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Chronic Critical Illness: *Can it be prevented?*

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Disclosures

- Data free zone



Chronic Critical Illness

Daniela Lamas, M.D.

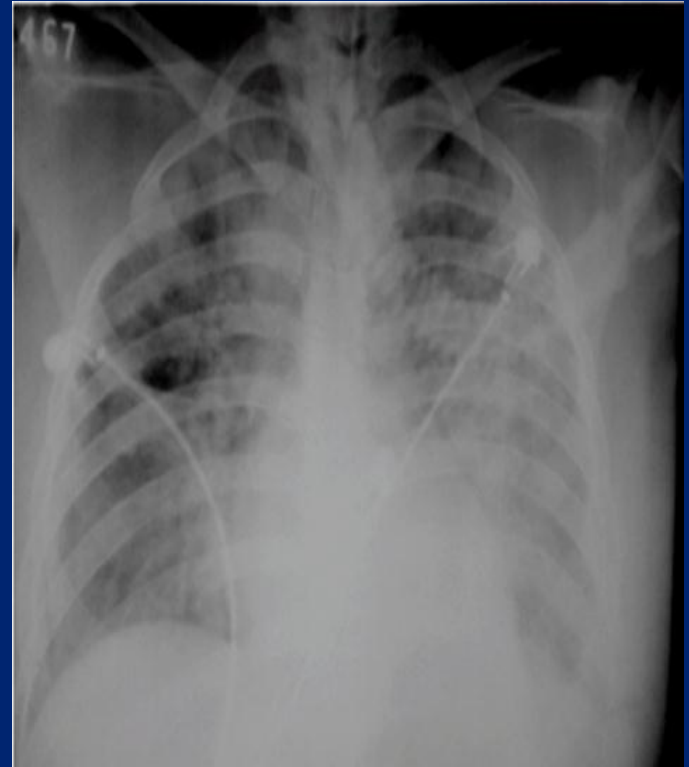
The data are discouraging. “Chronic critical illness” is a nebulous term for the condition of “We — intensive care clinicians — have created chronic critical illness, and that makes it especially painful to see. The model that provides ongoing critical care for patients in LTAC [hospitals] and nursing homes shields those patients from our view inside the ICU,” says Judith Nelson, “This is a disease. It’s sometimes or even often worse than some cancers in terms of its mortality and effect on quality of life. People know what cancer means. They’ve heard of it. But they’ve not heard of this.”

to the health care system is astronomical — more than \$20 billion annually.¹

A (Very) Old Case

- 65 year-old man with pneumonia and ARDS
 - 30 day LOS with LTVV
 - Tracheostomy
 - LTAC transfer
 - Failure to wean after 3 months

.....except



It's 1958



Baltimore City Hospital ICU
(or what it might have looked like)



Dr. Peter Safar
Austrian physician
Father of CPR and critical care

Fast forward 56 years



Chronic Critical Illness

Objectives

- Define chronic critical illness (CCI)
- Discuss prevalence, impact and outcome
- Suggest CCI prevention strategies
- Suggest areas for future research



Acute Critical Illness

```
graph TD; A[Acute Critical Illness] --> B[Recovery]; A --> C[Death]; A --> D["Persistent mechanical ventilation<br/>Tracheostomy<br/>High level of nursing care"]; D == E[Chronic Critical Illness (CCI)];
```

Recovery

Death

Persistent mechanical ventilation
Tracheostomy
High level of nursing care

=

Chronic Critical Illness (CCI)

Chronic Critical Illness

What is it?

- A result of modern medicine:
 - 1985 – term first coined by Girard and Raffin¹
 - *“The chronically critically ill: to save or let die”*
 - *“where Lazarus meets Darwin”*²

Chronic Critical Illness

What is it?

- Hallmark feature: chronic respiratory failure requiring prolonged mechanical ventilation (PMV)
- Consensus definition: >21 days of consecutive mechanical ventilation for >6 hours per day
- Definitions vary:
 - 2-4 weeks IMV
 - DRG 541 or 542 (elective tracheostomy)



