

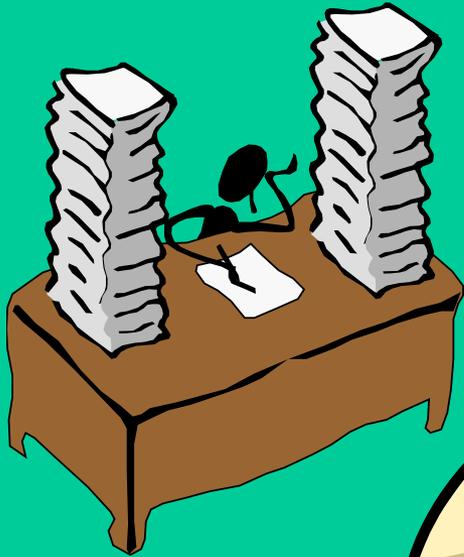
2nd International Conference of EBHC Teachers & Developers

PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD
CATOLICA

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How and Where do Chilean health professionals get their health information?



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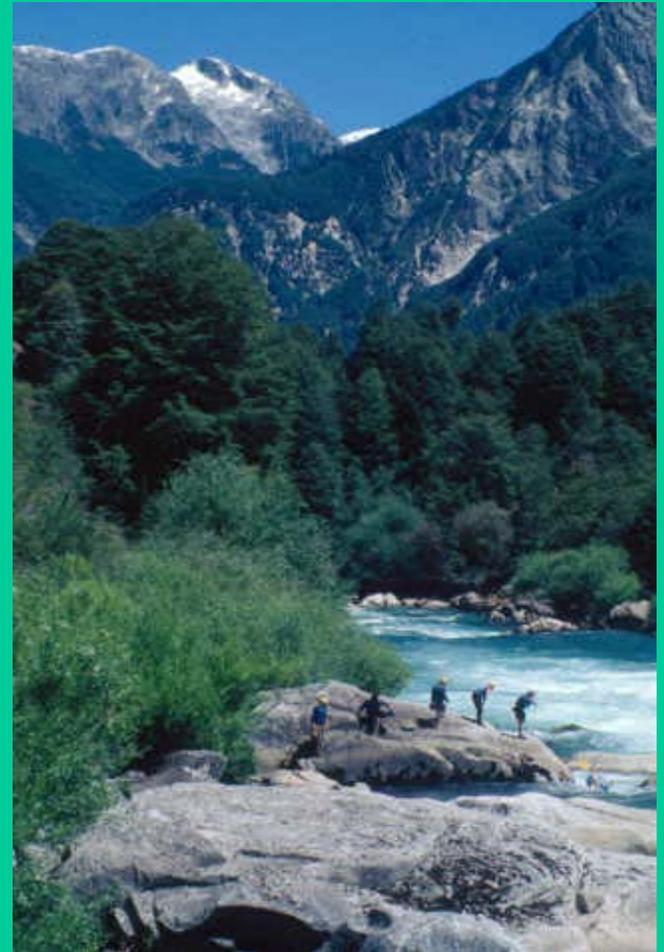
Background



- In Chile there is interest from the universities and the Ministry of Health to introduce EBM into clinical practice.
- However little is known about the clinical information needs of Chilean health professionals

Background

- The internet made a late start in Latin America and was introduced primarily through the universities in 1991
- In 2002 there were more internet connections in UK than in the whole of LA
- Internet is still small in LA but its growth is impressive.
- Chilean census 2002 30/1000 households have cable TV



Aims

Descriptive study of:

- How much time Chilean health professionals spend keeping up to date
- Where Chilean health professionals get clinical information.

Methods

Between 2000-2002 we gave motivational lectures on EBM to different groups of health professionals.

At the beginning of the lectures we asked participants two questions:

