

# Culture, Organization, and Medical Error

*Can Error Strengthen Team Performance?*

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*“fallor ergo sum”*

**I Err therefore I Am**

*St-Augustine – 354-430 AD*

Error

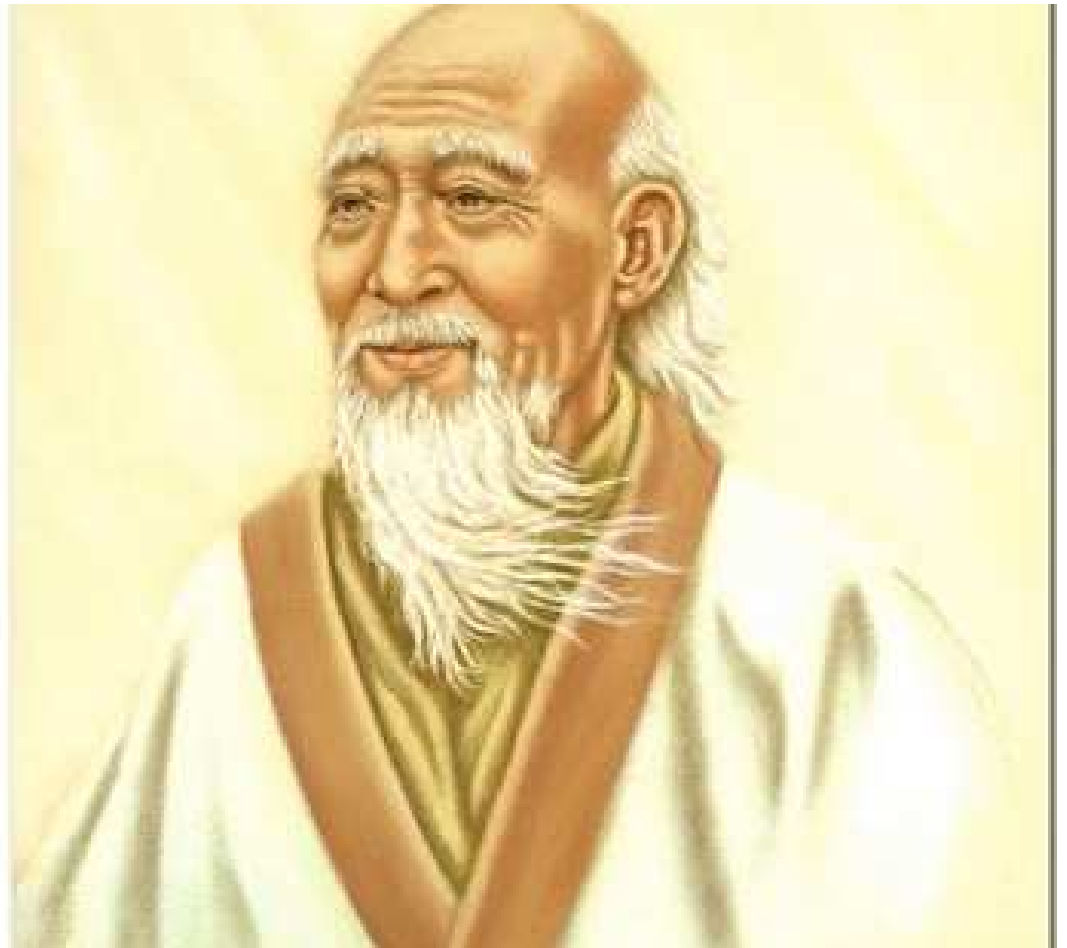
Transparency

How we work together

Effortful Learning

**Failure is the foundation of success and  
the means by which it is achieved**

**Lao-Tzu**  
600 BC



# Fantastic Mental Errors of History

- 1633 – Trial of Galileo



# Error can be Dangerous!



# Checklists – Non Cardiac Operation

- Decreased Death - 50%
- Decreased Complications 50%

*The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE*

SPECIAL ARTICLE

A Surgical Safety Checklist to Reduce Morbidity  
and Mortality in a Global Population

