



Tempo-dipendenza e inquadramento clinico

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Starting empirical antimicrobial treatment

1. Certainty of diagnosis
2. Risk of delaying treatment
3. Enviromental damage caused by the use of antimicrobial drugs



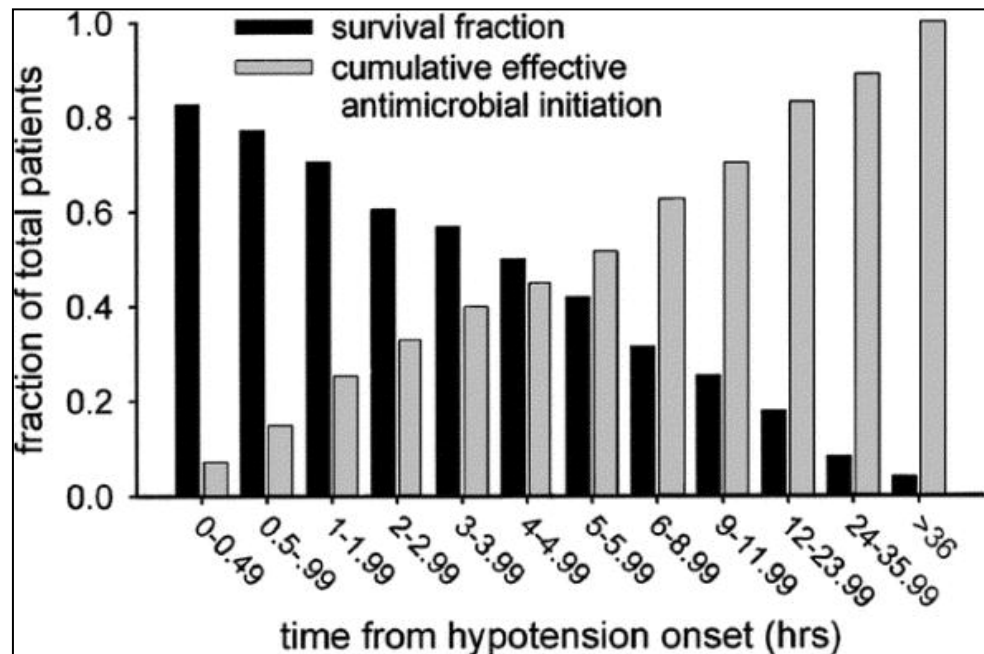
Surviving Sepsis Campaign Guidelines 2016

- We recommend that **administration of IV antimicrobials be initiated as soon as possible after recognition and within 1 h for both sepsis and septic shock** (strong recommendation, moderate quality of evidence; grade applies to both conditions).

Duration of hypotension before initiation of effective antimicrobial therapy is the critical determinant of survival in human septic shock

Kumar A et al. Crit Care Med 2006;34:1589-96

- 2,154 septic shock patients who received effective antimicrobial therapy
- Median time to antimicrobial administration **6 hours**
- Overall mortality **56%**



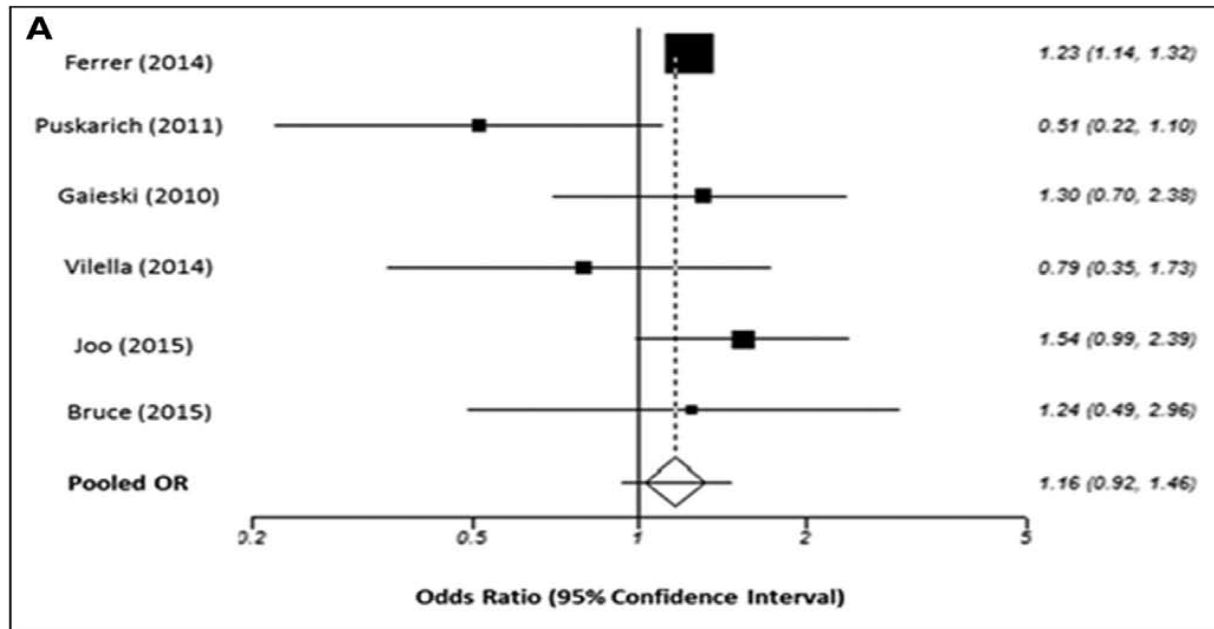
Each hour of delay decreased survival by 7.6%