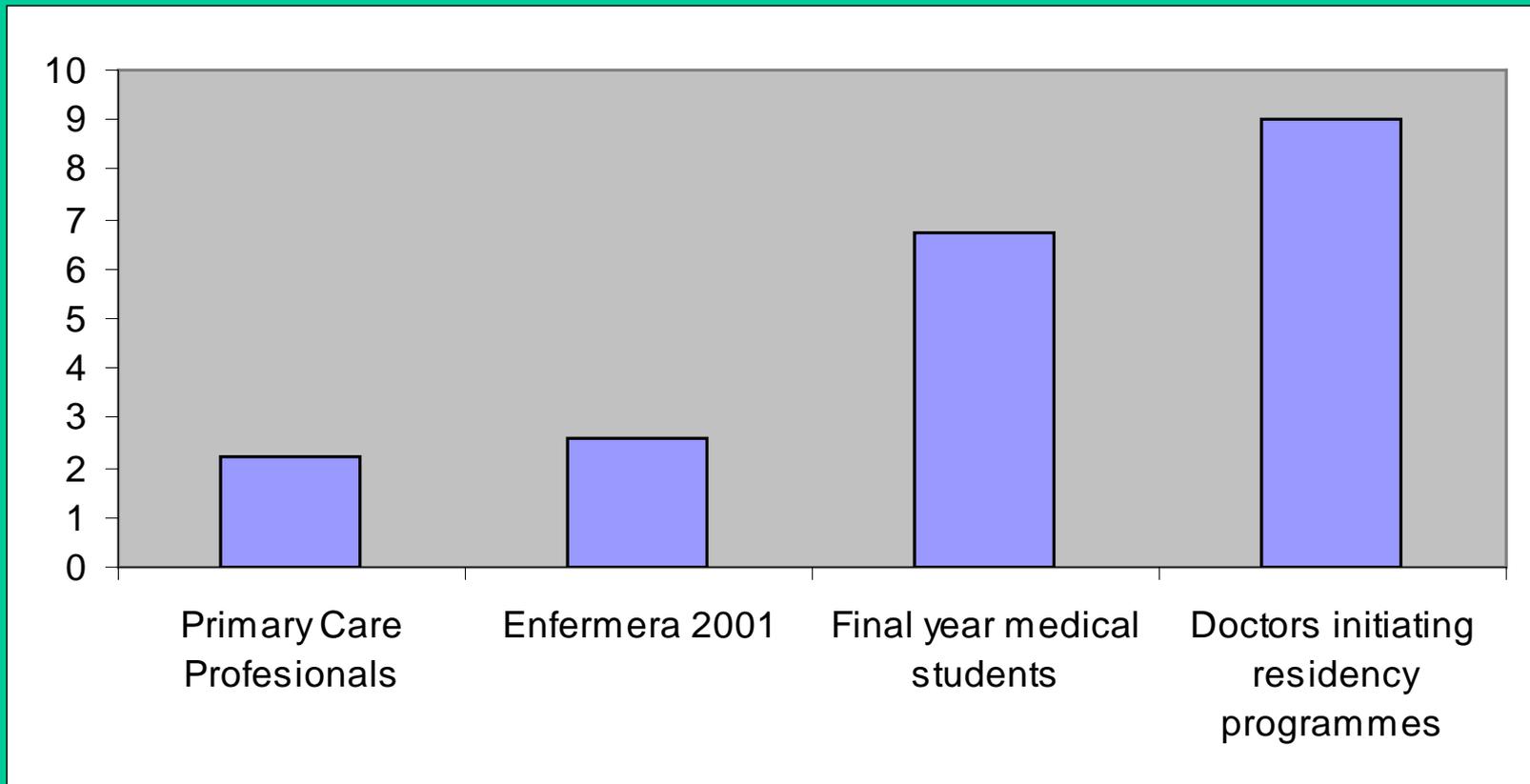
- How many hours/week do you dedicate to reading health literature?
- When you need information on a clinical matter, where do you go first to find the answer: Books - Internet - Librarian - Colleagues - Journals?
- Residents were also asked how much they thought they should read during their training.

Results

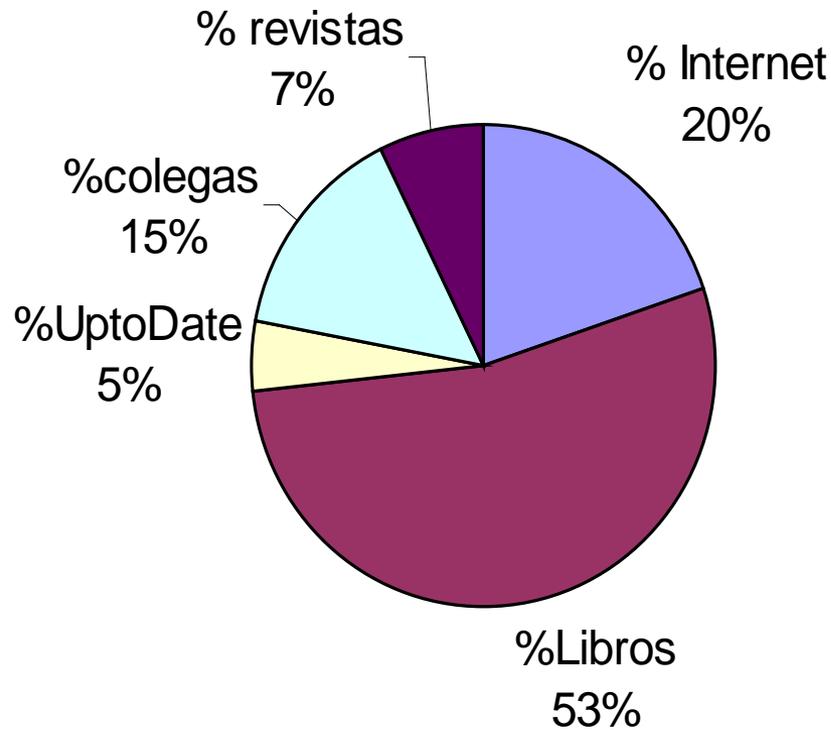
- 239 participants replied :
- »29 Primary Care Physicians
 - »40 nurses
 - »133 residents
 - »36 medical students.