Chronic Co-Morbidities

Acute Critical Illness

Medical

Setting /
Managing
Expectations

Advanced
care
planning

Surgical

Chronic Critical Illness

Ventilator Dependence

Brain Dysfunction

Neuromuscular Weakness

Endocrinopathy

Malnutrition

Anasarca

Skin Breakdown

Symptom Distress

Depression
Anxiety
PTSD

Recurrent
episodes of
sepsis

Adrenal and
Immune
Exhaustion

Family Stress

Neurologic

Financial
Burden

Cardiac

Older Age

**Post intensive care
syndrome (PICS)**

```
graph TD; PICS[Post intensive care syndrome (PICS)] --- MH[Mental health]; PICS --- CI[Cognitive impairments]; PICS --- PI[Physical impairments]; MH --- MH_L[Anxiety/ASD]; MH --- MH_M[PTSD]; MH --- MH_D[Depression]; CI --- CI_EF[Executive function]; CI --- CI_M[Memory]; CI --- CI_A[Attention]; CI --- CI_VS[Visuo-spatial]; CI --- CI_MPS[Mental processing speed]; PI --- PI_P[Pulmonary]; PI --- PI_NM[Neuromuscular]; PI --- PI_PF[Physical function];
```

Mental health

Anxiety/ASD

PTSD

Depression

**Cognitive
impairments**

Executive function

Memory

Attention

Visuo-spatial

Mental processing
