

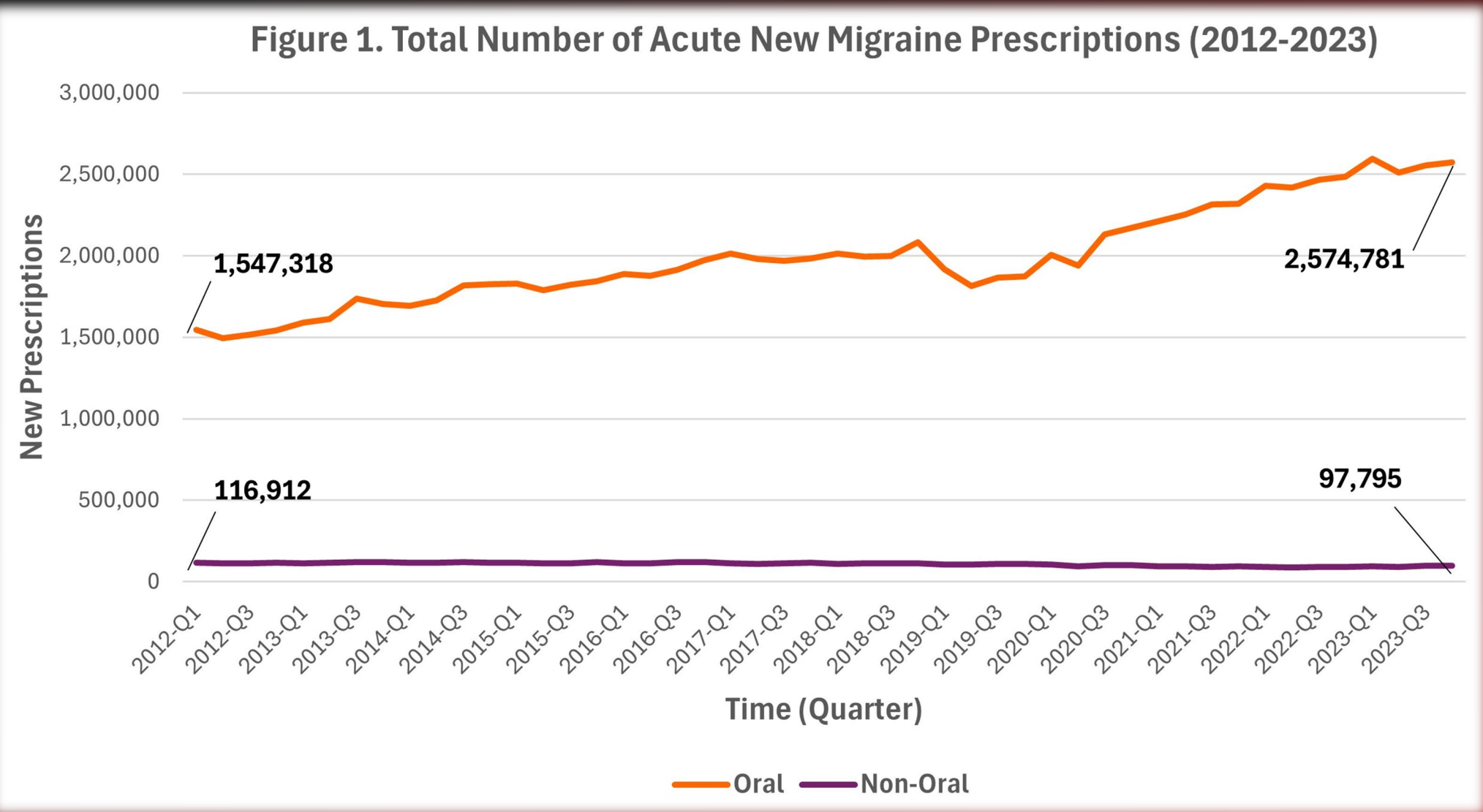


American Headache Society Consensus Statement and Other Recommendations: How Many Practitioners Comply With the Recommendations?

