

# Use of Fenfluramine and Cannabidiol in Daily Practice: A Retrospective Analysis of German Prescription Claims

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## QUESTION

- How does the use of fenfluramine (FFA) compare to cannabidiol (CBD) in patients with Dravet syndrome (DS) and Lennox-Gastaut syndrome (LGS) in Germany?

## INVESTIGATION

- DS and LGS are rare, developmental, and epileptic encephalopathies with severe cognitive, behavioural, and motor impairments<sup>1,2</sup>
- FFA is approved for the treatment of seizures associated with DS and LGS in patients ≥2 years of age in the US, EU, and UK<sup>3,4</sup>
- FFA and CBD are the latest two approved treatment options
- Here we describe the daily use of FFA and CBD in Germany based on prescription claims in terms of age and gender distribution, prior medication use, dosage, and medication persistence, in DS and LGS

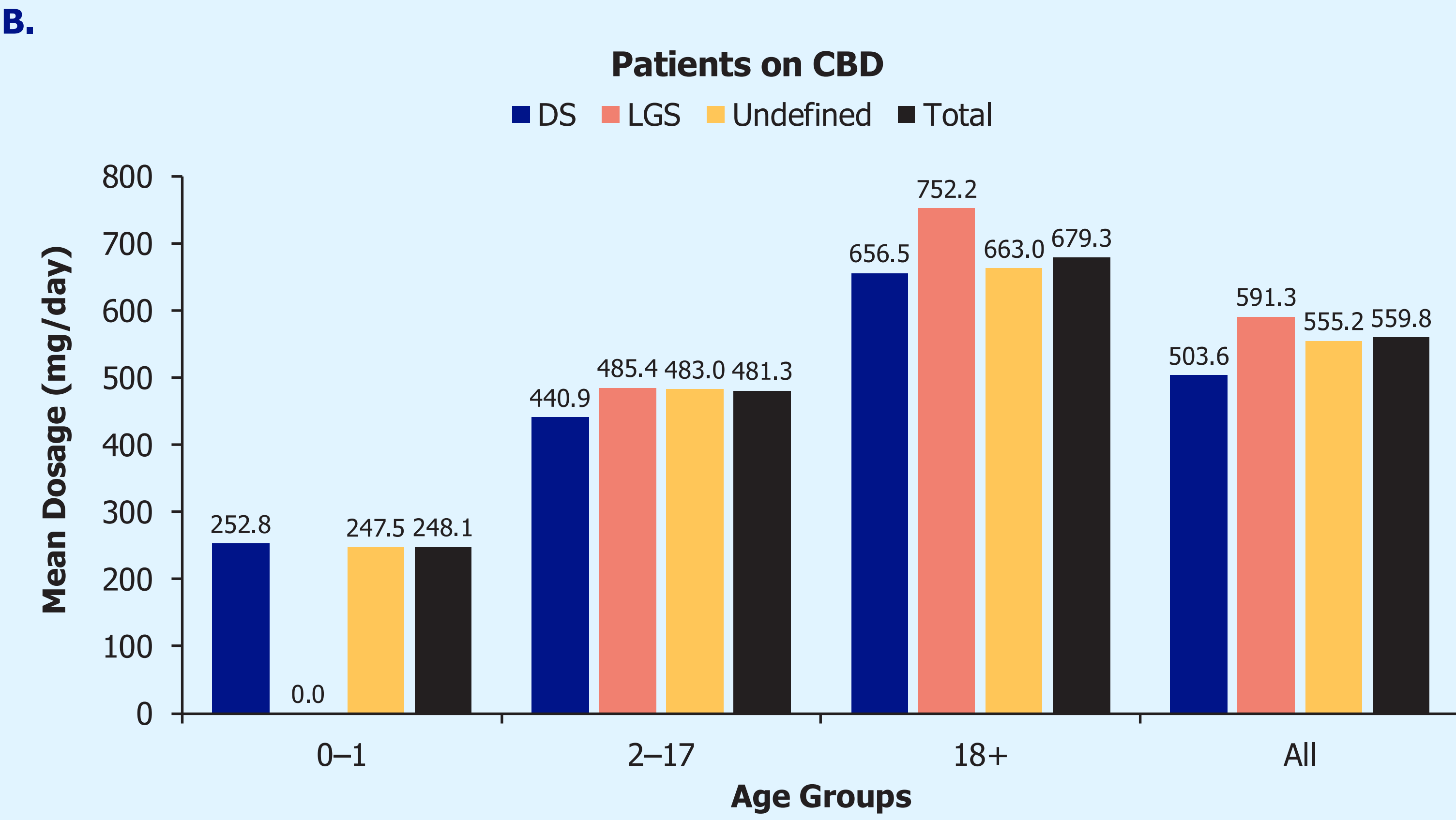
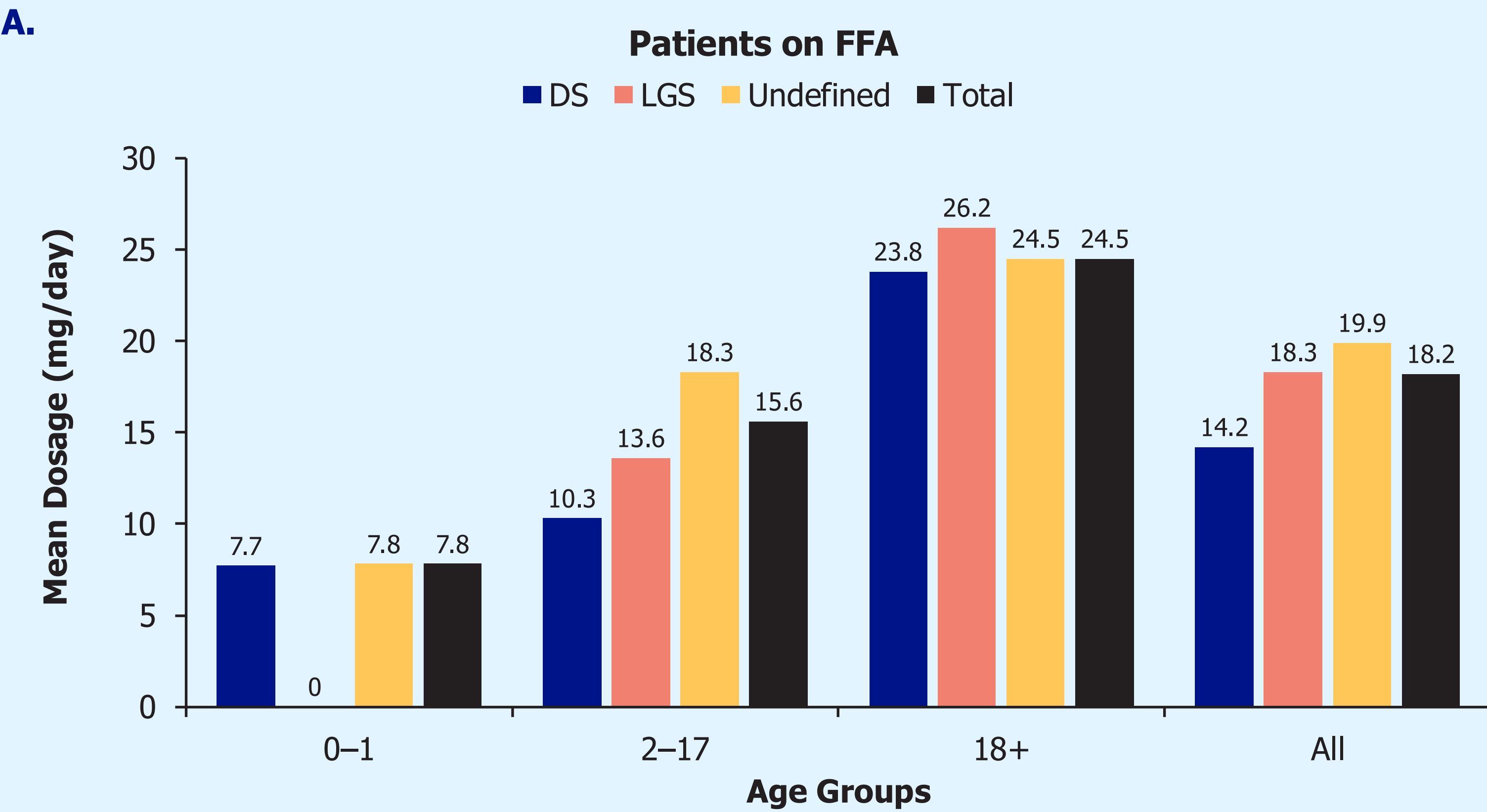
## RESULTS