speed

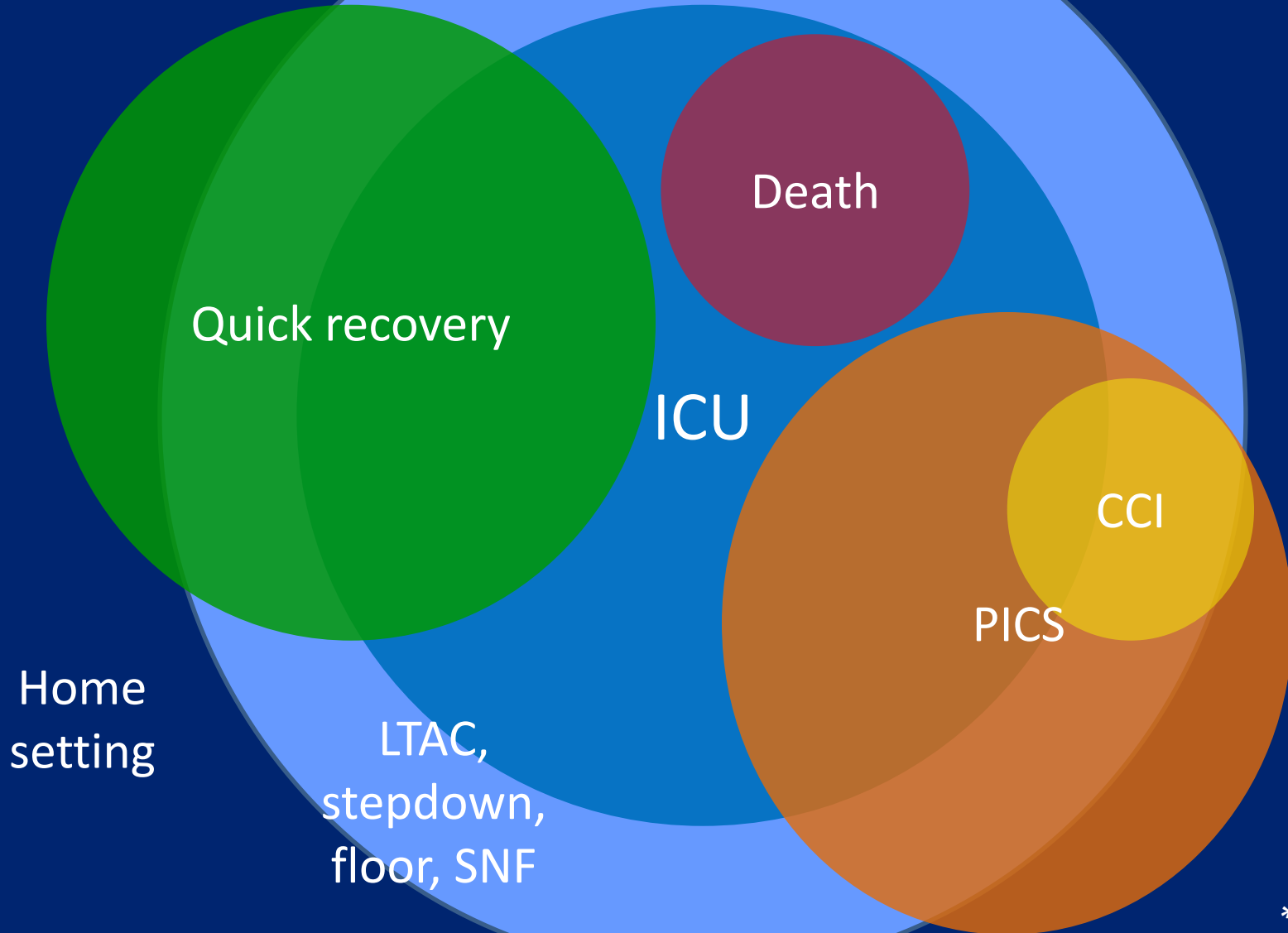
**Physical
impairments**

Pulmonary

Neuromuscular

Physical function

Acute critical illness

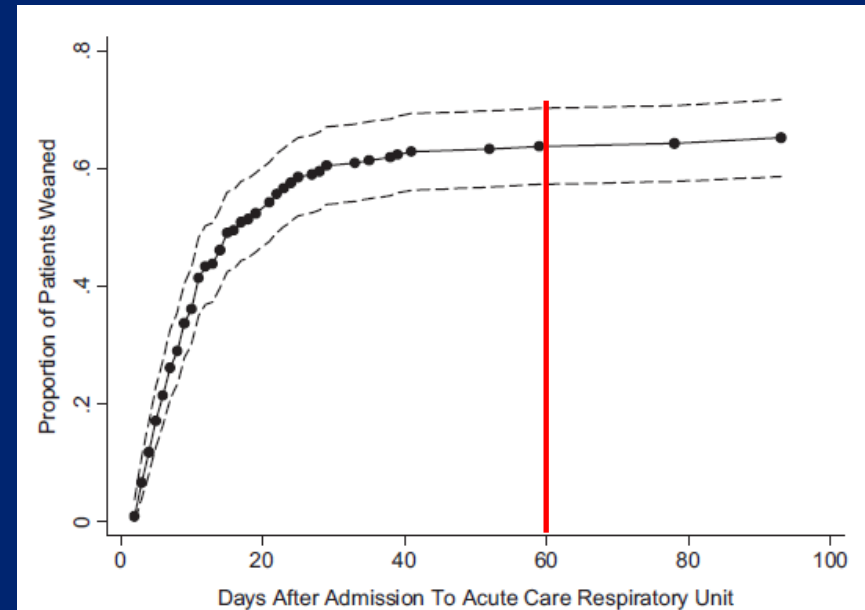


**Not to scale*

Chronic Critical Illness

US Prevalence and Impact

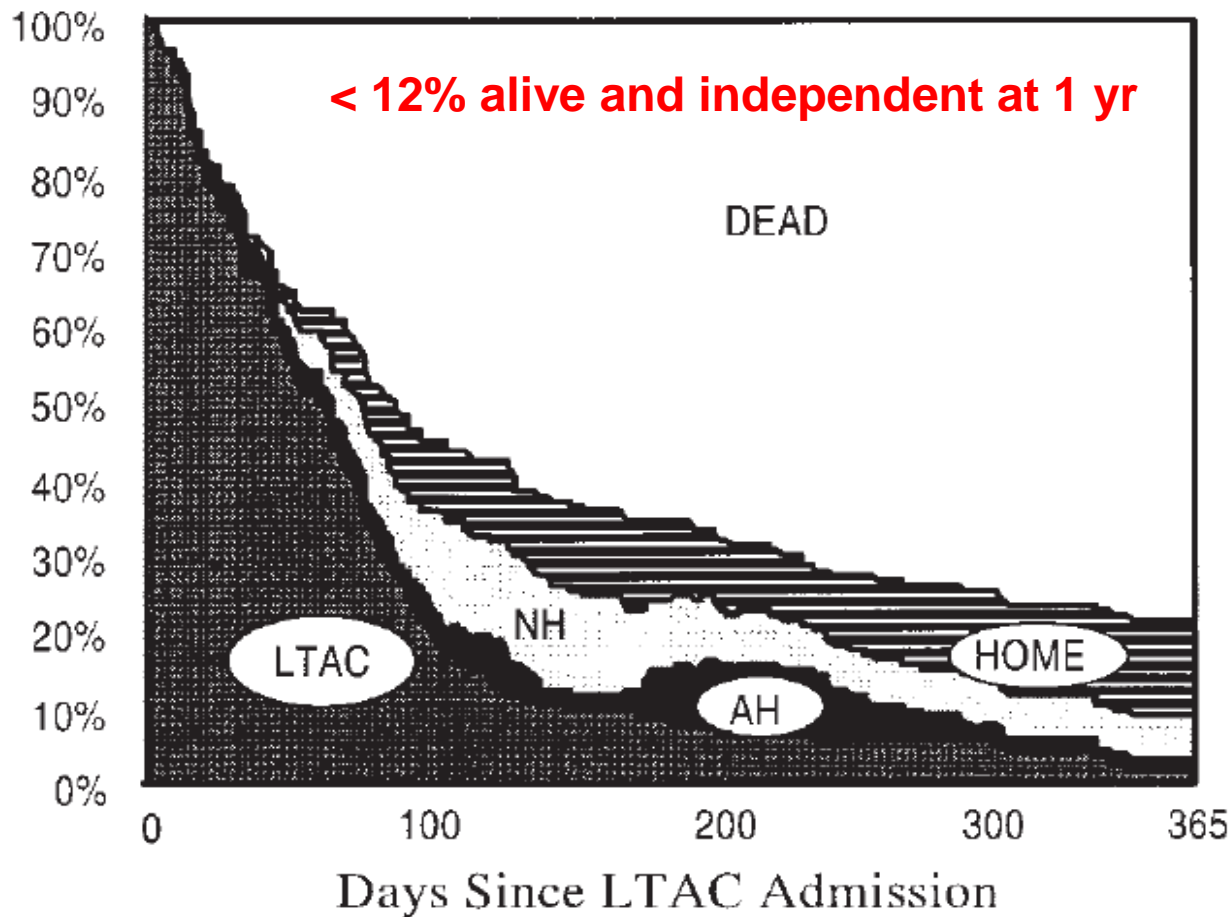
- 5-10% of patients requiring mechanical ventilation
- >100,000 patients
- \$20 billion / year
- 30-60% liberated
 - Average 14-37 days
- Single LTAC experience
 - 210 patients, prospective
 - Median: 14d (6-51 IQR)
 - **Very unlikely after 60d**



