

BACKGROUND

- Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is complex, easily misdiagnosed and mismanaged.
- Multidisciplinary care improves outcomes in IBD patients.¹
- Pathologists play a crucial role in IBD diagnosis by discerning it from other types of colitis and differentiating ulcerative colitis (UC) from Crohn's disease (CD).²
- Yet, only few hospitals have a multidisciplinary IBD team that consistently includes a gastrointestinal expert pathologist.

PURPOSE

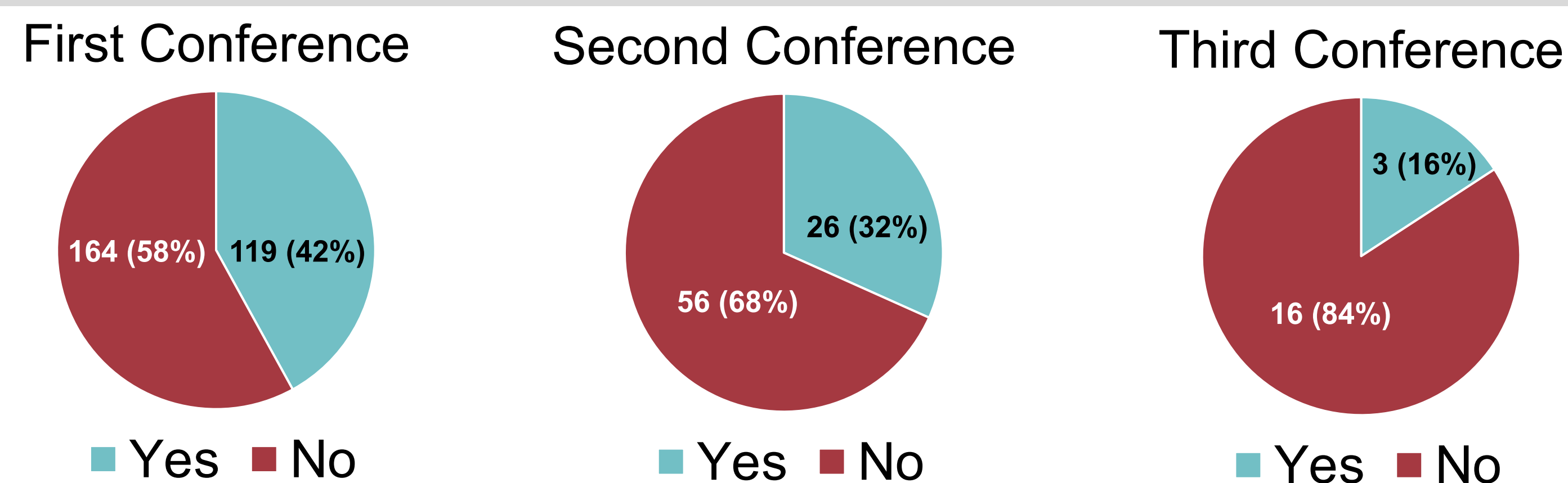
- Characterize the impact of an expert gastrointestinal pathologist on outcomes of complex IBD patients as an integral part of the multidisciplinary IBD team.

METHODS

- Retrospective chart analysis of patients (N = 283) discussed at the semi-monthly multidisciplinary IBD conference at Carilion Clinic, from June 1, 2013 through December 31, 2019.
- Each patient was presented between one and six times at the conference.
- Data collected: demographics, diagnosis before and after conference, reason for diagnostic change, endoscopy findings, medications, surgeries, and clinical response within 6 months of conference.
- Percentages were calculated if total N > 10.