# **The Science (art) of Dynamic Performance**

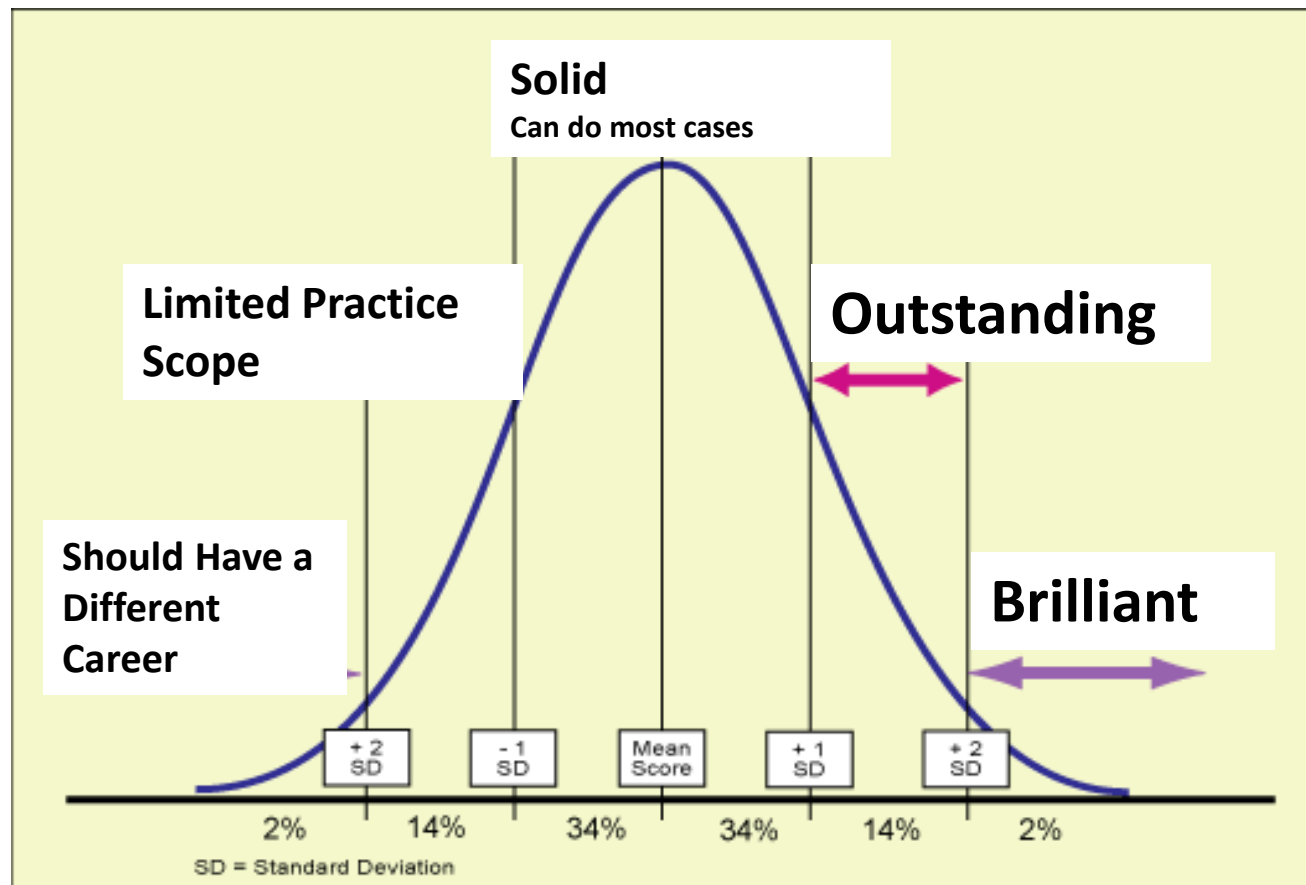






# Individual Expertise

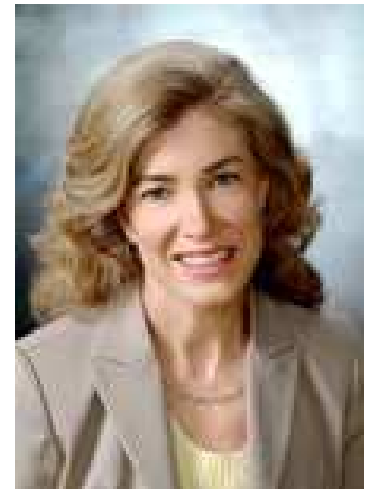
the focus for 100's of years



# Value Based Health Care Best Outcome

## *Fundamental restructuring*

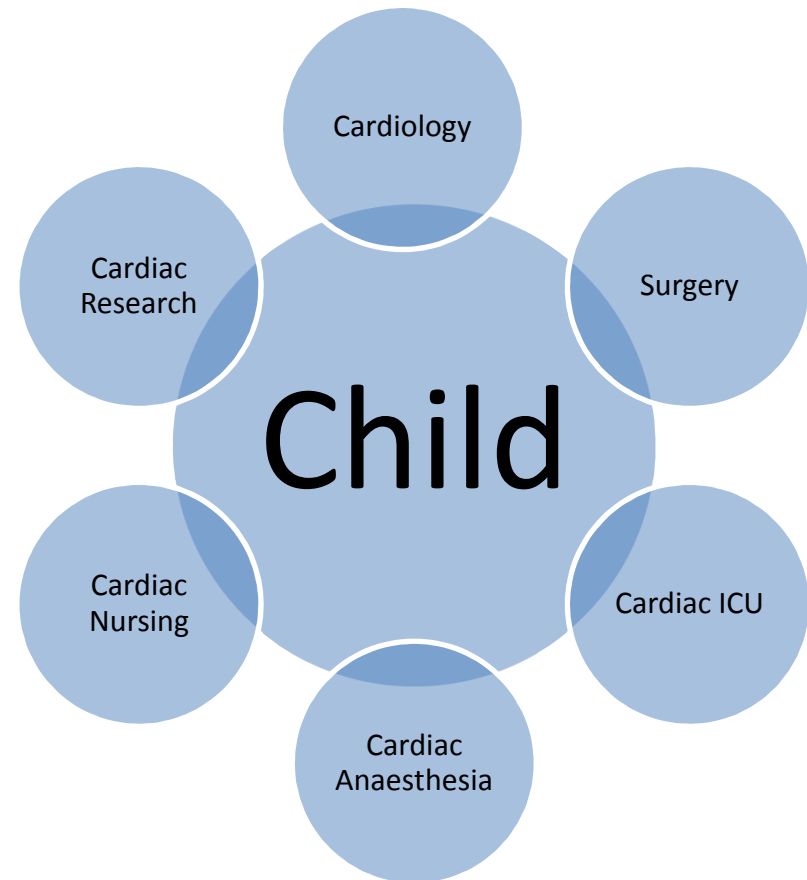
- Focus on a Disease Population
- 1 Business Unit
  - Specialty Teams
  - Work Side by Side
  - Special Buildings



**Professor Michael Porter and Elizabeth Teisberg, Harvard Business School**

# Organizing for Sustainably

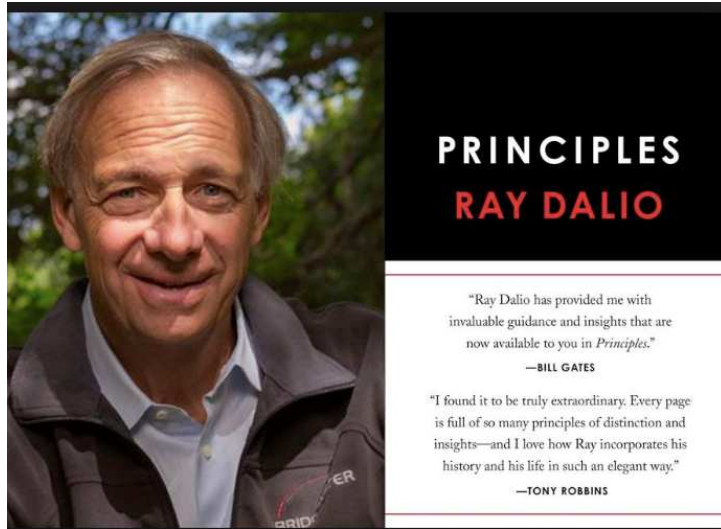
## Heart Center



## Functional vs Structural

# Radical Truth and Transparency

## Bridgewater Associates

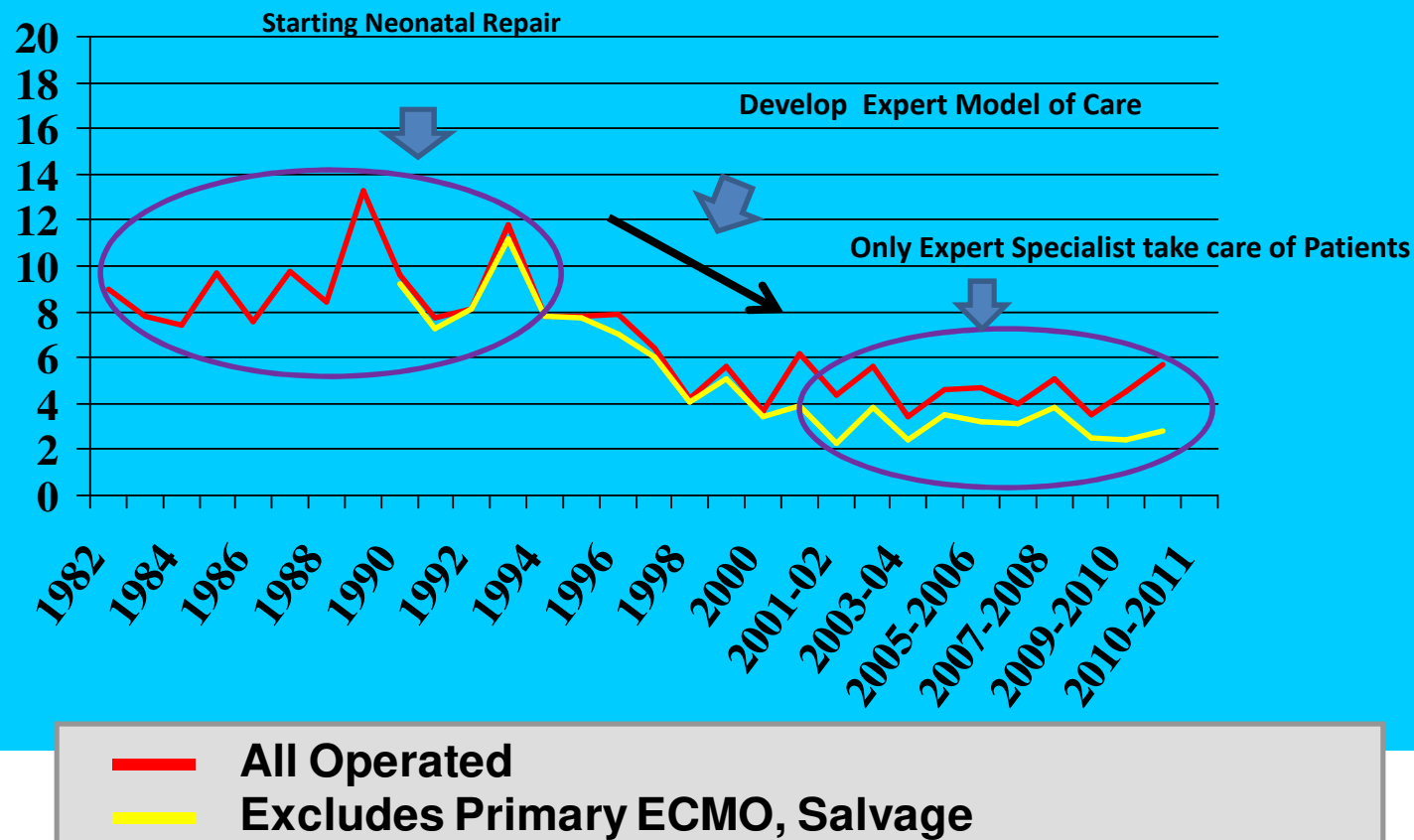


**Idea Meritocracy**  
**Believability weighting**

*We require people to be extremely open, air disagreements, test each other's logic, and view discovering mistakes and weaknesses as a good thing that leads to improvement and innovation.*

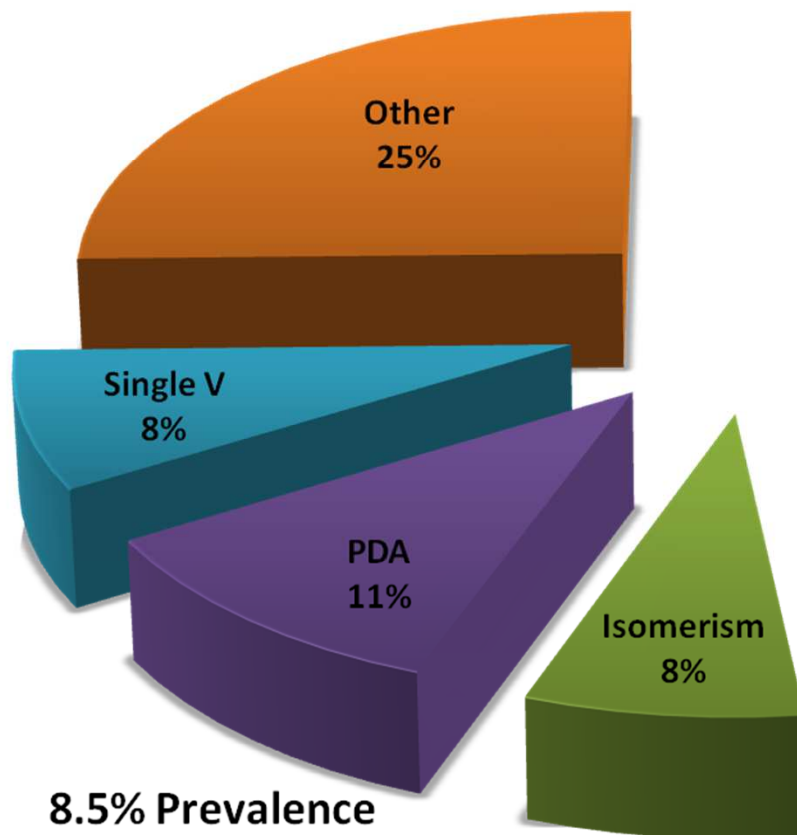
*It is by continually striving together for the highest levels of truth and excellence that we create meaningful work and meaningful relationships.*

