



# BEST-ICU

NIH-FUNDED STUDY

IRB# 0794-23-FB

Behavioral Economic & Staffing  
Strategies To Increase Adoption  
of the ABCDEF Bundle in the  
Intensive Care Unit

A Stepped Wedge Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial

## MPIs



Balas



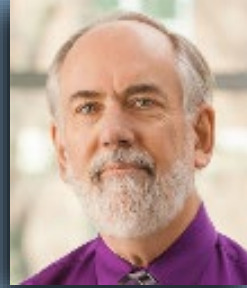
Vasilevskis

## Project Coordinator



Wagner-Connolly

## Co-Investigators



Campbell



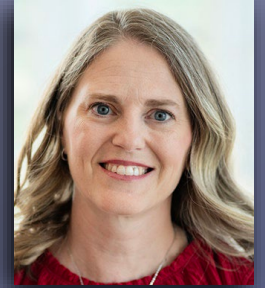
Geary



Hetland



Blanchard



Circo



Liston



Miller



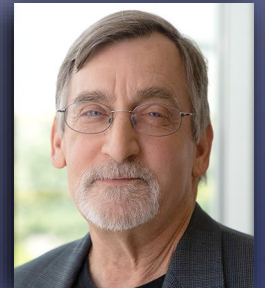
Hepburn



Kupzyk



Wichman



Horner



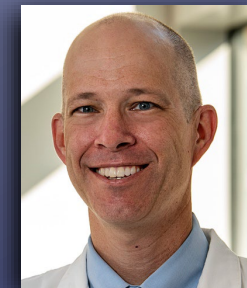
Kim



Krupp



Blum



Exline



Gerlach



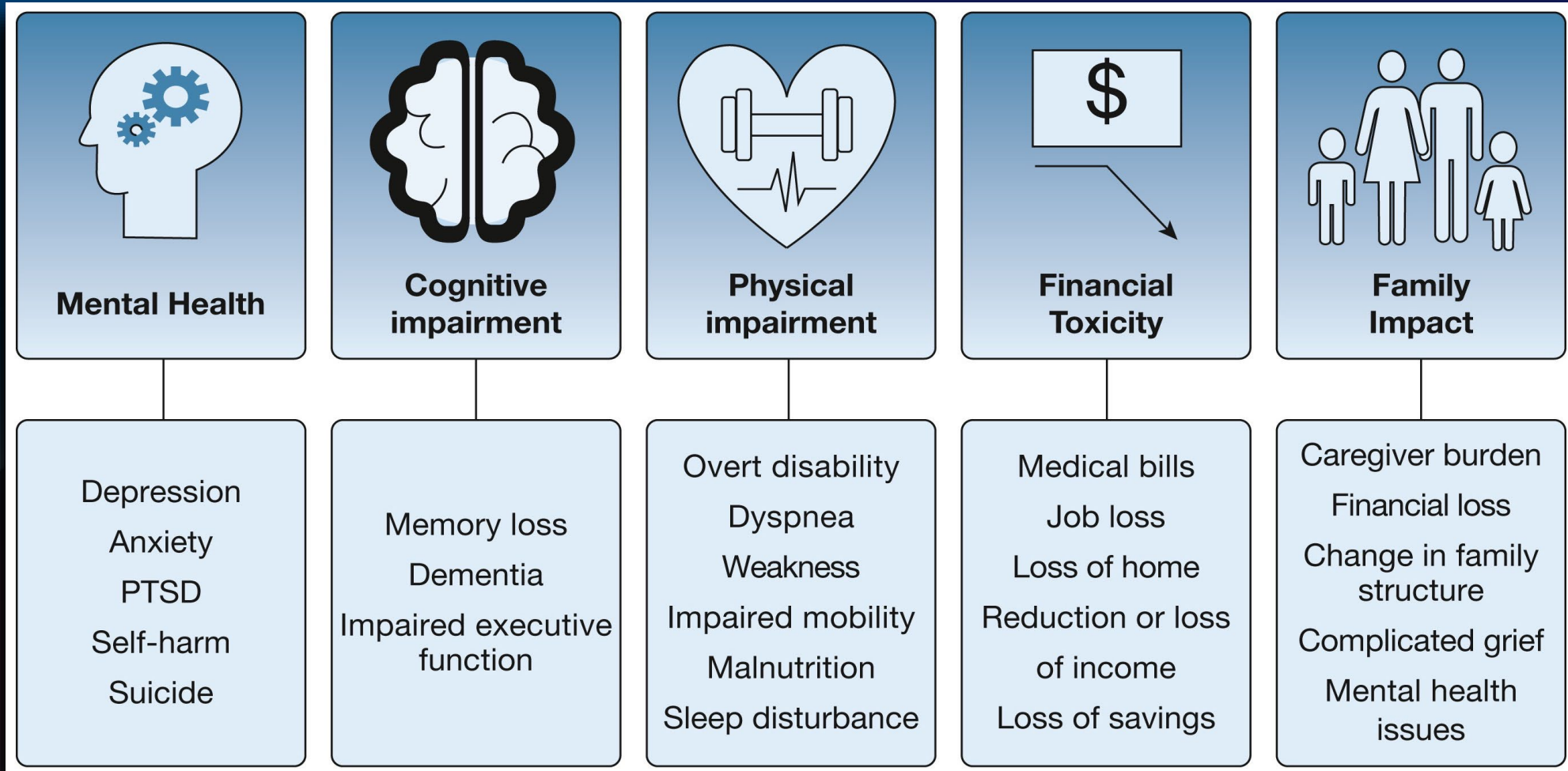
# Significance: Post Intensive Care Syndrome (PICS)



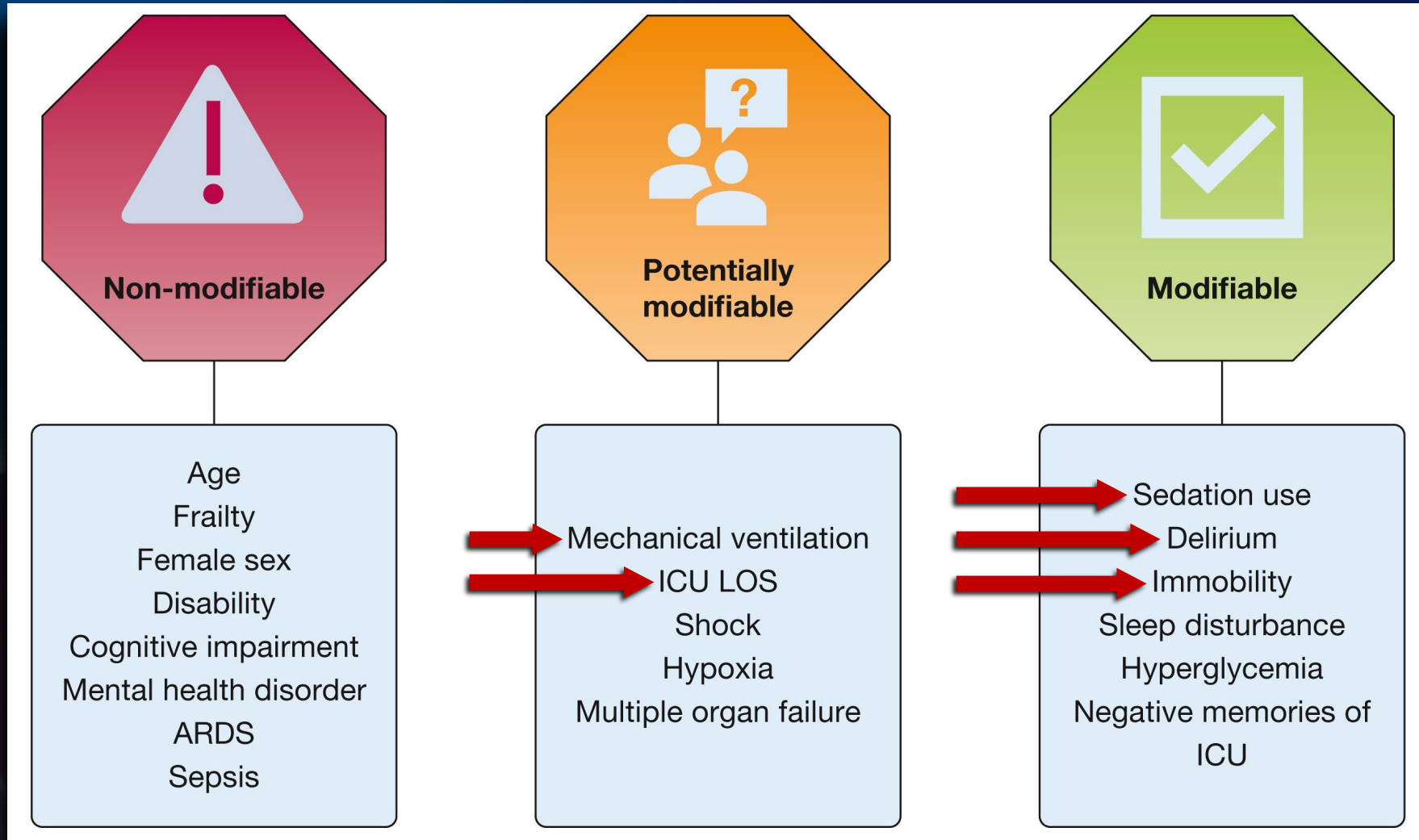
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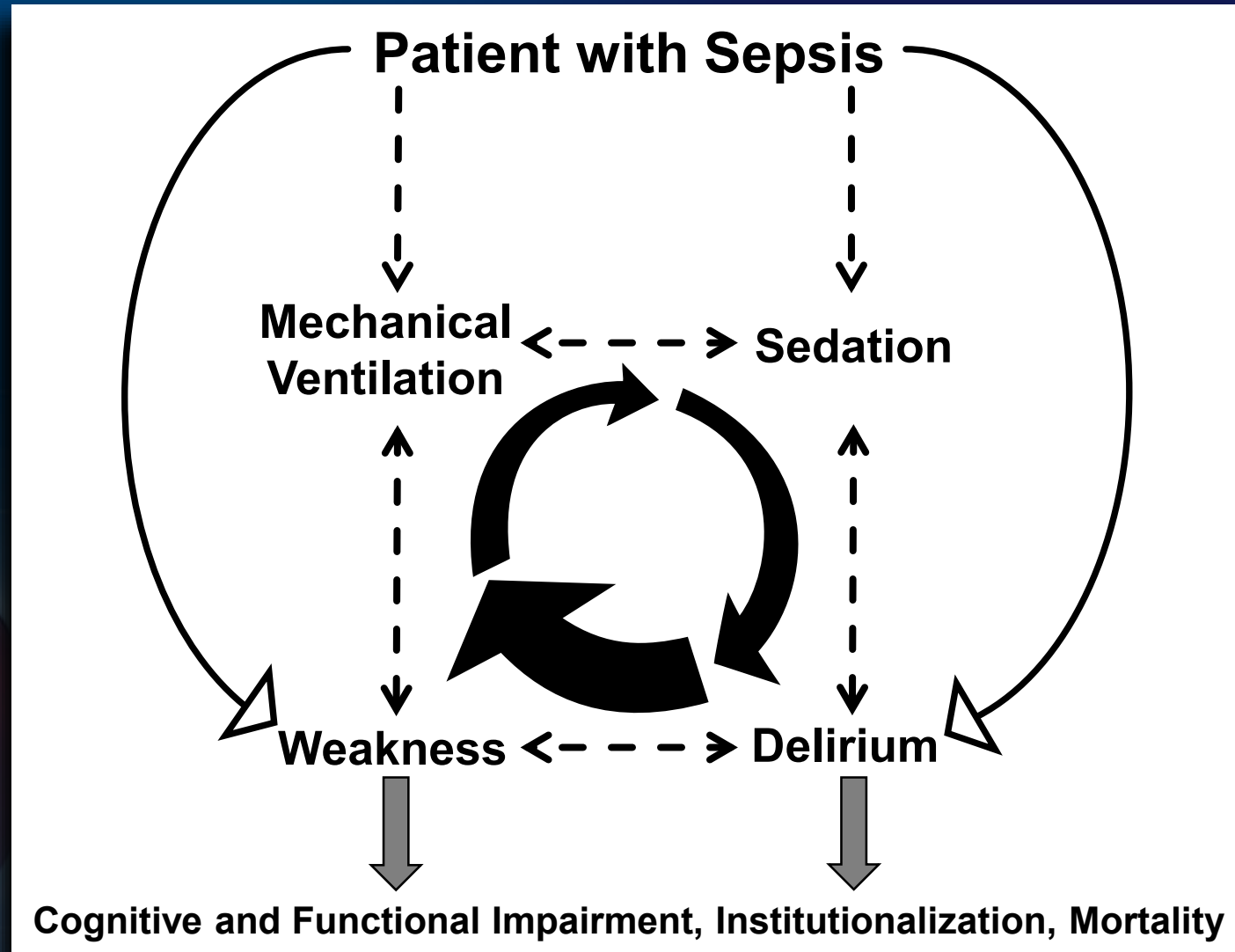
# Human & Financial Costs of Increasing ICU Survivorship



