

Introduction

Improper use and unsafe disposal of medication is a leading cause towards hospitalizations, and is significantly damaging our environment. To solve these issues, Salama Dawaa'ya was developed.

AIMS: To educate and enhance sustainability, efficacy, and safety of medication disposal.

The application consists of the following features:

- A reminder page (Salama Date)
- Educational pages (Salama Library)
- An Incentive Program
- Disposal Boxes and Locations (Salama Map)



Feedback from Users

It can really be used to improve the sustainability of medication disposal

البرنامج جميل ومفيد جدا

Salama provided me with insight on the importance of correct disposal of medication clearly..

Feedback from Pharmacists

Great initiative, Very useful and helpful to the general public.

Highly Encouraging Application



Prevalence

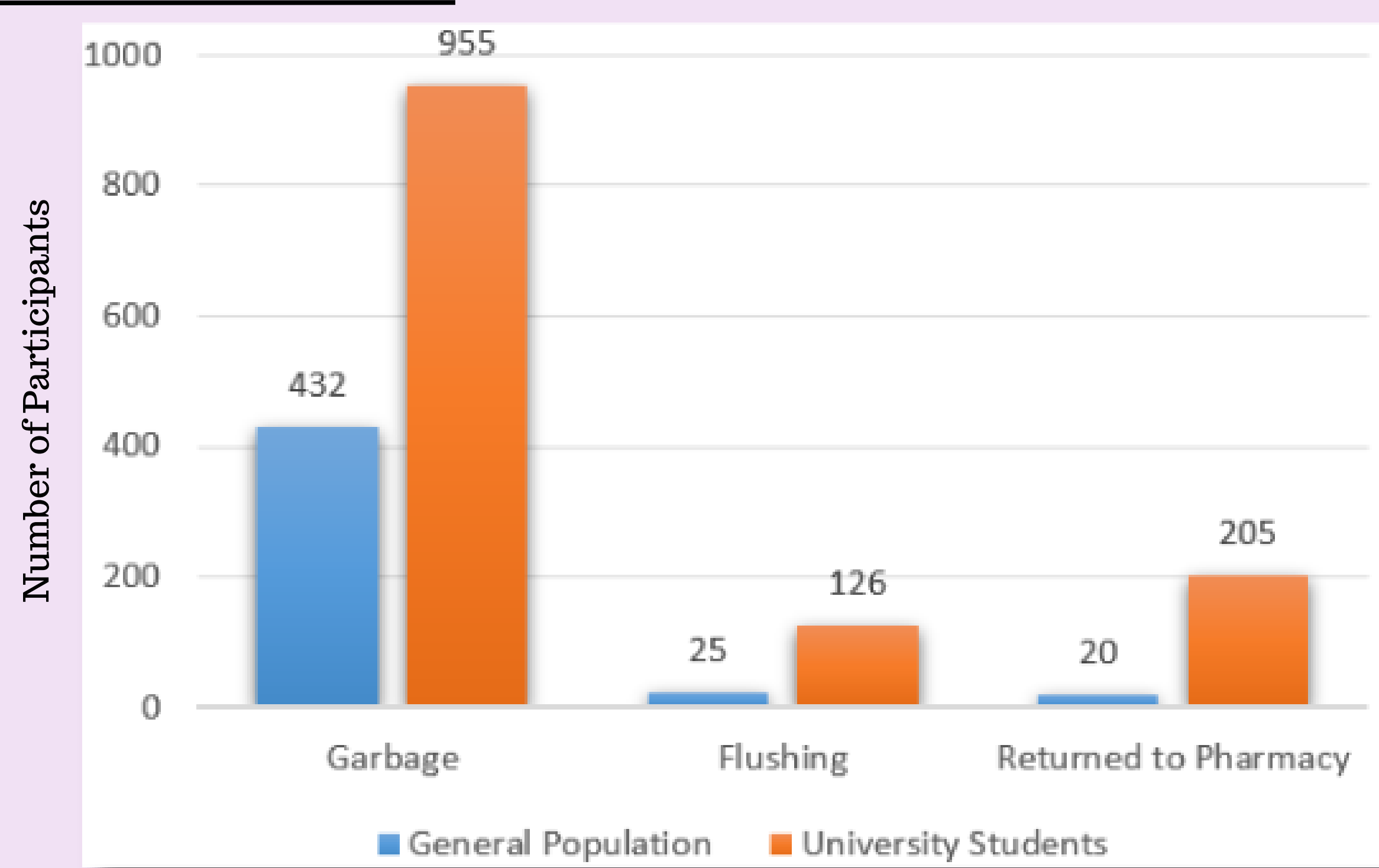


Figure 1: Multiple studies conducted proved that the primary disposal method in the UAE was through the garbage. (1)

