

# Outcome Measures: A Critical Care Perspective



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# Challenges

- **Multiple complex interventions**
- **Expectation of mortality benefit**
- **Substantial short and long term morbidity**
- **Outcomes heavily dependent on physician practice**

# Most Cited Trials in Critical Care

Author	Journal	Year	Focus	Citations/Yr
van den Berghe	NEJM	2001	Glucose	334
Rivers	NEJM	2001	EGDT	317
<b>NICE/SUGAR</b>	<b>NEJM</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Glucose</b>	<b>310</b>
<b>PROWESS</b>	<b>NEJM</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>APC</b>	<b>274</b>
<b>ARMA</b>	<b>NEJM</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Ventilation</b>	<b>271</b>
<b>WISEP</b>	<b>NEJM</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>Glucose/Starch</b>	<b>217</b>
Van den Berghe	NEJM	2006	Glucose	201
<b>6S</b>	<b>NEJM</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Starch</b>	<b>192</b>
<b>CHEST</b>	<b>NEJM</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Starch</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>TRICC</b>	<b>NEJM</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>Transfusion</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>CORTICUS</b>	<b>NEJM</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>Steroids</b>	<b>137</b>



**CCCTG**

Canadian Critical Care  
Trials Group

**Founded 1989**

- **>60 active research programs**
- **>200 publications**
- **16 in *New England Journal of Medicine***



# ANZICS

Clinical Trials Group

- **Founded 1994**
- **9 papers in NEJM**



- **NIH-funded**
- **6 papers in *New England Journal of Medicine***

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Intensive Insulin Therapy and Pentastarch Resuscitation in Severe Sepsis

Frank M. Brunkhorst, M.D., Christoph Engel, M.D., Frank Bloos, M.D., Ph.D., Andreas Meier-Hellmann, M.D., Max Ragaller, M.D., Norbert Weiler, M.D., Onnen Moerer, M.D., Matthias Gruending, M.D., Michael Oppert, M.D., Stefan Grond, M.D., Derk Olthoff, M.D., Ulrich Jaschinski, M.D., Stefan John, M.D., Rolf Rossaint, M.D., Tobias Welte, M.D., Martin Schaefer, M.D., Peter Kern, M.D., Evelyn Kuhnt, M.Sc., Michael Kiehntopf, M.D., Christiane Hartog, M.D., Charles Natanson, M.D., Markus Loeffler, M.D., Ph.D., and Konrad Reinhart, M.D., for the German Competence Network Sepsis (SepNet)



## German Sepsis Network

## Scandinavian Critical Care Trials Group



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Hydroxyethyl Starch 130/0.42 versus Ringer's Acetate in Severe Sepsis

Anders Perner, M.D., Ph.D., Nicolai Haase, M.D., Anne B. Guttormsen, M.D., Ph.D., Jyrki Tenhunen, M.D., Ph.D., Gudmundur Klemenzson, M.D., Anders Åneman, M.D., Ph.D., Kristian R. Madsen, M.D., Morten H. Møller, M.D., Ph.D., Jeanie M. Elkjær, M.D., Lone M. Poulsen, M.D., Asger Bendtsen, M.D., M.P.H., Robert Winding, M.D., Morten Steensen, M.D., Pawel Berezowicz, M.D., Ph.D., Peter Søre-Jensen, M.D., Morten Bestle, M.D., Ph.D., Kristian Strand, M.D., Ph.D., Jørgen Wiis, M.D., Jonathan O. White, M.D., Klaus J. Thornberg, M.D., Lars Quist, M.D., Jonas Nielsen, M.D., Ph.D., Lasse H. Andersen, M.D., Lars B. Holst, M.D., Katrin Thormar, M.D., Anne-Lene Kjældgaard, M.D., Maria L. Fabritius, M.D., Frederik Mondrup, M.D., Frank C. Pott, M.D., D.M.Sci., Thea P. Møller, M.D., Per Winkel, M.D., D.M.Sci., and Jørn Wetterslev, M.D., Ph.D., for the 6S Trial Group and the Scandinavian Critical Care Trials Group\*



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Simvastatin in the Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

