

# Strategies to increase utilization of cardiac rehabilitation

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Rehabilitation

Toronto, Canada



- cite high impact articles JAMA Circulation (not resp)
- (if need to improve morbidity & mortality including older pts

K. CHAN  
main manuscript  
intro

- Suaya - JACC standard of care
- come to be std of care - Ades NEJM

- however have <sup>low</sup> <sup>very low</sup> <sup>very small</sup> CR referral

- J's paper  
in medicine  
18.9% (over 65)

benefits <sup>m-a</sup> <sup>benefit same</sup>  
order of magnitude of statins  
again statins  
- no 2nd thought in prescribing pharmacotherapy.  
- yet "prescribing" <sup>not done</sup> <sup>despite similar benefits of statins etc</sup>  
- we did prospective in depth comparing strategies maxim

# Predictors of Cardiac Rehabilitation Participation in Older Coronary Patients

*(Arch Intern Med. 1992;152:1033-1035)*

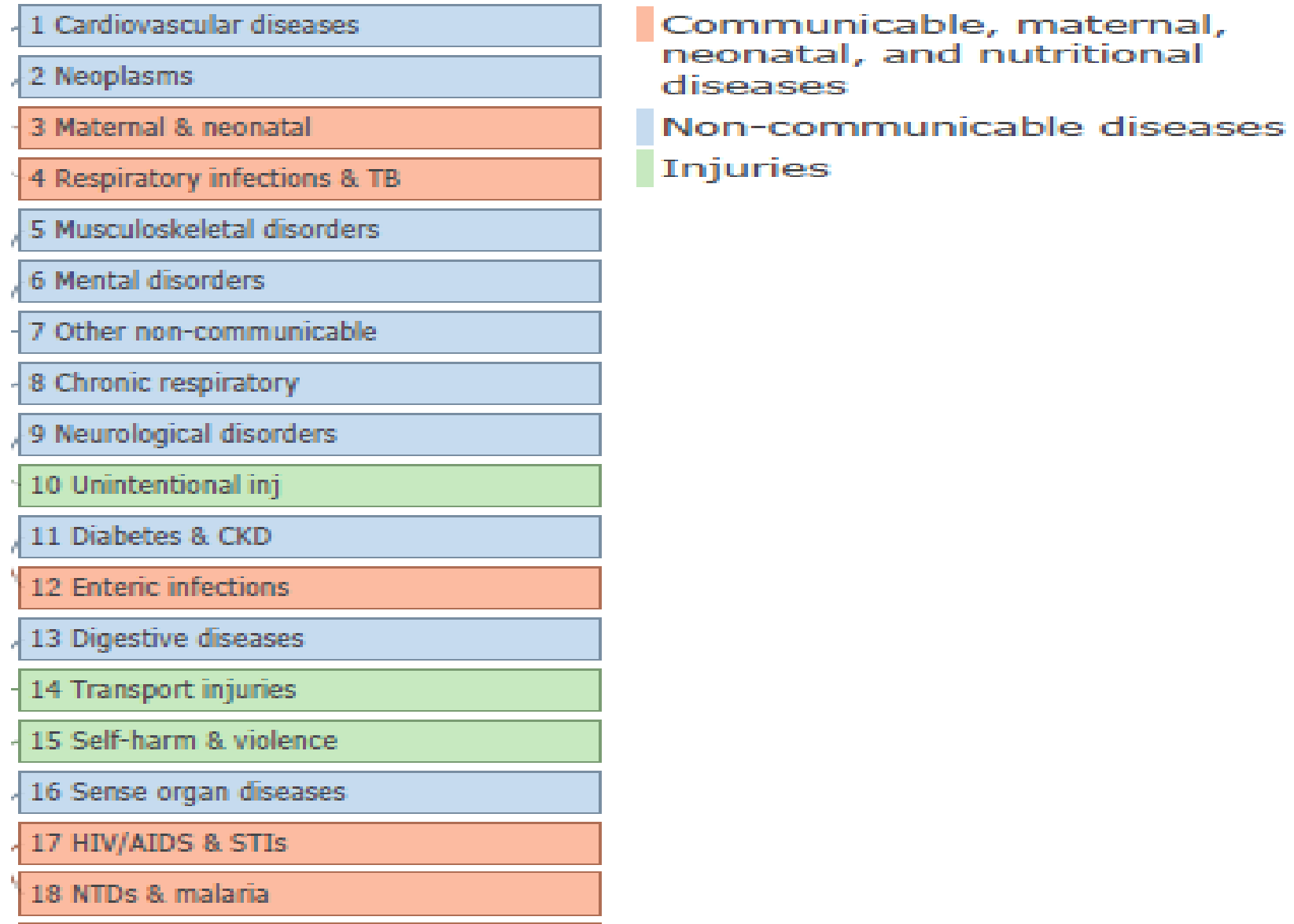
*Philip A. Ades, MD; Mary L. Waldmann; William J. McCann, MS; Sheila O. Weaver, MS*

**Results.**—Overall cardiac rehabilitation participation rate in a population with a mean age of  $70.4 \pm 6$  years (range, 62 to 92 years) was 21%. By multivariate analysis, the strength of the primary physician's recommendation for participation was the most powerful predictor of cardiac rehabilitation entry. Also, significant predictors of participation included commute time, patient "denial" of severity of illness, and history of depression. Medical factors such as cardiac diagnosis and left ventricular ejection fraction did not predict participation.

# Overview

- CR: need, benefits
- CR utilization
- CR barriers
- How to increase CR use

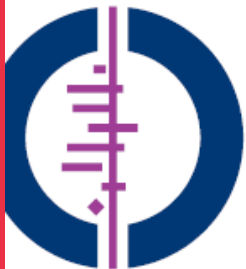
# Global DALYs per 100,000 2017 - rank



# Cardiac Rehabilitation (CR)



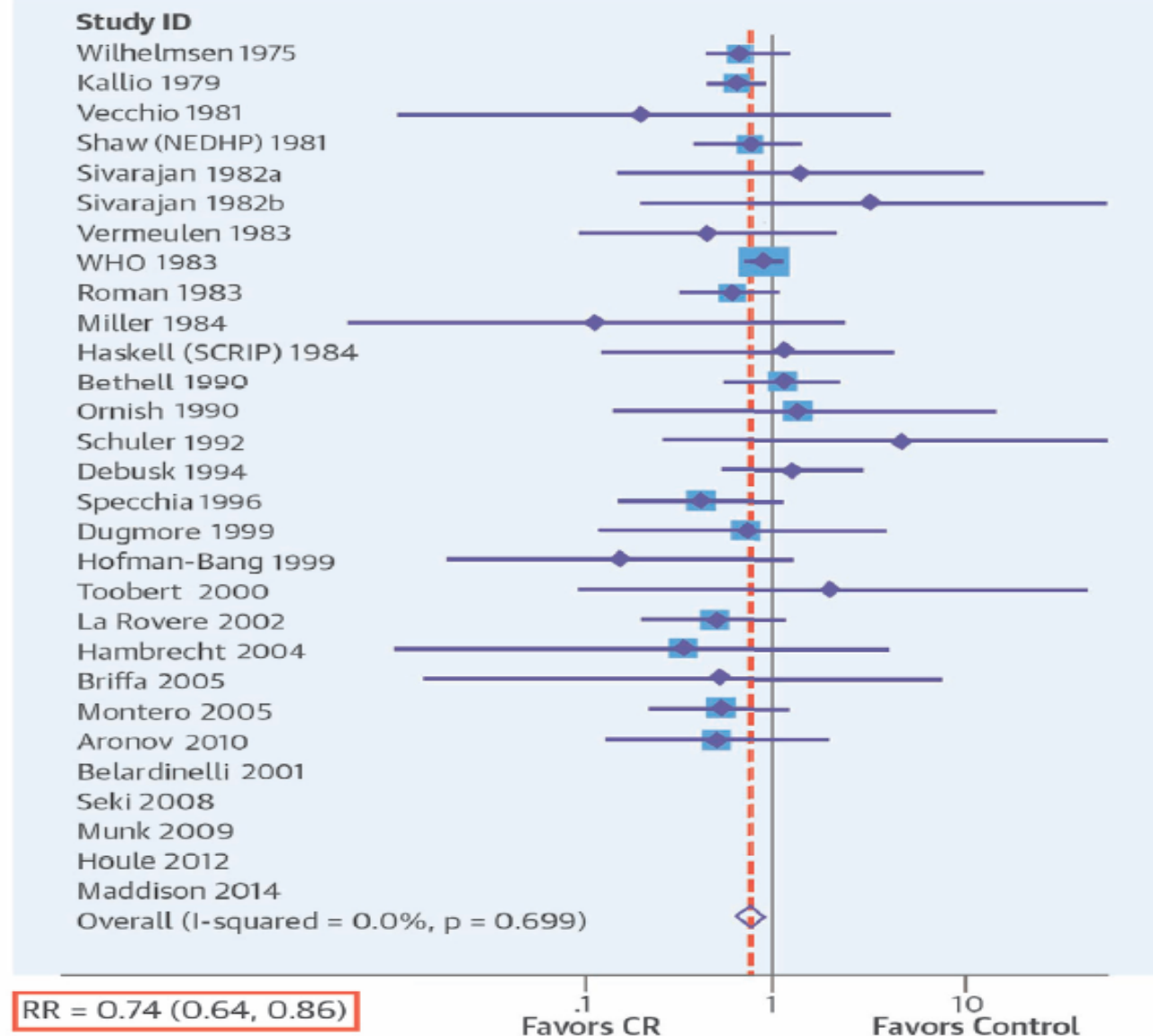




# Cochrane Library

Cochrane Database of Sys

## Exercise-based Rehabilitation Vs. Usual Care: Cardiovascular Mortality



# Guidelines with CR Referral Recommendation

## **2014 AHA/ACC Guideline for the Management of Patients With NSTEMI-ACS**

1. All eligible patients with NSTEMI-ACS should be referred to a comprehensive cardiovascular rehabilitation program either before hospital discharge or during the first outpatient visit. *(Class I, Level of Evidence: B)*