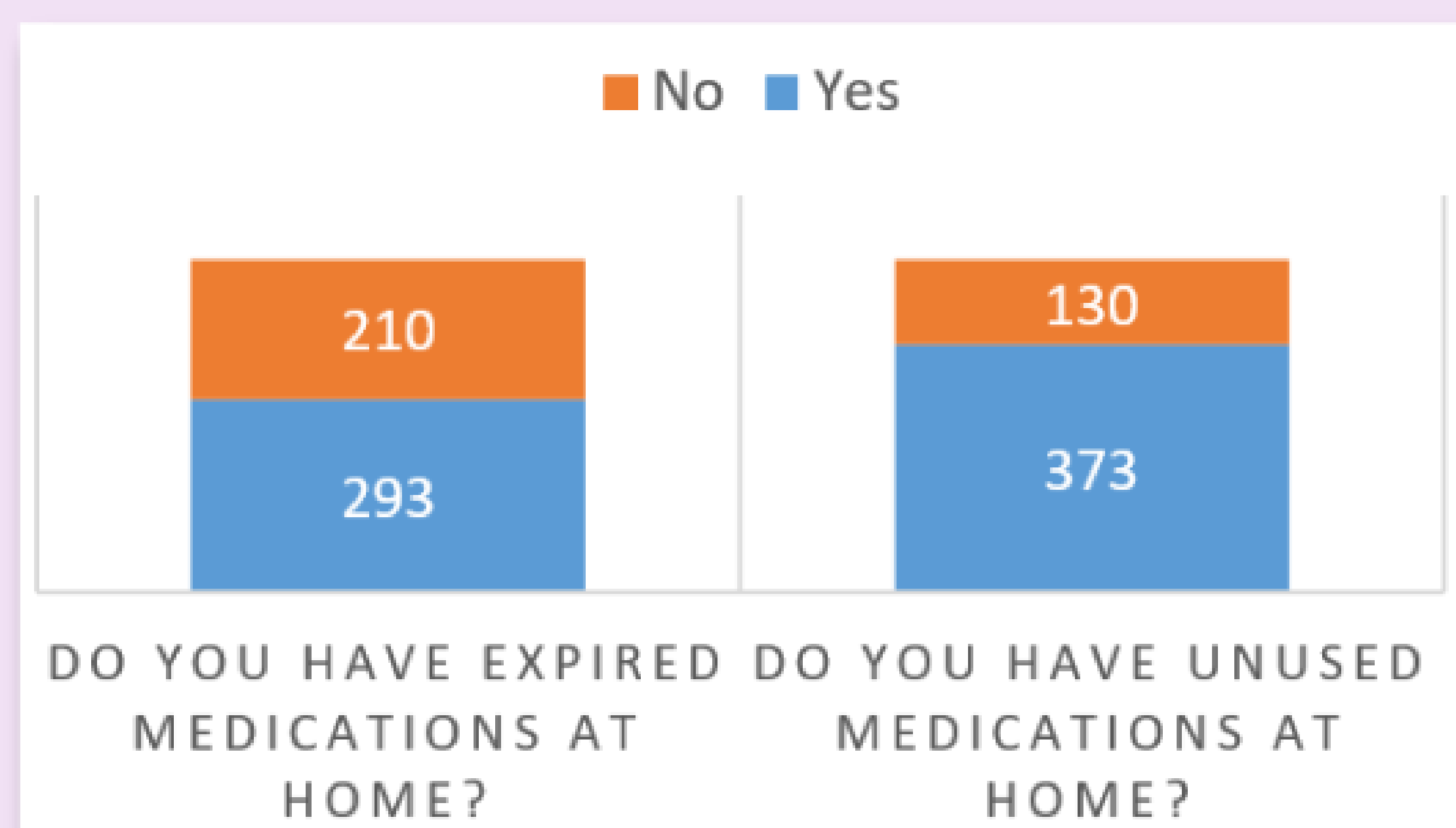


Figure 2: The data shows that the majority of the general population in the UAE do not dispose of unnecessary medications. (1)

