

Could the undergraduate French and Belgian training program explain the shortage of GPs in both countries?

Introduction:

Shortage of manpower in GP/FM is a serious problem in Belgium and France. Despite the advertisement of some authorized voices, the evolution of the medical cursus in medicine has been oriented towards technology and specialties in the last 40 years and the low number of medical students attracted by the profession of GP is now a fact.

Aim:

to identify the elements of the cursus influencing the choice of the career of general Medicine by the students including the differences between the Family Medicine Training Program in France and Belgium

Methods:

- Exploring the training programs of the two structures one in Reims, France and one in Brussels (Univ of Louvain), Belgium
- Participating to the vocational training sessions in both sites to meet the former undergraduate students
- Conducting an inquiry with trainees in GP/FM in both sites about their choice of career

Qualitative study on student' opinions
Same questionnaires for French and Belgian students
96 French & 35 Belgian.
Closed questions : multiple choice
Simple quantitative analysis (%)

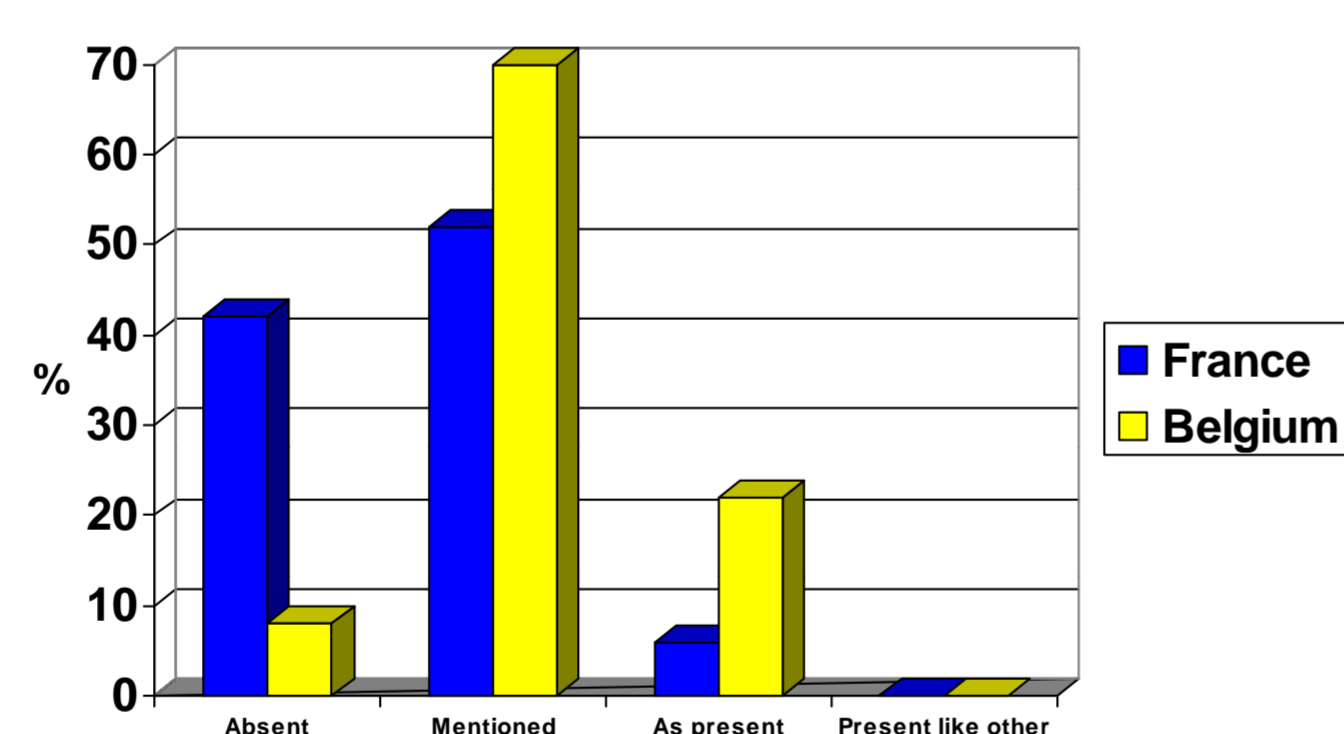
Results:

- ❑ Women ; 66% (French) 76% (Belgians)
- ❑ 15% of the students of the Master of family medicine in Belgium and France are not willing to become GP
- ❑ Place of general medicine until the end of the second cycle of medical studies between DMG-Reims and CAMG-UCL.

