



*October 19, 2021*

## **Agenda**

- Didactic: De-Escalation Principle

# What is De-Escalation?

- Discontinue redundant antibiotics
  - Duplicate anaerobic coverage
  - Duplicate anti-pseudomonal coverage
- Discontinue unnecessary antibiotics
  - Stopping vancomycin for pneumonia after MRSA nares swab = neg
- Switch from IV to PO
  - Levofloxacin IV to PO
  - Ceftriaxone IV to Cephalexin PO
- Spectrum De-escalation
  - Cefepime to ceftriaxone



# Situation:



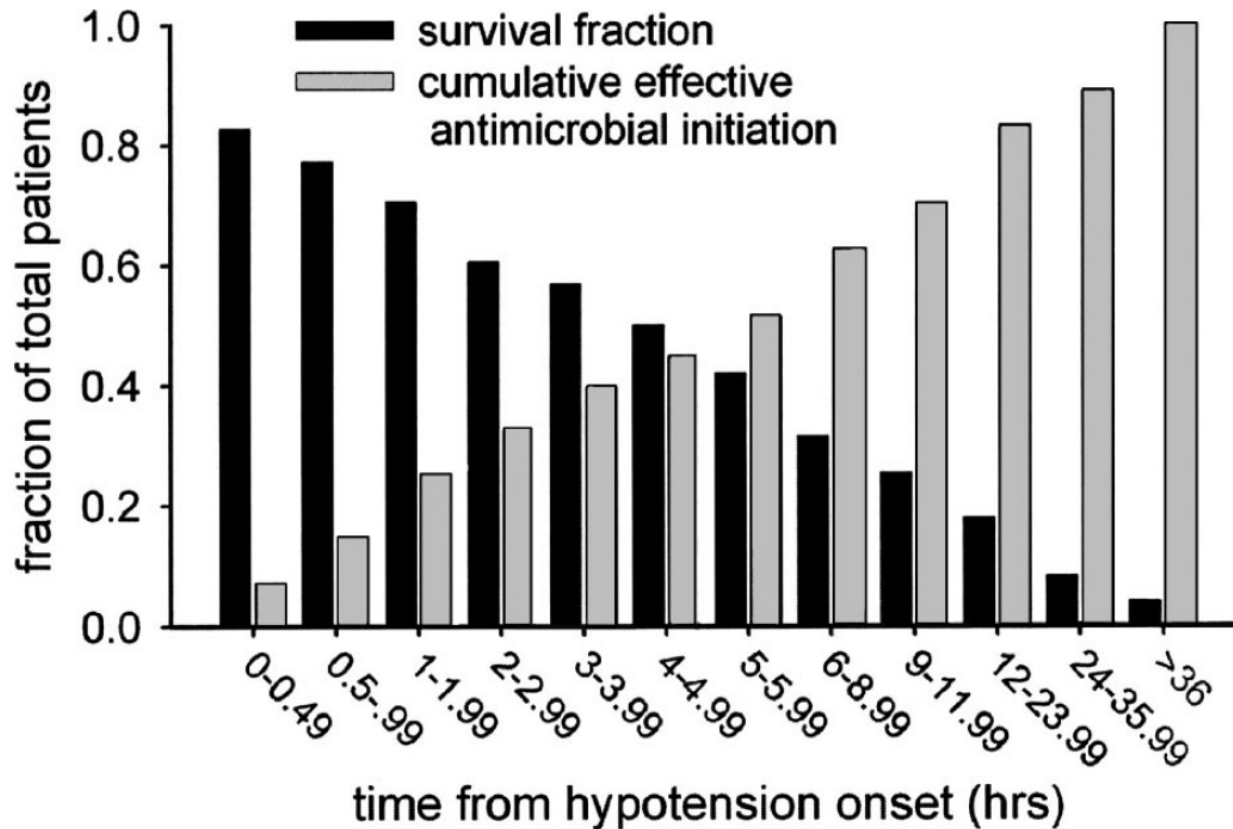
The diagram consists of two large, blue, 3D-style arrows pointing towards each other. The left arrow points right and contains the text 'Sepsis Care'. The right arrow points left and contains the text 'Antimicrobial Stewardship'. The arrows are positioned such that their tips meet in the center, creating a symmetrical visual that suggests a reciprocal or interconnected relationship between the two concepts.

