

ACCESS TO LIVER TRANSPLANT FOR WOMEN IN SPAIN: A NATIONAL REGISTRY ANALYSIS

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Introduction

Gender inequities in liver transplantation (LT) have been documented recently in several studies (1-5).

Aim

To describe the recipient profile over time in Spain, particularly regarding potential sex-related differences in access to LT.

Method

All adult patients registered in the Spanish Liver Transplant Registry (CORE, ONT) from 2000 to 2017 were included.

Conclusions

- Reduction in waiting times reduces sex-related disparities in access to LT.
- It prevents women's deterioration while waiting.
- Policies directed to the optimization of the LT cascade should be implemented to guarantee equal and fair access.

Acknowledgements

To all the LT groups, the donors and their families.

References

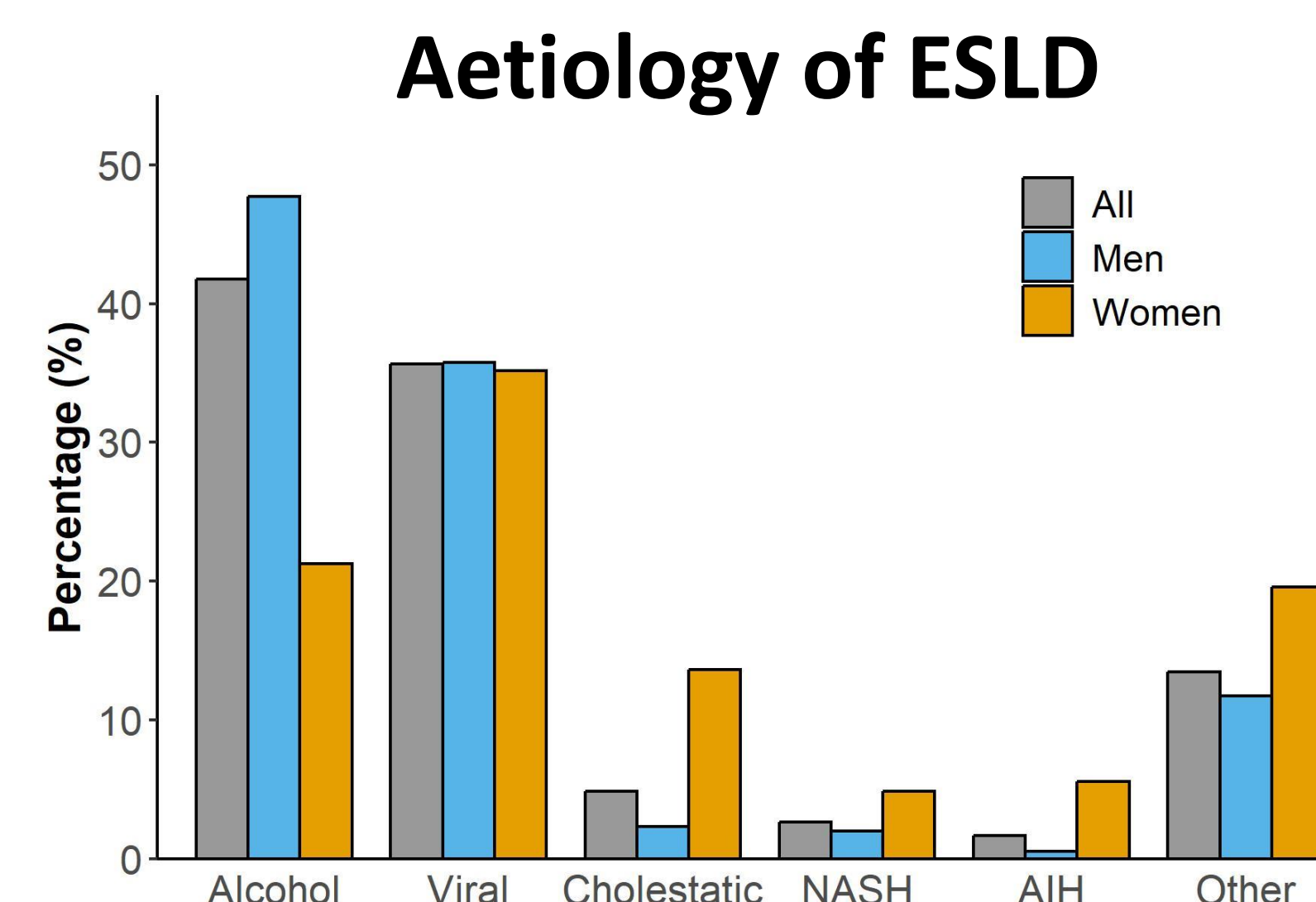
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Results

9427 patients: 77.6% men, mean age 55.3 ± 8.3 years.



