



Data Glacier

Your Deep Learning Partner

Exploratory Data Analysis

Healthcare: Persistency of a Drug

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Submitted to: Data Glacier

Link to the Repo: <https://github.com/shonjeeyeon/DG> Week 11

Agenda

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Exploratory Data Analysis and

Hypothesis Testing

Conclusion

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Executive Summary

- Using a dataset of 3,424 records and 69 features, Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) was performed to analyze persistency of a certain medication.
- Visual comparisons as well hypothesis tests were used to determine differences in persistency levels among different sub-populations, grouped by features such as specializations of prescribers and comorbidities.
- Summary of the EDA and recommendations for further model development will be included in the presentation.

Problem Description

- Medication persistence refers to completing the medication treatment using the duration set by the prescriber. (Cramer JA et al., 2008)
- Therefore, persistence is important in patients' positive outcomes as well as in pharmaceutical industries' profits.
- Developing a model to automate prediction process will contribute to save time and cost spent by the company, and the prediction results can be used for marketing, patient education, or R&D purposes.

Approach

Dataset provided by the company
(3,424 patient records)



EDA

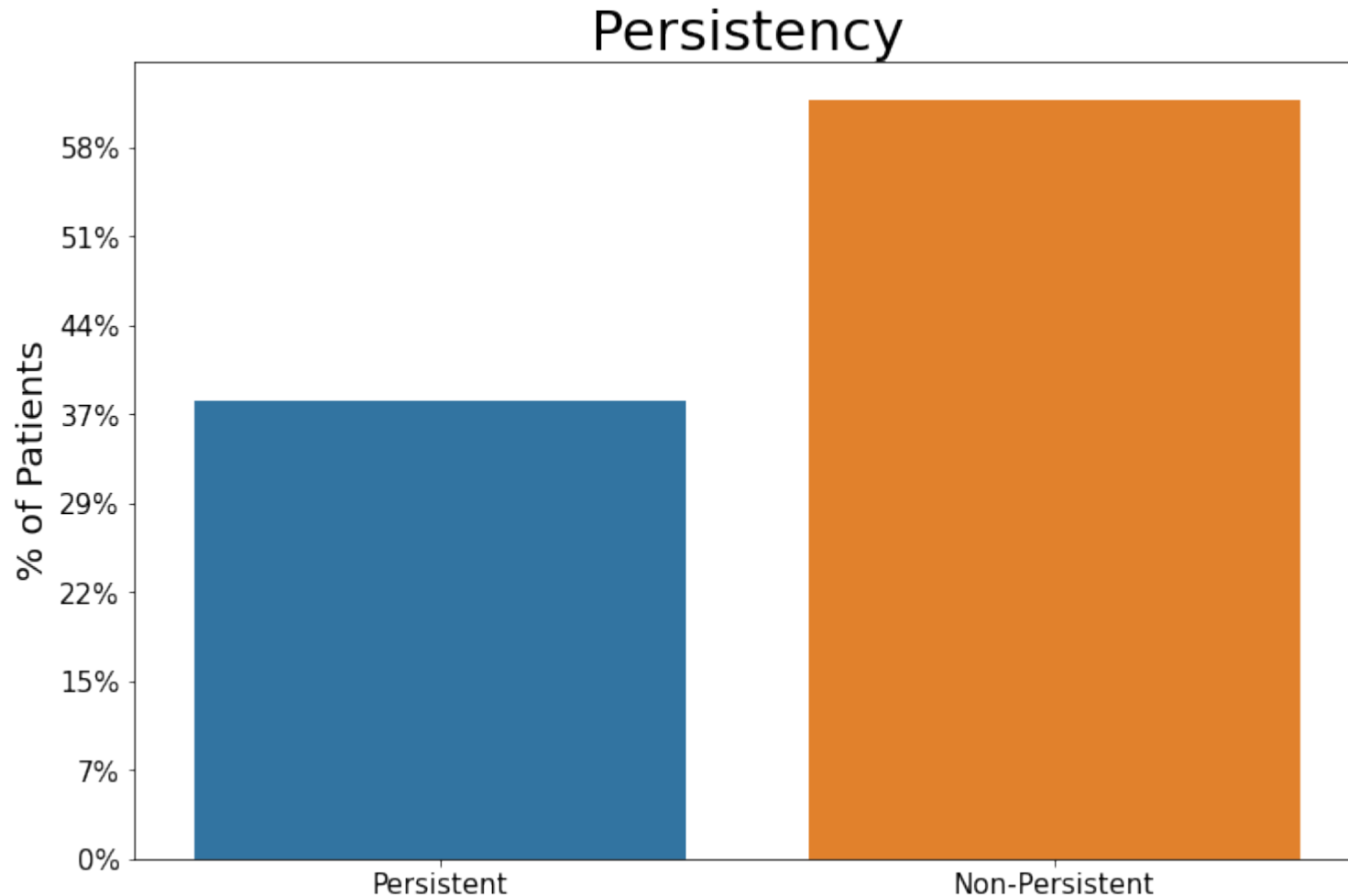
Hypothesis Testing

**Conclusion and
Recommendations for Further Model Development**

Exploratory Data Analysis:

Dataset Overview

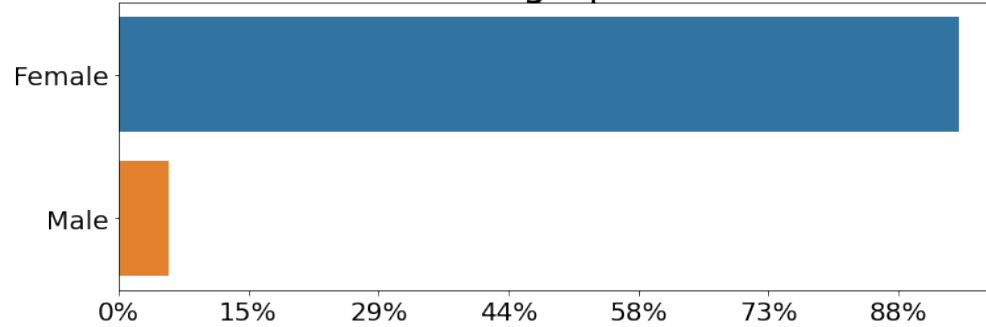
Dataset Overview: Persistency



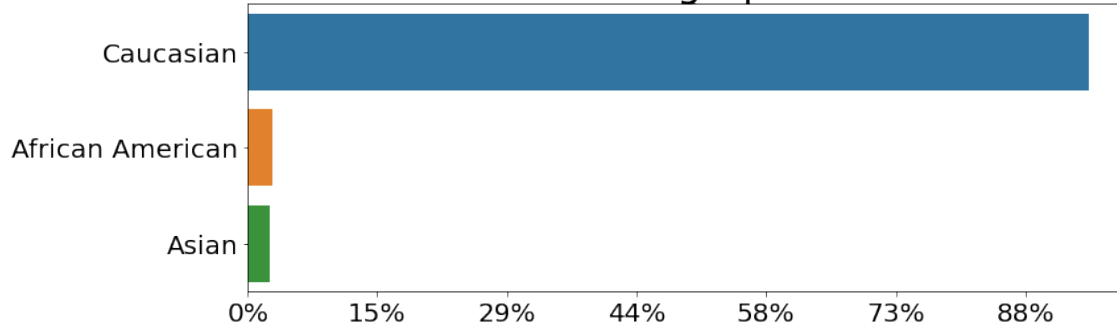
- Among 3,424 patients in the dataset, approximately 40% of the population continued the medication persistently.

Dataset Overview: Patient Demographics

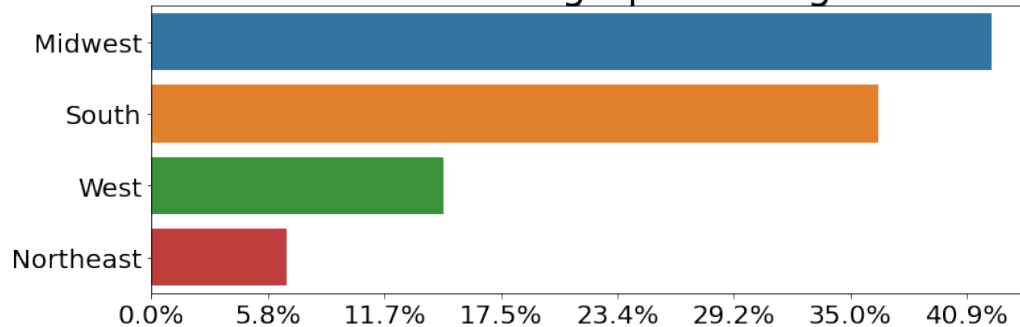
Patient Demographics: Gender



Patient Demographics: Race



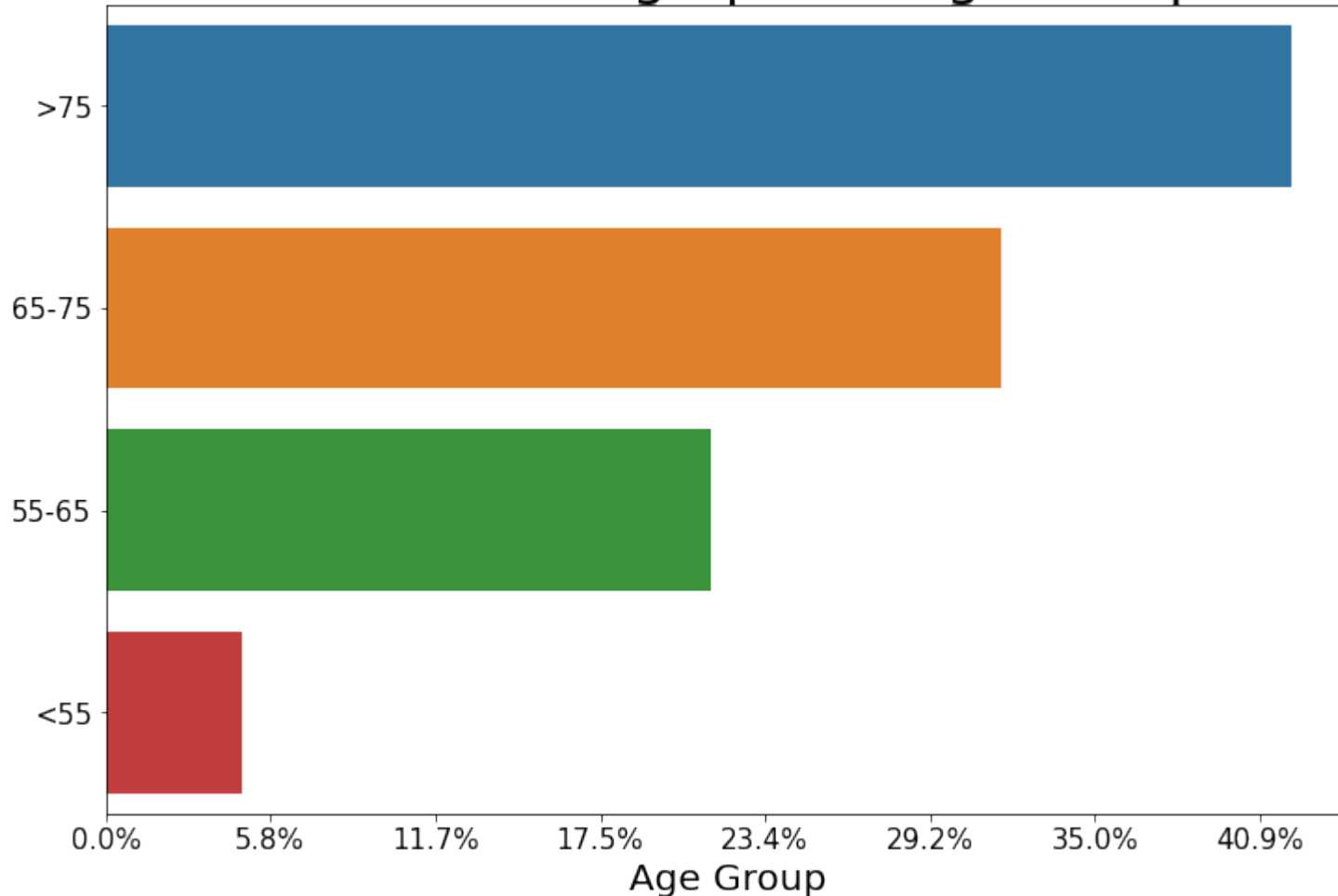
Patient Demographics: Region



- Most of the patients were Caucasian or Female.
- Midwest was the most popular region, followed by South and West.

