

# LINNEAUS PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE FRANKFURT 2012

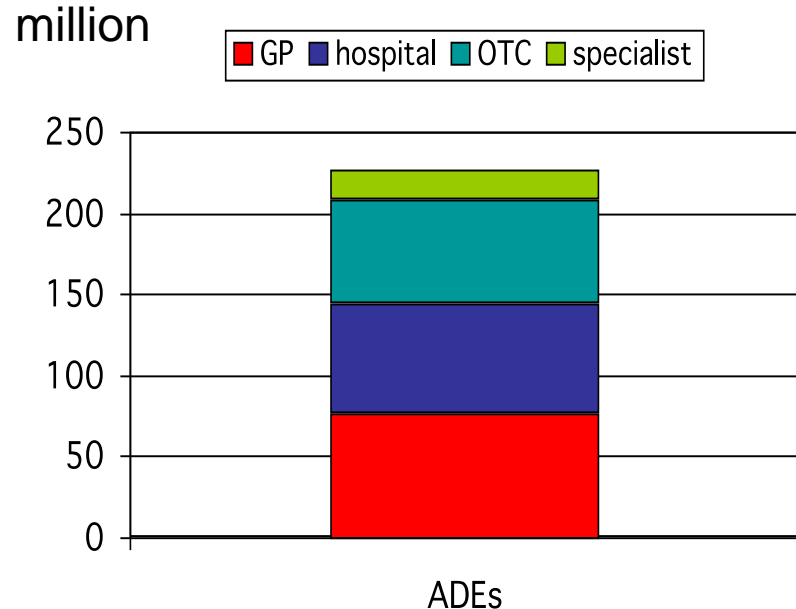
## Medication Safety in Primary Care

What needs to be done?

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# Why focus on medication errors in primary care?