Chronic Critical Illness

Outcomes

- Single center
- 133 LTAC patients
- 1995-1996



Chronic Critical Illness

Family Overload

- Caregiver depressive symptoms more severe than among Alzheimer's and spinal cord injury caregivers
 - “Caregiving overload” common in postdischarge period
 - 84% quit work or significantly change their hours to accommodate care needs
-



Chronic Critical Illness

Communication with families

- Prospective survey. 100 patients with CCI
 - 5 ICUs in NYC
 - 3-7 days after tracheostomy
 - 98% surrogates
- **93%** received no info on expected 1-yr survival
 - ~ 50% deceased at 1 year
- **80%** received no info on expected long-term functional status
 - <12% independent at 1 year

Chronic Critical Illness

Communication with families

- 126 patients with CCI
- Survey of surrogate and physician expectations:
1yr survival, functional status, QOL

High expectations for:

	1-yr survival	Functional status	QOL
Observed	56%	9%	
K = <0.08	Physician	43%	6%
	Surrogate	93%	71%



What do we do with
this information?

Research:

- Prognostic
- Treatment
- Prevention

Medical Care:

- Prevent
- Treat
- Palliate

Effective communication
with patients & families

Chronic Critical Illness

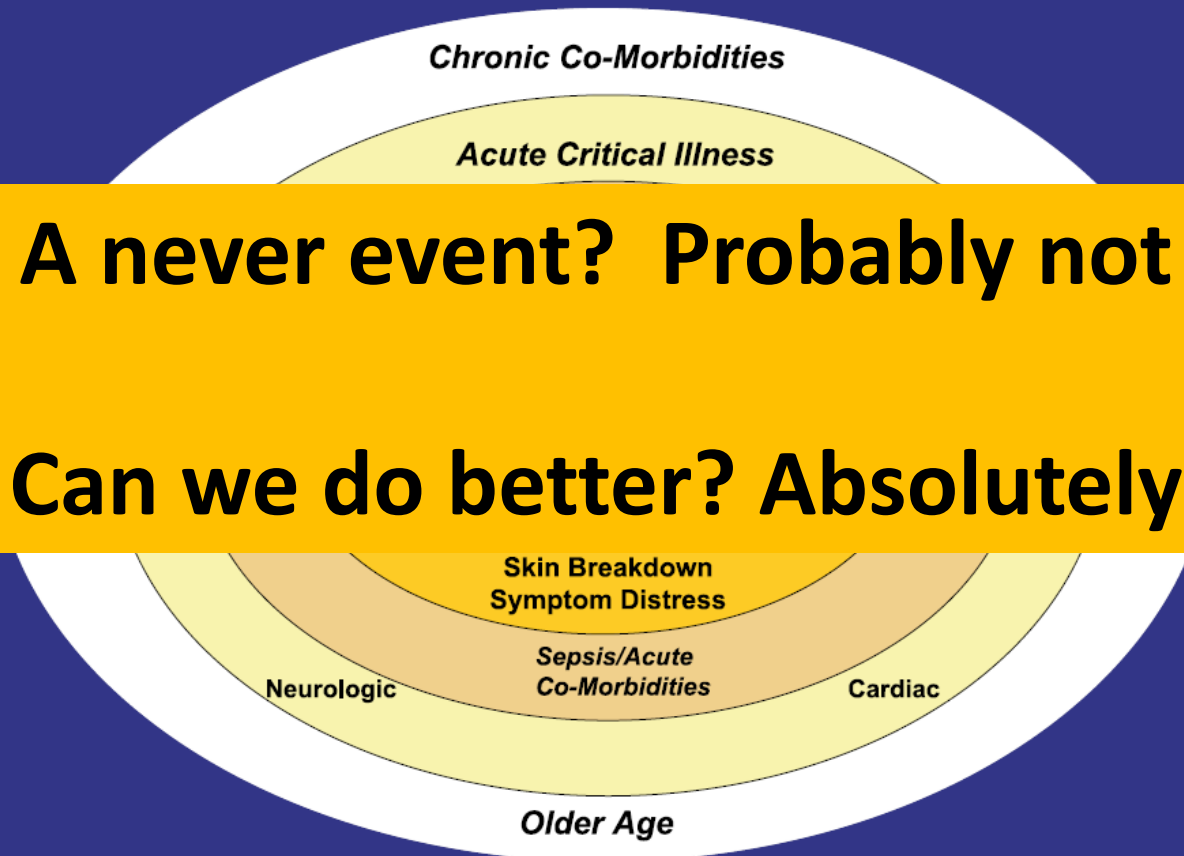
Who gets better?

- Current prognostic models validated for acute critical illness (APACHE, SOFA, etc)
 - Mortality prediction is not enough
 - Other (just as) important outcomes:
 - Functional status
 - Cognitive recovery
-



Chronic Critical Illness

Can it be prevented?



A never event? Probably not

Can we do better? Absolutely

Critical Illness

Barriers to prevention

- Lack of research interest and funding
 - Diversity of care venues
 - Lack of adherence to best practice
 - Lack of clear communication with patients and families
 - Continuation of futile care
-



Chronic Critical Illness

Prevention Strategies

	Management Principles	Potential Future Research
Mechanical Ventilation	Use lung protective ventilation strategies (6cc/kg), conservative fluid management, weaning protocol	Identify risk factors for persistent IMV
Functional Recovery	Prevent hyperglycemia Promote early mobility Minimize use of corticosteroids	Effect of early mobility on long-term outcomes
Nutrition and metabolic support	Both over- and underfeeding associated with CCI Prefer EN over PN	Long-term effects of different feeding strategies
Cognitive and mental health	Minimize sedation, prevent/treat pain and delirium. Avoid benzos where possible	Identify long-term cognitive effects of CCI Develop targeted therapies
Nosocomial infection	Bundles: CVC, VAP, etc. Reduce, remove indwelling devices	Develop uniform practices for CCI Antibiotic stewardship guidelines
Patient-centered care	Maintain communication, solicit preferences at admission, include consultative palliative care	Investigate best practices for providing information

TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN 3 HOURS:

- 1) Measure lactate level
- 2) Obtain blood cultures prior to administration of antibiotics
- 3) Administer broad-spectrum antibiotics
- 4) Administer 30 mL/kg crystalloid for hypotension or

Choosing Wisely[®]

An initiative of the ABIM Foundation

Central Line Bundle

- Communication
 - Daily goals sheet
- Safety programs at unit level
- Central line cart
- Central line checklist
- Empowerment of *all* staff to interrupt line placement