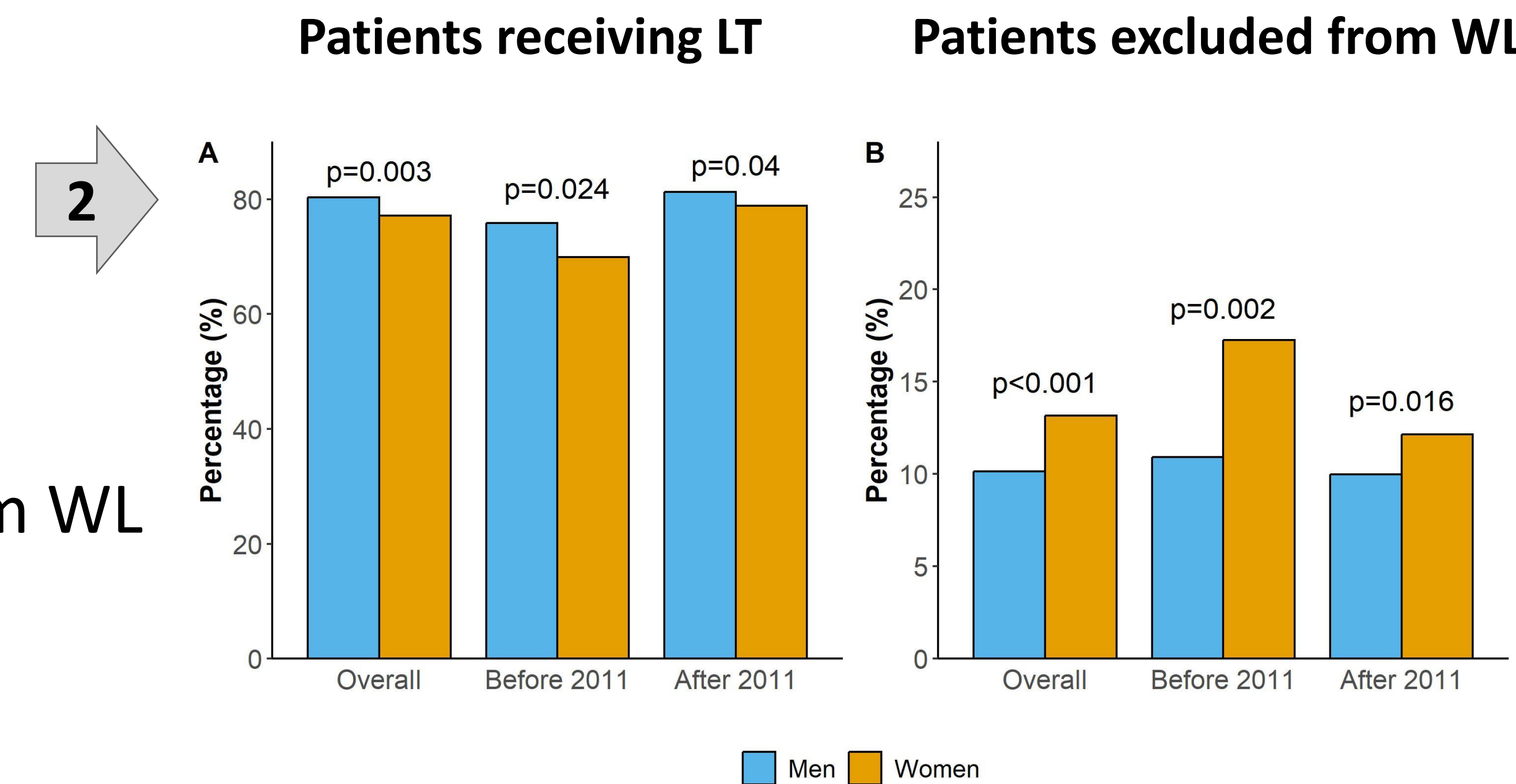
1 Men and women have different aetiology of their liver disease, but similar severity:

MELD score*	Men	Women	p
MELD score*	16.5 ± 5.8	16.6 ± 5.8	NS

MELD by sex. Results expressed as Mean ± SD. Welch Two Sample t-test for comparison between men and women.
*MELD available for 36.1% of included patients.