## **2013 ACCF/AHA Guideline for the Management of Patients With STEMI**

Exercise-based cardiac rehabilitation/secondary prevention programs are recommended for patients with STEMI. *(Class I, Level of Evidence: B)*

## **2013 ACCF/AHA Guideline for the Management of Heart Failure**

1. Exercise training (or regular physical activity) is recommended as safe and effective for patients with HF who are able to participate to improve functional status. *(Class I, Level of Evidence: A)*

## **AHA/ACCF Secondary Prevention and Risk Reduction Therapy for Patients With Coronary Artery and Other Atherosclerotic Vascular Disease: 2011 Update**

1. All eligible patients with ACS or whose status is immediately post coronary artery bypass surgery or post-PCI should be referred to a comprehensive outpatient cardiovascular rehabilitation program either prior to hospital discharge or during the first follow-up office visit. *(Class I, Level of Evidence: A)*

## **AHA Effectiveness-Based Guidelines for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in Women—2011 Update**

1. A comprehensive CVD risk-reduction regimen such as cardiovascular or stroke rehabilitation or a physician-guided home- or community-based exercise training program should be recommended to women with a recent acute coronary syndrome or coronary revascularization, new-onset or chronic angina, recent cerebrovascular event, peripheral arterial disease *(Class I; Level of Evidence A)* or current/prior symptoms of heart failure and an LVEF  $\leq 35\%$ . *(Class I; Level of Evidence B)*

## **2011 ACCF/AHA Guideline for Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery**

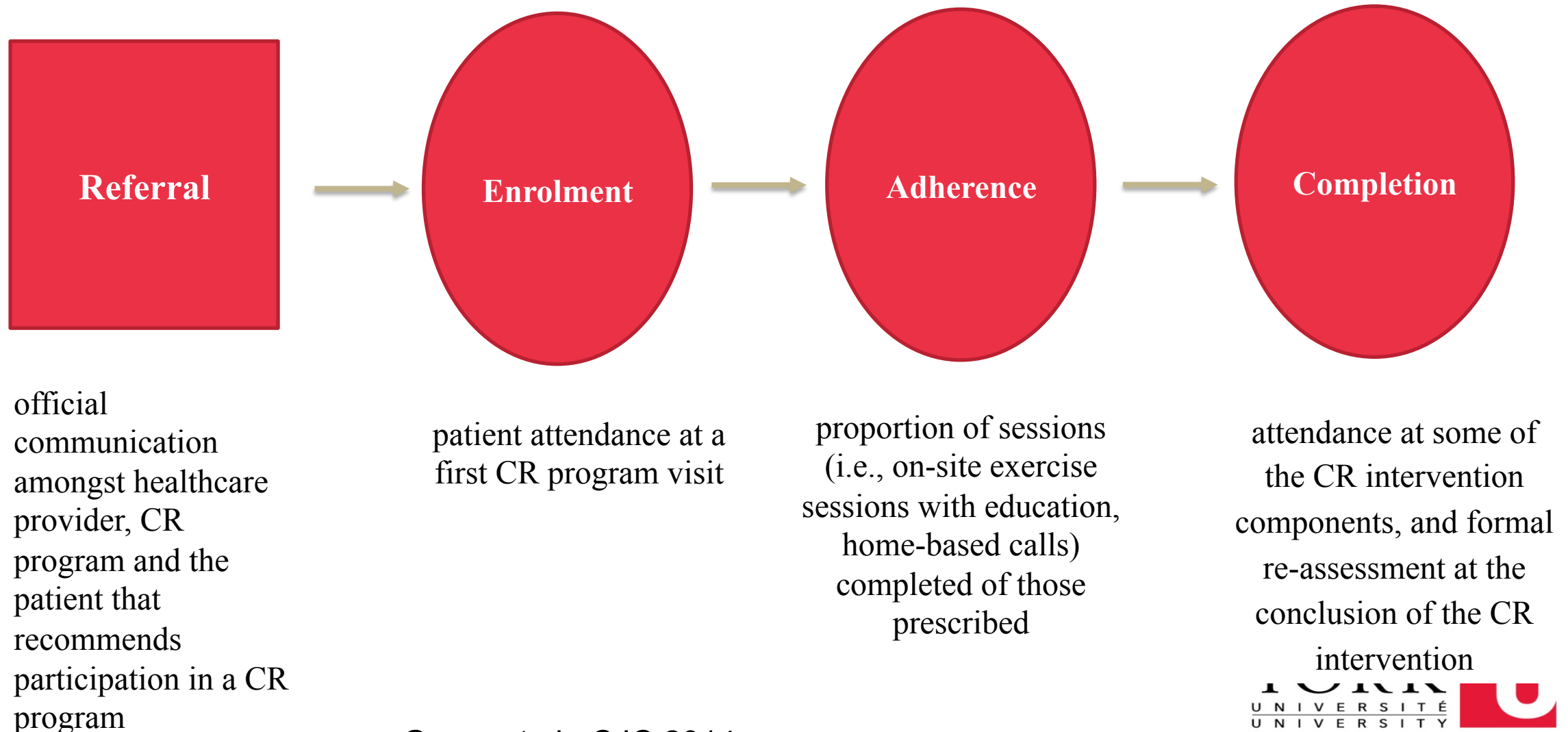
1. Cardiac rehabilitation is recommended for all eligible patients after CABG. *(Class I, Level of Evidence: A)*

## **2011 ACCF/AHA/SCAI Guideline for Percutaneous Coronary Intervention**

1. Medically supervised exercise programs (cardiac rehabilitation) should be recommended to patients after PCI, particularly for moderate- to high-risk patients for whom supervised exercise training is warranted. *(Class I; Level of Evidence: A)*