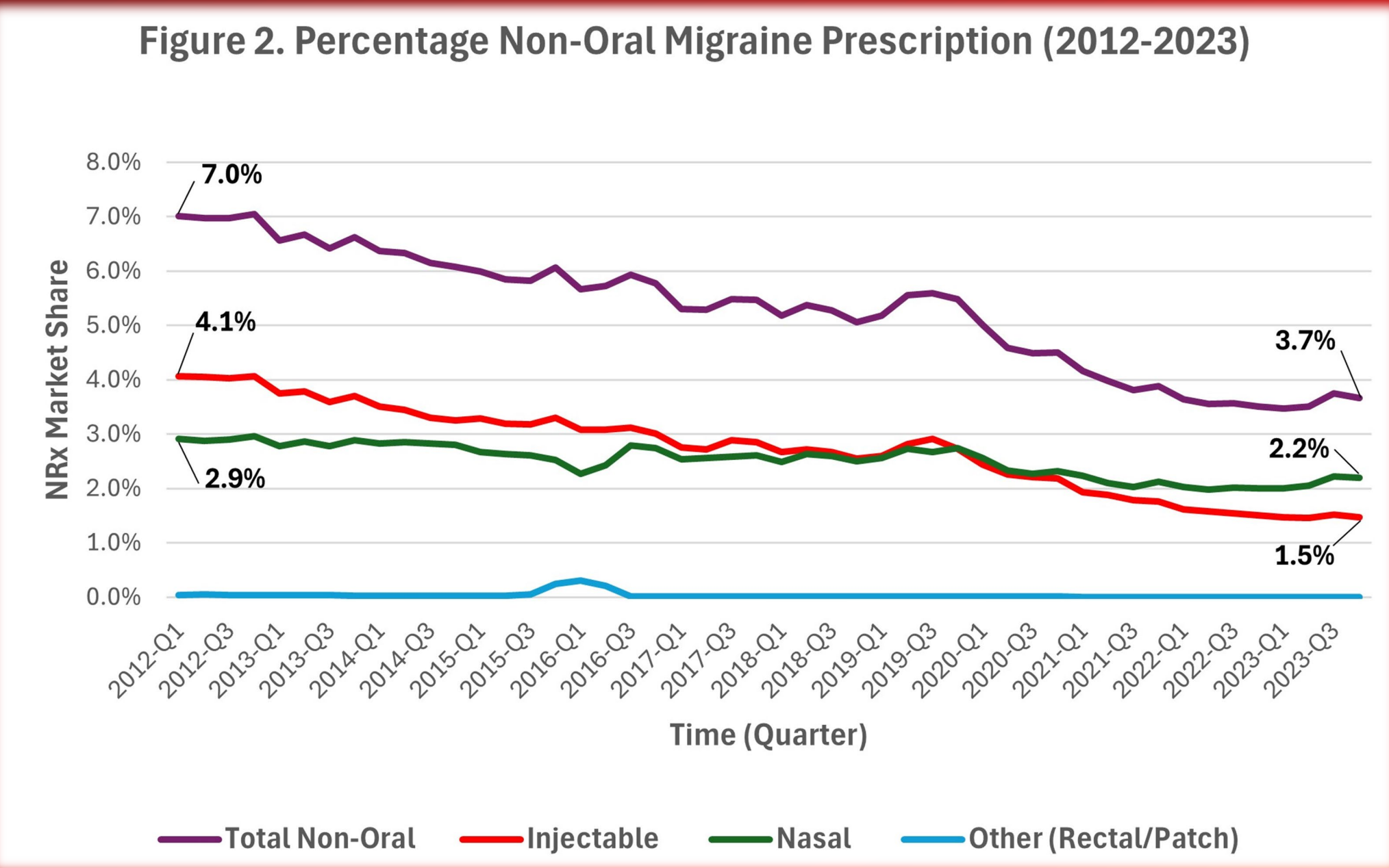


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RESULTS



In Q1 2012, over 1.6 million new prescriptions were written for acute migraine medications. Of these, 92.9% (1,547,318) were written for oral formulations, and 7.1% (116,912) for non-oral formulations. Twelve years later in Q4 2023 the oral acute migraine market increased by 66.3% to over 2.6 million new prescriptions while the non-oral market decreased by 16.4% to under 98,000 new prescriptions.