# Outcome Differences 1982 to 2011

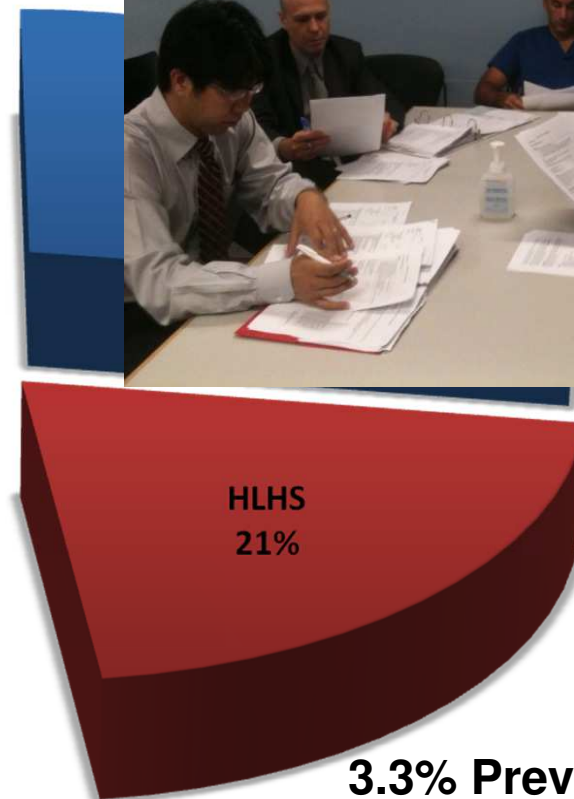


# 10 Year Mortality Review

## Primary Operation



8.5% Prevalence  
5.6% Mortality



3.3% Prevalence  
17% Mortality

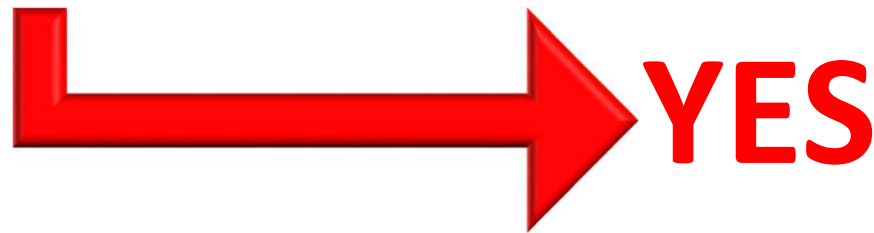


Schwartz  
Humpl  
Redington  
Van Arsdell  
Caldarone  
Honjo

# Error Definition

- ***Findings:***
  - *less than optimal*
  - *not related to “normal patient course”*
- ***Question:***
  - *Controllable consequence of a provider decision or intervention?*

