



Caring For Older Patients in ICU

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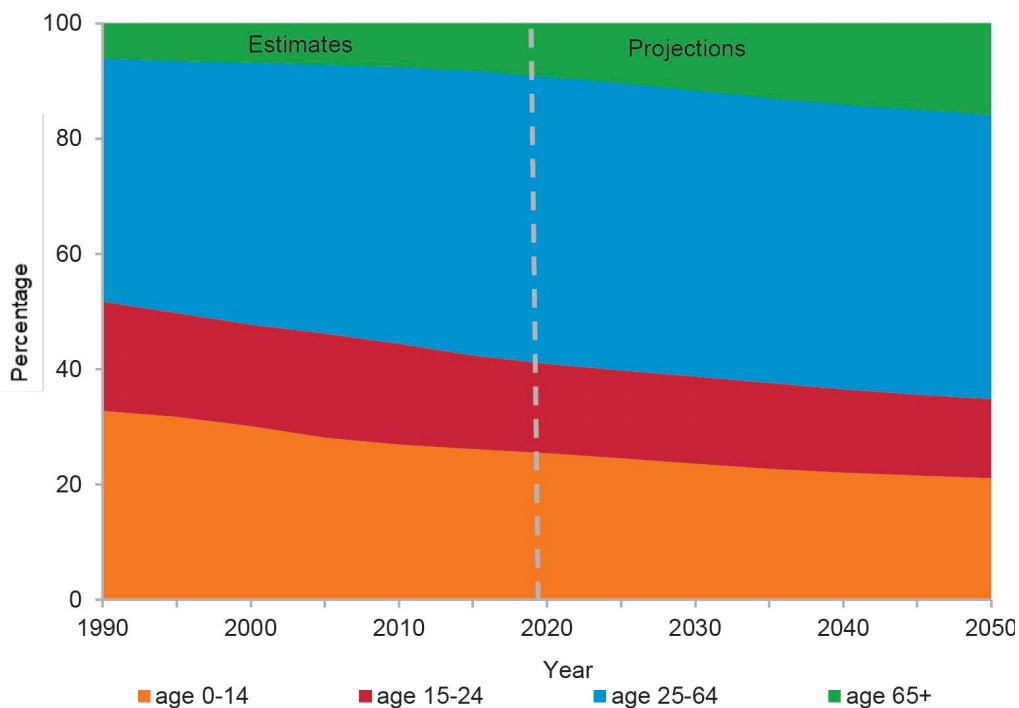
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Older adults and older patients

Older adults in the world

- **Age ≥ 65** years-old (WHO)
- Older population in **increasing globally**

Global population by broad age groups, 1990-2050 (percentage)

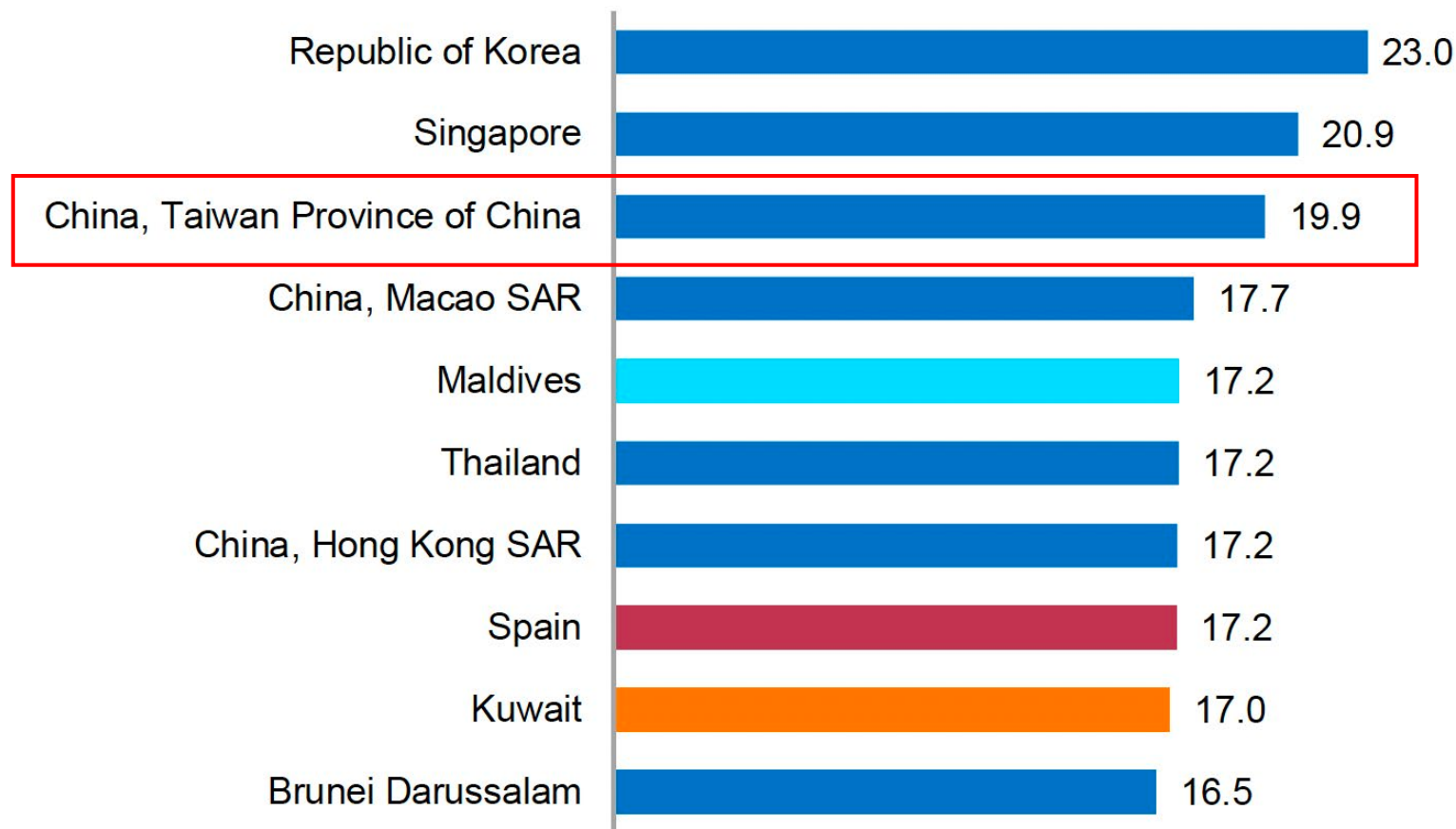


Number of persons aged 65 years or over by geographic region, 2019 and 2050

Region	Number of persons aged 65 or over in 2019 (millions)	Number of persons aged 65 or over in 2050 (millions)	Percentage change between 2019 and 2050
World	702.9	1548.9	120
Sub-Saharan Africa	31.9	101.4	218
Northern Africa and Western Asia	29.4	95.8	226
Central and Southern Asia	119.0	328.1	176
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	260.6	572.5	120
Latin America and the Caribbean	56.4	144.6	156
Australia and New Zealand	4.8	8.8	84
Oceania, excluding Australia and New Zealand	0.5	1.5	190
Europe and Northern America	200.4	296.2	48

Older adults in the world

Countries or areas with the largest percentage point increase in the share of older persons aged 65 years or over between 2019 and 2050



■ Eastern and South-Eastern Asia
■ Central and Southern Asia

■ Europe and Northern America
■ Northern Africa and Western Asia

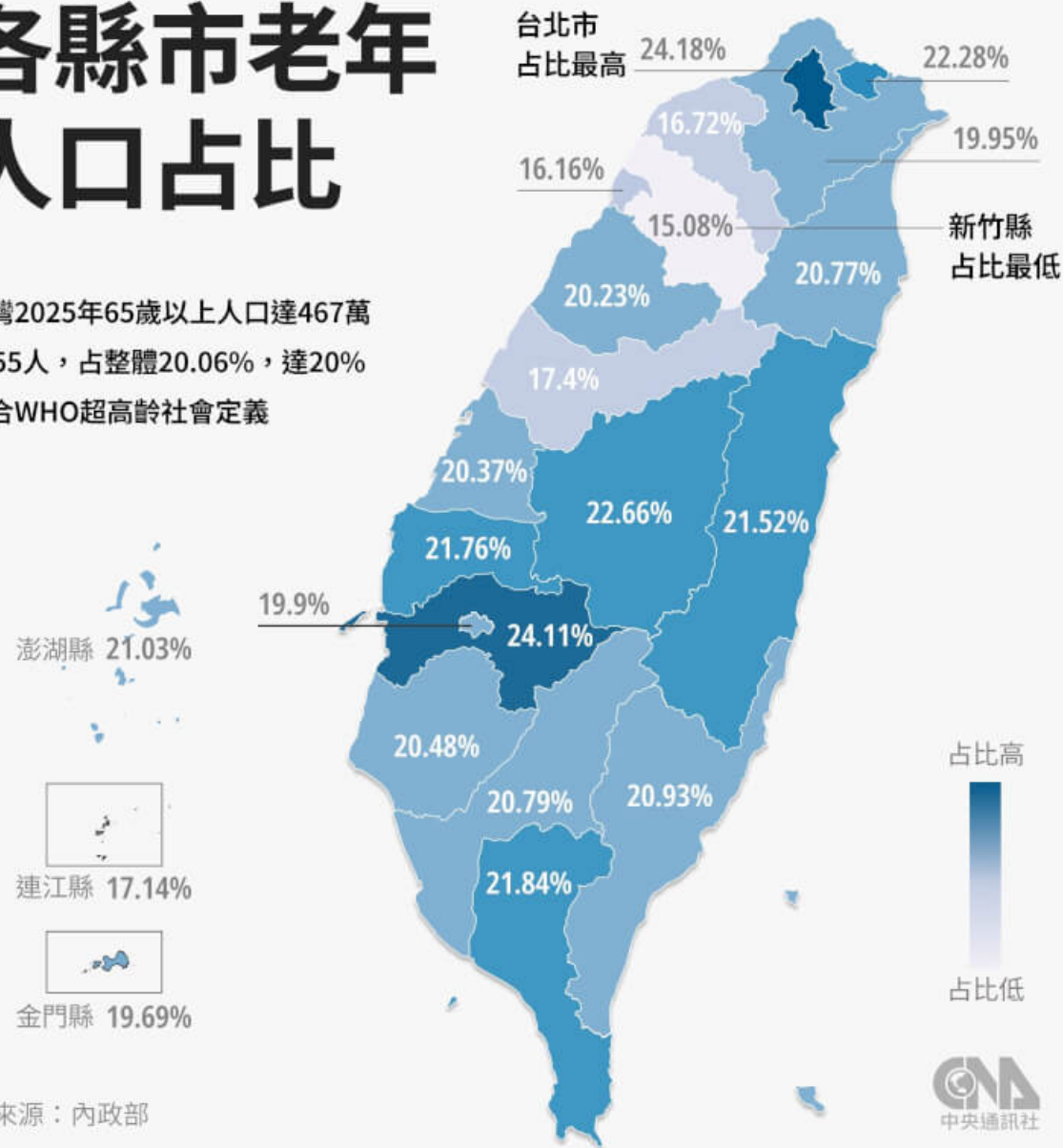
台灣成超高齡社會 65歲以上人口占比台北 24.18%最高

2026/1/9 12:18 (1/9 16:45 更新)

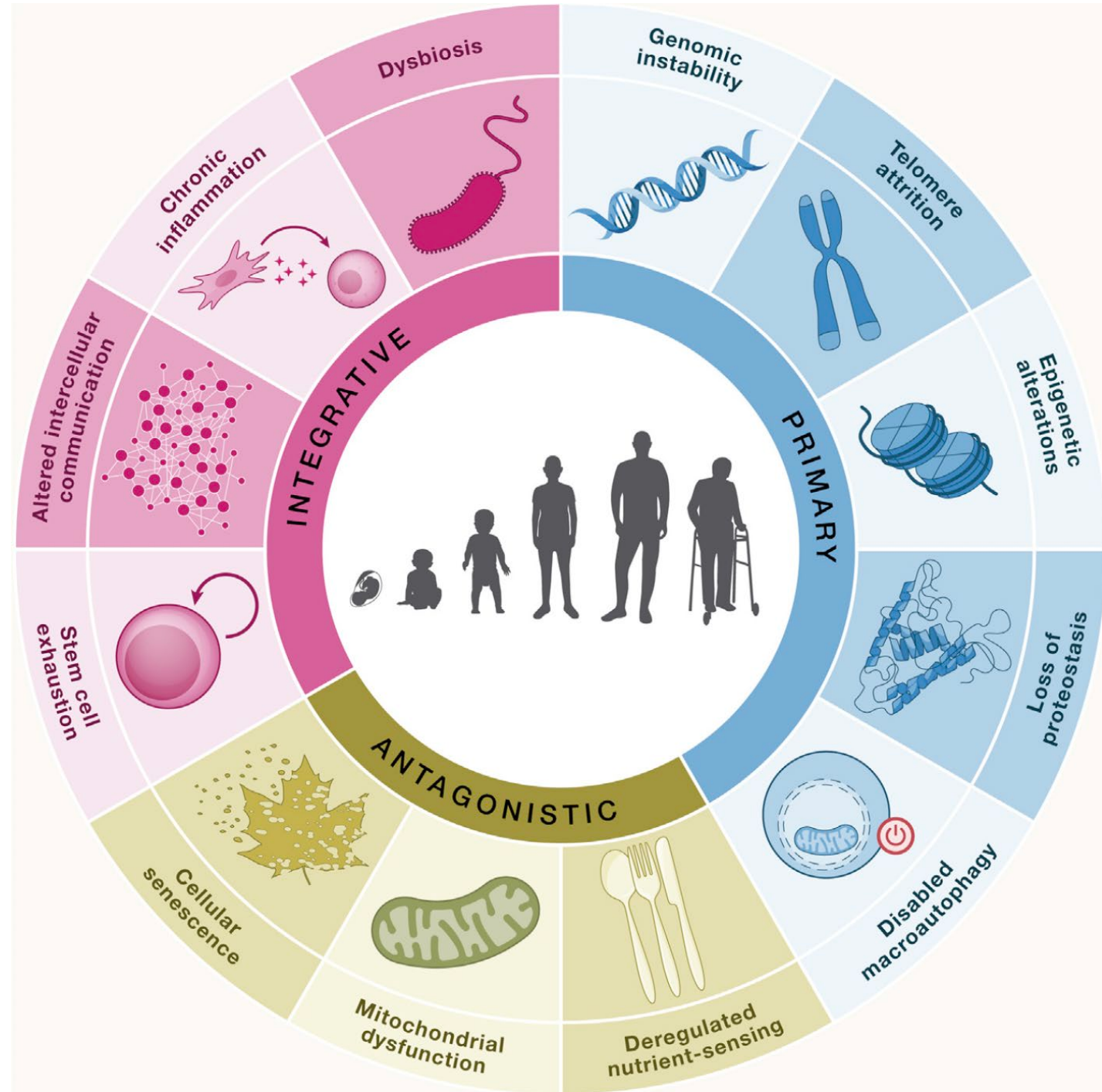
- 台灣2025年65歲以上人口數達到467萬3155人，占20.06%。
- 台北市65歲以上人口比率最高，占24.18
- 其次為嘉義縣24.11%%、南投縣22.66%、基隆市22.28%、屏東縣21.84%。

各縣市老年人口占比

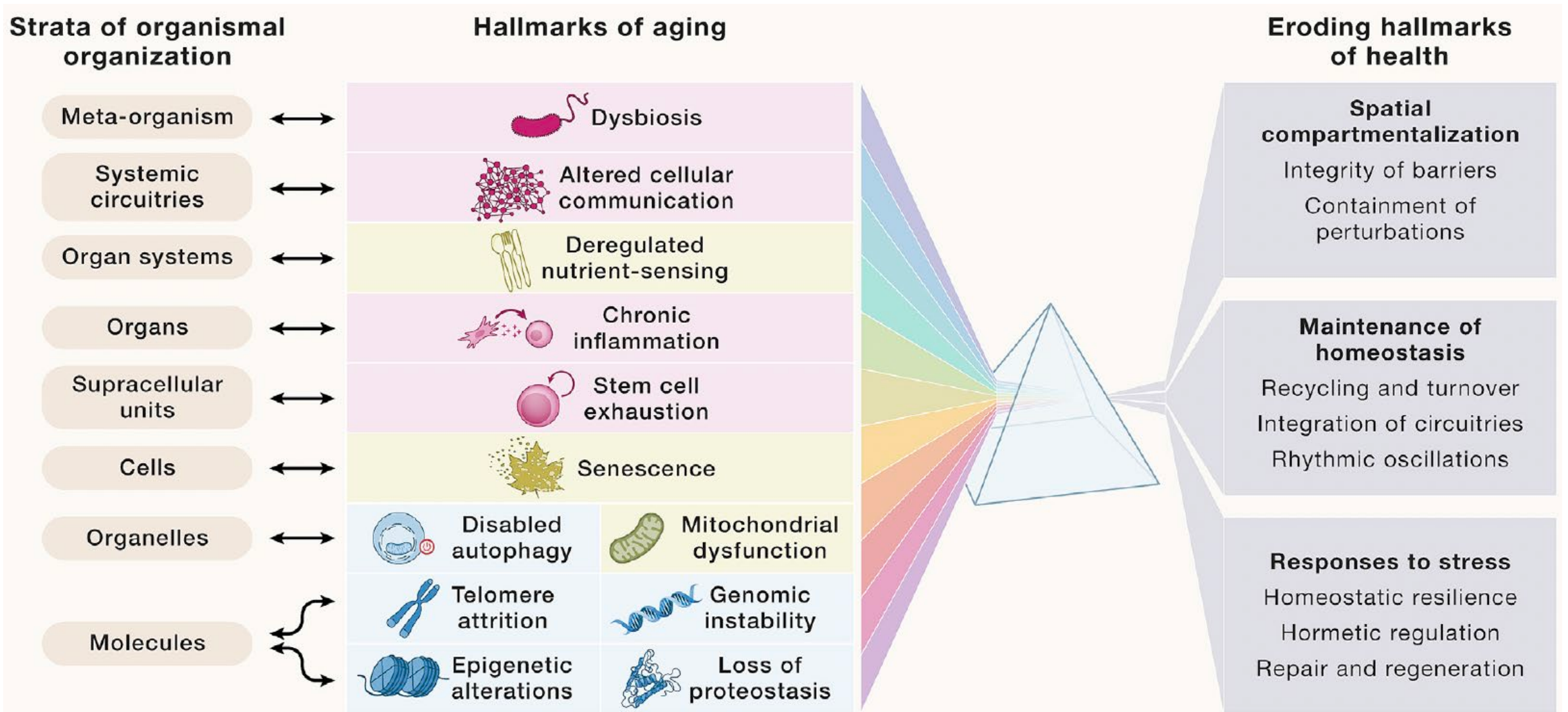
台灣2025年65歲以上人口達467萬3155人，占整體20.06%，達20%符合WHO超高齡社會定義



Hallmark of aging



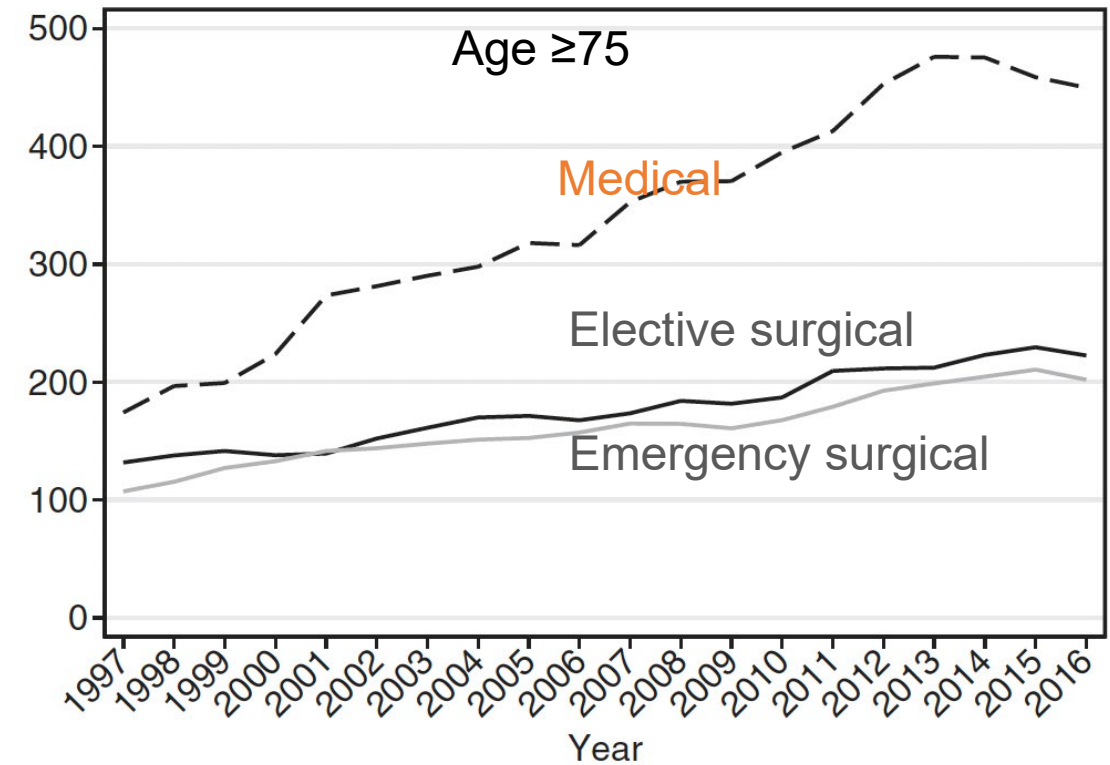
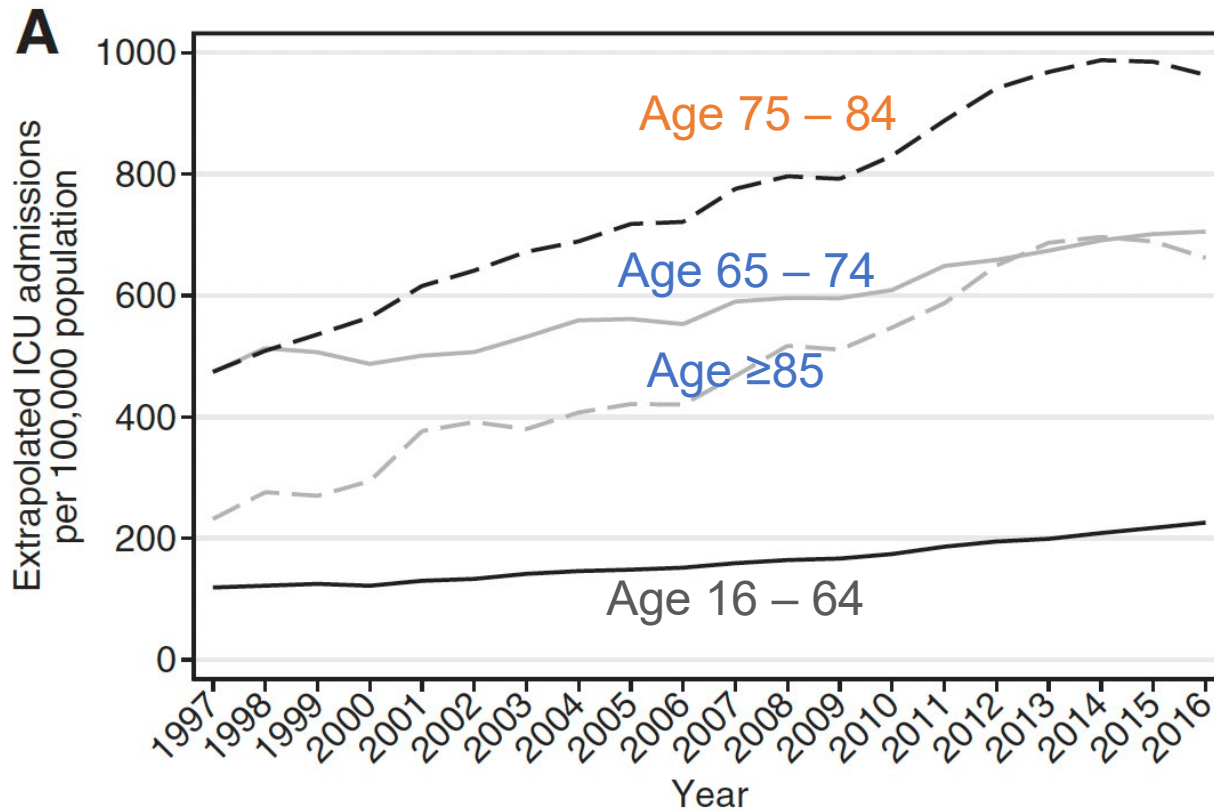
Hallmark of aging