Daniel F. McAuley, M.D., John G. Laffey, M.D., Cecilia M. O'Kane, Ph.D., Gavin D. Perkins, M.D., Brian Mullan, M.B., T. John Trinder, M.D., Paul Johnston, M.B., Philip A. Hopkins, Ph.D., Andrew J. Johnston, M.D., Cliona McDowell, M.Sc., Christine McNally, B.A., and the HARP-2 Investigators, for the Irish Critical Care Trials Group\*

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Trial of Early, Goal-Directed Resuscitation for Septic Shock

Paul R. Mouncey, M.Sc., Tiffany M. Osborn, M.D., G. Sarah Power, M.Sc., David A. Harrison, Ph.D., M. Zia Sadique, Ph.D., Richard D. Grieve, Ph.D., Rahi Jahan, B.A., Sheila E. Harvey, Ph.D., Derek Bell, M.D., Julian F. Bion, M.D., Timothy J. Coats, M.D., Mervyn Singer, M.D., J. Duncan Young, D.M., and Kathryn M. Rowan, Ph.D., for the ProMISe Trial Investigators\*



# BRICNet

Brazilian Research in Intensive Care Network



+CHINA

+CRITICAL

+CARE

+CLINICAL TRIALS GROUP

# Emerging Groups



**Latin American Critical Care Trials  
Investigators Network (LACCTIN)**

**Asian Critical Care Clinical  
Trials Group**



**Acute Care for Africa  
Research and Training  
(ACART)**

# What Is the Model?

- **Led by clinician-investigators**
- **Questions defined by the investigator**
- **Culture of collegiality, inclusiveness, fun, and mentorship**
- **Commitment to scientific rigour**

# Influence of Organizational Model on Study Impact

Model	N	Median Citations/Year
Single site	116	6.8
2-5 sites	59	11.0
Ad hoc group	89	25.1 <sup>a</sup>
Trials group	44	44.1 <sup>a,c</sup>
Industry	85	12.3 <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> p<0.001 vs single site, <sup>b</sup> p<0.01 vs single site,  
<sup>c</sup> p<0.01 vs industry

## InFACT: a global critical care research response to H1N1



The H1N1 pandemic presents acute care researchers with an extraordinary challenge and an unprecedented opportunity. By early October, 2009, there had been more than 340 000 reported cases of H1N1 infection in 191 countries, with more than 4100 deaths.<sup>1</sup> WHO initially projected that up to 2 billion people could become infected with the virus over the next 2 years.<sup>2</sup> Although vaccination programmes and other factors should reduce this number, plausible estimates of the number of infected individuals who might benefit from admission to intensive care range from 200 000 to 10 million. Influenza killed at least 50 million people during the 1918 pandemic.<sup>3</sup> Today, with antibiotics and antiviral agents, mechanical ventilation, and the supportive measures available in intensive care, most of those deaths could have been prevented.

The mortality for H1N1-infected patients admitted to intensive care ranges from 10 to 40% over the first month,<sup>4,8</sup> and survivors spend a median of 2 weeks in the intensive care unit. To reduce this toll requires a better understanding of the epidemiology and clinical

and treatment of severe H1N1 disease. In parallel, we will develop a biobank to facilitate studies of genetic susceptibility and clinical biology.

We are starting a programme of collaborative, investigator-led randomised trials of treatment strategies that target both the virus and the host response. Our initial three studies will evaluate inexpensive interventions that are available in both the developed and the developing world: corticosteroids and statins. They use adaptive designs to ensure that results can be quickly incorporated into practice, and that ineffective treatments are dropped. As measures of efficacy, they will measure survival of individual patients and the rapidity with which patients can be liberated from limited intensive-care resources.

We seek to reduce the consequences of severe H1N1 infection in the developed world, where available research infrastructure is most robust, and in the developing world, where the human toll is likely to be the greatest. To this end, we will catalogue international critical care capacity, and promote, mentor, and support clinical research activities in resource-poor areas.