**ERROR**

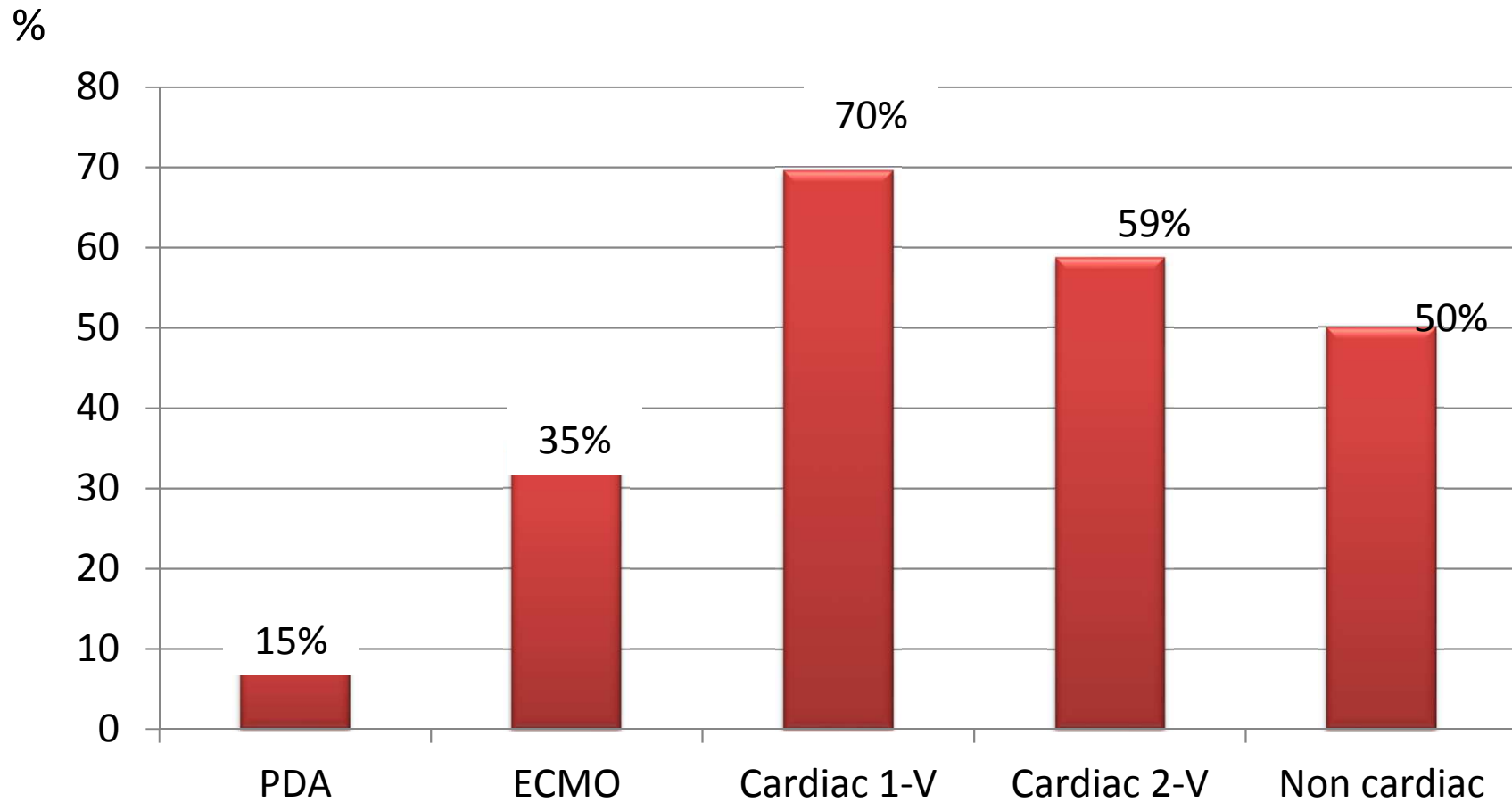


**YES**

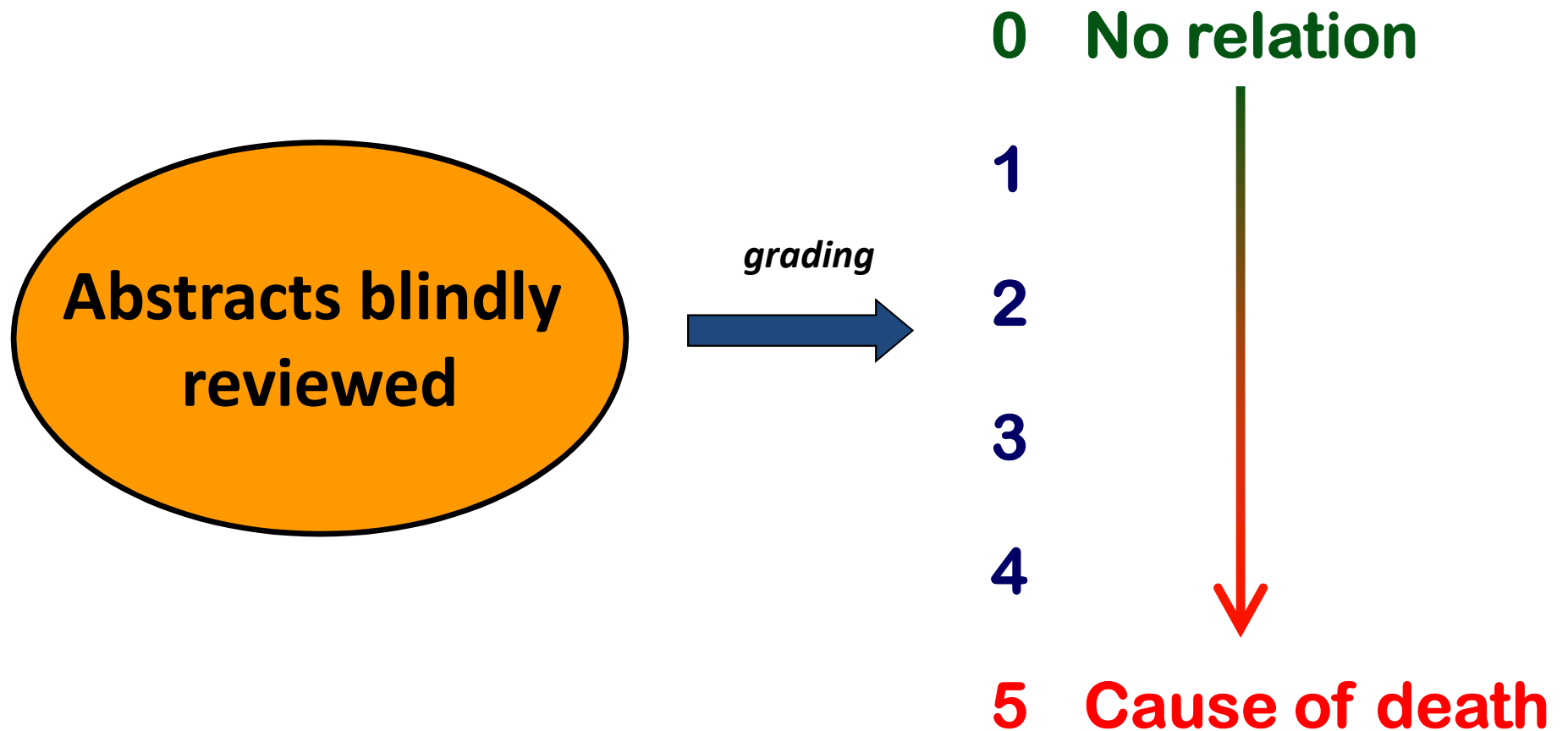


# 10 Years of Mortality

## Prevalence of Errors all Deaths

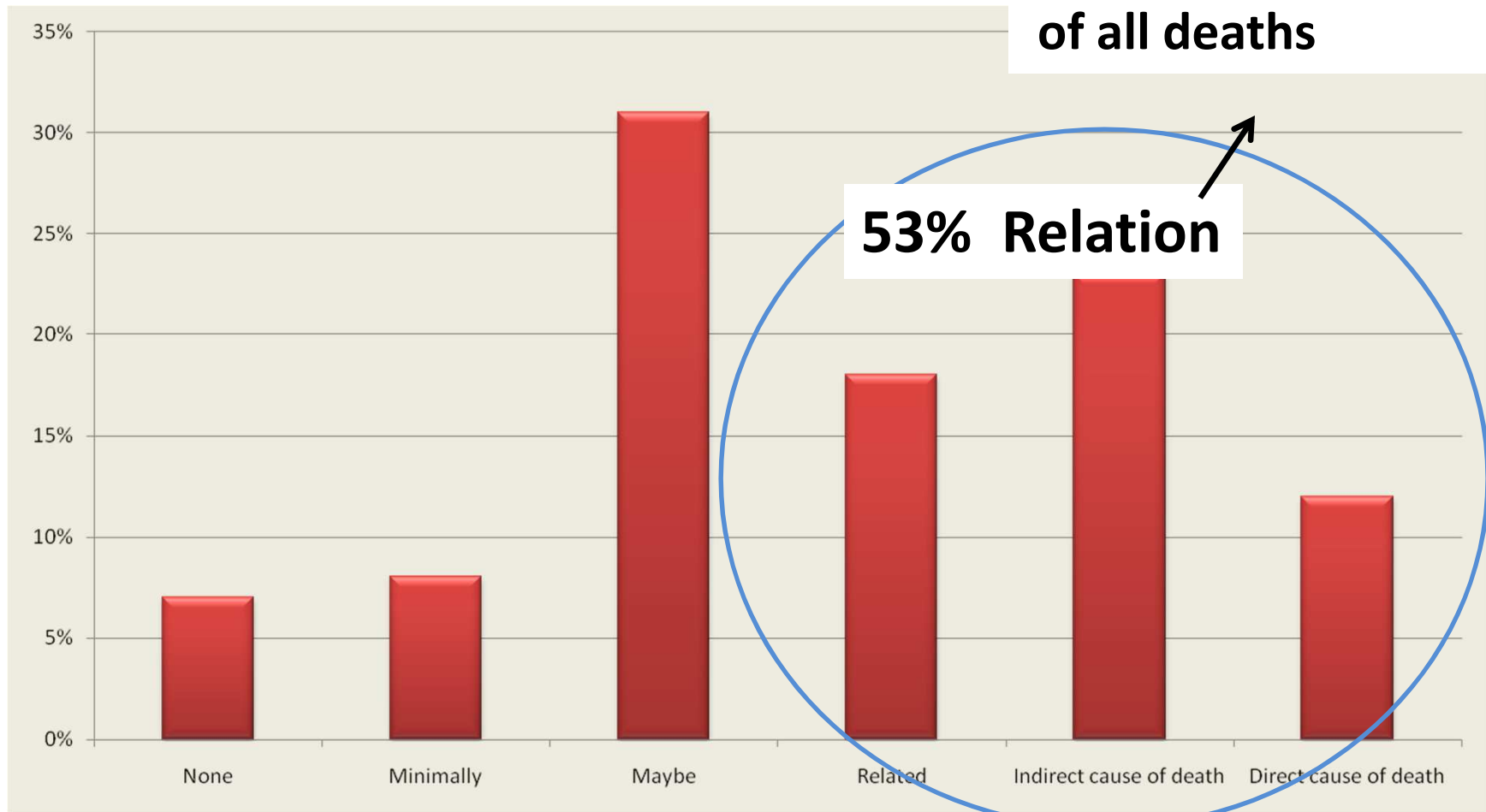


# Causality – linking error to outcome



# Likelihood of Error Causing Death

Translates to 30%  
of all deaths



$N=18$

10

11

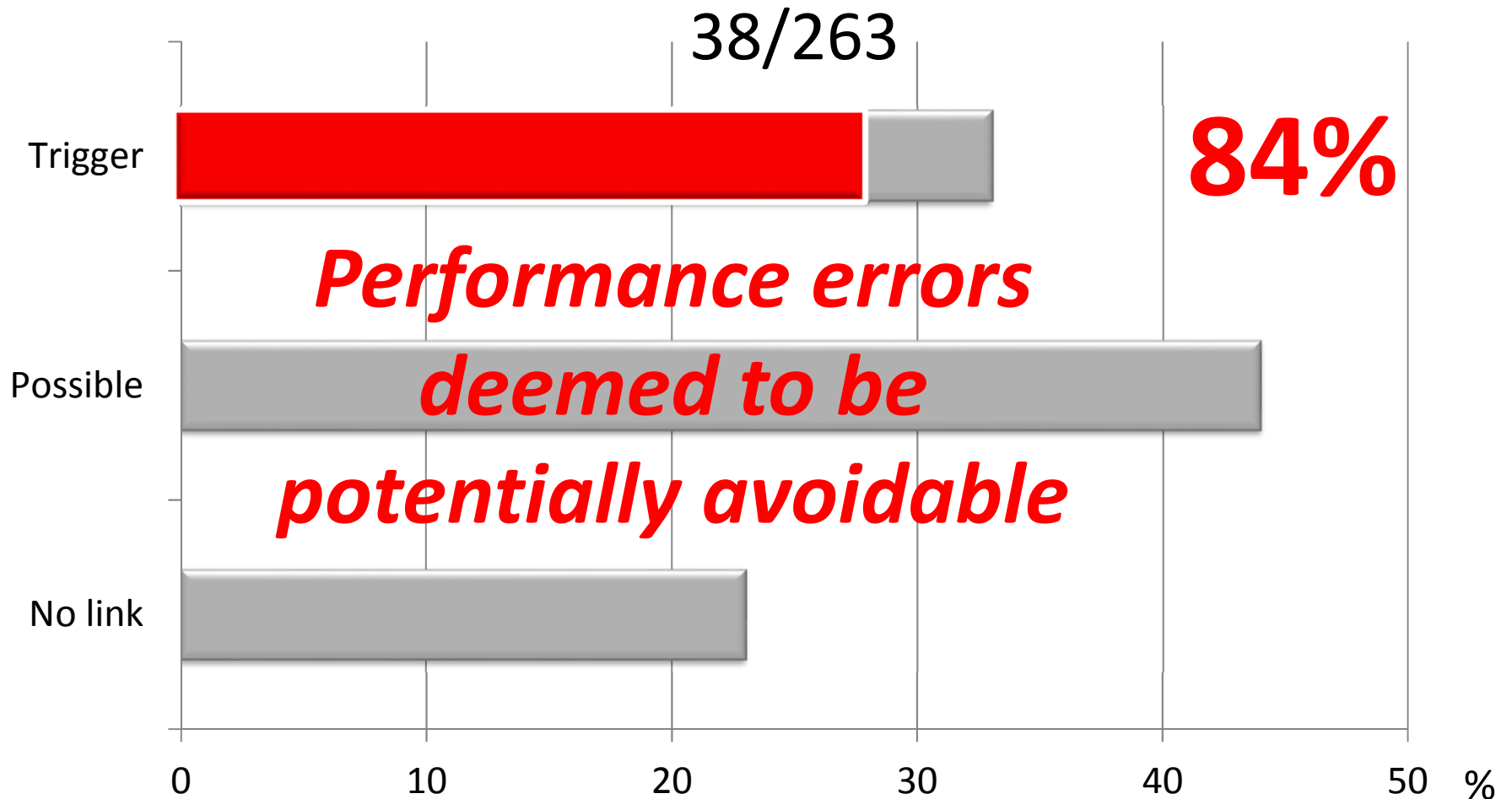
43

25