# Conditions Associated with PICs



# Modifiable Conditions Associated with PICS



# Highly Efficacious & Safe MV Liberation, Symptom Management, & Mobility Interventions Exist



Online Special Article

## Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Pain, Agitation/Sedation, Delirium, Immobility, and Sleep Disruption in Adult Patients in the ICU

John W. Devlin, PharmD, FCCM (Chair)<sup>1,2</sup>; Yoanna Skrobik, MD, FRCP(c), MSc, FCCM (Vice-Chair)<sup>3,4</sup>; Céline Gélinas, RN, PhD<sup>5</sup>; Dale M. Needham, MD, PhD<sup>6</sup>; Arjen J. C. Slooter, MD, PhD<sup>7</sup>; Pratik P. Pandharipande, MD, MSCI, FCCM<sup>8</sup>; Paula L. Watson, MD<sup>9</sup>; Gerald L. Weinhouse, MD<sup>10</sup>; Mark E. Nunnally, MD, FCCM<sup>11,12,13,14</sup>; Bram Rochweg, MD, MSc<sup>15,16</sup>; Michele C. Balas, RN, PhD, FCCM, FAAN<sup>17,18</sup>; Mark van den Boogaard, RN, PhD<sup>19</sup>; Karen J. Bosma, MD<sup>20,21</sup>; Nathaniel E. Brummel, MD, MSCI<sup>22,23</sup>; Gerald Chanques, MD, PhD<sup>24,25</sup>; Linda Denehy, PT, PhD<sup>26</sup>; Xavier Drouot, MD, PhD<sup>27,28</sup>; Gilles L. Fraser, PharmD, MCCM<sup>29</sup>; Jocelyn E. Harris, OT, PhD<sup>30</sup>;



**A**

Assess, prevent, & manage pain

**B**

Both SATs & SBTs

**C**

Choice of analgesia & Sedation

**D**

Delirium: Assess, prevent, & manage

**E**

Early exercise & mobility

**F**

Family engagement



# ABCDEF Bundle Facilitates Adoption of Multiple PADIS Practices & Improves Outcomes



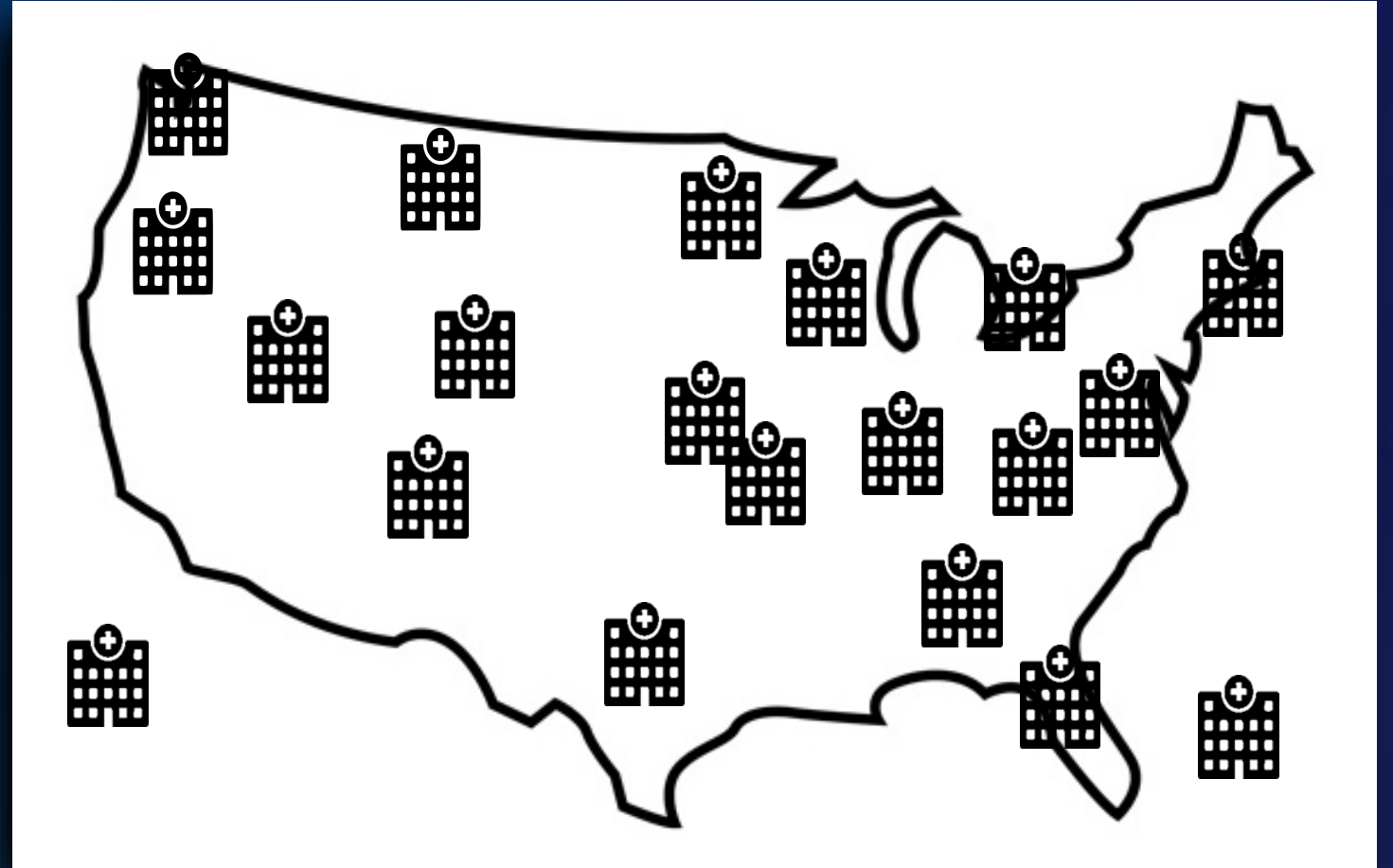
- Evidence-based, multicomponent, interprofessional approach to optimizing care of the critically ill
- Overarching goal is to maximize wakefulness & encourage cognitive & physical activity
- Applies to every ICU patient, every day, regardless of MV status or diagnosis
  - A patient simply receives every bundle element for which she/he is eligible

# SCCM ICU Liberation Collaborative

Society of  
Critical Care Medicine  
The Intensive Care Professionals



GORDON AND BETTY  
**MOORE**  
FOUNDATION



# SCCM ICU Liberation Collaborative

**Purpose:** To build on the success of bundled care & bridge an ongoing evidence to practice gap, the SCCM launched the ICU Liberation Collaborative. Purpose was to foster bedside application of the SCCM's PADIS Guidelines via the ABCDEF bundle

## Setting: 68 ICUs

- Diversity
  - Regional (across the US)
  - Type of ICU
  - Size of Hospital
  - Community, Academic, & VA

## Patients: 15,226

- Diversity
  - 54% on MV
  - Admission diagnosis: sepsis, respiratory, neuro, cardiac

**All eligible bundle elements performed  
VS  
No eligible bundle performed**

**Complete bundle performance**



**Improved Outcomes**



# Clinical Outcomes

Outcomes	Complete Bundle Performance*	P Value
Mechanical ventilation	0.28 (0.22–0.36)	< 0.0001
Coma	0.35 (0.22–0.56)	< 0.0001
Delirium	0.60 (0.49–0.72)	< 0.0001
Significant pain	1.03 (0.88–1.21)	0.7000
Physical restraints	0.37 (0.30–0.46)	< 0.0001

# Clinical Outcomes

Outcomes	Complete Bundle Performance*	P Value
ICU discharge	1.17 (1.05–1.30)	< 0.004
Hospital discharge	1.19 (1.01–1.40)	< 0.033
Death	0.32 (0.17–0.62)	< 0.001
ICU readmission	0.54 (0.37–0.79)	< 0.001
Discharge destination	0.64 (0.51–0.80)	< 0.001

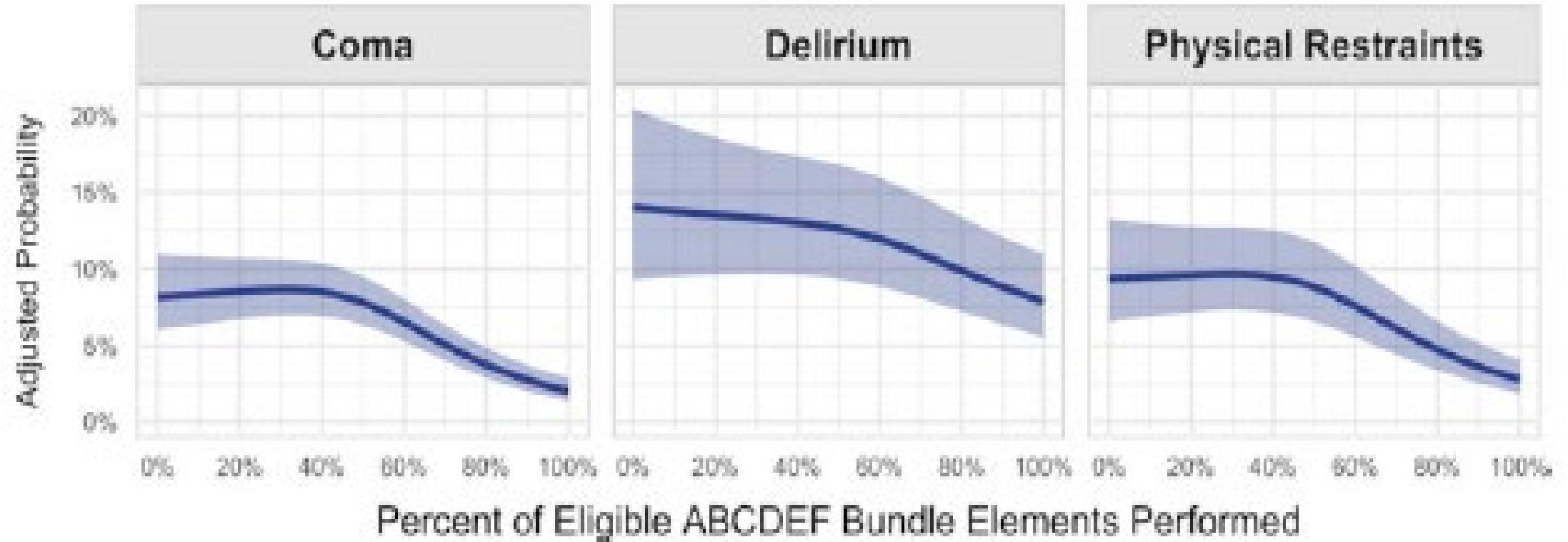
**Percent eligible bundle elements performed**