Older patients in ICU

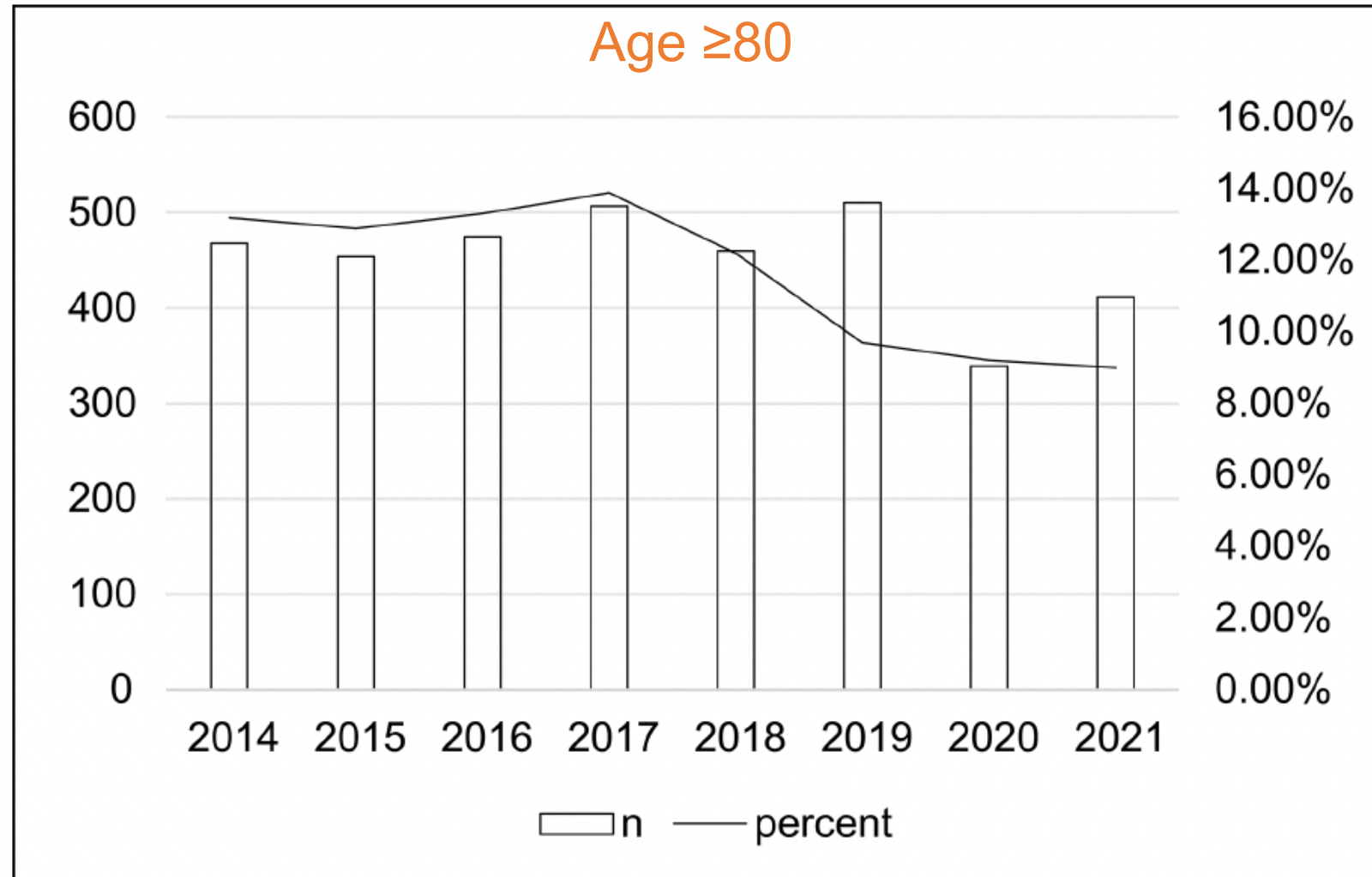
ICU admission of older patients is increasing

- Retrospective, 1997 to 2016, England/Wales/Northern Ireland



ICU admission of older patients is increasing

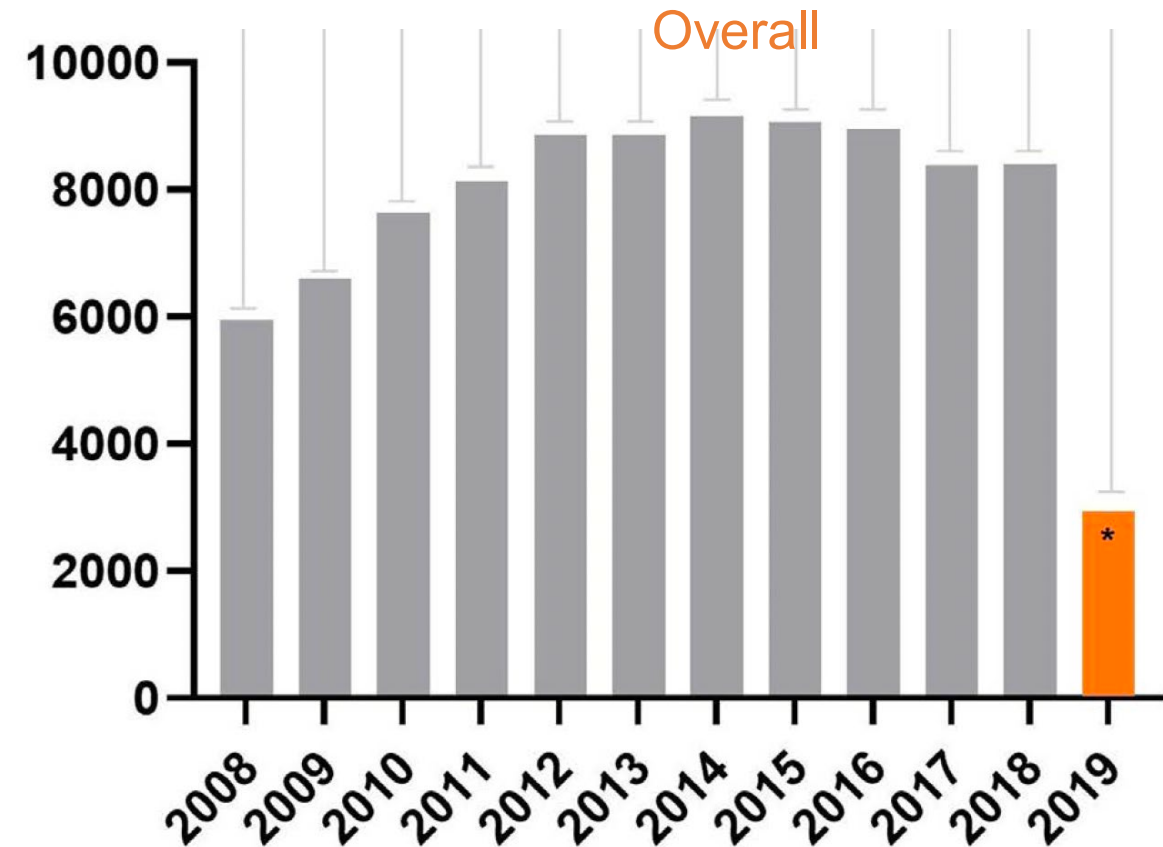
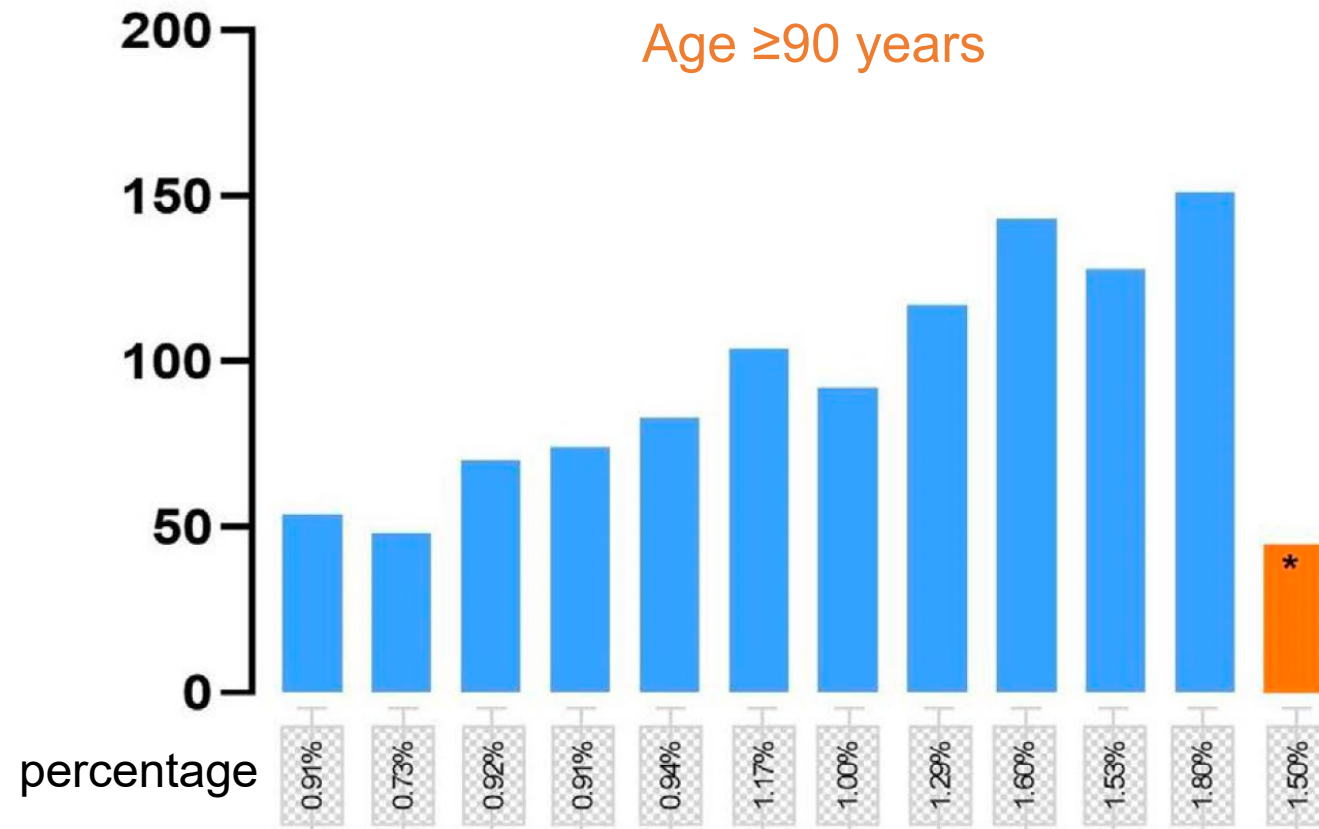
- Retrospective, 2014 – 2021, China