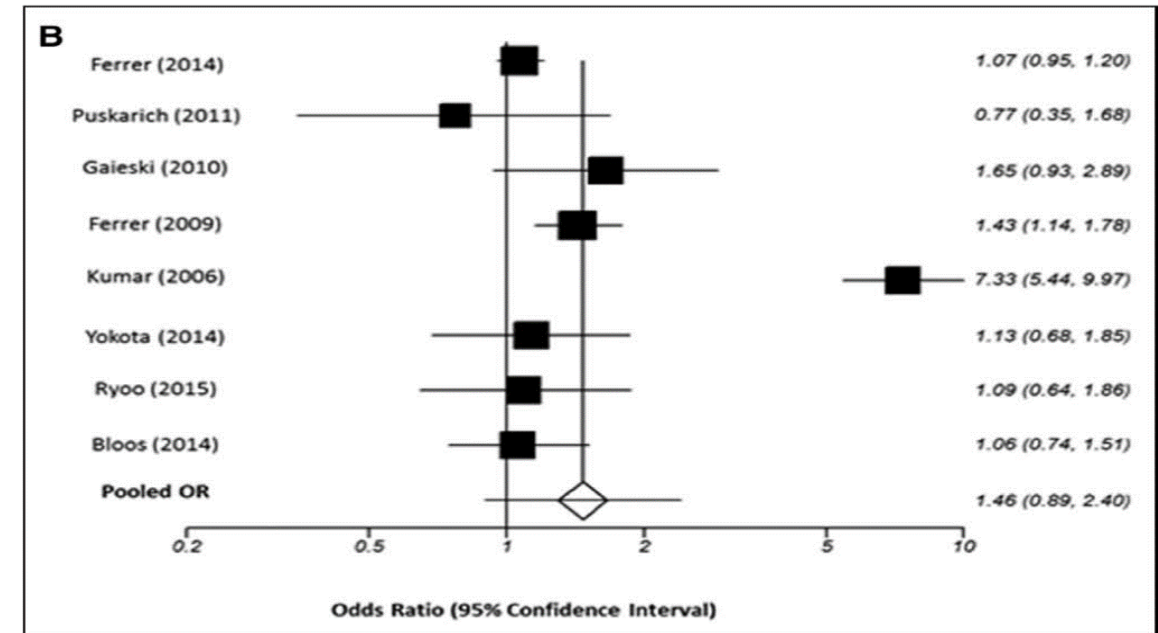
The Impact of Timing of Antibiotics on Outcomes in Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Sterling S et al. Crit Care Med 2015; 43:1907–1915

- 11/18 eligible studies were included:
 - ✓ 16,178 pts evaluable for antibiotic administration from ED triage
 - ✓ 11,017 pts from severe sepsis/septic shock recognition



Pooled OR for mortality and time to antibiotics in >3 hr from triage time



Pooled OR for mortality and time to antibiotics in >1 hr from SS/SS recognition

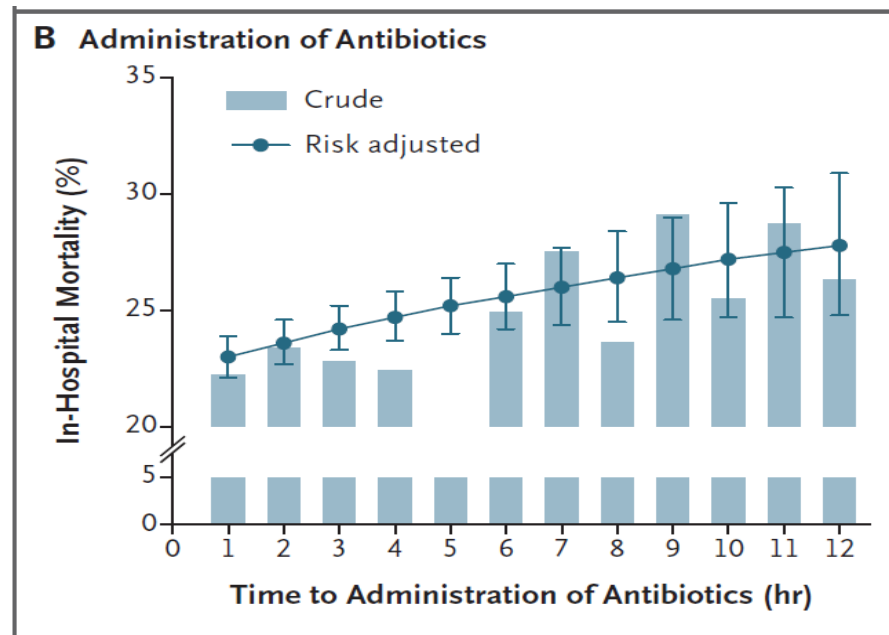


Time to Treatment and Mortality during Mandated Emergency Care for Sepsis

Seymour C.W. et al N Engl J Med 2017;376:2235-44

Retrospective study on **48331 patients** at 149 hospitals reported to the NYSDOH from 2014 to 2016, **managed according to local protocols for sepsis** including a 3-hour bundle of care (blood cultures, broad-spectrum antibiotic agents, and lactate measurement)

- Median time to administration of broad spectrum antibiotics 0.95 (IQR 0.35-1.95) h
- Overall in-hospital mortality 22.8%



OR 1.04 per hour
(95% CI, 1.03 to 1.06) P<0.001



The timing of early antibiotics and hospital mortality in sepsis

Liu VX et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2017;196:856–863

Retrospective study of **35000 randomly selected adults with sepsis** hospitalized through the ED at 21 hospitals in Northern California in 2010-2013 **who received antibiotics within 6 hours of ED registration time**

- Median time to antibiotic administration 2.1 (IQR 1.4–3.1) hours
- Overall in-hospital mortality 9.4% (3.9% sepsis, 8.8% severe sepsis, 26% septic shock)

aOR 1.09 per hour (95% CI, 1.05 to 1.13) P<0.001

Increase in absolute mortality:

- **0.3% for sepsis**
- **0.4% for severe sepsis**
- **1.8% for shock**

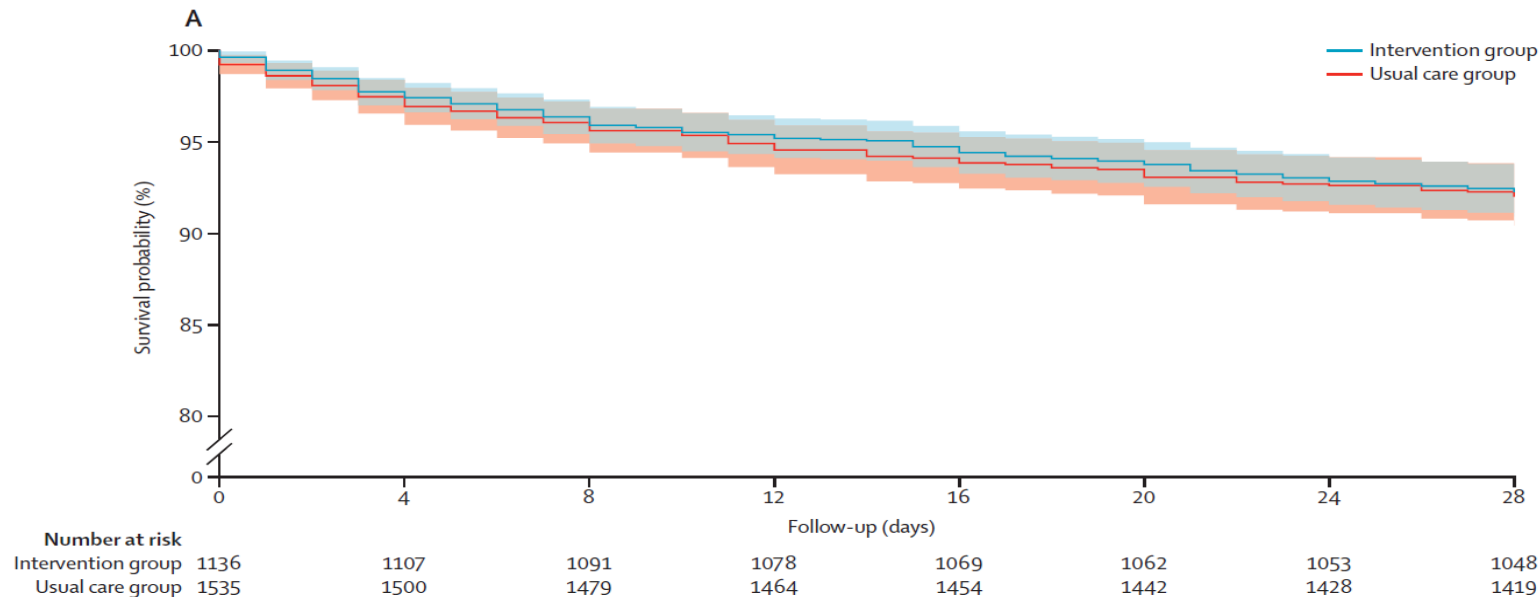
Model	Odds Ratio for hospital mortality, per elapsed hour until antibiotic administration	95% CI	p-value
Unadjusted	0.89	0.86 – 0.91	<0.001
+ Sepsis severity strata	0.96	0.93 – 0.99	0.013
+ Severity of illness	1.08	1.04 – 1.12	<0.001
+ Demographics	1.09	1.05 – 1.13	<0.001
Fully adjusted model, in each subgroup			
Sepsis only	1.09	1.00 – 1.19	0.046
Severe sepsis only	1.07	1.01 – 1.24	0.014
Septic shock only	1.14	1.06 – 1.23	0.001

Prehospital antibiotics in the ambulance for sepsis: a multicentre, open label, randomised trial

Alam N. et al. *Lancet Respir Med* 2017

Controlled open-label trial in the Netherlands on **2672 adults** (1535 in the intervention group) with a **diagnosed or suspected infection** (inclusion criteria temperature $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ or $<36^{\circ}\text{C}$, and at least one of HR $>90/\text{min}$ or RR $>20/\text{min}$), to compare the effects of administration of IV ceftriaxone 2000 mg in the ambulance in addition to usual care (fluid resuscitation and supplementary oxygen)

- Median time to antibiotics: intervention group 26 min (IQR 19–34) before arriving at the ED; usual care group 70 min (IQR 36–128) after arriving at the ED.



28-day overall mortality 8% in both arms
(relative risk 0.95, 95% CI 0.74–1.24)



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ED door-to-antibiotic time and long-term mortality in sepsis.

Peltan ID, Brown SM, Bledsoe JR, et al Chest 2019; 155:938–946

- A retrospective cohort study on **10811 adult patients** admitted to non-trauma ED with clinical sepsis in 4 hospitals from 2013 to 2017 in Utah, USA.
- The primary aim of the study was the **association of door-to-antibiotic time** (the time in hours from ED arrival to first antibiotic initiation) **with long-term mortality**.

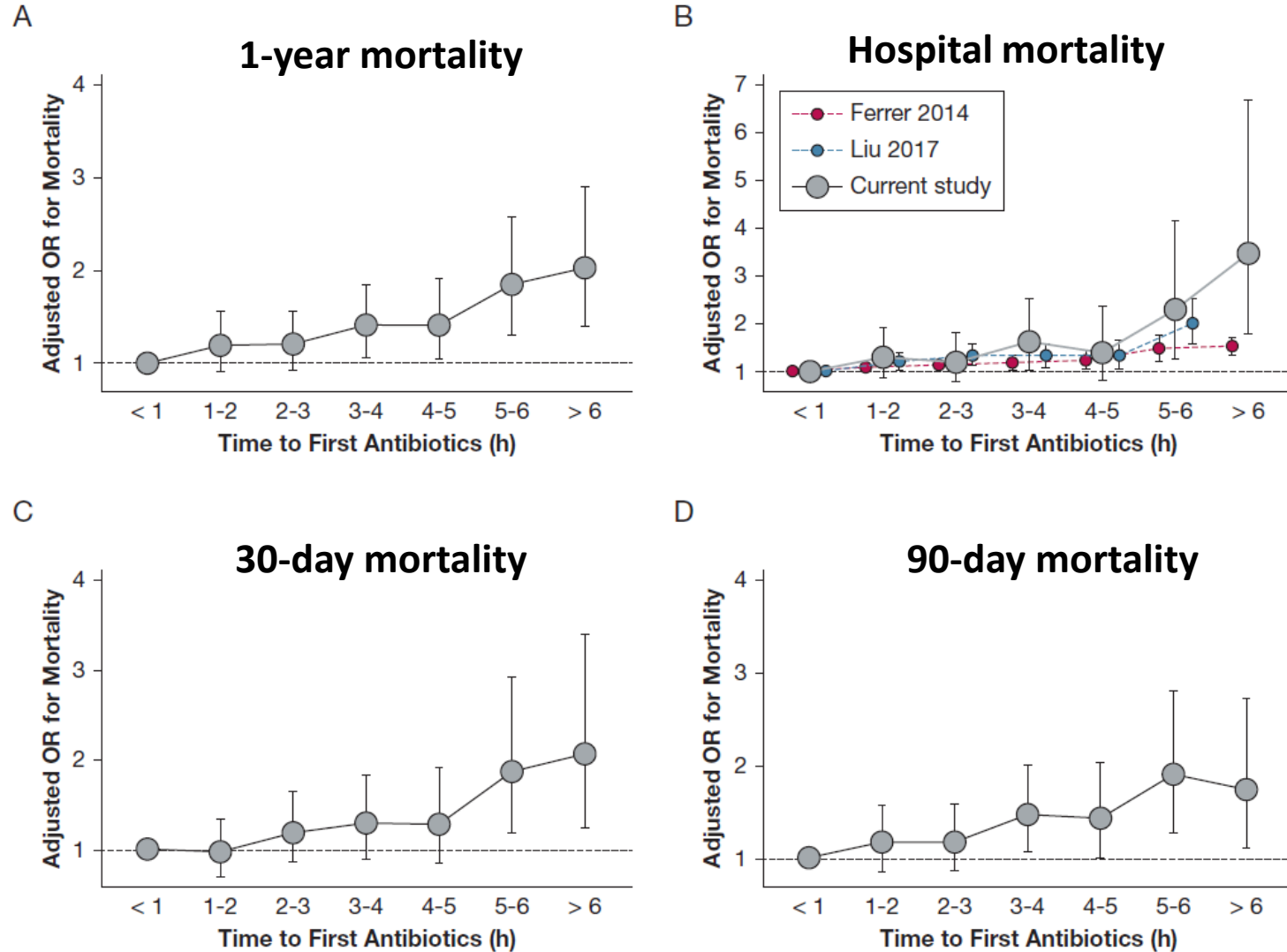
TABLE 2] Adjusted Association of Door-to-Antibiotic Time and Mortality in ED Patients With Sepsis

