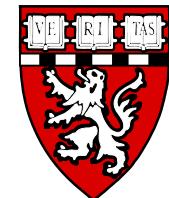


# Convulsive Status Epilepticus

TOBIAS LODDENKEMPER, MD

DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL EPILEPSY RESEARCH, BOSTON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
PROFESSOR OF NEUROLOGY, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL



# Disclosure

**Funding/research grants:** ERF, PERF, NIH, EFA, ETP, Empatica, Upsher Smith.

**Consulting:** Upsher Smith, UCB, Engage.

**Board Membership and related committees:** ACNS, Pediatric Status Epilepticus Research Group (pSERG), NORSE Institute, CCERMC

**Associate Editor:** Wyllie's Treatment of Epilepsy, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> editions

**Device donations:** Empatica, SmartWatch, Neuroelectrics

**IP/Patents:** Epilepsy/status diagnosis, Seizure detection, Seizure prediction, Epilepsy/disease visualization and management (Trivox)

**Clinical care:** Billing for electrophysiological studies and clinical care through BCH

**Spouse:** Karen Stannard, MD, bills for electrophysiological studies and clinical care through BCH

**Off-label discussion of seizure, epilepsy,  
and status epilepticus diagnosis & treatment options**

# Learning Objectives

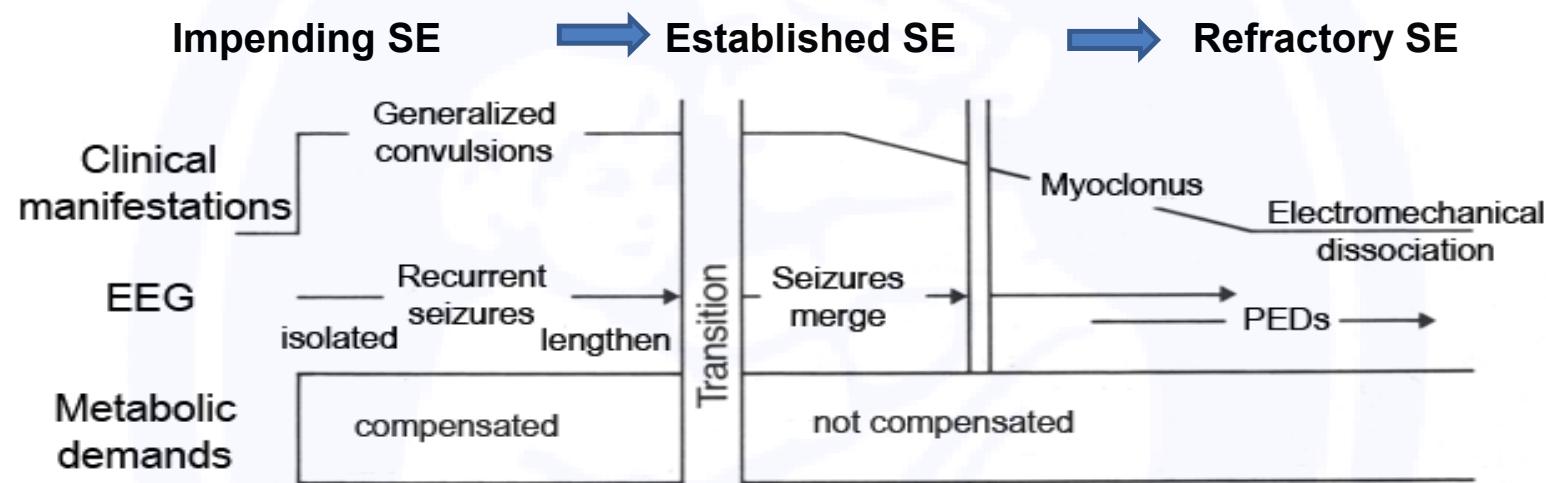
- Discuss current management approach to pediatric convulsive status epilepticus
  - Diagnosis
  - Treatment
  - Etiological workup
- Discuss gaps in pediatric convulsive status epilepticus care