ICU admission of older patients is increasing

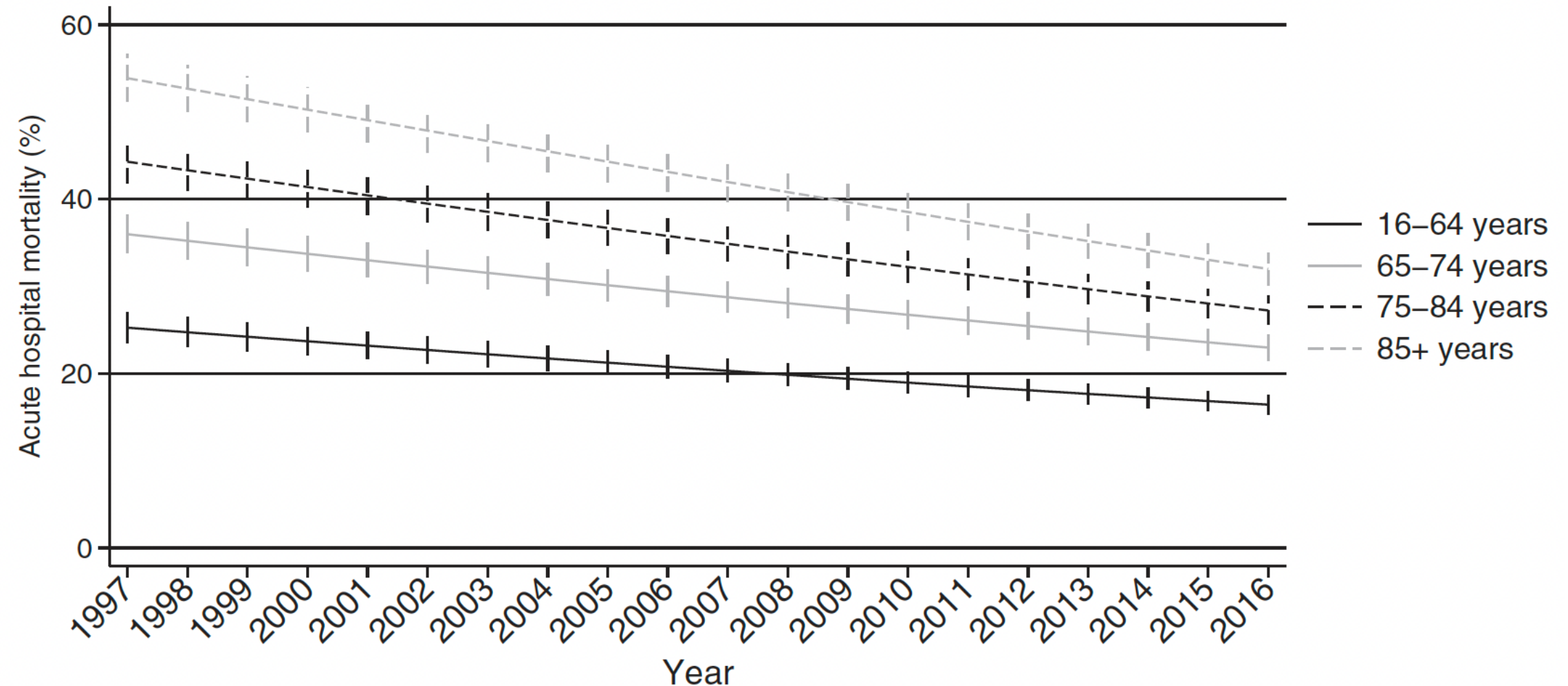
- Retrospective, 2008 to 2019, Germany

Number of ICU admission



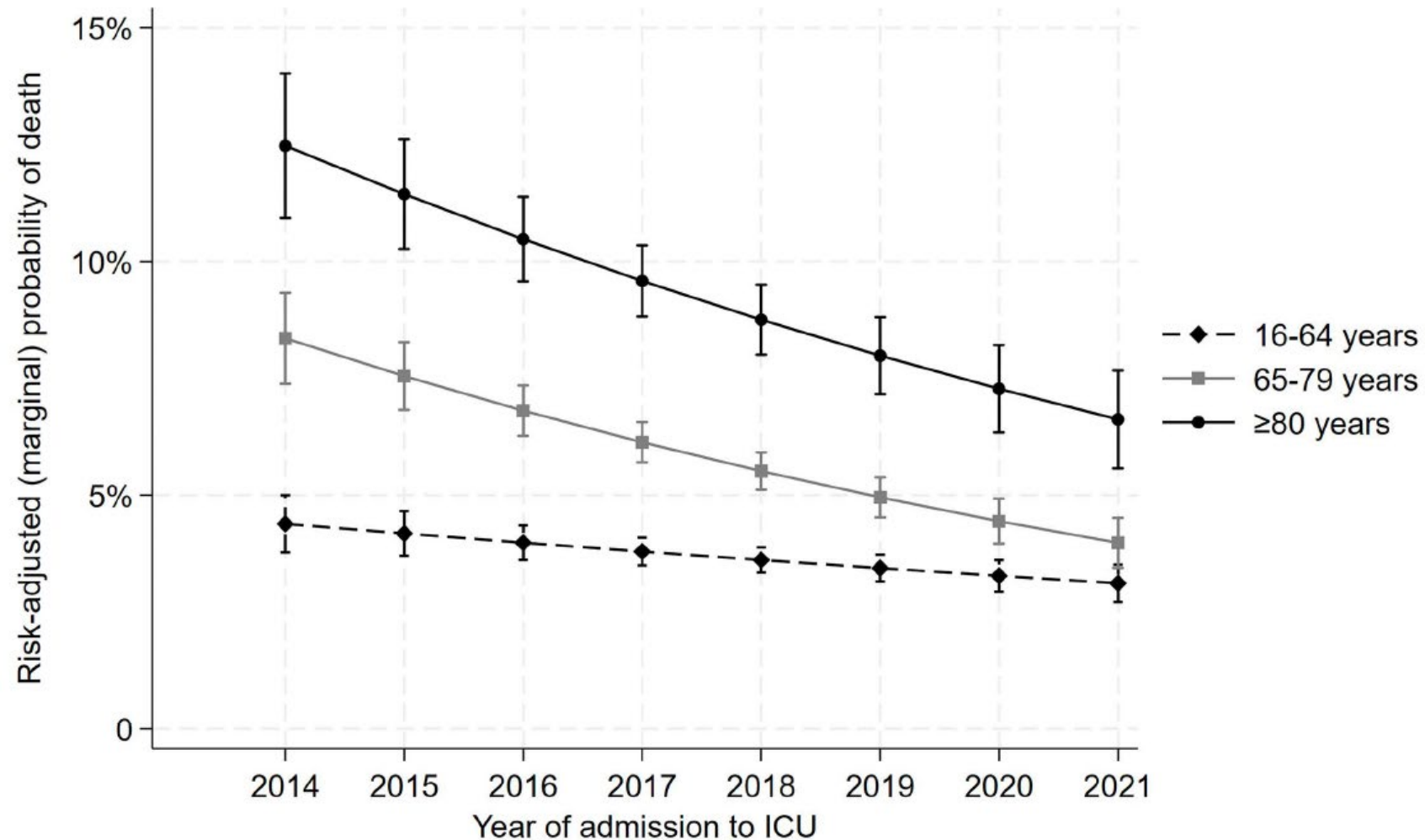
Outcomes of critical ill older patients

- Retrospective, 1997 to 2016, England/Wales/Northern Ireland



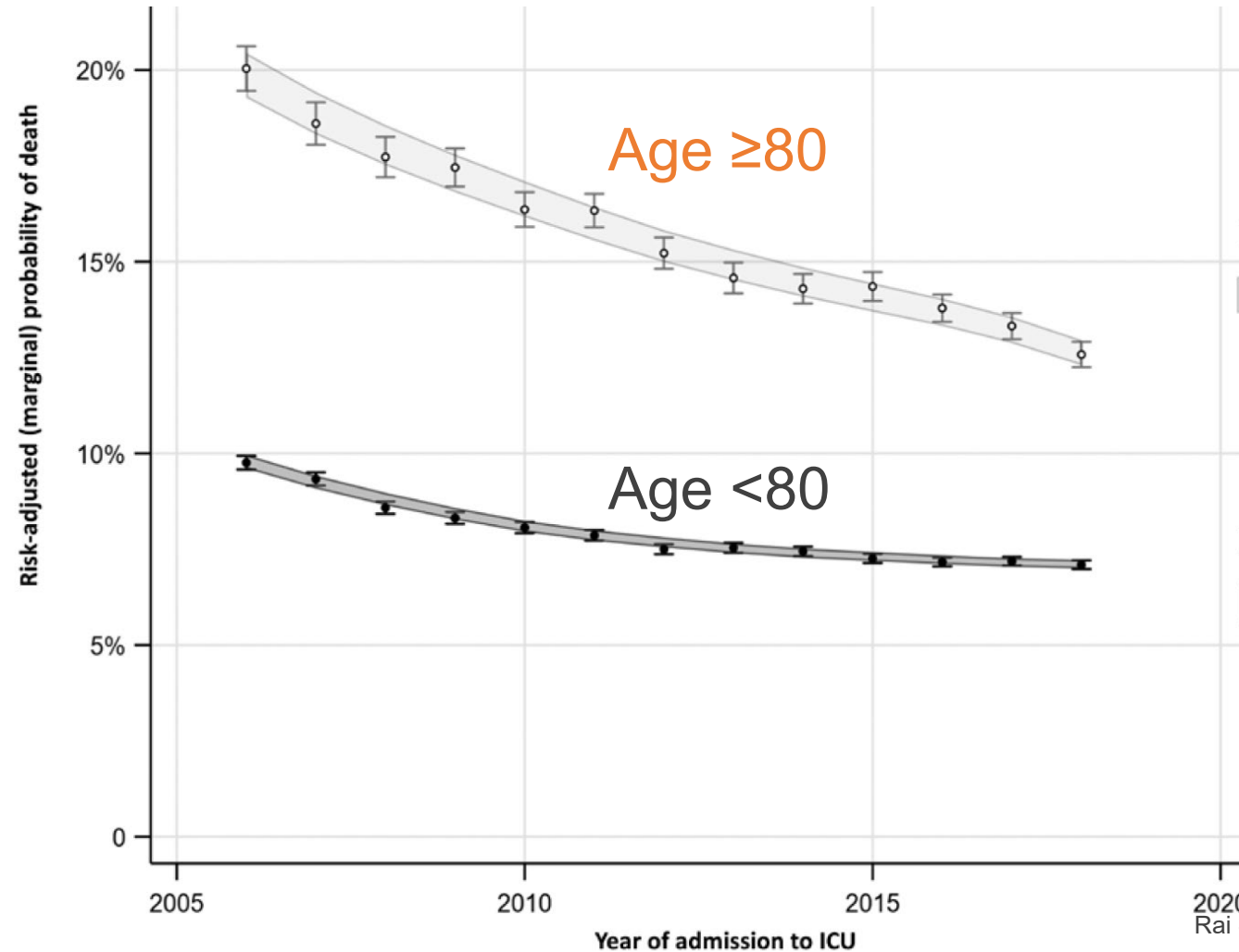
Outcomes of critical ill older patients

- Retrospective, 2014 – 2021, China

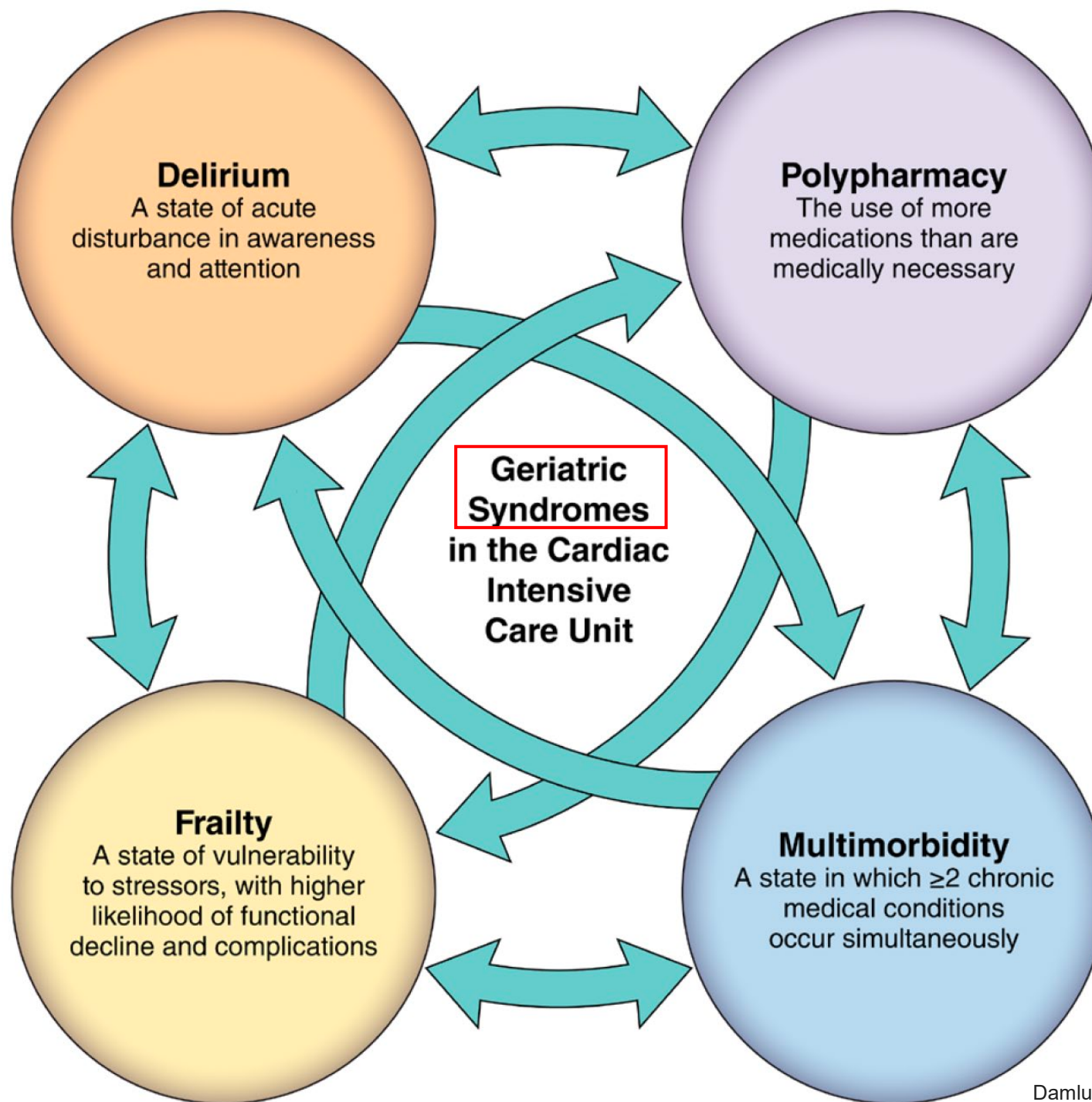


Outcomes of critical ill older patients

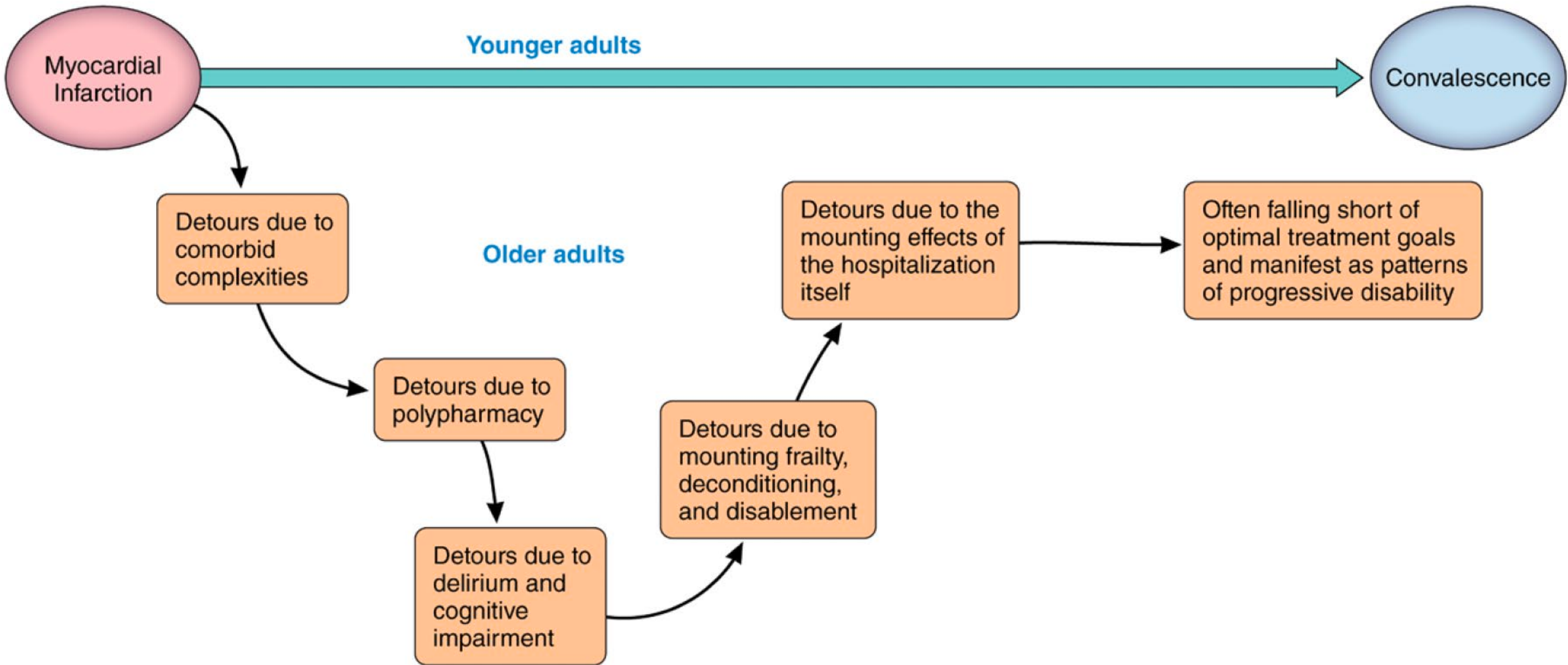
- Retrospective, 2006 to 2018, New Zealand



Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment in the ICU

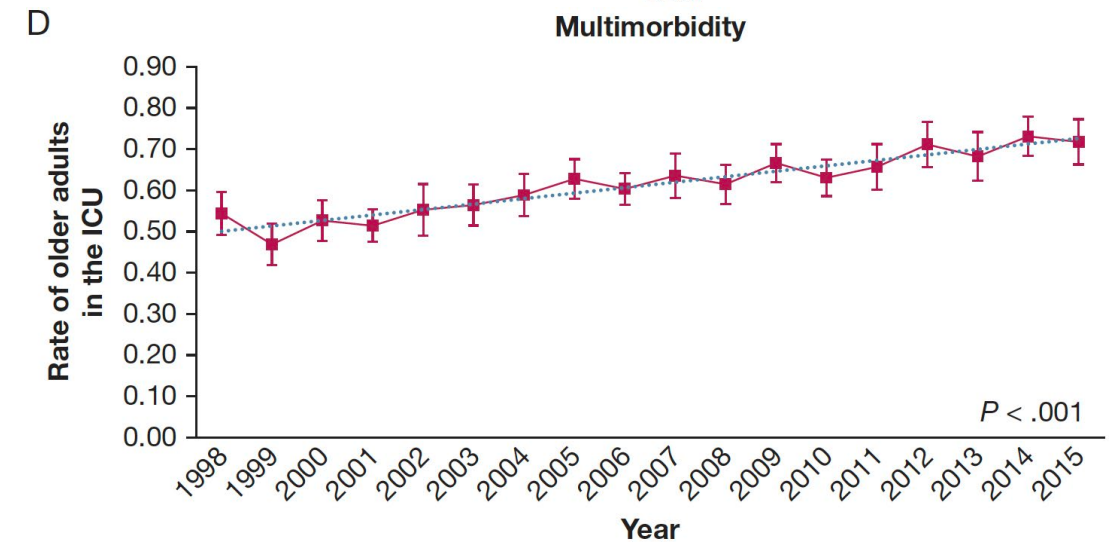
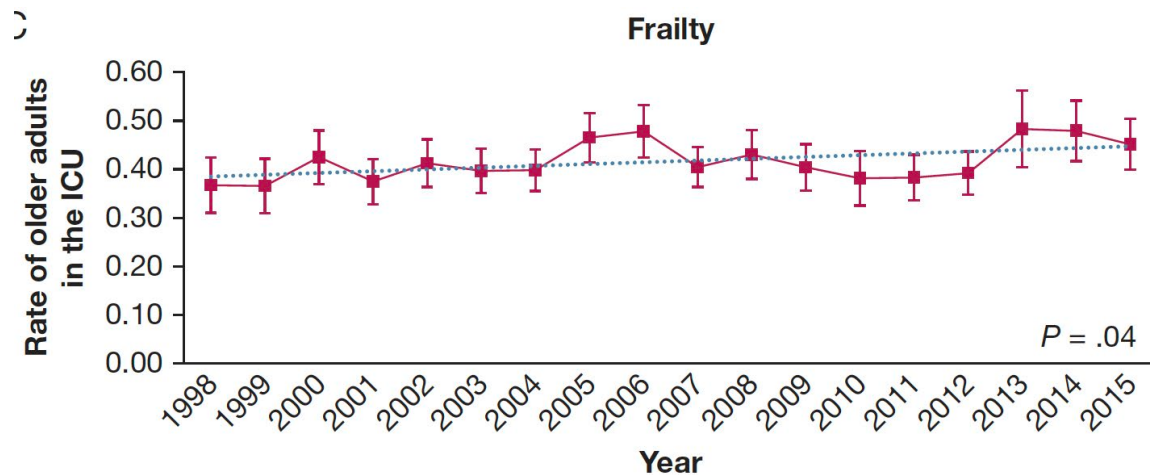
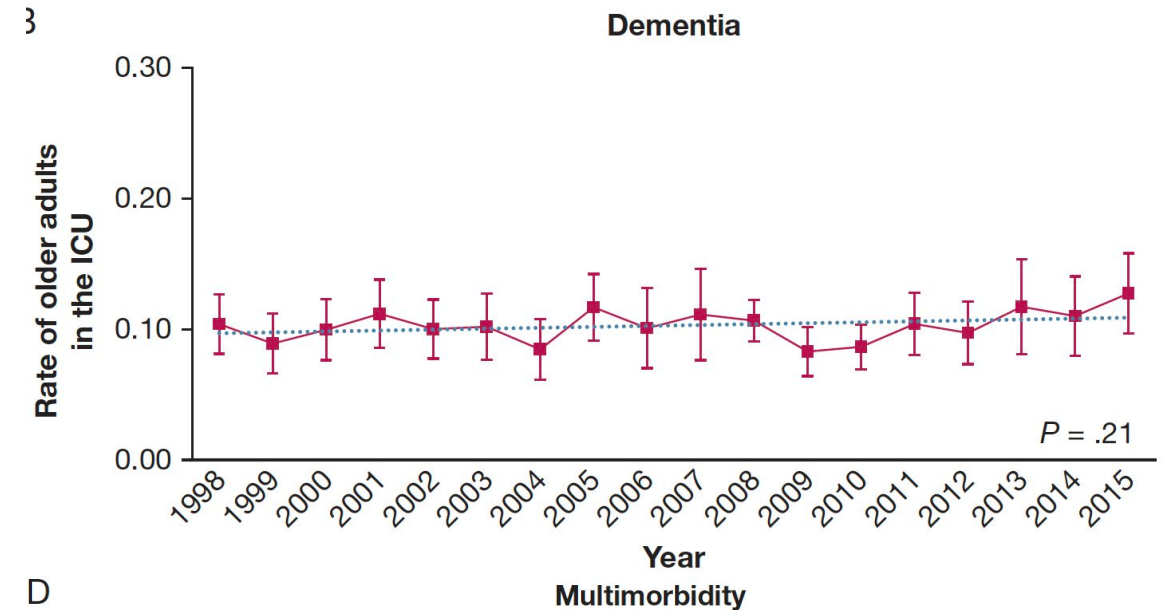
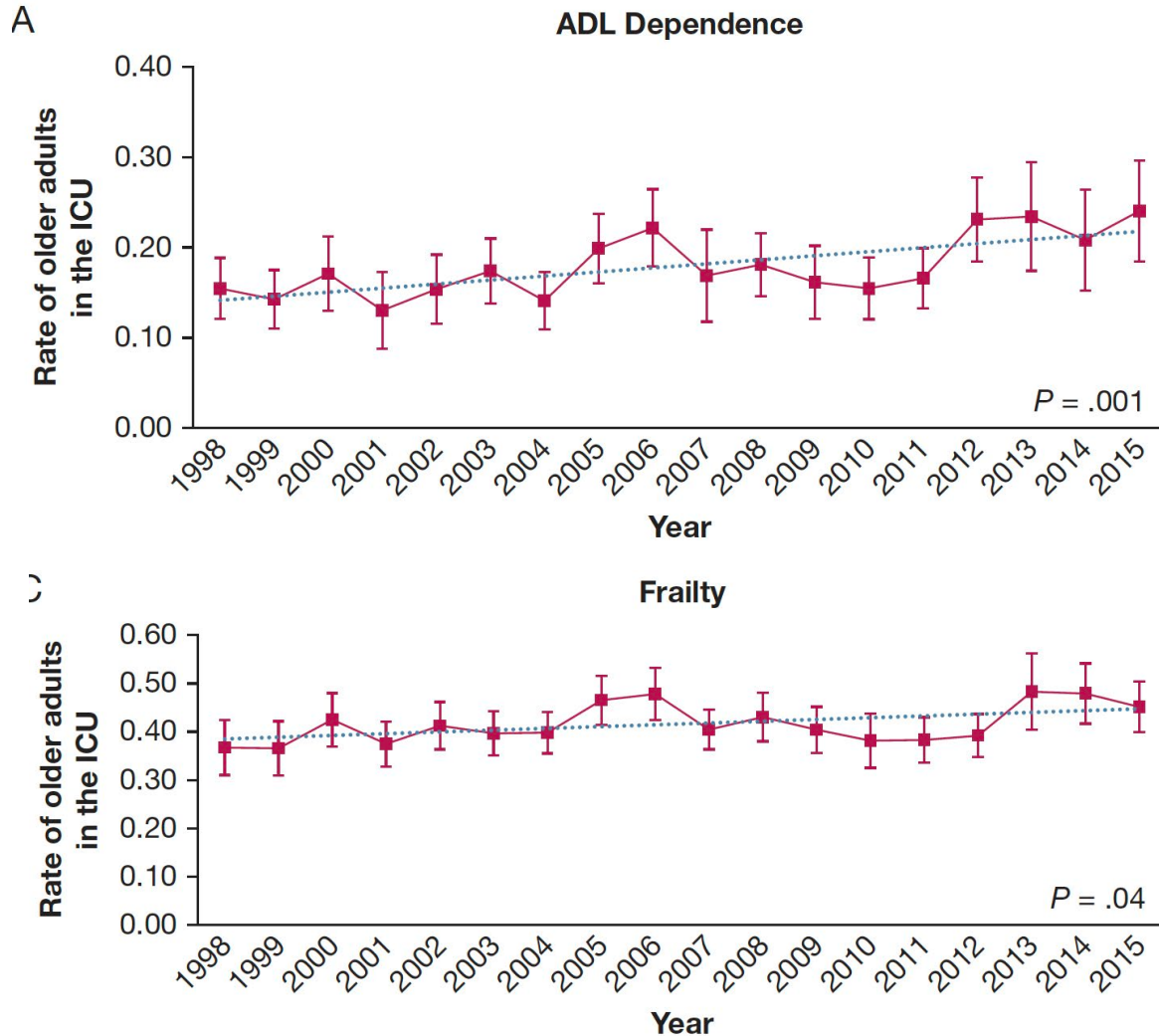


Influence of acute illness on convalescence in younger and older adults

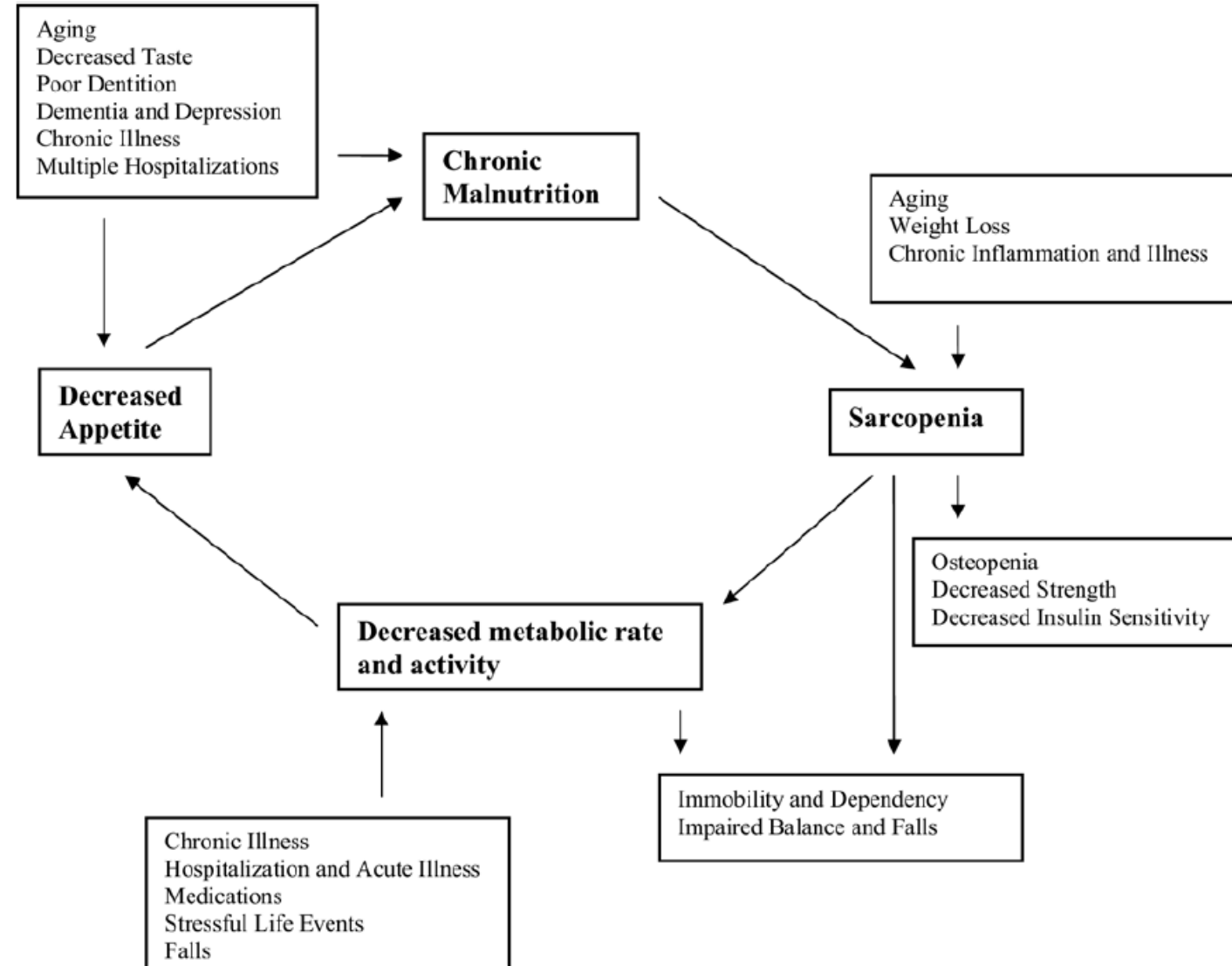


Multimorbidity admission in ICU

- HRS data from US, 1998 to 2015, aged ≥ 65 years



Frailty



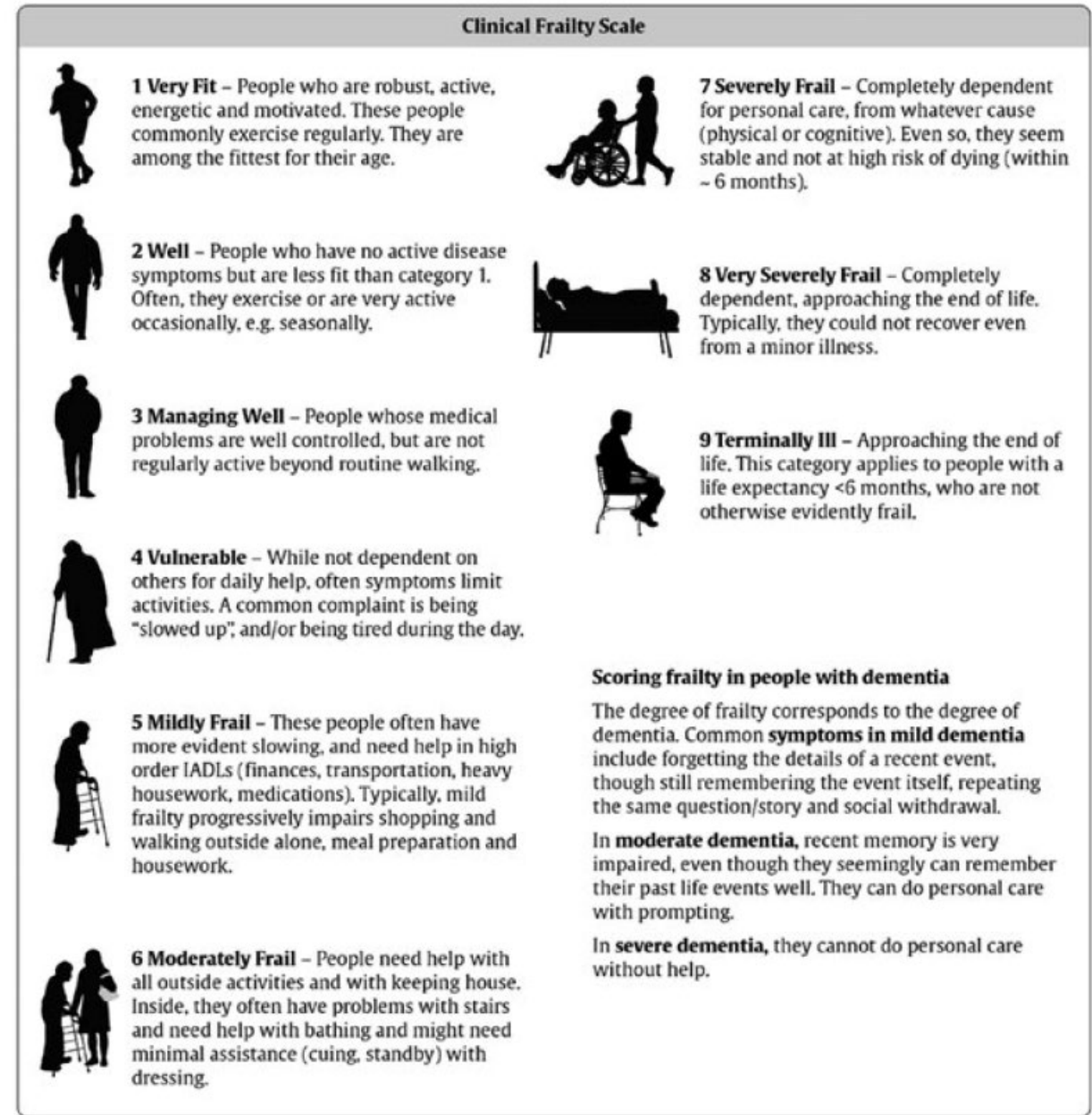
- Decreased reserve in multiple organ system