ICU Pain, Agitation, and Delirium Care Bundle

	PAIN	AGITATION	DELIRIUM
ASSESS	Assess pain ≥ 4 /shift & pm Preferred pain assessment tools: • Patient able to self-report \rightarrow NRS (0-10) • Unable to self-report \rightarrow BPS (3-12) or CPOT (0-8) Patient is in significant pain if NRS ≥ 4 , BPS > 5 , or CPOT ≥ 3	Assess agitation, sedation ≥ 4 /shift & pm Preferred sedation assessment tools: • RASS (-5 to +4) or SAS (1 to 7) • NMB \rightarrow suggest using brain function monitoring Depth of agitation, sedation defined as: • <i>agitated</i> if RASS = +1 to +4, or SAS = 5 to 7 • <i>awake and calm</i> if RASS = 0, or SAS = 4 • <i>lightly sedated</i> if RASS = -1 to -2, or SAS = 3 • <i>deeply sedated</i> if RASS = -3 to -5, or SAS = 1 to 2	Assess delirium Q shift & pm Preferred delirium assessment tools: • CAM-ICU (+ or -) • ICDSG (0 to 8) Delirium present if: • CAM-ICU is positive • ICDSG ≥ 4
TREAT	Treat pain within 30' then reassess: • Non-pharmacologic treatment-relaxation therapy • Pharmacologic treatment: – Non-neuropathic pain \rightarrow IV opioids +/- non-opioid analgesics – Neuropathic pain \rightarrow gabapentin or carbamazepine, + IV opioids – S/p AAA repair, rib fractures \rightarrow thoracic epidural • Administer pre-procedural analgesia	Targeted sedation or DSI (Goal: patient purposely follows commands without agitation): RASS = -2 to 0, SAS = 3 to 4 • If <i>under sedated</i> (RASS > 0 , SAS > 4) assess/treat pain \rightarrow treat w/sedatives pm (non-benzodiazepines preferred, unless ETOH or benzodiazepine withdrawal is suspected) • If <i>over sedated</i> (RASS < -2 , SAS < 3) hold sedatives until at target, then restart at 50% of previous dose • Consider daily SBT, early mobility and exercise	• Treat pain as needed • Reorient patients; familiarize surroundings; use patient's eyeglasses, hearing aids if needed • Pharmacologic treatment of delirium: – Avoid benzodiazepines unless ETOH or benzodiazepine withdrawal is suspected – Avoid rivastigmine – Avoid antipsychotics if \uparrow risk of Torsades de pointes • Identify delirium risk factors: dementia,

Positioning



NIH NHLBI ARDS Clinical Network Mechanical Ventilation Protocol Summary

Pressure Points

OXYGENATION GOAL: PaO₂ 55-80 mmHg or SpO₂ 88-95%
 Use a minimum PEEP of 5 cm H₂O. Consider use of incremental FIO₂/PEEP combinations such as shown below (not required) to achieve goal.

Lower PEEP/higher FIO₂

FIO ₂	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7
PEEP	5	5	8	8	10	10	10	12

FIO ₂	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
PEEP	14	14	14	16	18	18-24

Higher PEEP/lower FIO₂

FIO ₂	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
PEEP	5	8	10	12	14	14	16	16

FIO ₂	0.5	0.5-0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0
PEEP	18	20	22	22	22	24

PLATEAU PRESSURE GOAL: ≤ 30 cm H₂O

Check Pplat (0.5 second inspiratory pause), at least q 4h and after each change in PEEP or V_T.

If Pplat > 30 cm H₂O: decrease V_T by 1ml/kg steps (minimum = 4 ml/kg).

If Pplat < 25 cm H₂O and V_T < 6 ml/kg, increase V_T by 1 ml/kg until Pplat > 25 cm H₂O or V_T = 6 ml/kg.

If Pplat < 30 and breath stacking or dys-synchrony occurs: may increase V_T in 1ml/kg increments to 7 or 8 ml/kg if Pplat remains ≤ 30 cm H₂O.

Five Things Physicians and Patients Should Question

1. Daily diagnostic tests
2. Blood transfusion
3. Parenteral nutrition
4. Sedation
5. Life support



Chronic Critical Illness

Prevention Top 5 List

5. Nutrition (choosing wisely campaign item #3)

- Both over and under-feeding have been associated with CCI
- Don't use parenteral nutrition in adequately nourished critically-ill patients within the first 7 days of an ICU stay
- EN over PN

Chronic Critical Illness

Prevention Top 5 List

4. Sedation (choosing wisely campaign item #4)

“Don’t deeply sedate mechanically ventilated patients without a specific indication and without daily attempts to lighten sedation”

