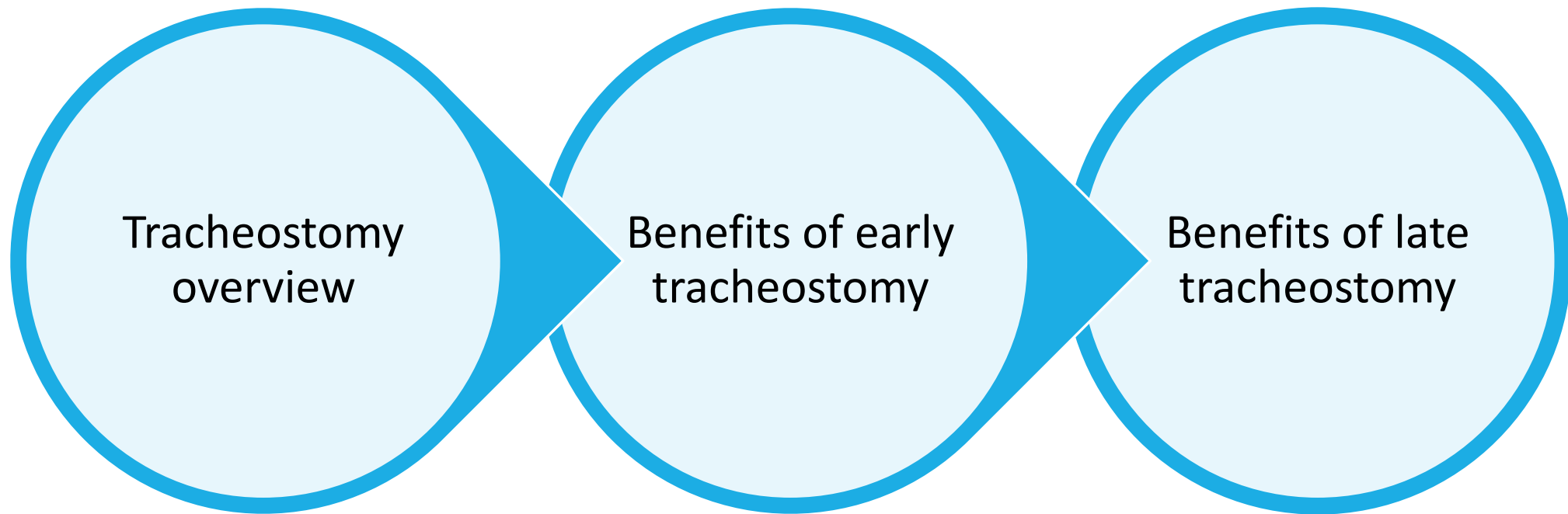




Pro-Con Debate: Tracheostomy Timing in the PICU

CHARMAINE CROOKS-EDWARDS & MICHAEL DERYNCK

Objectives



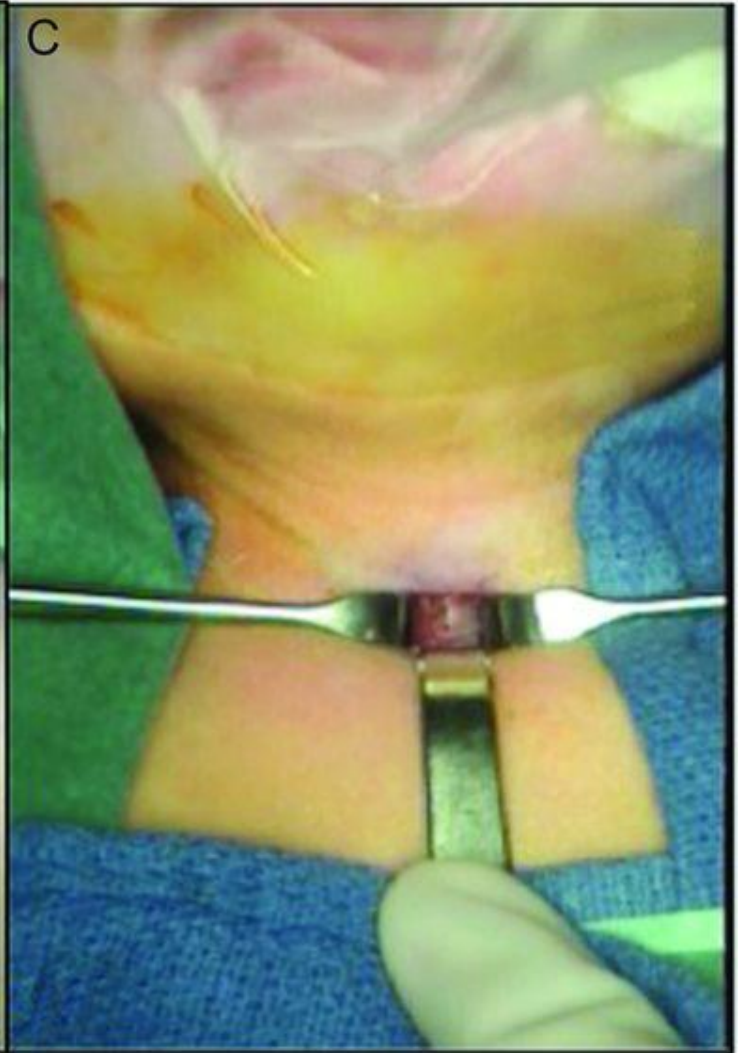
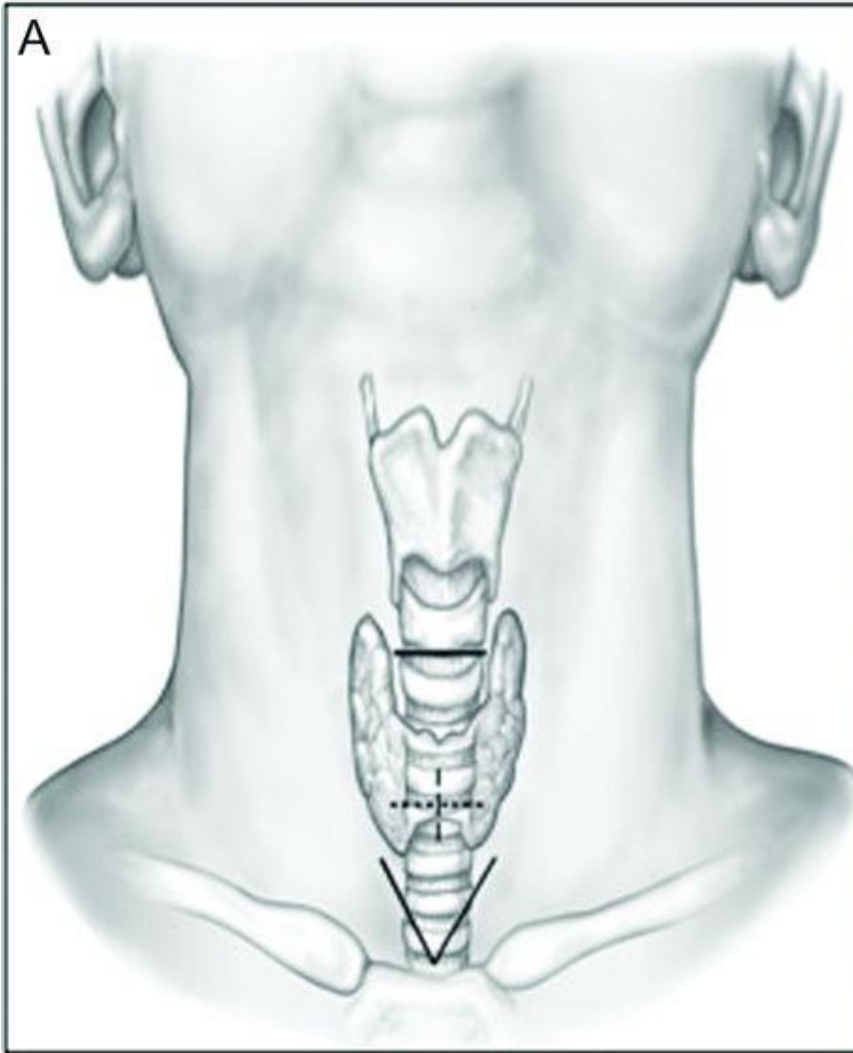


Tracheostomy

Life saving procedure

Varied indications

- Acute airway management
- Upper airway obstruction
- Lower airway ventilation / access