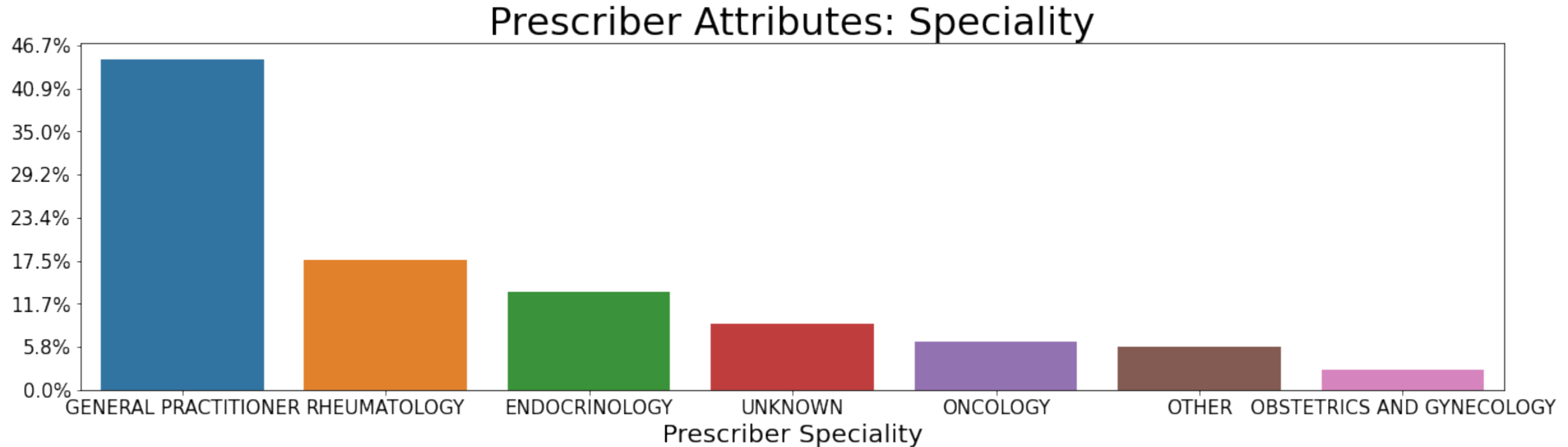
Dataset Overview: Patient Demographics

Patient Demographics: Age Group



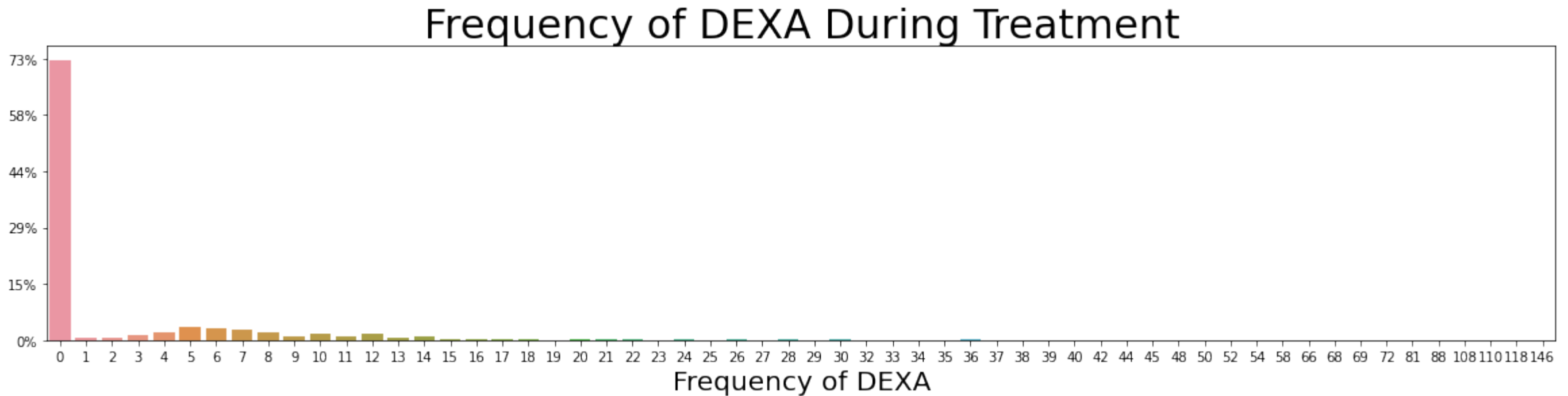
- Most of the patients in the dataset were over 75 years old, followed by patients aged 65 to 75 years old.
- Only about 5% of the population were under 55 years old.

Dataset Overview: Prescriber Attributes



- The majority of the prescribers were General Practitioners.
- The second and third most common specialties were Rheumatology and Endocrinology.