Published Online  
November 10, 2009  
DOI:10.1016/S0140-  
6736(09)61792-X

# InFACT Members

**AMC Amsterdam**

**ANZICS CTG**

**ARDSNet**

**BRIC Net**

**CCCTG**

**CRISMA**

**Chinese CCTG**

**ESICM CTG**

**George Institute**

**GIVITI**

**Hellenic Sepsis Group**

**ICNARC**

**ICCTG**

**ICS UK CTG**

**LASI**

**REVA Network**

**Scandinavian CTG**

**Scottish CTG**

**SepNet**

**SOAP Investigators**

**TRIGERSEP**

**USCIITG**

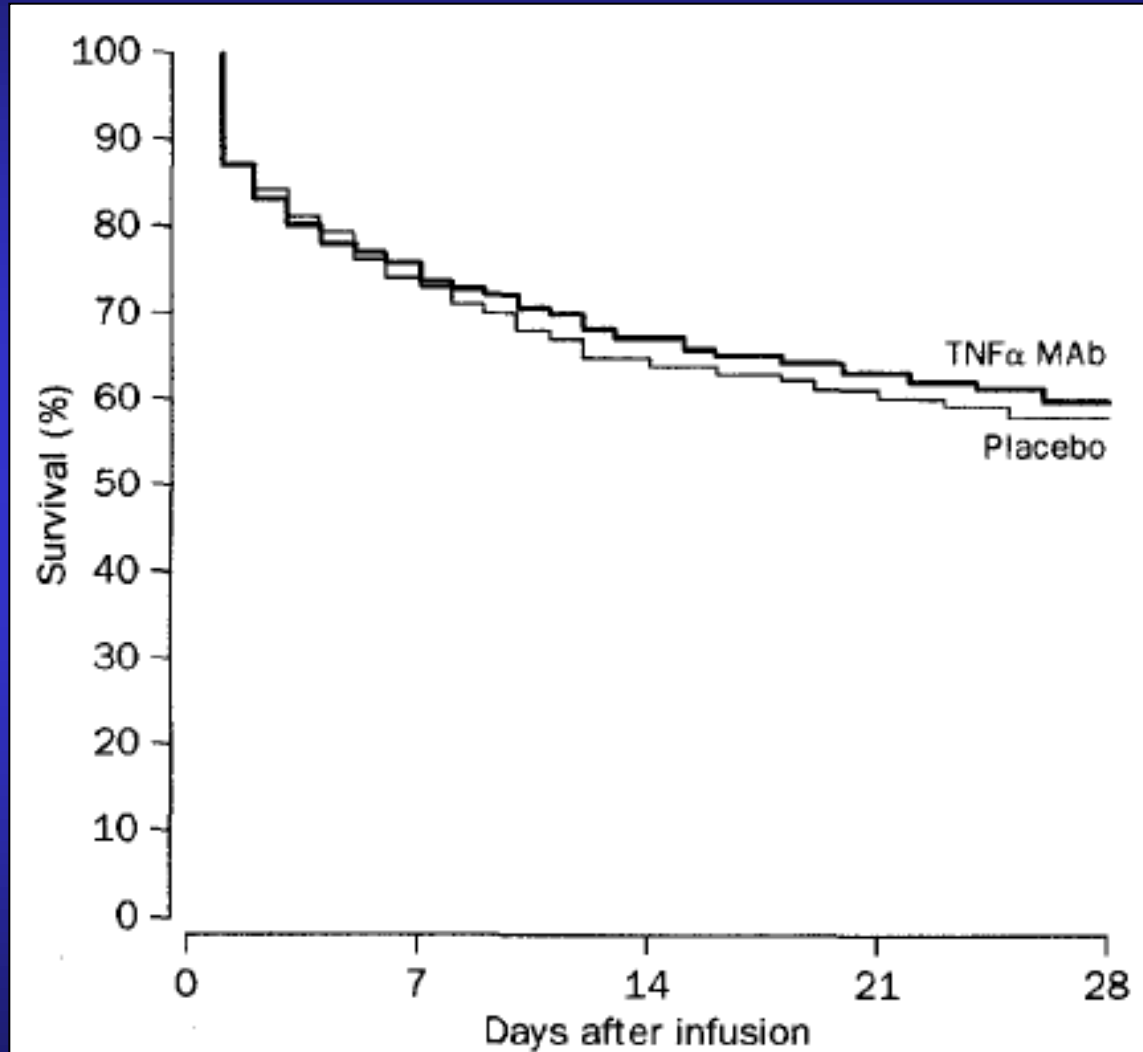
# **Outcome Measures Working Group**

- 1. Create a framework for outcome measures**
- 2. Establish domains within this framework**
- 3. Compile core outcome measure sets**
- 4. Understand performance of existing measures**
- 5. Develop and validate new measures**