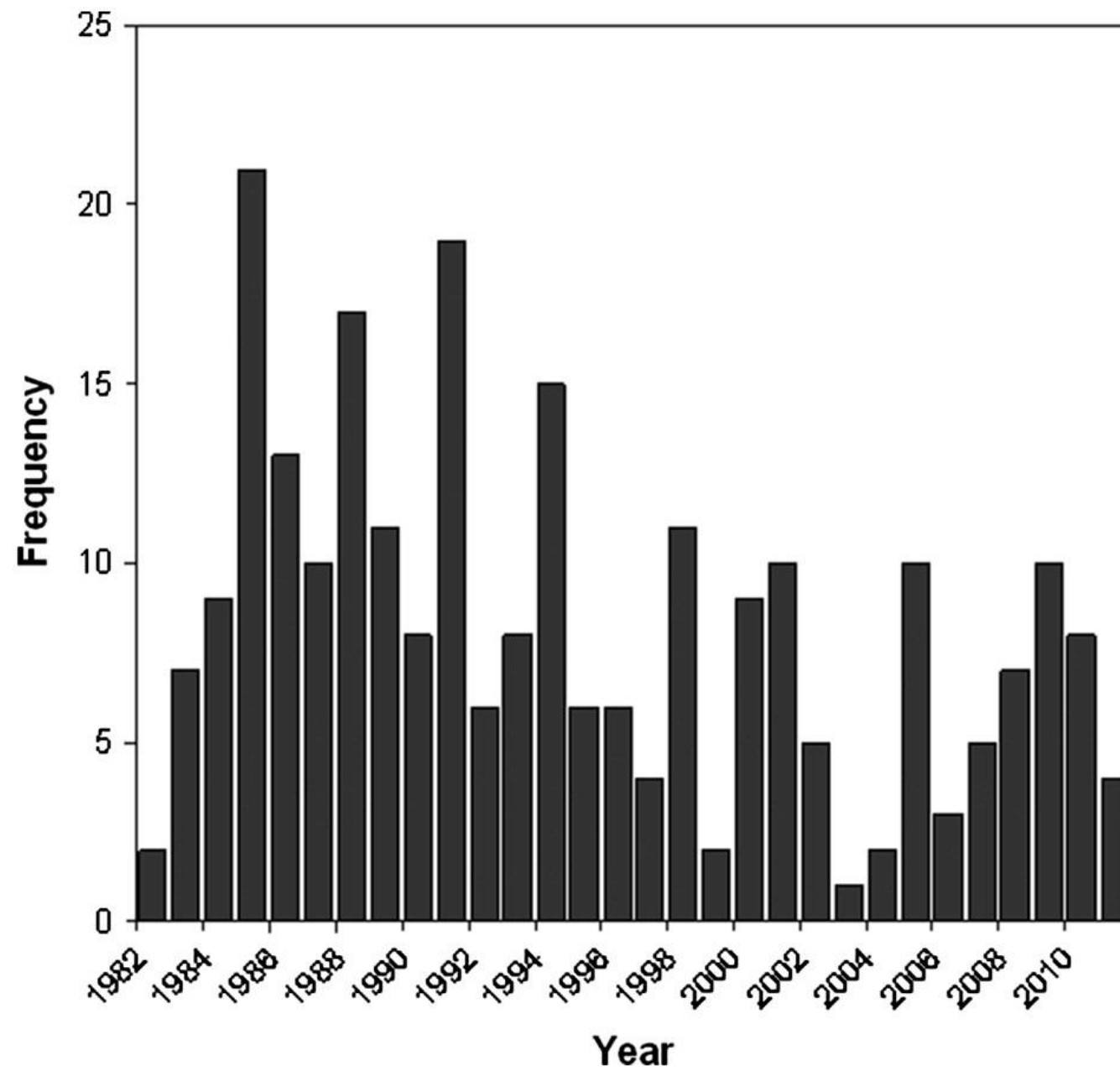


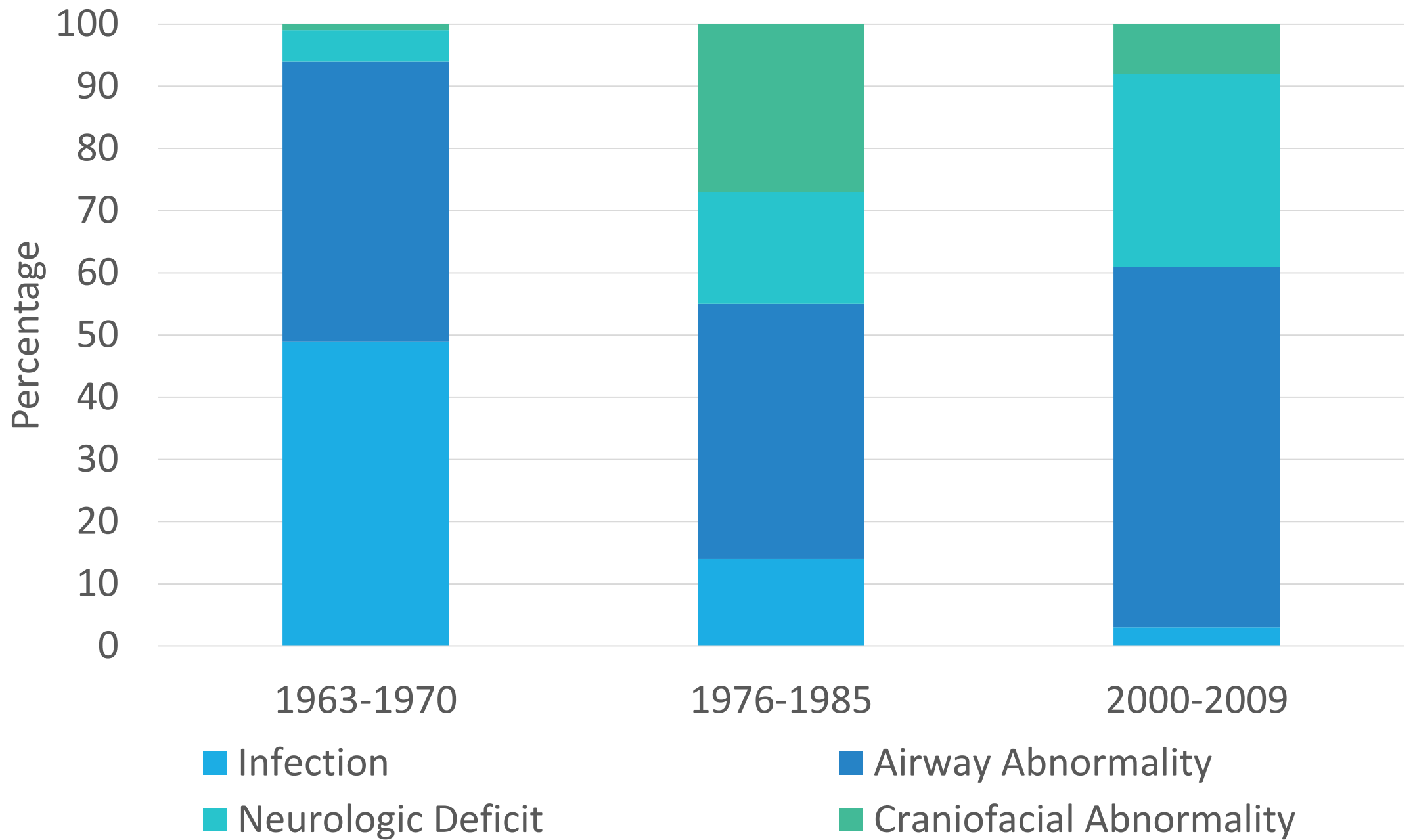






Jackson, C. The Life of Chevalier Jackson: An Autobiography. 1938

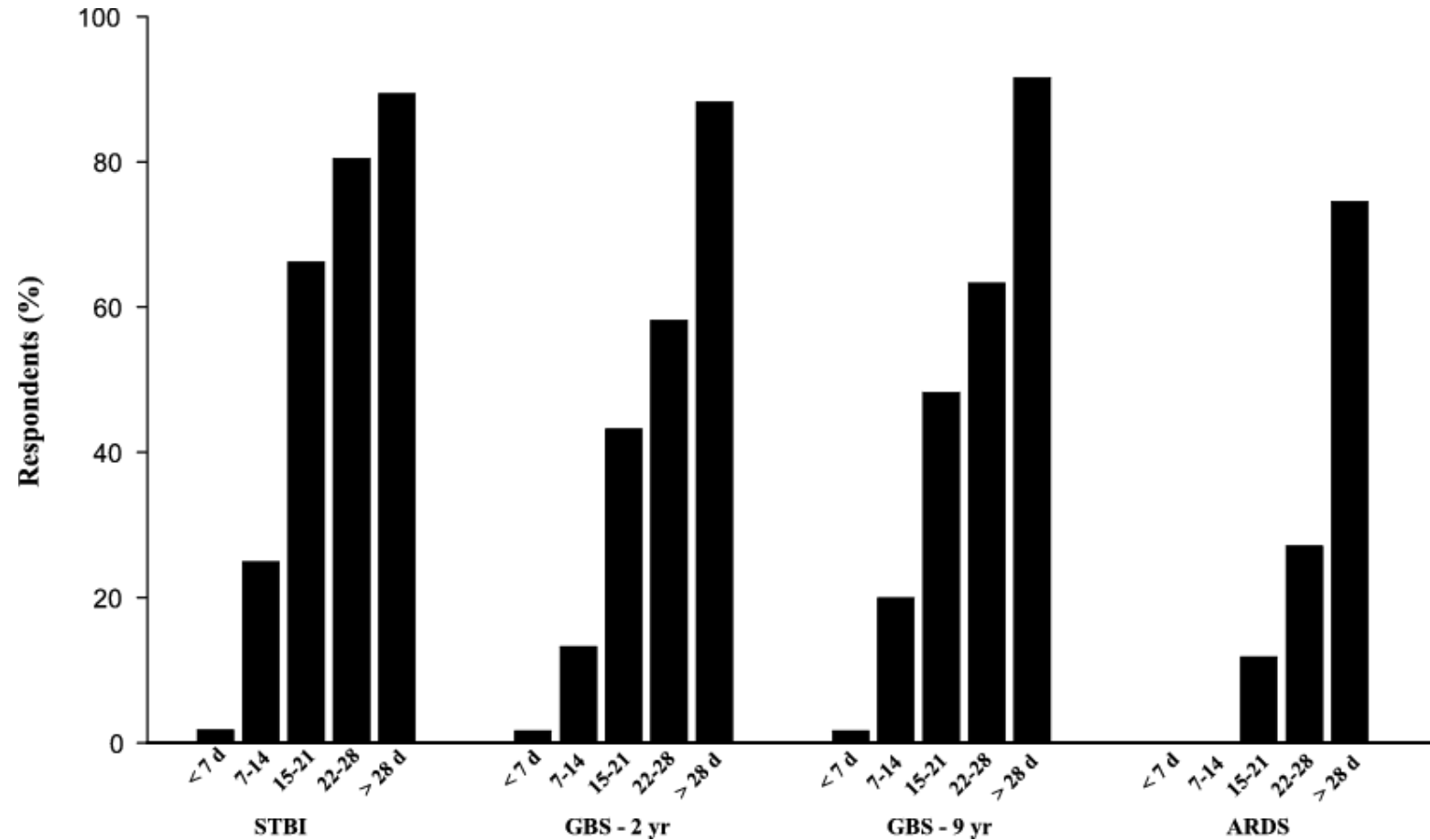




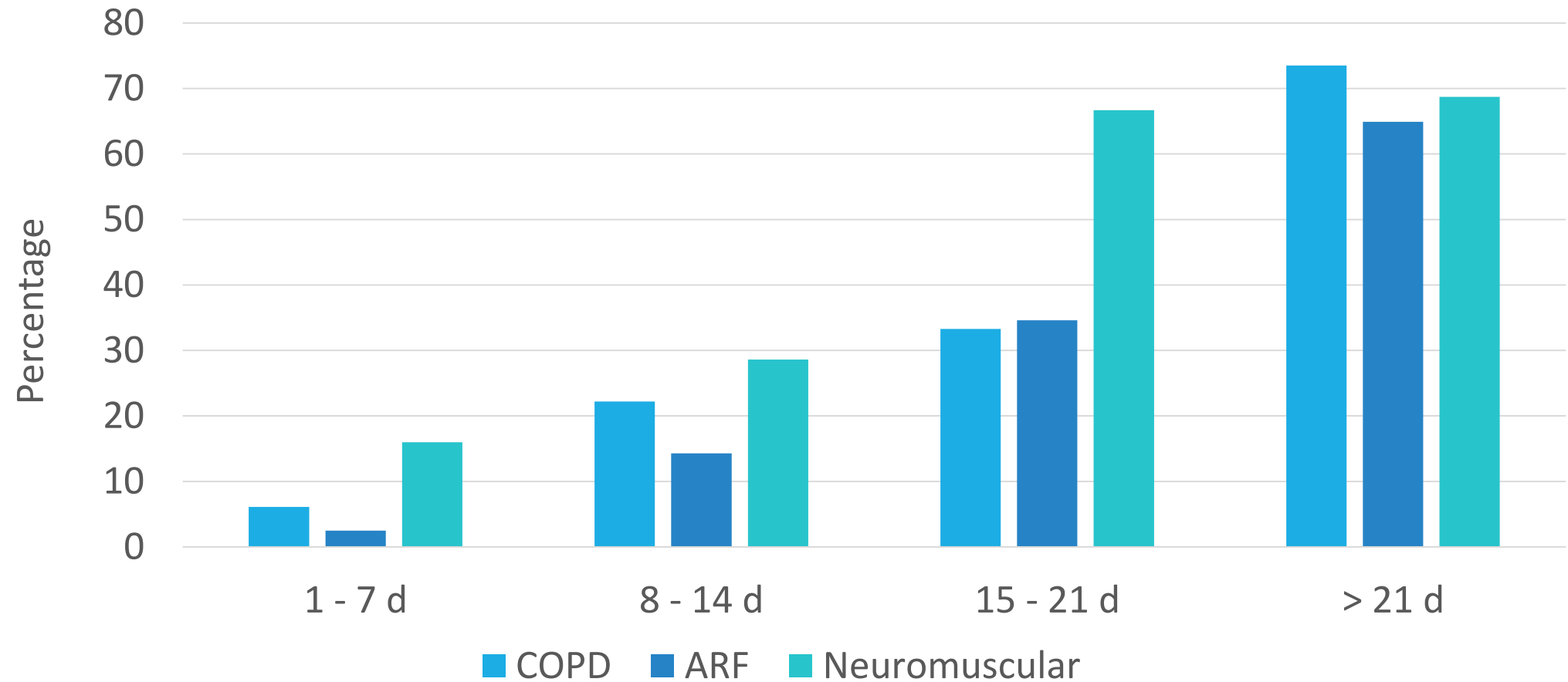
*To track,
or not to track...*



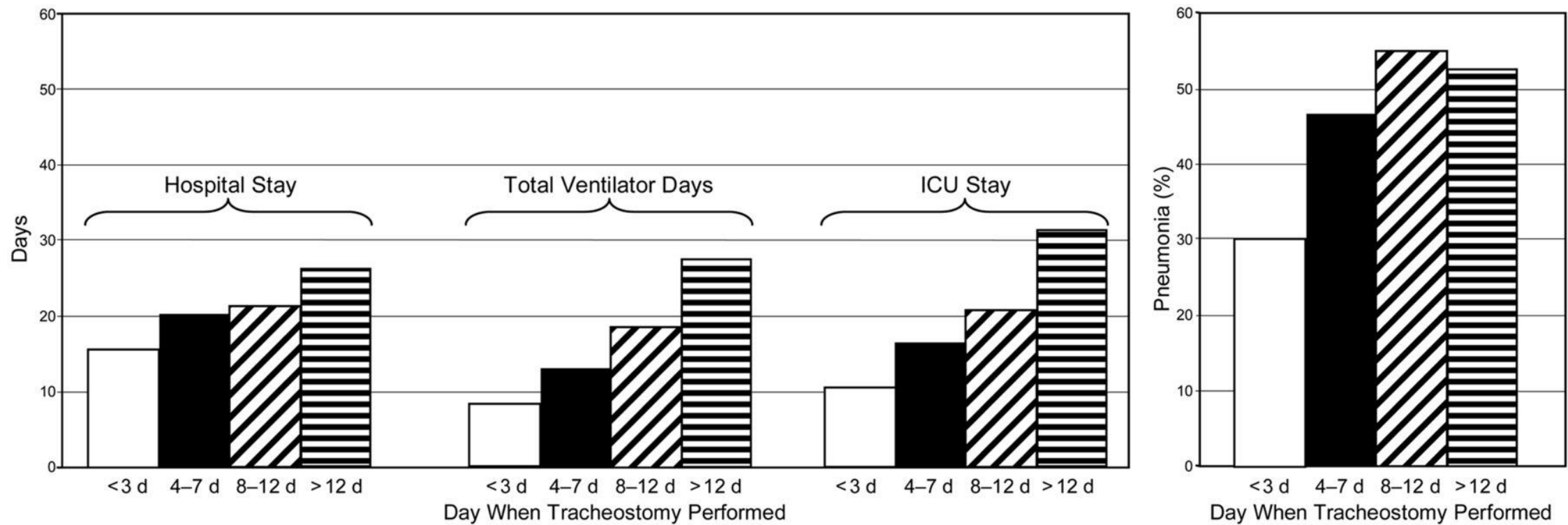
PICU



Adult ICU



Adult ICU



TIME TO GO!



THE BIG

DEBATE

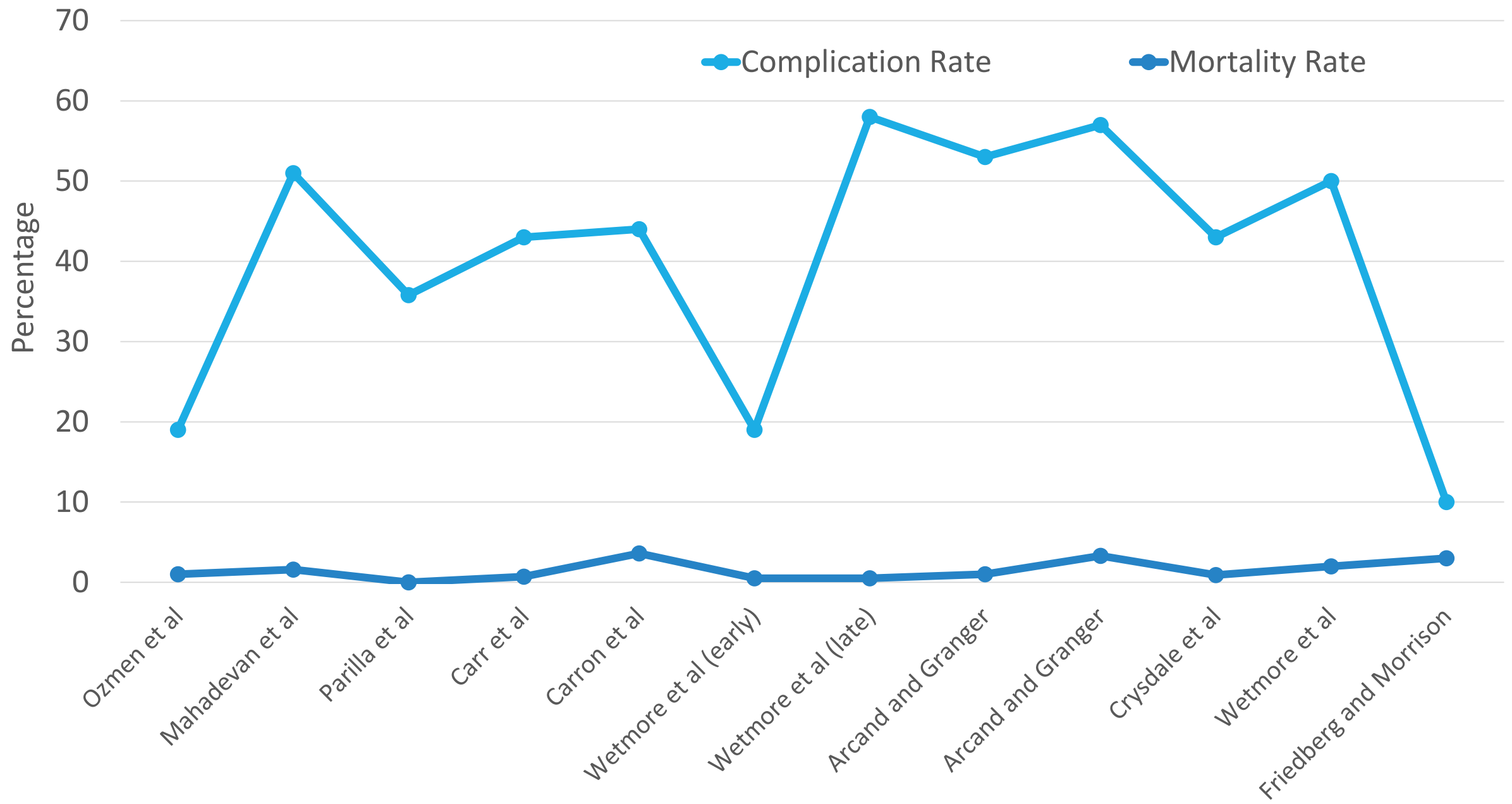
Early tracheostomy is beneficial in the pediatric population