Delirium prevention – ESPN/CNN protocol

Consider early mobility – even in the ICU

Chronic Critical Illness

Prevention Top 5 List

3. Mechanical Ventilation

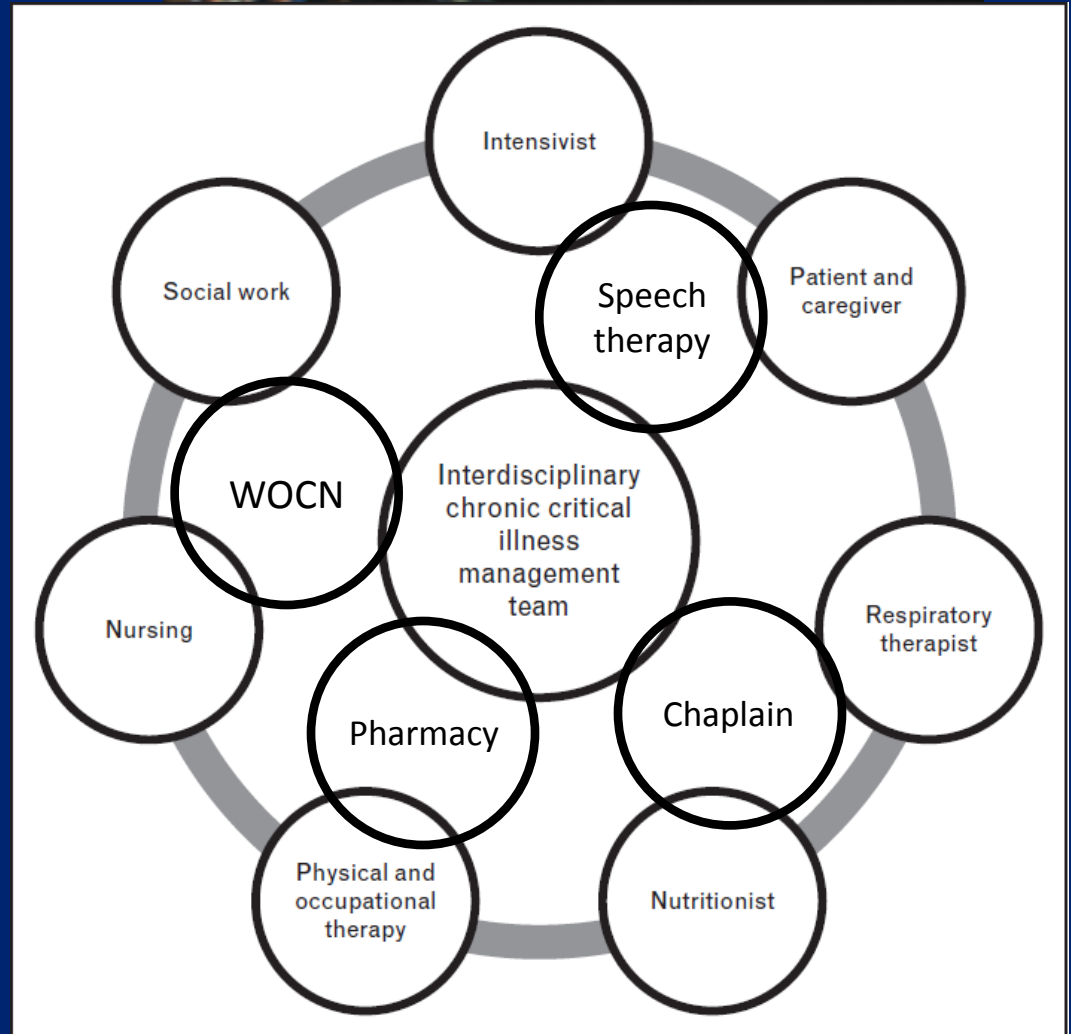
Use lung protective, low-stretch ventilation (6cc/kg) for all patients with ARDS and those at risk (most hospitalized patients)

Target conservative fluid management where feasible

Chronic Critical Illness *Prevention Top 5 List*

2. Critical care is a team sport

Consider weekly
interdisciplinary
rounds and family
meetings



Chronic Critical Illness

Prevention Top 5 List

1. Communication & Awareness (choosing wisely campaign item #5)

“Don’t continue life support for patients at high risk for death or severely impaired functional recovery without offering patients and their families the alternative of care focused entirely on comfort”

- Talk to patients and families
 - Ask about advanced directives
 - Tell them what you expect (50%, 10%)
 - Offer alternatives to aggressive care:
comfort / palliative, hospice
-

ABOUT CRITICAL CARE ▾

ADULT SUPPORT ▾

PEDIATRIC SUPPORT ▾

[CHRONIC CRITICAL ILLNESS](#)
[TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF](#)
[MEDICATION INFORMATION](#)
[LIFE SUPPORT CHOICES](#)
[MAKING DECISIONS](#)
[AFTER LEAVING THE ICU](#)
[PARTICIPATING IN CARE](#)
[WHY PATIENTS LOOK THAT WAY](#)
[POST-INTENSIVE CARE SYNDROME](#)

What Is Critical Care?