### Patient Characteristics at Date of First Prescription of FFA or CBD (Index Date)

|                           | FFA         |             |             |             | CBD         |             |             |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                           | DS          | LGS         | Undefined   | Total       | DS          | LGS         | Undefined   | Total       |
| N in database             | 79          | 32          | 192         | 303         | 62          | 230         | 1,049       | 1,341       |
| Extrapolated to SHI       | 99          | 40          | 240         | 379         | 89          | 329         | 1,500       | 1,918       |
| Adult patients, n (%)     | 29 (29.3)   | 18 (43.9)   | 81 (33.8)   | 128 (33.7)  | 30 (34.1)   | 134 (40.9)  | 649 (43.3)  | 814 (42.4)  |
| Sex, %                    |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Female                    | 31.3        | 35.0        | 35.4        | 34.3        | 32.6        | 28.6        | 36.3        | 34.8        |
| Male                      | 43.4        | 52.5        | 37.9        | 40.9        | 49.4        | 41.3        | 36.3        | 37.8        |
| Unknown                   | 25.3        | 12.5        | 26.7        | 24.8        | 18.0        | 30.1        | 27.3        | 27.4        |
| Mean age (SD), years      | 14.7 (15.1) | 17.8 (12.9) | 14.6 (11.9) | 15.0 (12.9) | 16.5 (13.3) | 18.5 (13.4) | 19.8 (16.3) | 19.4 (15.7) |
| With ASM before index*, % | 97.5        | 100.0       | 91.1        | 93.7        | 96.8        | 96.1        | 82.6        | 85.5        |

\*Within 9 months prior to index. Data source: Patient Insights Analytics, Insight Health 2024.