Frailty

Box 1: The CSHA Clinical Frailty Scale

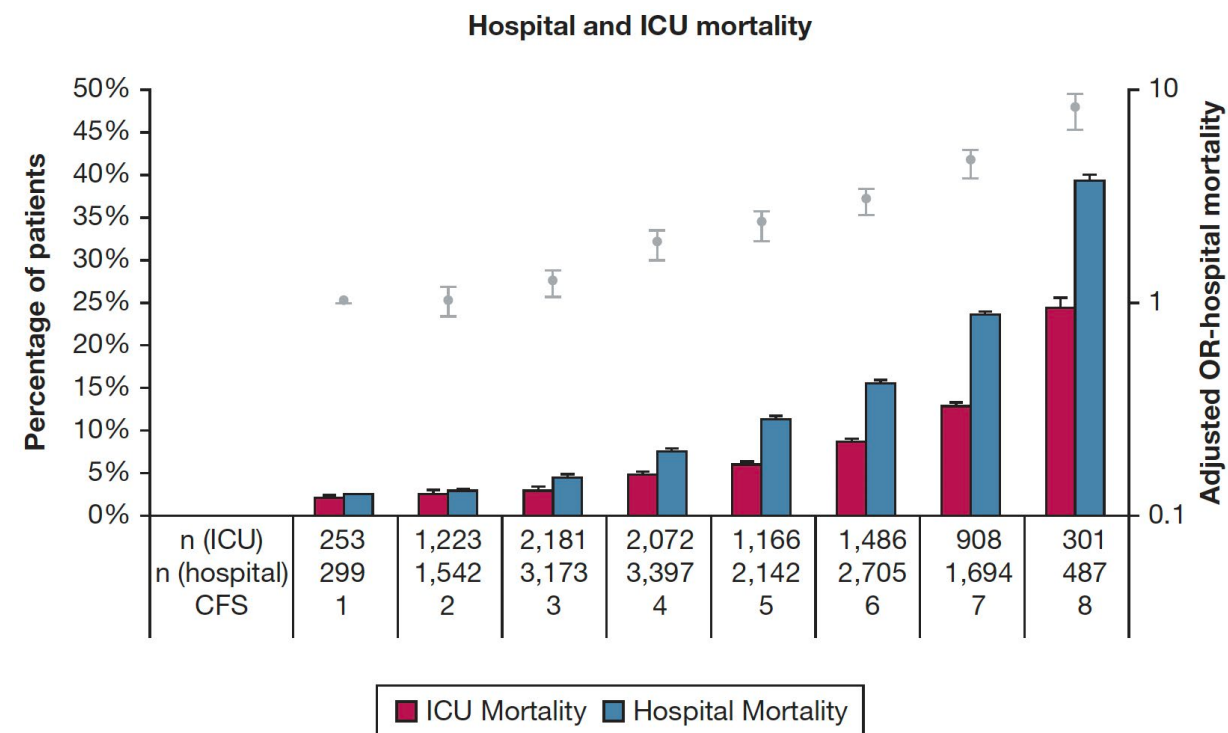
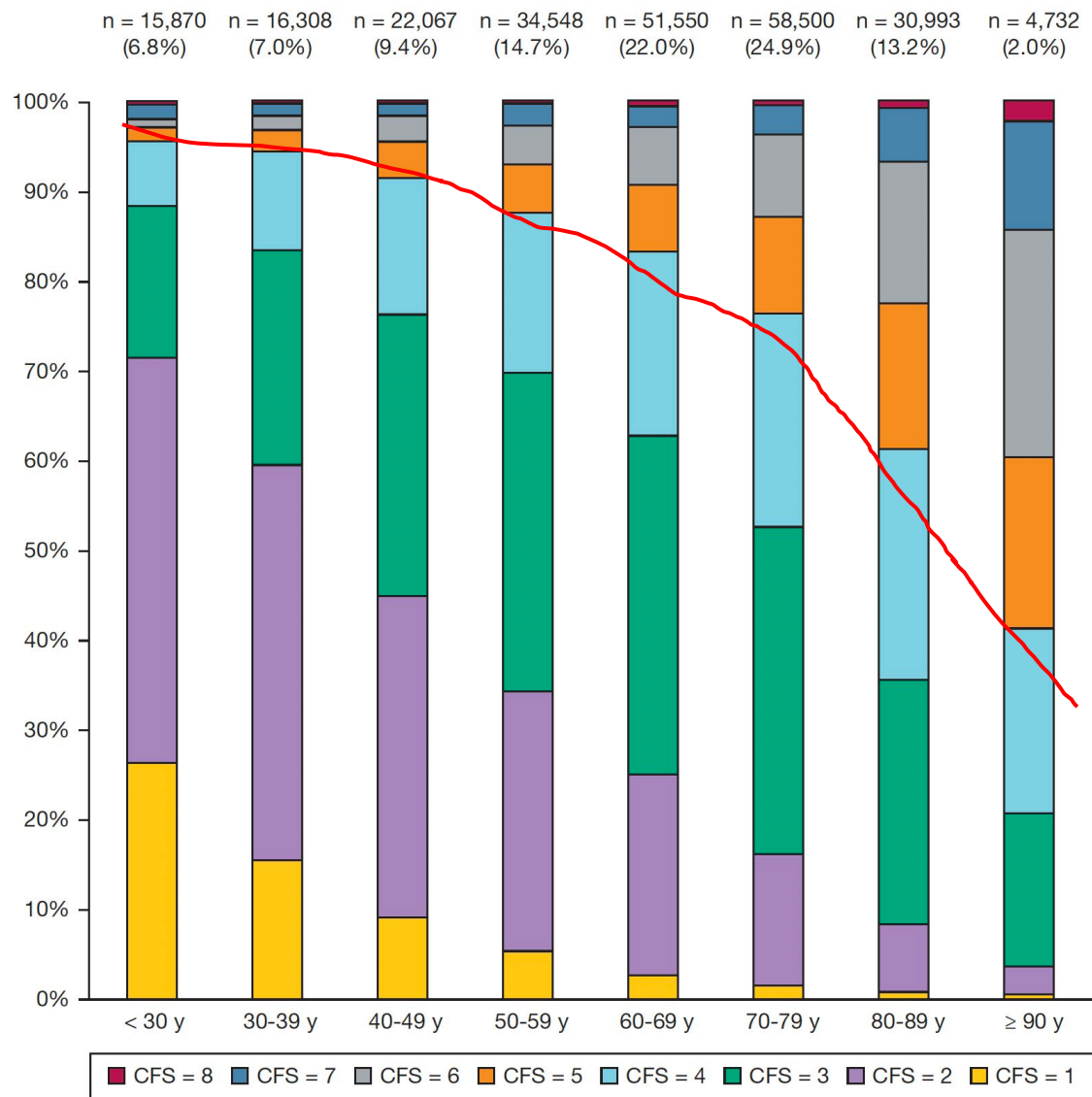
- 1 *Very fit* — robust, active, energetic, well motivated and fit; these people commonly exercise regularly and are in the most fit group for their age
- 2 *Well* — without active disease, but less fit than people in category 1
- 3 *Well, with treated comorbid disease* — disease symptoms are well controlled compared with those in category 4
- 4 *Apparently vulnerable* — although not frankly dependent, these people commonly complain of being “slowed up” or have disease symptoms
- 5 *Mildly frail* — with limited dependence on others for instrumental activities of daily living
- 6 *Moderately frail* — help is needed with both instrumental and non-instrumental activities of daily living
- 7 *Severely frail* — completely dependent on others for the activities of daily living, or terminally ill

Note: CSHA = Canadian Study of Health and Aging.



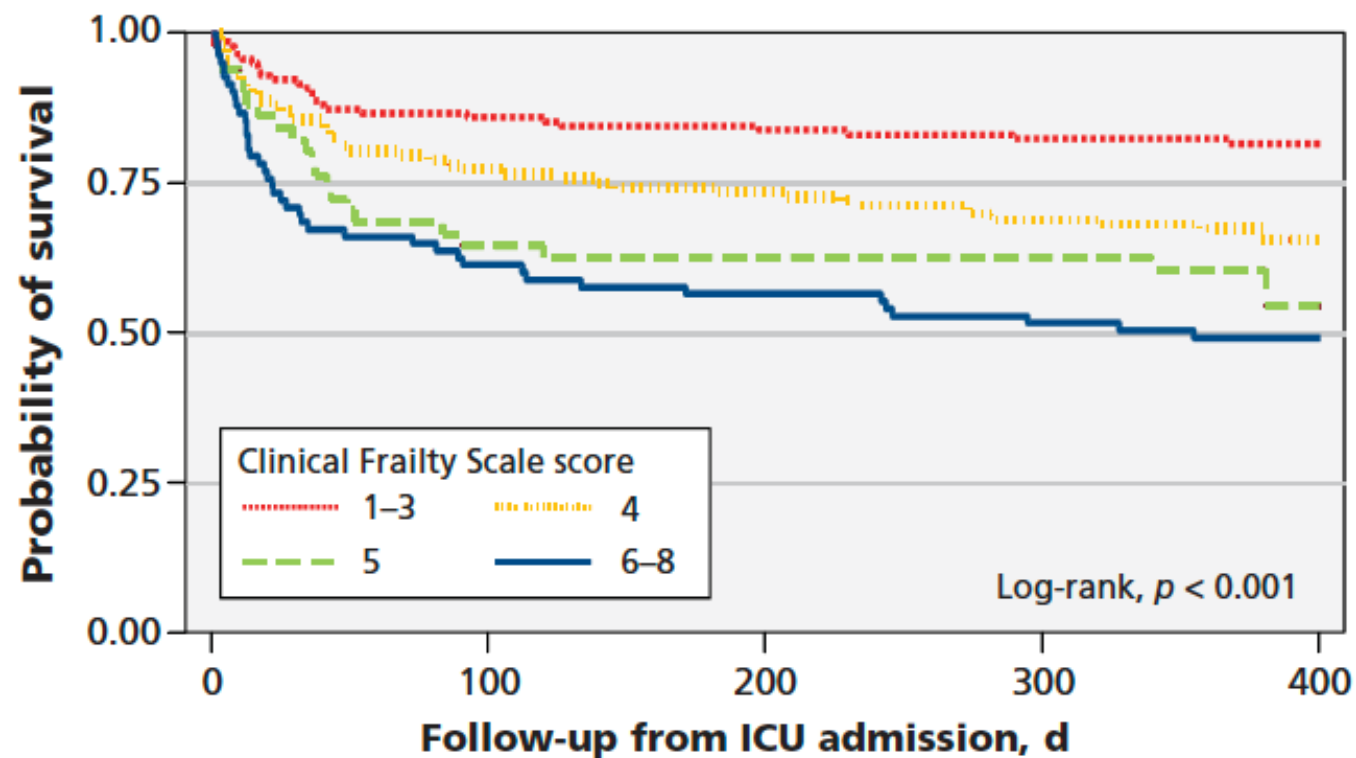
Prevalence of frailty in ICU

- Population-based, New Zealand and Australia, 2018 to 2020



Frailty is associated mortality

- Prospective cohort study in Canada
- Patients aged ≥ 50 years and admitted to ICU
- N=421
- CFS ≥ 5 = Frail



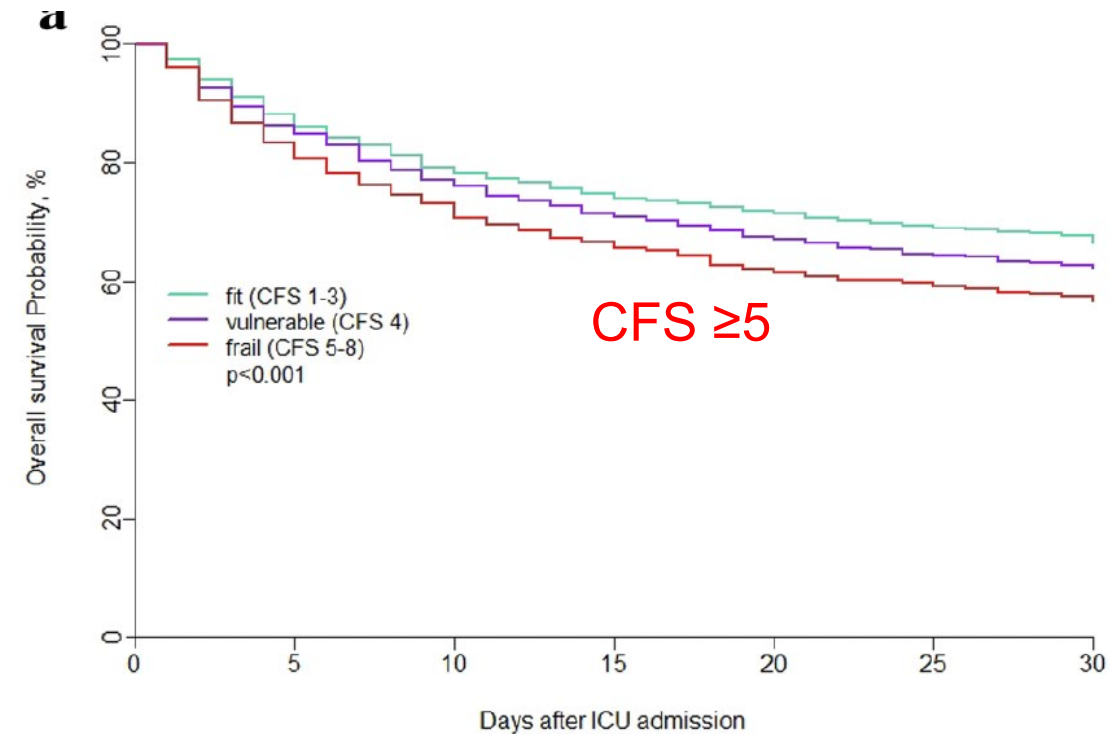
Frailty independently associated with mortality

VIP2

- Prospective, EU, 2018 to 2019, Age ≥ 80 years, N=3,920

Variables	Categories	ALL covariates		CFS	
		HR (95%CI)	p-value	HR (95%CI)	p-value
Age	One-point increase	1.02 (1–1.03)	0.01	1.02 (1.01–1.03)	0.006
Habitat (ref=not home)	Own home	1.01 (0.9–1.14)	0.83	1 (0.89–1.12)	0.96
Gender (ref= male)	Female	0.98 (0.88–1.09)	0.68	0.98 (0.88–1.09)	0.67
Reason for admission	Combined respiratory/circulatory failure	1.07 (0.89–1.29)	0.46	1.07 (0.89–1.29)	0.46
(Ref= circulatory failure)	Emergency surgery	0.64 (0.52–0.78)	<0.0001	0.64 (0.52–0.78)	<0.0001
	Multitrauma w/wo head injury	1.16 (0.81–1.64)	0.41	1.15 (0.81–1.64)	0.42
	Multitrauma without head injury	0.86 (0.58–1.29)	0.46	0.87 (0.58–1.29)	0.48
	Other	0.81 (0.67–0.97)	0.025	0.81 (0.67–0.98)	0.03
	Respiratory failure	0.81 (0.69–0.96)	0.017	0.82 (0.69–0.97)	0.02
	Sepsis (according to Sepsis3)	0.71 (0.59–0.86)	0.0003	0.71 (0.59–0.86)	0.0003
SOFA	One-point increase	1.15 (1.14–1.17)	<0.00001	1.15 (1.14–1.17)	<0.00001
CPS	One-point increase	1 (0.99–1.01)	0.75	1 (0.99–1.01)	0.74
CFS	One point increase	1.1 (1.05–1.15)	0.0001	1.12 (1.09–1.15)	<0.00001

1-month mortality



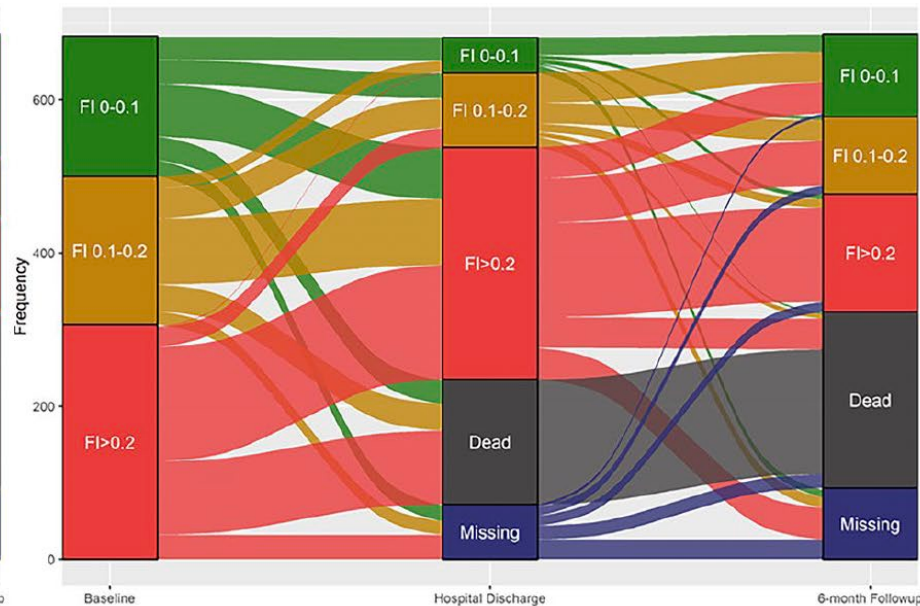
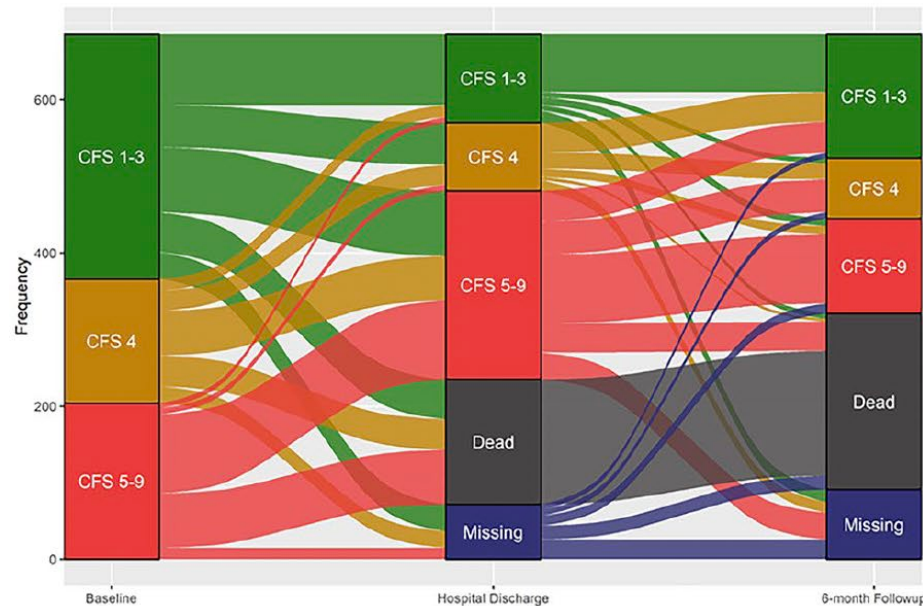
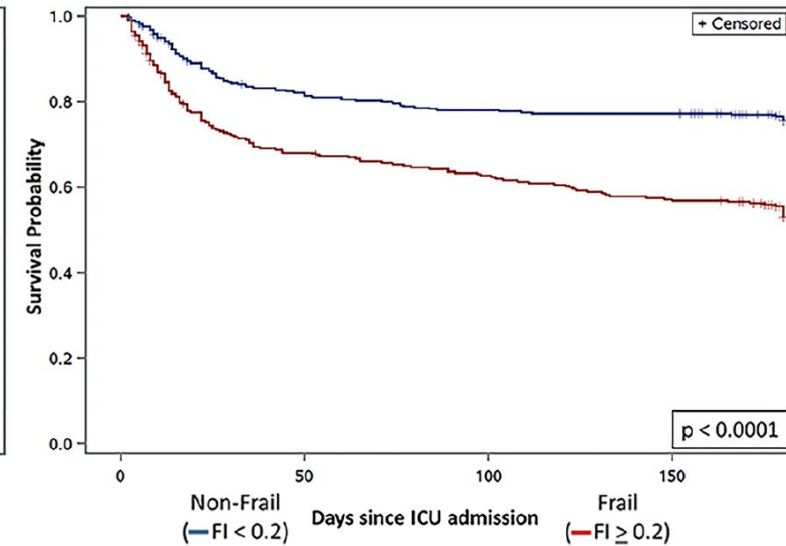
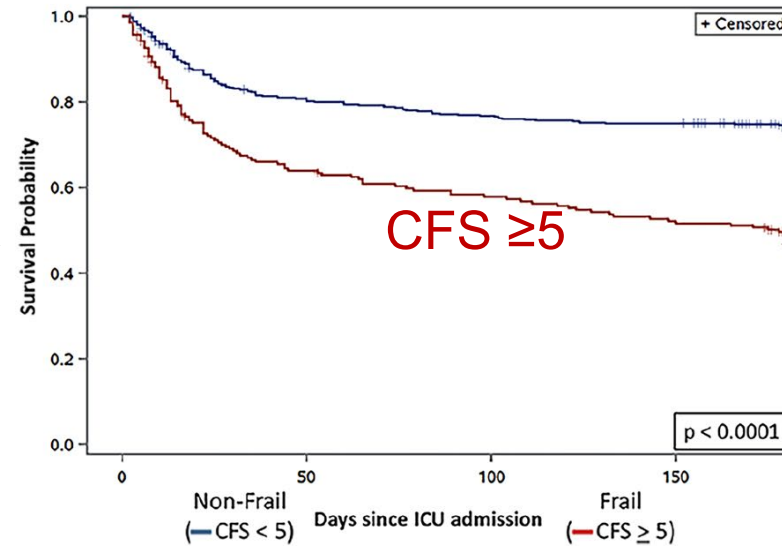
CFS HR, 1.1

Frailty is associated mortality and functional dependence

FORECAST

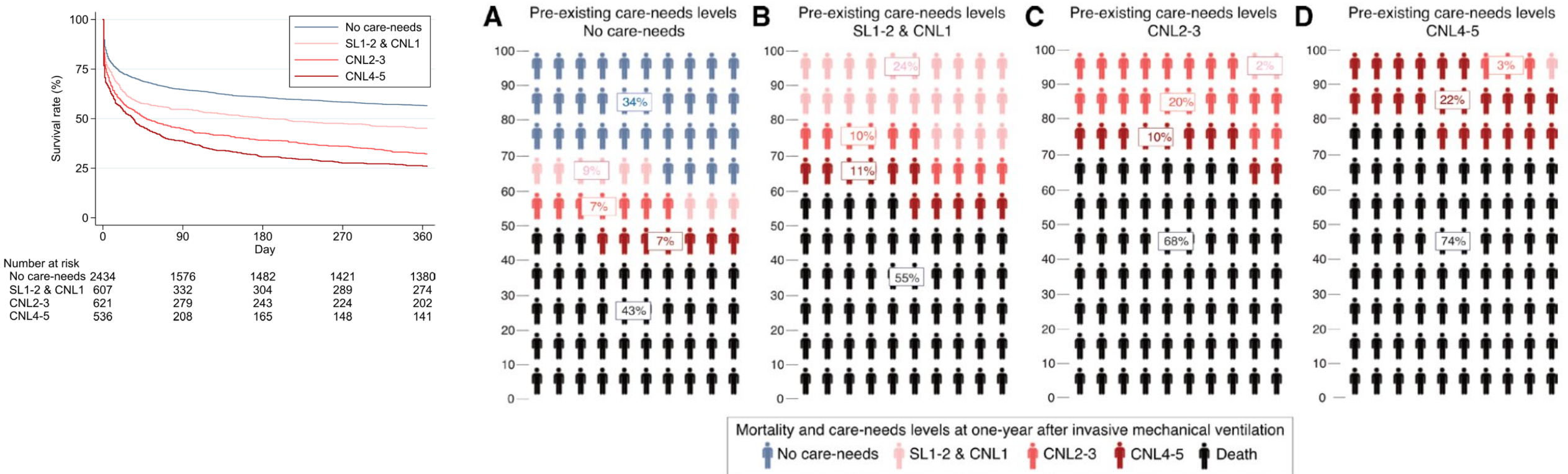
- Prospective, multicenter, Canada
- 2019 to 2021, Age ≥ 50 years, N=687
- Comparison between CFS vs frailty index

Muscedere J et al., Intensive Care Med. 2024 Jul;50(7):1064-1074.



One-Year Functional Outcomes After Invasive Mechanical Ventilation for Older Adults (≥65 years)

Population-based cohort study in Tochigi Prefecture, Japan (n=4,198).



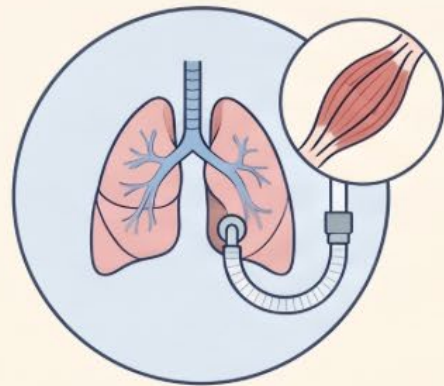
Among patients in preexisting care-needs levels 2-5 who received invasive mechanical ventilation, 76.0-79.2% died or had worsened care-needs within 1 year.

