

**Bioethics Notes Survey**

**October 2007**

**Can Deceiving Patients Be Morally Acceptable?**

Gender?

Male

Female

Age?

20-34

35-44

45-54

55-64

>=65

Title?

MD/DO

PhD

PAC

Nurse (any)

Research Personnel

Business Personnel

Support Staff

Administrative

Other (just a check box like the others)

With the definition that "deception" is being willfully untruthful (lying) or withholding information, please answer the following:

Do you think it would be ethical to sometimes deceive patients?

Yes/No

If yes, under what circumstance would it be permissible? (Please check all that apply)

End of life, as part of "comfort care" (i.e. knowing details about one's terminal condition creates anxiety/unrest)

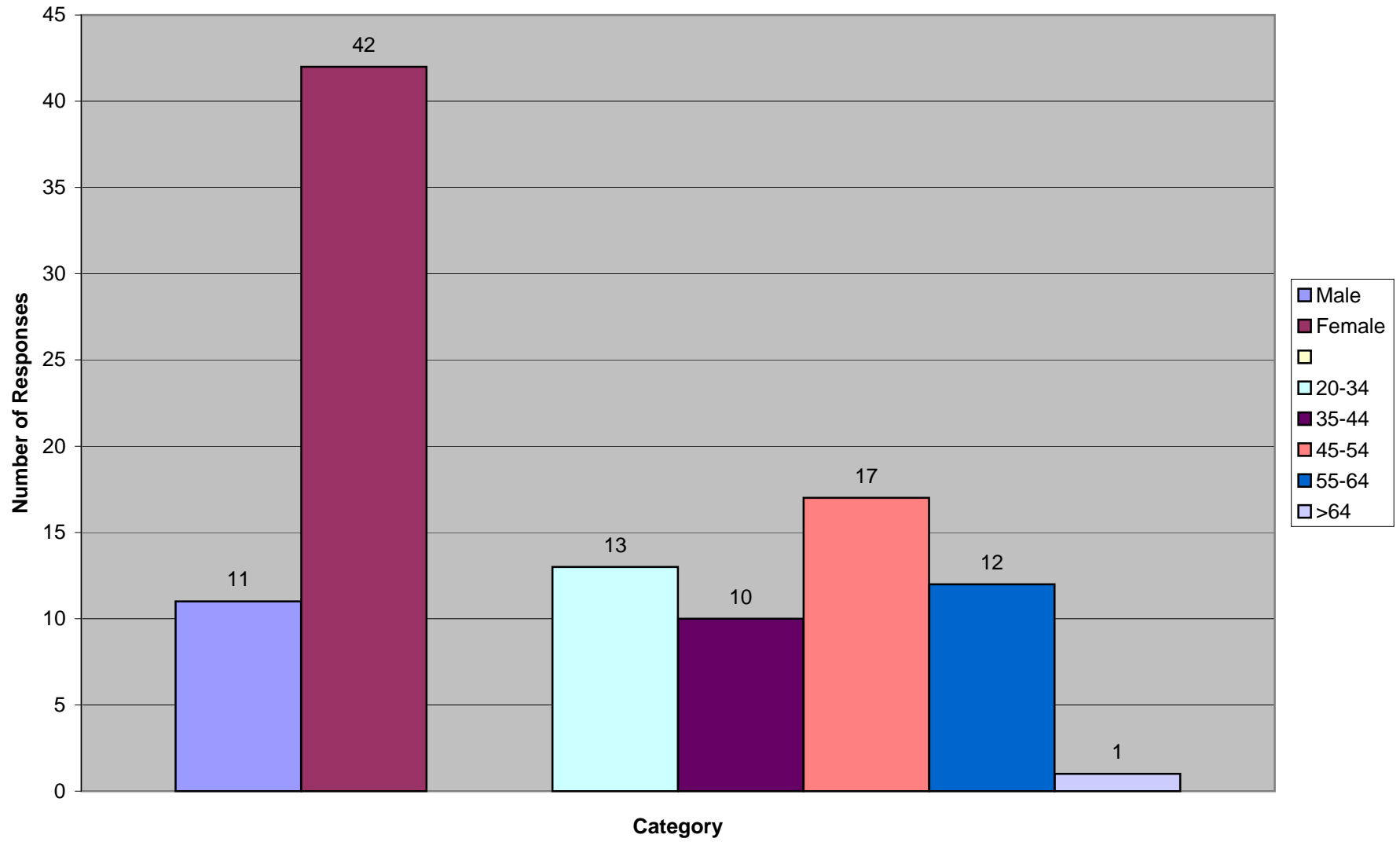
If patient truly does not have the capacity to understand the information.