# A Conceptual Framework

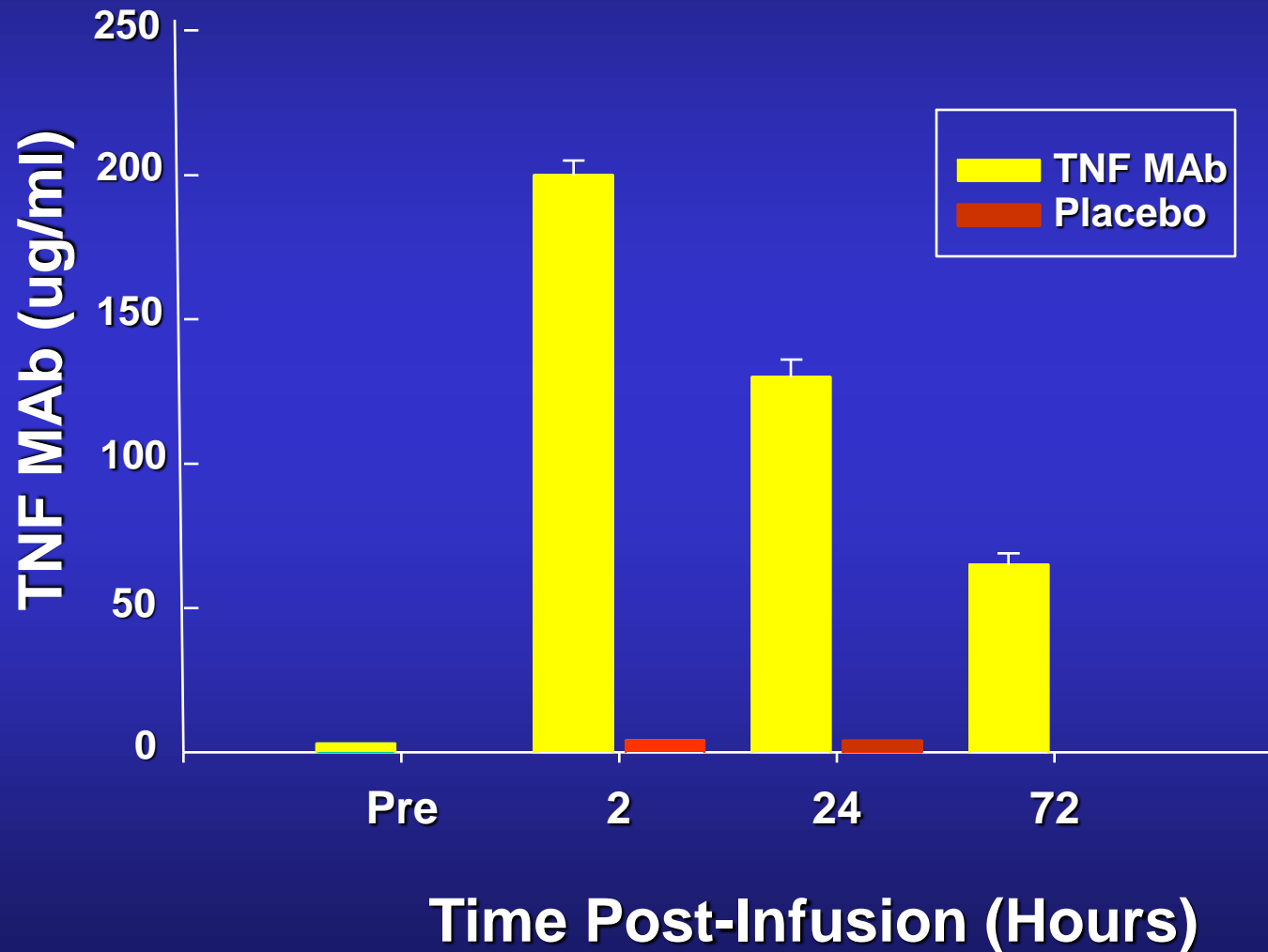
- 1. Does it work?** Biologic and physiologic activity
- 2. Does it help?** Patient-centred benefit
- 3. Should we use it?** Risks, benefits, costs
- 4. Can we study it?** Feasibility, compliance, recruitment rates