Sarcopenia and Malnutrition

Systematic review and meta-analysis

- 17 studies, patients with mechanical ventilation, n=3,582

肌肉減少症的盛行率 (Prevalence)



43.0%

總體盛行率達 43.0%

在接受機械通氣的患者中，將近半數在入院時已患有肌肉減少症。

不同診斷標準的差異

僅使用電腦斷層 (CT) 診斷

44%

盛行率較高

結合肌肉品質與力量診斷

30%

盛行率較低

內科患者盛行率高於外科



45%

內科疾病患者



41%

外科手術患者

預後負面影響 (Prognostic Impact)



死亡風險增加 2.13 倍

患有肌肉減少症的患者，其全因死亡風險顯著高於一般患者。



住院與通氣時間全面延長

機械通氣天數 (MV Duration) +1.22 天



ICU 住院時間 +1.31 天



外科患者的預後衝擊更大

外科患者若患有肌肉減少症，其死亡風險倍率 (OR 2.63) 高於內科患者。



住院與通氣時間全面延長

機械通氣天數 +1.22 天



總住院天數 +2.73 天

Sarcopenia is independently associated with difficult weaning and mortality

Data from Chang Gung, Taiwan

Psoas muscle mass at L3 level

- Retrospective, 2013 to 2014, surgical ICU patients with mechanical ventilation
- N=86, median age **73 years**, **31.3%** had **sarcopenia**



Table 5. Multivariate logistic regression analysis of independent predictive factors for weaning outcome and ICU mortality.

Variables	Difficult-to-wean			ICU mortality		
	OR	95% CI	P value	OR	95% CI	P value
Sarcopenia	4.767	1.094–20.772	0.038	5.071	1.059–24.277	0.042
Emergent operation	-	-	NS	5.866	1.152–29.873	0.033
Sepsis	-	-	NS	-	-	NS
APACHE II score	1.440	1.201–1.726	<0.001	-	-	NS
SOFA score	-	-	NS	1.414	1.116–1.791	0.004
Creatinine (mg/dl)	-	-	NS	-	-	NS
Albumin (g/dl)	-	-	NS	-	-	NS
RR<30 breaths/min	0.047	0.002–0.918	0.044			
Vt >5 ml/kg	0.063	0.009–0.421	0.004			
RSBI <105	0.030	0.001–0.923	0.045			

Sarcopenia is independently associated with difficult weaning and mortality

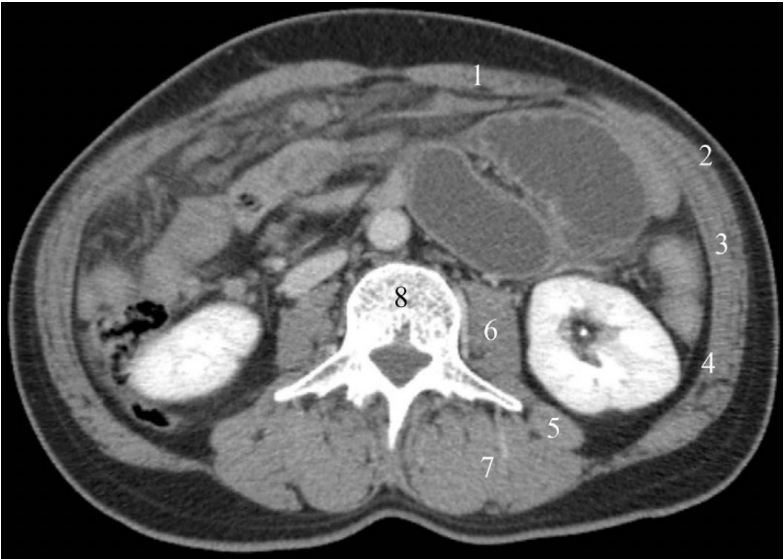
- Retrospective, 2014 to 2019, Korea
- Patients with MV ≥ 7 days, n=45
- Extubation failure (n=34) vs extubation success (n=11)

Table 5
Multivariate analysis of risk factors for extubation failure after long-term mechanical ventilation.

	<i>p</i> - value	OR (95% CI)
Duration of mechanical ventilation (days)	0.004	1.439 (1.12–1.85)
Decreased skeletal muscle mass	0.050	24.382 (0.10–594.86)

OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.

Psoas muscle mass at L3 level



Sarcopenia is independently associated with difficult weaning and mortality

- Retrospective, 2017 to 2019, Korea
- Patients with brain injury and MV, N=73
- Successful liberation (n=61) vs failure liberation (n=12)

Thoracic skeletal muscle volume

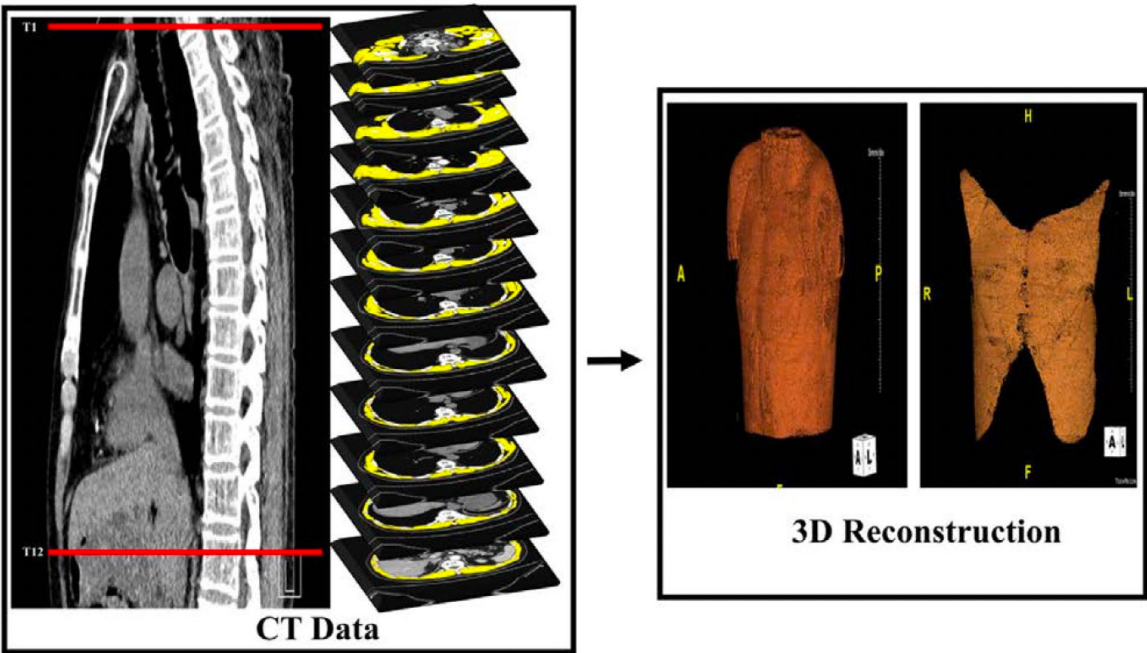


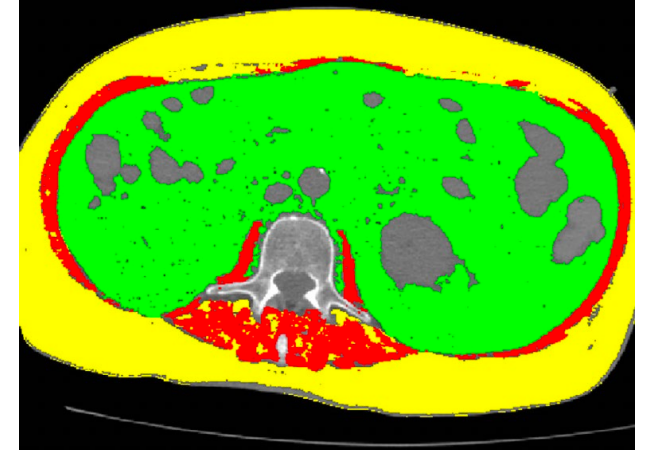
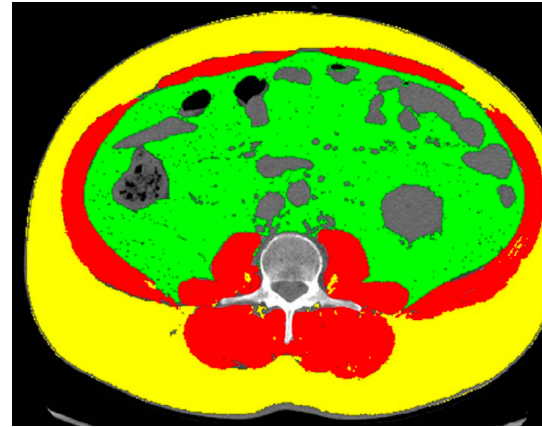
Table 2
Predictors associated with liberation failure in study patients.

Variables	Univariate		Multivariate	
	Odds ratio (95% CI)	P value	Odds ratio (95% CI)	P value
Sarcopenia	9.28 (2.42–38.93)	.001	12.72 (2.87–70.48)	.001
Sex (female)	1.19 (0.29–4.32)	.792		
Age, years	1.02 (0.98–1.07)	.429		
Body mass index, kg/m ²	1.02 (0.05–7.18)	.987		
Cardiology cause	1.30 (0.06–9.86)	.824		
Pulmonary cause	2.07 (0.59–8.42)	.274		
SOFA at procedure day	1.35 (1.04–1.79)	.029	1.43 (1.07–2.03)	.024
LIS at procedure day	1.23 (0.53–2.80)	.620		

Bold type indicates statistical significance.
LIS = lung injury score, SOFA = sequential organ failure assessment.

Sarcopenia is independently associated with difficult weaning and mortality

- Retrospective, 2020, Italy
- patients with critical COVID-19 illness under MV, n=81



Extubation success

Extubation success

Adjusted analyse^a

	OR	95% C.I.	p
SMI	0.97	0.9–1.03	0.33
Muscle density	1.02	0.96–1.1	0.55

Adjusted analyse^b

Muscle CSA	0.99	0.98–1.01	0.6
SMI	0.96	0.94–0.99	0.01
Muscle density	1.03	0.98–1.1	0.23

ICU mortality

Mortality

Adjusted analyse^a

Muscle CSA	0.99	0.96–1.01	0.31
SMI	0.98	0.92–1.06	0.68
Muscle density	1.02	0.96–1.1	0.48

Adjusted analyse^b

Muscle CSA	1.01	0.98–1.02	0.93
SMI	0.96	0.93–0.99	0.03
Muscle density	1.04	0.98–1.1	0.18

CSA cross-sectional area.

SMI skeletal muscle index.

^a Adjusted for: age, sex and body mass index.

^b Adjusted for: age, sex and frailty index.

Respiratory and hemodynamic care
for older adults patients in ICU

High risk patients following mechanical ventilation

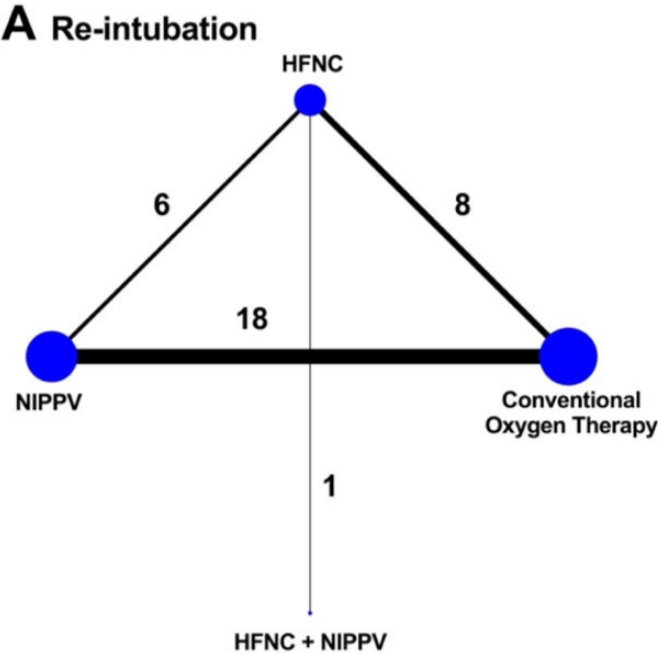
High risk groups (mechanical ventilation more than 12 hours)

- **Age ≥ 65 years**
- Heart failure
- Moderate to severe COPD
- APACHE II ≥ 12 on the day of extubation
- BMI ≥ 30
- Airway patency problems
- Respiratory secretions (inadequate cough, suction ≥ 2 times within 8 hrs)
- Difficult weaning (re-intubated)
- Mechanical ventilation for more than 7 days
- ≥ 2 Comorbidities

NIV or HFNC reduce re-intubation after mechanical ventilation

- 36 RCTs (6,806 patients)
- Comparing NIV, HFNC, and conventional O₂ therapy after following mechanical ventilation

Re-intubation

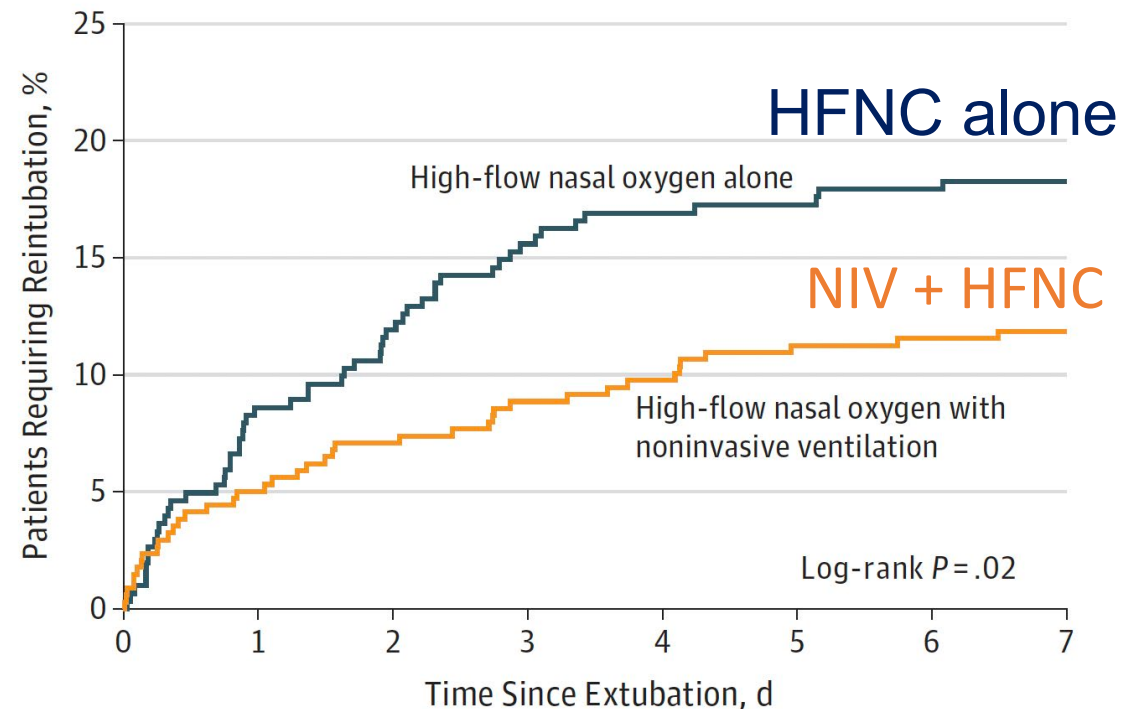


Comparison	Network odds ratio (95% CI)	Absolute risk difference (95% CI)	Number needed to treat
NIPPV vs conventional oxygen	0.65 (0.52–0.82)	– 5.18 (– 8.09 to – 2.26)	20 (13 to 45)
HFNC vs conventional oxygen	0.63 (0.45–0.87)	– 3.84 (– 6.7 to – 0.98)	26 (15 to 102)
NIPPV vs HFNC	1.04 (0.78–1.38)	– 1.34 (– 4.4 to 1.72)	N/A
HFNC + NIPPV vs conventional oxygen	0.38 (0.19–0.74)	– 10.25 (– 18.49 to – 2.01)	10 (6 to 50)
HFNC + NIPPV vs NIPPV	0.58 (0.3–1.11)	– 5.07 (– 13.38 to 3.24)	N/A
HFNC + NIPPV vs HFNC	0.6 (0.33–1.08)	– 6.41 (– 14.13 to 1.31)	N/A

Combination with NIV and HFNC following extubation

- 30 ICU in France
- Patients at high risk of extubation failure
- HFNC or HFNC + NIPPV for at least 48 hours
- 70% $\geq$ aged 65 years

Reintubation rate at day 7
11.8% vs **18.2%**
(difference, -6.4%; $P = 0.02$)



No. at risk

High-flow nasal oxygen

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Alone	302	276	265	253	248	246	244	243
With	339	321	314	308	305	294	292	291
noninvasive ventilation								

Blood pressure target in older patients with shock

OVATION

[Home](#) > [Intensive Care Medicine](#) > [Article](#)

Higher versus lower blood pressure targets for vasopressor therapy in shock: a multicentre pilot randomized controlled trial

Original | Published: 18 February 2016

Volume 42, pages 542–550 (2016) [Cite this article](#)



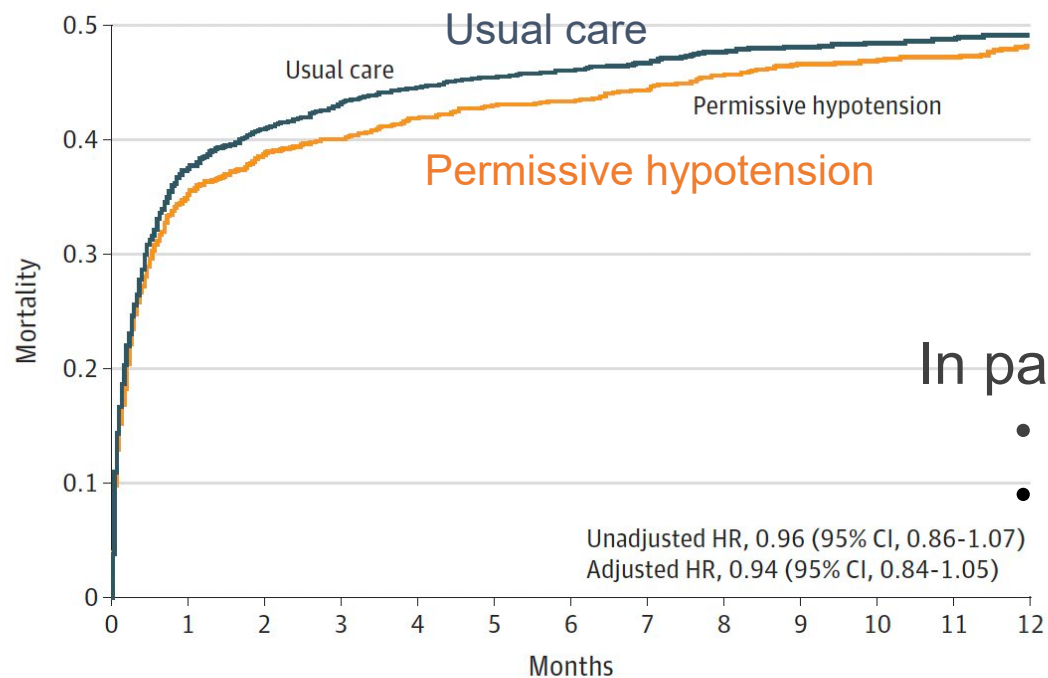
[Intensive Care Medicine](#)

- 118 patients from 11 centers
- **MAP** target **60–65** mmHg vs **75–80** mmHg
- Among **patients aged ≥ 75 years**, a **lower MAP** target was associated with **reduced hospital mortality** (13 versus 60 %, $p = 0.03$) but not in younger patients.

Reduced Exposure to in Older Critically Ill Patients

65 Trial

- 65 ICUs in UK, RCT, from 2017–2019, n=2,463
- Patients aged ≥ 65 years using vasopressor for vasodilatory shock
- MAP target 60–65 mmHg (permissive hypotension) vs usual care



90-day mortality

41.0 vs 43.8%

HR, 0.94 (0.84–1.05)

In patients aged ≥ 65 years, **permissive hypotension**

- A **trend of lower** 90-day **mortality**
- **Higher rates of acute renal failure** (3.2 vs 2.5%)

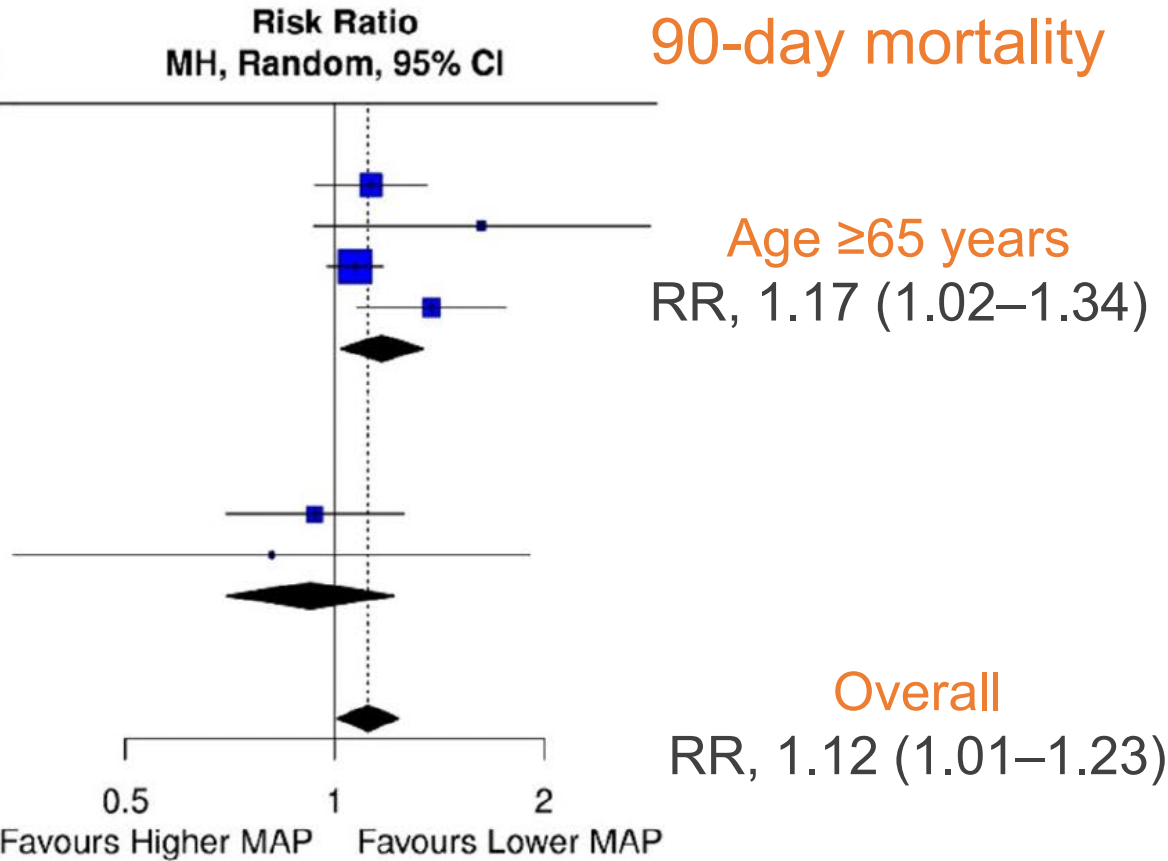
No. at risk													
Permissive hypotension	1283	794	743	721	699	667	631	596	545	509	480	442	409
Usual care	1300	772	727	697	677	642	604	569	525	489	459	435	395

Higher versus lower blood pressure targets in vasodilatory shock

Systemic review and meta-analysis

- 4 RCTs, n=3,873

Study or Subgroup	Higher MAP Events Total	Lower MAP Events Total	Weight	Risk Ratio MH, Random, 95% CI
subgroup = ≥ 65 years old				
SEPSISPAM 2014	110 200	105 215	21.8%	1.13 [0.94; 1.36]
OVATION 2016	15 27	13 38	3.2%	1.62 [0.93; 2.83]
65 trial 2020	544 1242	500 1221	49.3%	1.07 [0.98; 1.17]
OPTPRESS 2025	101 257	74 259	14.1%	1.38 [1.08; 1.76]
Total (95% CI)	1726	1733	88.3%	1.17 [1.02; 1.34]
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.0081$; $\chi^2 = 5.37$, $df = 3$ ($P = 0.1468$); $I^2 = 44.1\%$				
subgroup = < 65 years old				
SEPSISPAM 2014	60 188	59 173	10.3%	0.94 [0.70; 1.26]
OVATION 2016	8 31	7 22	1.4%	0.81 [0.35; 1.91]
Total (95% CI)	219	195	11.7%	0.92 [0.70; 1.22]
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0$; $\chi^2 = 0.1$, $df = 1$ ($P = 0.7564$); $I^2 = 0\%$				
Total (95% CI)	1945	1928	100.0%	1.12 [1.01; 1.23]
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.0032$; $\chi^2 = 7.15$, $df = 5$ ($P = 0.2100$); $I^2 = 30.0\%$				
Test for overall effect: $Z = 2.13$ ($P = 0.0331$)				
Test for subgroup differences: $\chi^2 = 2.24$, $df = 1$ ($P = 0.1341$)				



Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock 2026

Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP) Targets

13. For adults with septic shock, we “recommend” an initial MAP target of 65 mm Hg over higher MAP targets.
(strong recommendation, moderate certainty evidence)

Remark: In practice, it is not feasible to maintain MAP at exactly 65 mm Hg, so a reasonable range (e.g., within 5 mm Hg) should be used. Vasopressors should be titrated to maintain MAP within this range.