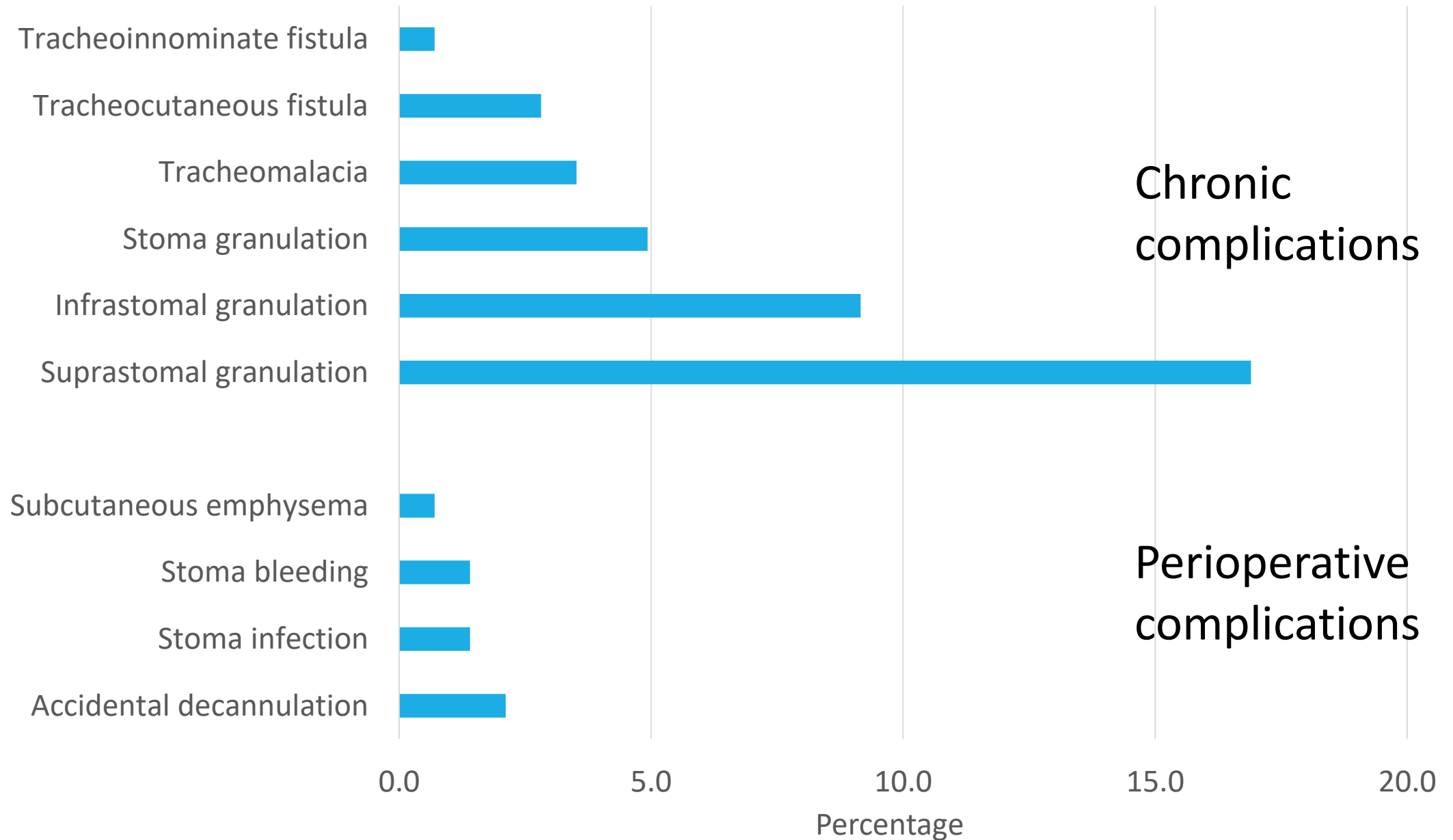
MICHAEL DERYNCK

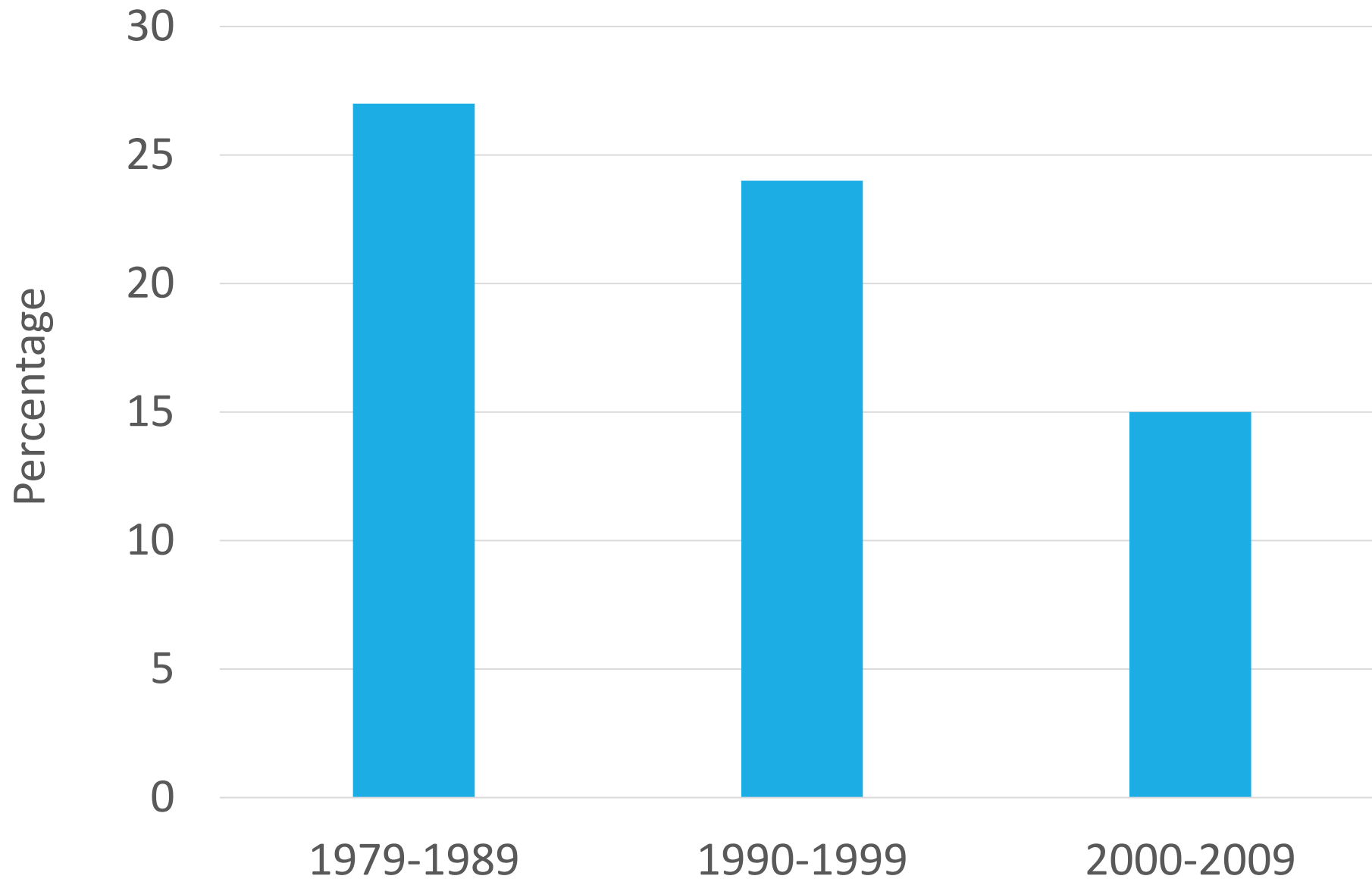
A solid blue horizontal bar spanning the width of the slide at the bottom.

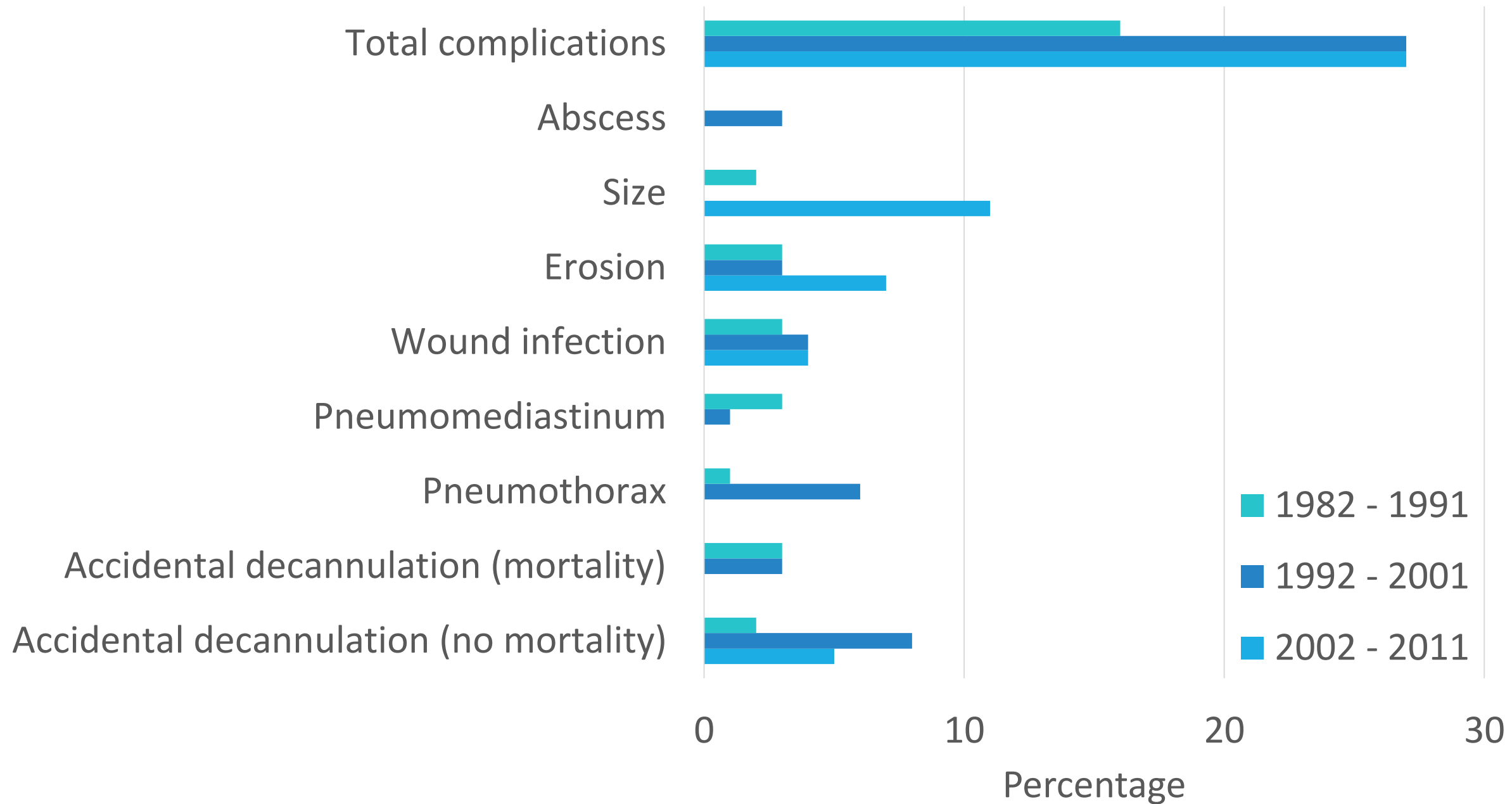
A blurred background image showing a person in a striped shirt and blue pants walking a tightrope in a forest. The person is wearing a red safety harness. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, suggesting sunset or sunrise. The text "Tracheostomy is safe" is overlaid on a black rectangular box in the lower right portion of the image.