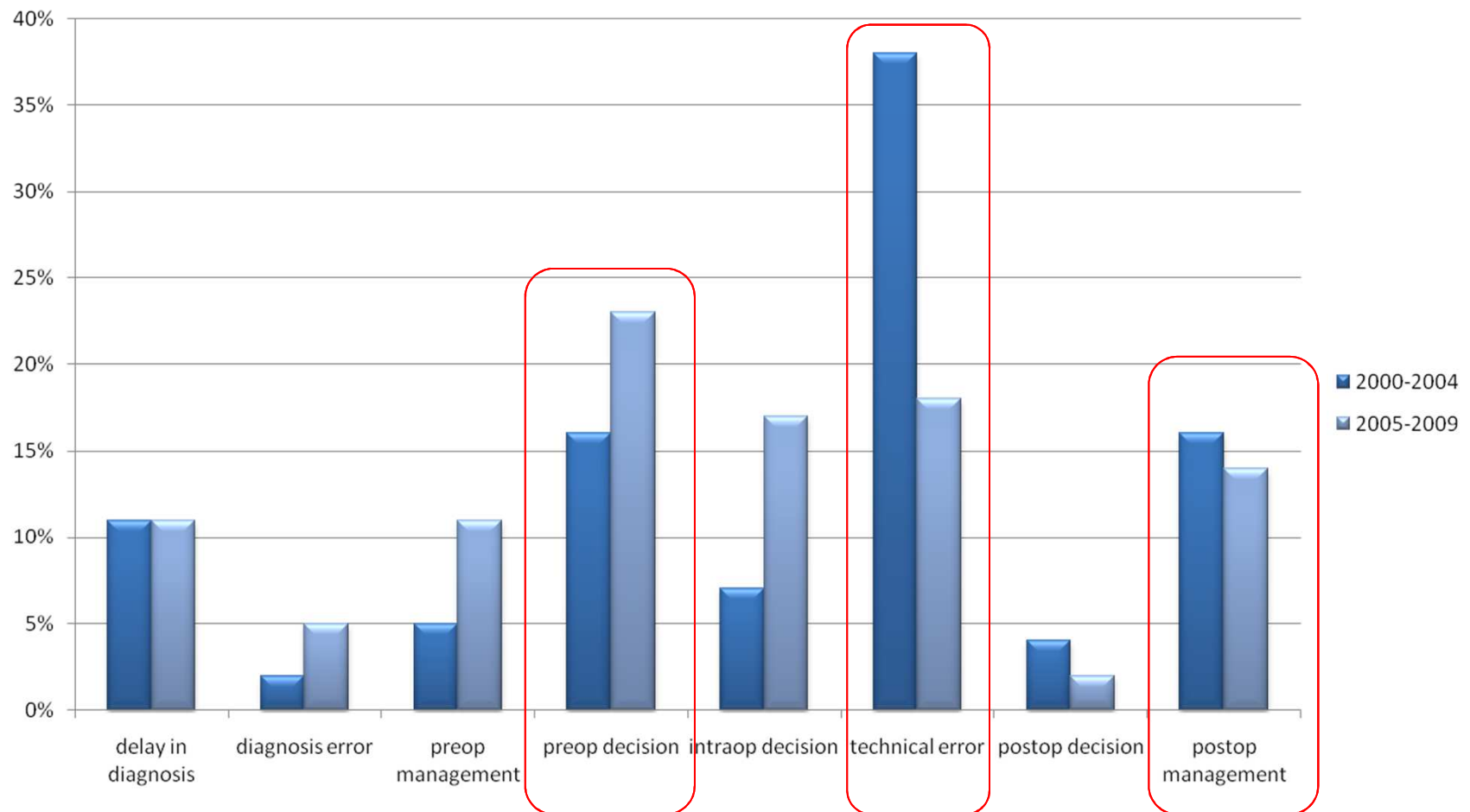
31

17

# Causality – All Error Relation to Death



# Error Wasn't Static



# ***Effortful Learning***

**Beyond the Expert Model of Care**

# What About Cognitive Performance

- **1993 vs 1911 studies**
- **Grandmaster's today Superior**
- **Grand Master**
  - '58 – Fisher at 15
  - Karjakin (Ukraine) 12.5y
- **Better Store of Structured Knowledge**