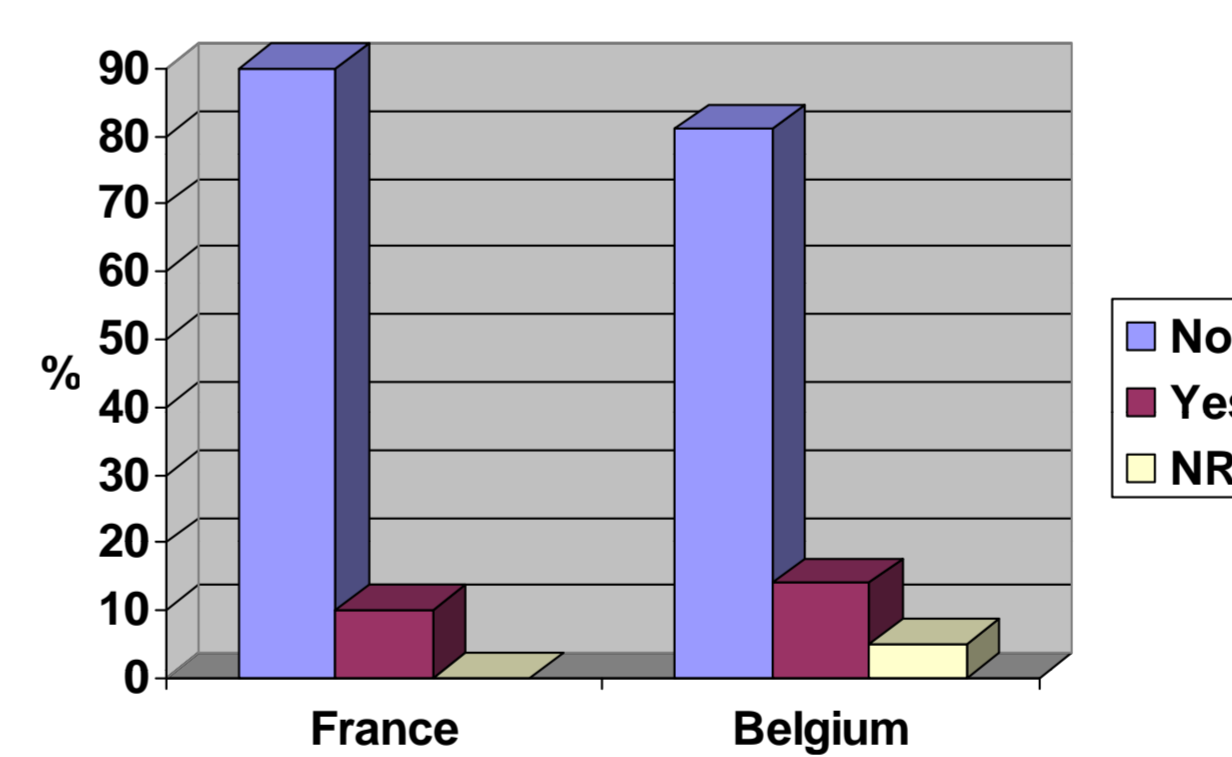
	UCL (Be)	REIMS (Fr)
Lesson	Total of 120 hours	Total of 38 hours
Internship	Total 31 Weeks and some days compulsory optional.	Total 12 weeks non-compulsory and some days compulsory optional.