# NORASEPT: Anti-TNF Mab for Sepsis

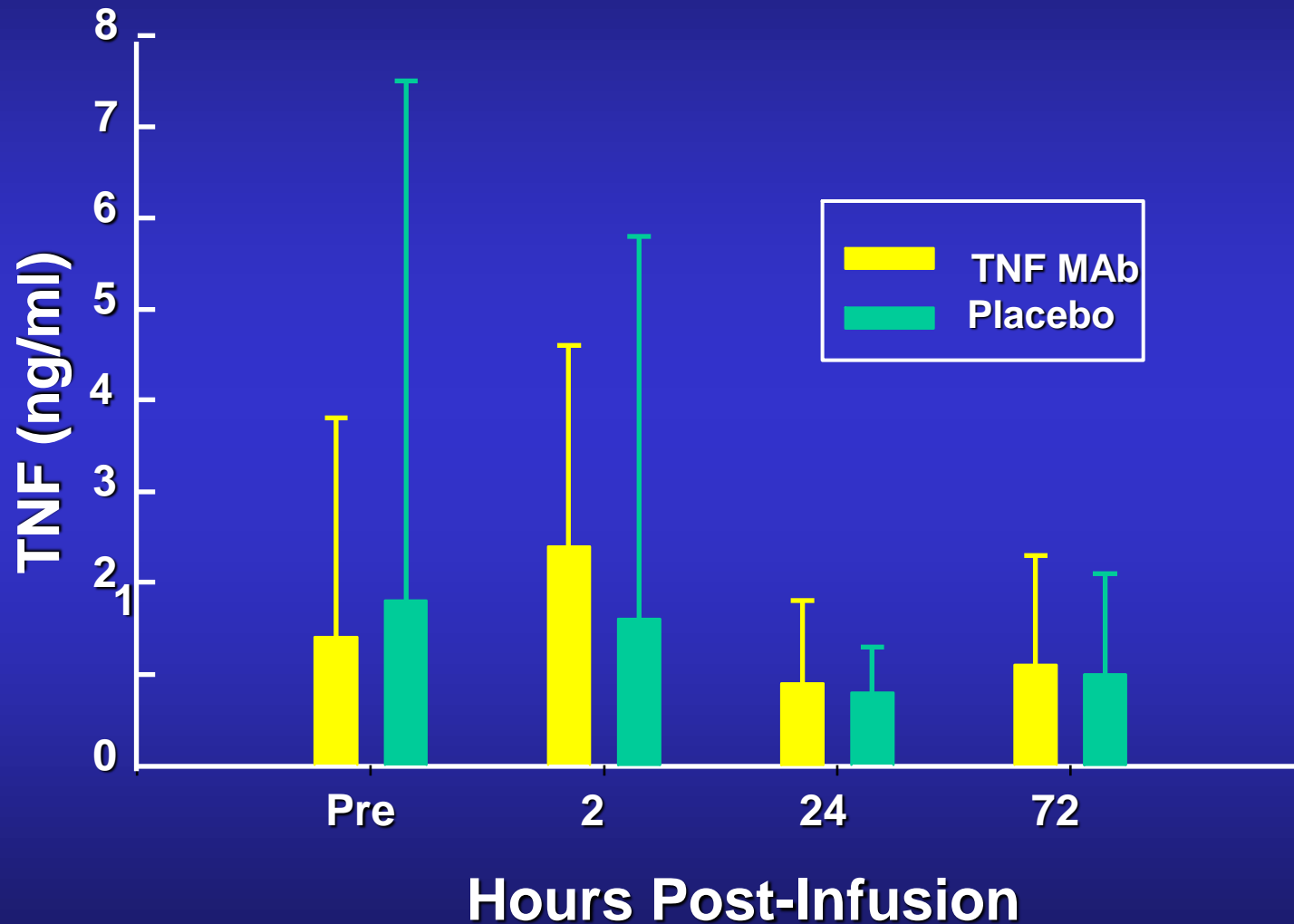


- *Lancet* 351:929, 1998

# NORASEPT II: Antibody Levels Following Drug Infusion

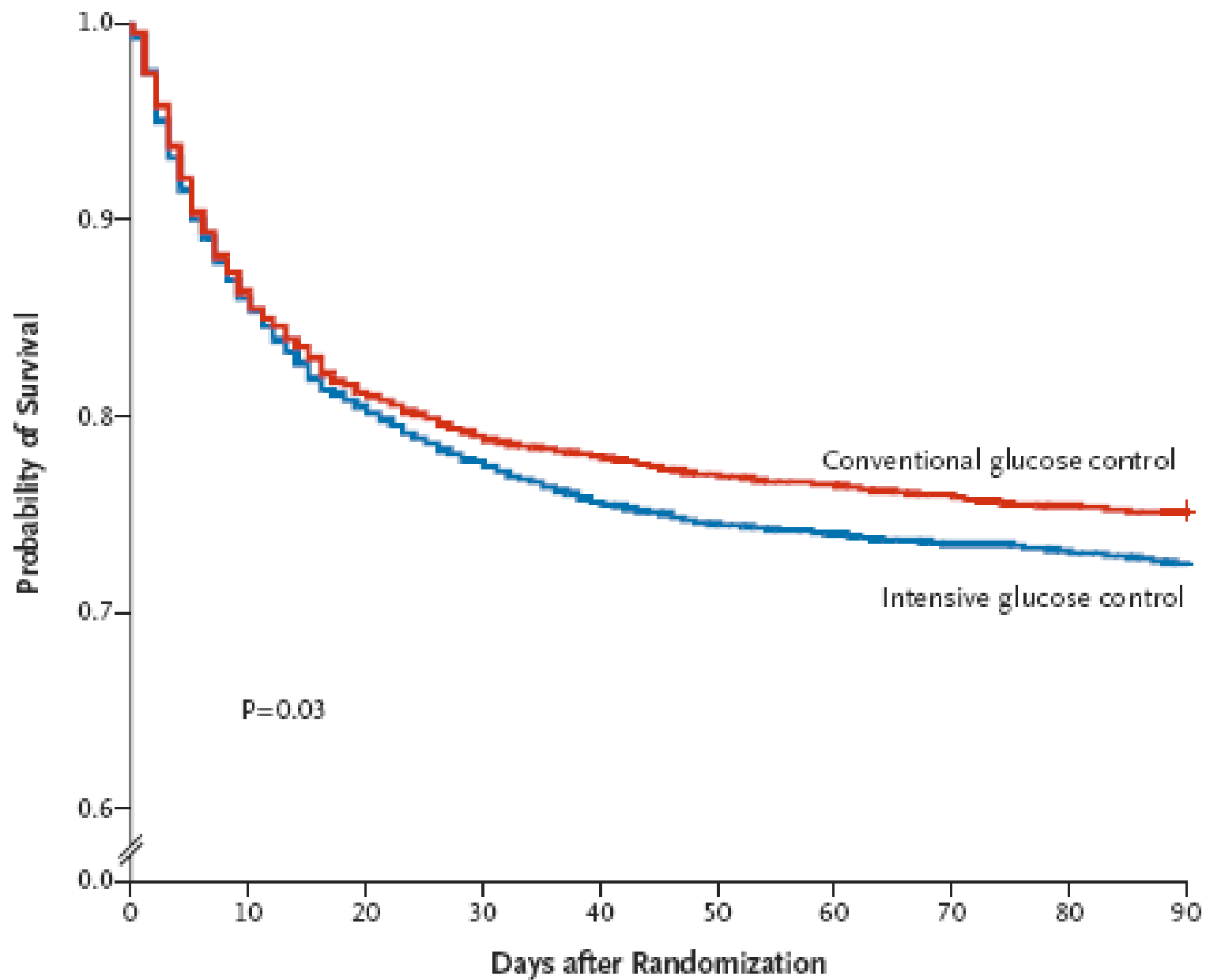


# TNF Levels Following Infusion

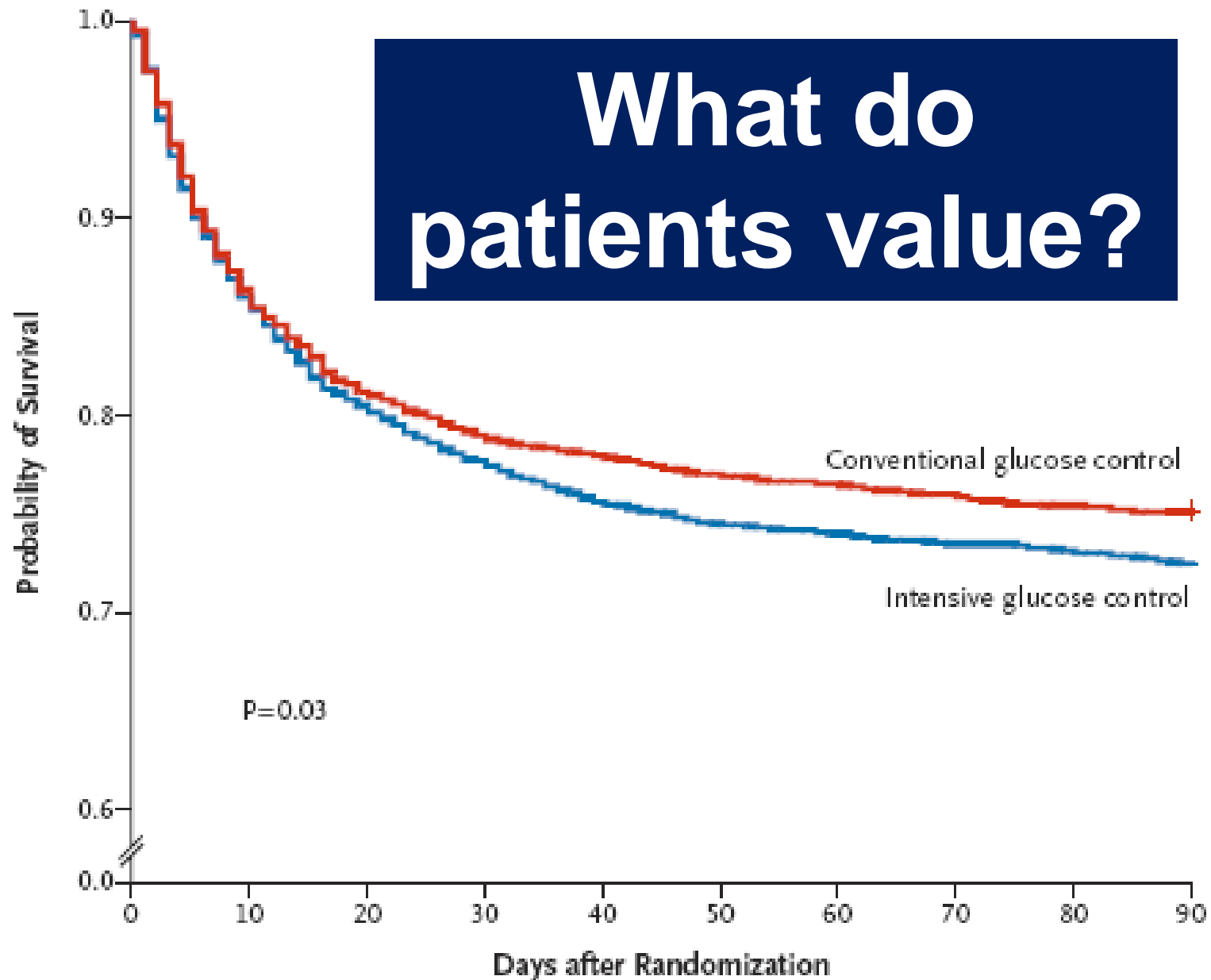


# Does It Help?

- **Improved survival**
- **Reduced discomfort/pain**
- **Reduced acute morbidity**
- **More rapid recovery**
- **More complete recovery**



# What do patients value?



# **Integrating Mortality and Morbidity Outcomes**

## **Using Quality-adjusted Life Years in Critical Care Trials**

Niall D. Ferguson<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Damon C. Scales<sup>1,4</sup>, Ruxandra Pinto<sup>4</sup>, M. Elizabeth Wilcox<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Deborah J. Cook<sup>5,6,7,8</sup>, Gordon H. Guyatt<sup>5,6,7</sup>, Holger J. Schünemann<sup>5,6,7</sup>, John C. Marshall<sup>1,9,10</sup>, Margaret S. Herridge<sup>1,2,3</sup>, and Maureen O. Meade<sup>5,6,7,8</sup>; for the Canadian Critical Care Trials Group

<sup>1</sup>Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine, <sup>2</sup>Division of Respiriology, Department of Medicine, <sup>3</sup>University Health Network and Mount Sinai Hospital, <sup>4</sup>Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, <sup>5</sup>Department of Surgery, and <sup>10</sup>St. Michael's Hospital, The University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; and <sup>5</sup>Department of Medicine, <sup>6</sup>Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, <sup>7</sup>CLARITY Research Team, and the <sup>8</sup>Critical Care Medicine Program, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