Relatively, new prescriptions written for non-oral formulations in the acute migraine market declined from 7.0% to 3.7% during the period 2012-2023. Of all prescriptions, nasal formulations declined from 2.9% at the beginning of 2012 to 2.2 % by the end of 2023. Injectable acute migraine treatments saw the biggest decline making up approximately 4.1% of all prescriptions at the beginning of 2012 and 1.5% by the end of 2023.

SUMMARY

The American Headache Society (AHS) has published several treatment guidelines and consensus statements, including a recent statement in 2021. This analysis aims to determine the compliance of practitioners with a key recommendation. The consensus statement recommends customizing treatment to the needs of individual patients, suggesting that up to 30% of patients may require non-oral therapy for optimal control of acute migraine attacks. However, the data in this analysis shows very poor compliance with this recommendation, as non-oral medications were used in only 7% of patients. This indicates a significant need for additional vigorous education of practitioners to improve patient satisfaction in treating acute migraine attacks.

Summary Table: From 2012 to 2023, there is a stark contrast between the prescription volumes of oral and non-oral migraine medications

Category	Medication Type	Number of Prescriptions	Total
Oral	Tablets	107,191,472	107,883,201
	Liquid	691,729	
Non-Oral	Injectable	3,135,722	6,087,994
	Nasal	2,878,343	
	Rectal	58,962	
	Patch	14,118	
	Combination form	849	

