

Assessment of Special Newborn Care Unit in Bihar

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1 Introduction

- According to SRS 2009 out of 26 million births, 94,000 babies die before one month of life in India, and these death constitutes two-thirds of all infant deaths with NMR 34/1000 live births. Infant mortality rate in Bihar is 48 (NFHS 4).
- Special Newborn Care Unit (SNCU) is a neonatal unit in the vicinity of the labor room which provides special care for sick newborns. Ideally, any facility with more than 3,000 deliveries per year should have an SNCU. These are located at district level and medical colleges or district hospitals meant to reduce the case fatality among sick newborns, either born within the hospital or outside including home delivery (Facility Based Newborn Care Operational Guidelines, 2011).

2 Research Objective

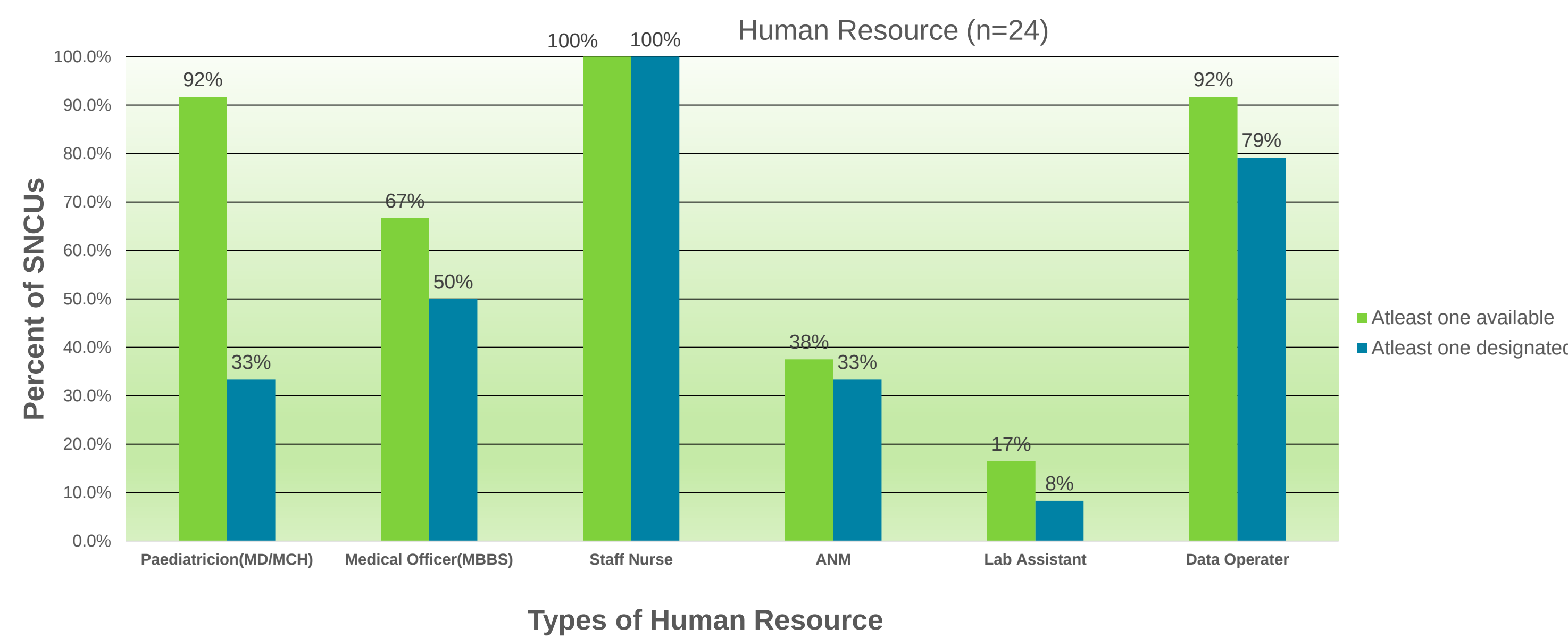
- To assess SNCUs with respect to the availability of human resource, availability and functionality of essential equipment, house keeping routines and availability of drugs.