Variable	1-Year Mortality			In-Hospital Mortality			30-Day Mortality			90-Day Mortality		
	Adjusted OR ^a (95% CI)		P Value	Adjusted OR ^a (95% CI)		P Value	Adjusted OR ^a (95% CI)		P Value	Adjusted OR ^a (95% CI)		P Value
Door-to-antibiotic time, h	1.10	(1.05-1.14)	< .001	1.16	(1.07-1.26)	< .001	1.12	(1.06-1.18)	< .001	1.09	(1.04-1.15)	< .001
Door-to-antibiotic time > 1 h	1.26	(0.98-1.62)	.070	1.32	(0.91-1.92)	.14	1.12	(0.83-1.52)	.46	1.24	(0.94-1.65)	.13
Door-to-antibiotic time > 3 h	1.27	(1.13-1.43)	< .001	1.42	(1.13-1.80)	.003	1.28	(1.08-1.52)	.005	1.32	(1.14-1.52)	< .001
Door-to-antibiotic time interval												
≤ 1 h	Reference			Reference			Reference			Reference		
> 1 to ≤ 2 h	1.19	(0.91-1.56)	.20	1.29	(0.87-1.93)	.21	0.97	(0.70-1.35)	.85	1.17	(0.86-1.58)	.31
> 2 to ≤ 3 h	1.20	(0.92-1.56)	.18	1.20	(0.79-1.82)	.39	1.19	(0.86-1.65)	.30	1.17	(0.87-1.59)	.30
> 3 to ≤ 4 h	1.40	(1.06-1.85)	.018	1.61	(1.03-2.53)	.036	1.29	(0.90-1.83)	.16	1.47	(1.07-2.01)	.019
> 4 to ≤ 5 h	1.41	(1.04-1.91)	.025	1.39	(0.82-2.37)	.22	1.28	(0.86-1.91)	.23	1.43	(1.00-2.03)	.049
> 5 to ≤ 6 h	1.84	(1.31-2.57)	< .001	2.28	(1.26-4.16)	.007	1.87	(1.20-2.92)	.006	1.90	(1.28-2.81)	.001
> 6 h	2.02	(1.40-2.90)	< .001	3.45	(1.78-6.67)	< .001	2.06	(1.25-3.40)	.004	1.74	(1.11-2.73)	.015

^aAdjusted for pooled triage acuity score; receipt of prehospital medical care; MEDS score; SOFA score; initial vital signs (systolic blood pressure, abnormal Glasgow Coma Scale, heart rate, temperature, respiratory rate, and oxygen saturation); ED disposition (ICU vs ward); comorbidity score; marital status; insurance type; age; sex; Hispanic ethnicity or non-white race; hospital; non-English preferred language; initial WBC count; and initial lactate level tested and > 2 mmol/L. See Table 1 legend for expansion of abbreviations.

ED door-to-antibiotic time and long-term mortality in sepsis.

Peltan ID, Brown SM, Bledsoe JR, et al Chest 2019; 155:938–946



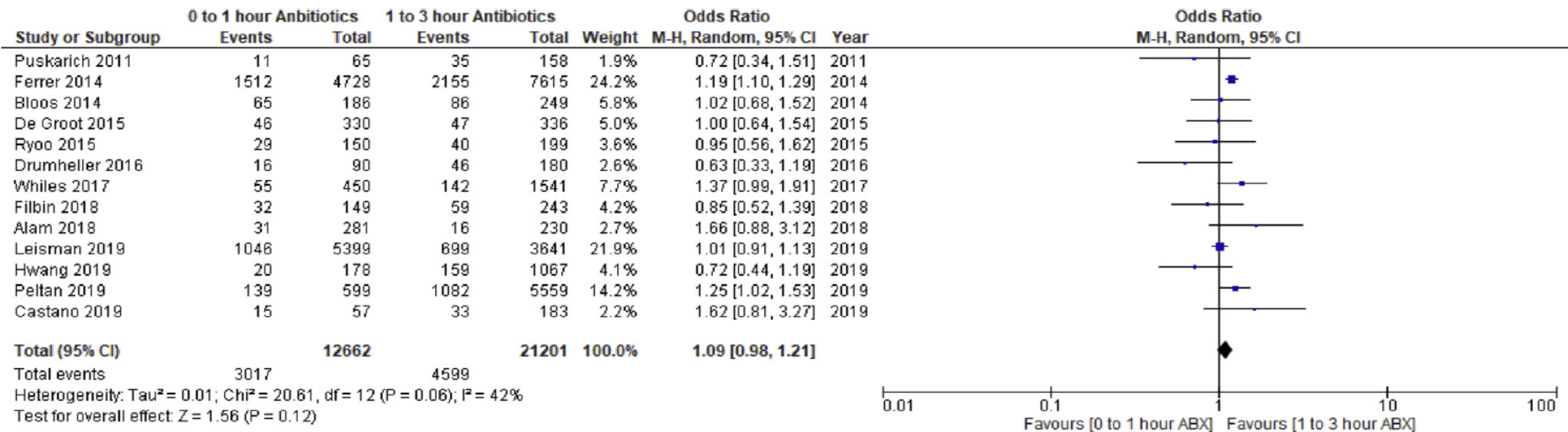
Outcome of Immediate Versus Early Antibiotics in Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Rothrock SG et al. Ann Emerg Med. 2020;76:427-441

Purpose: to compare mortality rates in patients with severe sepsis and septic shock who received immediate antibiotics versus early antibiotics (0 to 1 versus >1 to 3 hours).