Tracheostomy is safe





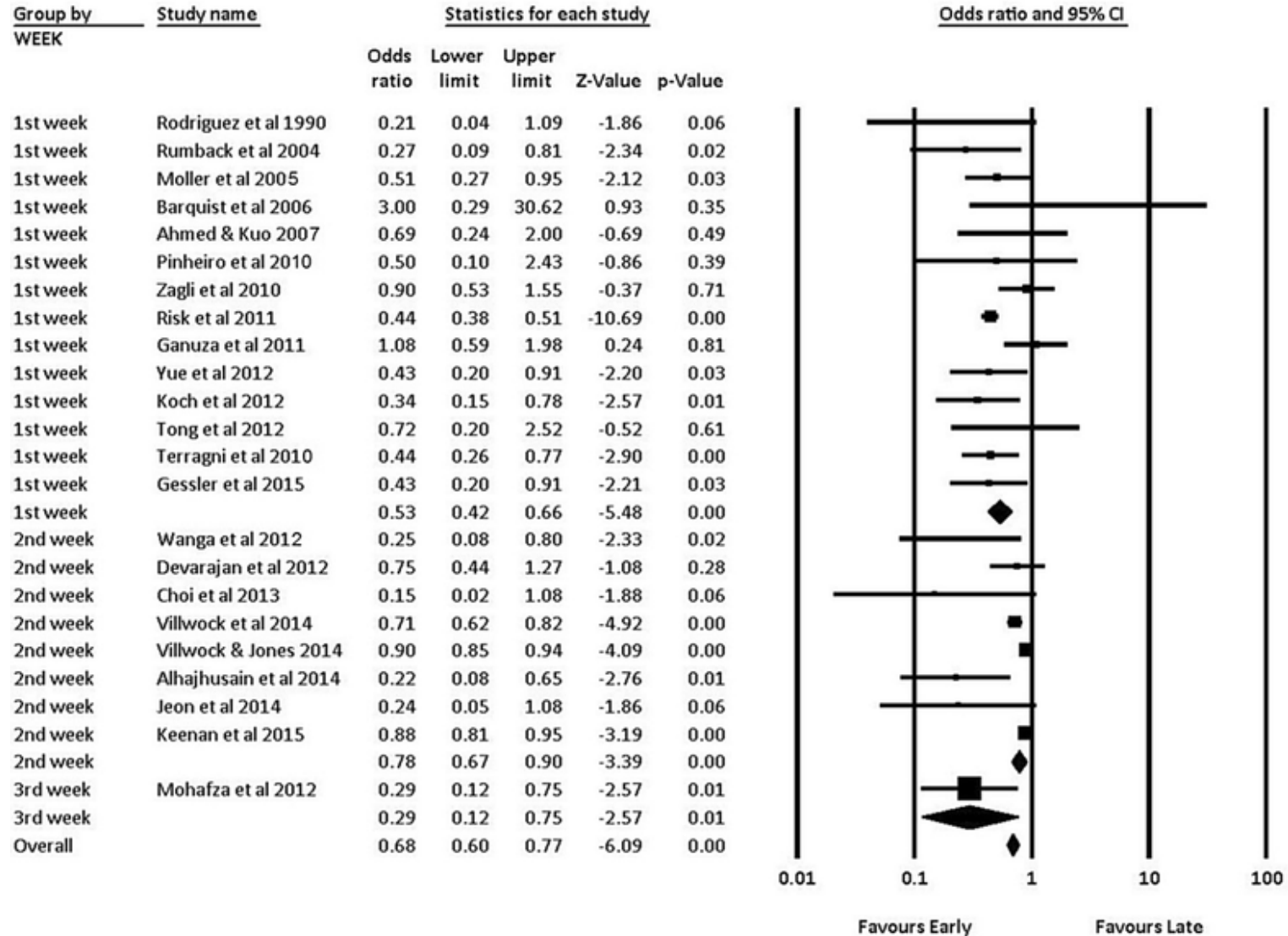






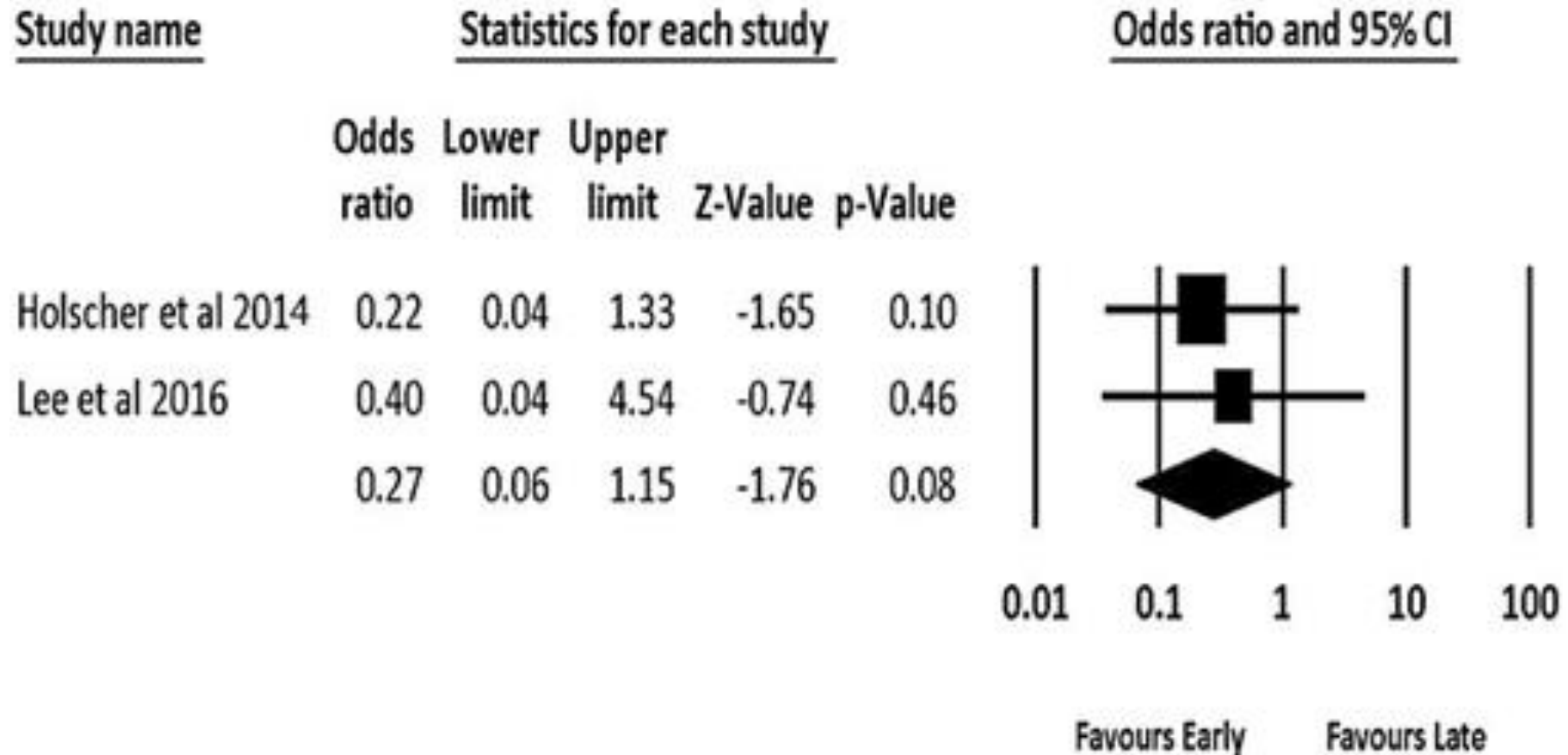
Early tracheostomy improves
health outcomes