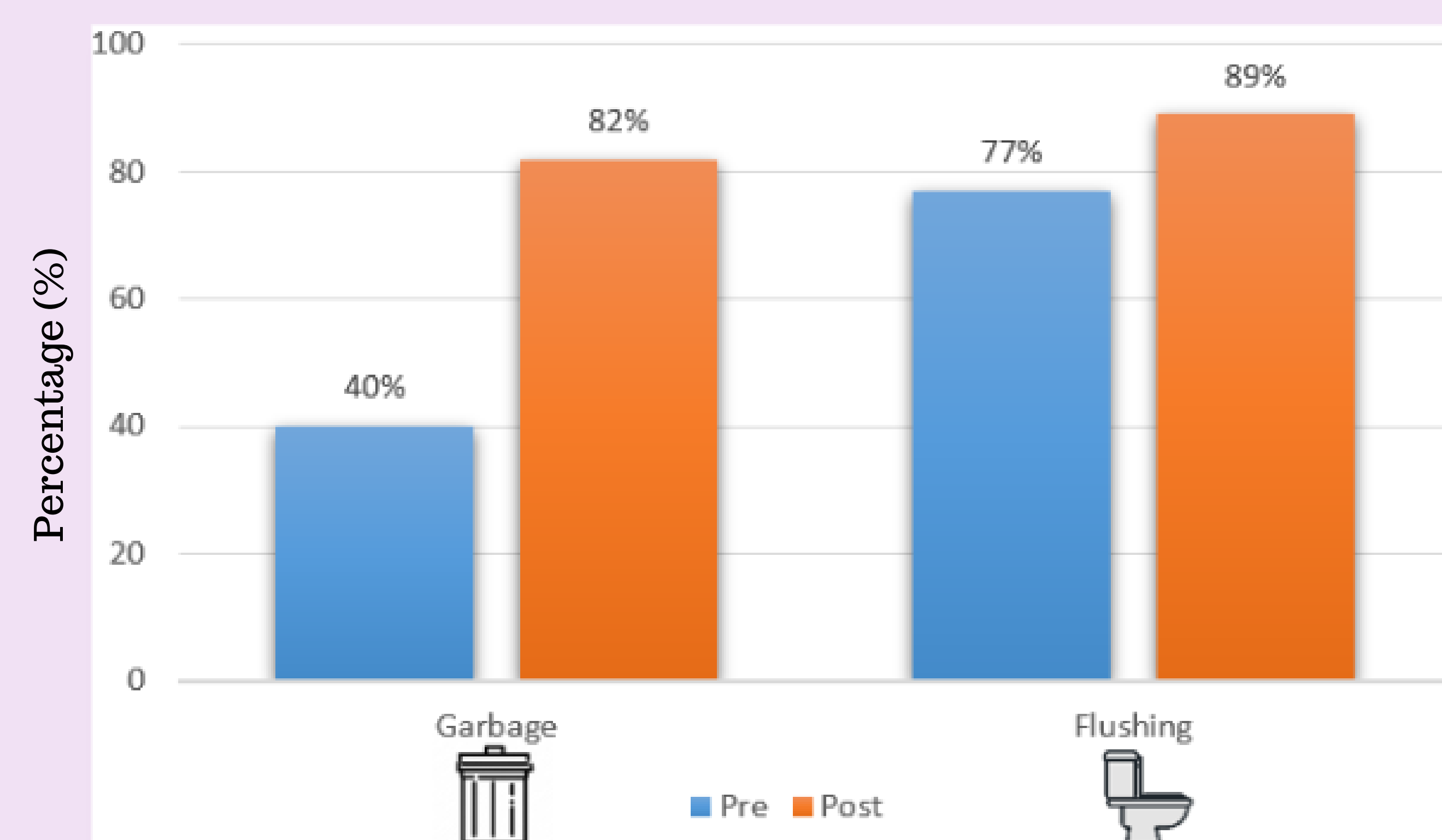
Specific protocols for handling pharmaceutical waste are established solely for medical facilities and drugstores, leaving households without clear guidelines, resulting in a cost of approximately \$33.15 million to the United Arab Emirates. (1,2)

Method

- Using the renowned UI designer website "Figma", the first functional prototype of SALAMA Dawaa'ya was developed.
- An intervention survey was sent to the general population of the UAE to test their knowledge on medication safety and disposal before and after using the application. The survey consisted of demographic, knowledge, satisfaction, and a feedback section.
- To reduce bias most participants were grouped and presented the application in a single sitting.