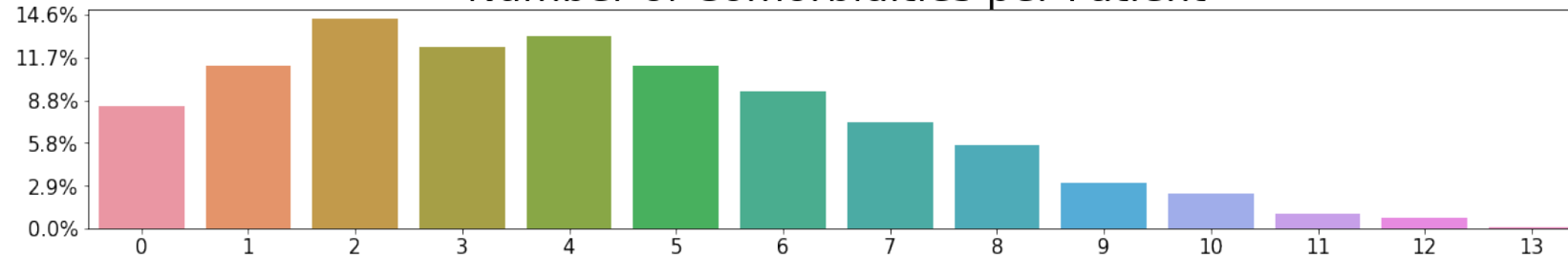
Dataset Overview: Frequency of DEXA



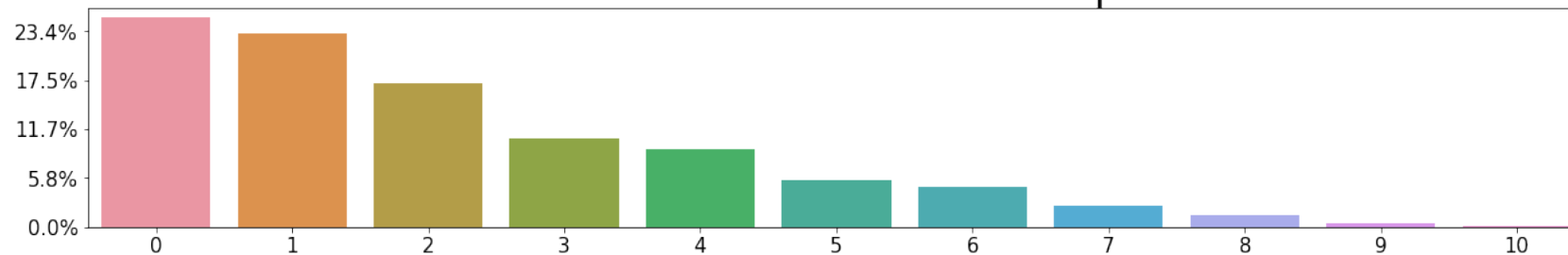
- About 75% of the patient did not take DEXA scan during treatment.
- The frequency DEXA scan during treatment varied substantially among patients, with patients taking the scan more than 140 times.

Dataset Overview: Comorbidities, Concomitant Treatments, and Risk Factors

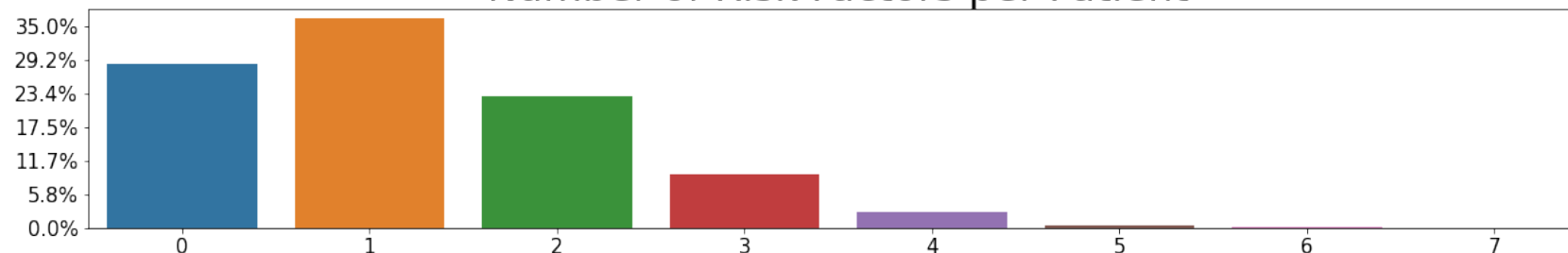
Number of Comorbidities per Patient



Number of Concomitant Treatments per Patient



Number of Risk Factors per Patient



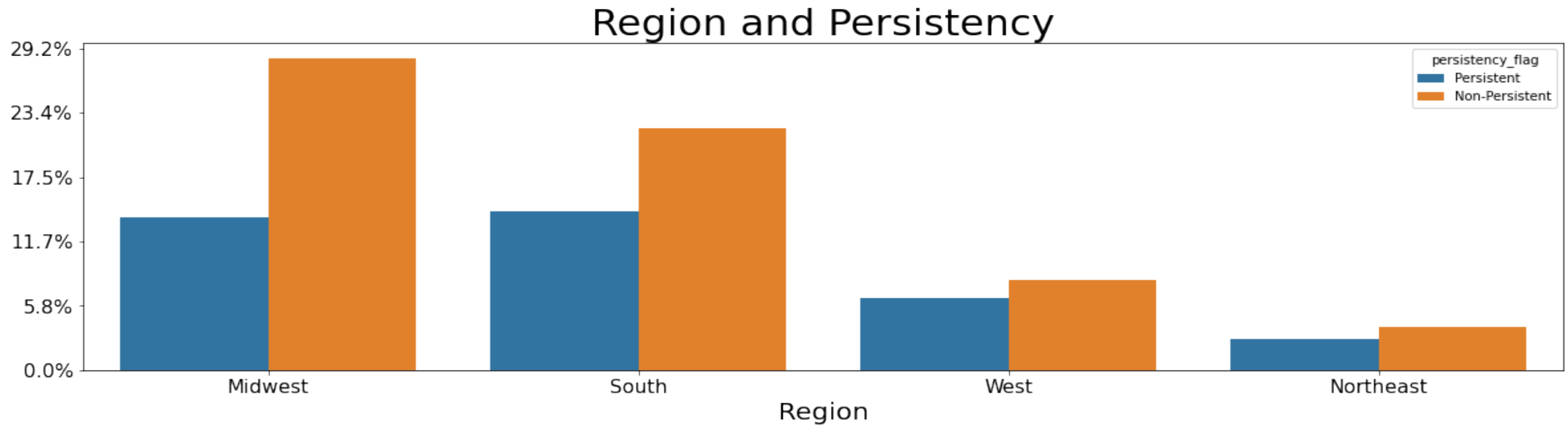
- The majority of the patient had at least one of the followings:

- Comorbidities
- Concomitant treatments
- Risk factors

Exploratory Data Analysis:

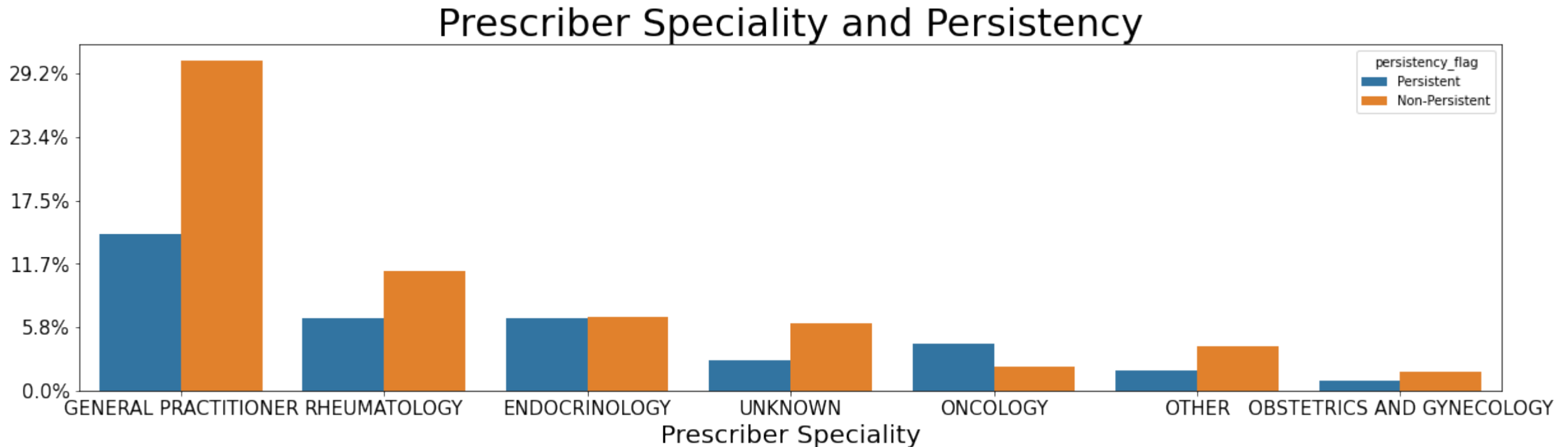
Persistency Comparison and Hypothesis Testing

Region and Persistency



- Midwest has highest proportion of patients, but had the lowest persistency to non-persistency ratio.
- There are significant differences in persistency level among regions (ANOVA, $p < 0.05$)

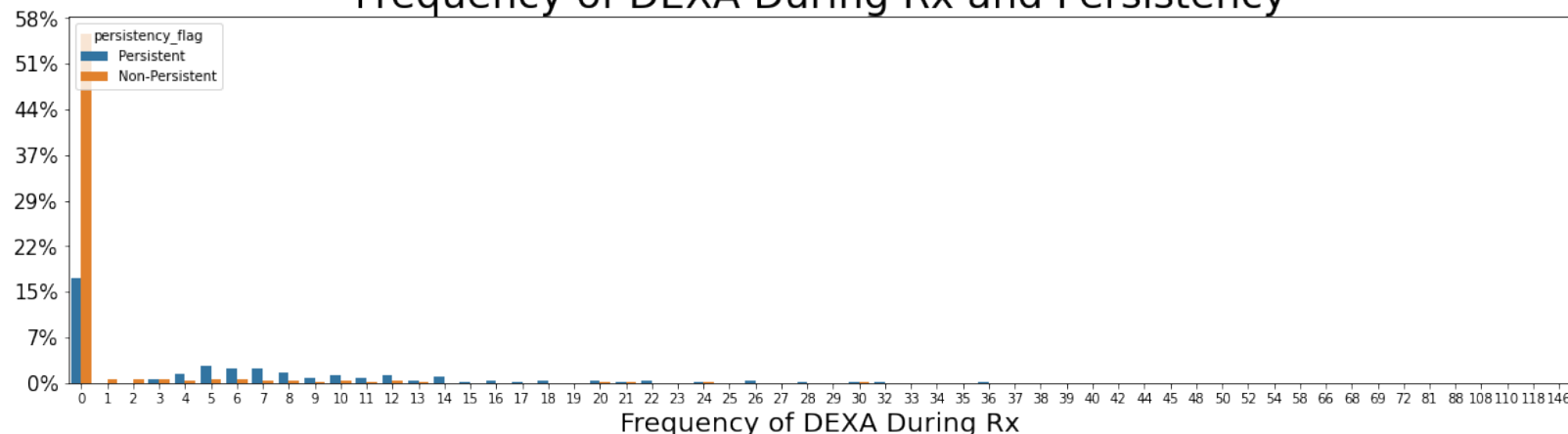
Prescriber Specialization and Persistency