# CR Utilization Indicators

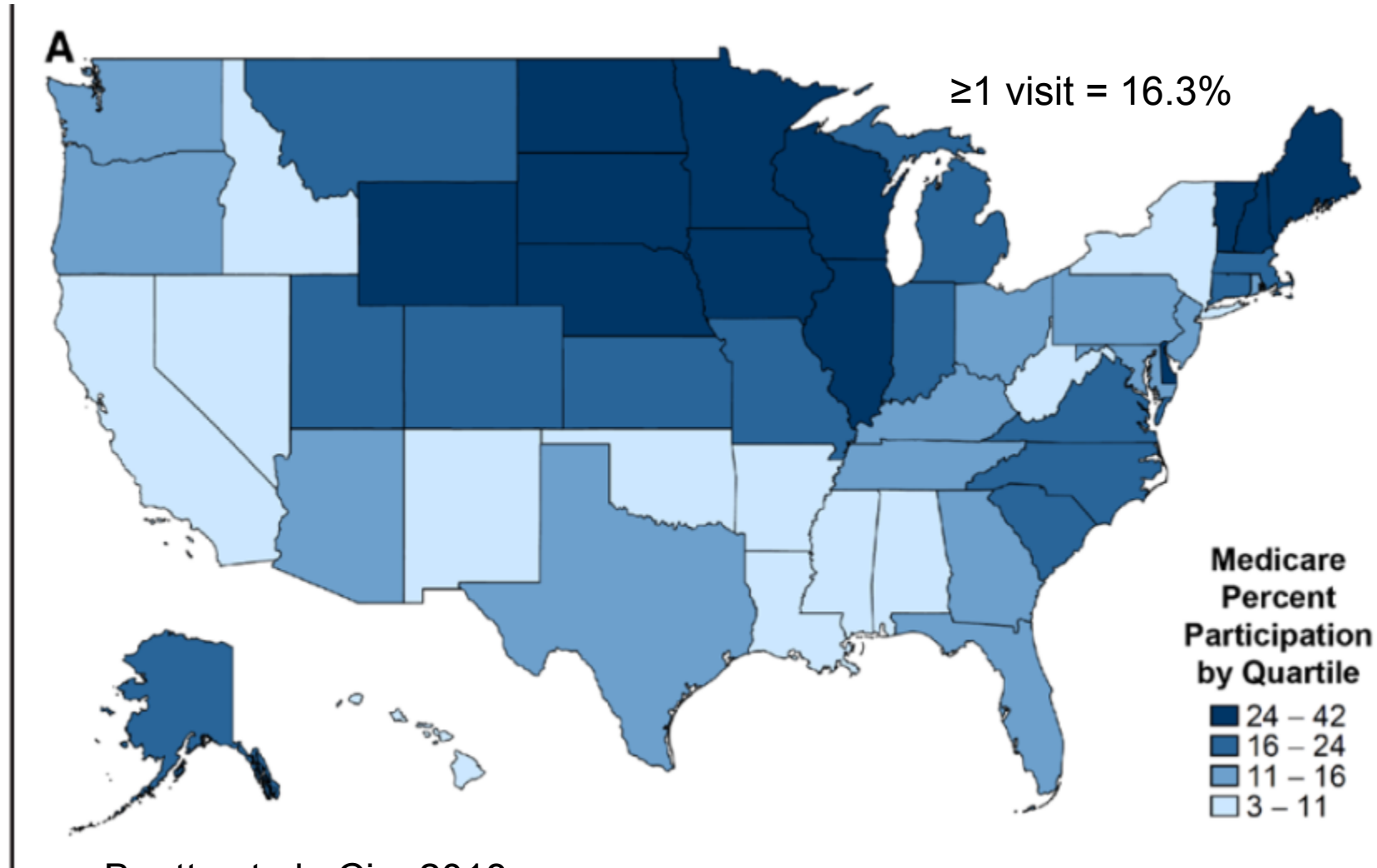


# Review: CR QIs (7)

Association (number of indicators)	AHA / ACCF / AACV PR (9)	ACR A (71)	BAC PR (6)	CCS / CACP R (30)	EAP C* (1)	Japa n (13)	CSA NZ SP WG (13)	Total (/7)
Referral	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
Enrollment	X	X		X				3
Adherence	X			X		X		3
Completion		X		X		X	X	4

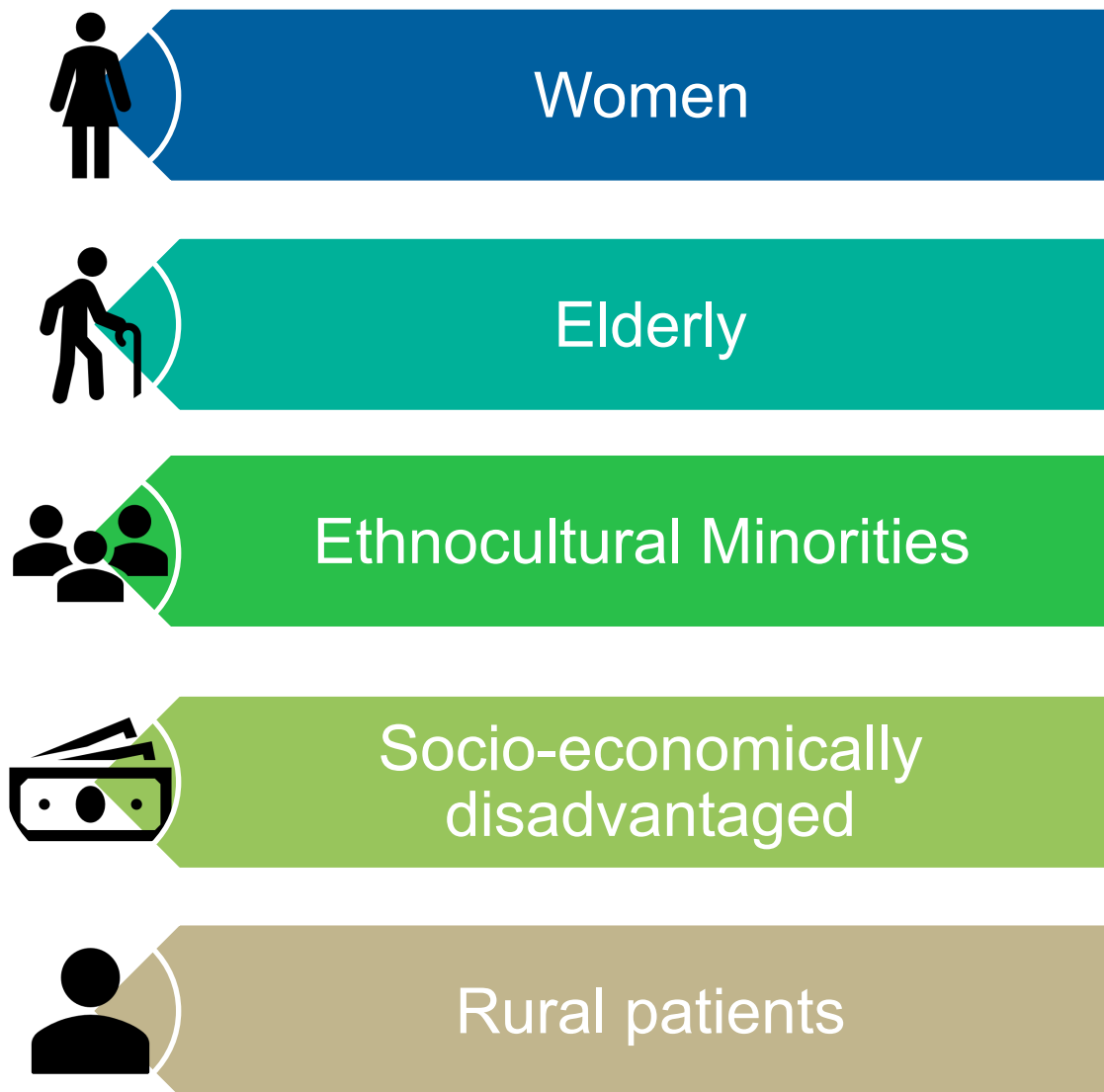
Moghei, M.,\* Oh, P., Chessex, C., & **Grace, S.L.** (in press). Cardiac rehabilitation quality improvement: narrative review. JCRP.