Nation-wide policies are needed to reduce gender-inequity in LT

Overall, women:
• Are less likely to receive a LT (OR 0.84, IC95% 0.73, 0.97)
• Greater risk of exclusion from WL (HR 1.21, IC95% 1.02, 1.44)



Despite similar waiting times:
Women 244 ± 398 vs Men 213 ± 324 days, p<0.001

Over the last decade differences by sex have decreased → Reasons

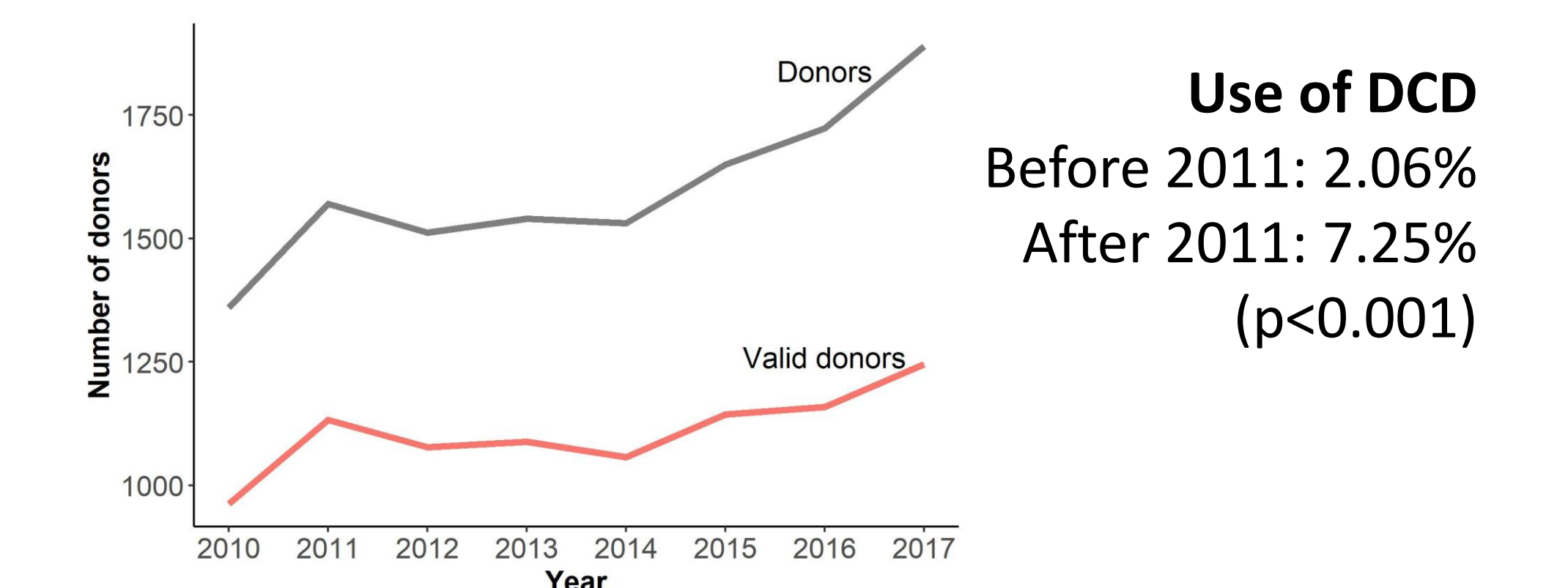
	Before 2011	After 2011
LT probability being male	OR 1.5 (p=0.018)	OR 1.1 (NS)
WL exclusion being female	HR 1.5 (p=0.043)	HR 1.2 (NS)

In Spain, waiting times have shortened since 2011, but women wait longer for intermediate MELD scores

MELD score	Waiting time by sex		
	Men	Women	p
<16	193.0 ± 219.2	205.3 ± 229.7	NS
16-20	210.7 ± 206.8	270.0 ± 267.4	<0.001
>20	126.1 ± 199.9	148.1 ± 245.3	NS

Time on waiting list by sex in patients included since 2011 with available MELD. All results are expressed as mean ± SD. Welch Two Sample t-test for the comparison between men and women.

- 1) Hepatitis C universal treatment
- 2) Increase in donation rate



- 3) MELD use generalization