14. For adults with septic shock 65 years old or older, we “suggest” an initial MAP range of 60–65 mm Hg over higher ranges.
(conditional recommendation, low certainty evidence)

Carryover
with
new
remark

New MAP target suggested by SSC guideline 2026 in patients aged ≥ 65

60 – 65 mmHg

ICU Delirium and Cognitive Decline

Risk factors of delirium

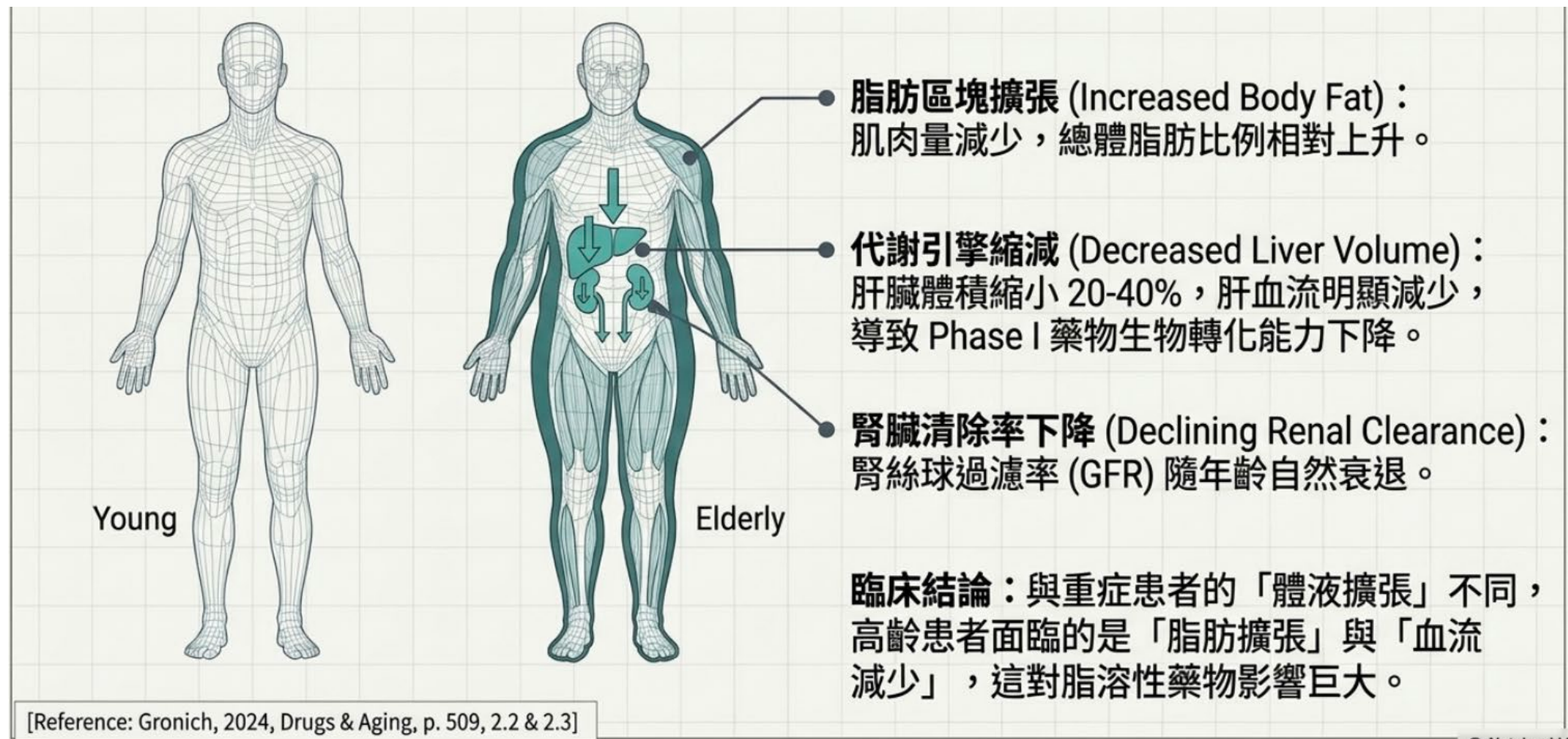
前驅因子

加速因子

Predisposing Factors	Precipitating Factors	
Advanced age	Metabolic disturbances	Benzodiazepines
Baseline cognitive impairment	Hypotension	Opioids (meperidine, morphine)
Increased comorbid disease	Sepsis	Deep versus light sedation
Frailty	Poor pain control	Anticholinergics
Alcohol and drug abuse	Mechanical ventilation	Steroids
High severity of illness	Sleep disturbances	Surgery (abdominal, cardiac, hip)

Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in older adults

- Absorption, distribution, metabolism, elimination

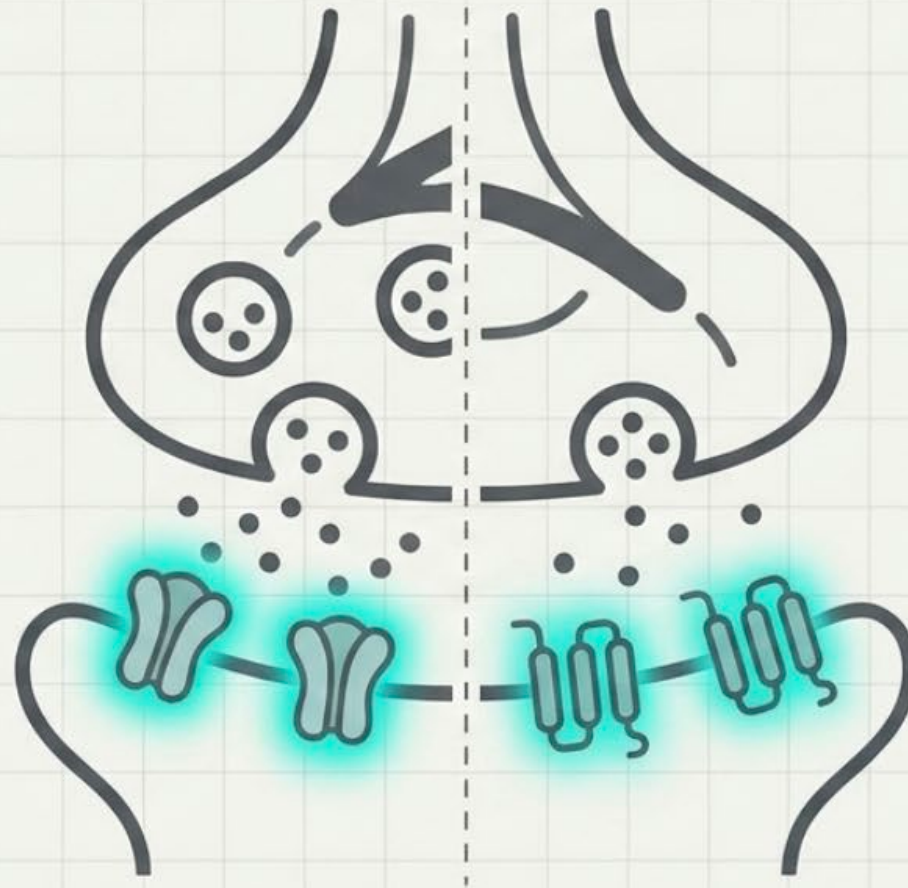


Altered receptors of neurotransmitter in older adults

機理解析：高齡患者不僅藥物代謝變慢，其大腦對同等血藥濃度的反應閾值亦發生改變。

Benzodiazepines (BZD) 與 GABA 系統

- 即使藥物曝露量相同，高齡者對 BZD 的鎮靜效應具有更高的敏感性。
- 臨床風險：極易引發跌倒與髖部骨折。



Opioids (鴉片類藥物) 與 Mu 受體

- 對 Fentanyl 等 Mu-opioid 受體激動劑的敏感度顯著增加。
- 臨床風險：呼吸抑制與中樞神經系統過度抑制。

[Reference: Gronich, 2024, Drugs & Aging, p. 507, 513-514; Table 1]

臨床關鍵族群的藥代動力學 (PK) 變異指南：重症與高齡患者

協助醫療人員快速理解重症與高齡患者在長時間輸注與神經系統藥物使用時的 PK/PD 關鍵變化，以優化個人化給藥策略。

重症患者的 PK 顯著變異 (長時間輸注研究)



分佈容積 (Vdss) 劇增
重症患者因液體復甦與蛋白質結合改變，咪達唑侖與丙泊酚的 Vdss 分別增加 2 倍與 4 倍。



藥物半衰期顯著延長
相比非重症者，重症患者的咪達唑侖消除半衰期平均延長 3 倍，增加藥物蓄積風險。



疾病嚴重度 (APACHE II) 的影響
APACHE II 評分 > 20 的患者，藥物清除率顯著降低，需更謹慎調整維持劑量。

關鍵鎮靜藥物 PK 參數差異比較 (重症 vs. 一般)

藥物類別	患者類型	分佈容積 (L)	清除率 (L/h)	消除半衰期 (h)
咪達唑侖 (Midazolam)	重症患者	169	15	9
	一般患者	77-119	24-38	1.7-3.5
丙泊酚 (Propofol)	重症患者	2915	104	33

老年患者的 PK/PD 生理變化 (CNS 藥物)



脂肪增加導致脂溶性藥物蓄積
體脂比例上升使脂溶性藥物（如地西泮）分佈更廣，導致藥物作用時間延長。



肝臟清除率下降 10-40%
肝血流減少與體積萎縮降低了第一相 (Phase I) 代謝效率，提高穩態血藥濃度。



藥效學 (PD) 敏感度上升
老年人對鴉片類與苯二氮卓類的鎮靜作用更敏感，增加跌倒與呼吸抑制風險。

Decreased clearance of antipsychotics in older adults

高齡精神科用藥：特定藥物的清除率與風險矩陣

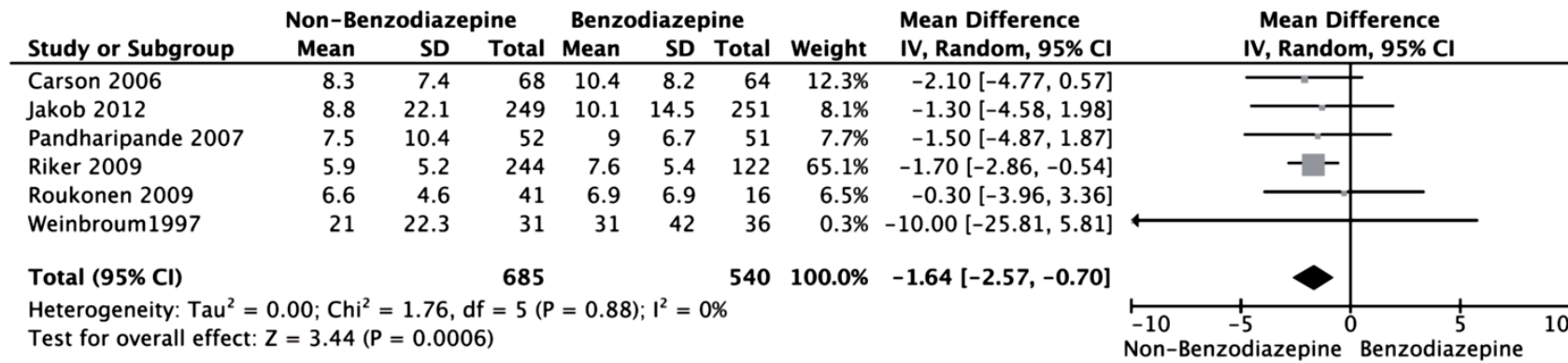
抗精神病藥物 (Antipsychotics)	
Risperidone	若肌酸酐清除率 (CrCl) <60 mL/min，藥物清除率劇降 60% ↓。血藥濃度隨年齡每十歲增加 35% ↑。
Olanzapine	血藥濃度隨年齡每十歲增加 10% ↑。
Haloperidol	阻斷多巴胺受體，誘發帕金森氏症與遲發性運動不能的頻率顯著增高 ↑。
抗憂鬱藥物 (Antidepressants)	
Citalopram (SSRI)	消除半衰期延長達 30% ↑。

行動指南：必須從最低劑量開始，嚴密監控錐體外徑症候群 (EPS) 與過度鎮靜。

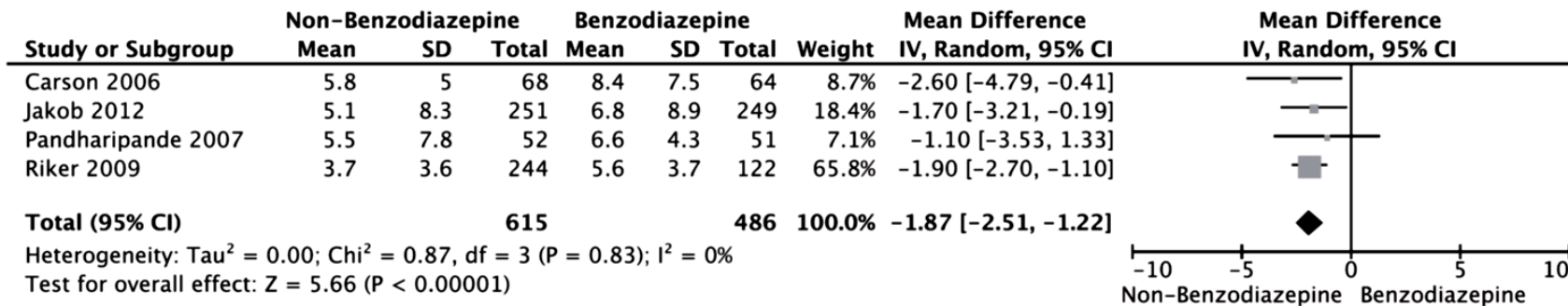
Benzodiazepine Versus Nonbenzodiazepine-Based Sedation for Mechanically Ventilated, Critically Ill Adults

Systemic review and meta-analysis, 6 RCTs, n=1235

ICU length of stay



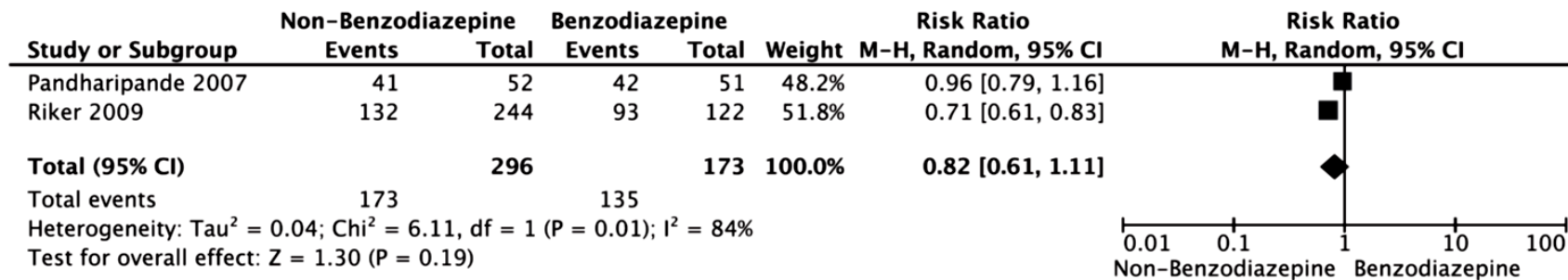
Duration of mechanical ventilation



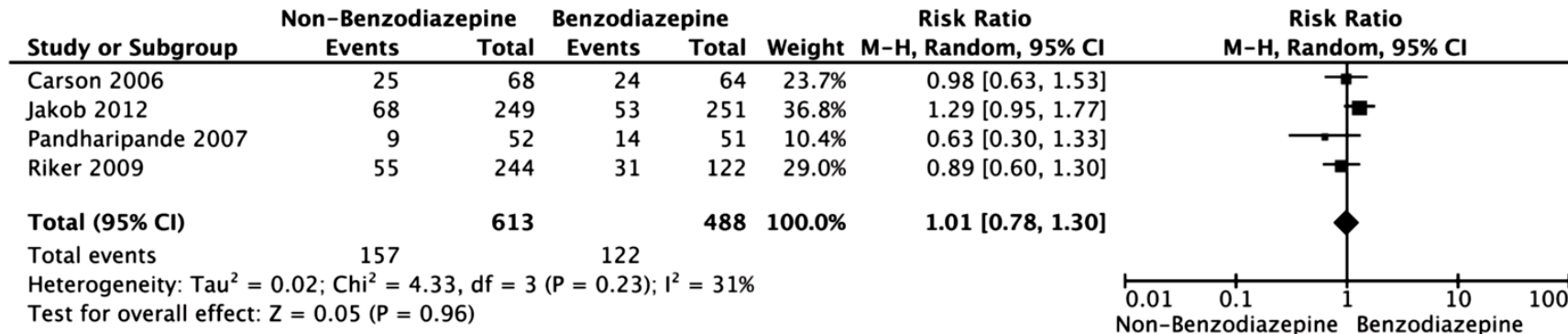
Benzodiazepine Versus Nonbenzodiazepine-Based Sedation for Mechanically Ventilated, Critically Ill Adults

Systemic review and meta-analysis, 6 RCTs, n=1235

Delirium prevalence

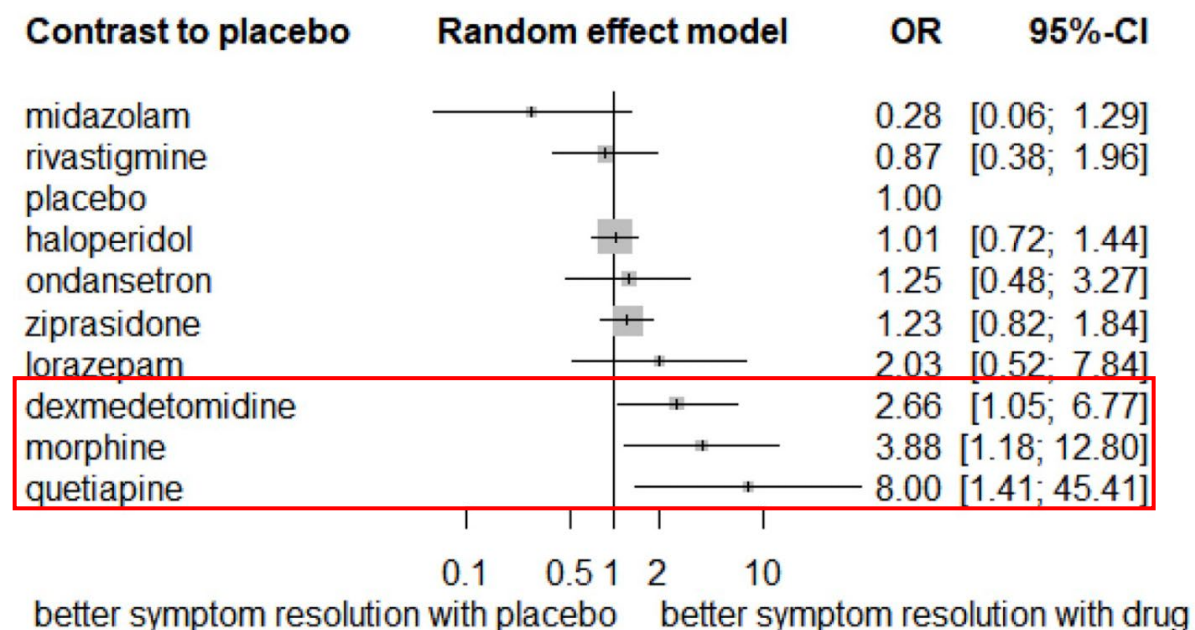


All-cause short-term mortality

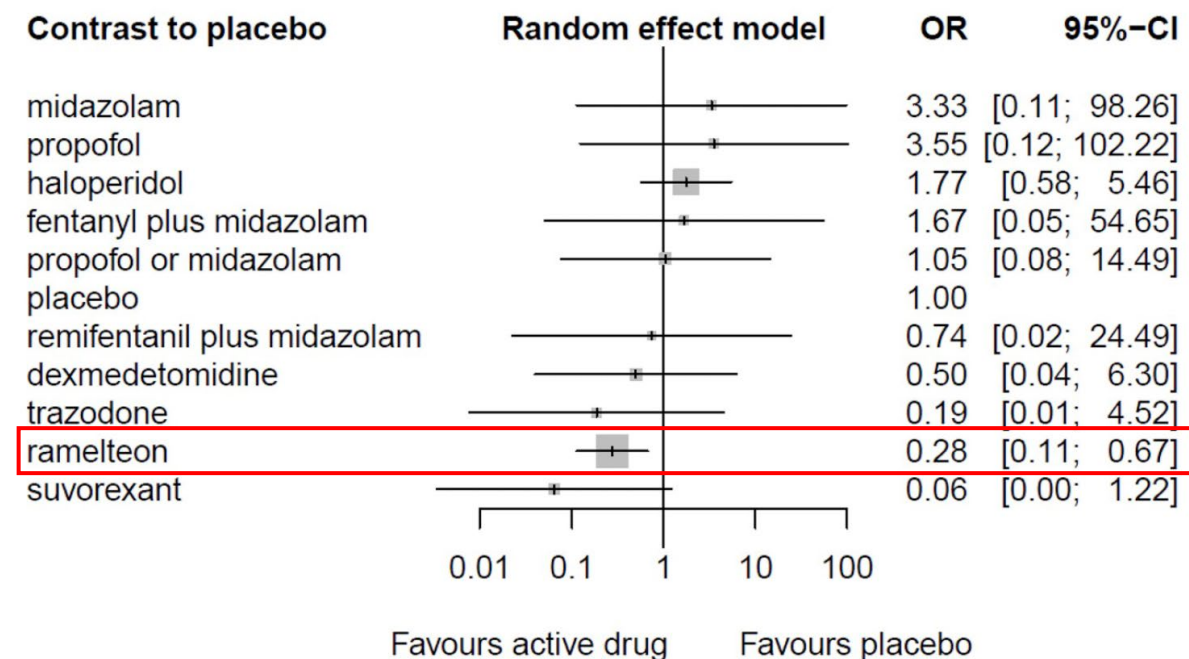


Management and preventing delirium in ICU

Treating delirium (response rate)