Sepsis Care

Antimicrobial  
Stewardship



# Effective Antimicrobial Therapy is **Critical Determinant of Survival** in Septic Shock



*Each hour of delay in antimicrobial administration over the ensuing 6 hrs was associated with an average decrease in survival of 7.6%.*



# CMS Sepsis Criteria

## Suspicion of infection

As documented in  
prescriber notes

## SIRS Criteria

≥2 of these:

T >38.3C or <36C

HR >90

RR >20

WBC >12K or <4K

## Organ Dysfunction

Any 1 of these:

SBP < 90

MAP <65

SCr >2

UOP <0.5 ml/kg/h

New need for  
mechanical vent

INR >1.5

aPTT >60

Acute condition

Acute on chronic  
condition



# What if I'm wrong?



## Stratification of the Impact of Inappropriate Empirical Antimicrobial Therapy for Gram-Negative Bloodstream Infections by Predicted Prognosis

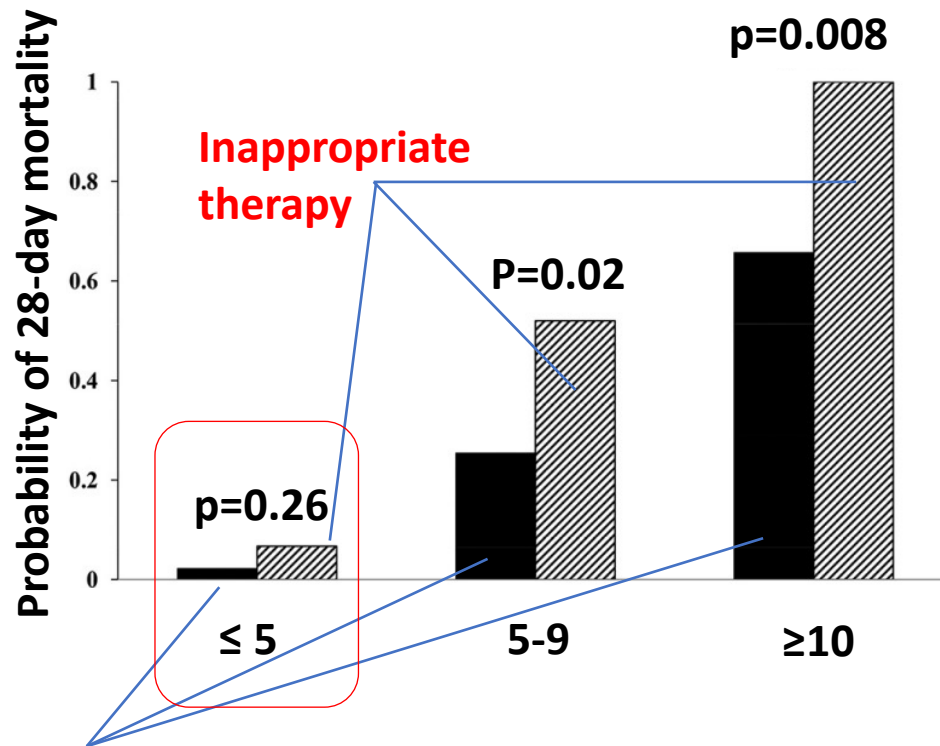
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*We examined the overall impact of inappropriate empirical antimicrobial therapy on 28-day mortality in patients with Gram-negative bloodstream infections*



# Margin of Error Depends on Degree of Sickness



**Appropriate  
therapy**

**Inappropriate  
therapy**

Bloodstream infection mortality score variables	Score
Malignancy	3
Liver cirrhosis	4
High-inoculum infection*	4
Pitt bacteremia score**	
0-1	0
2-3	2
≥4	5

\*Non-UTI, non catheter-related bloodstream infection

\*\*Pitt bacteremia score:

T (35.1-36 or 39.0-39.9°C, 1 point; 35 or 40°C, 2 points),

BP (hypotension, 2 points),

Mental status (disorientation, 1 point; stupor, 2 points; coma, 4 points),

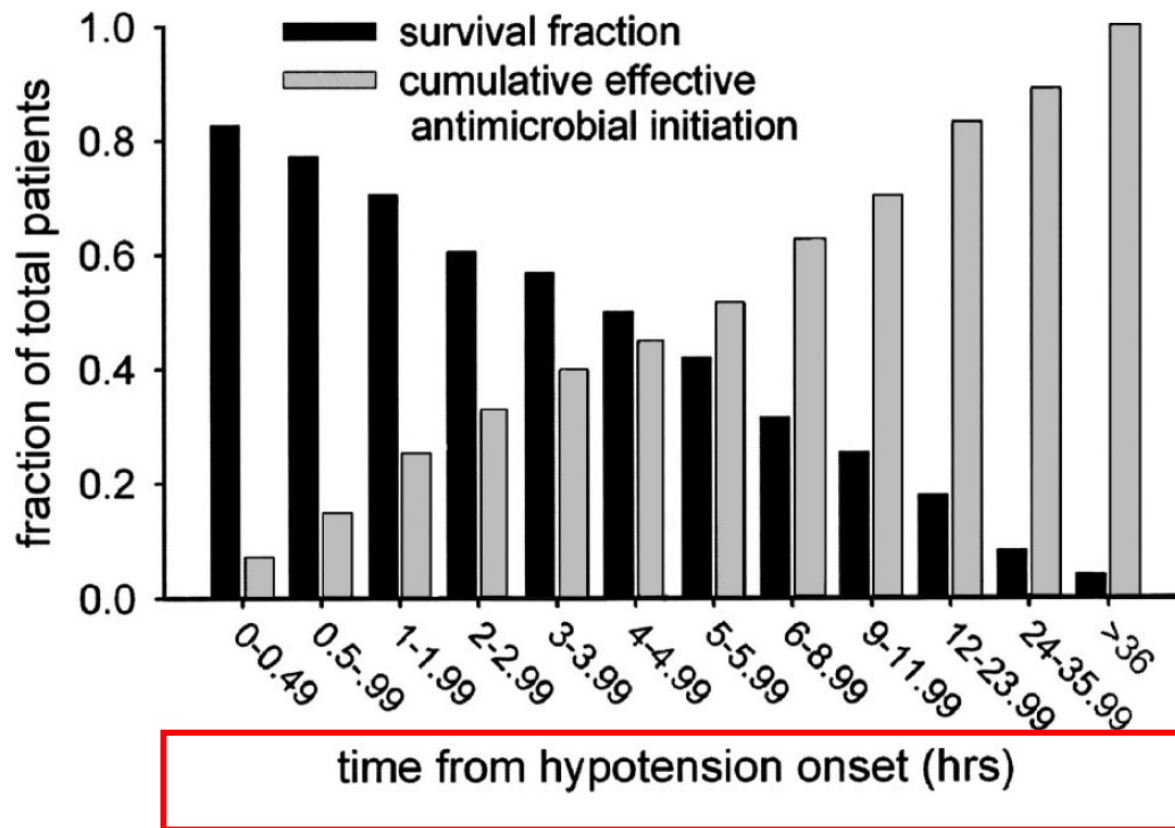
Respiratory status (mechanical ventilation, 2 points), Cardiac status (cardiac arrest, 4 points)





# Antimicrobials are **Critical** in Septic Shock: *The Devil is in the Details*

*Each hour of delay = 7.6% decrease in survival*



# Antimicrobials are **Critical** in Septic Shock: Time starts with *PERSISTENT* hypotension

An episode of hypotension was considered to represent the **initial onset** of septic shock when:

- a) hypotension persisted from onset despite fluid (>2L of saline or equivalent) administration
- OR
- b) Hypotension was only transiently improved (hypotension resolution for <1hr) with fluid resuscitation.



# Does the sepsis clock in your hospital start **AFTER** a patient is administered IV fluids?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure



# No Day but Today



# 4% increased risk of new resistance for each additional day of ANY antipseudomonal $\beta$ -lactam exposure

Increased risk of **NEW** resistance for each additional day of therapy



Cefepime  
n = 5274



8%

Piperacillin/  
tazobactam  
n = 2463



8%

Meropenem  
n = 3625



2%

*...When comparing a 7-day course with a 10-day course of therapy, **the 10-day course is associated with a 24% increased risk of new resistance compared with the 7-day course***



# Stabilize...Diagnose...Deescalate...Duration



24-48h

**Stabilize  
Treat**



48-72h

**Review  
micro  
data**



>72h

**Treatment  
Planning**

**Antibiotic optimization**

**Antibiotic de-escalation**



# Application to Practice: When to Launch



✓ Hemodynamically unstable

# What's the Risk of Getting it Wrong?



## Outpatient

**Targeted antibiotics / Watch & wait**

Risk of getting it wrong is low

Consider access to care/Contingency plan

## Hemodynamically stable

**Targeted antibiotics**

Risk of getting it wrong is low but depends on individual scenario (immunocompromised pt)