Partial bundle performance



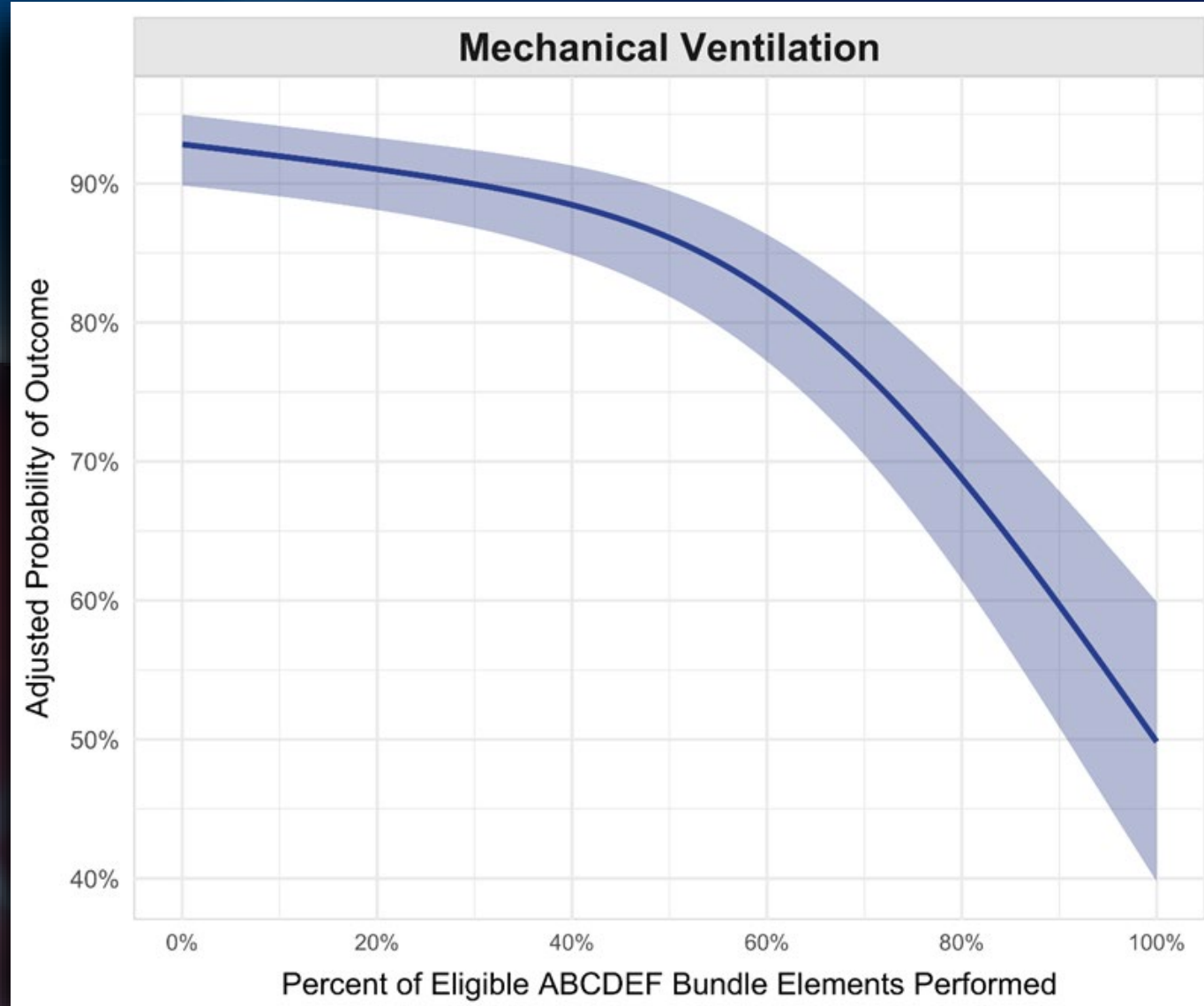
Improved Outcomes

# Clinical Outcomes

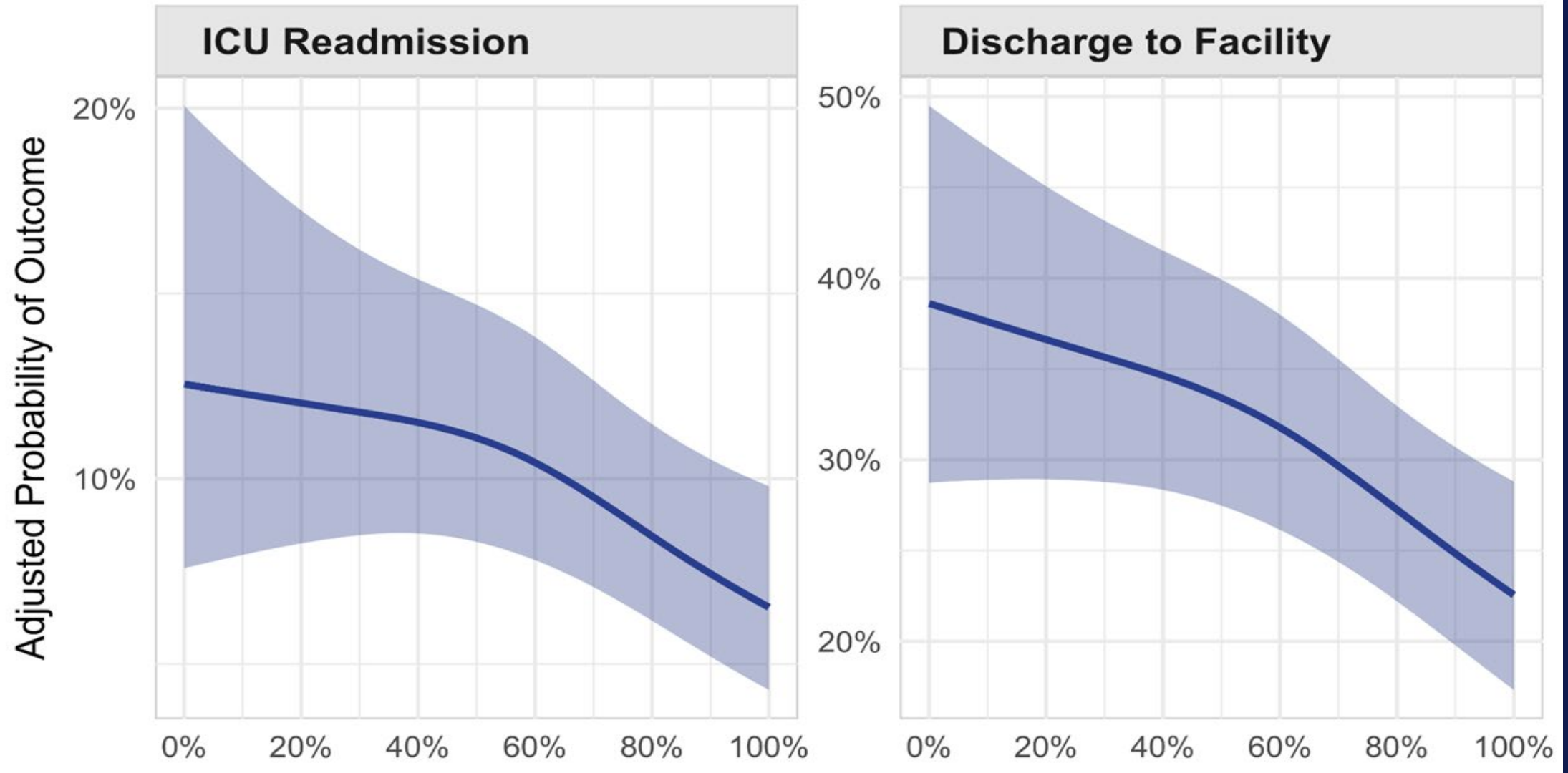




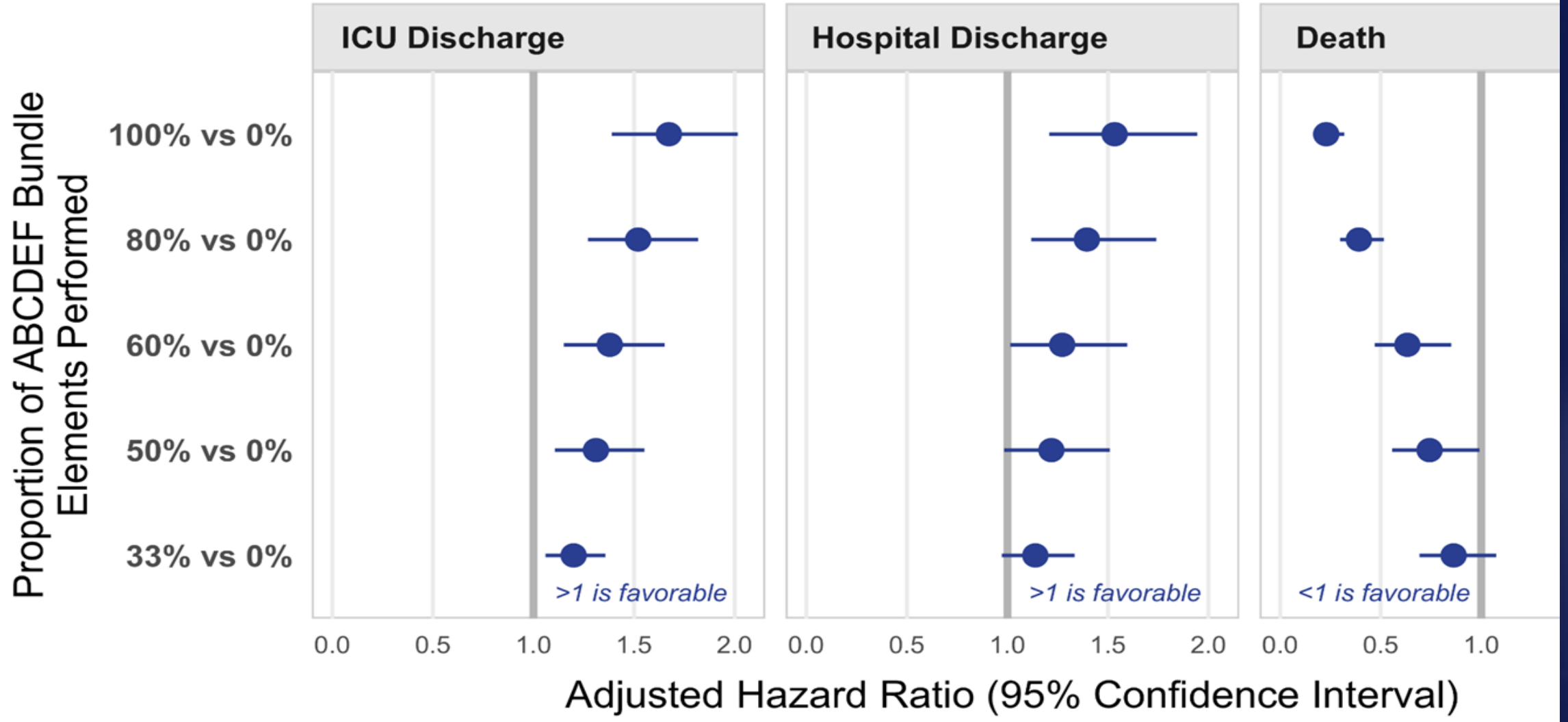
# Clinical Outcomes



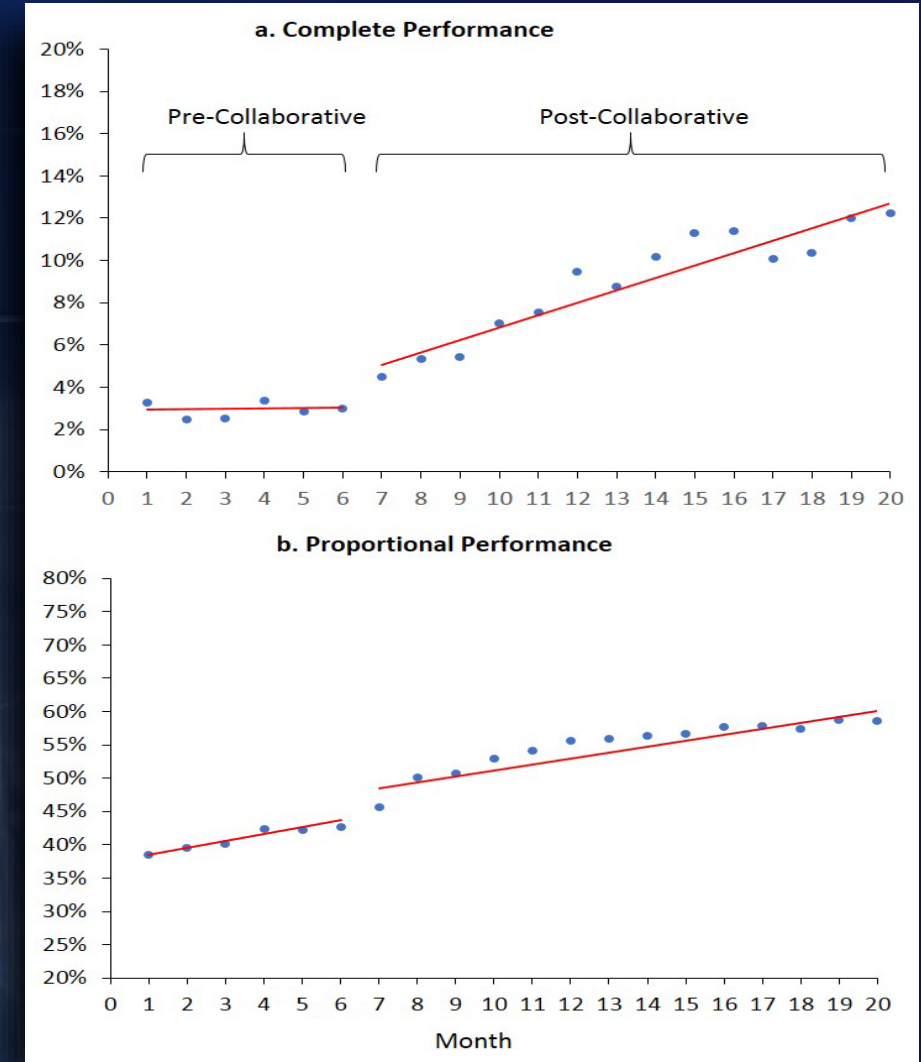
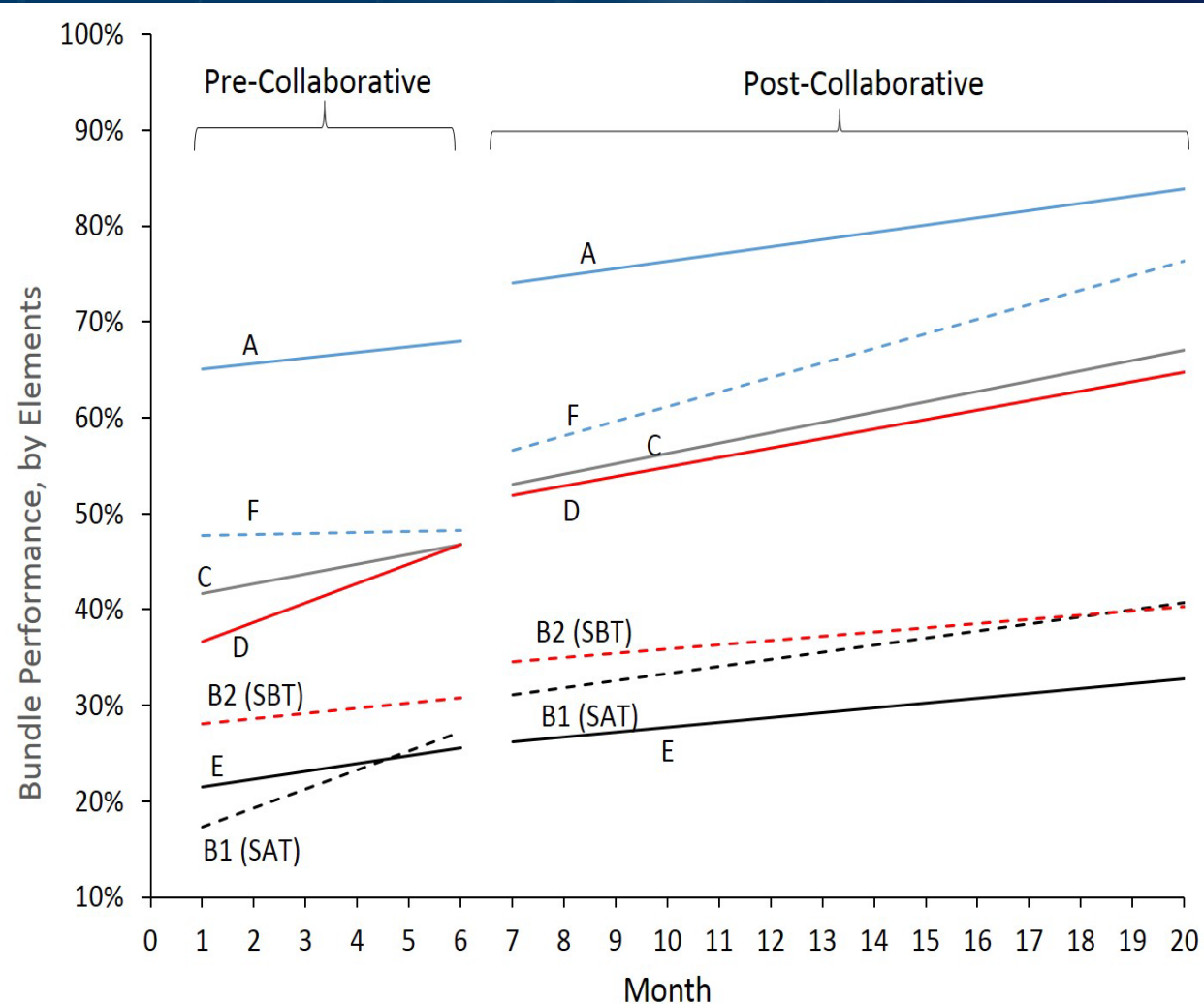
# Clinical Outcomes