Critical care is medical care for patients whose illness requires close, constant watch by a team of specially trained caregivers. Most critical care takes place in an intensive care unit (ICU) or a trauma center. Both places of care contain all kinds of machines, tubes, and equipment used to treat the illness.

Feeling scared in the ICU is natural. You may be meeting the care team for the first time, or you may not recognize the care equipment. But understanding how the team and equipment improve health may help you feel more at ease. Also important is learning about treatment options, which may help you make decisions about care.



Spotlight on Life Support

Sometimes, in spite of the best treatment, a critically ill patient will not regain health. Treatment continues, but the goal shifts to making sure the patient dies as dignified and pain-free as possible. The medical care and support used to achieve this goal is called *end-of-life care*.

This shift in care can be scary, but end-of-life care also helps the patient and family deal with any emotional and spiritual concerns with death.



Chronic Critical Illness

Information about the causes of chronic critical illness, available treatments, and recovery.



Why Do ICU Patients Look and Act That Way? A guide to understanding how a patient looks and acts in the ICU.



Glossary

An A to Z list of critical care words and what they mean.

Critical Illness

Wave of the future

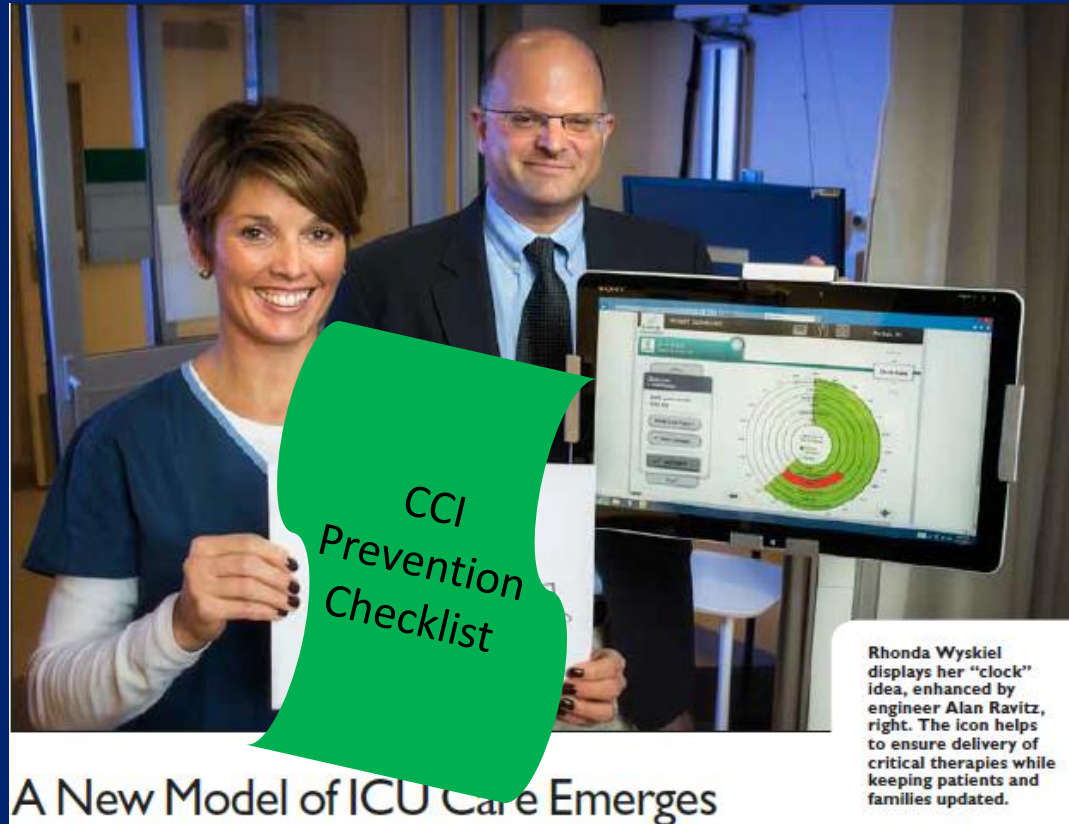


2064 ?



Critical Illness *Project Emerge*

- Preventable patient harm alert system (CLABSI, CAUTI, VAP, VAC, etc)
- System of systems
- Tracks over 200 tasks daily
- Family involvement



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Thank you

Special thanks:

Dr. Jerry Staton

Dr. David Schulman

Online Resources

- Choosing Wisely Campaign
www.choosingwisely.org/
- Patient and family educational resources
www.myICUcare.org/
- Project Emerge
http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/news/publications/dome/dome_december_2013/project_emerge_preventable_harms_and_ways_to_avoid_them