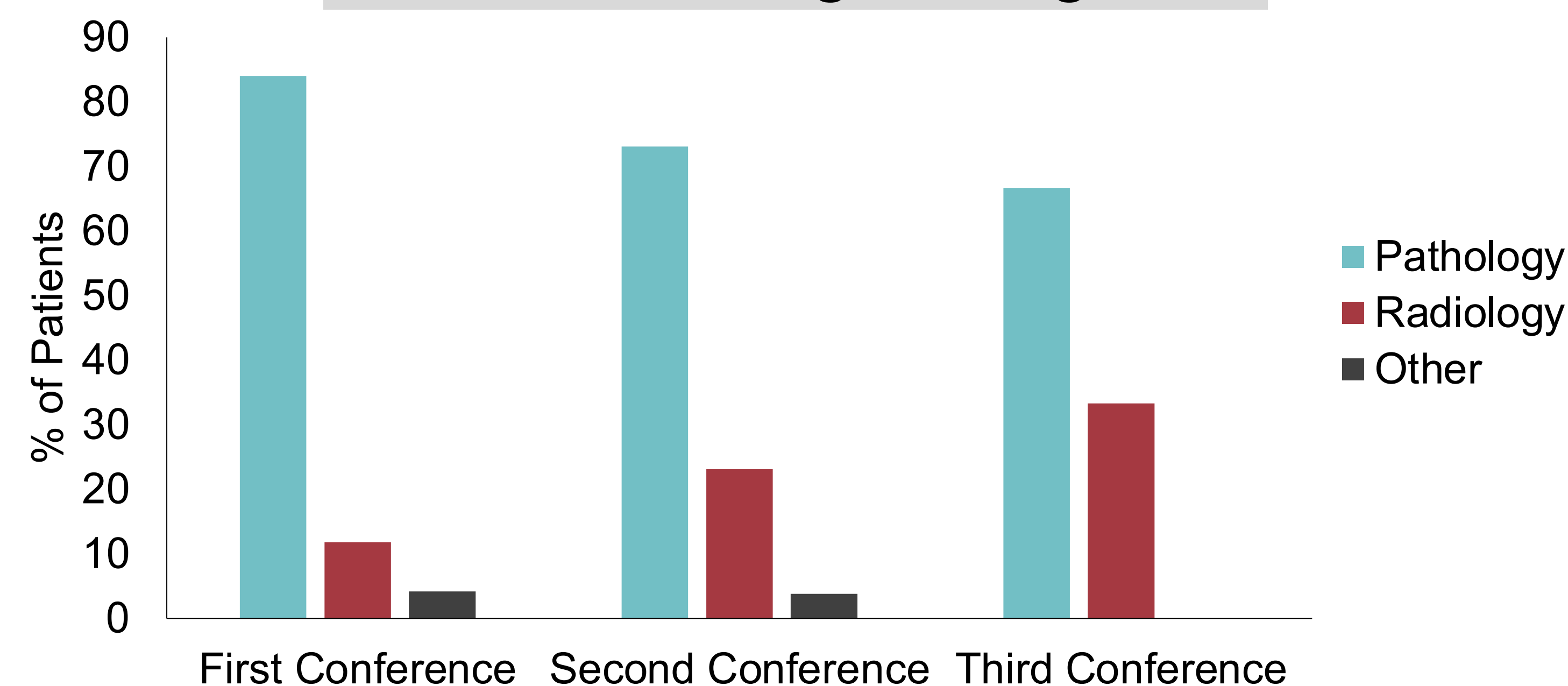
RESULTS

Change in Diagnosis after Multidisciplinary IBD Conference

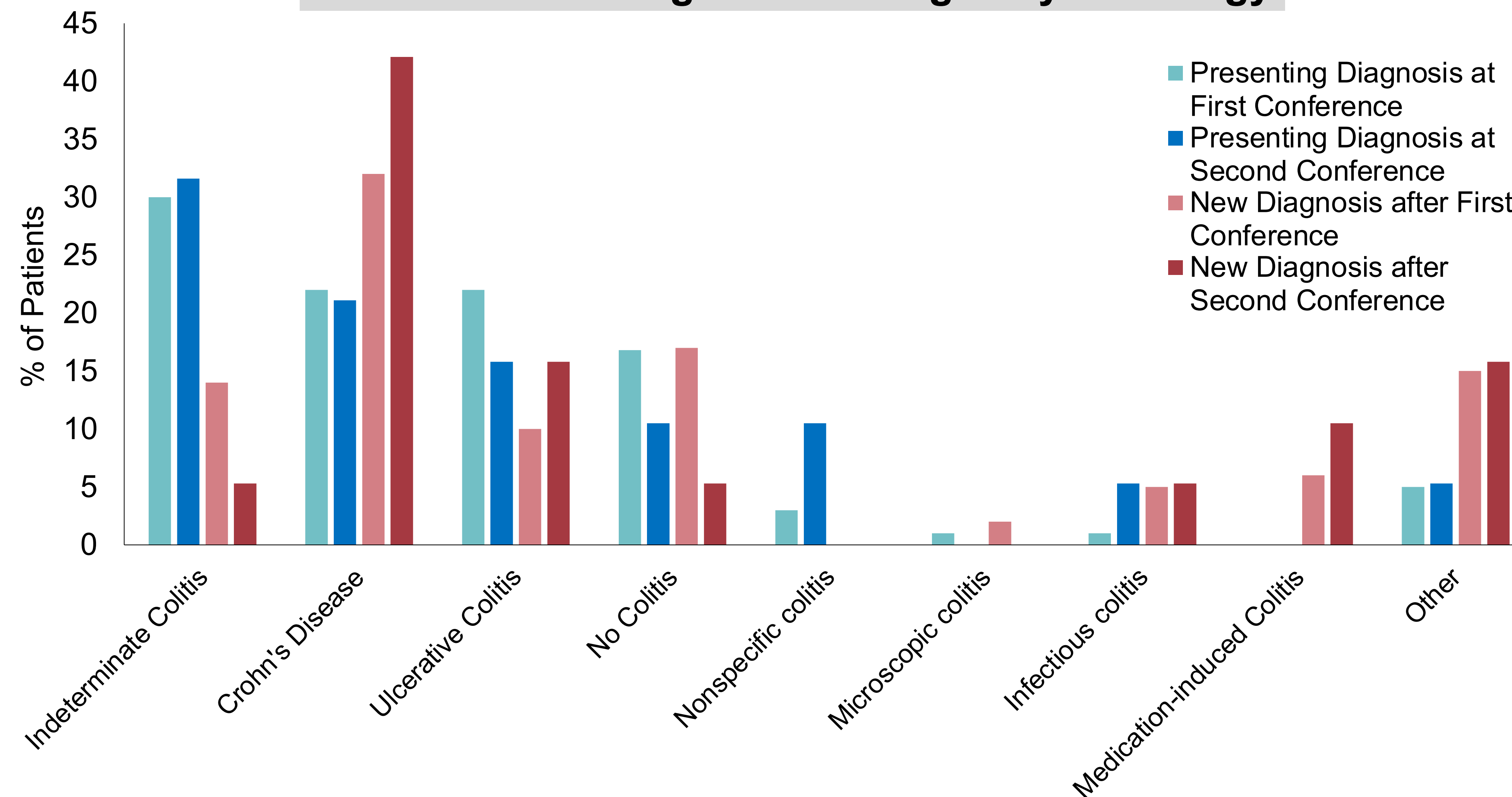


RESULTS

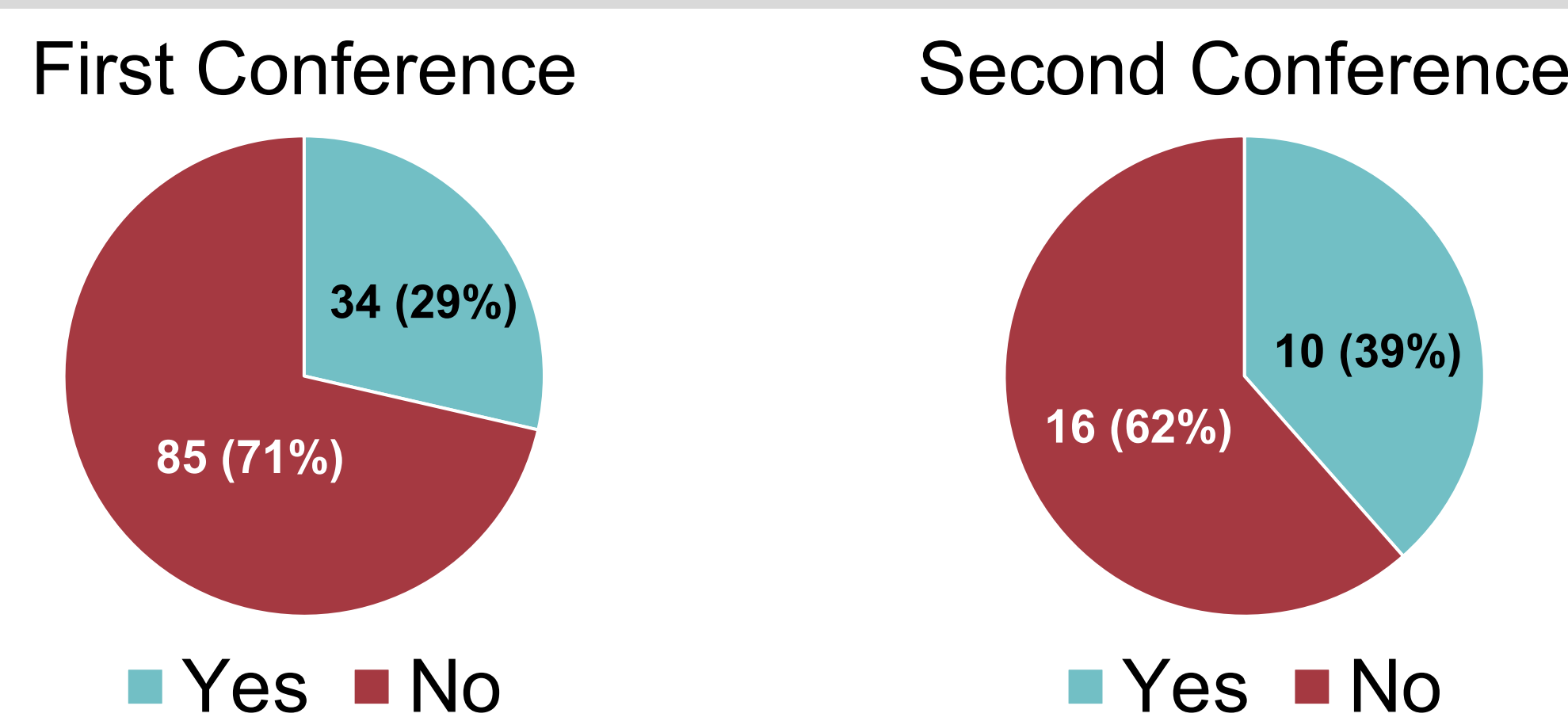
Reason for Change in Diagnosis



Distribution of Diagnoses Changed by Pathology

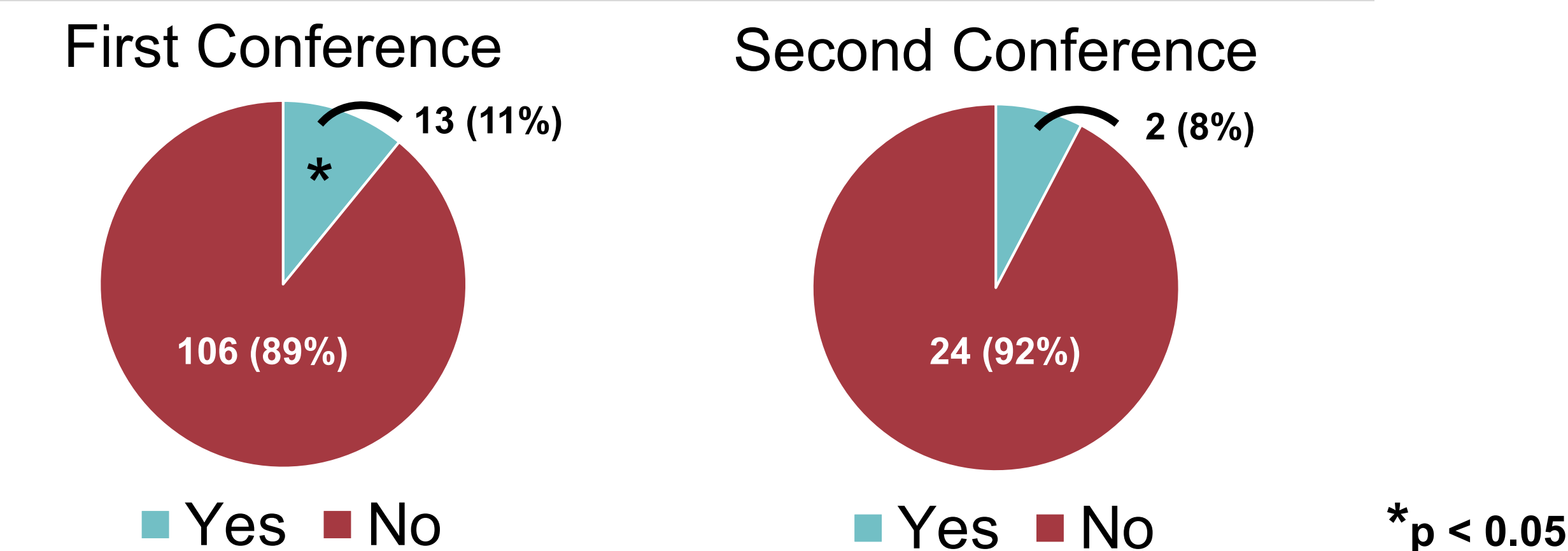


Change in IBD Medication in Patients with Diagnostic Change