3 Research Methodology

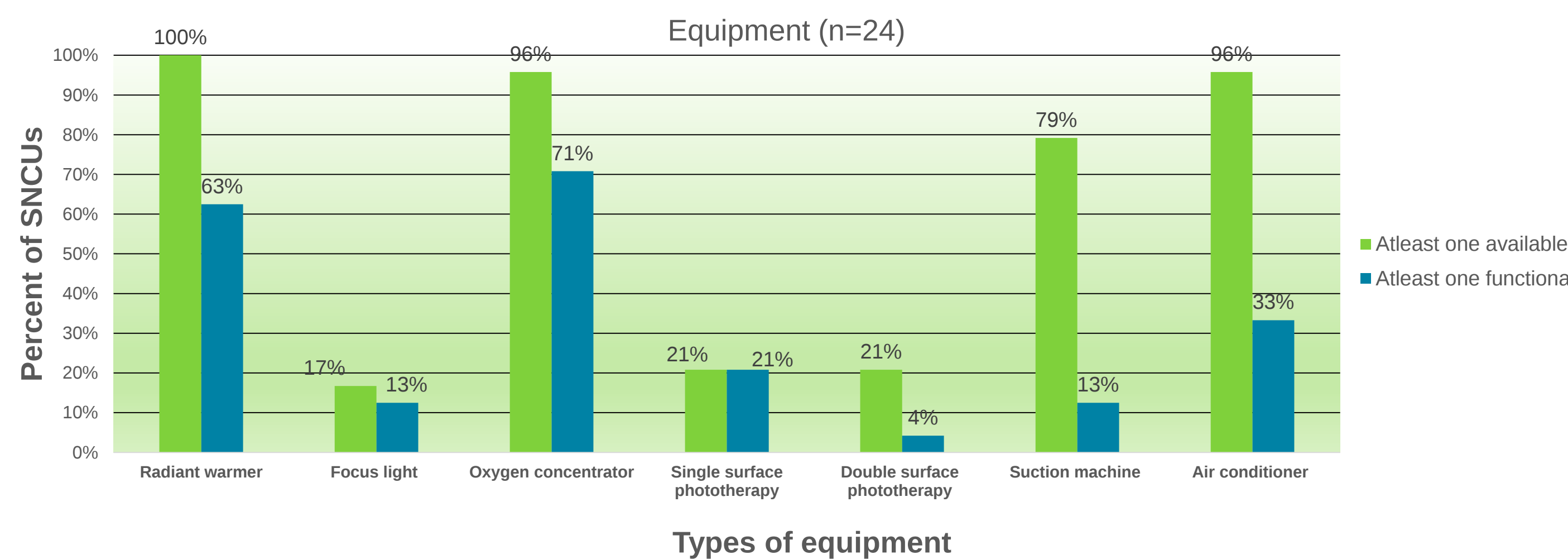
Study Design
Observational cross-sectional study.
Study Area
24 Districts (with functional units) of Bihar
Duration of the study
2 months (from 9th April to 2nd June 2018)
Type of Data collection
Secondary data provided by Care India Solutions for Sustainable Development (CISSD), Patna.
Method of data collection
Data collected through Excel sheet

4 Findings

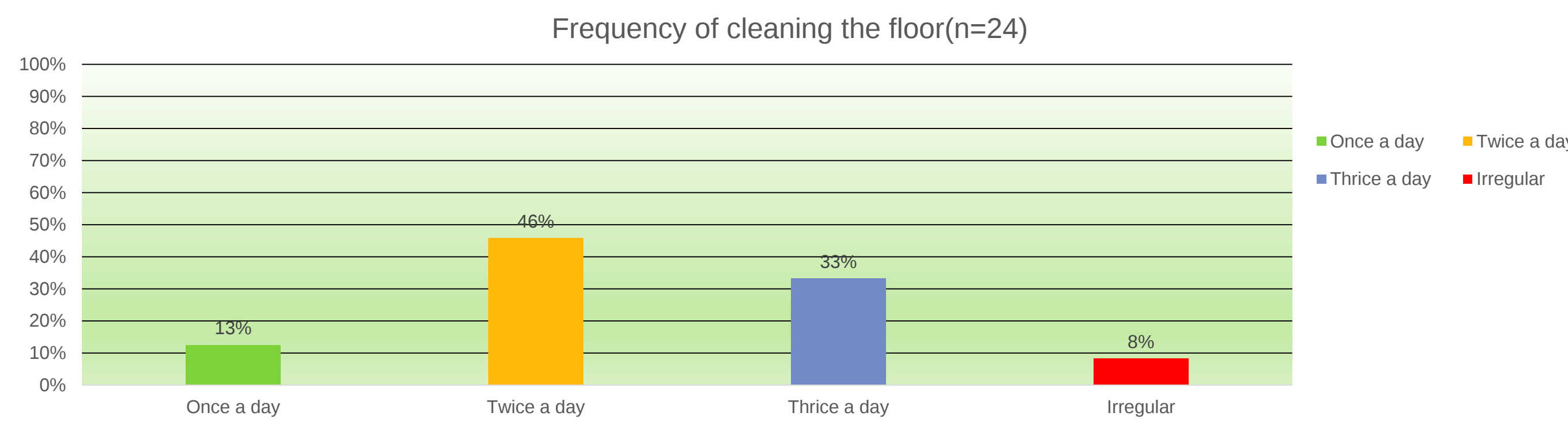
Percent distribution of SNCUs by status of human resources in SNCUs, May 2018:



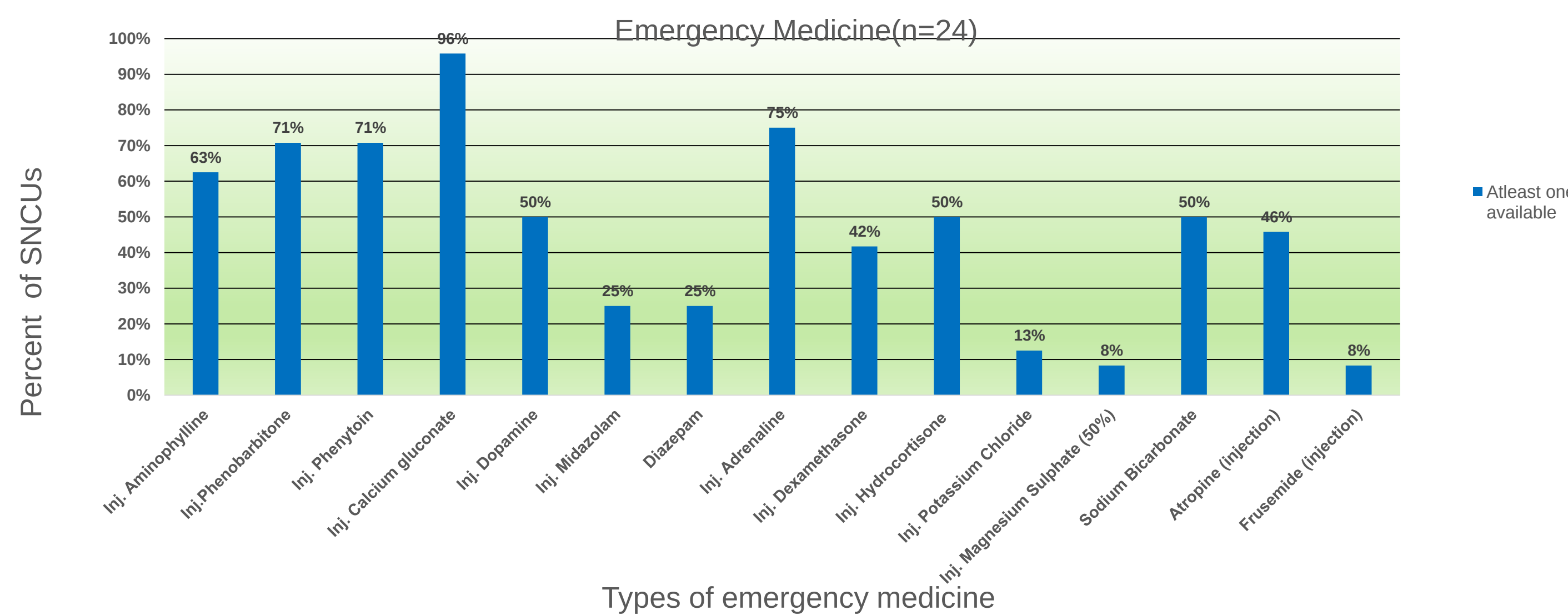
Percent distribution of SNCUs by availability of essential equipments in SNCUs, May2018:



Percent distribution of SNCUs by house keeping routines in SNCUs, May2018:



Percent distribution of SNCUs by availability of drugs in SNCUs, May2018:



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Conclusion

- Most of the SNCUs did not have Lab assistant and ANMs.
- Equipment required in most of the SNCUs are: focus light, single surface phototherapy, and double surface phototherapy;
- The equipment which were available but not necessarily were found functional
- According to FBNC guidelines 2011, frequency of cleaning the floor is thrice a day. However, one-third SNCUs were found meeting with this standard.
- In majority of the SNCUs, injectable drugs were not available

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Suggestions

All the SNCUs need to follow FBNC operational guidelines developed by Ministry and Health and Family Welfare , Govt of India in having the following

- Adequate human resources including Lab Assistants and ANMs
- Equipment include for resuscitation, phototherapy and thermoregulation should be available as well as functional
- Housekeeping, cleaning need to be followed to prevent infection
- Availability of drugs and other required logistics by indenting in advance and supplies in time