- ❑ Presence of general practice within the university and academic lectures

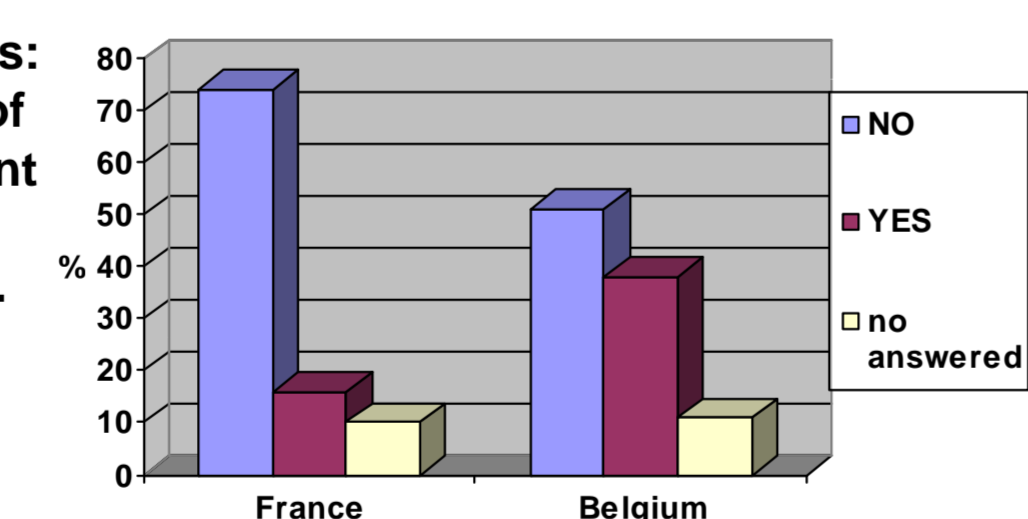
42% of French against 8% of Belgian students are absent from lectures. medicine



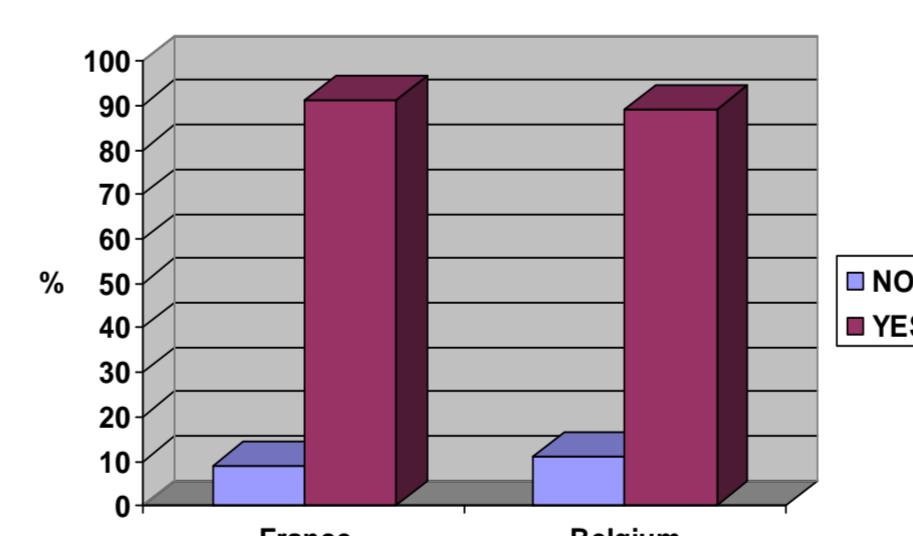
- ❑ 90% (F) & 81% (B) argue that the information given during the undergraduate curriculum don't give incentive towards GP/FM