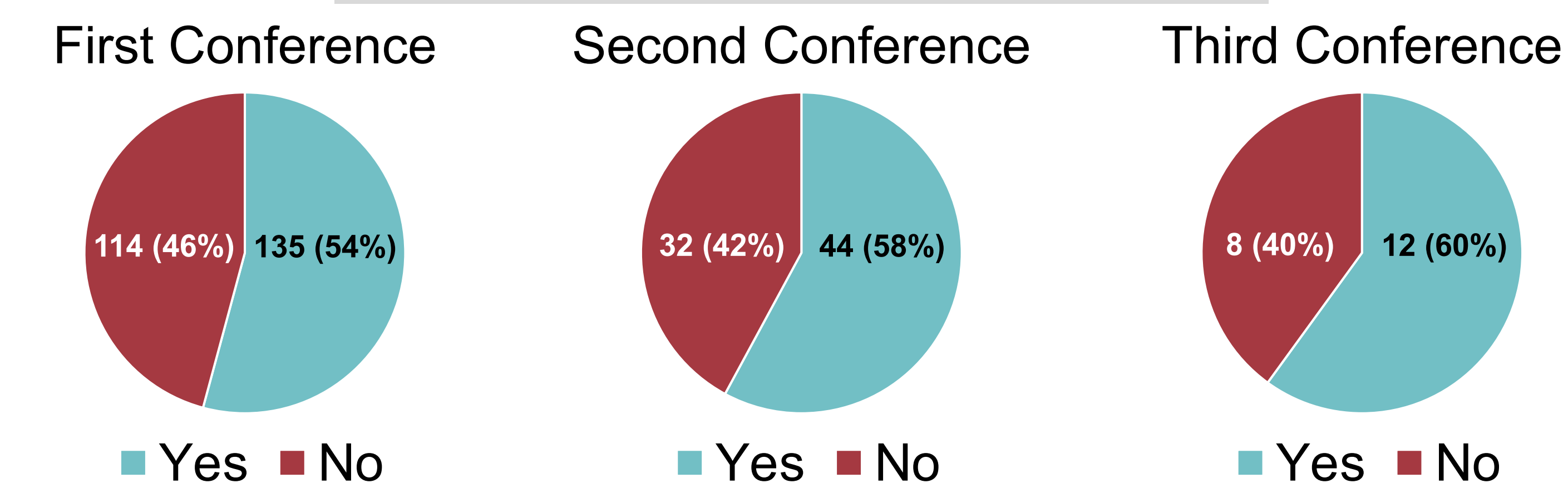


RESULTS

Surgery in Patients with Diagnostic Change



Clinical Response or Remission



DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

- The majority of diagnostic changes made at the multidisciplinary IBD conference were due to histopathologic re-interpretation by the expert pathologist.
- Indeterminate colitis was the most common presenting diagnosis changed by pathology.
- A change in diagnosis at times led to significant modifications in disease management through surgery or medication changes.
- Multidisciplinary care teams are essential for optimal management of complex IBD patients
- An expert gastrointestinal pathologist is a critical team member to the discussion of nuances of each patient's case.

REFERENCES

- Ricci C, Lanzarotto F, Lanzini A. The multidisciplinary team for management of inflammatory bowel diseases. *Digestive and Liver Disease*. 2008; 40(2): S285-S288.
- Woodman, I., Schofield, J.B. & Haboubi, N. The histopathological mimics of inflammatory bowel disease: a critical appraisal. *Tech Coloproctol*. 2015; 19: 717-727.