# The R's of Great Care

Right Diagnosis

Right Time for Surgery

Right Operation

- Right amount of time

- Right residual lesions

Right Anaesthetic care

Right ICU care

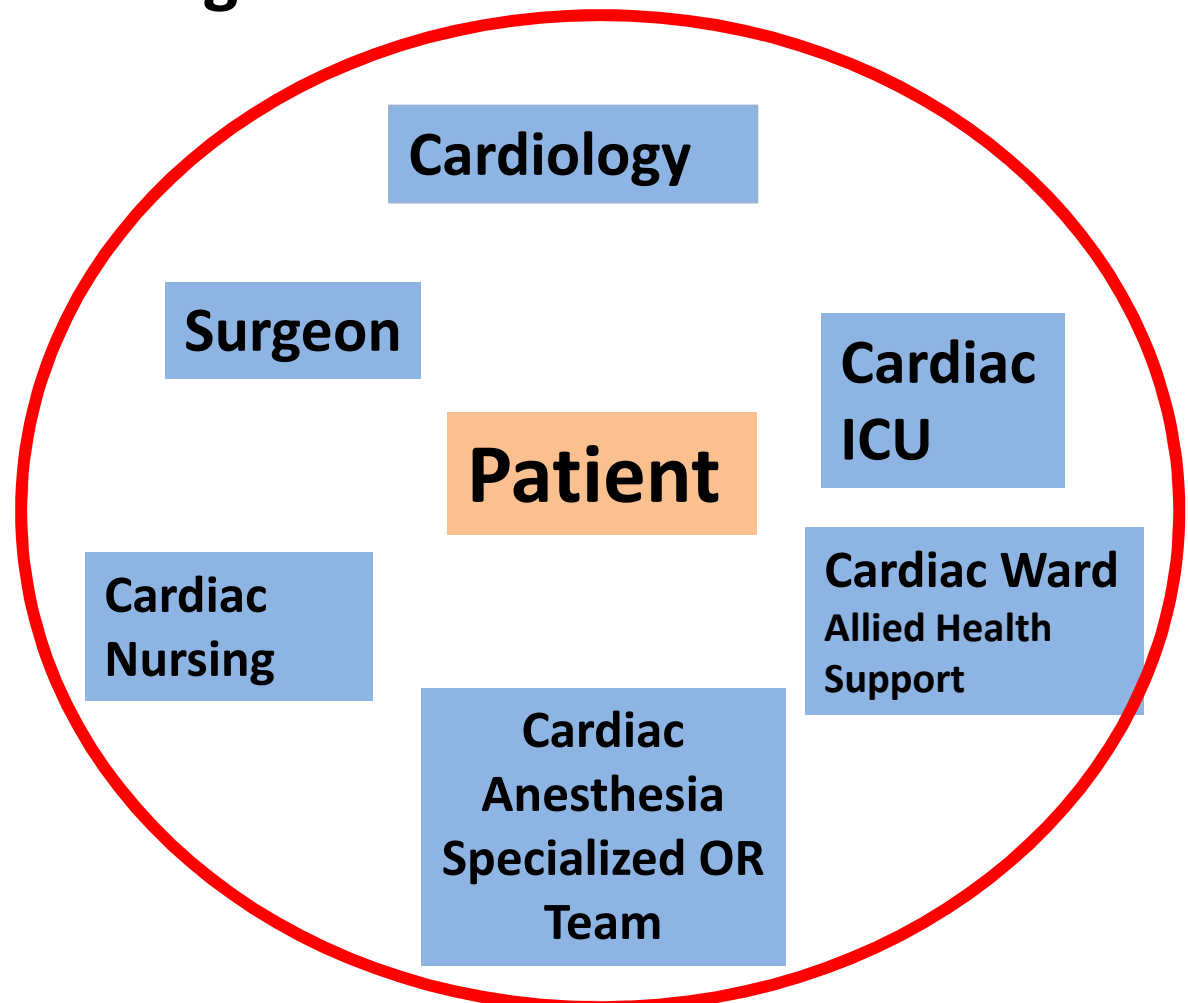
Right Ward Care

# Weekly Performance Rounds

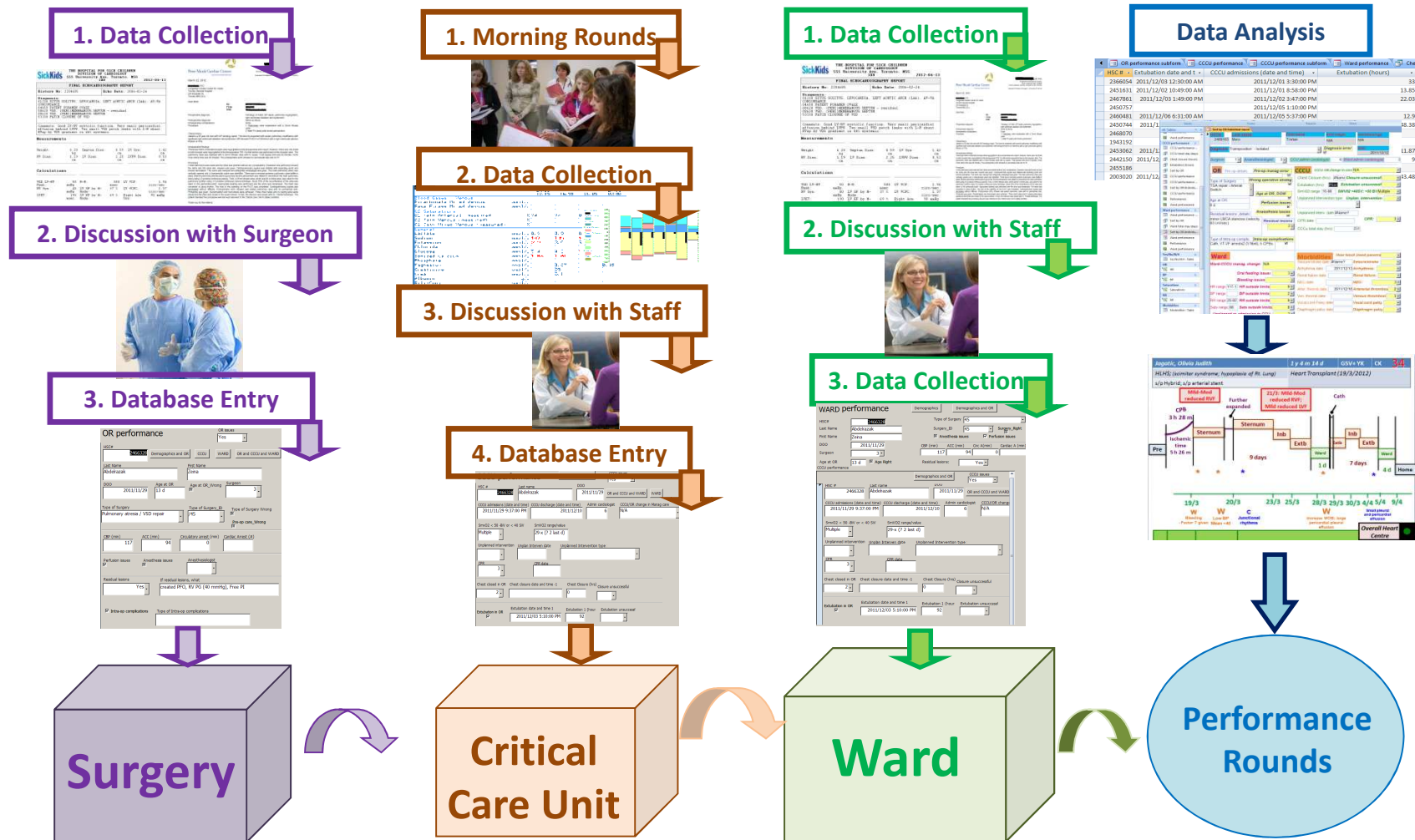
**Improving Effortful Learning**

*Safe environment*

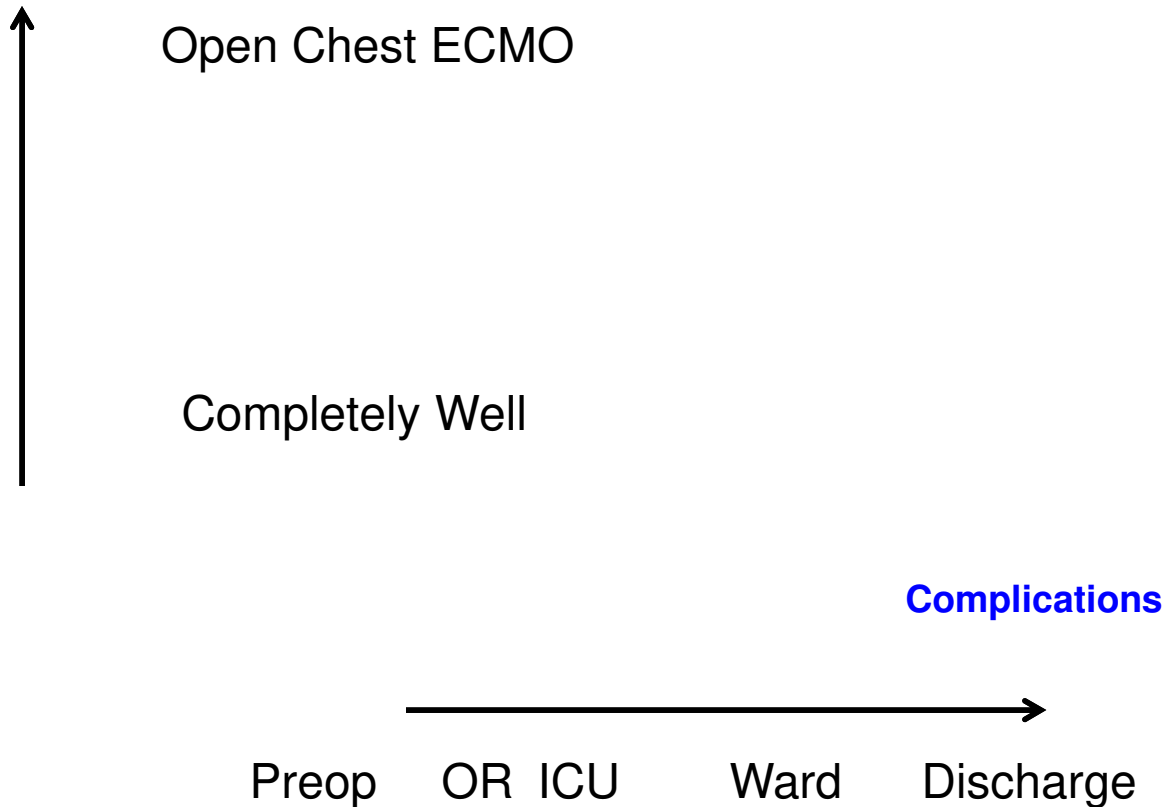
**Team Learning**



# Performance tracking initiative

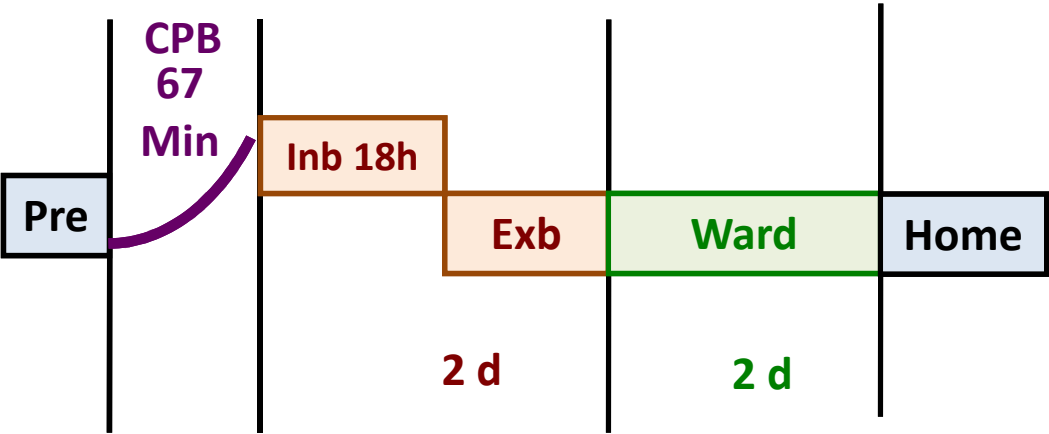


# Visual Picture of Patient Course and Team Performance



Name	5 m 16 d	Surgeon		3
HLHS	BCPS, PA plasty and Sano conduit takedown			
s/p Norwood Sano (Jan 2012)				

