

Table 3 Characteristics of the sample of persons with diabetes mellitus (n = 1418)^a

Variables	n (%)
Sociodemographic characteristics	
Mean age, years (SD)	60.3 (13.0)
≤ 40 years	95 (6.7%)
Sex (n, %)	
Male	786 (55.4%)
Female	632 (44.6%)
Mean age at diagnosis (SD)	49.4 (15.9)
≤ 25 years (n, %)	63 (4.5%)
≤ 10 years (n, %)	17 (1.2%)
Clinical characteristics	
Current use of oral antidiabetic drugs	1289 (90.9%)
Biguanides only	845 (65.6%)
Sulfonylureas only	282 (21.9%)
Biguanides in combination with other types	255 (19.8%)
Others	70 (5.4%)
Current insulin use	256 (18.1%)
Specialty of the physician most involved in follow-up	
Endocrinologist	973 (71.1%)
General practitioner or family physician	375 (27.4%)
Cardiologist	20 (1.5%)
Last haemoglobin A1C test	
Within last 6 months	988 (75.7%)
Between 6 months and 1 year	165 (12.6%)
> 1 year	142 (10.8%)
> 2 years	10 (0.8%)
Recent episodes of hypoglycaemia^b	
None	1034 (71.7%)
Episodes requiring no help	187 (13.5%)
Episodes requiring medical attention	115 (8.3%)
Episodes requiring hospitalization	48 (3.5%)
Prevalence of complications	321 (22.6%)
Types of reported complications^c	
Retinopathy	148 (10.4%)
Coronary heart disease	88 (6.2%)
Peripheral artery disease	58 (4.1%)
Ulcer of lower limb	41 (2.9%)
Stroke	29 (2.0%)
Myocardial infarction	27 (1.9%)
Nephropathy	22 (1.6%)
Amputation of the lower limb	16 (1.1%)

^a18 patients are believed to be patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus.

^bDuring the previous 4 weeks preceding the survey.

^cNot mutually exclusive.