# CR Use in the US (2007-11)



— Beatty et al., Circ 2018;  
5% Medicare N=143,756

# Under-represented groups: low & inequitable use

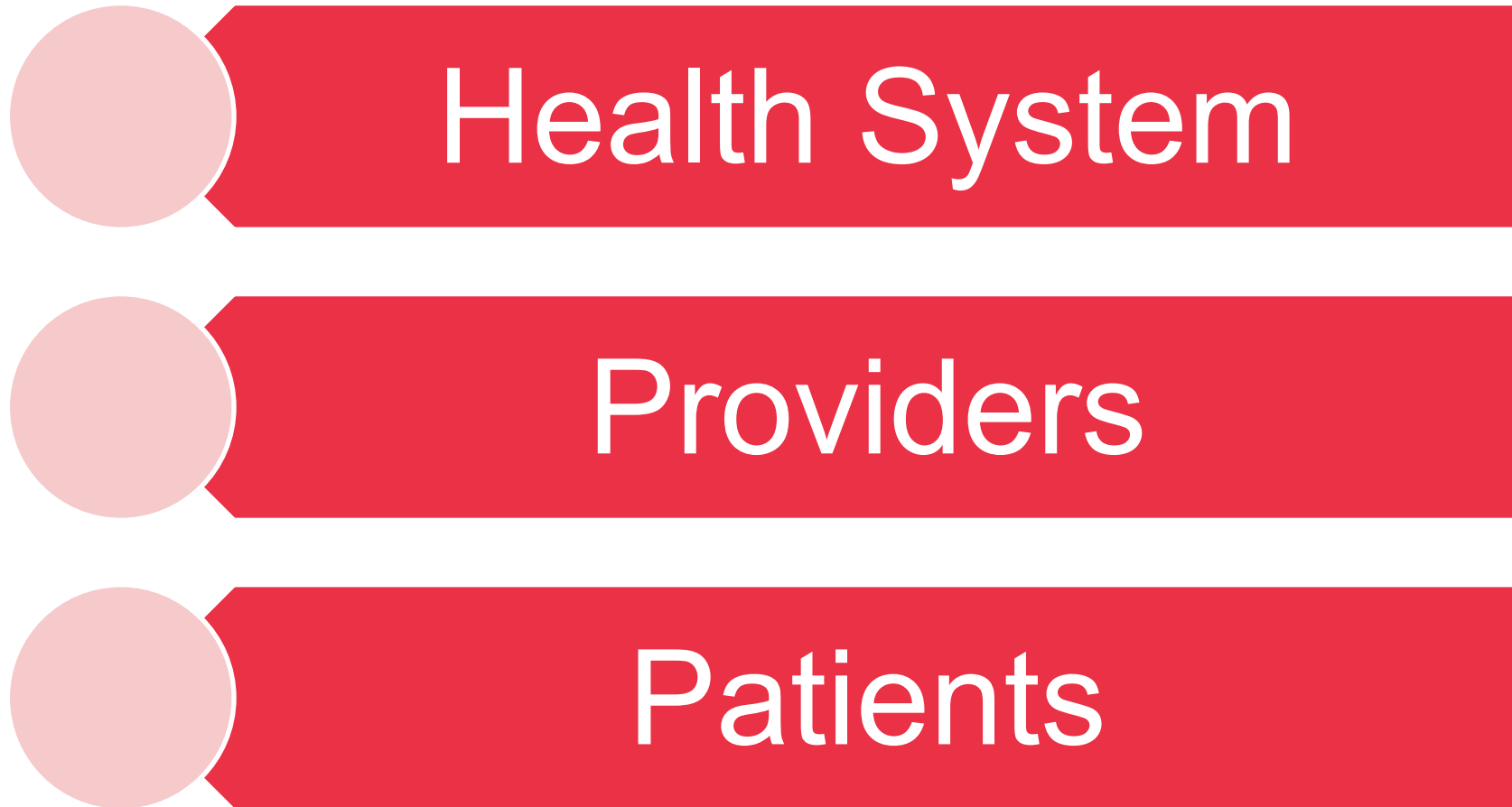


<b>Table 2</b> <b>Compliance Rates for Coronary Artery Disease Performance Measures in 8,132 Patients</b>				
Performance Measure	Unit of Assessment*	Denominator	Numerator	Compliance Rate
Beta-blocker therapy after myocardial infarction	Patients	1,782	1,540	86.4%
Blood pressure measurement	Last encounter	7,698	7,235	94.0%
Antiplatelet therapy	Patients	7,944	6,742	84.9%
Screening for diabetes mellitus	Patients	6,199	822	13.3%
Smoking query	Patients	8,132	6,812	83.8%
Smoking cessation	Patients	500	356	71.2%
Symptom and activity assessment	Patients	8,132	6,981	85.8%
ACE-I or ARB therapy	Patients	4,623	3,349	72.4%
Annual lipid profile	Patients	8,132	6,044	74.3%
Drug therapy for lowering LDL cholesterol	Patients	1,607	1,355	84.3%
Cardiac rehabilitation referral†	Patients	1,108	200	18.1%



Chan, P. S. *et al.* Cardiac performance measure compliance in outpatients: The American College of Cardiology and National Cardiovascular Data Registry's PINNACLE (Practice Innovation And Clinical Excellence) Program. *J. Am. Coll. Cardiol.* 56, 8–14 (2010).

# WHY: CR Utilization Barriers





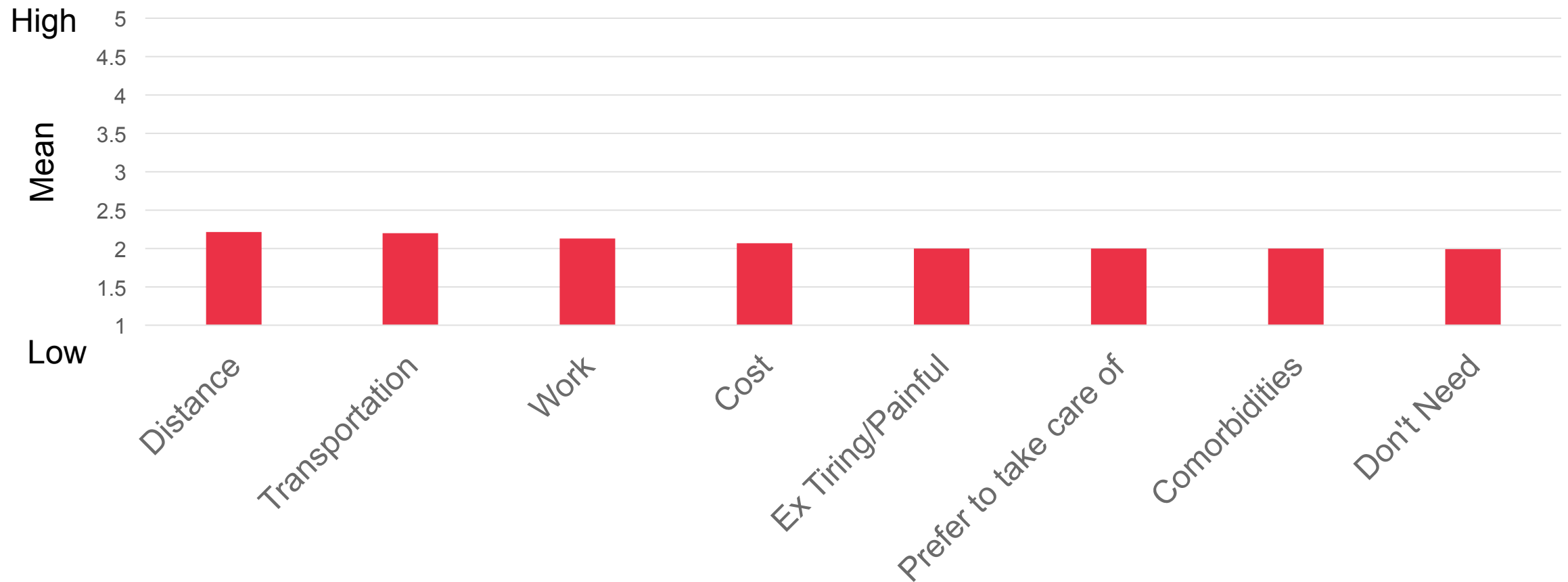
## Key Health System Barrier: Lack of Capacity (and reimbursement)

WHO Region	1 spot per xx IHD patients
Africa	579
Americas	4
Eastern Mediterranean	89
Europe	8
South-East Asia	303
Western Pacific	17
Global	12

# Key Provider Barriers to CR Use

- Lack of referral
- Lack of patient encouragement
- Physician Att'des Related to CR:
  - Skeptical about the benefits
  - Perceive proximate program is of poor quality
  - Bad experience with a program
  - Lack of familiarity with local programs

# Patient Barriers (CRBS)



So What Can We Do About It?

**Referral, Enrollment, and Delivery of Cardiac Rehabilitation/Secondary Prevention Programs at Clinical Centers and Beyond : A Presidential Advisory**  
**From the American Heart Association**  
Gary J. Balady, Philip A. Ades, Vera A. Bittner, Barry A. Franklin, Neil F. Gordon,  
Randal J. Thomas, Gordon F. Tomaselli and Clyde W. Yancy

**Table 2. Methods to Facilitate Referral and Enrollment in Cardiac Rehabilitation/Secondary Prevention Programs**

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Including referral to CR/SPP in the hospital discharge plan
Automatically referring all eligible patients at the time of hospital discharge
Having ward clerks/office staff ensure that referrals are completed
Providing patients with a choice of CR/SPP to attend
Ensuring that patients are aware of and agree to the referral
Arranging personal visits from CR/SPP liaison
Providing written invitations and program brochures in multiple languages
Informing the CR/SPP of the referral and, when possible, establishing an appointment at the point of care
Making comprehensive interpreter service available if required
Providing transportation and parking assistance if required
Following up with those referred but not yet enrolled

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# eReferral

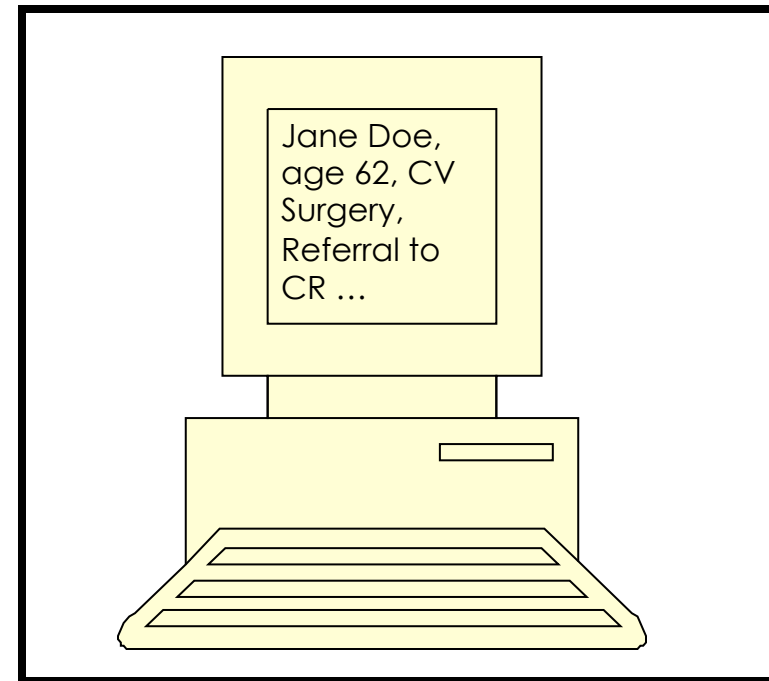
INPATIENT UNIT

D/C Letter

CR Option



CR SITE Queue







CRCARE: Cardiac Rehab  
Care Continuity through Automatic Referral  
Evaluation

ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

## Effect of Cardiac Rehabilitation Referral Strategies on Utilization Rates

### *A Prospective, Controlled Study*

Sherry L. Grace, PhD; Kelly L. Russell, MSc; Robert D. Reid, PhD, MBA; Paul Oh, MD, FRCPC;  
Sonia Anand, MD, PhD, FRCPC; James Rush, PhD; Karen Williamson, PhD; Milan Gupta, MD;  
David A. Alter, MD, PhD, FRCPC; Donna E. Stewart, MD, FRCPC; for the Cardiac Rehabilitation Care Continuity  
Through Automatic Referral Evaluation (CRCARE) Investigators