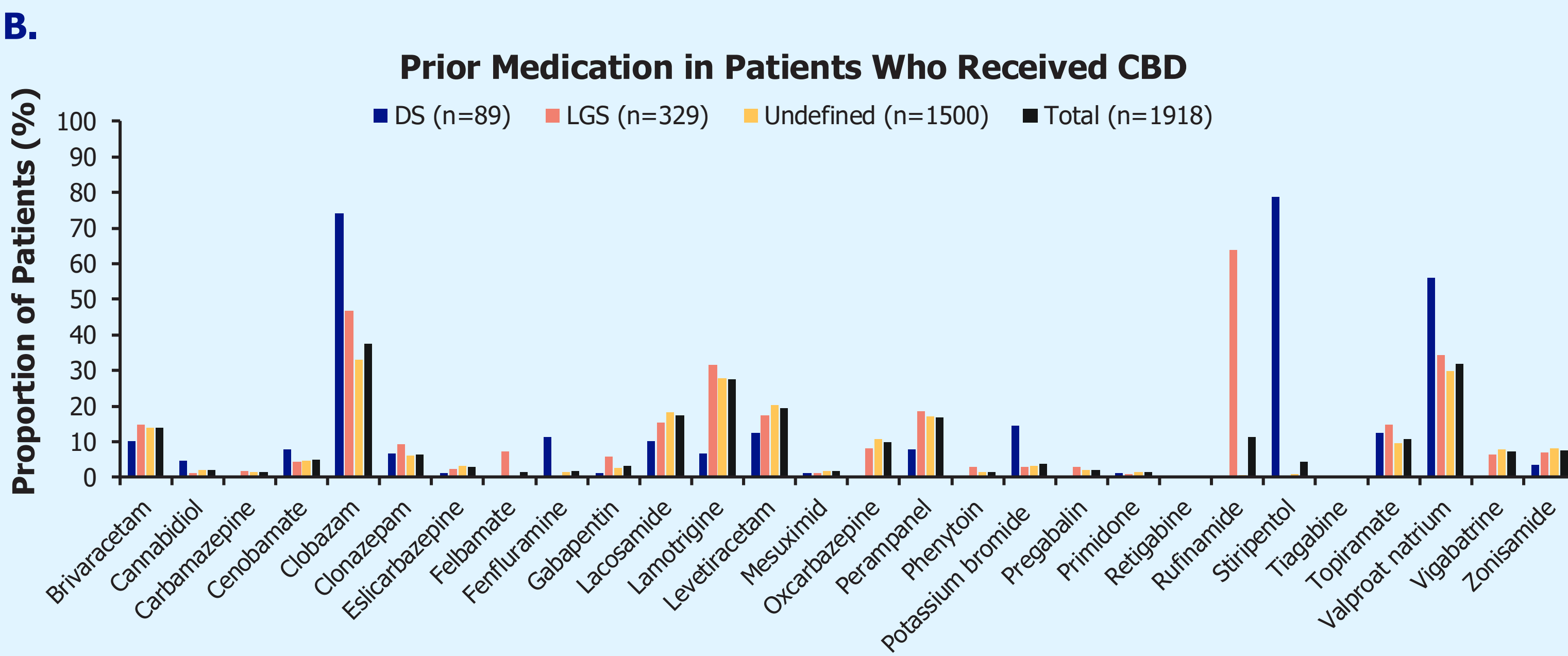
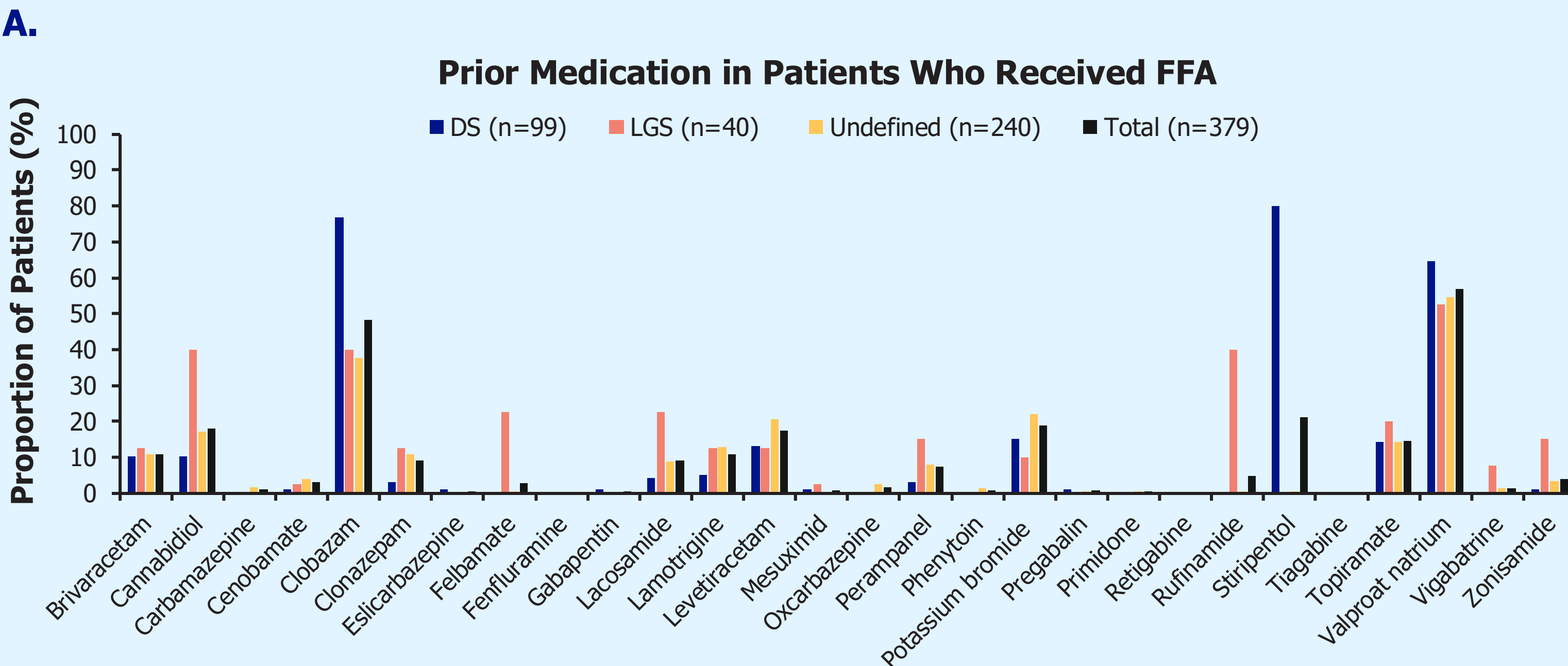
### Prescribed Daily Dosage of FFA (A) and CBD (B) by Age Group and by Indication