Inclusion criteria were adults (18 years) with severe sepsis or septic shock described in English-language publications or in unpublished literature after December 31, 2000.

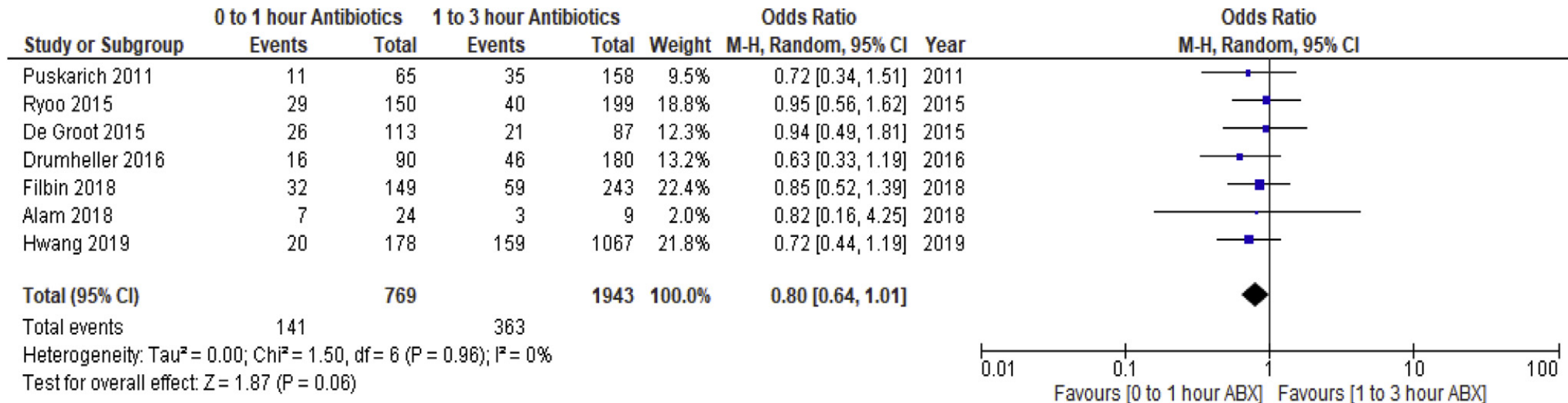
Forest diagram of odds ratios comparing mortality with immediate versus early antibiotics:
all studies



Outcome of Immediate Versus Early Antibiotics in Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Rothrock SG et al. *Ann Emerg Med.* 2020;76:427-441

Forest diagram of odds ratios comparing mortality with immediate versus early antibiotics:
septic shock



Controversies about rapid treatment

1. Absence of data from randomized trials
2. Potential for adverse effects (Antimicrobial overuse)
3. Challenging implementation in environments where staff are often overworked (ED, ICU)
4. Changes in patients' characteristics over time
5. Tendency to include patients with less severe illness over time

Early administration of antibiotics for suspected sepsis

NEJM February 7, 2019

Two case vignettes

- ❖ Mand with hypoxemia
 - ❖ Woman with AKI
-
- Do not administer antibiotics
Michael Klompas
 - Administer antibiotics immediately
Laura Evans

**Potential risks of withholding therapy
as compared with
the risk of therapy itself**



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Association of Adverse Events With Antibiotic Use in Hospitalized Patients

Tamma P et al, JAMA Intern Med. 2017;177(9):1308-1315.

- **1488 patients** with at least 24 hours of any parenteral or oral antibiotic therapy
- Most common indications for antibiotic therapy were UTI (179 [12%]), SSTI (119 [8%]), and CAP (104 [7%])
 - 298 (**20%**) patients experienced **at least 1 antibiotic-associated ADE**
 - The most common **clinically relevant ADEs** were **gastrointestinal, renal, and hematologic** abnormalities, accounting for 78 (42%), 45 (24%), and 28 (15%), respectively
 - **56 (20%) non–indicated antibiotic regimens** were associated with an ADE
 - 138 (**9.2%**) patients presented a 90-day ADE: **54 CDI and 84 MDRO infections (VRE)**



Impact of time to antibiotic therapy on clinical outcome in patients with bacterial infections in the emergency department: implications for antimicrobial stewardship