Incidence of HAP

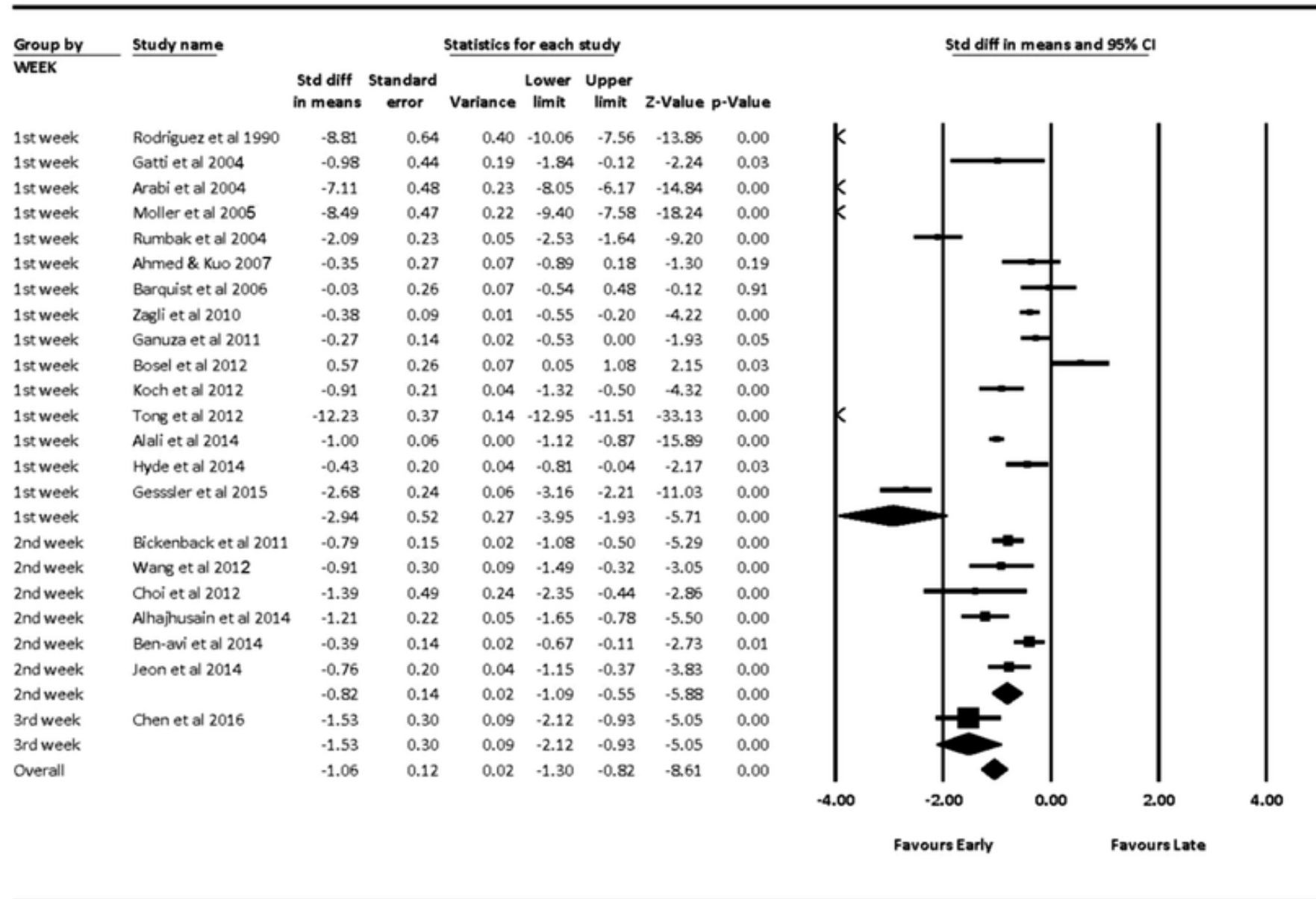


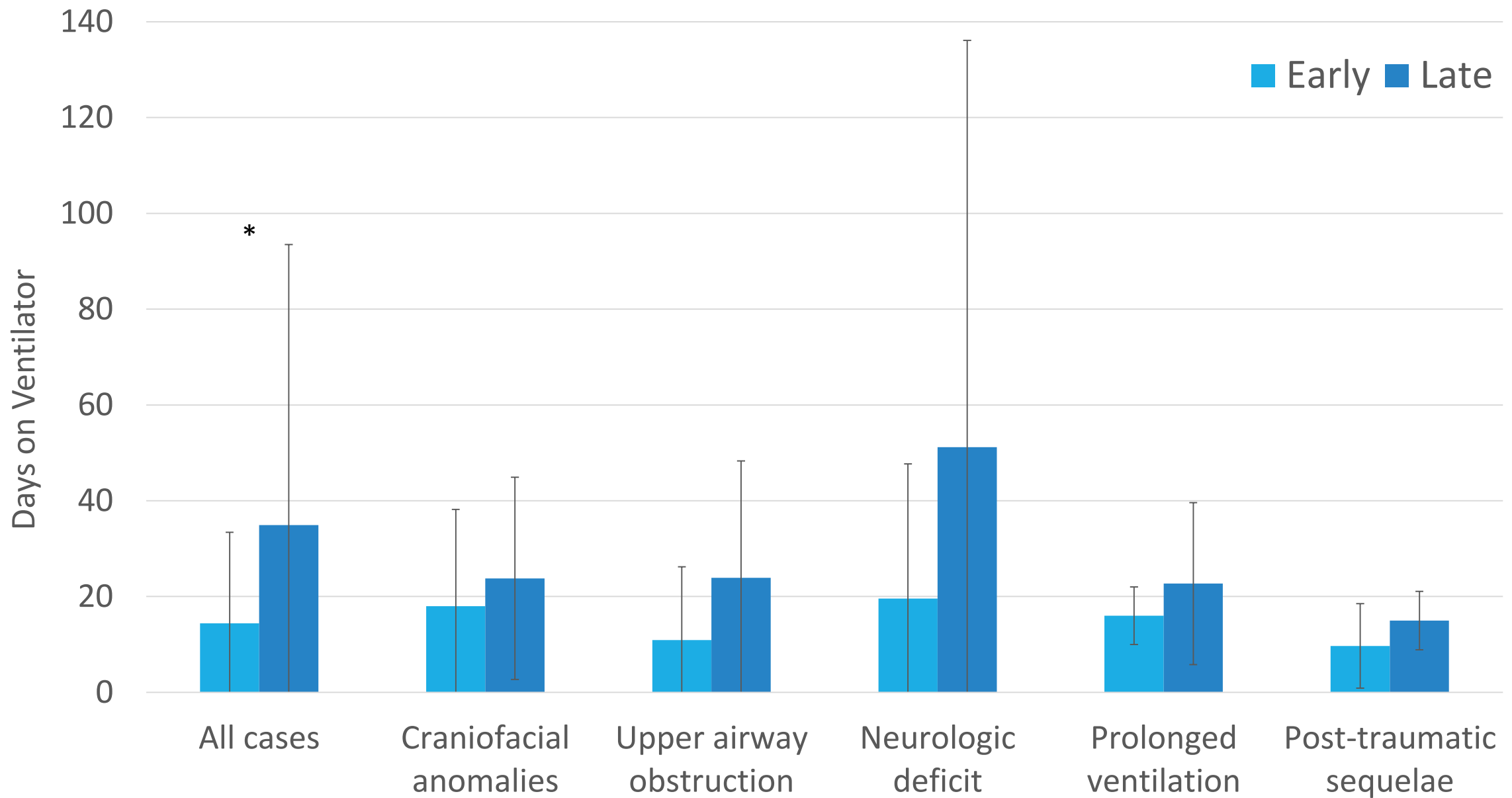
Hospital Acquired Pneumonia

Incidence of HAP



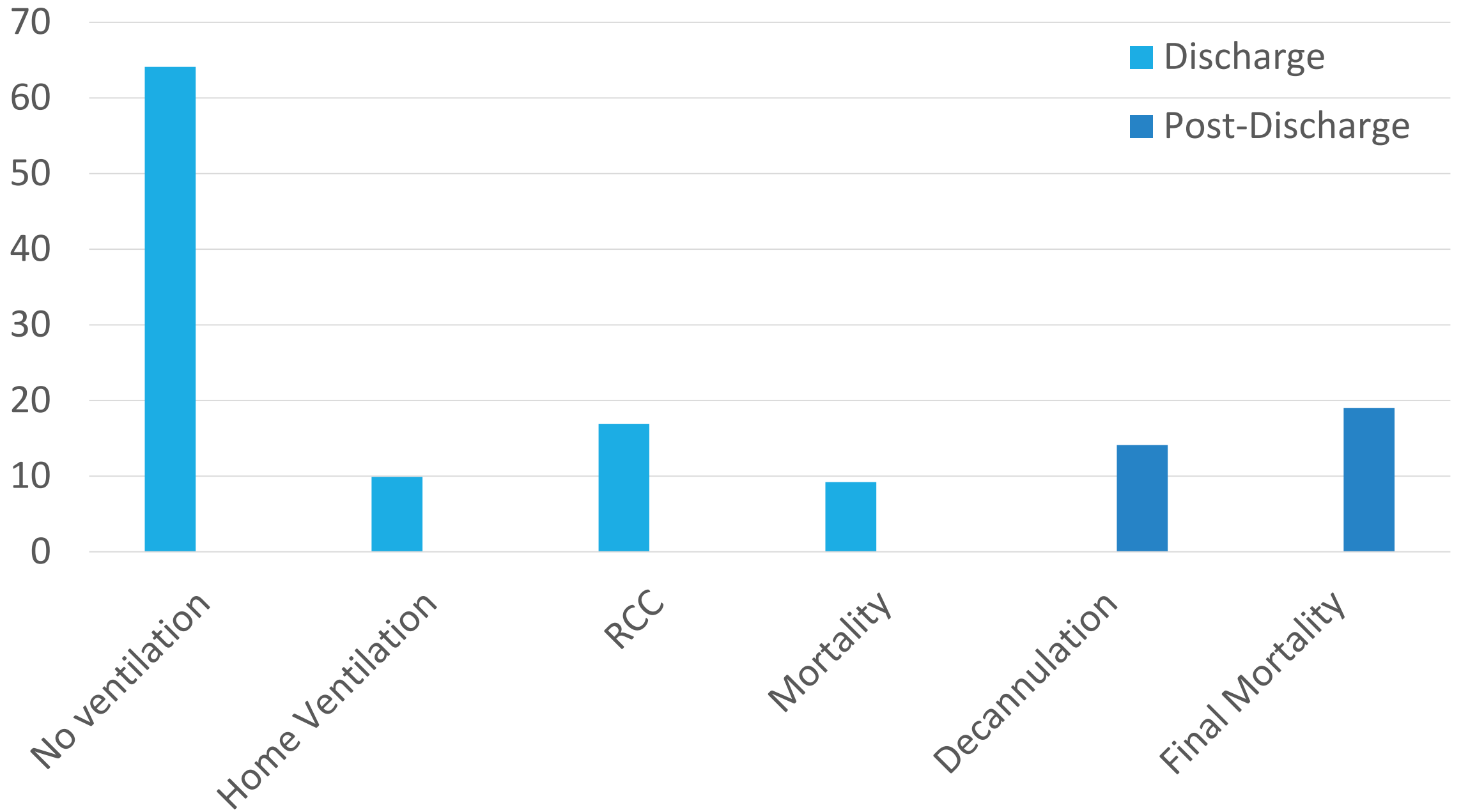
Duration of Mechanical Ventilaton





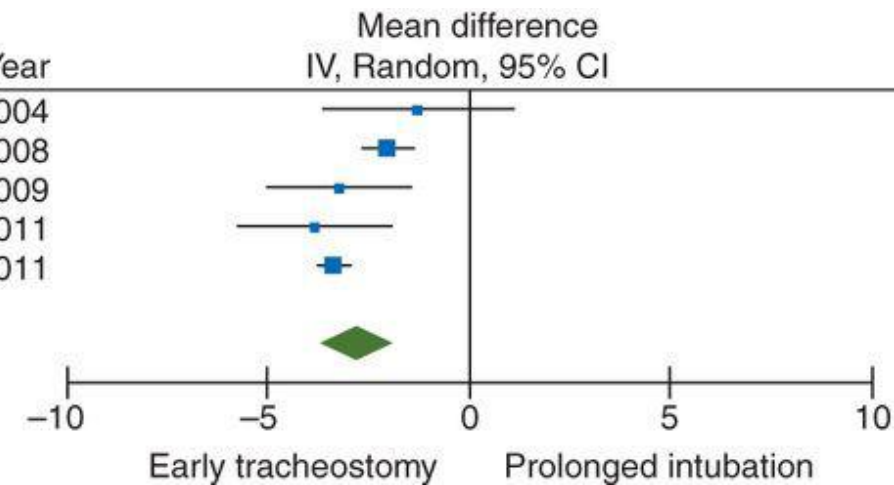


Percentage



Days of Sedation

Study or Subgroup	Early tracheostomy			Prolonged intubation			Weight	Mean difference IV, Random, 95% CI	Year	
	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total				
Blot et al 2008	12.5	6.75	61	13.75	6.75	62	10.1%	-1.25 (-3.64, 1.14)	2004	
Young et al 2013	5	4.44	455	7	5.18	454	29.5%	-2.00 (-2.63, -1.37)	2008	
Trouillet 2011	6.4	5.9	109	9.6	7.3	107	14.8%	-3.20 (-4.97, -1.43)	2009	
Bosel 2012	7.19	3.4	29	11	4	29	13.5%	-3.81 (-5.72, -1.90)	2011	
Zheng et al 2012	7.16	0.8	58	10.5	1.4	61	32.2%	-3.34 (-3.75, -2.93)	2011	
Total (95% CI)			712				713	100.0%	-2.78 (-3.68, -1.88)	
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.61; Chi ² =15.14, df=4 (P=0.004); I ² =74%										
Test for overall effect: Z=6.05 (P<0.00001)										



Sedation Free Days



Endotracheal intubation

- Ease of placement
- No surgery
- Low initial cost / resource use

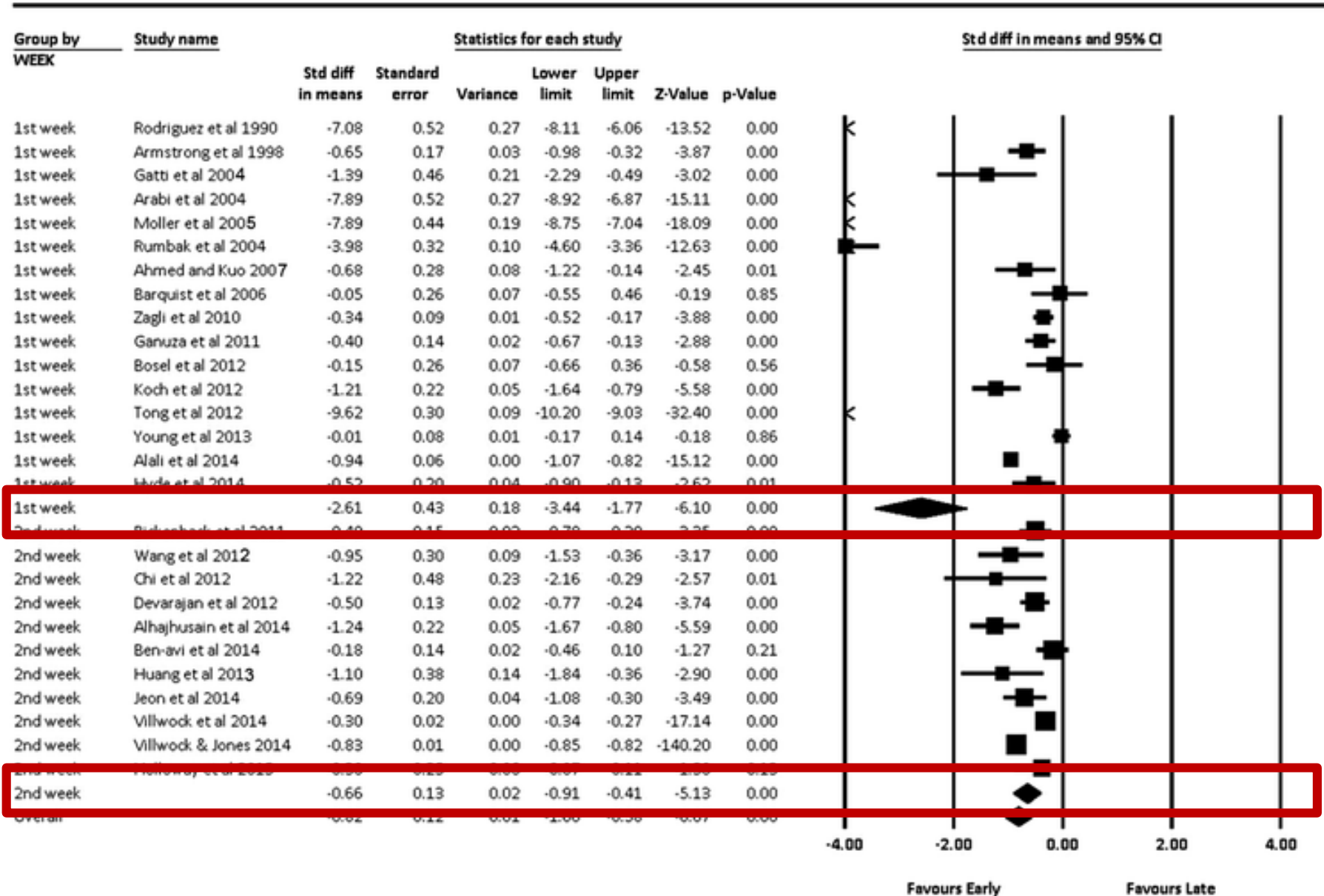
Tracheostomy

- Safety of reinsertion
- Reduced laryngeal damage
- Improved oral hygiene
- Vocalization and communication
- Improved patient comfort
- Better swallowing function
- Improved weaning from mechanical ventilation

A close-up photograph of a silver stethoscope with white earbuds resting on a collection of Euro banknotes. The banknotes are in various denominations, including 10, 20, and 50 Euros, and are slightly out of focus. The stethoscope is the central focus, with its chest piece and tubing clearly visible. The overall image conveys a message about healthcare costs and resource utilization.

Early tracheostomy improves
healthcare resource utilization

ICU Length of Stay

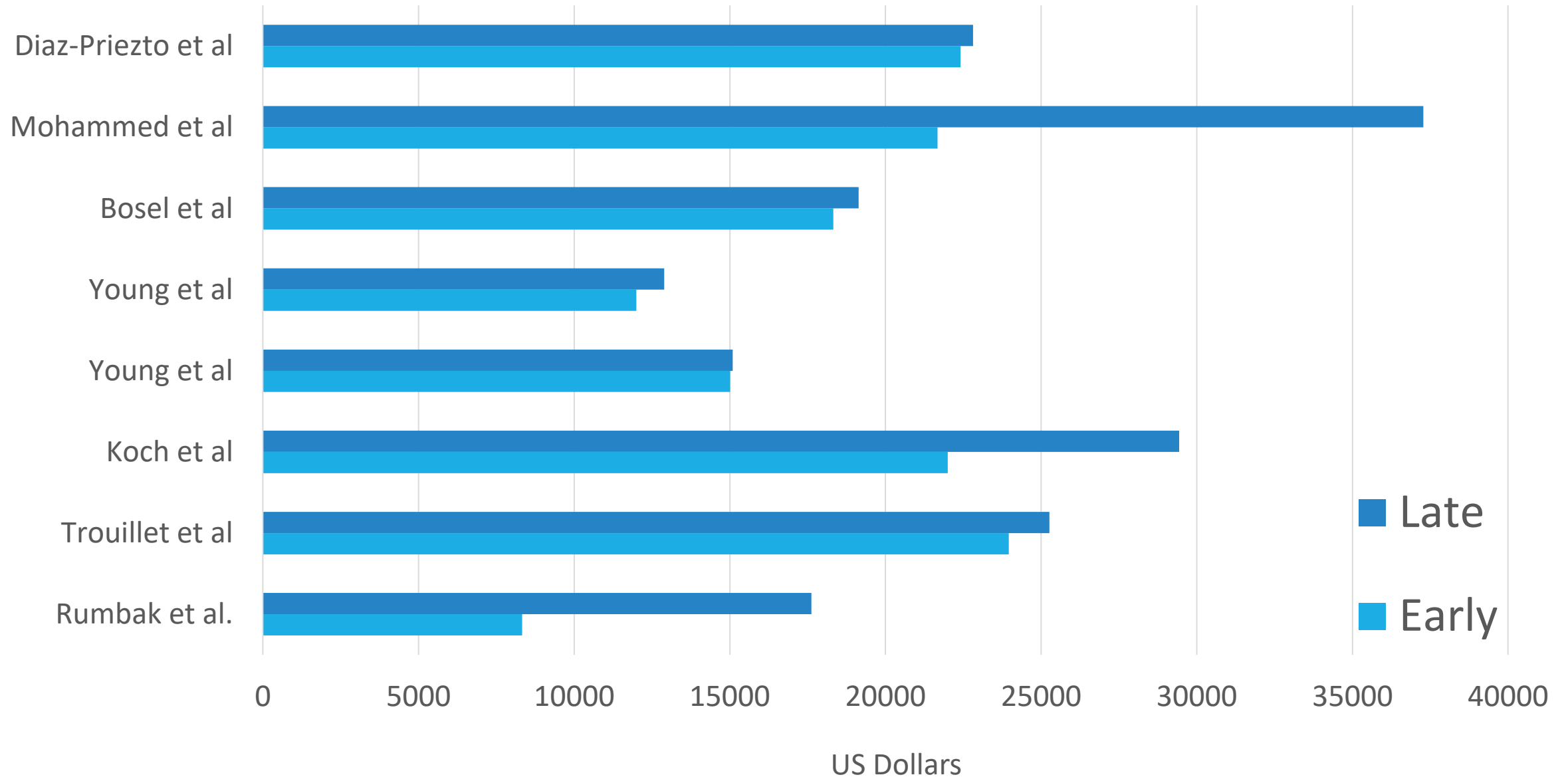


Length of Stay

	<14 days (N= 24)	≥ 14 days (N=49)	P
ICU	15 (7.5-22.5)	19 (12, 35)	0.047
Post-tracheostomy hospital	17 (13.5, 23.5)	22 (16, 41)	0.02
Total hospital	32 (25.5-47.5)	62 (45, 108)	<0.001



ICU Length of Stay
SMD -1.65 (95% CI -2.85 to -0.46)





Early Tracheostomy

Low mortality

Few severe complications

Improved outcomes

- HAP (adult)
- Ventilator independence
- Sedation (adult)
- QOL

Decreased hospital resource use

Late tracheostomy / prolonged intubation

CHARMAINE CROOKS-EDWARDS

To Trach or Not to Trach?