# Clinical Outcomes

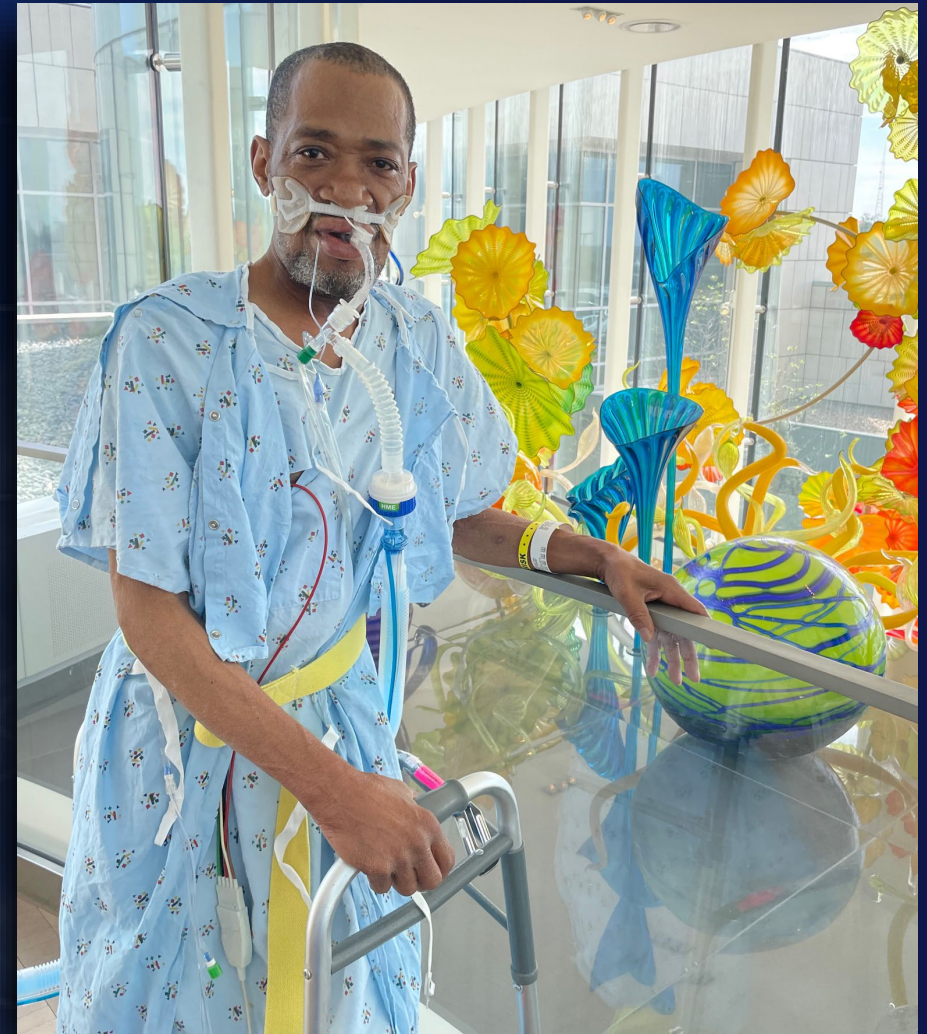
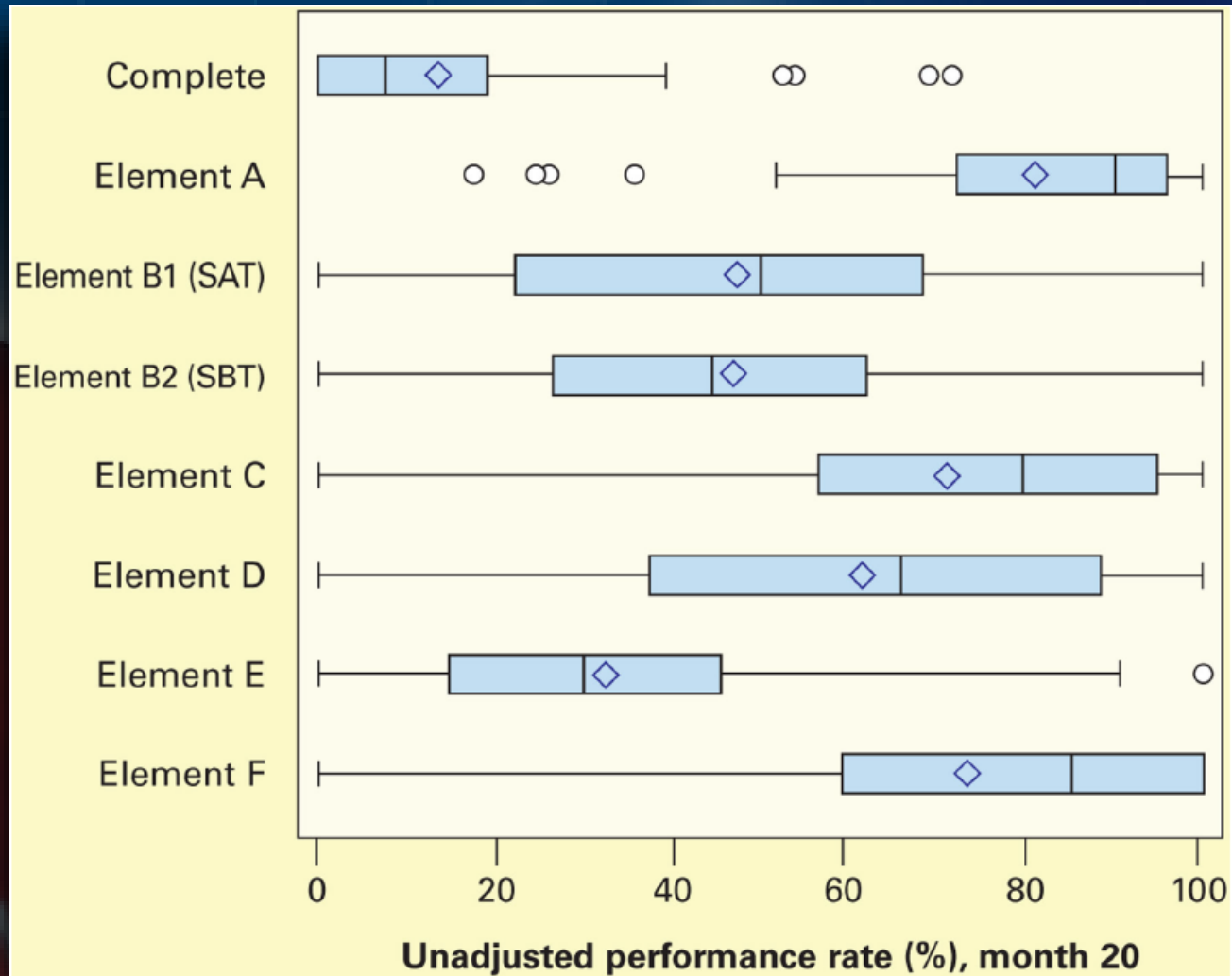


# Implementation Gaps: Continual Low Bundle Adoption





# Implementation Gaps: High Variability



# Implementation Gaps: Numerous & Complex

## Brainstorming:

- “To successfully deliver the ABCDEF bundle on a daily basis in the ICU, a specific thing that should be in place or included is .....
- Rated by necessity & current use



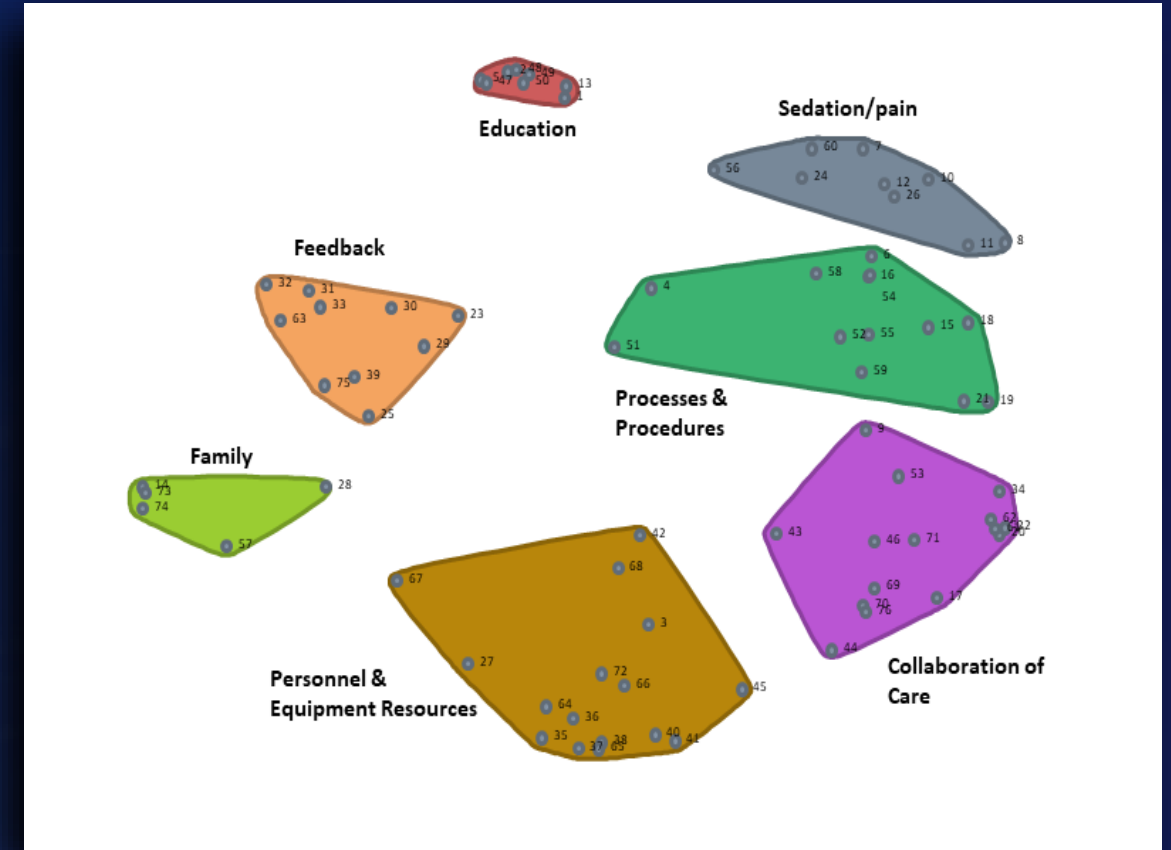
Prior review by  
Costa et al. found  
>100 barriers to  
ABCDEF bundle  
implementation