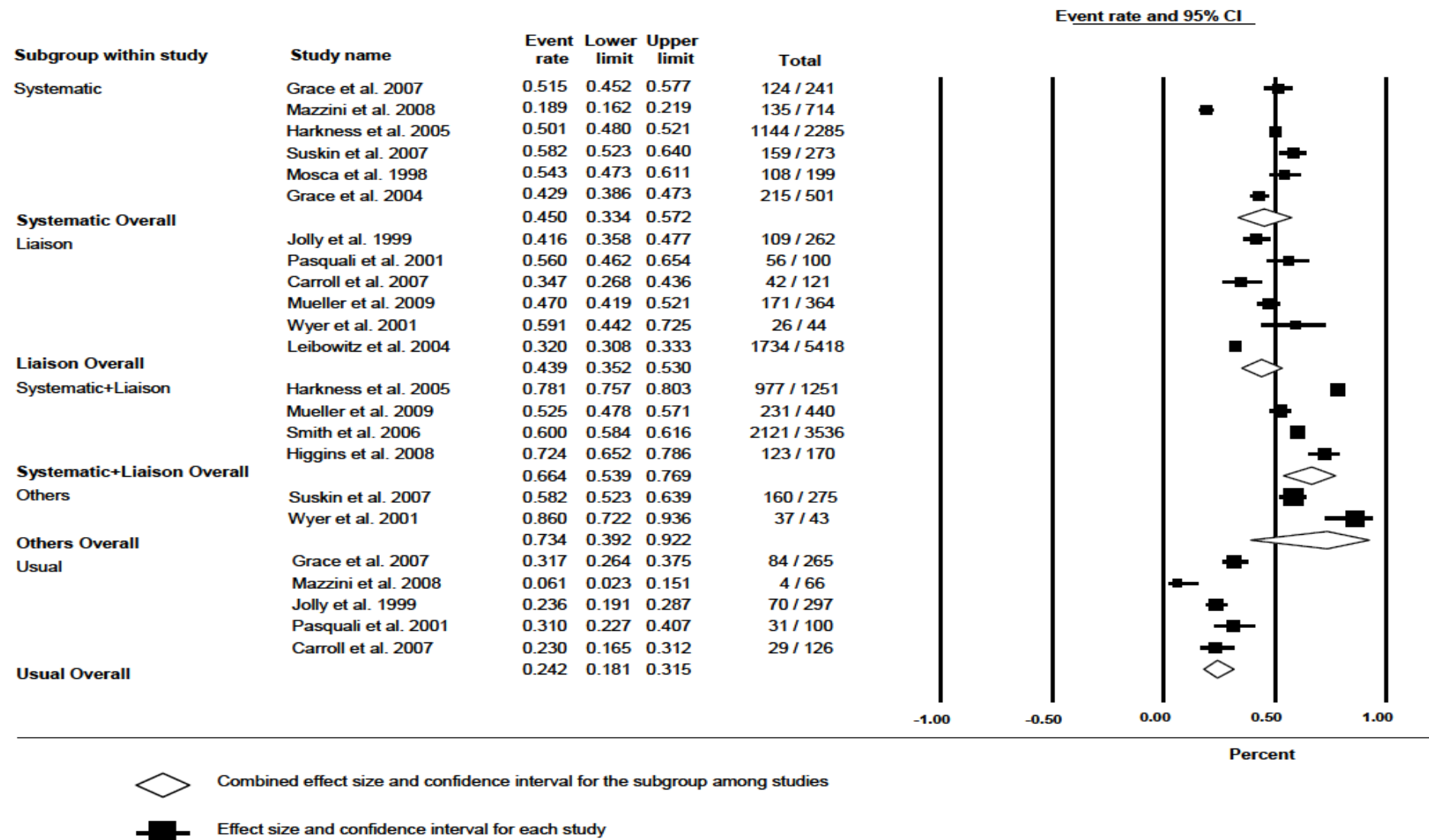
**Table 3. Cardiac Rehabilitation (CR) Referral, Enrollment, and Participation Rates by Referral Strategy**

Referral Strategy	Patients, No. (%)			Prescribed CR Sessions Attended of Those Referred, Mean (SD), %,
	Referred	Enrolled	No. Enrolled of Those Referred	
Usual (2 wards)	94 (32.2)	83 (29.1)	71 (78.0)	83.4 (28.1)
Liaison only (6 wards)	284 (59.0)	239 (50.9)	228 (83.2)	83.2 (27.2)
Automatic only (3 wards)	382 (70.1)	321 (60.7)	310 (84.2)	83.6 (27.0)
Combined automatic and liaison (5 wards)	396 (85.3)	335 (74.0)	329 (85.7)	81.9 (27.2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1156 (64.9)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>978 (56.3)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>938 (84.0)</b>	<b>82.9 (27.2)</b>

<sup>a</sup> $P < .001$ .

# Effects of cardiac rehabilitation referral strategies on referral and enrollment rates

Shannon Gravely-Witte, Yvonne W. Leung, Rajiv Narani, Hala Tamim, Paul Oh, Victoria M. Chan and Sherry L. Grace



## Society Position Statement

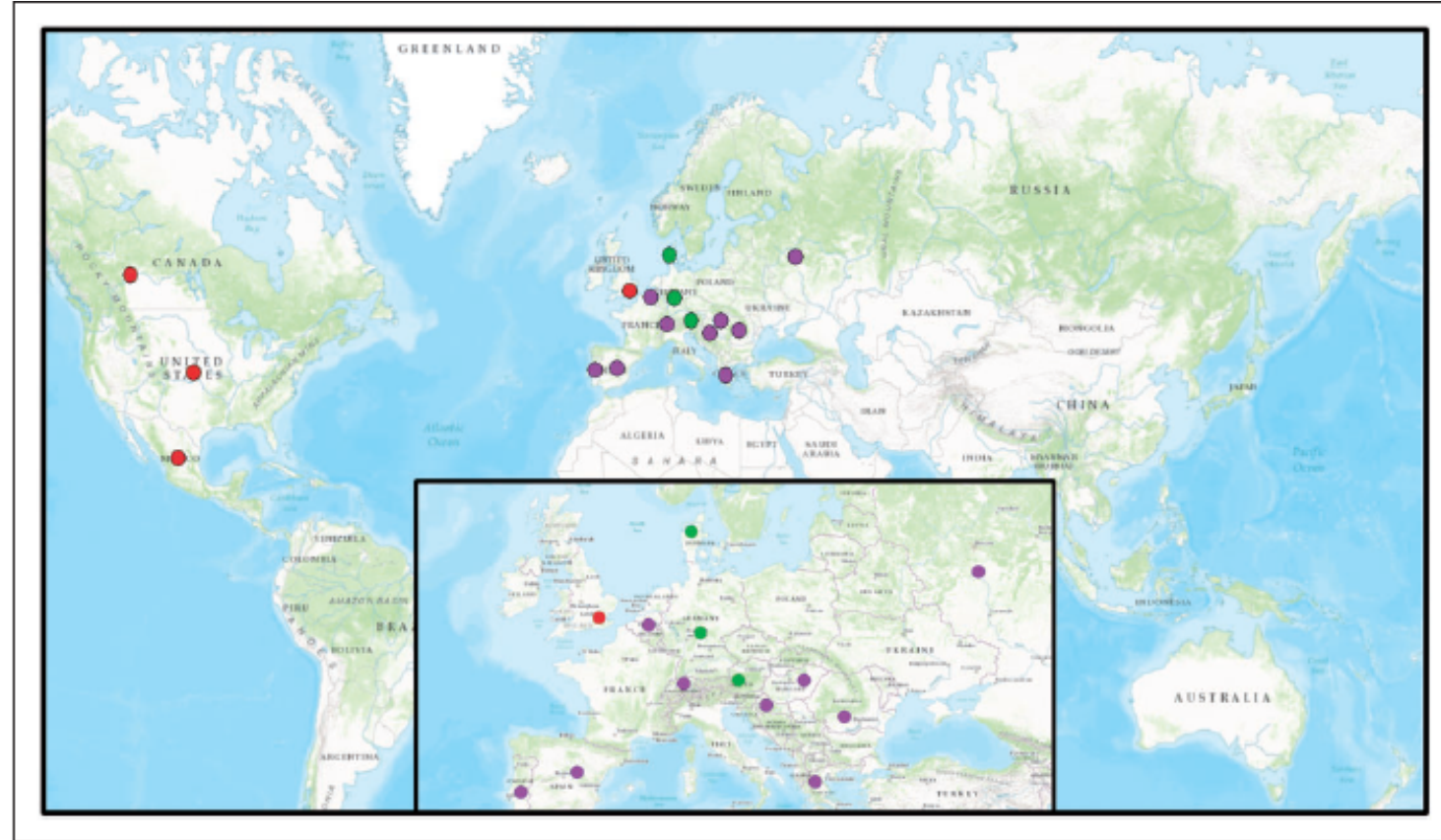
# Systematizing Inpatient Referral to Cardiac Rehabilitation 2010: Canadian Association of Cardiac Rehabilitation and Canadian Cardiovascular Society Joint Position Paper

Sherry L. Grace, PhD (Chair),<sup>a</sup> Caroline Chessex, MD, FRCPC (Co-Chair),<sup>b</sup>  
Heather Arthur, PhD,<sup>c</sup> Sammy Chan, MD,<sup>d</sup> Cleo Cyr, RN, BN, MHS,<sup>e</sup> William Dafoe, MD,<sup>f</sup>  
Martin Juneau, MD,<sup>g</sup> Paul Oh, MD,<sup>h</sup> and Neville Suskin, MBChB<sup>i</sup>

- Target = 85% CR referral
- Target= 70% CR enrolment



# Review of CR Registries Globally (8)



**Figure 2.** The location of included studies with national and international-level cardiac rehabilitation (CR) registries. Inset: Location of European CR registries. Red pin: identified national-level registries; purple pin: countries involved in the international-level EuroCaReD database; green pin: country has both a national-level CR registry and is involved in the EuroCaReD. Developed using ArcMap 10.5.