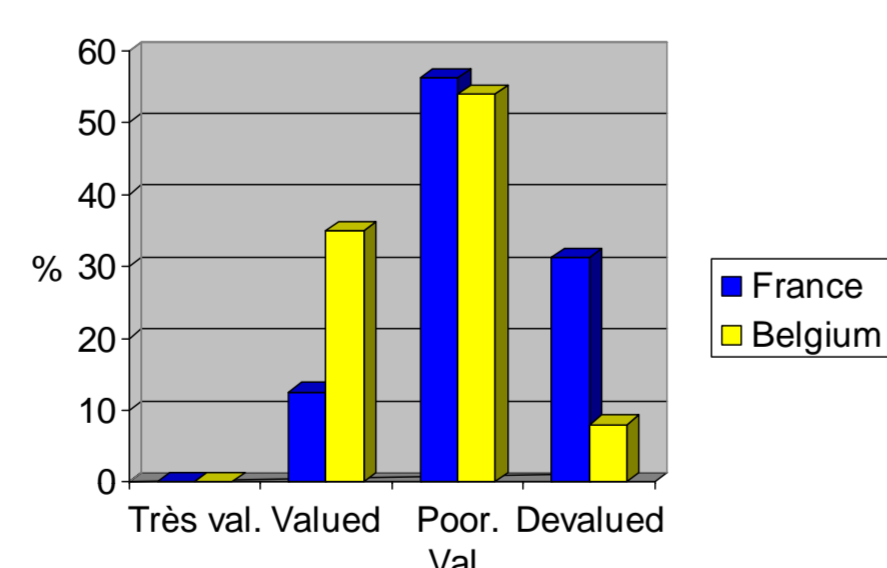
- ❑ Overview of students: 74% of French and 51% of Belgians think that current studies do not attract towards general practice.



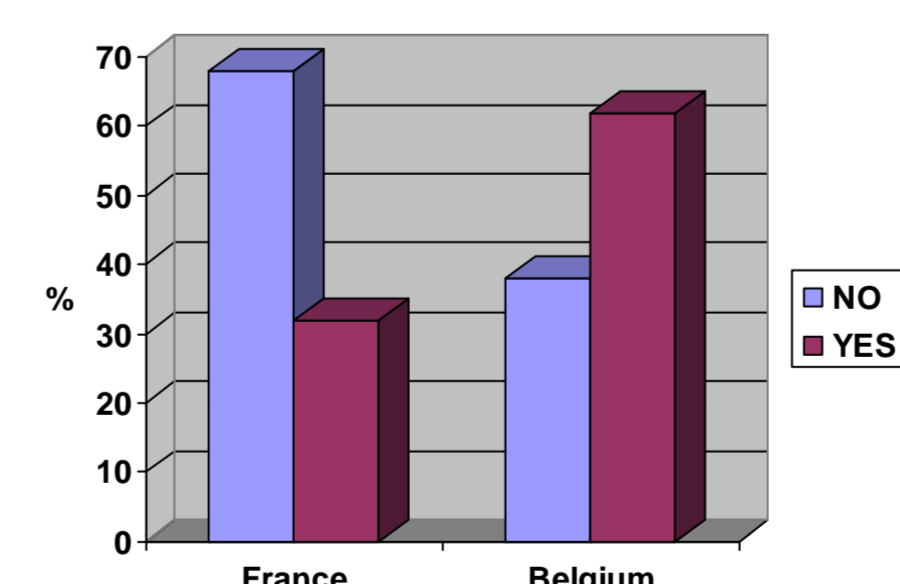
- ❑ Role and importance of an internship in graduate: 91% of French and 89% of Belgians are recognizing the importance of training