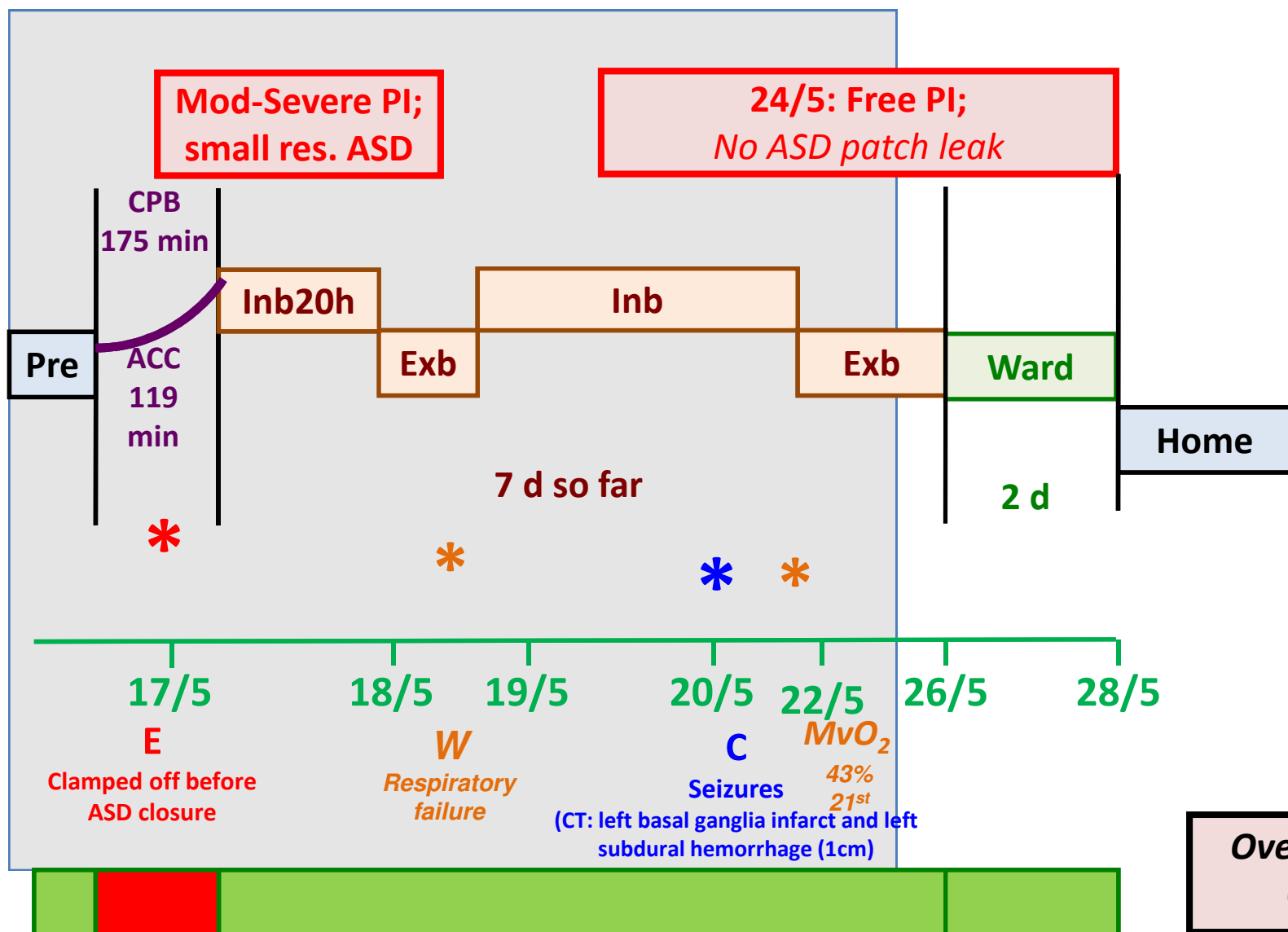
None



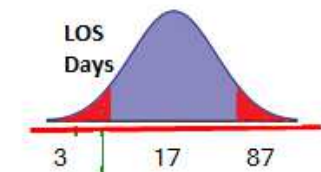
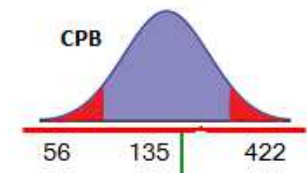
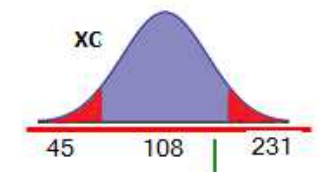
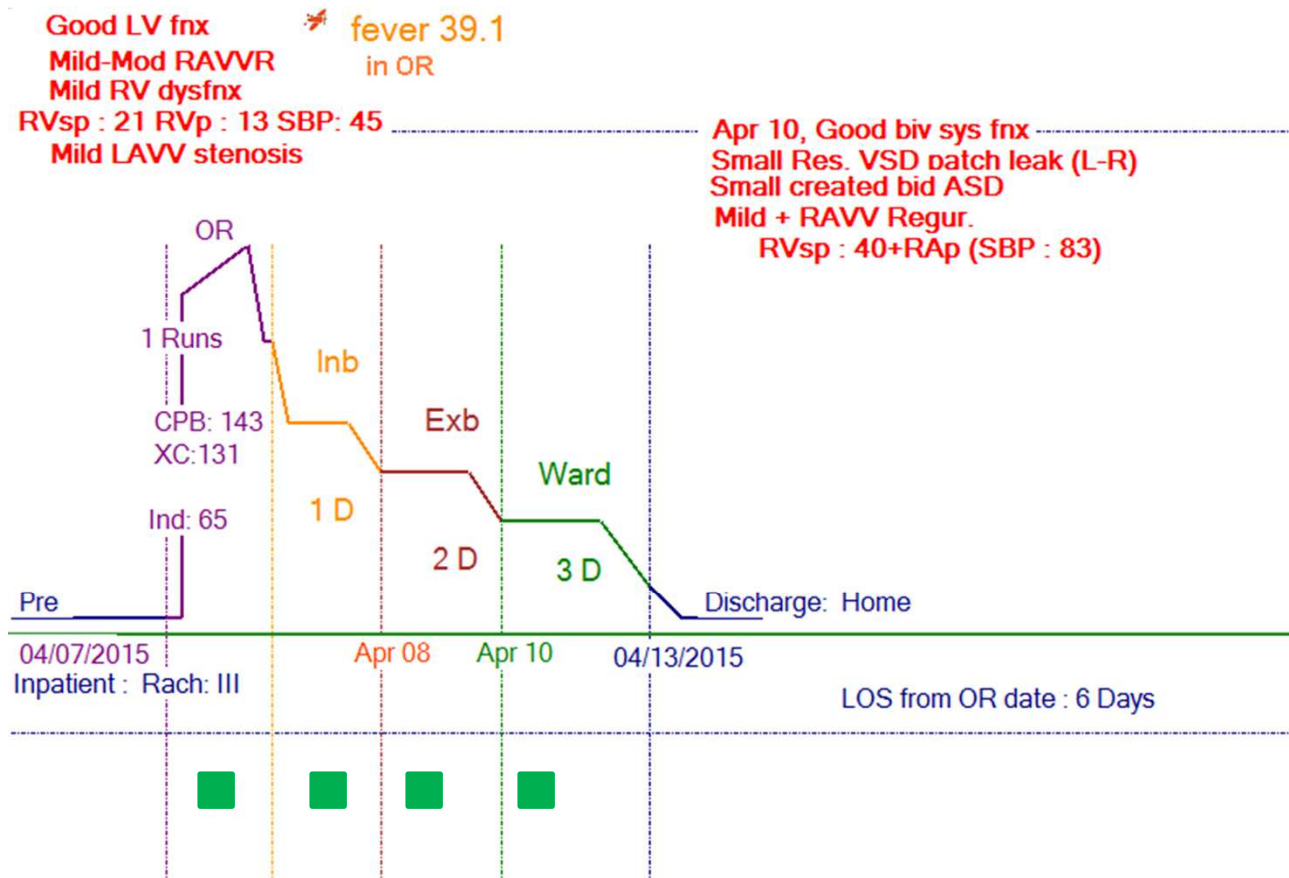
Overall Heart Centre



<b>Name</b>	<b>1 m 23 d</b>	<b>surgeon</b>	<b>30</b>
TGA/VSD/PS	Arterial switch repair, VSD closure, sub-pulmonary resection, PDA ligation		
s/p BAS (April 4 <sup>th</sup> )			



Name	Age	Weight	Surgeon+Fellow	Anesth	ICU	Cardio
name	5m 25d	5.4 Kg	OH+ CH	ML	PL	EJ
Diagnosis	Intervention					
AVSD, Mild AVVR, Bil SVC	Apr 07, AVSD Repair, PD cath insertion					
Other Diagnosis	Previous Intervention					
T21, Hirshsprung's disease, GERD, FTT						



For this OR we have 0 patients  
LOS calculated from OR date



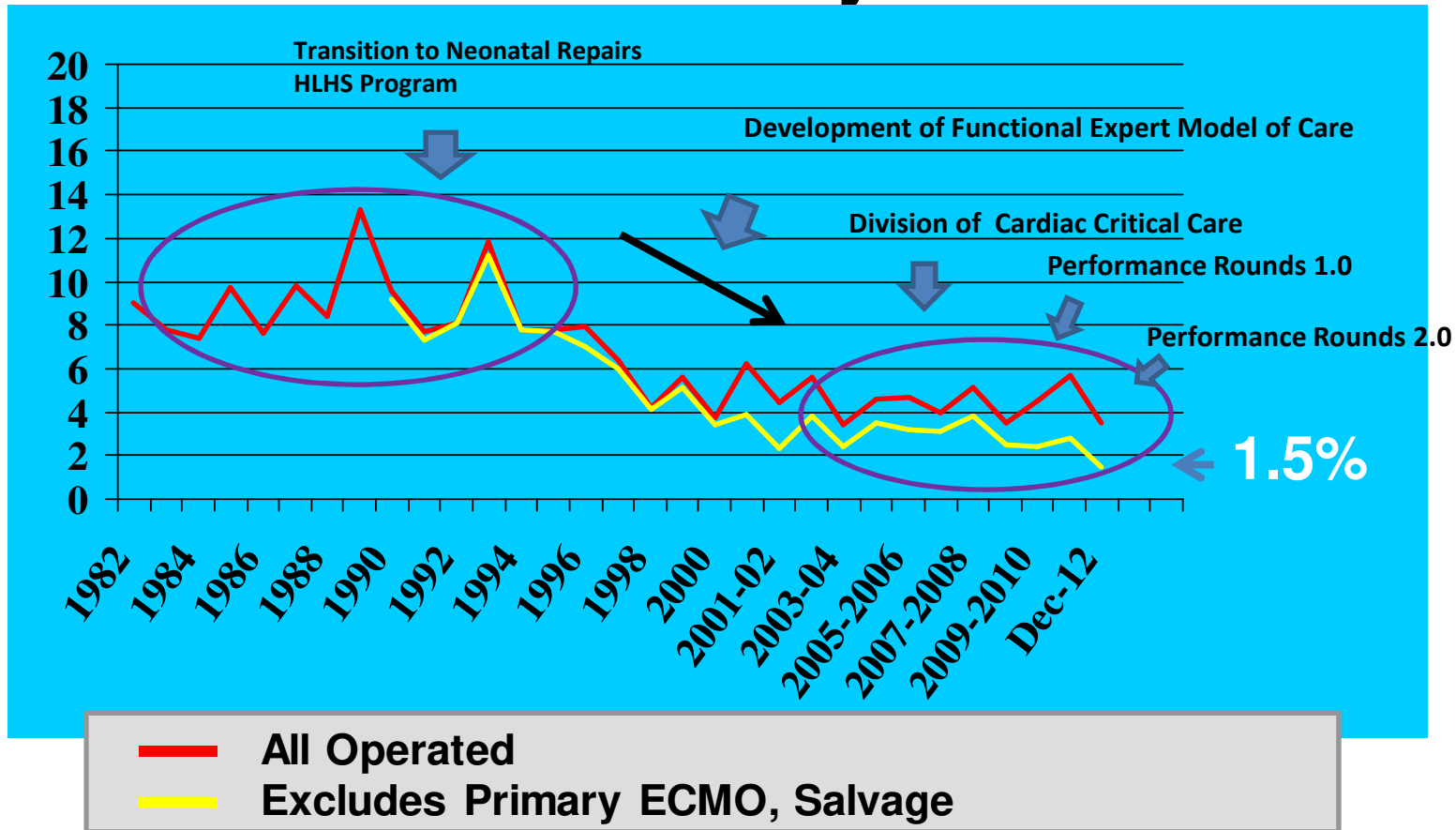
# *Aims of Performance Rounds*

- 1. Enabling blameless but accountable work by each team member*
- 2. Closing the loop of awareness for each patient's clinical course*
- 3. Engaging our staff in team learning*
- 4. Structurally implementing major items learned*

