adopted (Figure 1) included efficient medicine storage (n=48), efficient warehouses (n=43), improving the number of routes to transport medication (n=43) and using the first in first out mechanism (n=43).

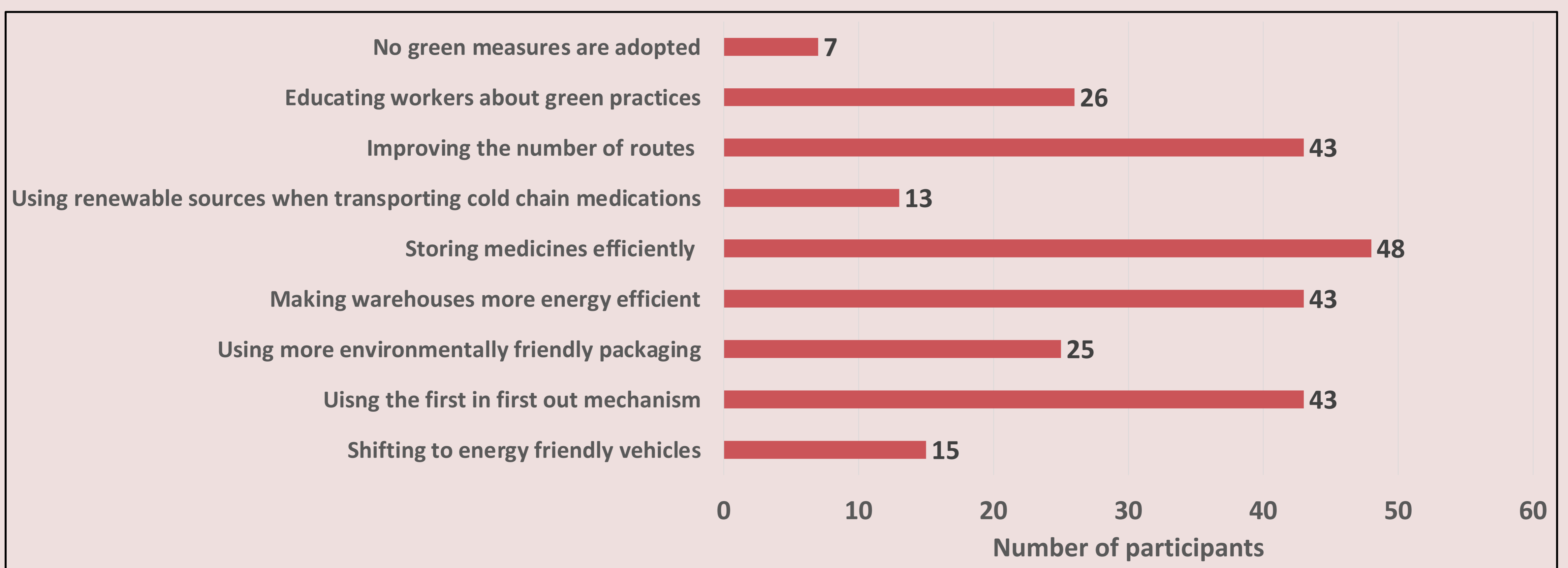


Figure 1: Green practices adopted within the distribution sector (N=73).

## CONCLUSION

There is a need to adopt green practices in distribution such as by shifting to energy-friendly vehicles and using more eco-friendly packaging.

The need for further education in the implementation of green practices is a necessity towards a greener pharmaceutical distribution.

## REFERENCES

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- <sup>2</sup>Halat K, Hafezalkotob A, Kazem Sayadi M. The green supply chains' ordering and pricing competition under carbon emissions regulations of government. *International Journal of Systems Science: Operations & Logistics*. 2023; 10(1). doi: 10.1080/23302674.2021.1983884