Data source: Patient Insights Analytics, Insight Health 2024.

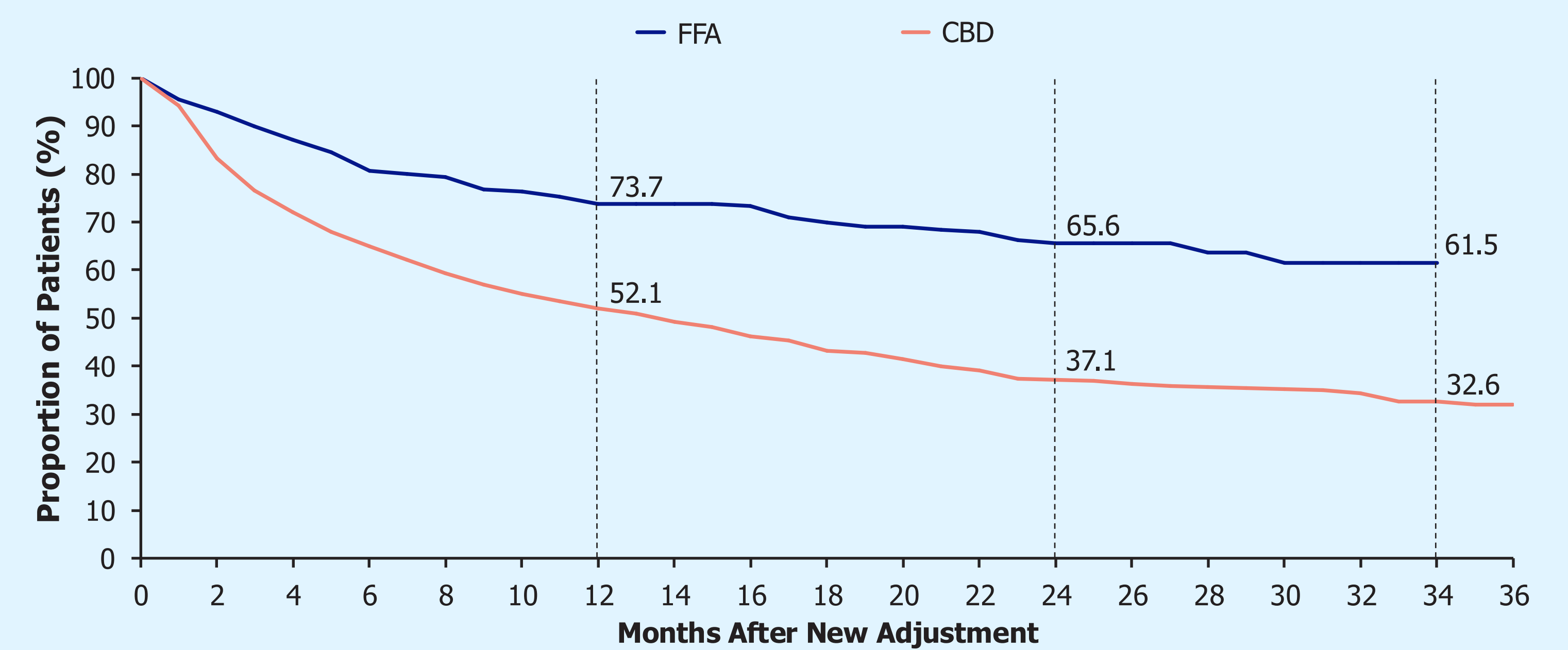
**Abbreviations:** ASM, antiseizure medication; CBD, cannabidiol; DS, Dravet syndrome; FFA, fenfluramine; LGS, Lennox-Gastaut syndrome; SD, standard deviation; SHI, statutory health insurance.