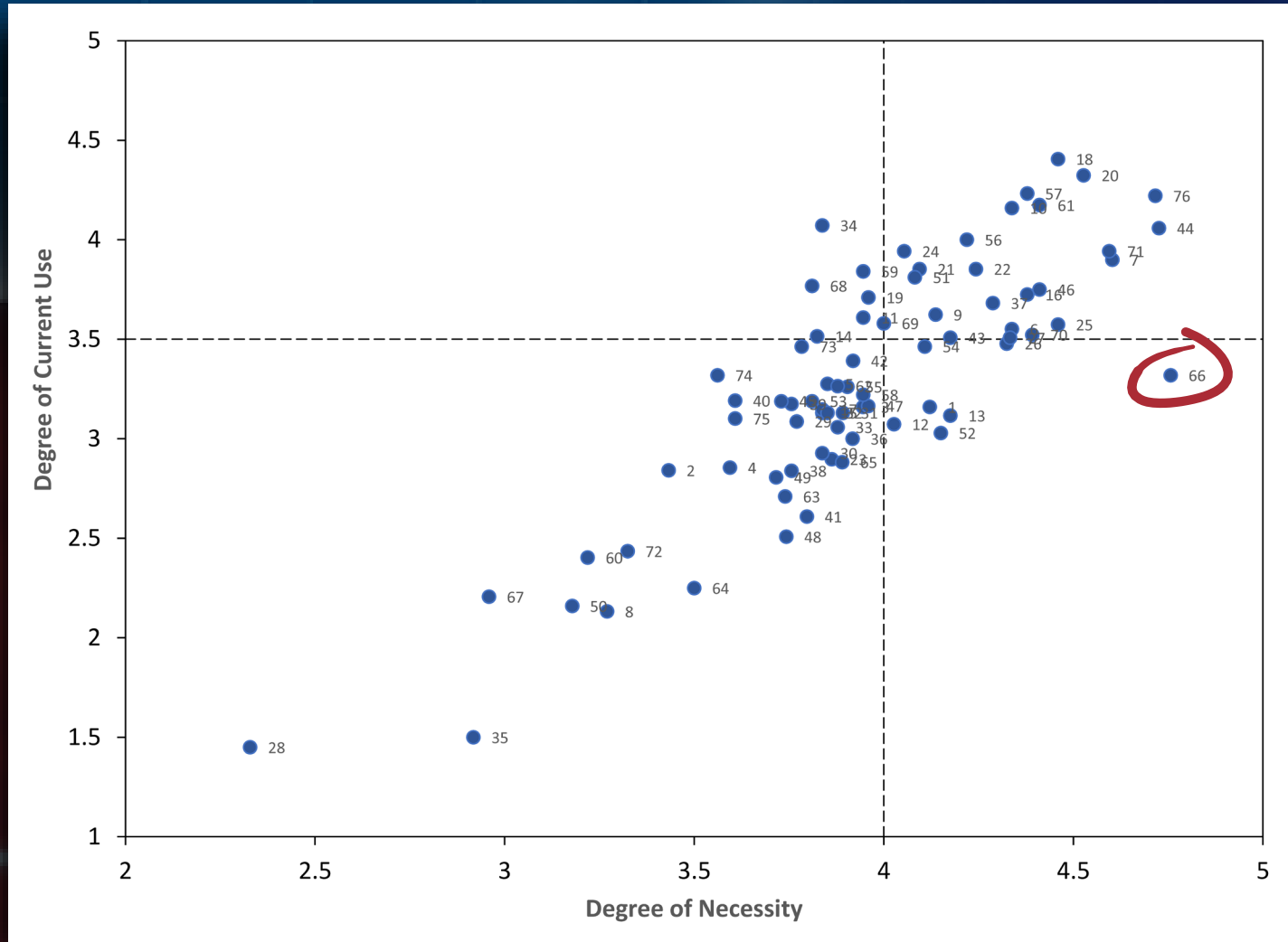
Recruited  
interdisciplinary  
staff from the ICU  
Liberation  
Collaborative



Group Concept  
Mapping (GCM)



# Implementation Challenges: Numerous & Complex



**Go Zone (Bottom Right Quadrant):** One of the highest necessity & least implemented items:  
**Item 66**  
(adequate staffing)

# Behavioral Economic & Staffing Strategies To Increase Adoption of the ABCDEF Bundle in the ICU (BEST-ICU)



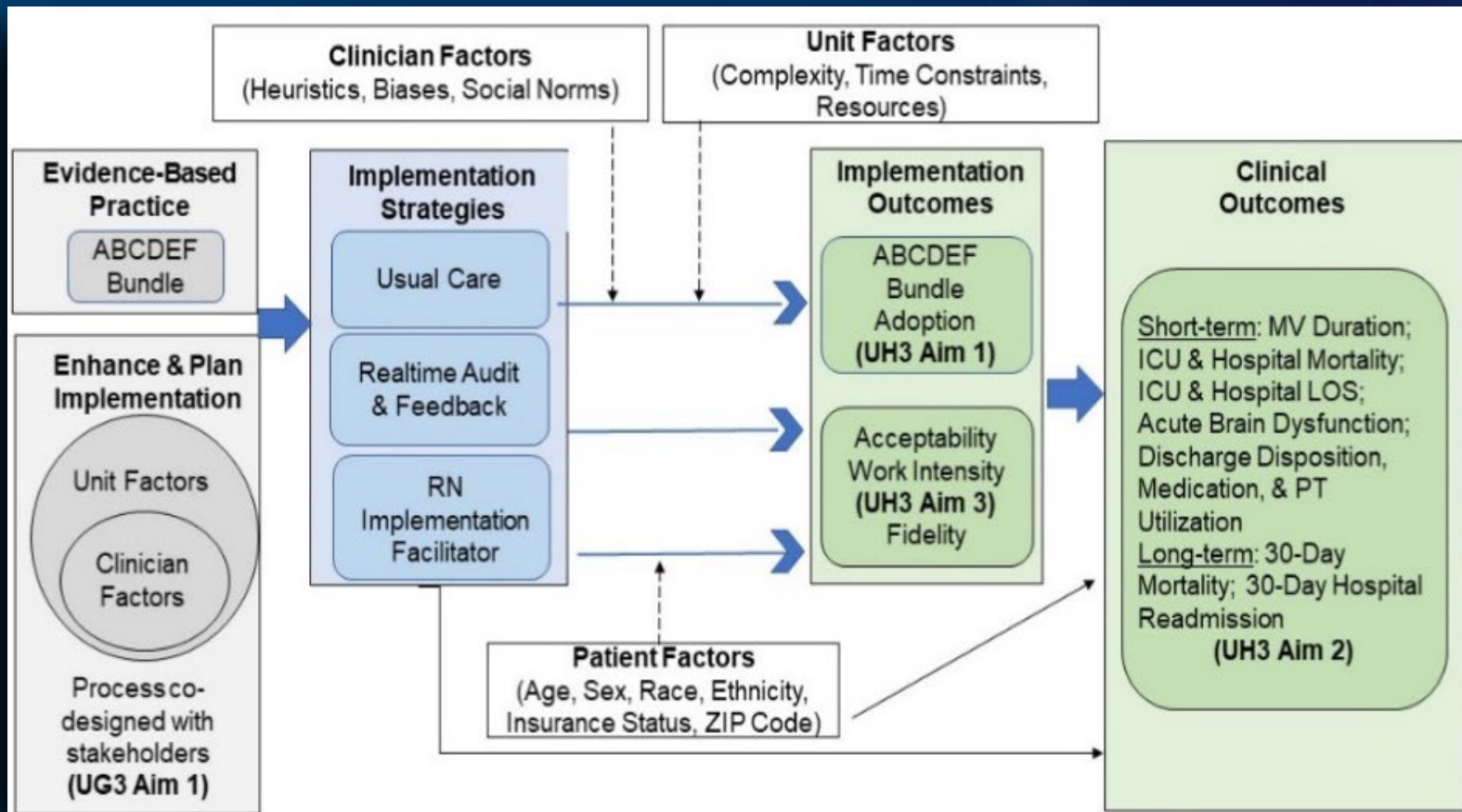
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# BEST ICU

Objective: Evaluate two discrete strategies grounded in behavioral economic & implementation science theory to increase adoption of the ABCDEF bundle



Strategies being evaluated target a variety of ICU team members & known behavioral determinants of ABCDEF bundle performance

# BEST ICU Study Aims

## Aim 1: Primary **Implementation** Objective



Compare the effectiveness of real-time audit & feedback & RN implementation facilitation on proportional ABCDEF bundle performance (primary study outcome)

## Aim 1: Secondary **Implementation** Objective



Compare the effectiveness of real-time audit & feedback & RN implementation facilitation on complete ABCDEF bundle performance

# BEST ICU Study Aims

## Aim 2: Primary **Clinical** Objective



Compare the effectiveness of real-time audit & feedback & RN implementation facilitation on duration of mechanical ventilation

## Aim 2: Secondary **Clinical** Objective



Compare the effectiveness of real-time audit & feedback & RN implementation facilitation on other patient-centered outcomes

(e.g., ICU, hospital, & 30-day mortality; ICU & hospital LOS; ICU days with acute brain dysfunction; ICU physical restraint use; daily & total opioid, benzodiazepine, sedative/hypnotic, & antipsychotic medication use in ICU stay & at hospital discharge; ICU days with a family visit; discharge disposition; ICU readmission)

# BEST ICU Study Aims

## Aim 3: Identify & describe key stakeholders' experiences with, and perspectives of, real-time audit & feedback & RN implementation facilitation



- **Aim 3.1:** Compare the effects of real-time audit & feedback & RN implementation facilitation on work intensity
- **Aim 3.2:** Compare the acceptability of real-time audit & feedback & RN implementation facilitation
- **Aim3.3:** Assess the association of work intensity with acceptability & proportional bundle performance
- **Aim 3.4:** Assess provider perspectives of barriers & facilitators to adoption of real-time audit & feedback & RN implementation facilitation



# Participants

## Hospitals

- 3 geographically & organizationally separate safety net hospitals

## ICUs

- 12 ICUs that each admit at least 300 patients requiring MV annually



**UNMC**  
**Nebraska**  
**Medicine**

1. Medical ICU
2. Surgical ICU
3. Surgical (Cancer)
4. Neuro ICU



**THE OHIO STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

1. Medical ICU
2. Surgical ICU
3. Neuro ICU
4. Medical (Cancer) ICU
5. Cardiovascular ICU

**IOWA**<sup>®</sup>  
**HEALTH CARE**

1. Medical ICU
2. Surgical ICU
3. Cardiovascular ICU

# Participants

## Clinicians

- Physicians,
- advanced practice providers,
- RNs, LPNs, CNAs,
- RTs,
- PTs, OTs, &
- Pharmacists who practice in participating ICUs

## Patients

Preexisting EHR data on 8,100 patients

**Included:**  $\geq 19$  years old, received invasive MV in the ICU, & ICU LOS of at least 24 hours

**Excluded:** Admitted to the hospital already on chronic long term MV from the home, assisted living facilities, or long-term care settings & prisoners



## Design

Pragmatic, stepped-wedge, cluster-randomized, hybrid type III effectiveness-implementation trial



## Randomization

Covariate-constrained randomization

ICUs randomized to 2 implementation strategies. Either:

- Real-time audit & feedback – OR-
- RN implementation facilitator

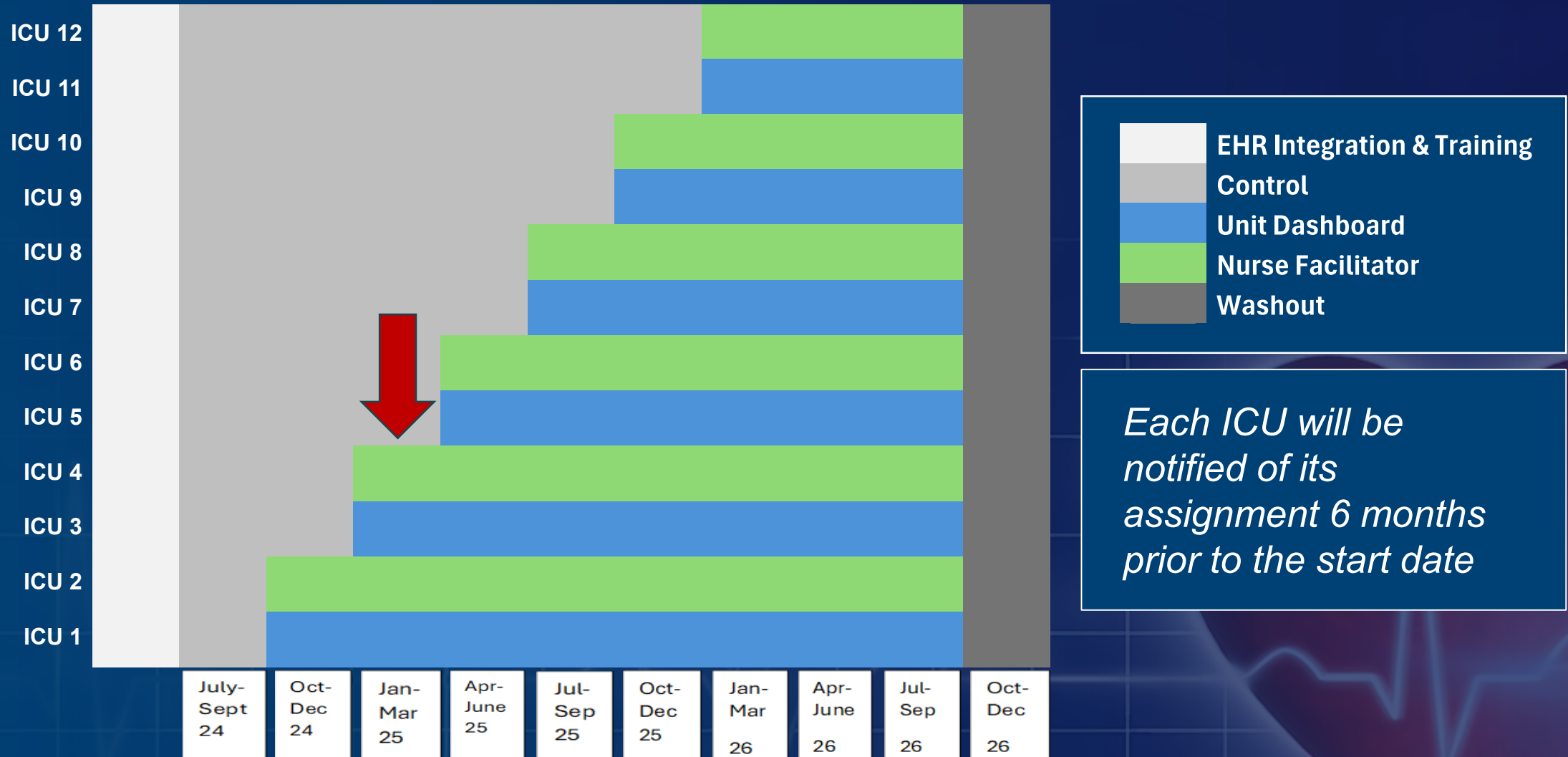


## Duration

Each ICU will take 33 months to complete all study-related tasks

All patient-level data will be extracted from the EHR for the primary hospital encounter up to 31 days post discharge

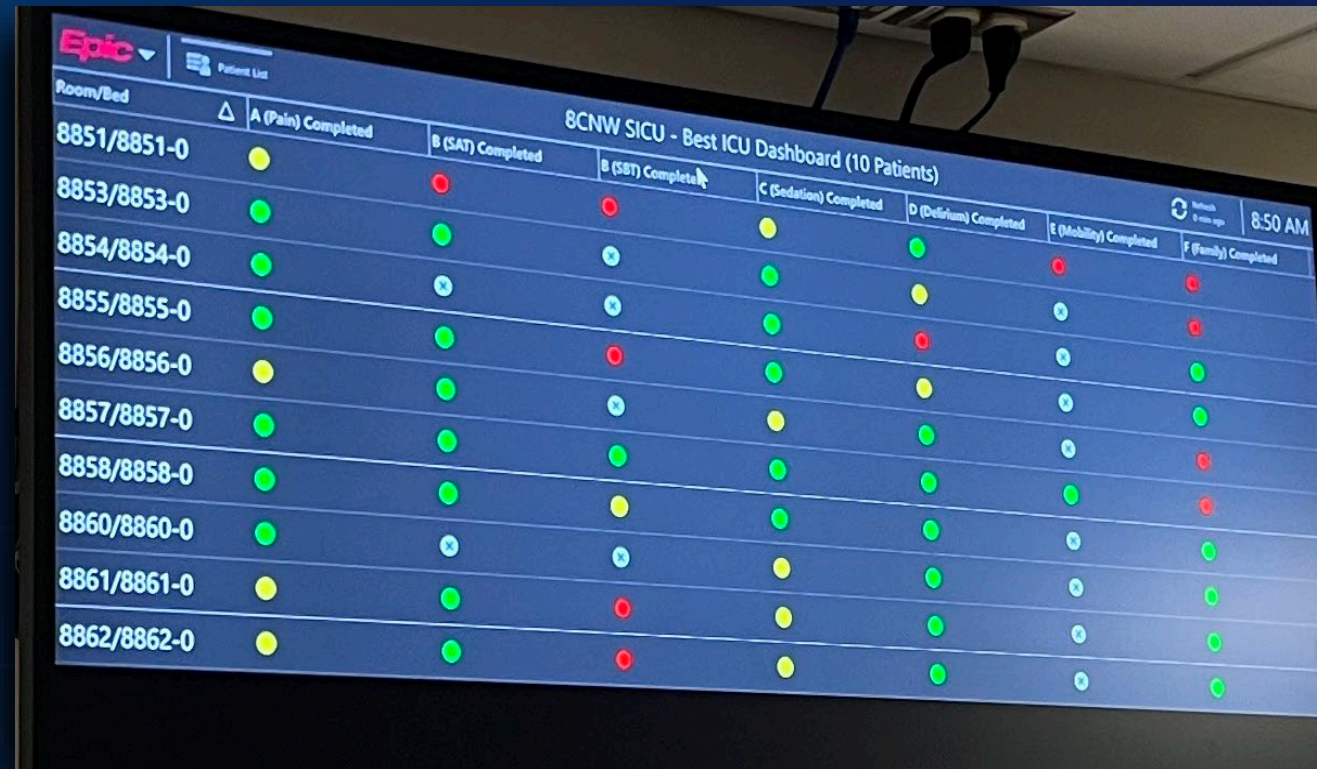
# Study Design, Randomization, & Duration



# Implementation Strategies: Intervention Arm 1

## Real-Time Audit & Feedback

- Real-time A&F displayed on centrally placed dashboard
- All ICU providers have dashboard access
- Dashboard created using established flowsheets, procedures, application reports, activity & navigator records, BPAs, & tasks within Epic
- Includes daily bundle element completion status by ICU room



Room/Bed	A (Pain) Completed	B (SAT) Completed	B (SBT) Completed	C (Sedation) Completed	D (Delirium) Completed	E (Mobility) Completed	F (Family) Completed
8851/8851-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8853/8853-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8854/8854-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8855/8855-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8856/8856-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8857/8857-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8858/8858-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8860/8860-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8861/8861-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
8862/8862-0	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



# Implementation Strategies: Intervention Arm 2 - RN Implementation Facilitator

## Practical clinical facilitator

- Acts as extra support to carry out functions of ABCDEF bundle

## Coordinator

- Coordinate ABCDEF practices across specialties

## Champion

- Promote clinician behavior change

## Coach

- Facilitate team members bundle elements training



# Implementation Strategies: Intervention Arm 2 - RN Implementation Facilitator

- Internal facilitator (RN already working on participating ICU)
- Works day shift (when most bundle elements performed)
- Always free from a patient assignment
- ICUs continue normal staffing practices
- RN implementation facilitator paid from grant





# BEST-ICU: Data Sources, Data Collection, & Fidelity Monitoring

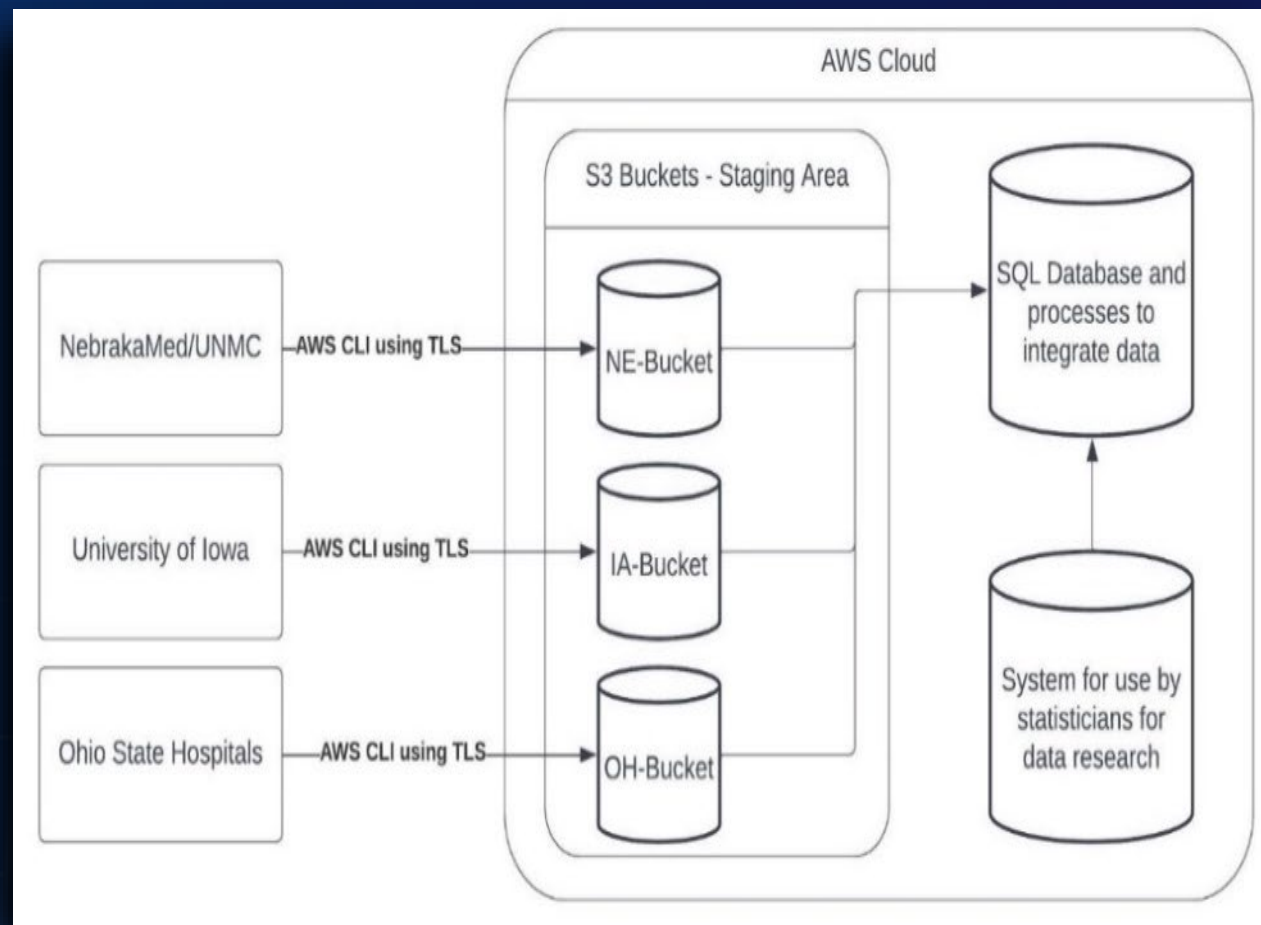


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# Electronic Health Record Data

- Epic® EHR at all sites
- All Sites have a certified PCORnet datamart that extract clinical data from Epic CLARITY® repository
- Quarterly data extraction per site protocols
- Data extracted with computable phenotypes
  - Eligibility data
  - Enrollment data
  - Clinical risk factor data
  - Primary & secondary implementation outcomes
  - Primary & secondary clinical outcome



**BEST ICU Amazon Web Services (AWS)  
Data Management Environment**

# Data Collection

## Bundle performance & patient outcomes

Electronic Health Record Capture, PCORnet datamart, study database

## Provider - Throughout trial

### Work Intensity:

- Measured via the 6-item NASA-TLX
  - Includes physical, mental, temporal demands, performance, effort, & frustration dimensions
- < 1 minute to complete, paper form
- Administered to all ICU team members who work day shift 4X month (random times) during clinical trial

The image shows a NASA TLX (NASA-Task Load Index) scale form. It consists of six horizontal scales, each representing a different dimension of workload. Each scale has 11 tick marks, with the first tick mark labeled 'Very Low' and the last tick mark labeled 'Very High'. A vertical line is drawn on each scale to indicate the current rating.

- Mental Demand:** How mentally demanding was the task? (Very Low to Very High)
- Physical Demand:** How physically demanding was the task? (Very Low to Very High)
- Temporal Demand:** How hurried or rushed was the pace of the task? (Very Low to Very High)
- Performance:** How successful were you in accomplishing what you were asked to do? (Perfect to Failure)
- Effort:** How hard did you have to work to accomplish your level of performance? (Very Low to Very High)
- Frustration:** How insecure, discouraged, irritated, stressed, and annoyed were you? (Very Low to Very High)

**NASA TLX**



# Data Collection

**Provider** - One time; End of trial; Administered to all ICU team members; < 1 minute to complete

- **Acceptability:**

- Measured via the 4-item Acceptability of Intervention Measure  
Specifically designed to measure intervention acceptability
  1. XXX meets my approval
  2. XXX is appealing to me
  3. I like XXX
  4. I welcome XXX

**Responses range from 1=completely disagree to 5=completely agree**



# Data Collection

## Focus groups

- Purposeful sample of 60 ICU providers based on trial arm & AIM survey results (low, middle, high)
- Participants will be asked about overall perceptions & experiences on implementation strategy as well as barriers & facilitators specific to CFIR domains & constructs



# Rigorous Fidelity Monitoring Plan

## Real-time Audit & Feedback

- Monthly monitoring of audit & feedback intervention
  - Centrally placed monitor?
  - Patients on dashboard match patients in unit?
  - Correct display of each ABCDEF bundle element across patients?