# Status Epilepticus Evolution



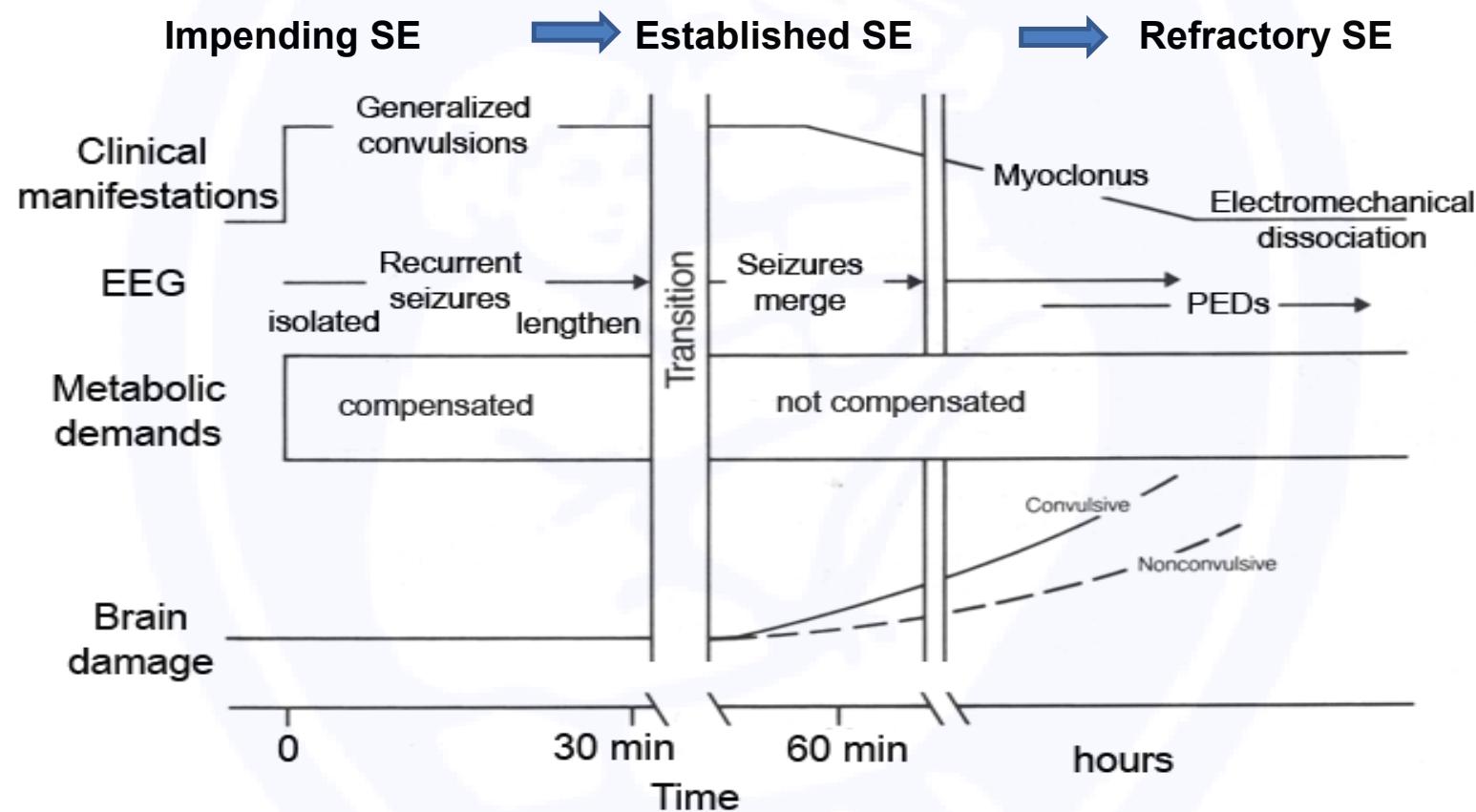
Modified from Lothman. Neurology, 1990

# Status Epilepticus Evolution



Modified from Lothman. Neurology, 1990

# Status Epilepticus Evolution



Modified from Lothman. Neurology, 1990

# Treatment

If no IV access available -

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OR **diazepam** (PR 0.2-0.5 mg/kg; maximum 20 mg; OR IN 0.2-0.3 mg/kg; maximum 20 mg)

If IV access is available-

**lorazepam** IV 0.1 mg/kg (maximum 4 mg, can repeat once)  
OR **diazepam** IV 0.15-0.2 mg/kg (maximum 10 mg, can repeat once)