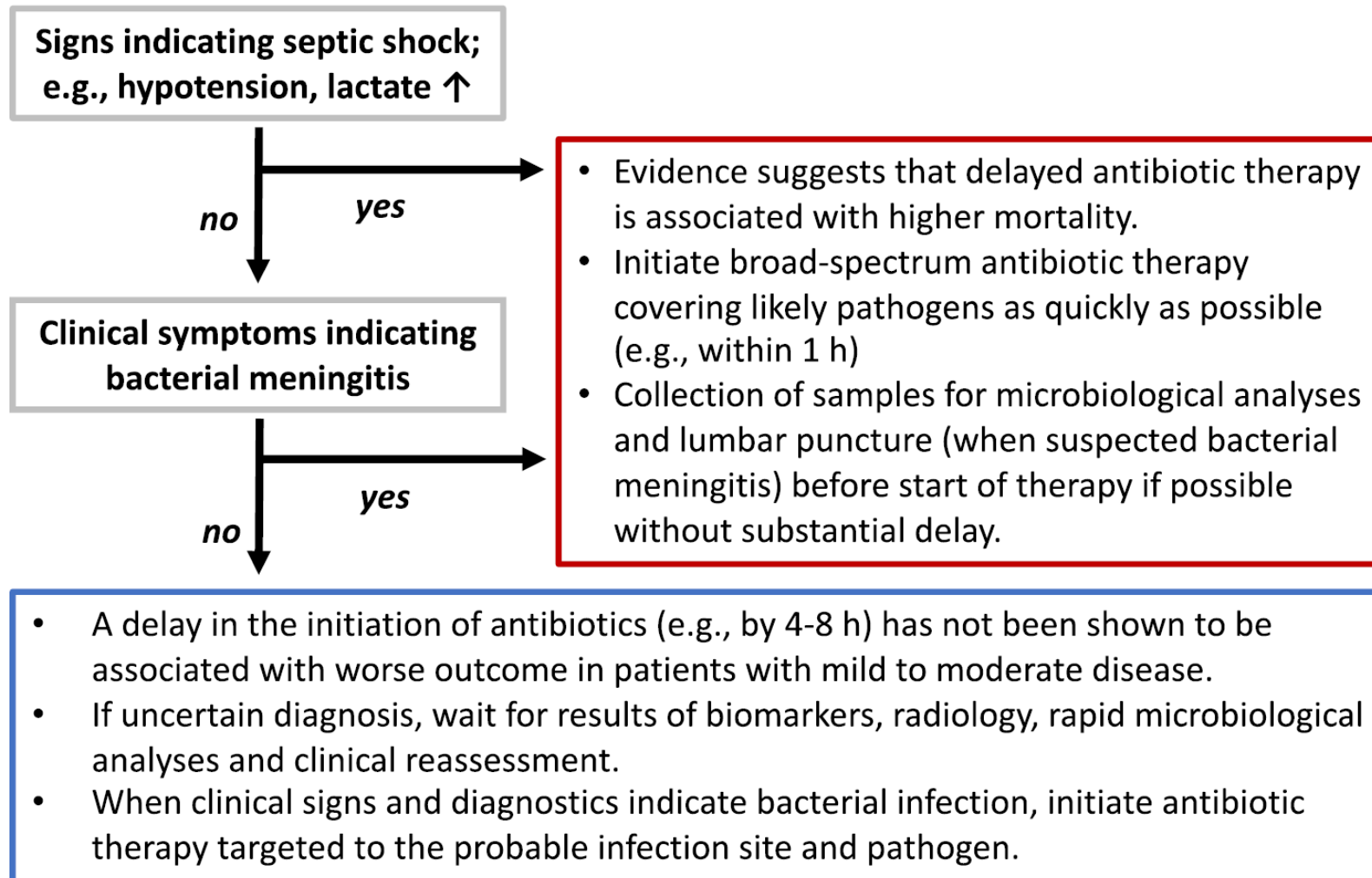
Naucner et al. Clin Microbiol Infect 2020

Sepsis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0 RCTs• 20 observational studies
Bacterial meningitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0 RCTs• 10 observational studies
LRTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0 RCTs• 16 observational studies
UTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0 RCTs• 5 observational studies
IAI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 RCTs• 5 observational studies
SSI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0 RCTs• 0 observational studies



Impact of time to antibiotic therapy on clinical outcome in patients with bacterial infections in the emergency department: implications for antimicrobial stewardship

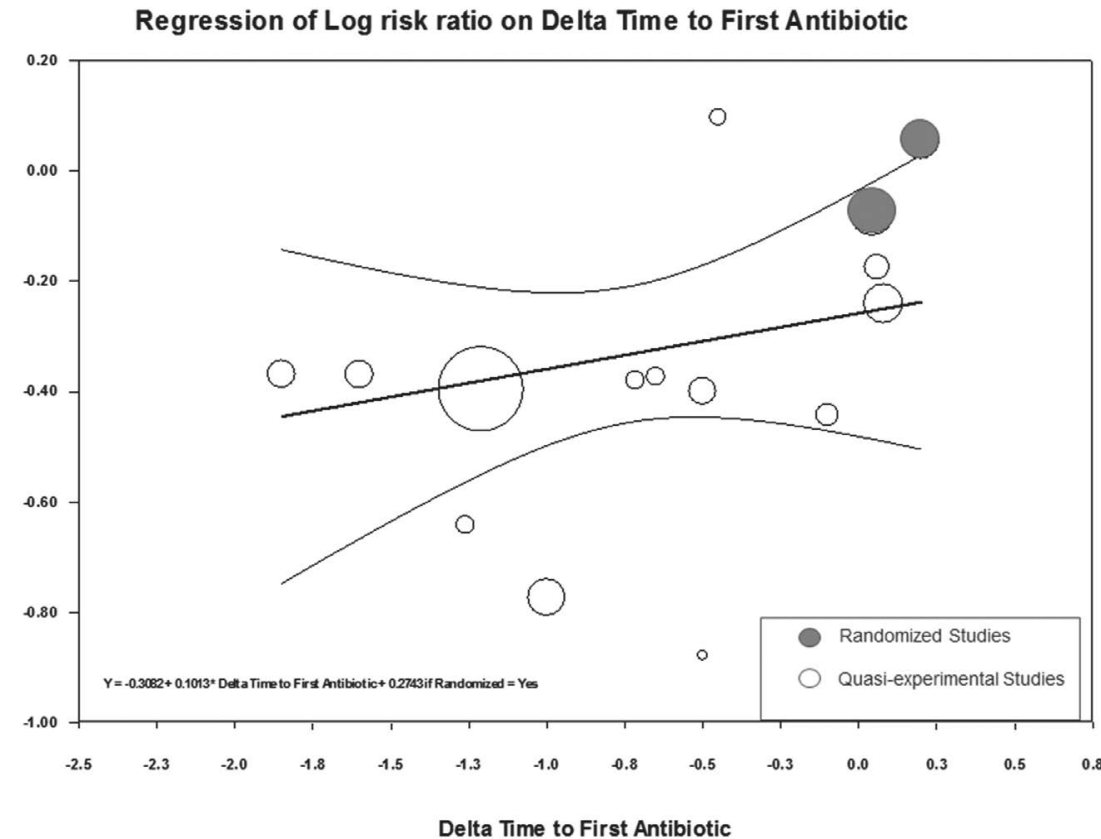
Naucner et al. Clin Microbiol Infect 2020



Early goal-directed therapy for sepsis: A novel solution for discordant survival outcomes in clinical trials.