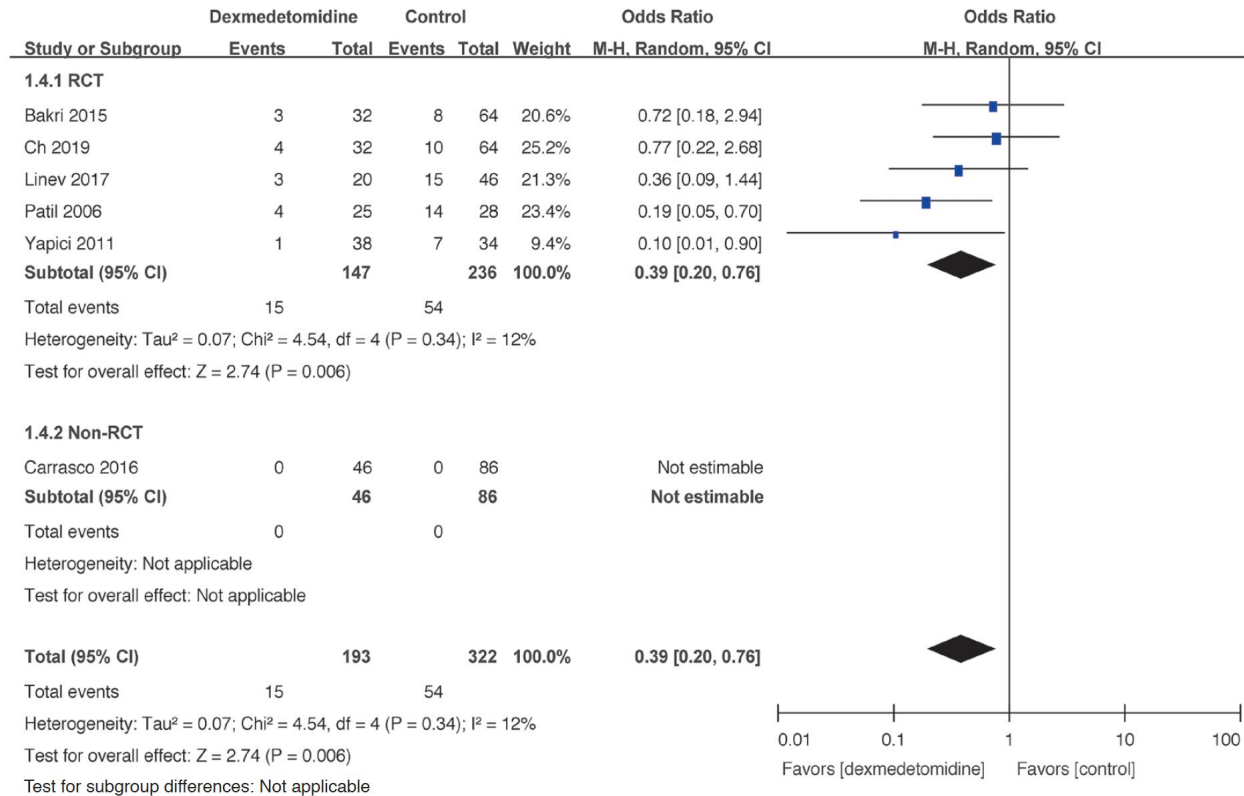
Preventing delirium (incidence)



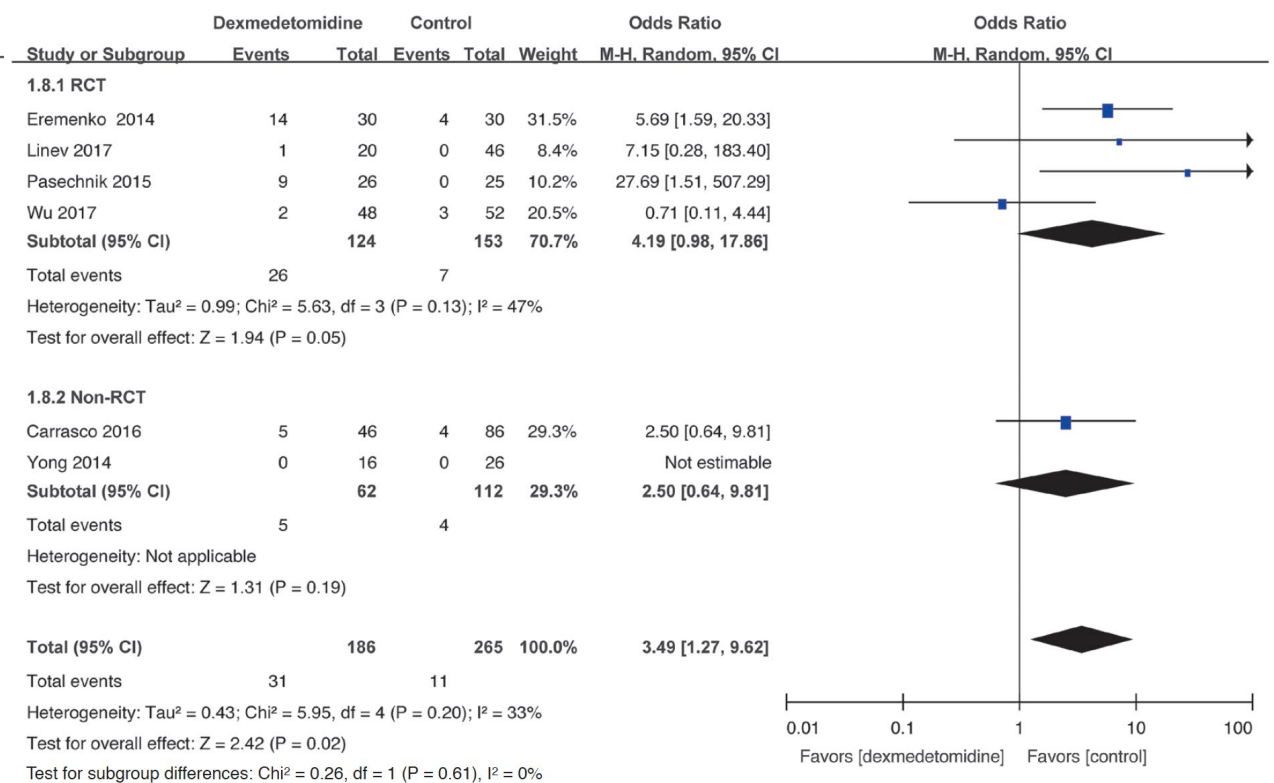
- Dexmedetomidine, morphine, and quetiapine were effective in managing ICU delirium
- Ramelteon reduced the incidence of ICU delirium

Dexmedetomidine in treating delirium

Delirium prevalence after treatment



Incidence of bradycardia



- **Dexmedetomidine** promotes the **resolution of delirium** but also **increases** the incidence of **bradycardia** during treatment

SCCM guideline for managing and preventing delirium

Recommendation: PADIS 2018

We **suggest** using **either** propofol or dexmedetomidine over benzodiazepines for sedation in critically ill mechanically ventilated adults (conditional recommendation, low quality of evidence).

• PADIS 2018:

✓ **Propofol or dexmedetomidine** over BZD

✓ **Light sedation** over deep sedation

• PADIS 2025

✓ **Dexmedetomidine** over propofol for **light sedation**

✓ Early mobilization/rehabilitation

✓ **Melatonin** to reduce sleep disruption

PADIS 2025

P Prevention and Management of Pain	(No updates made to previous guidelines recommendations for pain.)	
A Anxiety, Agitation/Sedation	Insufficient Evidence For explanation, see Full Focused Update Guidelines. Conditional Recommendation For ✓ Moderate Certainty of Evidence ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ○	1. There is insufficient evidence to make a recommendation on the use of benzodiazepines to treat anxiety in adult patients admitted to the ICU. 2. We suggest using dexmedetomidine over propofol for sedation in mechanically ventilated adult patients admitted to the ICU where light sedation and/or a reduction in delirium are of highest priorities.
D Delirium	Conditional Recommendation For Intervention or Comparison ✓ ✗ Low Certainty of Evidence ⊕ ⊕ ○ ○	3. We are unable to issue a recommendation for or against the use of antipsychotics over usual care for the treatment of delirium in adult patients admitted to the ICU.
I Immobility	Conditional Recommendation For ✓ Moderate Certainty of Evidence ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ○	4. We suggest providing enhanced mobilization/rehabilitation over usual care mobilization/rehabilitation to adult patients admitted to the ICU.
S Sleep Disruption	Conditional Recommendation For ✓ Low Certainty of Evidence ⊕ ⊕ ○ ○	5. We suggest administering melatonin over no melatonin in adult patients admitted to the ICU.

Palliative care and post-intensive care syndrome (PICS)

SPECIAL ARTICLE

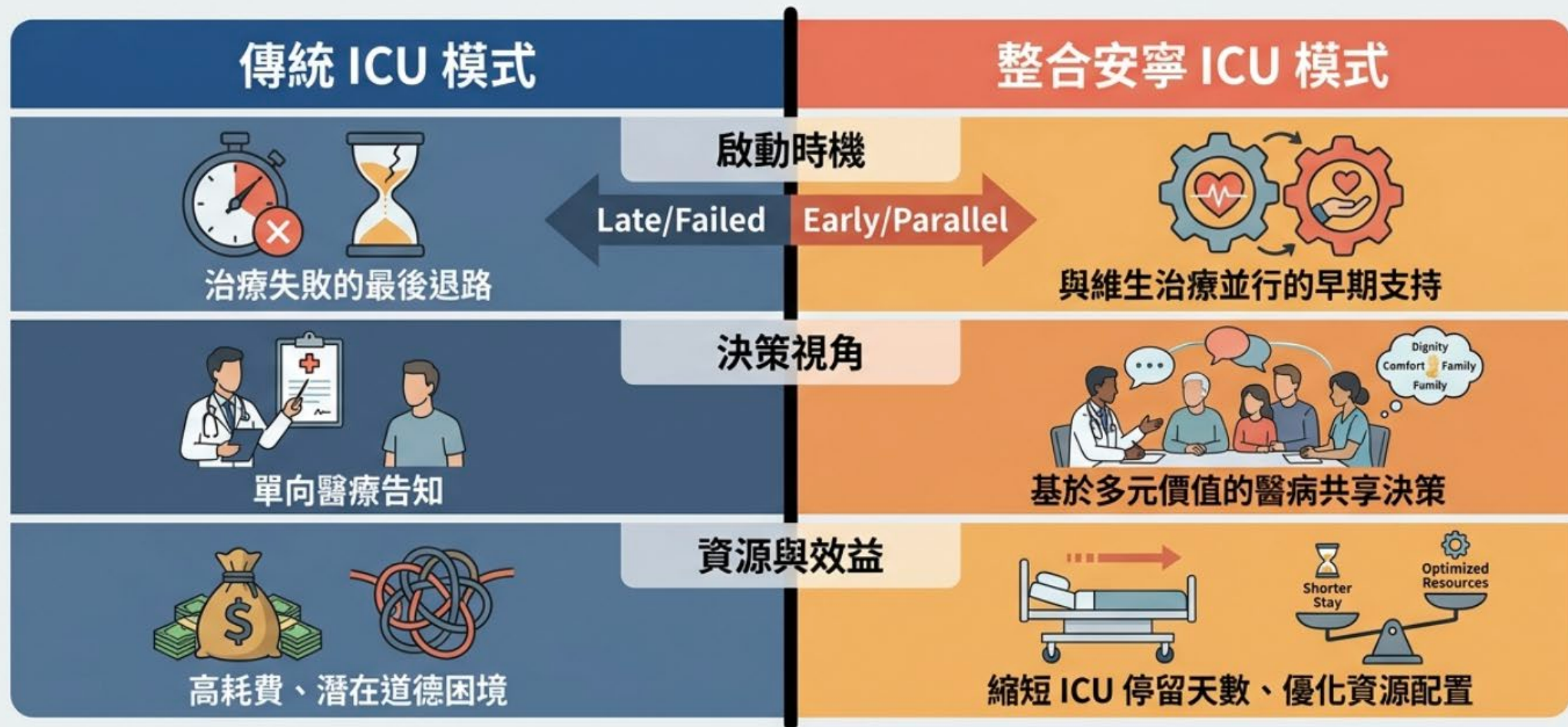
Society of Critical Care Medicine Clinical Practice Guidelines on Adult End-of-Life Care in the ICU

看見病患的全貌：不再是一體適用的照護



SCCM 2025 良好實踐聲明
(Good Practice Statement)：
提供安寧療護的 ICU 臨床醫師
必須透過上述多元視角，主動
探索並解決病患的需求，作為
為建立醫病信任的切入點。

範式轉移：從退路到並行的照護標準



2025 SCCM 核心理念：安寧療護不應被視為 ICU 的「失敗備案」，而必須是常規的高品質照護

2025 重症安寧療護臨床指引：全方位需求評估與篩檢標準

全方位安寧需求評估



評估安寧需求時需納入性別認同、種族信仰、原籍國、語言及社會經濟地位等因素。

專業安寧療護篩檢指標



治療適切性存有重大分歧

- 當加護病房團隊成員與家屬對當前治療方案的適切性產生嚴重意見不一時。



考慮限制維生醫療 (LST)

- 醫療團隊開始評估或考慮限制、撤除維生醫療措施時，應進行篩檢。



預期諮詢能帶來臨床效益

- 預判專業安寧諮詢能使患者、家屬或重症團隊在情緒或決策上獲得實質幫助。

Enhance palliative care in ICU (EPIC)



ACTIONS

Screening & Enrolment

- Age ≥ 18 years
- > 72h in the ICU
- ICU admission not due to cancer
- Need for specialized palliative care
- Not expected to die within 24h
- Informed consent

EPIC intervention

- Structured and standardized ICU telepalliative care consultation by trained interventionist
- Blended learning: e-learning and workshop for all ICU clinicians
- Handouts and factsheets

Follow-up

- 3-month after ICU discharge
- Patient & relative questionnaires (retrospective and as of today)

TIMEPOINTS

RETROSPECTIVE



PRE
ADMISSION



HOSPITAL
ADMISSION



ICU
ADMISSION



ICU
DISCHARGE



HOSPITAL
DISCHARGE



POST
DISCHARGE

ENDPOINTS

Primary ICU length of stay

Secondary including:

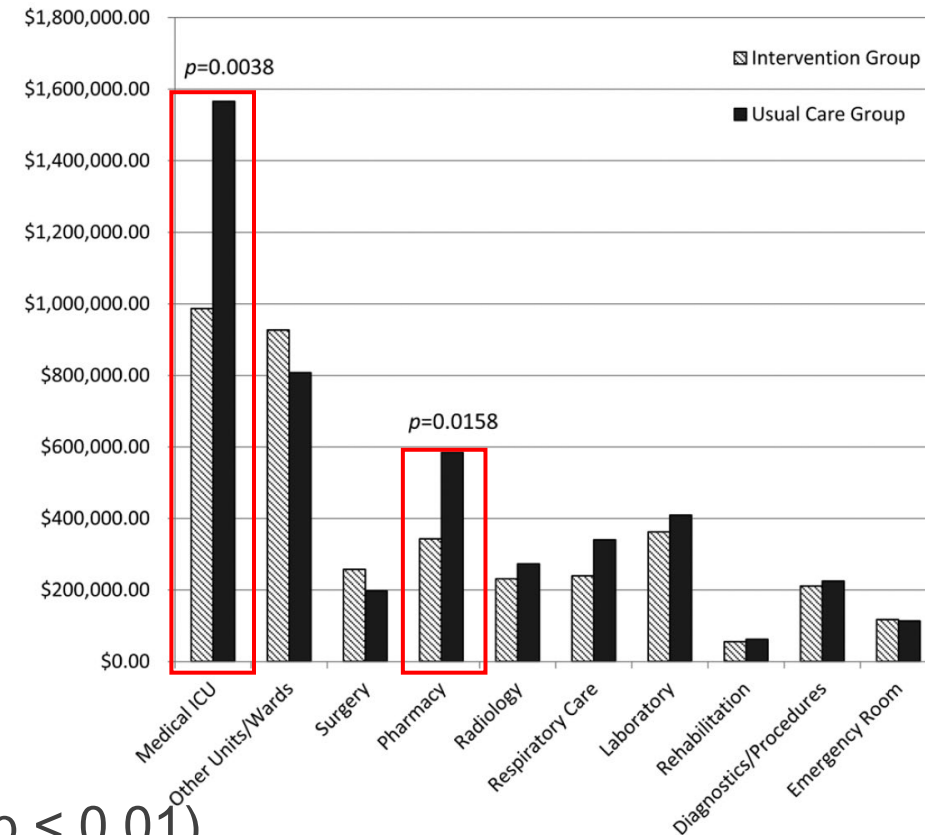
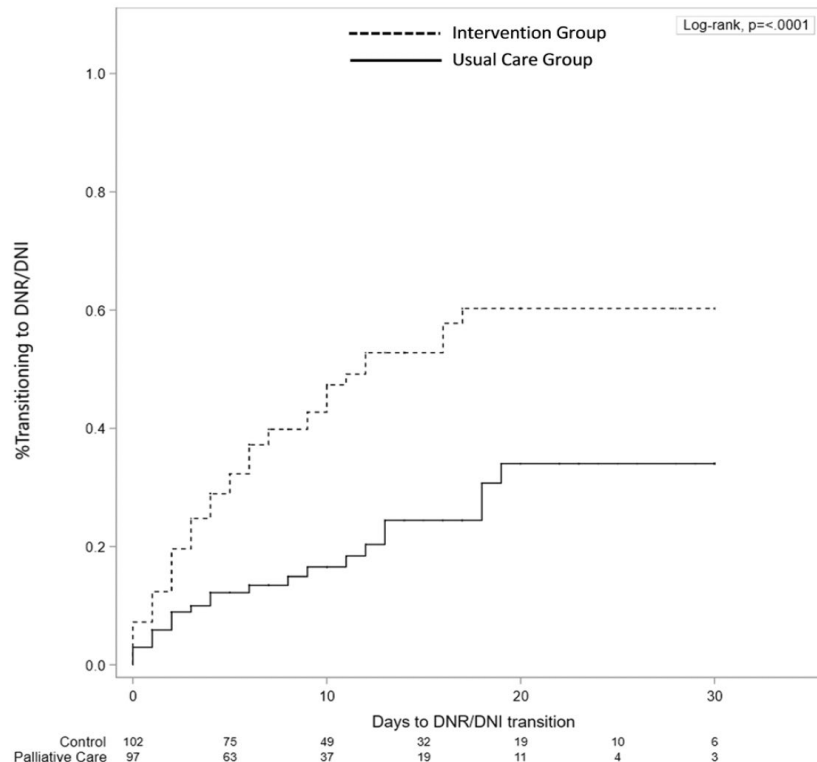
- Clinical measures: e.g., severity of illness, invasive treatments, mortality
- Health economics: resource use, costs, cost-consequences, cost-effectiveness
- Health-related quality of life
- Palliative care assessment and integration
- Perceptions of care: e.g., communication, decision making, symptom management
- ICU clinician well-being

Early integrate palliative care

- Single center, Washington, US
- 2017 - 2018, n=199 patients with positive palliative care screening
- Consult palliative care within 48 hrs vs usual care

Item No.	Screening Criteria
1	Admitted from long-term skilled nursing facility or acute care facility, or admitted from home with activities of daily living dependencies requiring skilled nursing
2	End-stage dementia, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, or multiple sclerosis
3	Advanced or metastatic cancer
4	Cardiac or respiratory arrest with neurologic compromise
5	Multiple organ system failure
6	Known end-stage organ disease including cirrhosis, renal disease on dialysis, New York Heart Association class III or IV heart failure, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease on home oxygen
7	Acute shock requiring at least 6 hr of vasopressors or inotropic support
8	Acute respiratory failure requiring mask ventilation or intubation
9	Hospital stay greater than 5 d or ICU readmission for the same diagnosis within 30 d
	Exclusion criteria
1	History of any stem cell transplant
2	Solid organ transplant within 1 yr of transplant, or actively undergoing workup for solid organ transplant
3	Non-English speaking patients for whom an interpreter was unavailable
4	Patients without capacity to participate in palliative care discussions with no identifiable surrogate
5	Patients who refused to had a surrogate refuse palliative care consultation
6	Patients who had received a palliative care consultation earlier during the same hospitalization
7	Patients already determined to be do-not-resuscitate/do-not-intubate

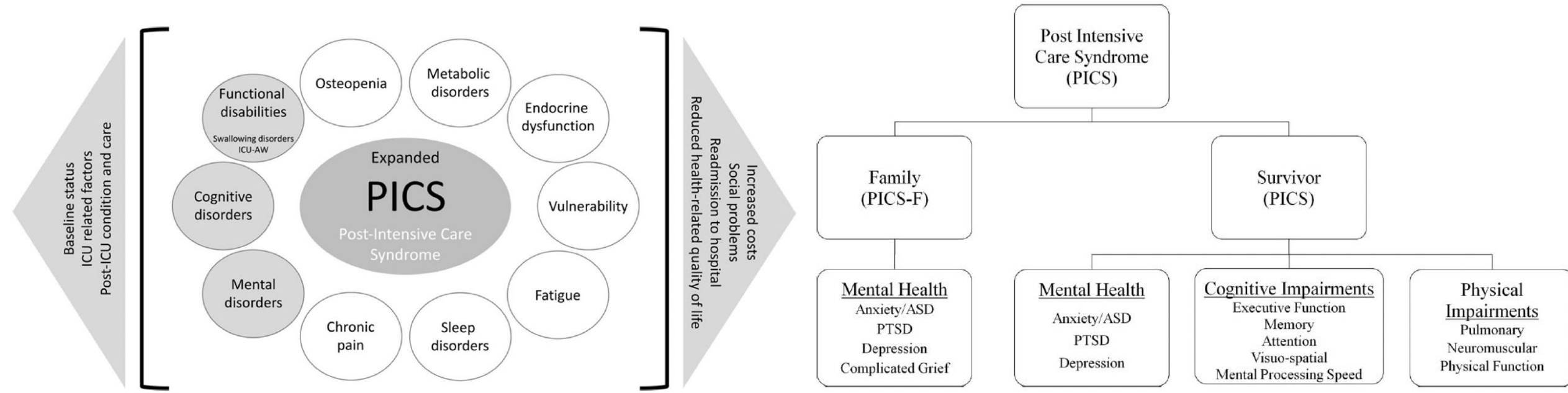
Early integrate palliative care



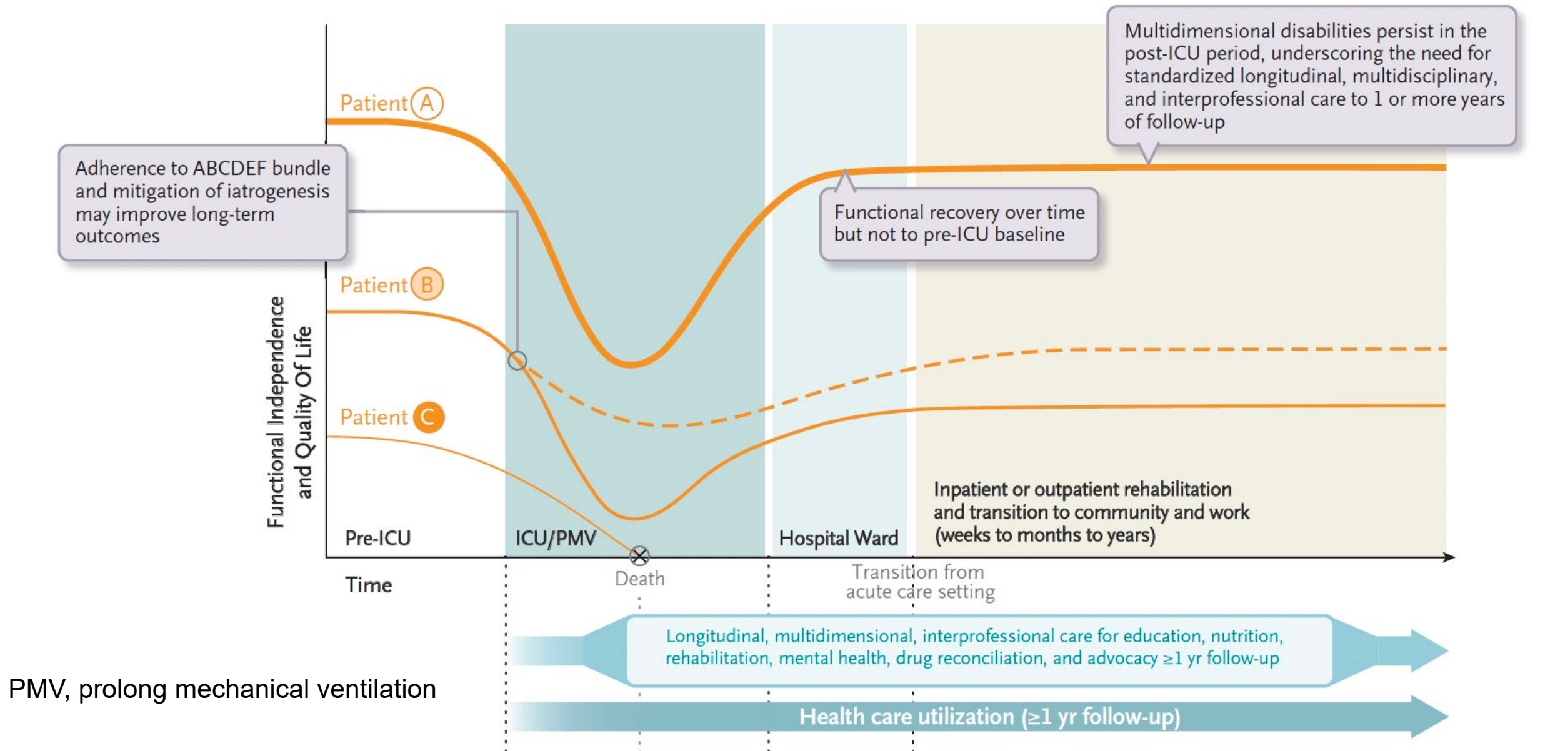
- More transfers to hospice care (18.6% vs 4.9%; $p < 0.01$)
- Fewer ventilator days (median 4 vs 6 d; $p < 0.05$), tracheostomies (1% vs 7.8%; $p < 0.05$), and postdischarge emergency department visits and/or readmissions (17.3% vs 38.9%; $p < 0.01$)
- **Lower** medical ICU ($p < 0.01$) and pharmacy ($p < 0.05$) **costs**
- Similar ICU length of stay (median 5 vs 5.5 d), hospital length of stay (median 10 vs 11 d), **in-hospital mortality (22.6% vs 29.4%), or 30-day mortality between groups (35.1% vs 36.3%) ($p > 0.05$)**.