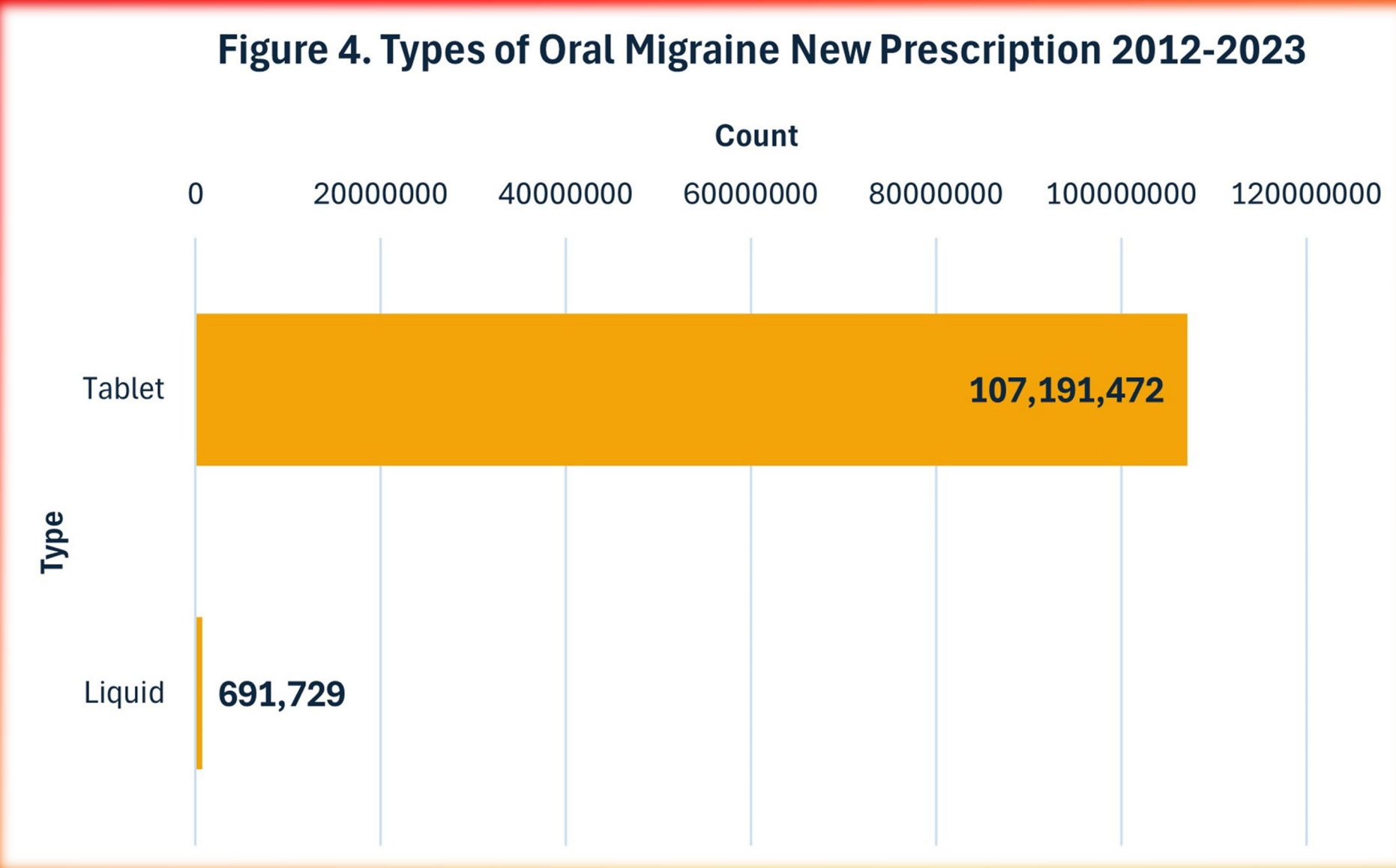
METHODS

Pharmaco-economic data was obtained from the national Symphony Health prescription database. The database captures prescriptions from >307 million individuals, >1.98 million subscribers, >18,000 health plans as well as 85% of retail, 74% of mail order and 73% of specialty pharmacies, respectively.