**Cochrane**  
**Library**

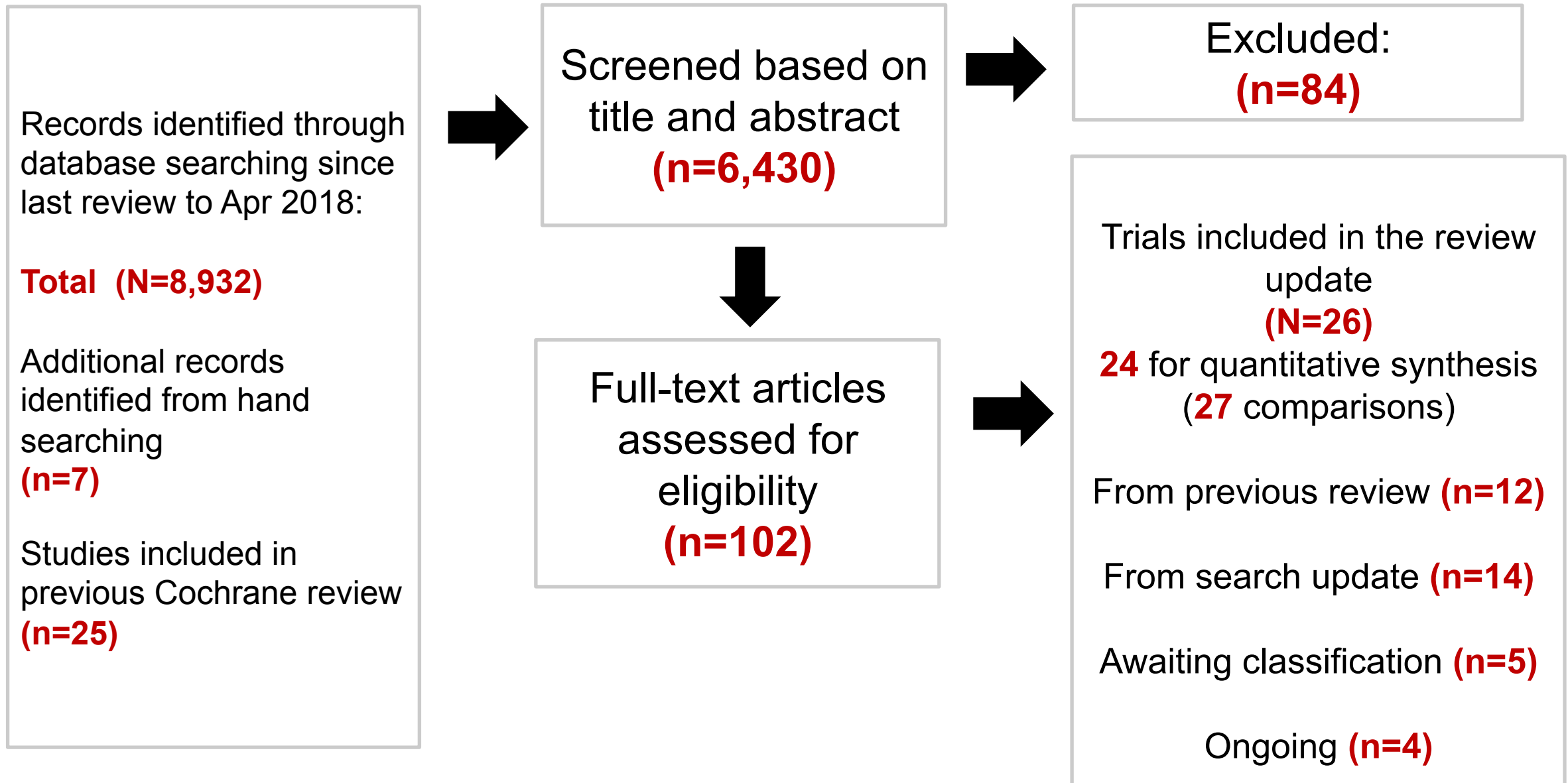
**Cochrane** Database of Systematic Reviews

## **Promoting patient uptake and adherence in cardiac rehabilitation (Review)**

Santiago Pio, C.\*, Chaves, G.\*, Davies, P., Taylor, R. & Grace, S.L.

2014, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD007131.  
DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD007131.pub3.

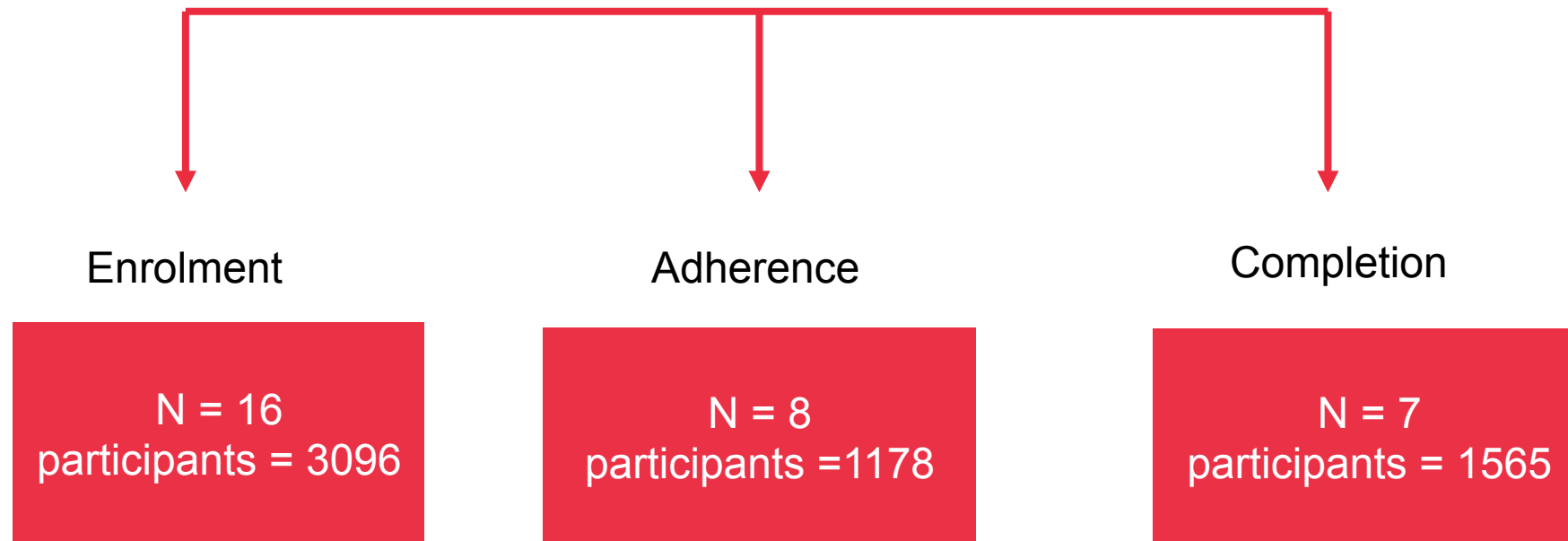
# Search Results & Citation Consideration





# Results

Number of included trials for quantitative analysis by outcome:

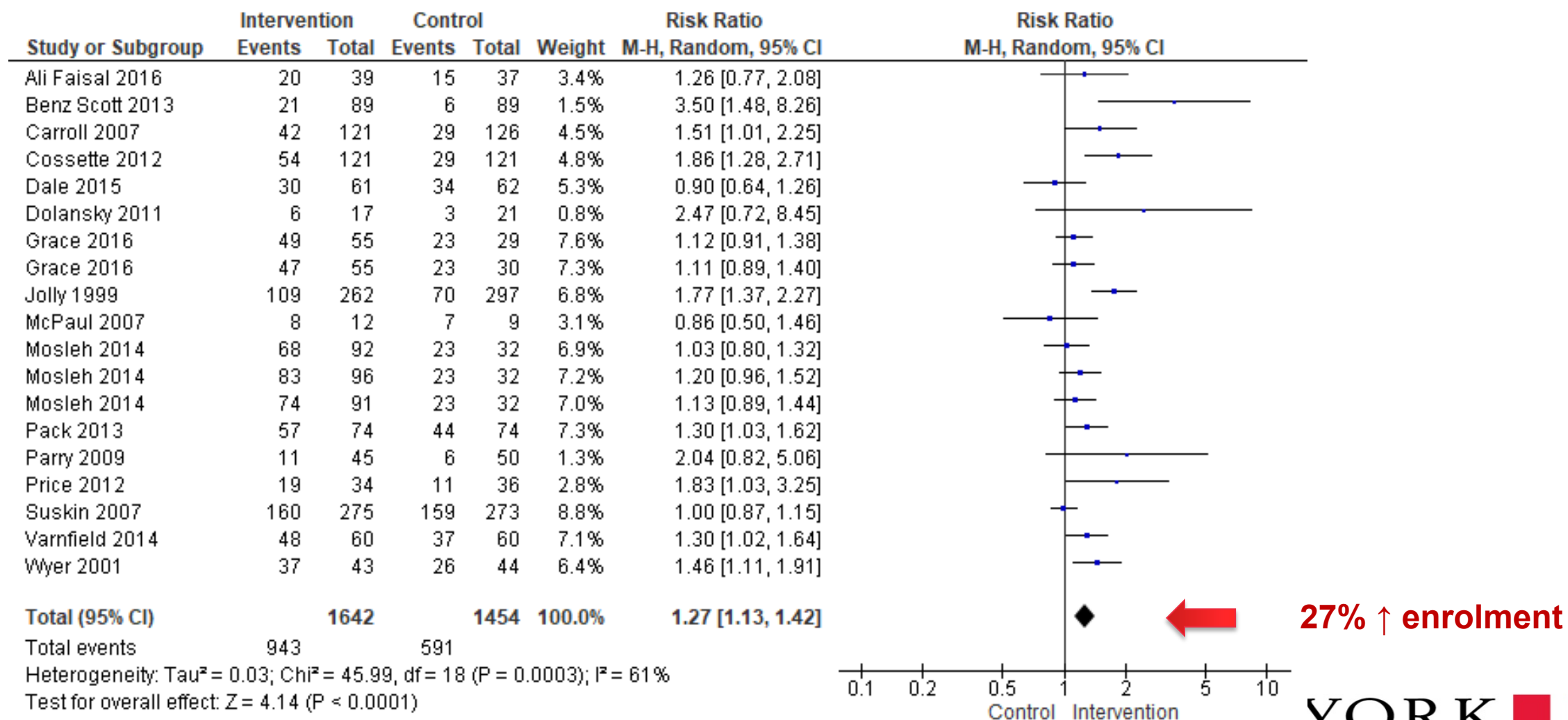


64% male participants, 36% included HF patients

# Interventions



# Results: Effect of CR Utilization interventions on Enrolment



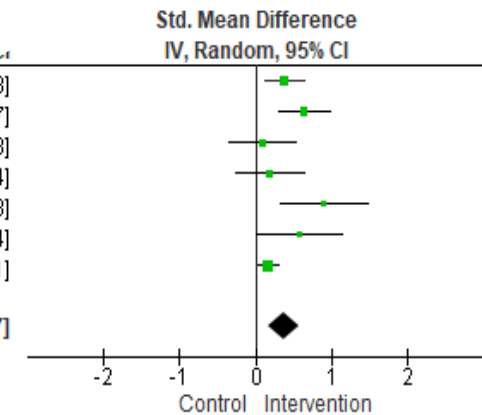
# Subgroup Analyses: Delivered F2F by HCP (both 60% ↑ enrolmt)



# Adherence

Study or Subgroup	Intervention			Control			Std. Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI
	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	
Beckie 2010	88.88888889	25	141	77.77777778	25	126	11.11 [0.31, 0.63]
Focht 2004	90.88	22.64	73	77.77	22.64	73	13.11 [0.31, 0.97]
Grace 2016a	54.4	34.7	55	54.4	34.7	55	0.09 [-0.36, 0.53]
Grace 2016b	58.12	35.4	55	58.12	35.4	55	0.19 [-0.26, 0.64]
Hwang 2017	83.33333333	25	126	77.77	25	126	0.90 [0.32, 1.48]
Kraal 2014	100	25	126	77.77	25	126	0.57 [0.01, 1.14]
Lynggaard 2017	81.66666667	25	126	77.77	25	126	0.17 [0.03, 0.31]
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>			<b>708</b>			<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0.37 [0.18, 0.57]</b>

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.03$ ; Chi<sup>2</sup> = 13.30, df = 7 (P = 0.07); I<sup>2</sup> = 47%  
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.73 (P = 0.0002)

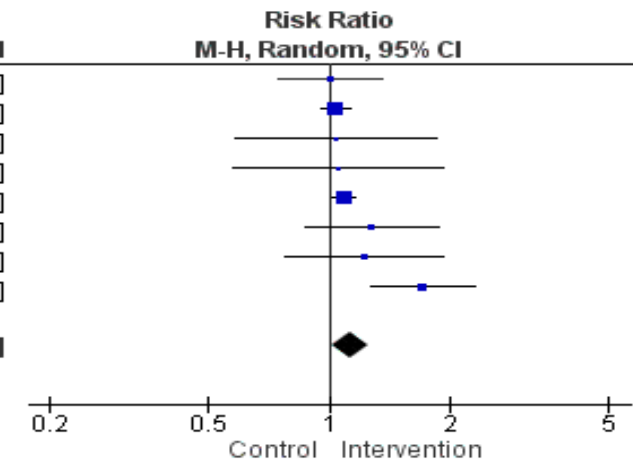


Subgroup Analysis:  
REMOTELY OFFERED

# Completion

Study or Subgroup	Intervention		Control		Weight	Risk Ratio M-H, Random, 95% CI
	Events	Total	Events	Total		
Ashe 1993	17	21	16	20	9.3%	1.01 [0.75, 1.37]
Focht 2004	65	68	68	74	31.2%	1.04 [0.96, 1.13]
Grace 2016a	21	55	11	30	3.1%	1.04 [0.58, 1.86]
Grace 2016b	20	55	10	29	2.8%	1.05 [0.57, 1.94]
Lynggaard 2017	341	413	312	412	33.3%	1.09 [1.02, 1.17]
Oldridge 1983	34	63	24	57	6.4%	1.28 [0.88, 1.87]
Pack 2013	27	74	22	74	4.6%	1.23 [0.77, 1.95]
Varnfield 2014	48	60	28	60	9.4%	1.71 [1.27, 2.31]
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>		<b>809</b>		<b>756</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.13 [1.02, 1.25]</b>

Total events: 573 / 491  
Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.01$ ; Chi<sup>2</sup> = 13.30, df = 7 (P = 0.07); I<sup>2</sup> = 47%  
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.25 (P = 0.02)



Under revision; Cochrane

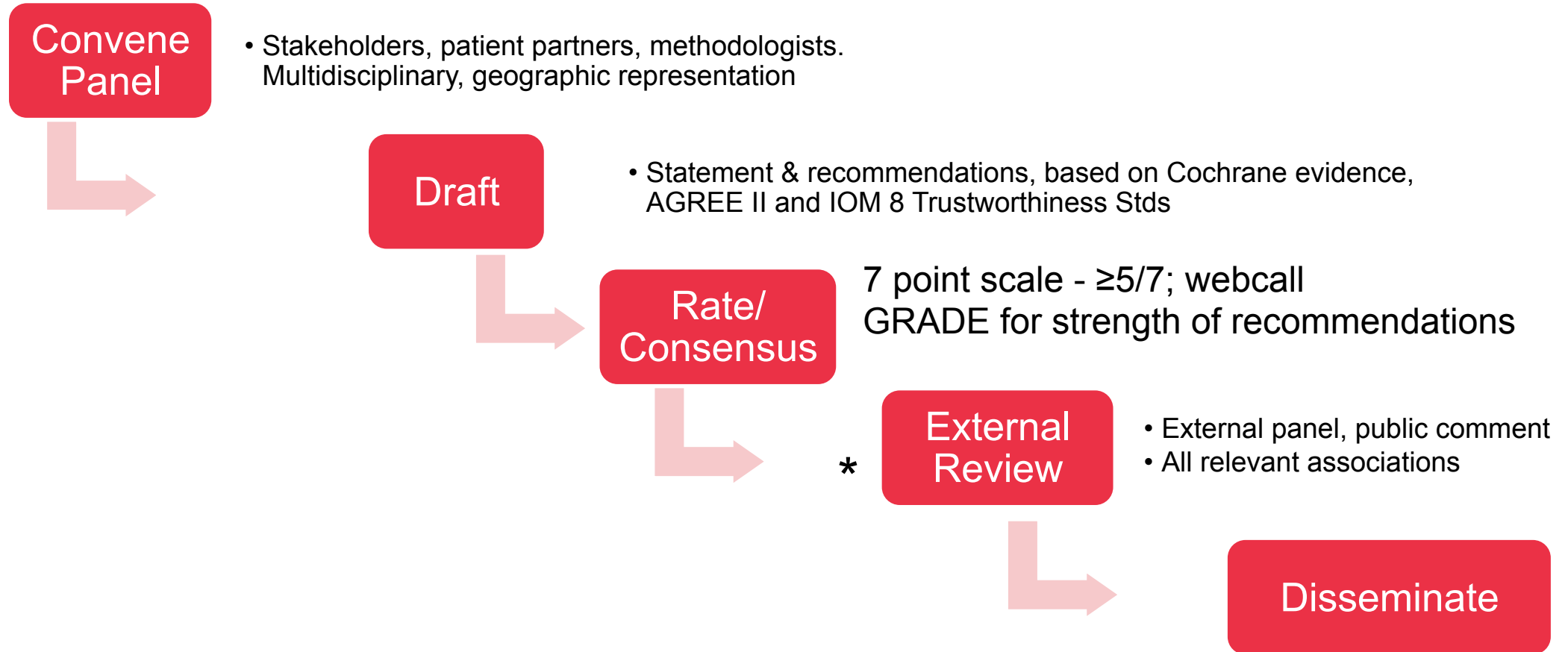




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# Patient CR Utilization Policy Statement Development