## RN Implementation Facilitator

- Unit staffing monitoring
- RN Implementation Facilitator daily fidelity tool & 3, 6-month form
- Direct observation by independent monitor (monthly)



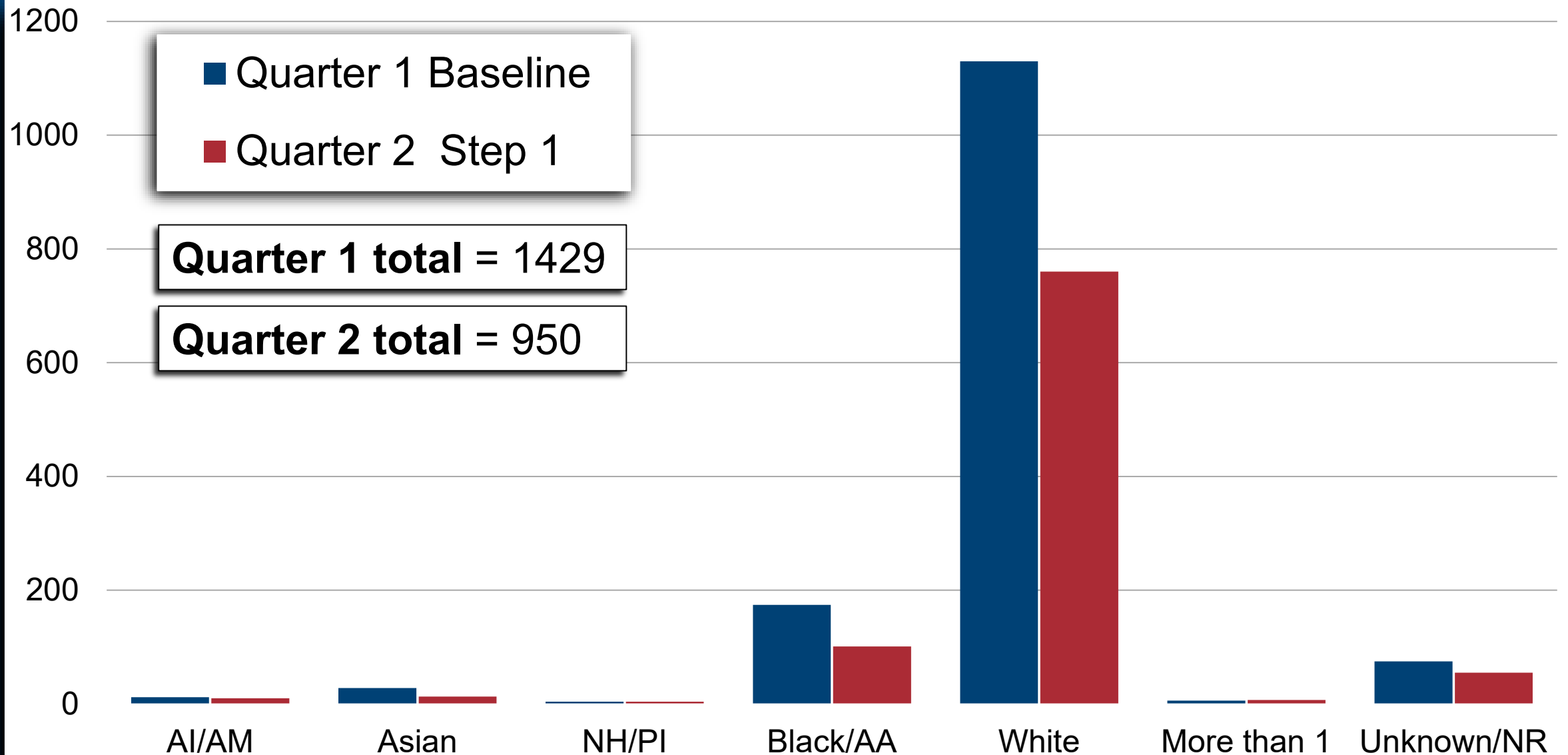
# BEST-ICU: Progress to Date & Lessons Learned



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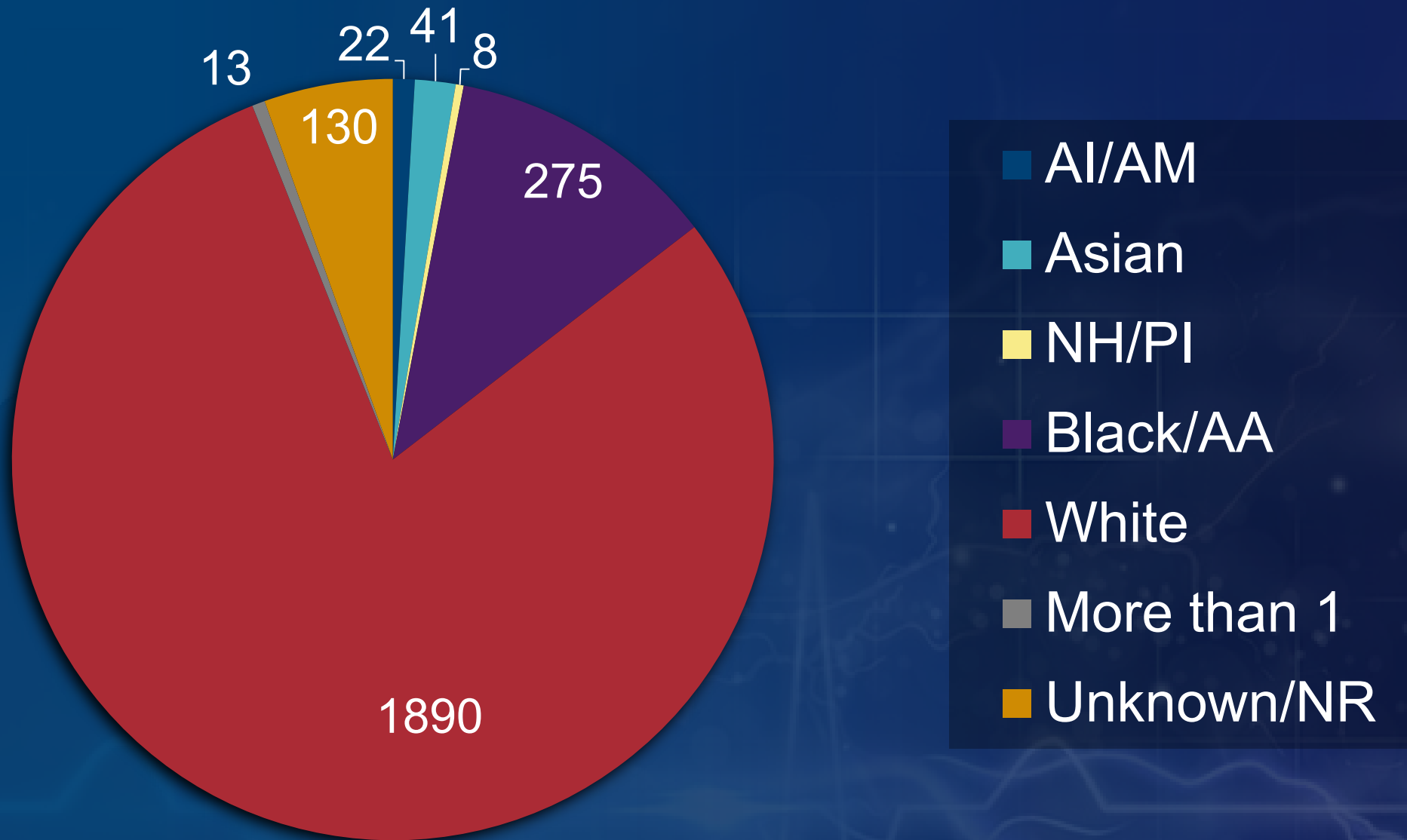


# BEST-ICU Patient Enrollment by Race



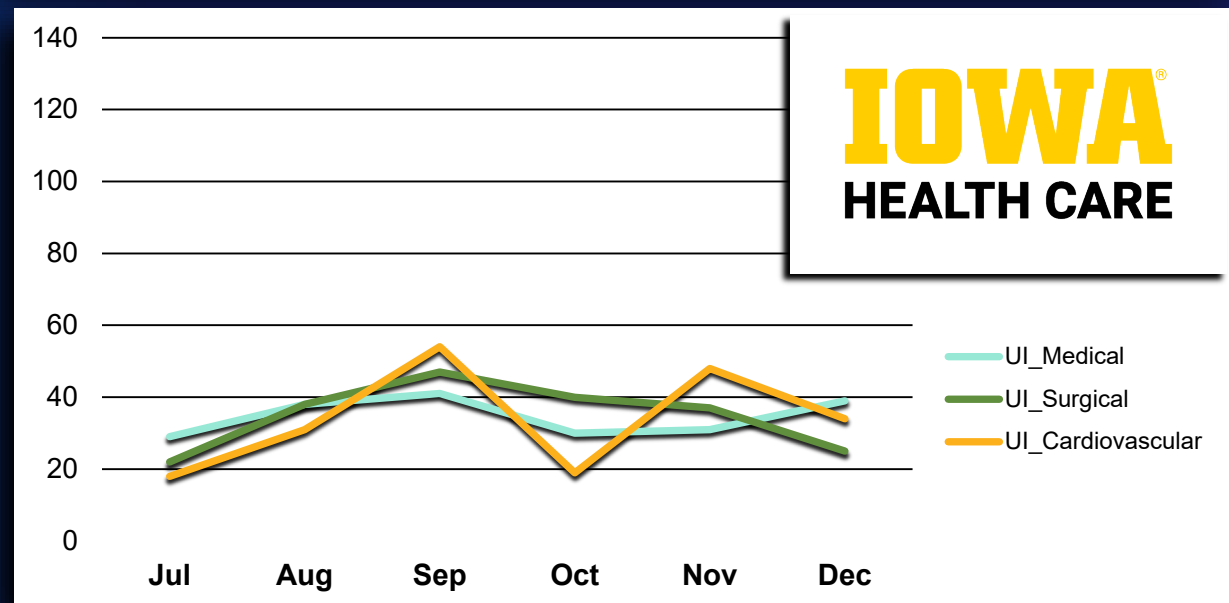
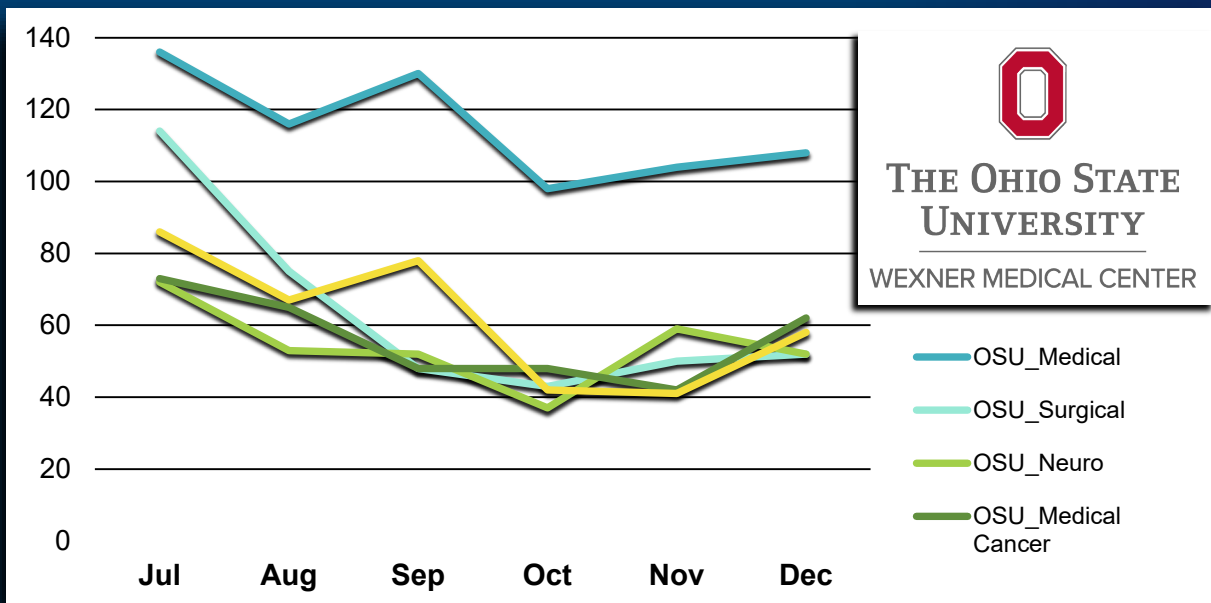
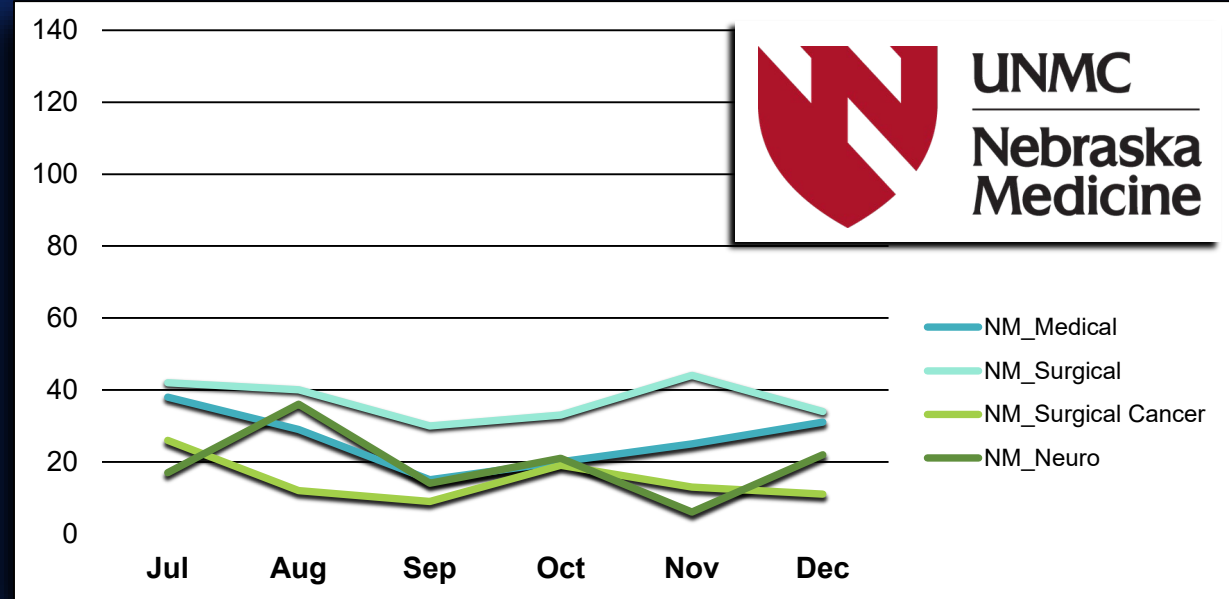