## **How to measure morbidity**

- **length of stay**
- **organ failure**
- **intensity of therapy**
- **location in health care system**

# A Conceptual Framework

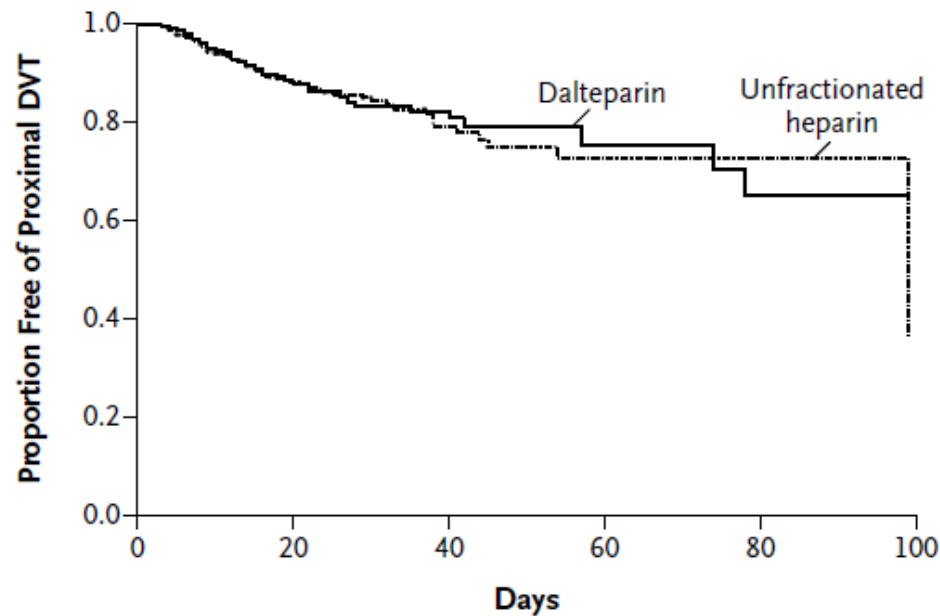
1. **Does it work?** Biologic and physiologic activity
2. **Does it help?** Patient-centred benefit
3. **Should we use it?** Risks, benefits, costs
4. **Can we study it?** Feasibility, compliance, recruitment rates

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Dalteparin versus Unfractionated Heparin in Critically Ill Patients

The PROTECT Investigators for the Canadian Critical Care Trials Group and the  
Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Clinical Trials Group

- *N Engl J Med* 364:1305,  
2011



**No. at Risk**

Dalteparin	1873	247	64	25	11	2
Unfractionated heparin	1873	232	58	18	12	1



# A Conceptual Framework

1. **Does it work?** Biologic and physiologic activity
2. **Does it help?** Patient-centred benefit
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# AATICC Pilot Study

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**Feasibility** Proportion of eligible patients who are consented and randomized

**Acceptability** Proportion of randomized patients who remain in assigned treatment arm

# Acceptability: Major Protocol Violations

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<b>Empiric Antibiotics</b>	<b>0/6</b>
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<b>Placebo</b>	<b>6/6*</b>
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\*  $p=0.005$

## **The Patient: Does it help?**

- Is survival increased?
- Is recovery accelerated?
- Are symptoms attenuated
- Are long term outcomes improved

## **The Investigator Can we study it?**

- Can we recruit patients?
- Can we differentiate groups?
- Will clinicians maintain study groups?
- Are the inclusion and exclusion criteria appropriate?

**Experimental  
Intervention**

## **Society Should we use it?**

- Are costs reasonable in relation to benefits?
- Are side effects acceptable to patients?
- Are outcomes acceptable to decision-makers?

## **The Intervention: Does it Work?**

- Is the intervention biologically active in vivo?
- What are its biochemical and physiologic effects?
- What is the optimal dose and duration of therapy to maximize these effects?

# Core Outcome Measure Sets

- **Mechanical ventilation**
- **Closed head injury**
- **Subarachnoid hemorrhage**
- **Sedation**
- **Sepsis**



**InFACTGlobal.org**