Post-intensive care syndrome (PICS)

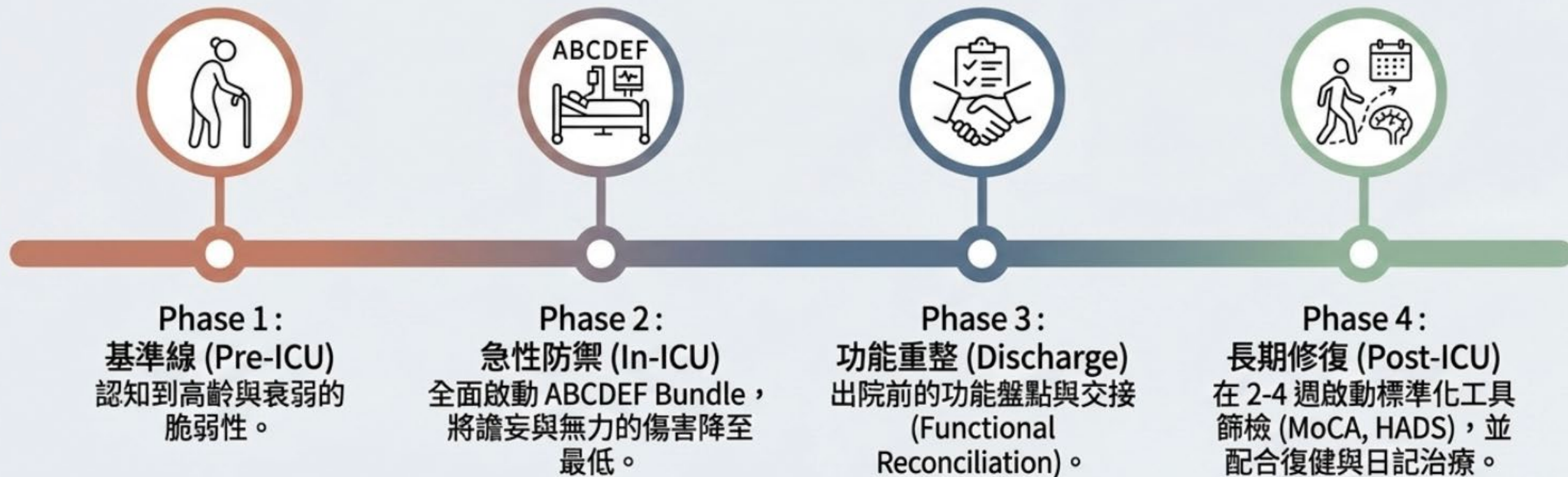
- New or worsening physical, mental, and neurocognitive disorder
- Negatively impact quality of life
- Financial consequences
- Influence patients and their family members



Pre-ICU health status and post-ICU trajectory



全人全程照護模型 (The Continuum of Care)



核心總結：對於高齡患者，加護病房的使命不在於出院的那一刻結束，而在於幫助他們重拾原有的生活軌跡。

Prevalence and risk factors of PICS

- Prevalence 45 – 60%
- Could last for years or permanent disabilities

Physical impairment	
Risk factors	Odds ratio
Disease severity	2.5 (1.8 – 3.7)
Older age	2.2 (1.1 – 4.3)
Female	2.0 (1.3 – 2.9)
Mental health disorder	
Prior mental health problems	9.5 (2.1 – 42.9)
ICU hallucinations	2.6 (2.0 – 3.3)
Cognitive impairment	
Delirium	2.9 (1.1 – 7.4)

Risk factor for PICS

入院前 (Pre-ICU) - 基期風險	ICU 期間 (In-ICU) - 醫源性與急性風險	出院後 (Post-ICU) - 早期警訊
● 高齡 (Advancing age) ● 共病症負擔 (Continuum Line) ● 共病症負擔 (High comorbidity burden) ● 衰弱與認知功能障礙基期 (Baseline frailty & cognitive impairment)	● 譫妄發生與持續時間 [認知損傷最強預測因子, OR 2.85] ● 長期機械通氣 (Prolonged mechanical ventilation) ● 重度敗血症與休克 (Severe sepsis & shock) ● 過度鎮靜 (Deep sedation / benzodiazepines)	● 早期焦慮、憂鬱或 PTSD 症狀 ● 創傷記憶 (Frightening ICU memories)

Reference: SCCM International Consensus Conference
2020 (Crit Care Med 2020;48);

ABCDE or ABCDEF bundle



Assess, prevent & manage pain

- CPOT or BPS to assess pain, insure adequate pain control
- Use of regional anesthesia and nonopioid adjuncts
- Analgesia-based sedation techniques with fentanyl



Both SAT & SBT

- Daily linked SAT and SBT
- Multidisciplinary coordination of care
- Faster liberation from MV



Choice of sedation

- Targeted light sedation when sedation necessary
- Avoidance of benzodiazepines
- Dexmedetomidine if high delirium risk, cardiac surgery, MV weaning



Delirium monitoring & management

- Routine CAM-ICU or ICDSC assessments
- Nonpharmacologic intervention, including sleep hygiene
- Dexmedetomidine or antipsychotic if hyperactive symptoms



Early mobility & exercise

- Physical and occupational therapy assessment
- Coordinate activity with SAT or periods of no sedation
- Progress through range of motion, sitting, standing, walking, ADLs



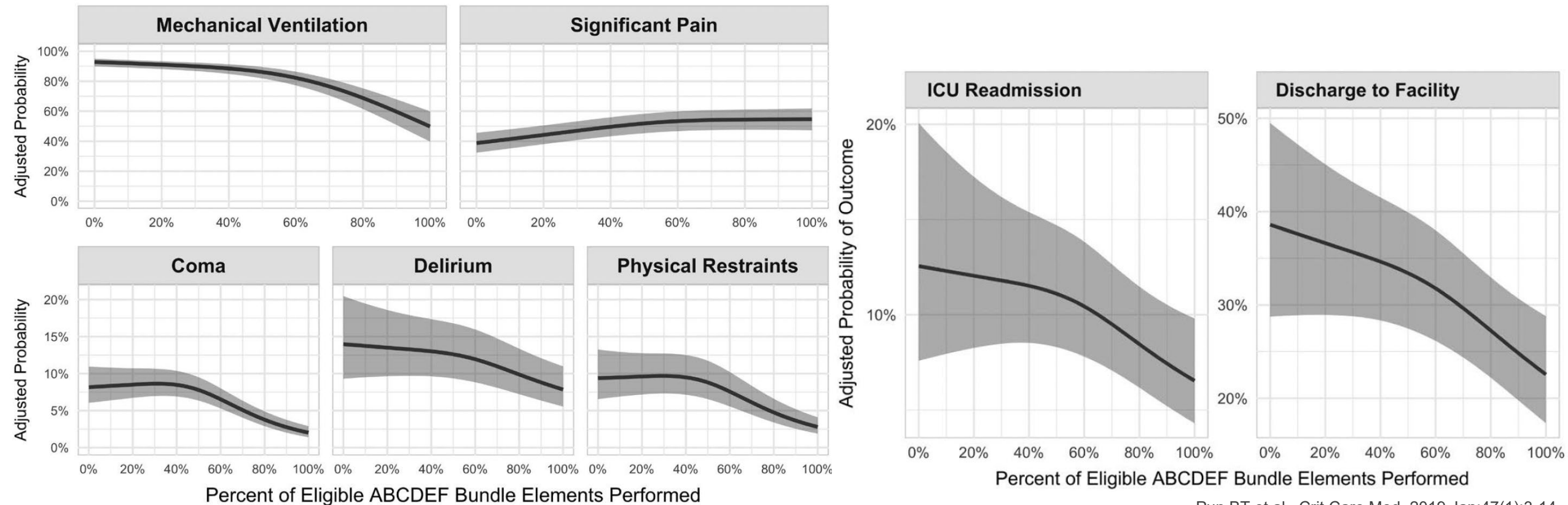
Family engagement & empowerment

- Reorientation, provision of emotional and verbal support
- Cognitive stimulation, participation in mobilization
- Participation in multidisciplinary rounds

Caring for Critically Ill Patients with the ABCDEF Bundle

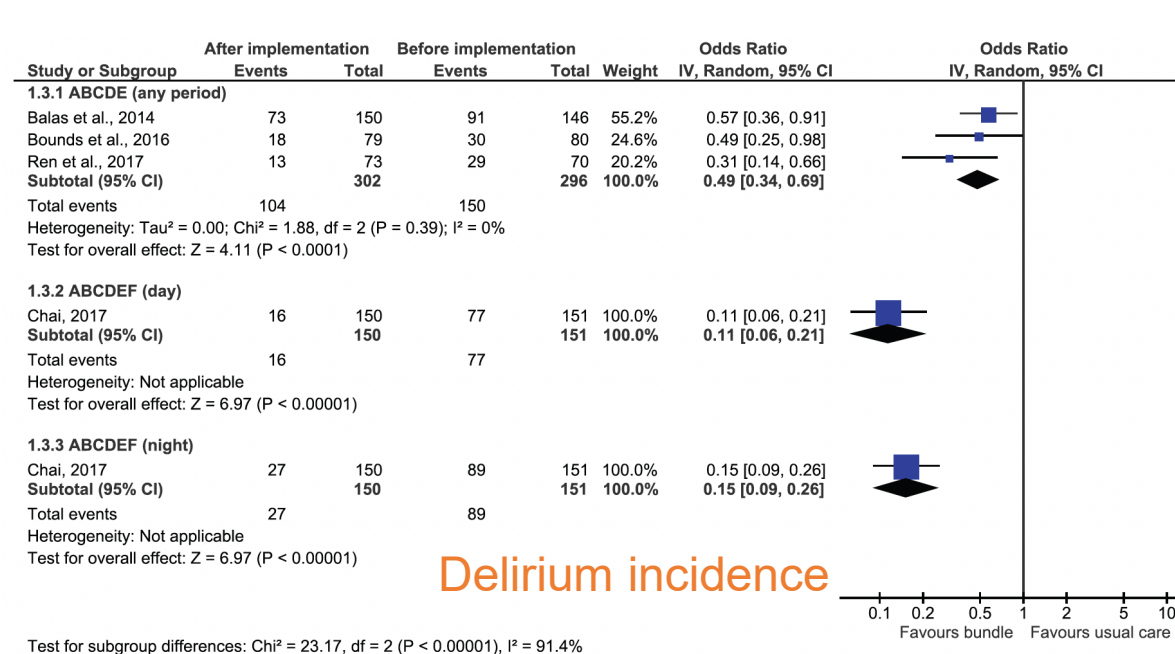
- Prospective cohort study, from 2015 to 2017, 68 ICUs in US
- n= 15,226, **60% age ≥60 years**

ABCDEF bundle performance significantly **improves** outcomes including survival, mechanical ventilation use, coma, delirium, restraint-free care, ICU readmissions, and **post-ICU discharge disposition**.



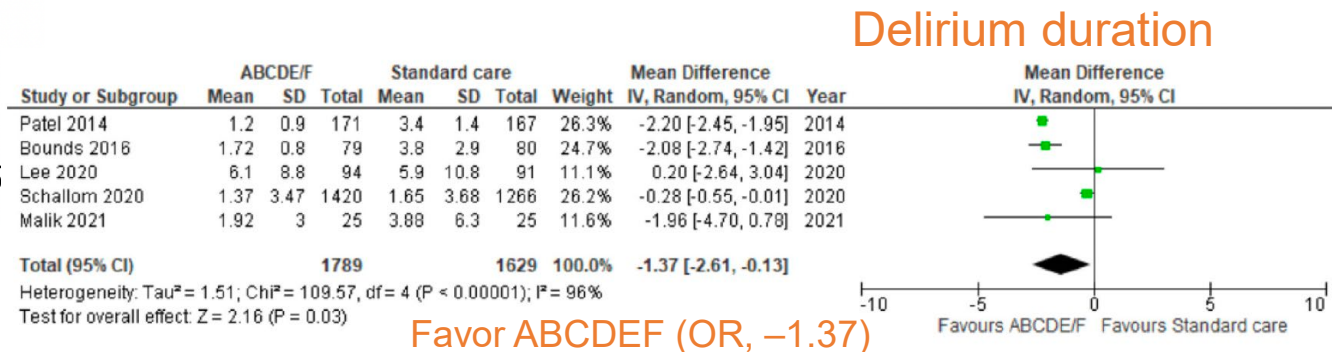
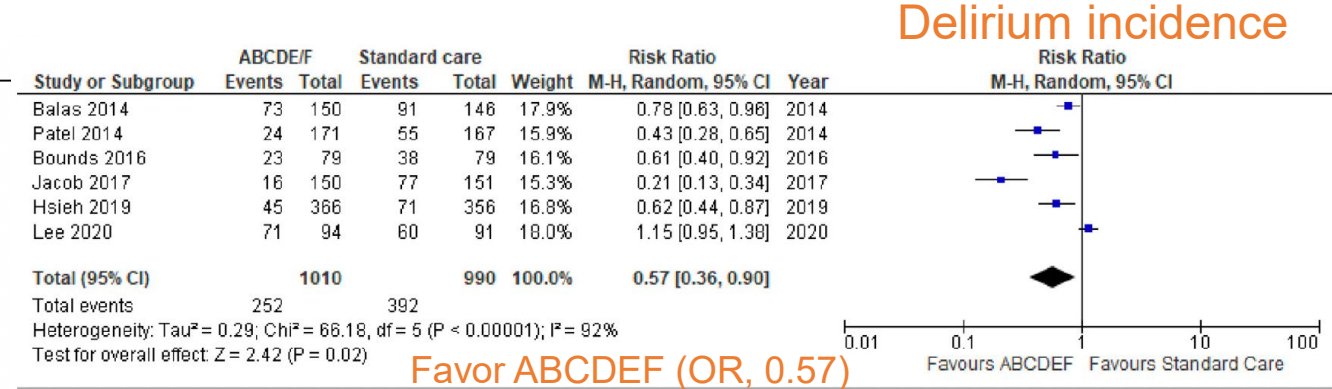
Caring for Critically Ill Patients with the ABCDEF Bundle

Meta-analysis results: implementation of the **ABCDE/ABCDEF** bundles **reduce** length of ICU stay, mechanical ventilation time, **delirium**, ICU and hospital mortality, and **promoted early mobilization** in critically-ill patients



Delirium incidence

Favor bundle care (OR, 0.15)



Other interventions

Meta-analysis including 36 studies (5,165 ICU patients)

Depression

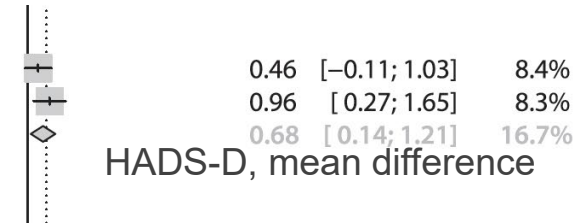
Diary

Garrouste et al., 2012	HADS-D	19	3.7	5.1	33	6.4	6.1
Knowles et al., 2009	HADS-D	18	4.2	3	18	8.3	5.1

Random effects model

Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 15\%$, $\tau^2 = 0.0461$, $\chi^2_1 = 1.18$ ($p = 0.28$)

Test for effect in subgroup: $z = 2.49$ ($p = 0.01$)



HADS-D, mean difference

Anxiety

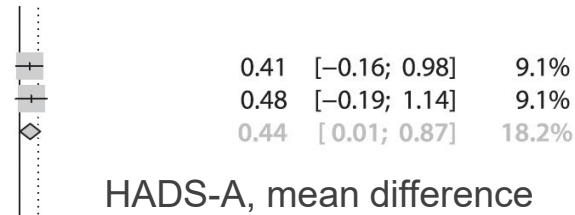
Diary

Garrouste et al., 2012	HADS-A	19	5.0	3.7	33	6.6	4.0
Knowles et al., 2009	HADS-A	18	4.7	3.0	18	6.6	4.5

Random effects model

Heterogeneity: $I^2 = 0\%$, $\tau^2 = < 0.0001$, $\chi^2_1 = 0.03$ ($p = 0.87$)

Test for effect in subgroup: $z = 1.98$ ($p = 0.05$)



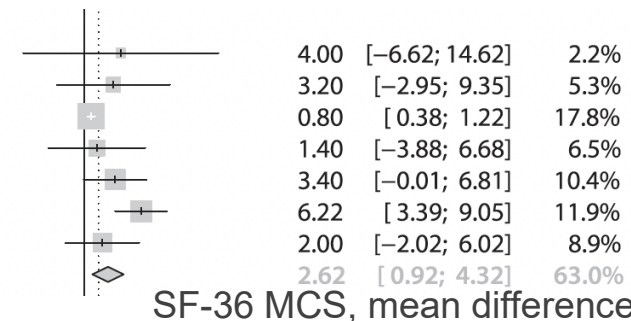
HADS-A, mean difference

Mental score

Exercise

Connolly et al., 2015	SF-36_MCS	10	49.4	10.6	6	45.4	10.3
Denehy et al., 2013	SF-36_MCS	42	47.9	12.3	38	44.7	15.7
Elliott et al., 2011	SF-36_MCS	76	48	1.3	85	47.2	1.4
McWilliams et al., 2016	SF-36_MCS	37	38.4	11.8	36	37	11.2
Morris et al., 2016	SF-36_MCS	82	36.9	10.9	79	33.5	11.2
Shelly et al., 2017	SF-36_MCS	17	50.9	4.2	18	44.6	4.3
Wright et al., 2018	SF-36_MCS	69	47	11.8	69	45	12.3

Random effects model



SF-36 MCS, mean difference

- Diary reduce depression (HADS-D, +0.68) and anxiety (HADS-A, +0.44)
- Exercise improve mental status (SF-36 MCS, + 2.62)

出院後篩檢指引 (Post-ICU Screening Protocol)

篩檢對象 (Target: High-Risk Patients)

具備以下任一特徵的高齡患者：入院前衰弱或認知障礙、曾發生 ICU 譫妄、長期機械通氣、ARDS、敗血症、休克，或早期出現 PTSD 症狀。

篩檢時機 (Timing: Serial Sustained Assessment)

初始篩檢：
出院後 2-4 週內。

動態追蹤：
在重要的健康或生活變化時（如醫療假結束、復健停滯期、重症週年紀念）進行串聯式的反覆評估。PICS 是慢性進程，並非單一時間點的事件。

Tools for the assessment of PICS

PICS 領域 (Domain)	篩檢工具 (Tool)	閾值與建議強度 (Cutoff & Recommendation)
認知 (Cognition)	MoCA (蒙特利爾認知評估)	分數 < 26 提示損傷 (強烈建議)
焦慮與憂鬱 (Mental)	HADS (醫院焦慮及憂鬱量表)	子量表分數 ≥ 8 (強烈建議)
創傷後壓力 (Mental)	IES-R 或 IES-6 (事件衝擊量表)	閾值 > 1.6 或 1.75 (弱建議)
身體功能 (Physical)	6MWT (六分鐘步行測試) / EQ-5D-5L	與常模數據比較 (弱建議)

加護病房後症候群 (PICS)：從風險識別到 ABCDEF 照護組合的早期介入

PICS 風險評估 (RISK FACTORS)

入住前與入住中的
關鍵預測指標
(KEY PREDICTORS: PRE & IN-ICU)


高齡
Advanced Age


基層衰弱
Frailty


嚴重敗血症
Severe Sepsis


ICU > 4 Days



PICS 的三大範疇
(THREE DOMAINS OF PICS)


認知功能下降
(Cognitive Decline:
Memory &
Executive Function)


生理功能障礙
(Physical
Impairment)


心理健康問題
(Mental Health Issues:
Anxiety, Depression,
PTSD)

可調控的危險因子
(MODIFIABLE RISK FACTORS)


長時間使用呼吸器
Prolonged Ventilation


譫妄持續時間
Delirium Duration


低氧血症
Hypoxemia


使用苯二氮平類
Benzodiazepine Use

介入預防：ABCDEF 照護組合 (INTERVENTIONS: ABCDEF BUNDLE)

A: 疼痛管理
Pain Management

B: 喚醒與呼吸練習
Breathing & Awakening Trials

C: 鎮靜藥物選擇
Choice of Sedation


C: 鎮靜藥物選擇
Choice of Sedation


D: 譫妄防治
Delirium Monitoring
& Management


E: 早期活動
Early Mobility


F: 家屬參與
Family Engagement
& Empowerment

完整執行照護組合的顯著效益 (SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS OF FULL IMPLEMENTATION)


降低 7 天內死亡風險
(AHR 0.32)


提升出院返家率
(Increased Home
Discharge Rates)

預後結果改善 (OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT: PUN ET AL. 2019)

	調整後臬算比 (AOR/AHR)	
死亡風險 (Death)	AOR 0.32	顯著降低
譫妄 (Delirium)	AOR 0.00	發生率降低 40%
昏迷 (Coma)	AOR 0.35	發生率降低 65%
呼吸器撤除 (MV)	AOR 0.28	次日脫臬可能性增加

Take home message

- ICU admission of older patients is increasing
- Geriatric syndrome: Delirium, polypharmacy, multimorbidity, frailty
- Frailty is independently associated with outcomes of older patients in ICU
- Specific supportive measurement for older patients
 - ✓ Respiratory support following mechanical ventilation
 - ✓ Lower MAP goal (60 to 65 mmHg) during sepsis
 - ✓ Light sedation, less BZD, consider melatonin at night
- Comprehensive geriatric care prevents PICS
 - ✓ Early palliative care
 - ✓ ABCDEF bundle
 - ✓ Post-acute care, rehabilitation program, follow-up

Thanks for
your attention