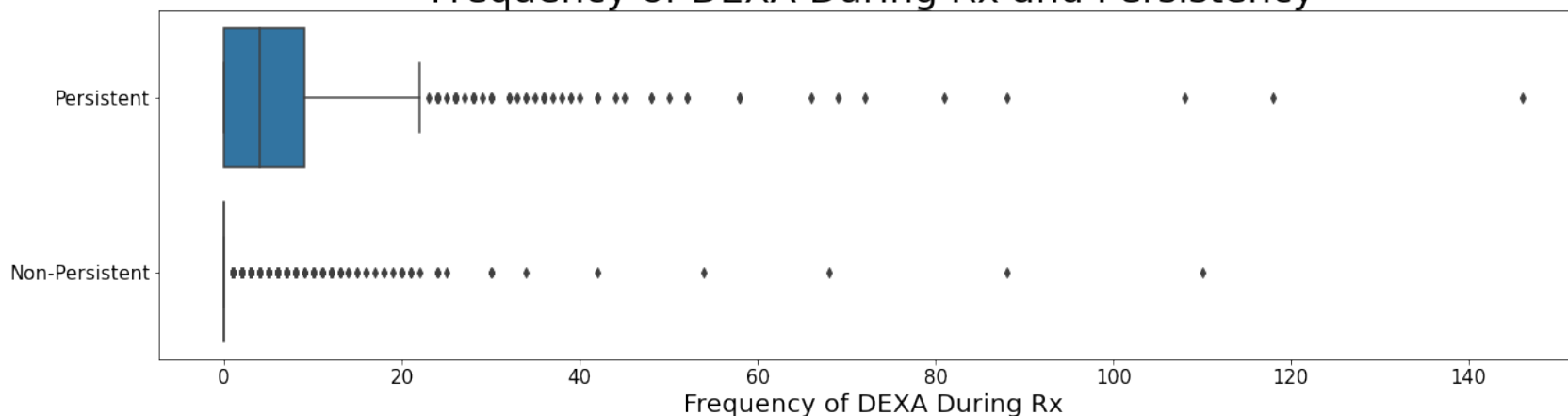
- Endocrinology and Oncology has higher persistent-to-non-persistent ratio
- There are significant differences in persistency level among specializations (ANOVA, $p < 0.05$)

DEXA Frequency and Persistency

Frequency of DEXA During Rx and Persistency

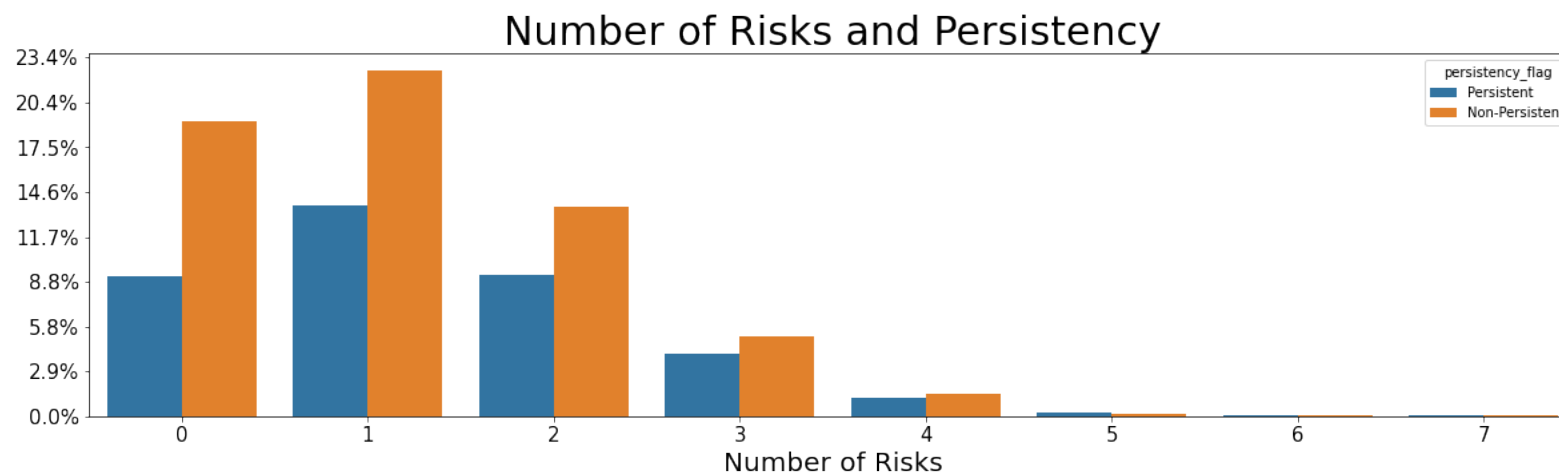


Frequency of DEXA During Rx and Persistency

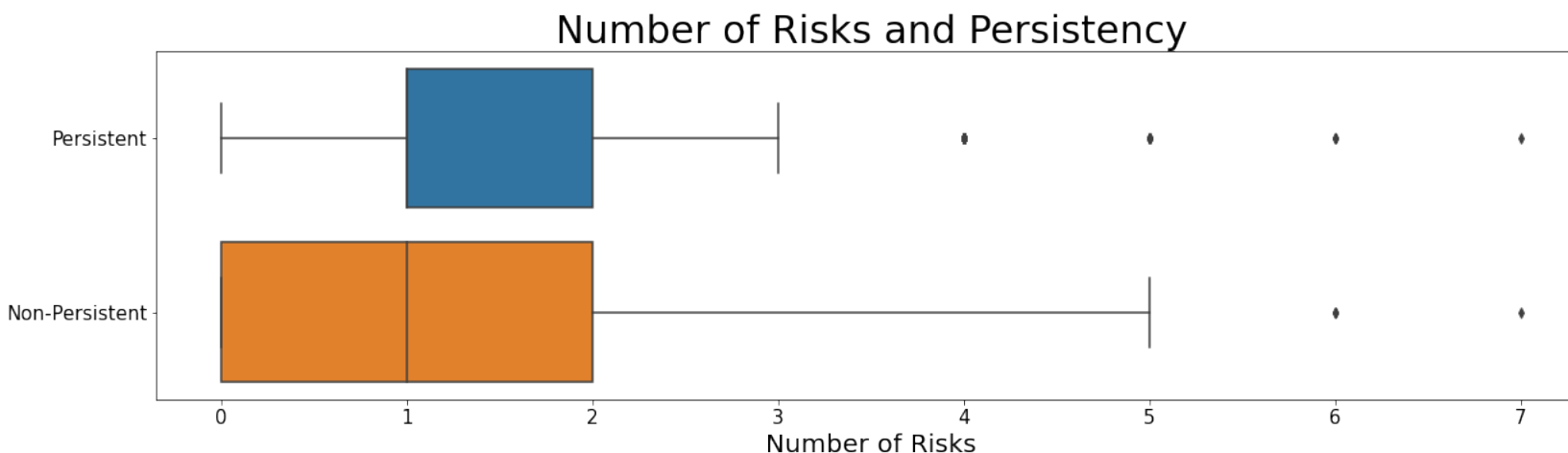


- Persistent group had higher mean number of DEXA scan during therapy
- There are significant differences in persistency level among different DEXA frequency groups (ANOVA, $p < 0.05$)