If it will cause strife within the patient's family

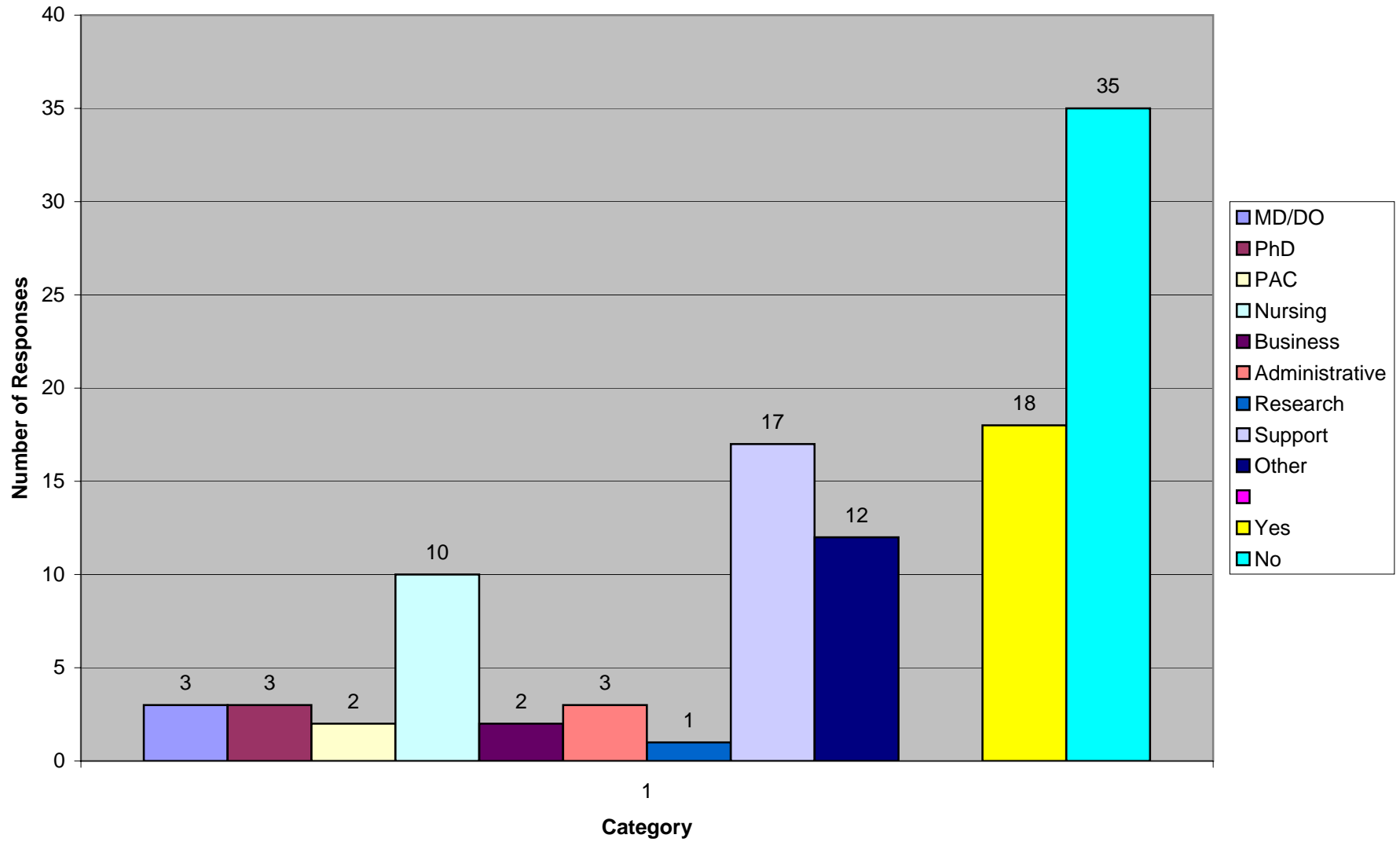
Other:

Please briefly describe(50 words or less):