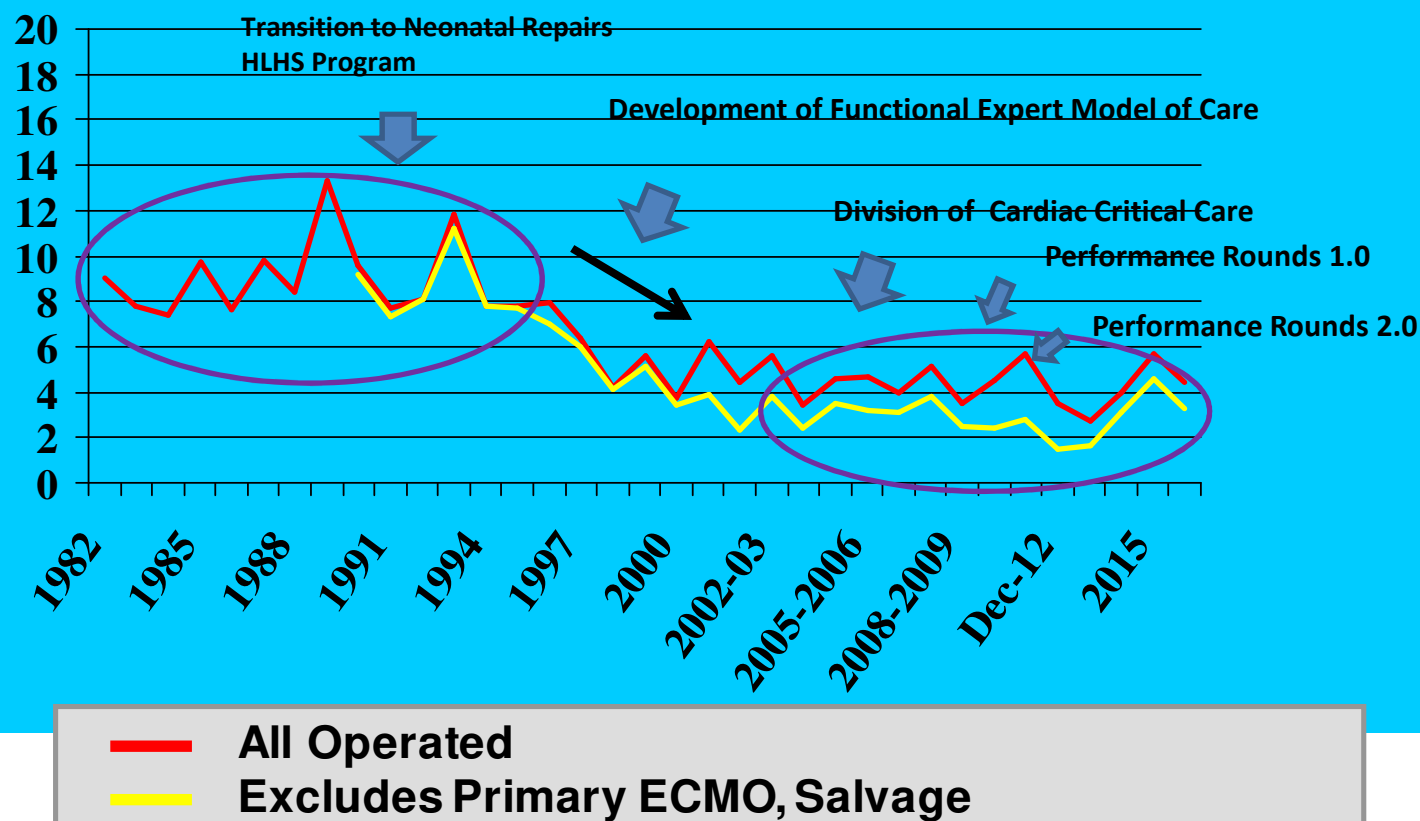
Confidentiality is essential to conducting a meaningful performance review. Accordingly, communications are to be kept confidential except insofar as will be required to carry on quality and patient safety recommendations flowing from this review.

# Has all this had any Impact?

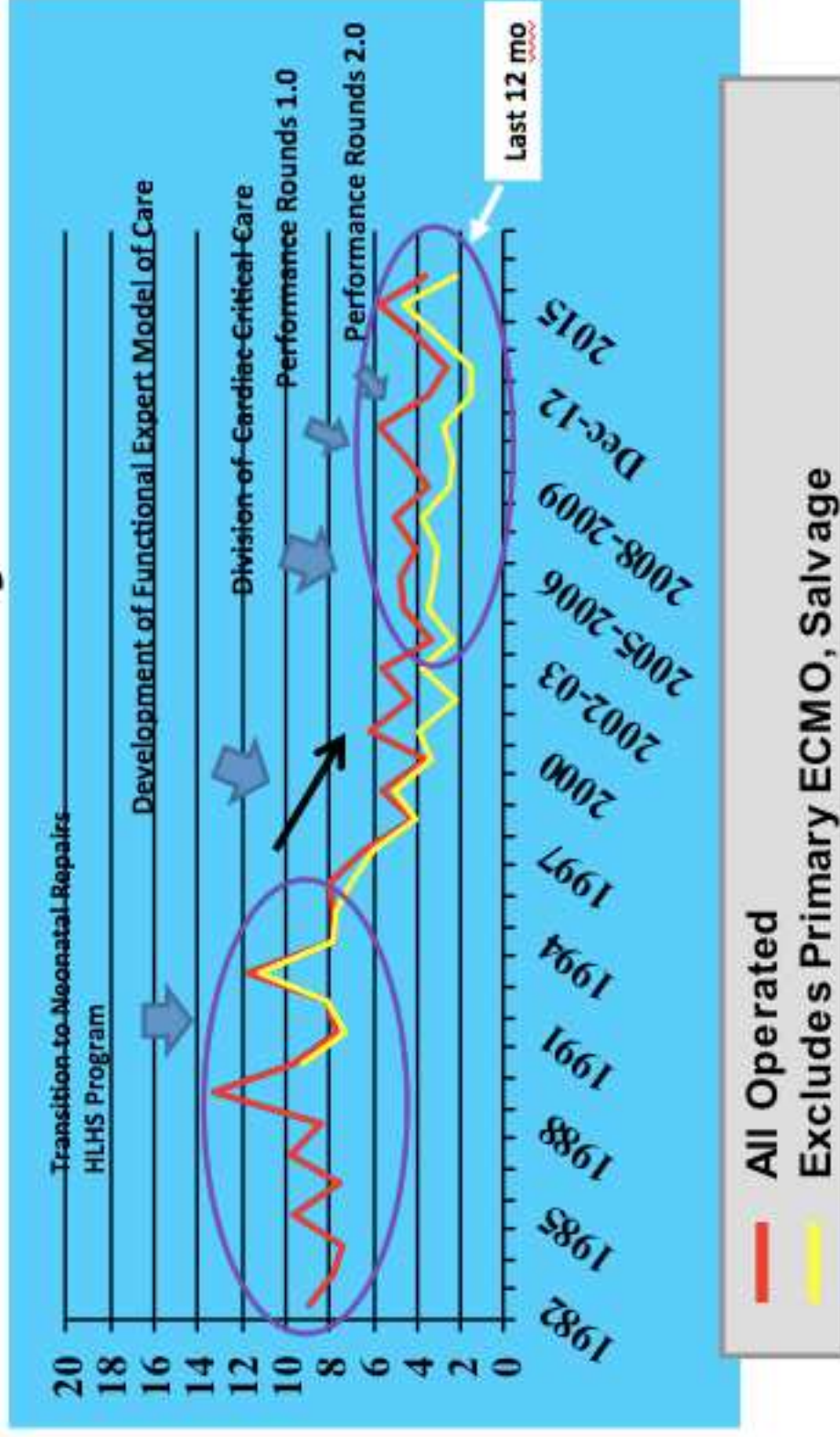
## Mortality



# Mortality



# Mortality



# Summary

- Culture – Be an orchestra
  - Meet a Standard of Care
  - Radical Transparency
  - Emotional Safety and Accountability
- Error is Inevitable – We need to manage it
- Failure → Data → Hypothesis → Performance