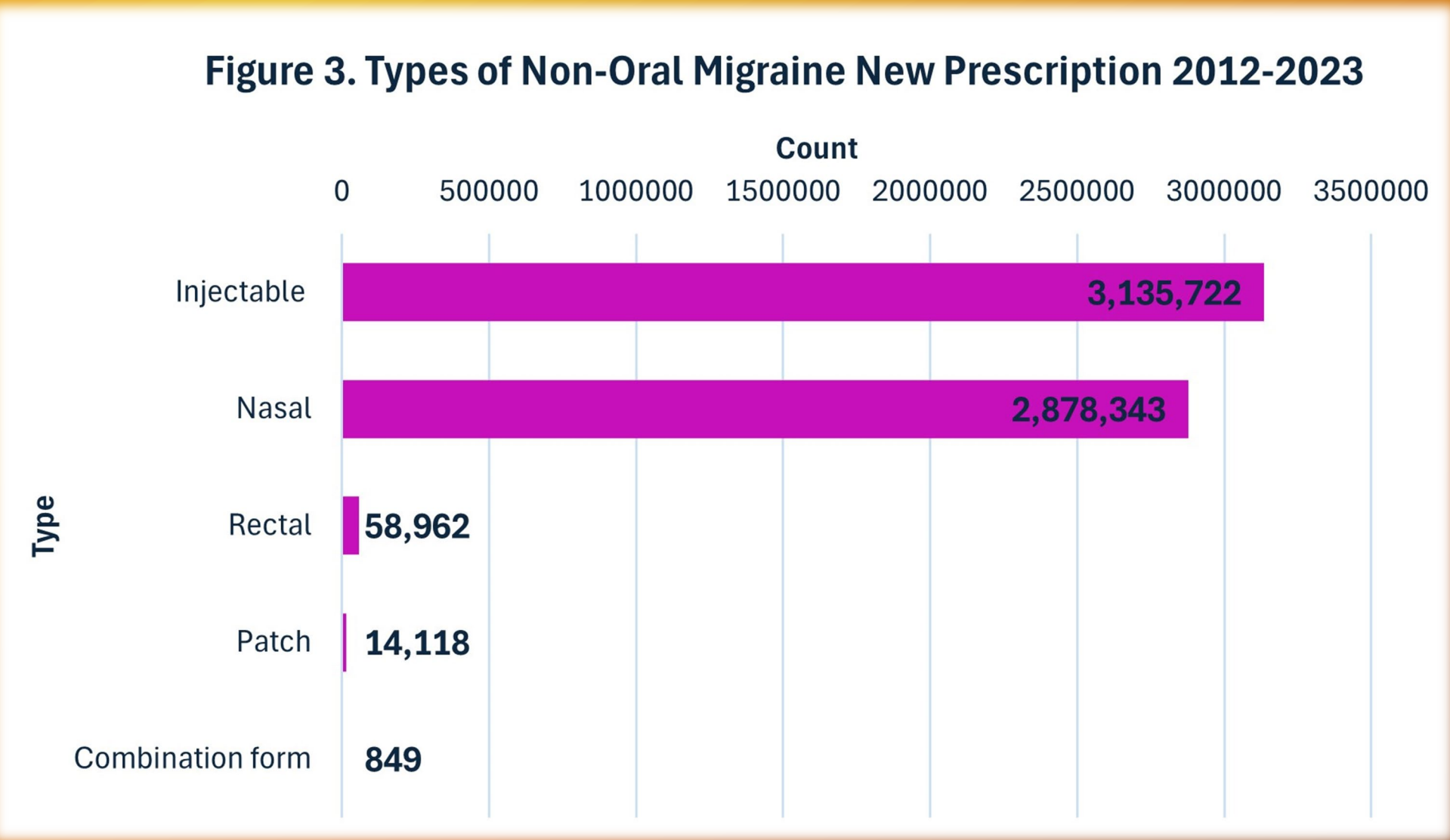
DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

Despite the reaffirmation of previous recommendations by the American Headache Society (AHS) and the emphasis on tailoring treatment to individual patient needs and selecting the most suitable route of administration for acute attacks, this retrospective review of real-world data (RWD) reveals significant non-compliance with these guidelines and the consensus statement. The analysis indicates that non-oral drugs were utilized in only 7% of cases for acute attack treatment, whereas epidemiological data suggest that approximately 30% of patients may require such medications due to factors like nausea, wake-up headaches, and gastric stasis. This failure to personalize therapy likely contributes to the persistent dissatisfaction patients experience with their migraine treatments, despite the availability of numerous new and effective abortive drugs. The reasons for this non-compliance include the high cost of some non-oral medications, insurance and provider constraints, and managed care restrictions. However, the primary issue is the lack of awareness among non-headache specialists regarding the importance of customized treatment. We recommend aggressive educational initiatives to enhance satisfaction and improve the quality of life for migraine patients.

RESULTS



This figure illustrates the distribution of new prescriptions for oral migraine medications over the same period. Tablets were overwhelmingly the most common form, with 107,191,472 prescriptions. Liquid formulations were significantly less common, with 691,729 prescriptions.



This figure displays the distribution of new prescriptions for various types of non-oral migraine medications over the period from 2012 to 2023. Injectable medications account for the highest number of prescriptions with 3,135,722, followed closely by nasal forms with 2,878,343 prescriptions.

REFERENCES

1 Burch RC, Ailani J, Robbins MS. The American Headache Society Consensus Statement: Update on integrating new migraine treatments into clinical practice. Headache. 2022 Jan;62(1):111-112