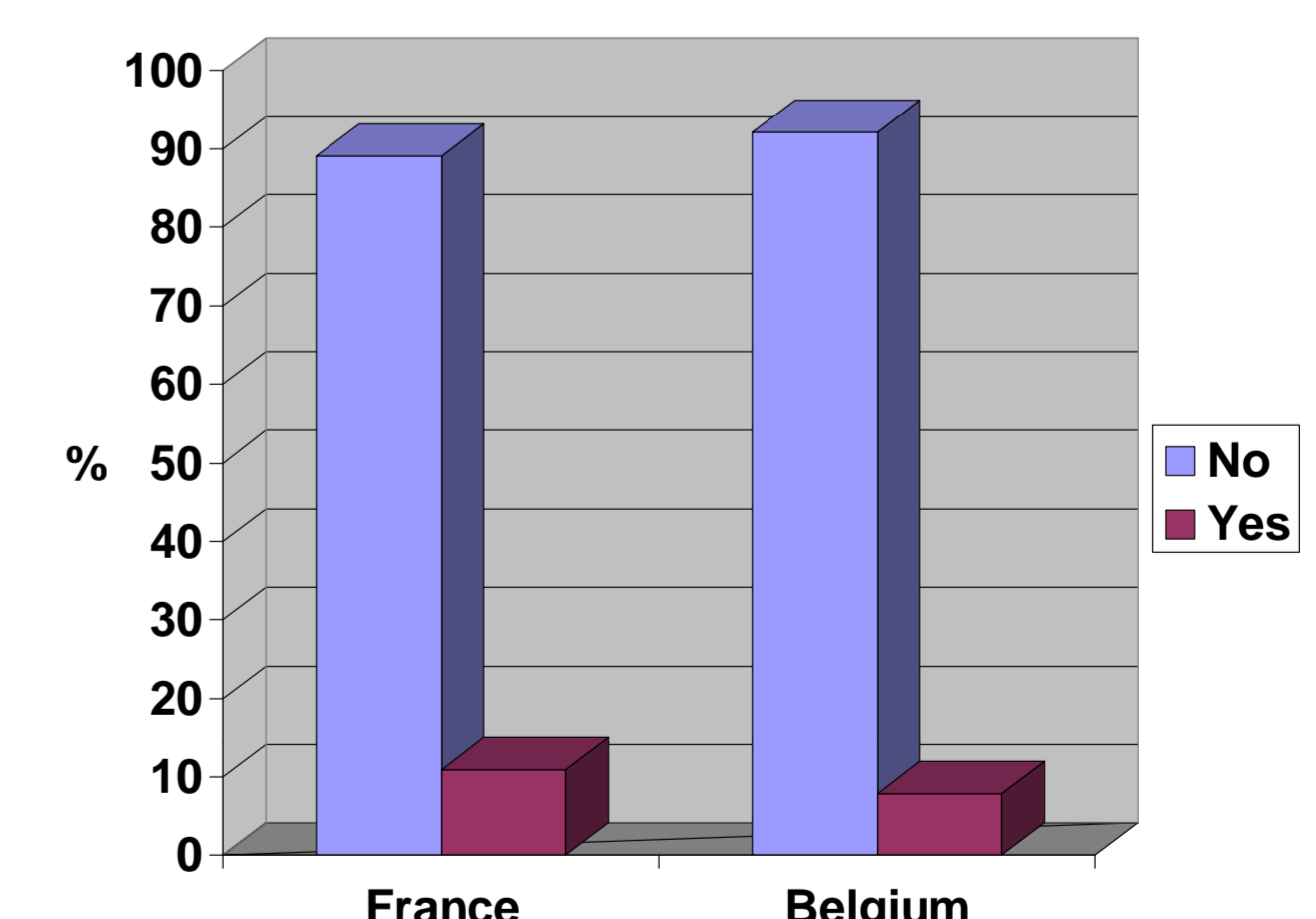
- ❑ Valuing general practice in within the faculty: Devalued + poorly valued: 87.5% in F and 62% in B. Valued: 12.5% F and 35% in B.



But, only 32% of French students and 62% of Belgians have made this famous stage if desired.



- ❑ Are you seeing GP as an academic career? French 11% Belgian 8%



**Conclusion for the improvement of general practice
In the faculty of medicine**

- General medicine must find its place in the course of the university as other specialties.
- The ambulatory medicine rotation must be established early in the studies and should be mandatory.
- The selection of future specialty must take into account the motivations of the student.
- A real chair of general medicine to create and be recognized within the university.

**General practice is central to the system of care
and must be the center of the Medical Faculty**