# Total Enrolled N = 2,379

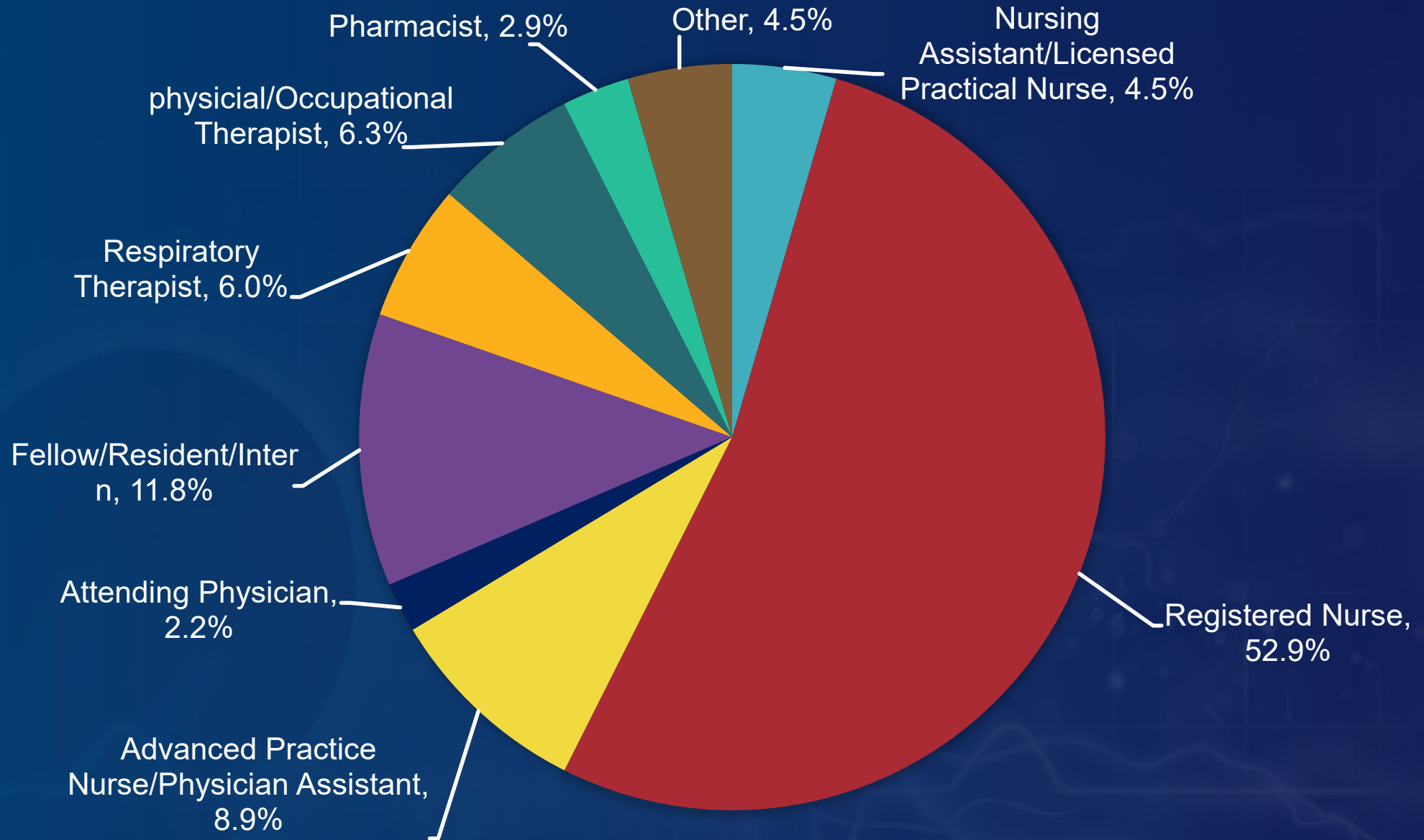


# Work Intensity Survey Data

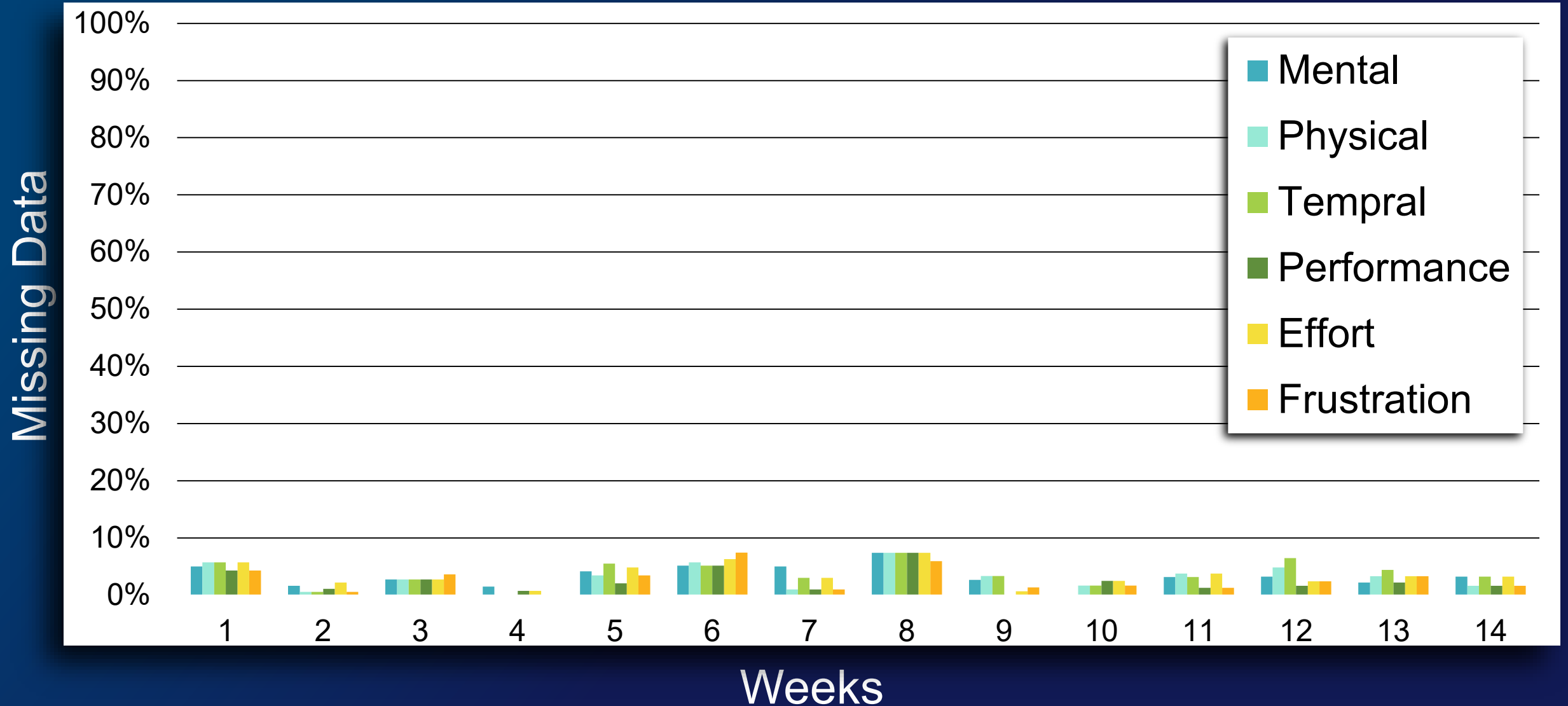
Total Work Intensity Surveys  
Completed to Date  
N = 3,317



# Work Intensity Survey Data: Provider Type



# Baseline Proportions of Missing Data on Work Intensity Measures (All Sites)



# BEST-ICU: Lessons Learned

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# Administrative, Ethics, & Regulatory

## Staged award & NIH Collaboratory

- Strengthened scientific approach
  - Consent process
  - Randomization
  - Planned outcome analyses
- Unique logistical considerations

## DSMB & DSMP

- Adverse events versus clinical outcomes
- Timing of electronic health data



# Dashboard Development

## Challenges

- Different starting lines
- ABCDEF policy variability
  - e.g. independence vs. dependence of spontaneous awakening trial from spontaneous breathing trial
- EPIC® build variability
  - “Foundation” vs not
- Workflows
  - Entry of Data
  - Data consumption & visualization

Department	Room and Bed	A (Pain) Completed	B (SAT) Complete	B (SBT) Complete	C (Sedation) Completed	D (Delirium) Completed	E (Mobility) Completed	F (Family) Completed
CVICU	4337 7	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CVICU	4372 19	●	●	●	●	●	✕	●
CVICU	4335 5	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CVICU	4361 14	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CVICU	4371 18	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CVICU	4362 15	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CVICU	4336 6	●	●	●	●	●	✕	●

# Real-Time Audit & Feedback Dashboard

## Solutions

- Address bundle process & policy gaps
- Standardized definitions for bundle process elements:
  - Safety screen criteria
  - Pass/failure criteria
  - Independence of each process element
- EPIC developers & clinician engagement
- Weekly collaborative workgroup to share definitions, code, & ideas
- Use of test environment



# Data Acquisition & Sharing

**Goal:** Collaborating sites utilize existing certified PCORnet datamart to track all clinical processes & outcomes for Study Aims 1 & 2



## Challenges



Develop data repository for all 3 sites & gain necessary approvals



University vs. Health-System



Standardize data definitions/data dictionary



Identify existing data-element gaps in site-specific PCORnet datamarts

-Many ICU elements not part of existing PCORnet



Variability in set-specific resources & requirements for development work



Variability site-specific PCORnet timelines for approvals, data-reporting

# Computable Phenotypes: Enrollment

## Requires invasive mechanical ventilation

- Patient may have multiple ICU stays in one hospitalization
- Endotracheal tubes are placed
  - En route to the hospital
  - Emergency departments and hospital floors
  - In operating rooms
  - In ICUs

## Mechanical ventilation initiation & termination

- Flow sheets rows differ across sites
- Different respiratory flow sheet rows may best indicate start & stop



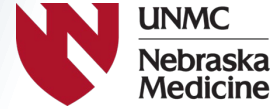
# Data Acquisition & Sharing



## Solutions

- Engagement of clinical, operational, & legal leadership from University & Health System
- PCORnet expertise / data analyst / bioinformatics
- Regular (weekly to biweekly) meetings to address approvals, data definitions, timing
- Stage data development
  - Phase 1 (Eligibility, Enrollment, DSMB, Primary outcomes)
  - Phase 2 (Will need to accomplish all secondary data analyses)

# BEST-ICU



NIH-FUNDED STUDY

IRB# 0794-23-FB

# Thank You!