Austrians consume 227 Million packages of medication per year<sup>1</sup>

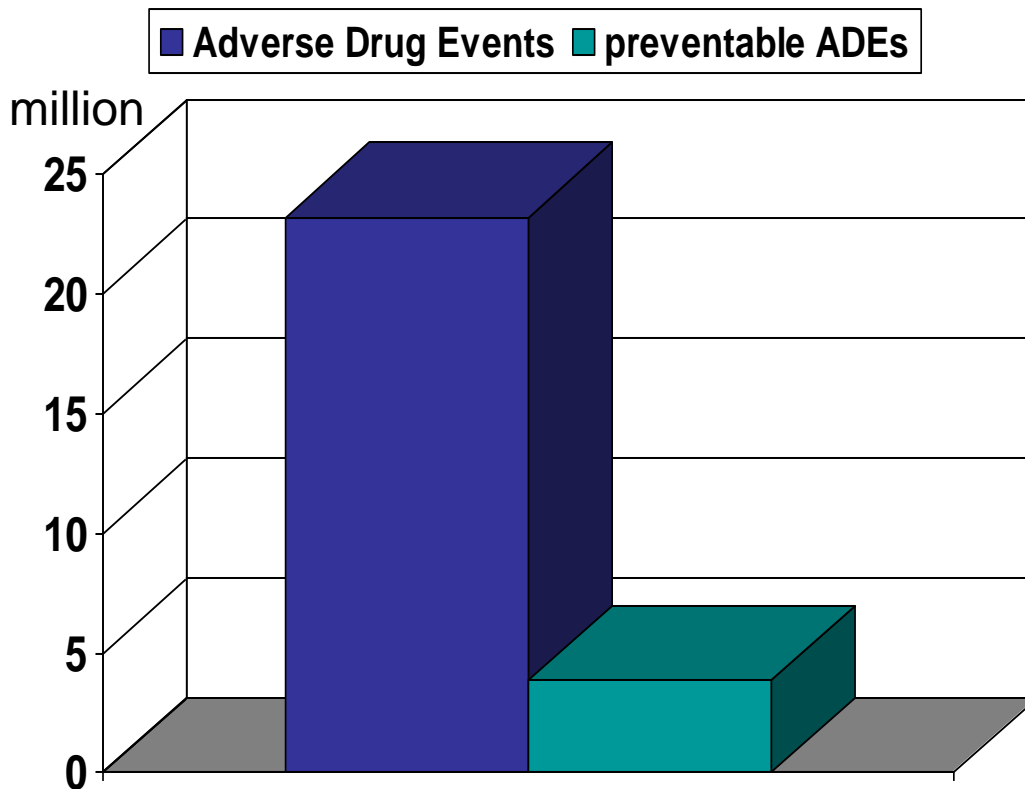


28 packages of medication per person per year

<sup>1</sup> Austrian Health Report. ÖBIG 2010

# Why focus on medication errors in primary care?

Austrians consume 227 Million packages of medication per year<sup>1</sup>



The median prevalence rate for ADEs in primary care is 12.8%<sup>2</sup>

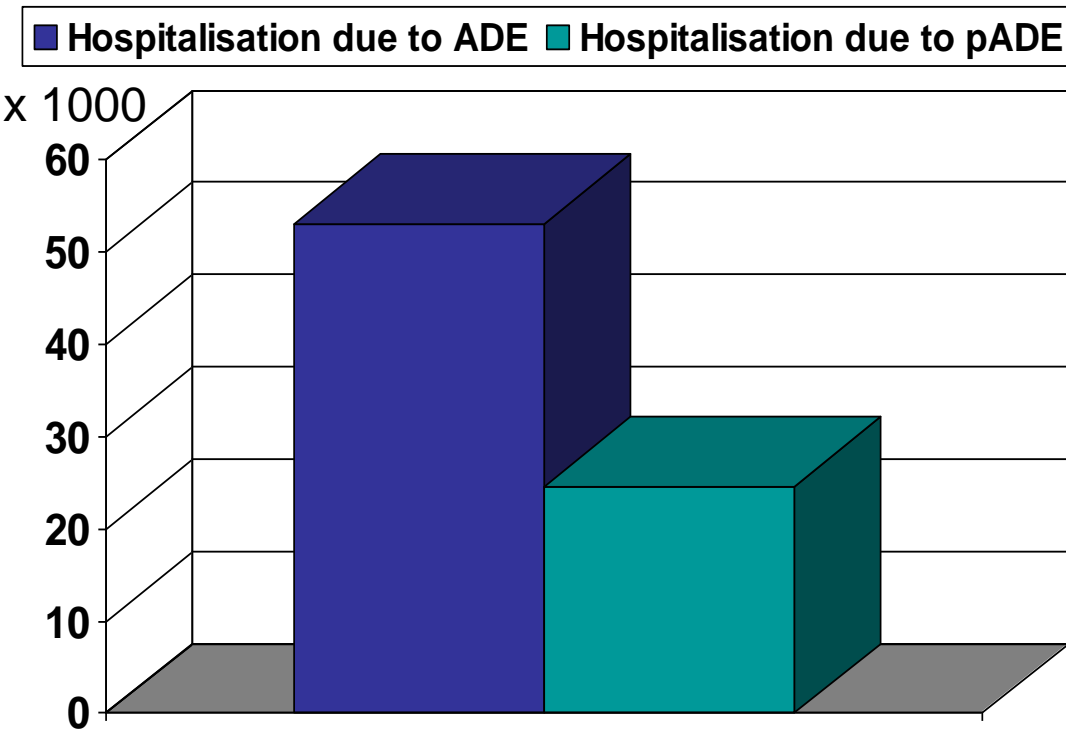
A median of 16.5% of these ADEs are preventable<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Austrian Health Report. ÖBIG 2010