### Prior Medications in Patients Who Received FFA (A) and CBD (B) Within 9 Months Prior to Index



Data source: Patient Insights Analytics, Insight Health 2024.

### Persistence With FFA (blue) and CBD (red) in the Total Population<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup>Patients lost to follow-up due to end of database were censored.

### Number of ASM Co-medication Prescriptions in Defined Pre- and Post-index Timelines in Patients Who Received FFA or CBD

| Analytic Cohort | Time Frame Relative to Index | Number of Co-medication Prescriptions, mean (SD) |             |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--|-------------|
|                 |                              | FFA  | CBD         |
| Total           | -180 to -15                  | 11.6 (8.9)                                       | 10.4 (10.4) |
| Total           | 15 to 180                    | 9.5 (8.3)  | 10.2 (9.9)  |
| Total           | 181 to 365                   | 8.2 (8.3)  | 10.4 (11.0) |

Data source: Patient Insights Analytics, Insight Health 2024.

## METHODS

- This was a retrospective analysis of German prescription data covering 64 million statutory health insured individuals from March 2020 until October 2023
  - Patient index date was the date of the first prescription of FFA or CBD
  - Patient numbers were extrapolated to the overall German statutory health insured population
- Patient groups were defined as follows:
  - DS: with Stiripentol (STP) and without Felbamate (FLB) or Rufinamide (RUF) at any time during study period
  - LGS: with FLB or RUF and without STP were assigned to LGS group at any time during study period
  - Undefined: without STP or FLB or RUF or with STP and FLB or RUF at any time during study period
  - Total: DS, LGS and undefined groups combined
- Prior anti-seizure medications (ASMs) were analyzed for up to 9 months prior to index
- Utilization of ASM co-medication was analyzed for the periods 180–15 days prior and 15–180 and 181–365 days after index using the time frame March 2020 to April 2024
- Persistence was analyzed for a follow-up period after index of up to 36 months and patients lost to follow-up due to end of database records were censored

## CONCLUSIONS

- This analysis suggested that prescribed daily dosage for FFA and CBD was in line with the SmPC recommendations
- Prior medication use was numerically greater in patients who received FFA vs CBD
- After the index date, the number of prescriptions for concomitant ASMs appeared to have reduced to a greater extent in patients who received FFA vs CBD
- The overall (not indication specific) medication persistency can be considered numerically higher in patients who received FFA vs CBD

### References

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### Disclosures

**C-LD:** Employee of UCB with stock ownership.

Disclosures for all authors can be found in the full poster at the QR code.

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