Many considerations in decision making

- Individualised

When is the appropriate time?

Implications of tracheostomy



Indications for Tracheostomy

Prolonged Ventilation

Bypass upper airway obstruction

Airway protection

Pulmonary hygiene to manage secretions.

To Trach or Not to Trach?

More critically ill patients requiring prolonged mechanical ventilation (PMV)

- By 2020, estimated > 600,000 patients in the USA will require PMV ¹

Tracheostomy placement can facilitate this





Prolonged Ventilation

HOW LONG IS TOO LONG?

Prolonged Mechanical Ventilation

Great variability in terminology and definitions

- *National Association for Medical Direction of Respiratory Care (NAMDRRC)*: “the need for more than 21 consecutive days of MV for more than 6 h/day”.
- *European Respiratory Society (ERS) Task Force* : “the need of more than 7 days of weaning after the first spontaneous breathing trial (SBT)”.

Variation in Definition

Reviewed studies with the term prolonged mechanical ventilation or a synonym

Most common terms:

- Prolonged mechanical ventilation (60%)
- Admission to specialized unit (26%)
- Long-term mechanical ventilation (19%)

Some authors (67%) defined cohorts based on duration of mechanical ventilation

- 55% used this as the sole criterion

Variation in Definition

Identified 37 different durations of ventilation

- ranging from 5 hours – 1 year
- > 21 days most common

Surgical cohorts:

- minimum ventilation duration required for inclusion
 - ≥ 24 hours for 20 of 66 studies (30%)

57% (237) of studies did not provide a reason/rationale for definitional criteria used

7% (28) of studies referred to a consensus definition

Conclusions

Substantial variation in terminology and definitional criteria for cohorts of subjects receiving prolonged mechanical ventilation

Standardisation is required for study data to be maximally informative

Early vs. Late

No overall consensus of exact timing

- Early: 48 hours – 10 days
- Late: > 10-14 days,
21-28 days

Paucity of pediatric studies vs. adult cases

What determines the timeframe?





Does timing matter?

CLINICAL EVIDENCE

Effect of Early vs Late Tracheostomy Placement on Survival in Patients Receiving Mechanical Ventilation. The TracMan Randomized Trial

Objective:

- To test whether early vs late tracheostomy would be associated with lower mortality in adult patients requiring mechanical ventilation in critical care units.

Design & Setting:

- Open multicentered randomized clinical trial
- Conducted between 2004 – 2011
- Involving 70 adult general and 2 cardiothoracic critical care units in 13 university and 59 non-university hospitals in the United Kingdom.

Effect of Early vs Late Tracheostomy Placement on Survival in Patients Receiving Mechanical Ventilation. The TracMan Randomized Trial

Participants:

- 1032 eligible patients
 - 909 adult patients breathing with the aid of mechanical ventilation for < 4 days
 - Identified by the treating physician as likely to require at least 7 more days of mechanical ventilation.

Effect of Early vs Late Tracheostomy Placement on Survival in Patients Receiving Mechanical Ventilation. The TracMan Randomized Trial

Interventions:

- Patients randomized 1:1
 - Early tracheostomy (within 4 days) or
 - Late tracheostomy (after 10 days if still indicated).

Main Outcomes & Measures:

- The primary outcome measure was 30-day mortality and the analysis was by intention to treat.

Effect of Early vs Late Tracheostomy Placement on Survival in Patients Receiving Mechanical Ventilation. The TracMan Randomized Trial

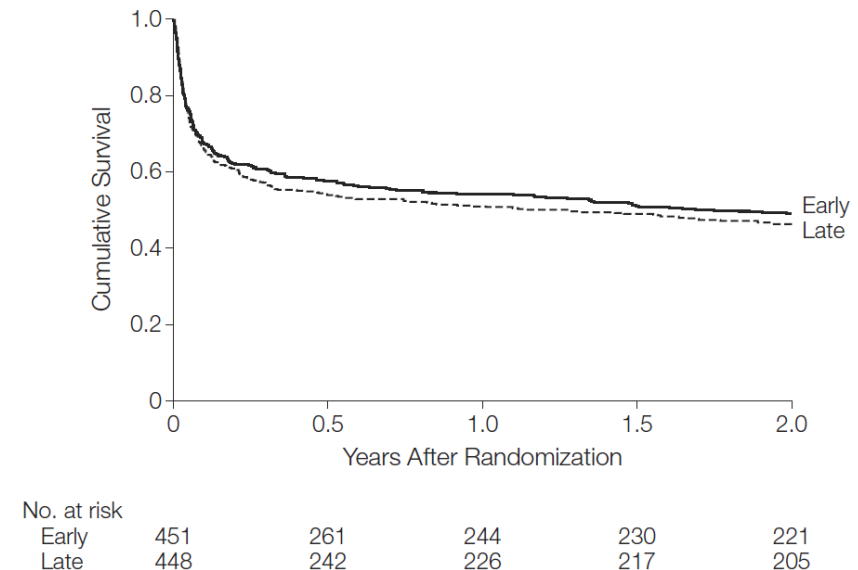
Results:

- Of 455 patients assigned to early tracheostomy, 91.9% (95% CI, 89.0%- 94.1%) received a tracheostomy
- Of 454 assigned to late tracheostomy, 44.9% (95% CI, 40.4%-49.5%) received a tracheostomy.
- **All-cause mortality 30 days** after randomization:
 - 30.8% (95% CI, 26.7%-35.2%) in the early
 - 31.5% (95% CI, 27.3%-35.9%) in the late group
 - (absolute risk reduction for early vs late, 0.7%; 95% CI, 5.4% to 6.7%).

Effect of Early vs Late Tracheostomy Placement on Survival in Patients Receiving Mechanical Ventilation. The TracMan Randomized Trial

- **2 year mortality:**
 - 51.0% (95% CI, 46.4%-55.6%) in the early
 - 53.7% (95% CI, 49.1%-58.3%) in the late group ($P=.74$)
- **Median critical care unit length of stay in survivors:**
 - 13.0 days in the early
 - 13.1 days in the late group ($P=.74$)

Figure 3. Kaplan-Meier Survival Curve to 2 Years After Randomization



The survival of patients by treatment group for 2 years after randomization ($P= .45$, Cox-Mantel log rank test).

Effect of Early vs Late Tracheostomy Placement on Survival in Patients Receiving Mechanical Ventilation. The TracMan Randomized Trial

Conclusions & Relevance:

- For patients breathing with the aid of mechanical ventilation treated in adult critical care units in the United Kingdom, tracheostomy within 4 days of critical care admission ***was not associated*** with an improvement in 30-day mortality or other important secondary outcomes.
- The ability of clinicians to predict which patients required extended ventilatory support was limited.

Tracheostomy in children: an ancient procedure still under debate

Angelo Barbato, Laura Bottecchia and Deborah Snijders

Optimal timing for tracheostomy in children is controversial, outweighing the risk of the procedure and the expected benefits

Expected benefits:

- reduction in duration of mechanical ventilation
- Reduced stay in the intensive care unit (ICU) and hospital
- decrease in morbidity and mortality

Tracheostomy in children: an ancient procedure still under debate

Angelo Barbato, Laura Bottecchia and Deborah Snijders

Surveys in ventilated adults indicate that tracheostomy should be performed medially at 9–13 days of mechanical ventilation.

In ventilated children, the option of tracheostomy is suggested after 21–28 days of mechanical ventilation.

- Possible explanation for this delay
 - *more rapid resolution of acute respiratory distress syndrome in children compared to adults.*

Tracheostomy in children: an ancient procedure still under debate

Angelo Barbato, Laura Bottecchia and Deborah Snijders

Conclusion:

- Tracheostomy is widely performed in children, despite the advances of noninvasive mechanical ventilation.
- However,
 - multicentered studies with large patient cohorts lacking
 - some aspects of tracheostomy still under debate need to be clarified
 - Eg. whether, when and how to perform tracheostomy, and when to stop it

Timing of Tracheostomy in Critically Ill Patients: A Meta-Analysis

Huibin Huang¹, Ying Li¹, Felinda Ariani², Xiaoli Chen¹, Jiandong Lin^{1*}

Abstract

Objective: To compare important outcomes between early tracheostomy (ET) and late tracheostomy (LT) or prolonged intubation (PI) for critically ill patients receiving long-term ventilation during their treatment.

Method: We performed computerized searches for relevant articles on PubMed, EMBASE, and the Cochrane register of controlled trials (up to July 2013). We contacted international experts and manufacturers. We included in the study randomized controlled trials (RCTs) that compared ET (performed within 10 days after initiation of laryngeal intubation) and LT (after 10 days of laryngeal intubation) or PI in critically ill adult patients admitted to intensive care units (ICUs). Two investigators evaluated the articles; divergent opinions were resolved by consensus.

Table 1. Summary Characteristics of the Study.

Study/year published	Ref. No.	ICU setting	Surgical approach	ET group	LT/PI group	Outcome pre-state /Jadad score	VAP definition
Young 2013	11	70 adult general and 2 cardiothoracic CCU	PDT/ST	Within 4 days (n = 451)	After 10 days if still indicated (n = 448)	Mortality, length of ICU stay/3	Not reported
Zheng 2012	9	Surgical patients	PDT	Day 3 of MV (n = 58)	Day 15 of MV (n = 61)	Mortality, duration of MV, length of ICU stay, VAP/5	Using the modified CPIS.
Trouillet 2011	13	Postcardiac surgery ICU	PDT	Before 5 days after surgery (n = 109)	15 d after initiation of MV (n = 107)	Mortality, duration of MV, length of ICU stay, VAP/4	Clinical features with positive BAL cultures
Terragni 2010	25	12 ICUs	PDT	After 6–8 days of laryngeal intubation (n = 209)	After 13–15 days of laryngeal intubation (n = 210)	Mortality, duration of MV, length of ICU stay, VAP/4	Using the modified CPIS.
Bolt 2008	12	25 Medical or surgical ICUs	PDT/ST	Within 4 days (n = 61)	Prolonged endotracheal intubation (n = 62)	Mortality, duration of MV, length of ICU stay, VAP/3	Clinical features with positive BAL cultures
Barquist 2006	26	Trauma center	ST	Before day 8 (n = 29)	After day 28 (n = 31)	Mortality, duration of MV, length of ICU stay, VAP/4	CDC criteria
Rumbak 2004	7	3 Medical ICUs	PDT	Within 48 hr (n = 60)	Days 14–16 of MV (n = 60)	Mortality, duration of MV, length of ICU stay, VAP/4	Clinical features with positive BAL cultures
Bouderk 2004	8	Units for head injury patients	PDT	5–6 days after ICU admission (n = 31)	Prolonged endotracheal intubation (n = 31)	Mortality, length of ICU stay/3	CDC criteria
Saffle 2002	24	Burn ICU.	ST	4 days after burn Injury (n = 21)	14 days after burn injury (n = 23)	Mortality, duration of MV, length of ICU stay, VAP/3	CDC criteria

ICU, intensive care unit; MV, mechanical ventilation; VAP, ventilator-associated pneumonia; CPIS, Clinical Pulmonary Infection Score; CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; ET, early tracheotomy; LT late tracheotomy; PI, prolonged intubation; PDT, percutaneous dilatational tracheostomy; ST, surgery technique; BAL, bronchoalveolar lavage.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0092981.t001

Timing of Tracheostomy in Critically Ill Patients: A Meta-Analysis

Huibin Huang¹, Ying Li¹, Felinda Ariani², Xiaoli Chen¹, Jiandong Lin^{1*}

Results: A meta-analysis was evaluated from nine randomized clinical trials with 2,072 participants. Compared to LT/PI, ET did not significantly reduce short-term mortality [relative risks (RR)=0.91; 95% confidence intervals (CIs)=0.81–1.03; $p=0.14$] or long-term mortality (RR=0.90; 95% CI=0.76–1.08; $p=0.27$). Additionally, ET was not associated with a markedly reduced length of ICU stay [weighted mean difference (WMD)=−4.41 days; 95% CI=−13.44–4.63 days; $p=0.34$], ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) (RR=0.88; 95% CI=0.71–1.10; $p=0.27$) or duration of mechanical ventilation (MV) (WMD=−2.91 days; 95% CI=−7.21–1.40 days; $p=0.19$).

Conclusion: Among the patients requiring prolonged MV, ET showed no significant difference in clinical outcomes compared to that of the LT/PI group. But more rigorously designed and adequately powered RCTs are required to confirm it in future.