<sup>2</sup> Taché, Sönnichsen, Ashcroft. Ann Pharmacother 2011 in press

# Why focus on medication errors in primary care?

2.22 Million Austrians are hospitalised per year, about 0.9 million unplanned<sup>1</sup>



5.6% of unplanned hospital admissions are due to ADEs<sup>2</sup>

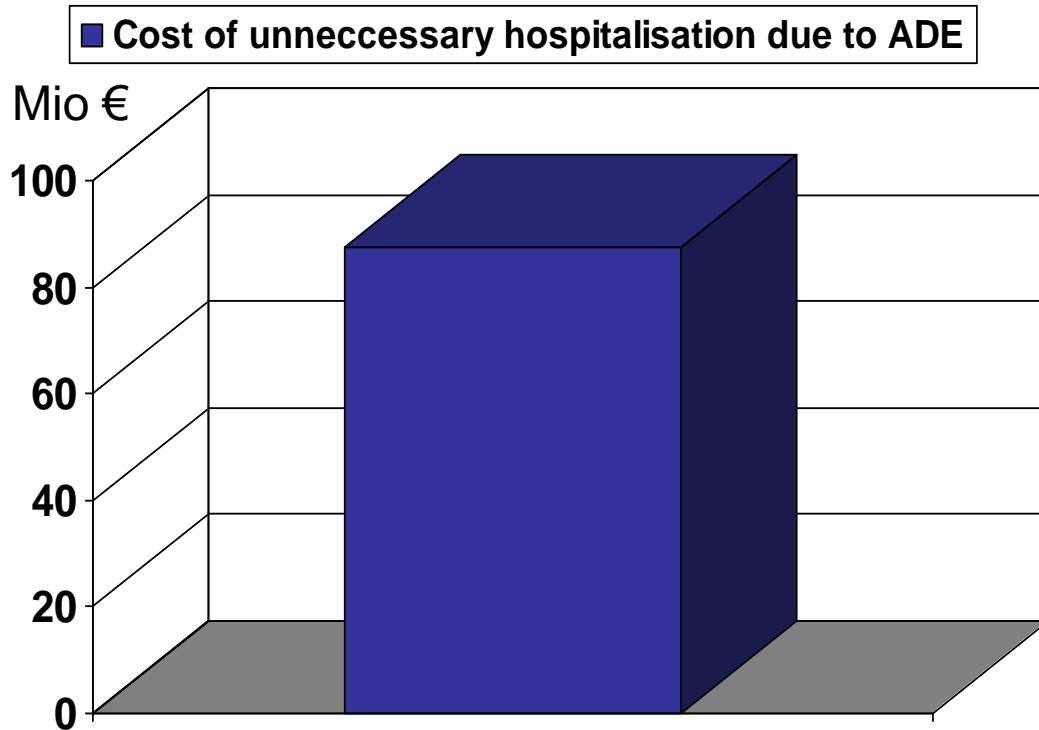
46.5% of these admissions are preventable<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Austrian Health Report. ÖBIG 2010

<sup>2</sup> Leendertse et al. Frequency of Preventable ADE-related Hospital Admissions in the Netherl. Arch Int Med 2008

# Why focus on medication errors in primary care?

25000 unnecessary hospital admissions per year



Average duration of stay in the hospital: >7 days

Average cost of 1 day in the hospital: >500 €

<sup>1</sup> Austrian Health Report. ÖBIG 2010

# What are promising interventions to improve medication safety in primary care?

- **IT-Interventions<sup>1</sup>**

computerized physician order entry and e-medication

clinical decision support

- **Interdisciplinary cooperation of GPs and pharmacists**

- **Improving Safety Culture – GP education**

<sup>1</sup> Lainer, Mann, Sönnichsen 2012. IT-Interventions to improve medication safety – a systematic review. In press

# What needs to be done?

- **IT-Interventions**  
development and standardization of “intelligent” patient health records including CPOE and CDS
- **Education of GPs in the use of these systems**
- **Incentivize quality improvement**
- **Provide time and resources for safety issues**
- **Provide funding for evaluation and implementation research**

*Thank you for your attention*