Results

Figure 3: Shows the awareness of participants before and after the usage of SALAMA Dawaa'ya and their knowledge on the improper disposal methods.



77% OF INDIVIDUALS SURVEYED WERE UNAWARE OF ANY MEDICATION DISPOSAL PROGRAMS IN THEIR COMMUNITY!!

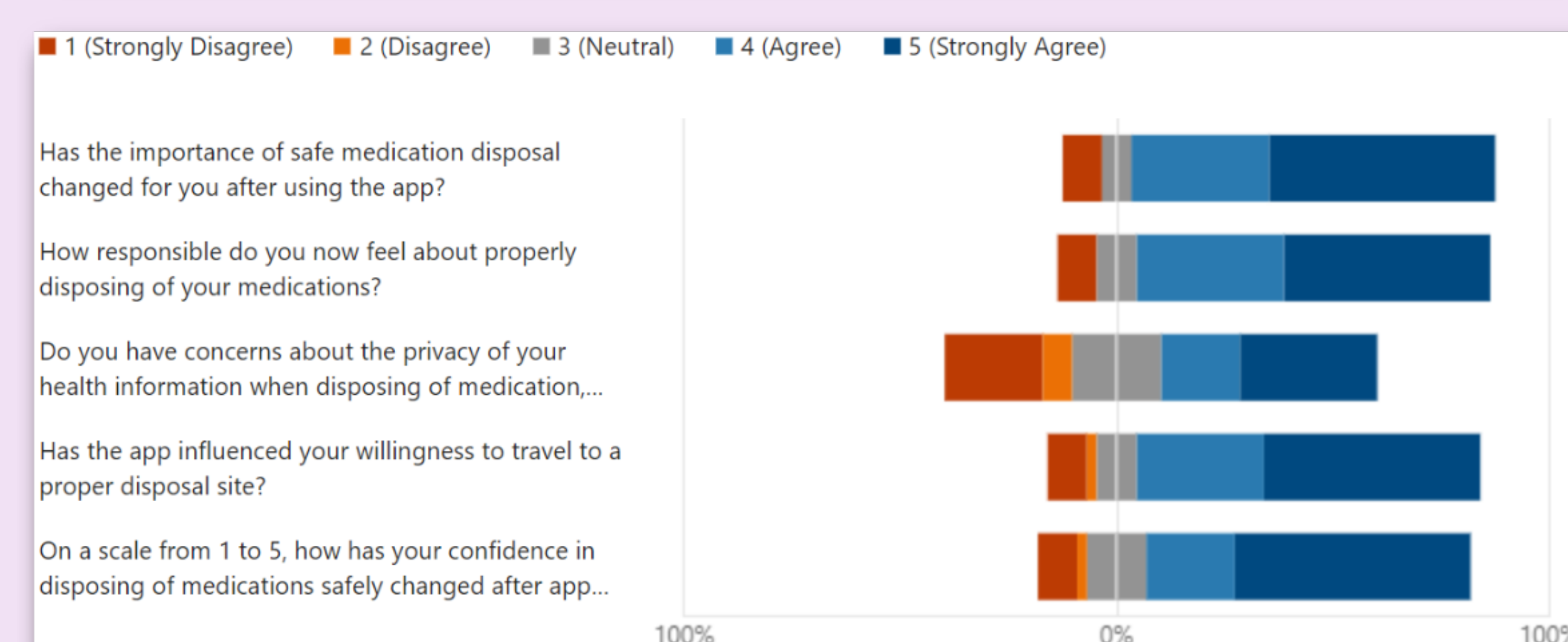


Figure 4: The satisfaction-based questions and results for the SALAMA Dawaa'ya Application Survey

Conclusion

In summary, the SALAMA DAWAA'YA application has proven its great advantages as it strives to be the first step towards an increase in sustainability within the United Arab Emirates and the safety of its population.

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- 1) Ghemrawi R, Kharaba Z, Aldulaymi R, AlBataineh N, Alghaly F, Qasem N, Khair M. Expired medications and disposal practices in Arab households. Int J Pharm Pract. 2022 Dec 31;30(6):534-540. doi: 10.1093/ijpp/riac066. PMID: 35946835.
- 2) Abahussain E, Waheedi M, Koshy S. Practice, awareness and opinion of pharmacists toward disposal of unwanted medications in Kuwait. Saudi Pharm J 2012; 20: 195-201.