The average time spent reading was 5.1hrs/week.
Residents thought they should spend 20 hrs/week reading.

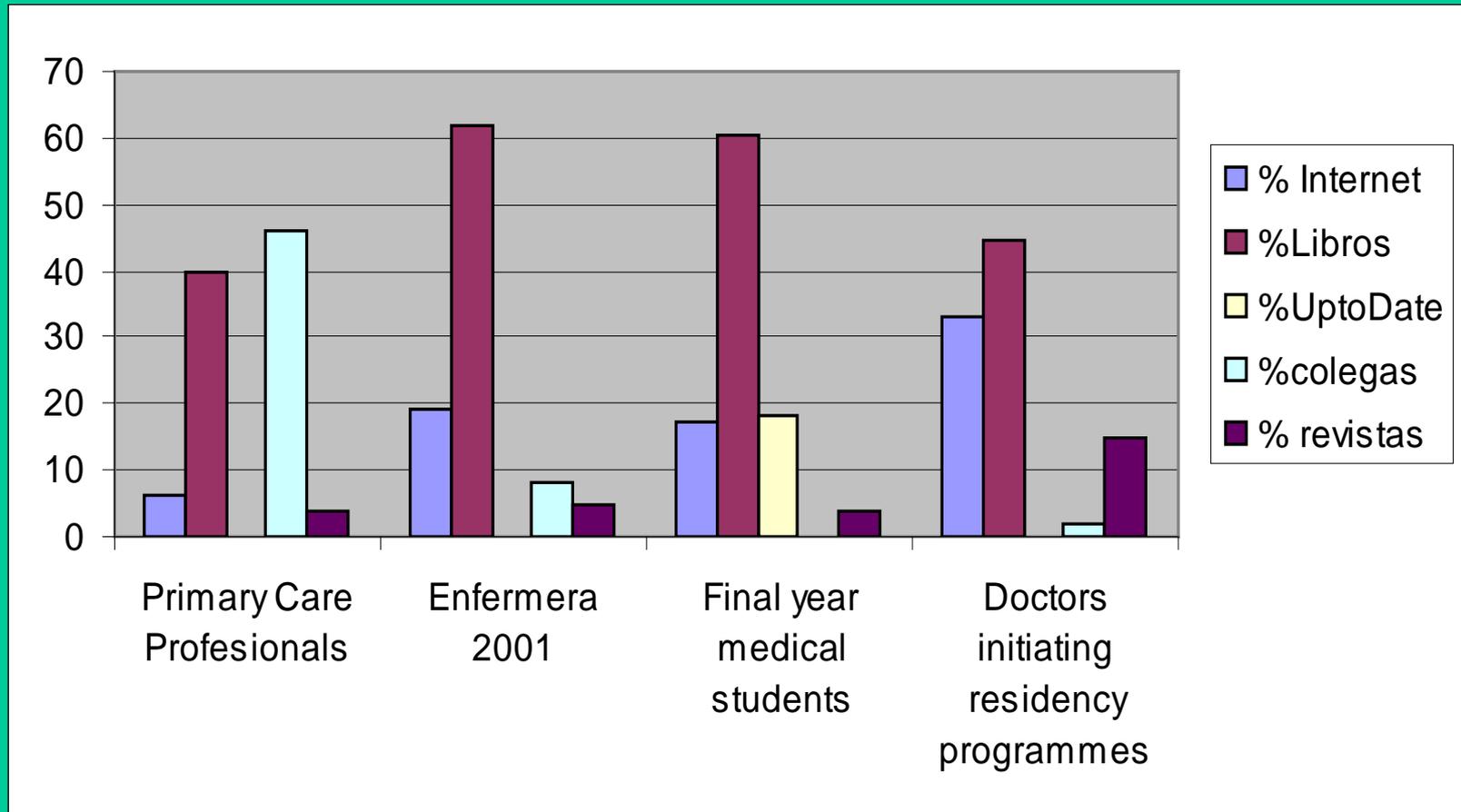
How much time Chilean Professionals spend reading Hours/week



Where Chilean Health Professionals get their Clinical Information



First Source of Clinical Information



Conclusion

- We spend little time reading though we say we read five times what doctors read in Britain!
- We need to read more
- All would probably benefit from an EBM approach
- The low use of internet even in academic settings is a clear challenge to those who hope to introduce EBM into clinical practice in Chile.