Number of Risks and Persistency

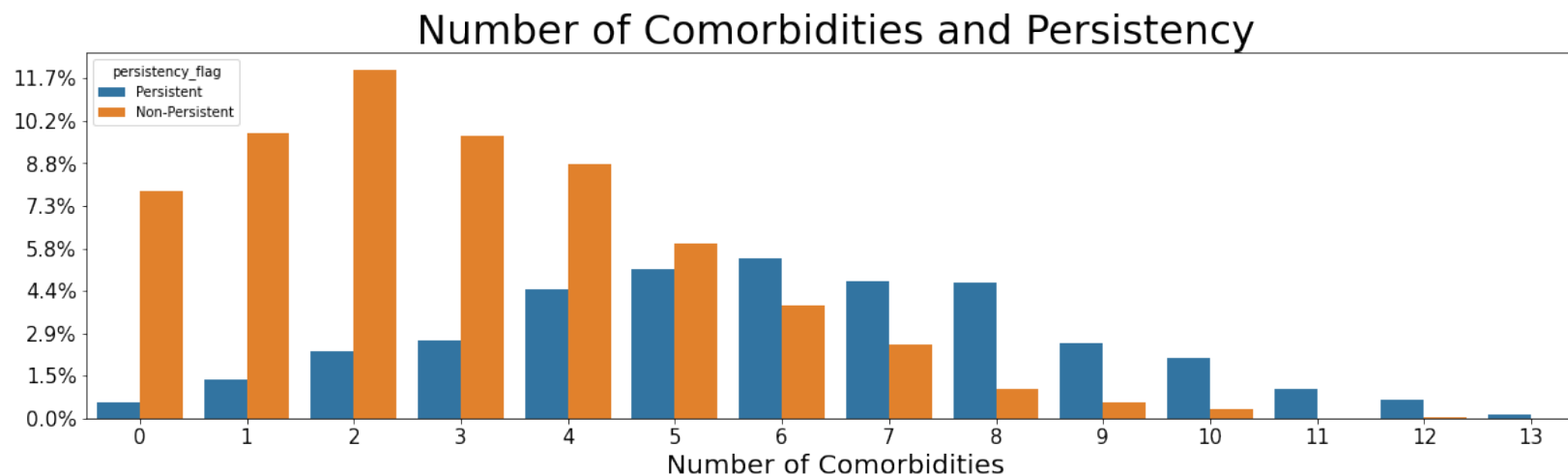


- In general, populations with more risk factors has higher persistent-to-non-persistent ratio
- There are significant differences in persistency level across different risk counts

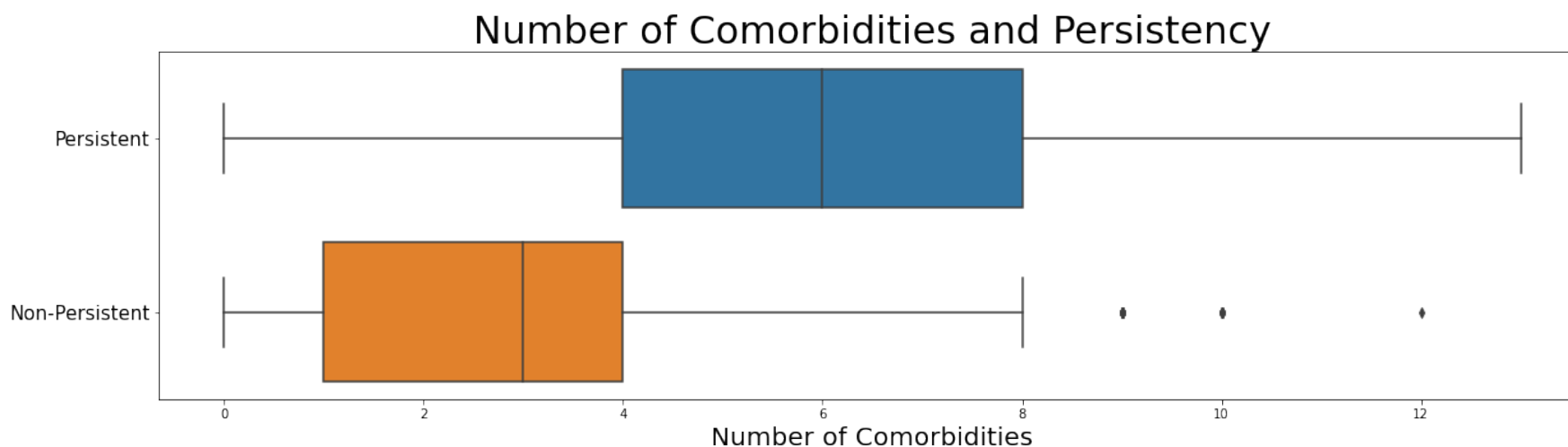


(ANOVA, $p < 0.05$)