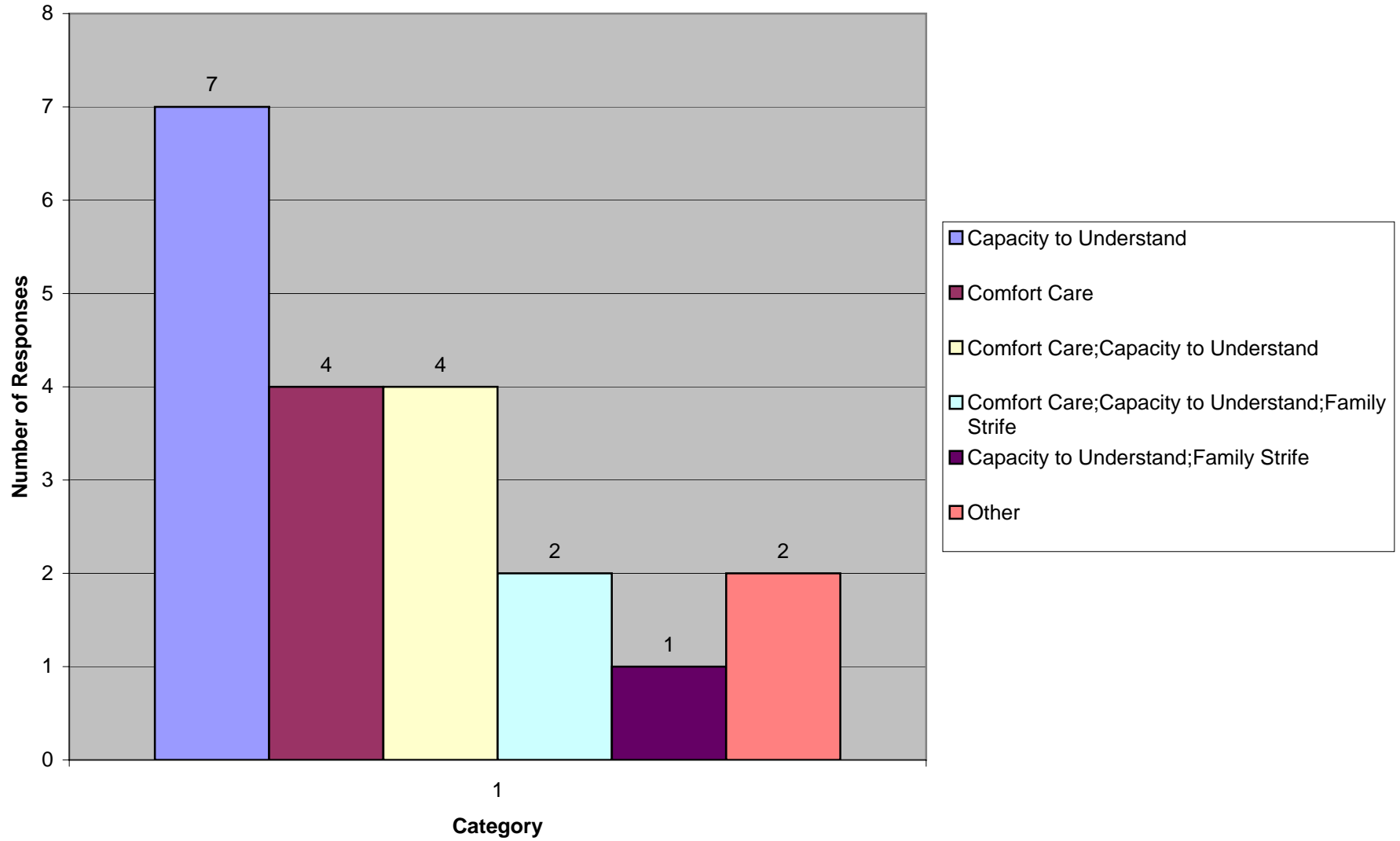
# Deception



# Deception



### Circumstances for Allowing Deception



Other: Because patients are having to do more of their own medical analysis, how can you do that without complete and accurate information!

Other: A family member was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Our family asked the physicians to not tell her that it was terminal. She lived longer and happier NOT knowing that. She did know that she had cancer and was being treated for it but not that it was a conservative treatment because of the prognosis. Knowing the truth would have been so devastating that she would have ceased to function at the time.