## Hemodynamically unstable

**Broad spectrum antibiotics**

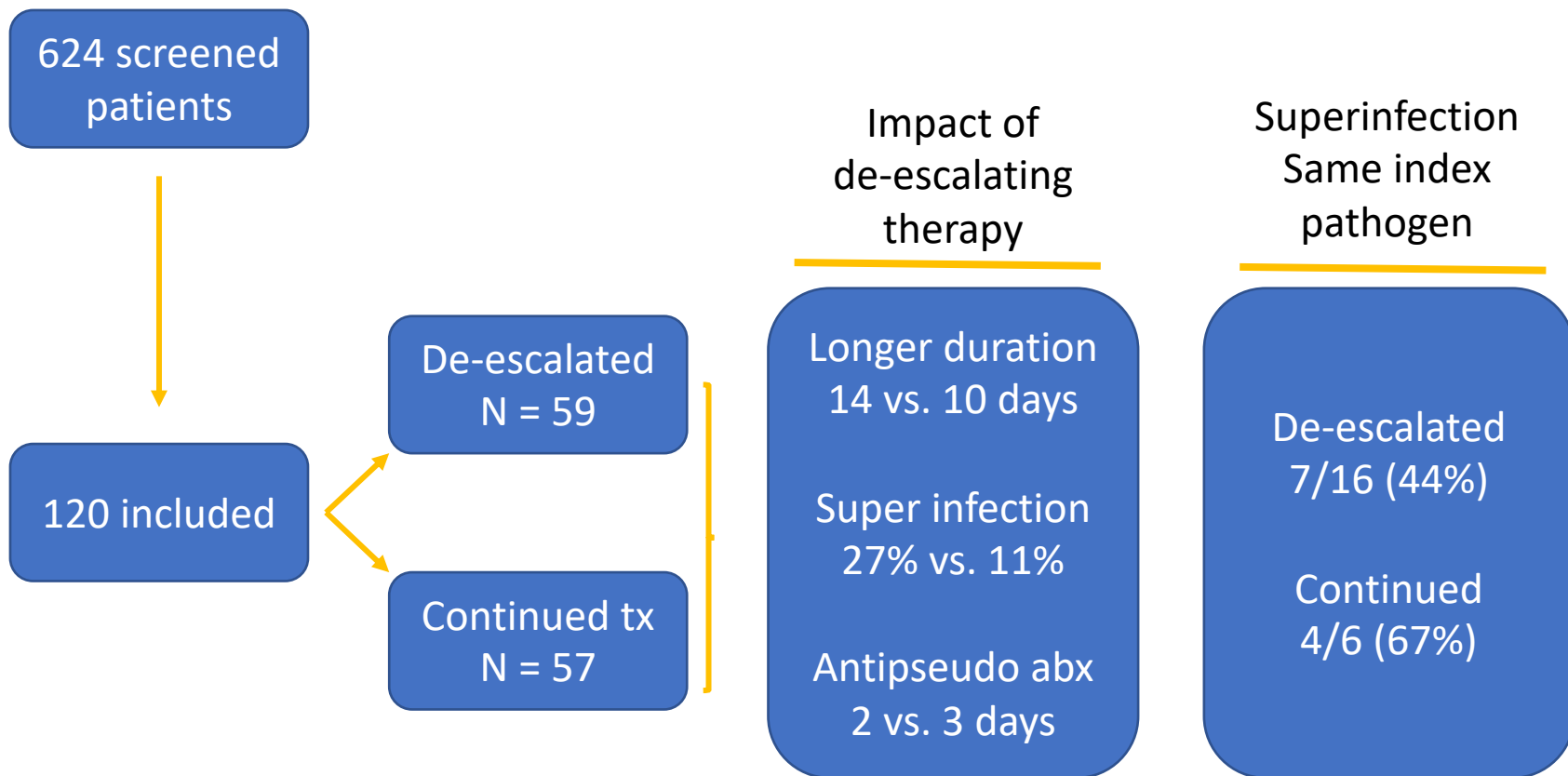
Cover broadly

Considering patient history & risk





# Application to Practice: Value of Spectrum De-escalation?



*“Spectrum de-escalation has not conclusively shown to improve patient outcomes or prevent resistance” – M.Jeffres*



# How should we De-Escalate?

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- Switch from IV to PO
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- Spectrum De-escalation
  - Cefepime

**\*\*Focus on Duration\*\***