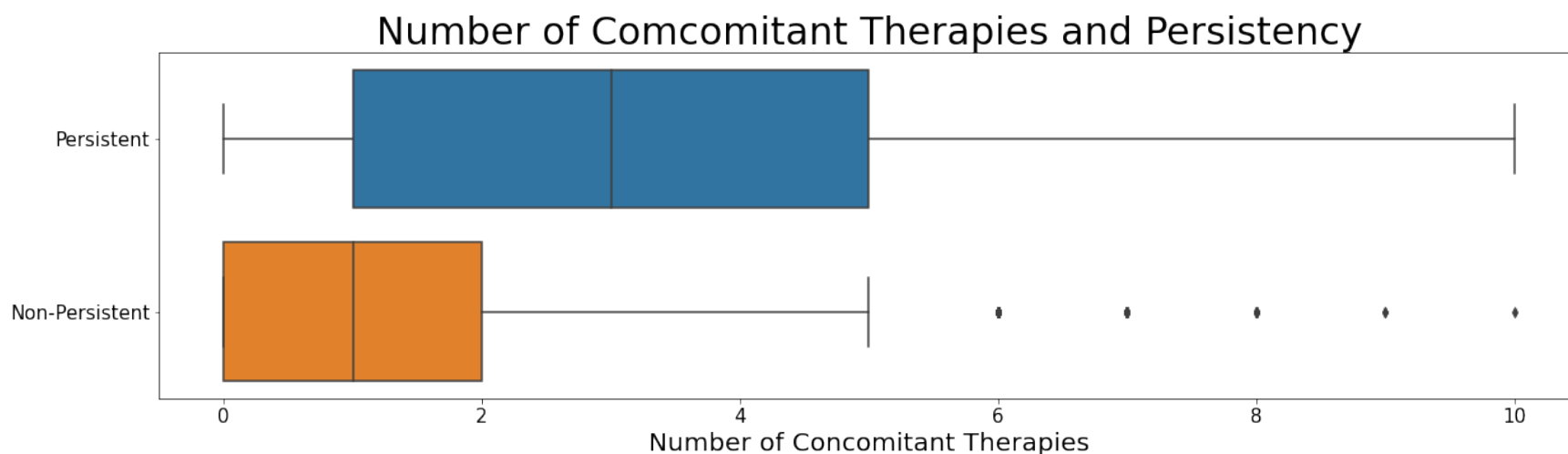
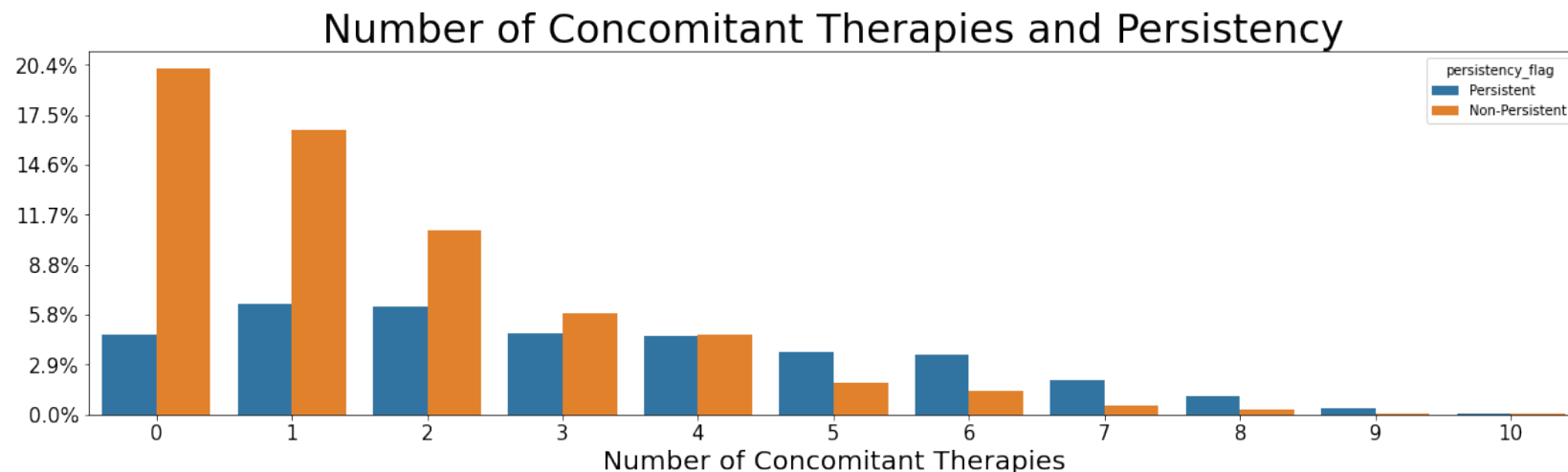
Number of Comorbidities and Persistency



- Persistent group has higher mean in number of comorbidities.
- There are significant differences in persistency level across different numbers of comorbidities (ANOVA, $p < 0.05$)



Number of Concomitant Therapies and Persistency



- Persistent group has higher mean in number of concomitant therapies.
- There are significant differences in persistency level across different numbers of concomitant therapies (ANOVA, $p < 0.05$)

Other Features and Hypothesis Testing

- There were significant differences in persistency between:
 - Patients who had used glucocorticoid during therapy and who had not
 - Patients who had experienced fractures during therapy and who had not
 - Patients who had used injectables during therapy and who had not(Chi-square tests, p values <0.05)
- Every comorbidity and concomitant therapy was associated with significant difference in persistency (Chi-square tests, p values <0.05)
- Among risk factors, rheumatoid arthritis, chronic hypogonadism, tobacco use, chronic malnutrition, vitamin D insufficiency, and immobilization were associated with significant difference in persistency (Chi-square tests, p values <0.05)

Summary of the EDA

- Region played a role in differences in persistency.
- Prescribers with certain specializations were associated with higher persistency.
- Taking DEXA scan during therapy were associated with higher persistency.
- Having at least one comorbidities, concomitant therapies, and/or risk factors were associated with higher persistency.
- All of the comorbidities and concomitant therapies, as well as select risk factors, were associated with difference in persistency.

Recommendations

- Classification should be used for model and application development.
- Simpler models such as decision tree or linear regression should be tried first, before moving on to more complex and time-consuming models.
- The dataset has a substantial number of features. Using PCA or RFE to select important features is highly recommended.

Reference

- Cramer JA, Roy A, Burrell A, Fairchild CJ, Fuldeore MJ, Ollendorf DA, Wong PK. Medication compliance and persistence: terminology and definitions. Value Health. 2008 Jan-Feb;11(1):44-7. doi: 10.1111/j.1524-4733.2007.00213.x. PMID: 18237359.

Thank You