Table 1

Characteristics and Results of Randomized Controlled Trials

	ICU Population	Day of Early Placement	Day of Late Placement	Number of patients	Primary endpoint	Benefit
Young 2013 ³⁰	General, Cardiothoracic	≤4	≥10	899	30-day mortality	No
Bösel 2013 ¹³	Neuro (stroke)	1-3	7-14	60	ICU LOS	No
Zheng 2012 ³¹	Surgical	3	15	119	Ventilator free days	Yes
Koch 2012 ¹⁹	Neuro, neurosurgical, surgical	≤4	≥6	100	Hospital mortality	No
Trouillet 2011 ²⁸	Cardiac surgical	≤5	≥19	216	Ventilator free days	No
Terragni 2010 ²⁷	General	6-8	≥13	419	VAP incidence	No
Blot 2008 ¹⁰	Medical, Surgical	≤4	Never/≥14*	123	28-day mortality	No
Barquist 2006 ¹²	Trauma	≤7	≥29	60	Duration of MV	No
Rumbak 2004 ²³	Medical	≤2	14-16	120	Pneumonia	No
Bouderka 2004 ¹⁴	Trauma	5-6	Never	62	Duration of MV	Yes
Saffle 2002 ²⁴	Burn	Next OR day	≥14	44	Duration of MV	No
Sugerman 1997 ²⁶	Trauma	3-5	≥10-14	112	ICU LOS	No
Rodriguez 1990 ²²	Surgical	≤7	≥8	106	Duration of MV	Yes
Dunham 1984 ¹⁵	Trauma	3-4	14	74	Laryngotracheal pathology	No
El-Naggar 1976 ¹⁶	General	3	10-11	52	Patient characteristics	No

* Study did not require late tracheostomy, but if placed had to be after day 14.

ICU = intensive care unit; LOS = length of stay; VAP = ventilator-associated pneumonia; MV = mechanical ventilation; OR = operating room;

To Trach or not to Trach: Uncertainty in the Care of the Chronically Critically Ill.

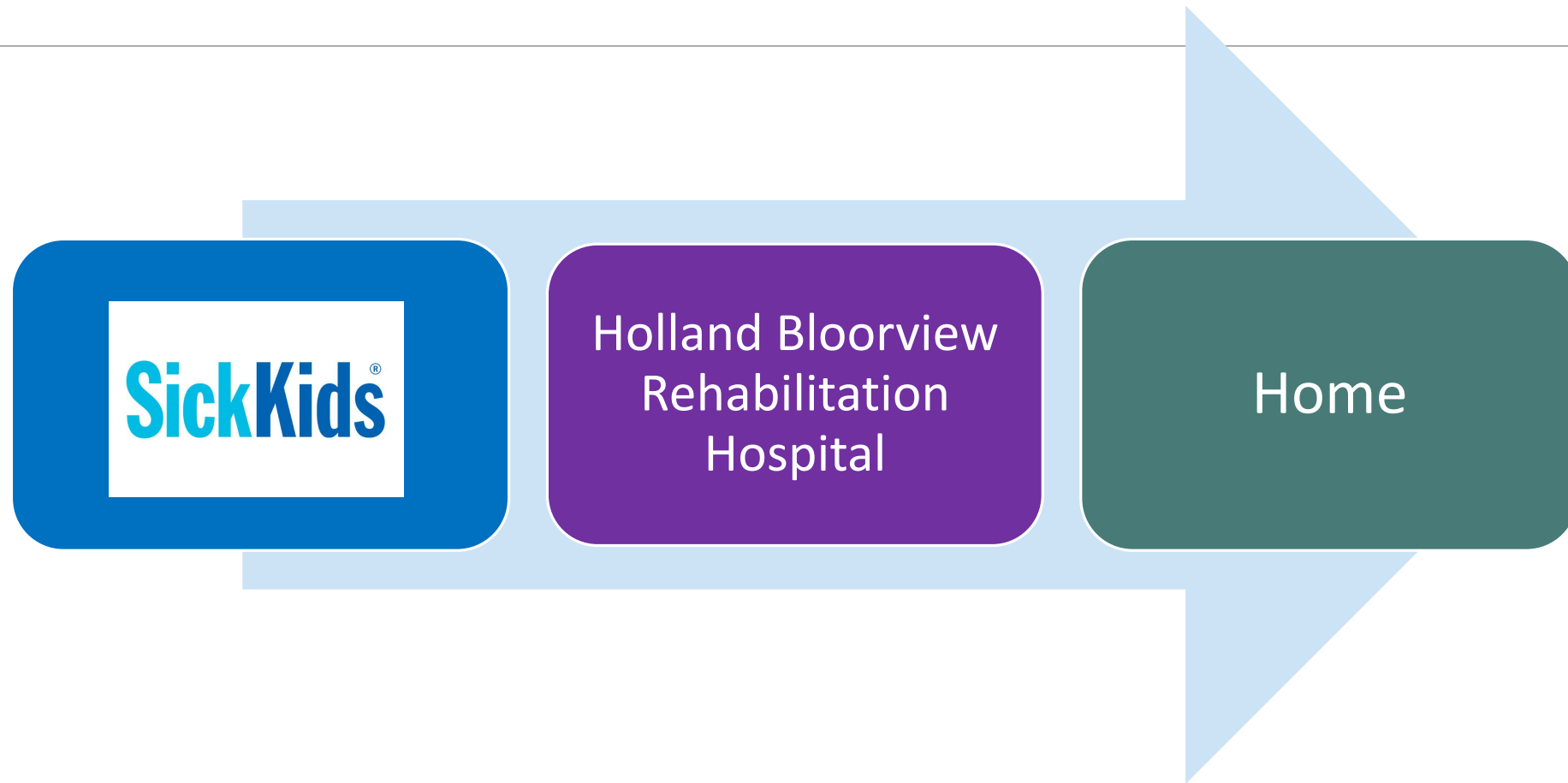
Conclusions:

- Clinicians struggle to accurately predict which patients will require PMV;
- This may be the major factor impacting the effectiveness of a uniform early tracheostomy protocol for mechanically ventilated patients.
- Based on the available evidence, routine placement of tracheostomy prior to day 10 of mechanical ventilation is not indicated.

The Child with 'Trach & Vent'



SickKids' LTV Discharge Pathway



Tracheostomy and long term ventilation (LTV)

Family Milestones



Prerequisites



Minimum of 2 caregivers

Training ~ 8 weeks

Long-term anticipated uncovered costs – min. \$4800 CA/yr

- Home/vehicle modifications
- Community nursing support
- Equipment & supplies
- Hospital/follow up appointments
- Hospitalisation – PICU
- Caregivers - CPR trained
- Emergency kits

Knowledge of routine tracheostomy care & complications

What Home Looks Like!



Courtesy of Dr. Reshma Amin



Challenges

Significant burden for family

Financial

- Loss of income if one parent chooses to stay home
- Start up costs - \$2400 CA
- Annual - \$4800 CA (over government funding)
- Extra nursing cost not covered, site dependent

Lack of privacy with nurses

Caregiver burnout

Family stress

- Spousal
- sibling





Late(r) Tracheostomy

Careful consideration is key

Is it justified?

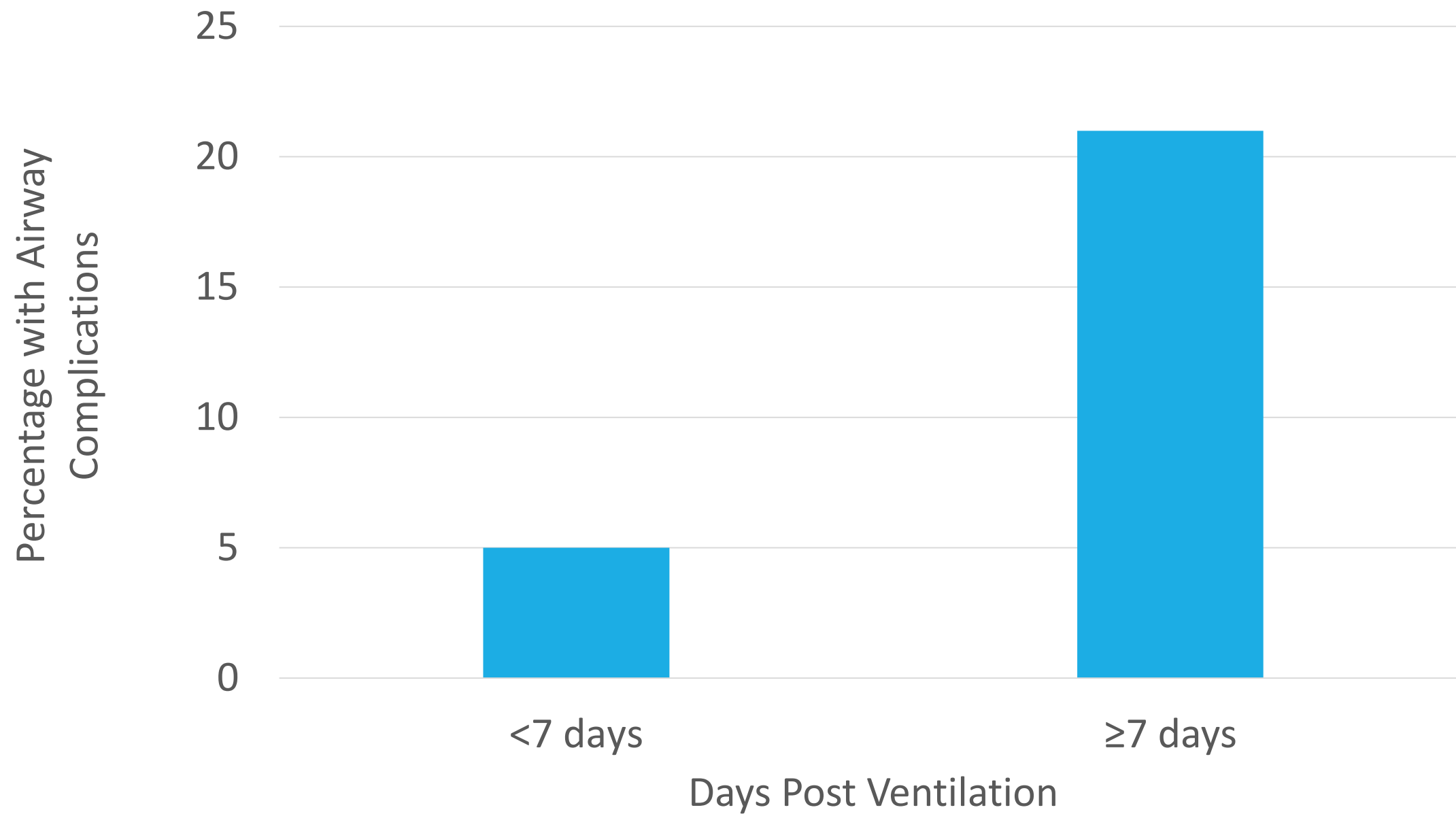
Informed decision & collaborative effort