# Policy Statement Recommendations: Increasing CR Utilization

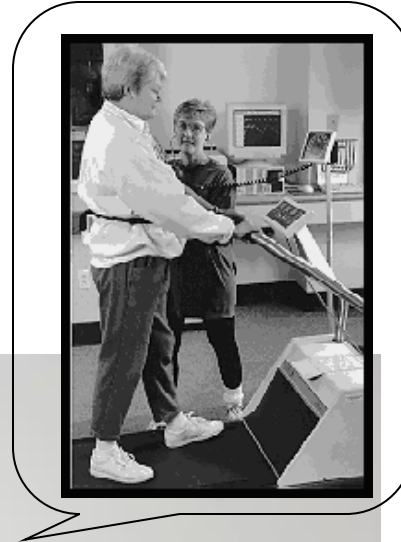


Recommendation	Quality of the Evidence (GRADE)	Strength of the Recommendations (GRADE)	Evidentiary Basis
1. CR enrolment interventions should target healthcare providers, to impact delivery to indicated patients	⊕⊕⊕⊕ LOW	Strong	Carroll et al., 2007; Cossette et al., 2012; Jolly et al., 1999; Scott et al., 2013
2. Enrolment interventions should be delivered to patients face-to-face, by a nurse, potentially in conjunction with an allied healthcare provider or peer.	⊕⊕⊕⊕ LOW	Strong	Carroll et al., 2007; Cossette et al., 2012; Jolly et al., 1999; Price et al., 2012
3. To increase adherence, interventions should be delivered remotely or at least some of the cardiac rehabilitation program should be delivered unsupervised	⊕⊕⊕⊕ MODERATE	Weak	Focht et al., 2004; Hwang et al., 2017; Kraal et al., 2014

C. Pio, T Beckie, M Varnfield, A Gagliardi, A Babu, A Mola, N Sarrafzadegan, M Supervia, J Buckley, M Heine, M. Trani, B Radi, SY Chen, S Baidya, A Abreu, J Khiong, J Sawdon, P Moffatt, SL. Grace; under public comment.



# Talking to Patients About CR At Bedside



# Guideline Implementation Tool

- Online course for inpatient cardiac healthcare providers regarding how to talk to patients at the bedside and promote their use of CR
- [http://s3.amazonaws.com/tempshare-stage.storyline.articulate.com/sto\\_1cs4bke2d1o4b1pg21oa24q11d8o9/story.html](http://s3.amazonaws.com/tempshare-stage.storyline.articulate.com/sto_1cs4bke2d1o4b1pg21oa24q11d8o9/story.html)

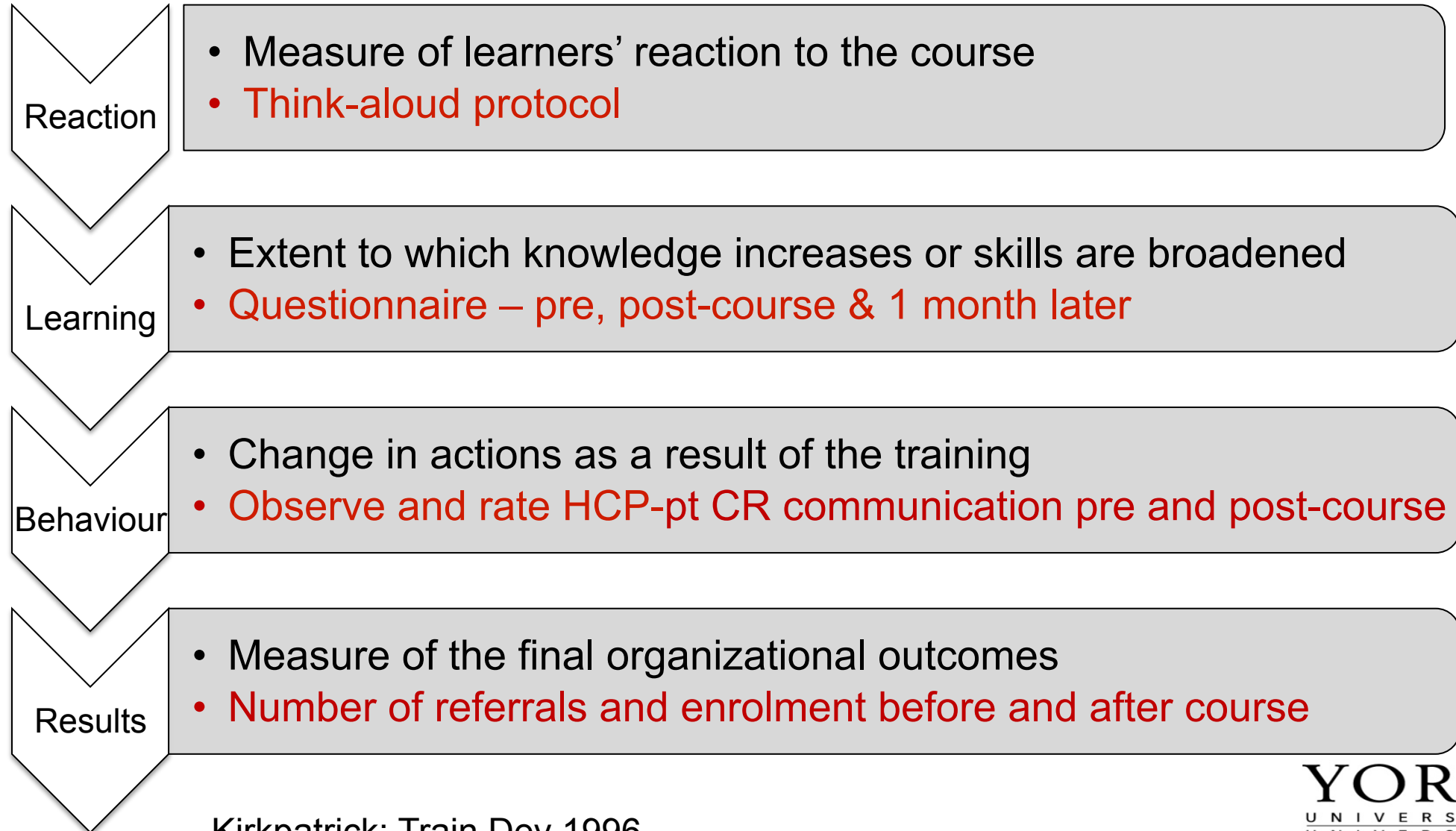


eLearning



Clinical societies

# Online Course Evaluation Model – 4 levels



## Road map to 70% CR participation

### Cardiac rehabilitation adherence

- Set 36 CR sessions as goal
- Home-based CR option
- Flexible CR hours
- Work to minimize CR co-pays

3

### Cardiac rehabilitation enrollment

- CR staff liaison
- Early appointment at CR
- CR *enrollment* as performance measure
- Work to minimize co-pays

2

### Cardiac rehabilitation referral

- EMR-based referral
- CR staff liaison
- CR *referral* as performance measure

1

**FIGURE.** Conceptual framework for increasing cardiac rehabilitation (CR) participation from 20% to 70%. EMR = electronic medical record.

Cardiac Rehabilitation Participation  
A Road Map From the  
National Cardiac Rehabilitation  
Collaborative

Steven J. Keteyian, PhD; Janet S. Wright, MD;  
Karen Lui, RN, MS; Kimberly Newlin, ANP;  
David A. Asch, PhD; and Randal J. Thomas, MD, MS

<https://millionhearts.hhs.gov/tools-protocols/action-guides/cardiac-change-package/index.html>

# Conclusions



- CR works
- CR is under-used
- Strategies to increase use have been established
- The strategies have not been widely implemented
- If every patient was referred, we would have more participants and hence substantial gains in the CV health of the nation.



# Acknowledgements




International Council of  
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and Rehabilitation (ICCPR)



- **Trainee:** Carolina Santiago Pio, PT, MSc, PhD(c)
- **Cochrane Review Co-authors:** Rod Taylor, PhD; Phillippa Davies, PhD; Gabriela Chaves, PhD
- **Utilization Policy Statement Writing panel:** Ana Mola, PhD, Ana Abreu, MD, Basuni Radi, MD, John Buckley, PhD, Maria R. Trani, MD, Marlien Varnfield, PhD, Marta Supervia, MD, MSc, Martin Heine, PT, PhD, Nizal Sarrafzadegan, MD, Ssu-Yuan Chen, MD, John Seng Khong, OT, Sumana Baidya, PT, Theresa Beckie, RN, PhD; Anna Gagliardi, PhD (methodologist).
- **Patient partners:** John Sawdon, MSc, Paul Moffatt.
- External reviewers



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