Kalil AC et al , Crit Care Med 2017; 45:607–614

- 31 obs studies (n = 15,656), 6 RCT (n=4,342)
 - Obs: mortality reduction (RR = 0.73, 0.67–0.80)
 - RCT non significant mortality reduction (RR = 0.92 0.78–1.07)



- Factors that explained the statistically significant mortality differences between RCT and obs studies **were time-to-first antibiotic, ≤ 6 hours ($R^2 = 94\%$), 4 hours ($R^2 = 99\%$), 3 hours ($R^2 = 99\%$), and appropriate antibiotic use ($R^2 = 96\%$)**



Impact of time to antibiotics on survival in patients with severe sepsis or septic shock in whom early goal-directed therapy was initiated in the emergency department

Gaieski et al. Crit Care Med 2010; 38:1045–53

Retrospective analysis on **261 patients undergoing EGDT at an ED**, in 2005-2006.

- Median time to antibiotics 119 mins from triage (IQR 76–192), 42 mins from qualification (IQR 0–93)
- In-hospital mortality 31%

Table 4. In-hospital mortality: Triage to ED antibiotics

Cutoffs	Number	Mortality, %	Difference, %	Adjusted			
				OR	95% CI	p	Probability of Death
≤1 hr	46	26.1	6.0	0.51	0.21–1.22	.13	.20 vs. .28
>1 hr	215	32.1					
≤2 hrs	136	30.9	0.3	0.72	0.38–1.37	.30	.25 vs. .28
>2 hrs	125	31.2					
≤3 hrs	187	29.4	5.7	0.64	0.32–1.29	.21	.25 vs. .31
>3 hrs	74	35.1					
≤4 hrs	217	30.0	6.4	0.80	0.35–1.84	.59	.27 vs. .29
>4 hrs	44	36.4					
≤5 hrs	237	32.1	–11.2	0.86	0.56–6.15	.31	.28 vs. .16
>5 hrs	24	20.8					

Table 6. In-hospital mortality: Time from triage to appropriate antibiotics

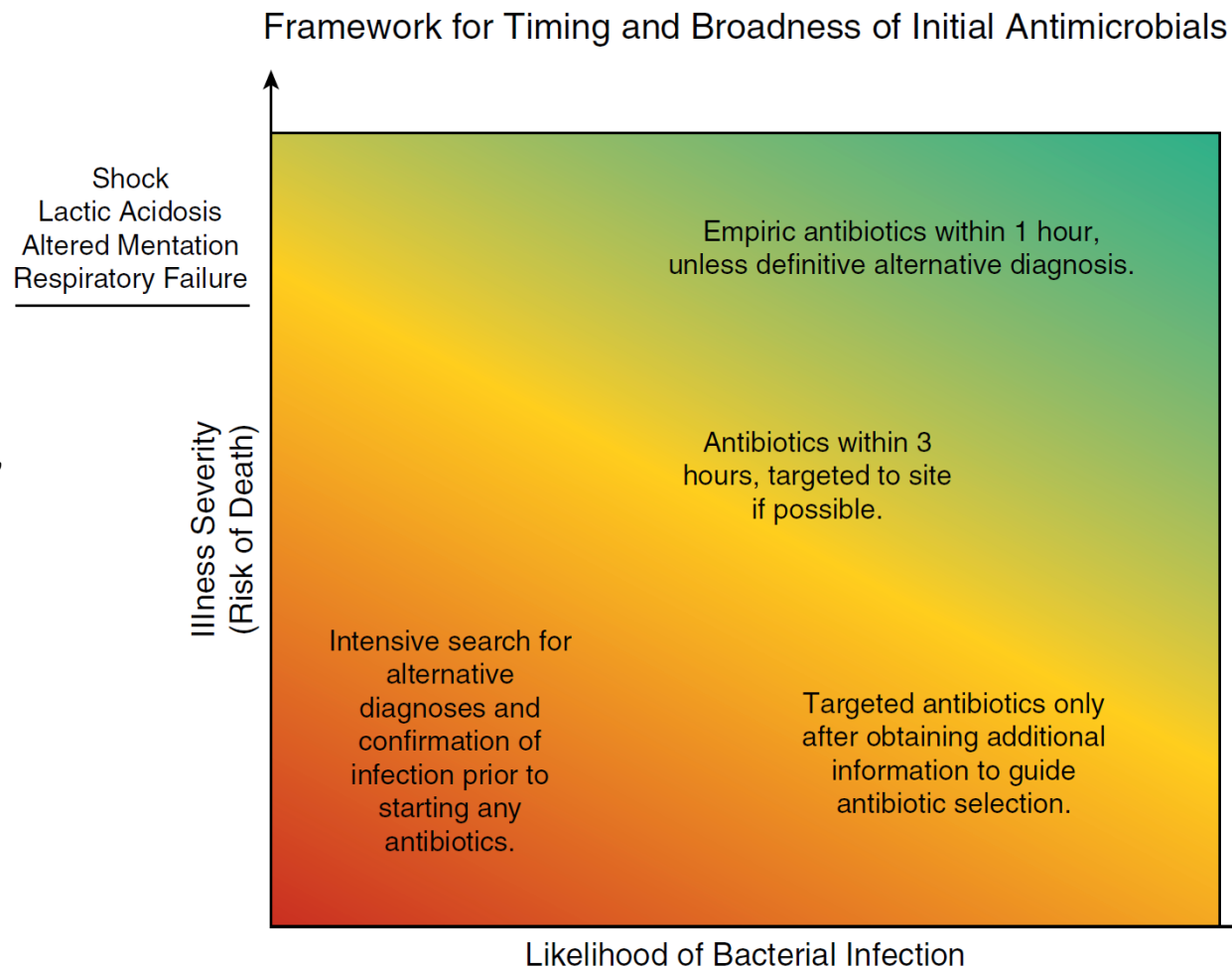
Cutoffs	Number	Mortality, %	Difference, %	Adjusted			
				OR	95% CI	p	Probability of Death
≤1 hr	41	19.5	13.7	0.30	0.11–0.83	.02	.13 vs. .29
>1 hr	220	33.2					
≤2 hrs	124	28.2	5.4	0.54	0.29–1.03	.06	.22 vs. .31
>2 hrs	137	33.6					
≤3 hrs	172	27.9	9.2	0.53	0.27–1.01	.05	.23 vs. .34
>3 hrs	89	37.1					
≤4 hrs	200	28.5	10.8	0.62	0.31–1.24	.18	.25 vs. .34
>4 hrs	61	39.3					
≤5 hrs	218	30.7	1.8	0.82	0.37–1.79	.62	.27 vs. .29
>5 hrs	43	32.6					



Improving Sepsis Treatment by Embracing Diagnostic Uncertainty

Prescott Annals ATS Volume 16 Number 4/ April 2019

Illness Severity (Risk of Death): A summary assessment of the patient's risk of death based on pre-existing risk factors (e.g. age, chronic medical condition, immune-suppression) and acute physiological derangements.