Meet the patient's goals of care

Rebuttal

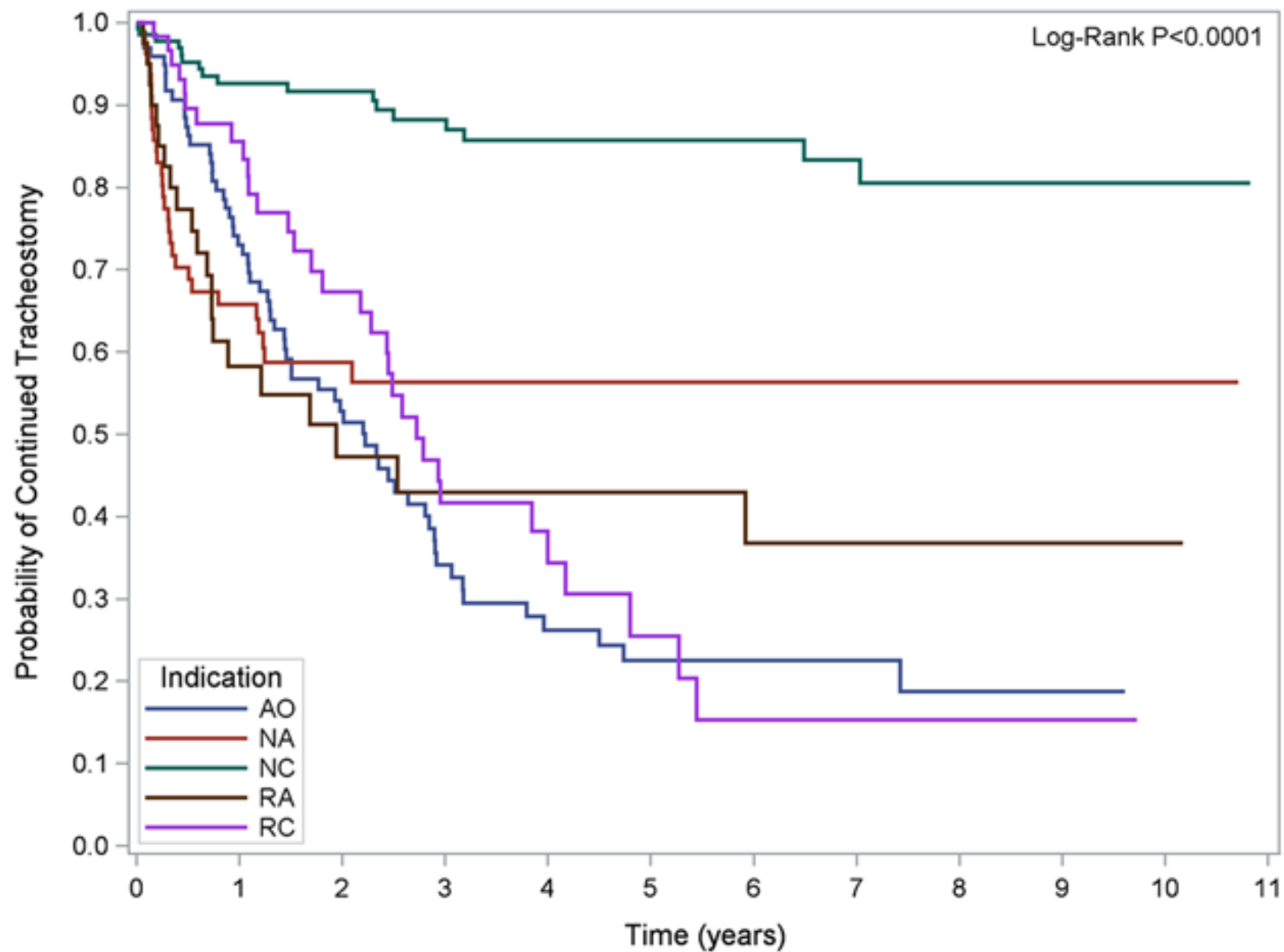
MICHAEL DERYNCK

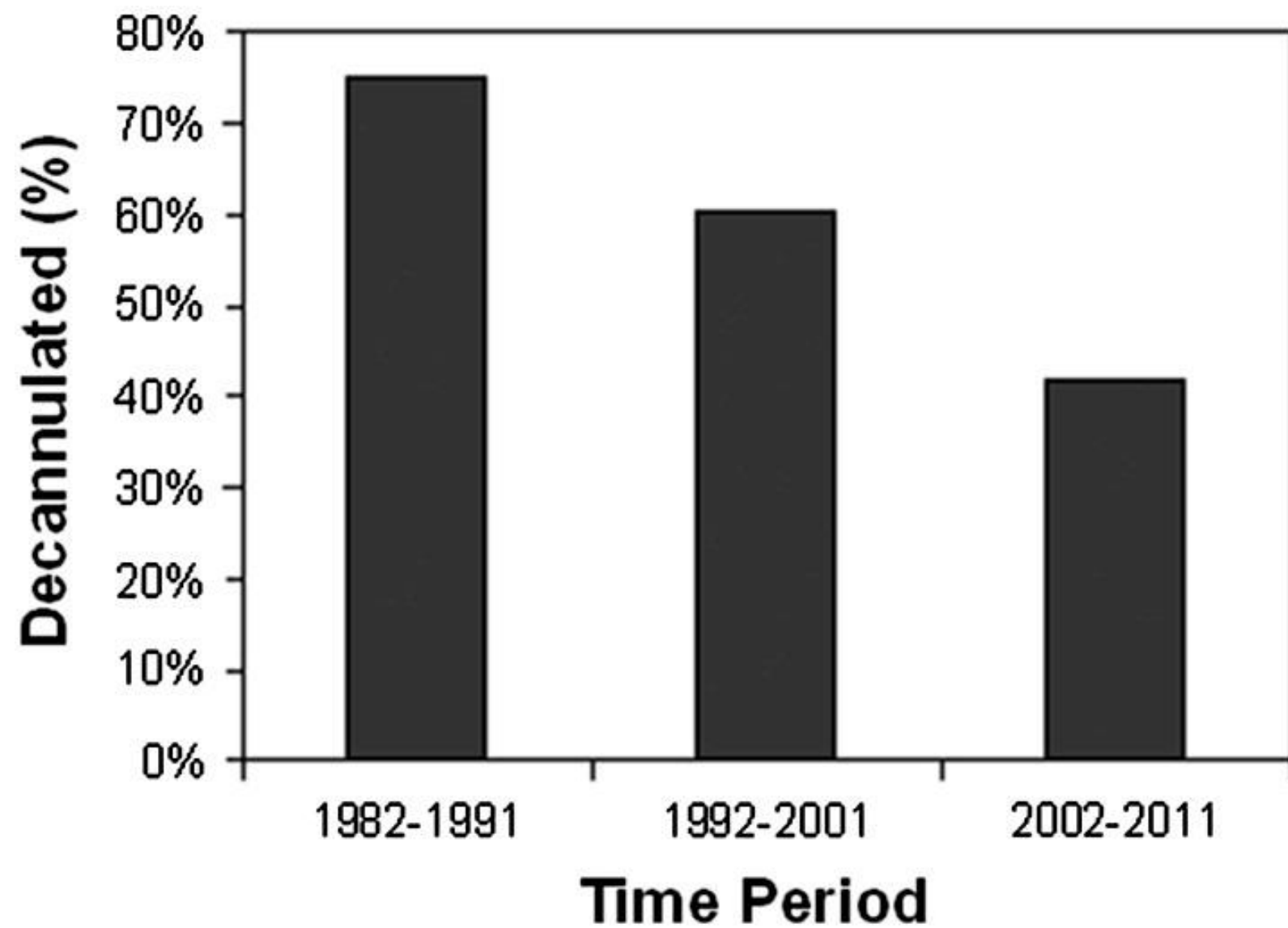


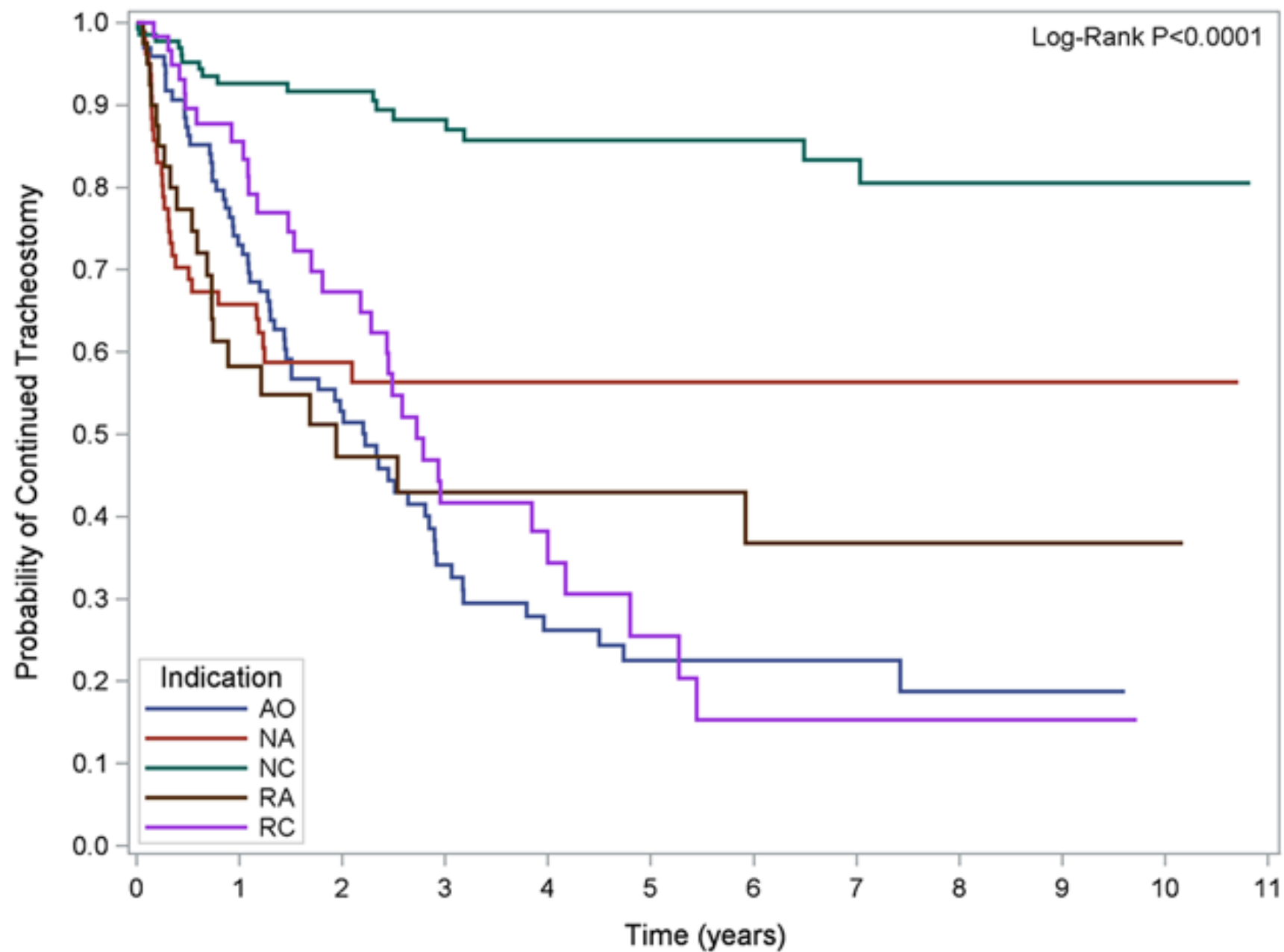




TEMPORARY







E A R L Y



Early tracheostomy

Improvements beyond death

- HAP (adult)
- Ventilator independence
- Sedation (adult)
- QOL

Tracheostomy ≠ forever

Predicted trajectories of major
pediatric indications

Rebuttal

CHARMAINE CROOKS-EDWARDS

Recent PICU Case

7 year old male

Complex Medical History –

- Hypomyelination with atrophy of basal ganglia and cerebellum (HABC)
- Hypoventilation – tracheostomy & ventilation
- Seizure disorder
- GDD
- Sialorrhoea
- Severe GERD – GT/GJ, Ostomy

Tracheostomy done Jan 2013 (16 months old) – parental preference

Frequent readmissions to PICU

Immediate Complications	Early Complications	Late Complications
Hemorrhage	Hemorrhage	Tracheal stenosis
Structure damage to trachea	Tube displacement	Granulation tissue
Failure of procedure	Pneumothorax	Tracheomalacia
Aspiration event	Pneumomediastinum	Pneumonia
Air embolism	Subcutaneous emphysema	Aspiration event
Loss of airway	Stomal infection	Tracheoarterial fistula
Death	Stomal ulceration	Tracheoesophageal fistula
Hypoxemia, hypercarbia	Accidental decannulation	Accidental decannulation
	Dysphagia	Dysphagia



The timing of tracheostomy in critically ill patients undergoing mechanical ventilation: systematic review & meta-analysis of RCTS.

Early or late tracheotomy for critically ill ventilated patients

Systematic review of 7 RCT trials (n = 1,044)

No difference in:

- short-term or long-term mortality
- ventilator-associated pneumonia
- duration of mechanical ventilation
- Sedation
- duration of stay in ICU or hospital
- complications

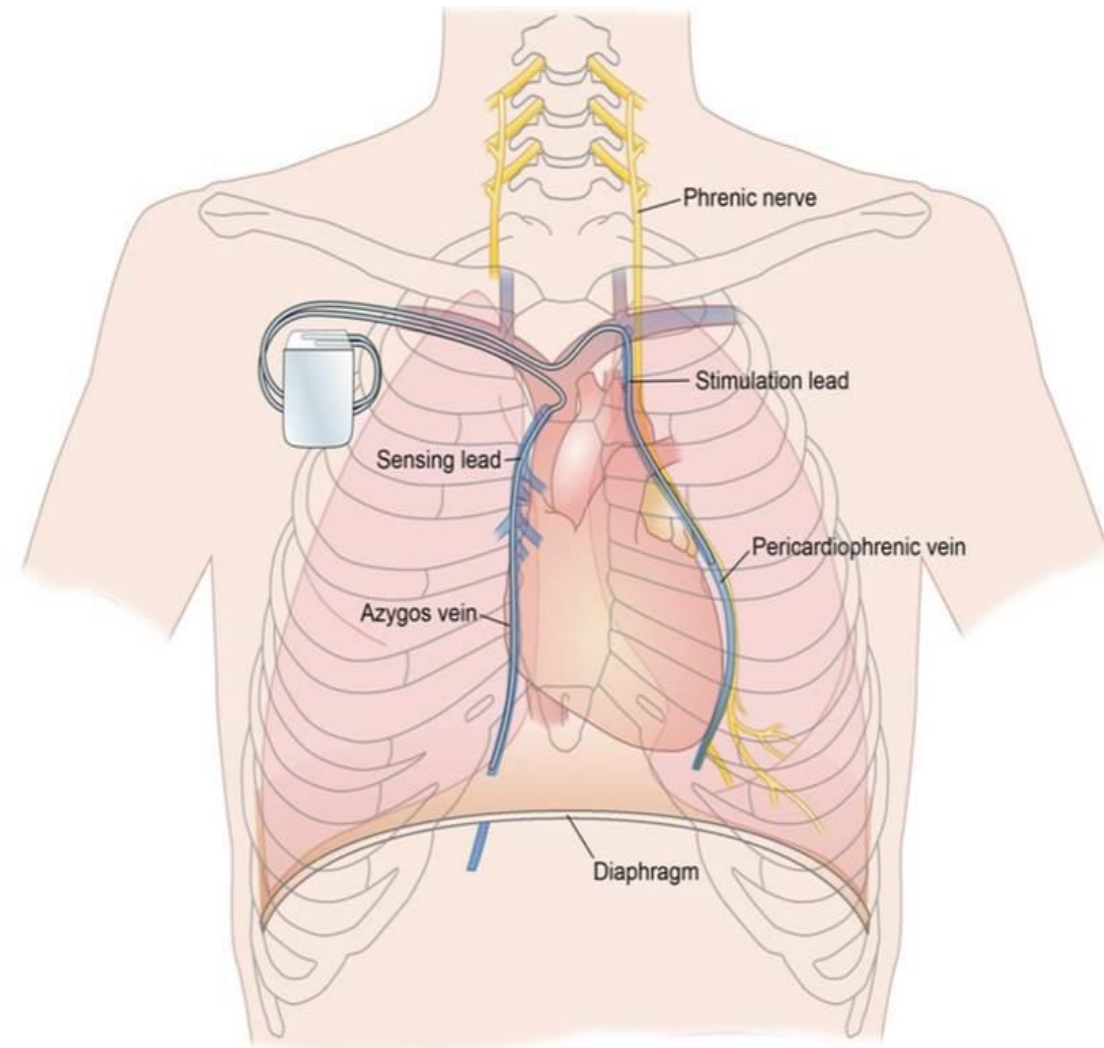


Medical Advancements

Non-invasive ventilation

- Trilogy
- Heated High Flow Oxygen therapy
- Better fitting masks for BiPAP machines
- Inspiratory and expiratory muscle aids

Diaphragmatic pacing



Recent PICU Case

13 year old Male

- Previously well, athletic
- Severe ARDS, likely 2o Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis
 - Triggered by Parvovirus & an at risk genetic mutation for 2o HLH.
- VV ECMO with decannulation after 81 days
- Percutaneous Tracheostomy after 1~ month of endotracheal intubation
- Chronic mechanical ventilation weaned to NIV
- Current focus
 - Rehabilitation
 - Nocturnal BiPAP (12/5)
 - Physiotherapy

Summary

The background of the slide features a dark, grayscale image of a clock face. The clock has a bird silhouette, possibly a crow or raven, perched on the hands. The clock face is visible through the center of the slide, with the hands and numbers faintly discernible. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

Summary

Tracheostomy - life saving

Adequate communication with caregivers/surrogates to allow informed decision making.

Limited available pediatric data re: ideal timing lends itself for further opportunities to evaluate this challenging task.

Difficult to accurately predict duration of mechanical ventilation

WIRE