Likelihood of Bacterial infection: A summary assessment based on clinical signs and symptoms of infection; initial laboratories; imaging.



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Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock 2021

Evans, L., Rhodes, A., Alhazzani, W. et al. Intensive Care Med 47, 1181–1247 (2021).

- For adults with possible **septic shock** or a high likelihood for sepsis, we recommend administering antimicrobials immediately, ideally within **1 hr** of recognition (**strong recommendation, low quality of evidence**)
- For adults with possible sepsis **without shock**, we suggest a time-limited course of **rapid investigation** and if concern for infection persists, the administration of antimicrobials **within 3 hr** from the time when sepsis was first recognized (**weak recommendation, very low quality of evidence**)



Starting appropriate empirical antimicrobial treatment

Clinical severity

Septic shock, SOFA \geq 2

Current time

- Site of infection acquisition
 - CA, HCA, HA
- Infection source
 - High (primary, lung) vs. low risk (urinary) sources
- Individual patient risk factors for MDR and/or opportunistic pathogens
 - Immunosuppression
 - Prior exposure to antibiotics
 - Prior colonization or infection with MDR pathogens
- Local epidemiology



Starting appropriate (quasi)empirical antimicrobial treatment

Clinical severity

Septic shock, SOFA \geq 2

Near future

Artificial intelligence

- Decision support tools

Fast microbiology

- Rapid molecular tests (syndromic tests)
- Rapid phenotypic tests



Grazie



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Components of SIRS, qSOFA, MEWS, and NEWS

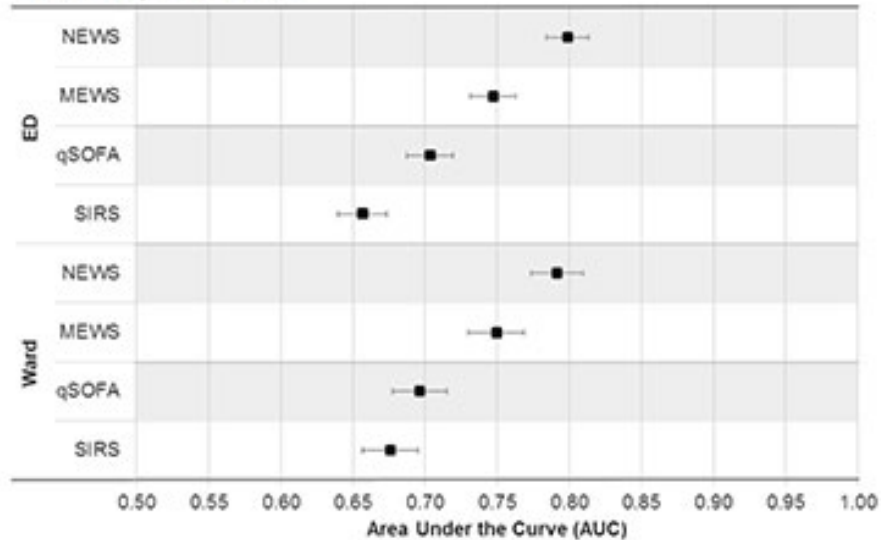
	SIRS	qSOFA	MEWS	NEWS
Temperature	✓		✓	✓
Heart rate	✓		✓	✓
Blood pressure		✓	✓	✓
Respiratory rate	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oxygen saturation				✓
Use of supplemental oxygen				✓
Mental status		✓	✓	✓
Leukocyte count	✓			
Urine Output			✓	



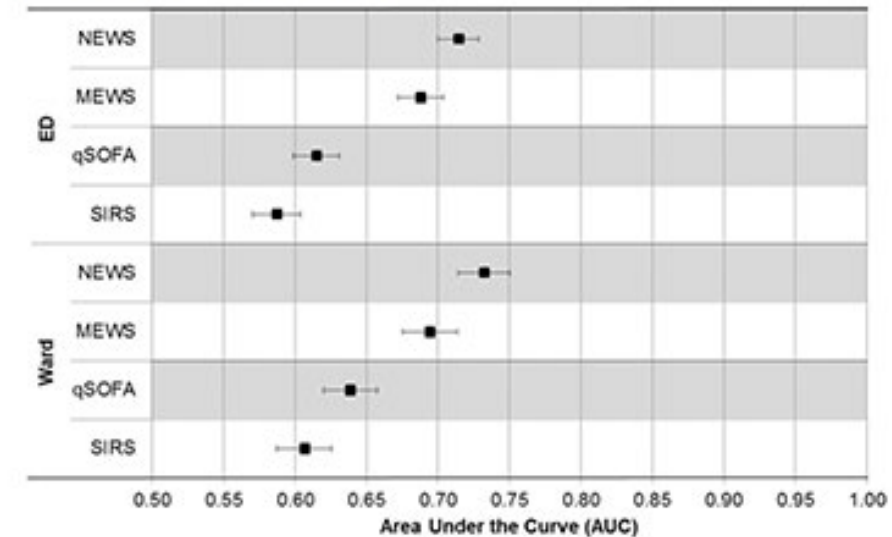
30,677 patients in the emergency department and ward at the University of Chicago

Overall test performance

Mortality outcome



Mortality or ICU admission



Select cutoffs to predict mortality or ICU transfer

	Sensitivity	Specificity
SIRS ≥ 2	91%	13%
qSOFA ≥ 2	54%	67%
NEWS ≥ 7	77%	53%
NEWS ≥ 8	67%	66%
NEWS ≥ 9	54%	78%

qSOFA is an insensitive and late indicator of deterioration