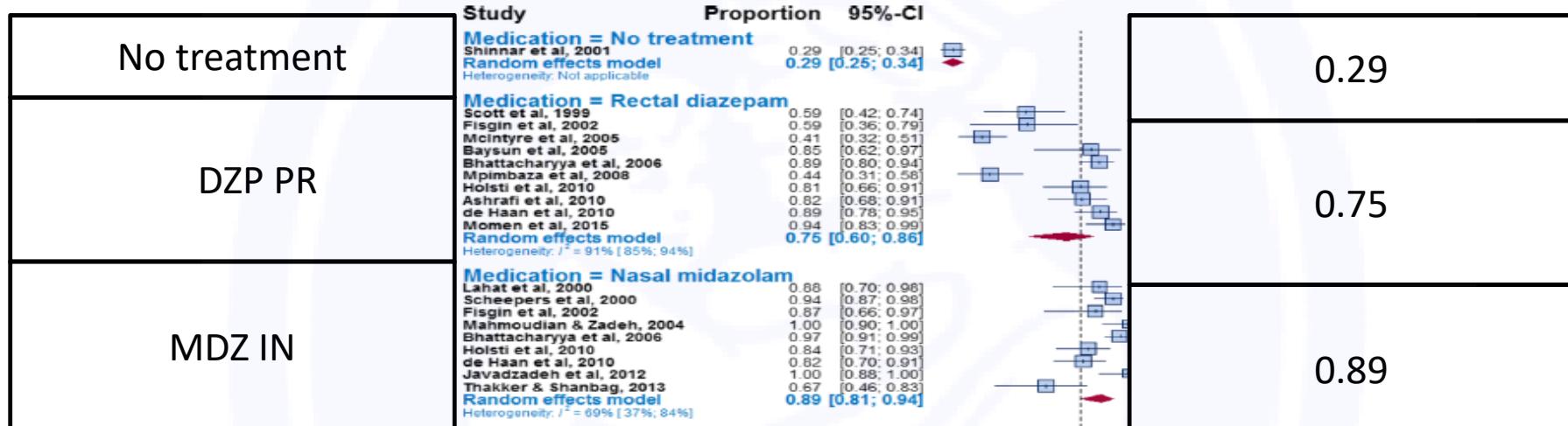
# Effectiveness of Non-IV First Line Treatment



Sanchez Fernandez et al., Epilepsia 2017



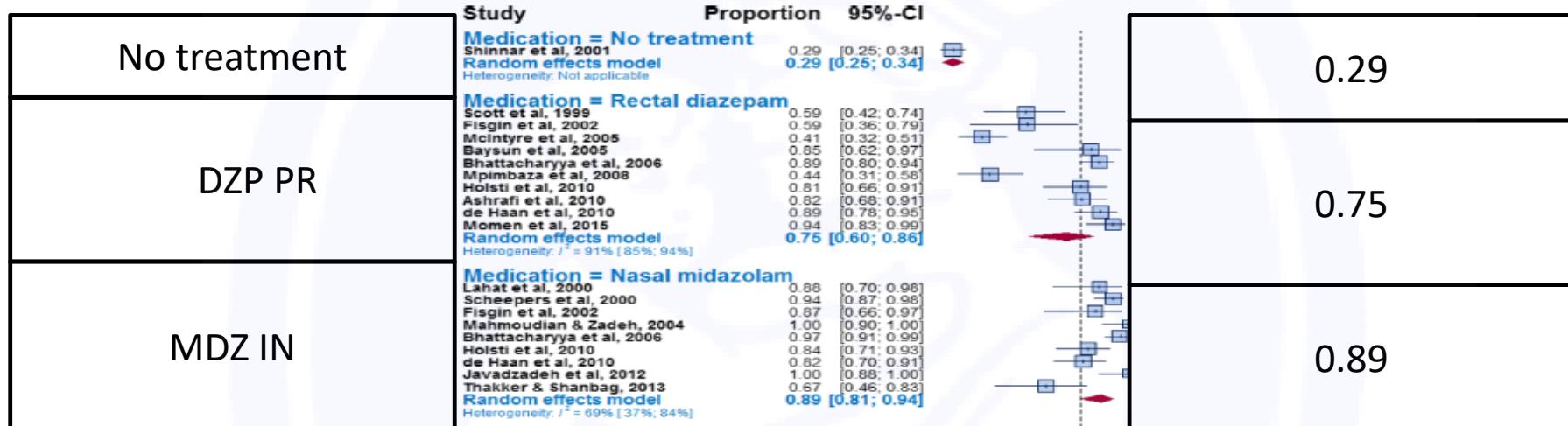
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Sanchez Fernandez et al., Epilepsia 2017



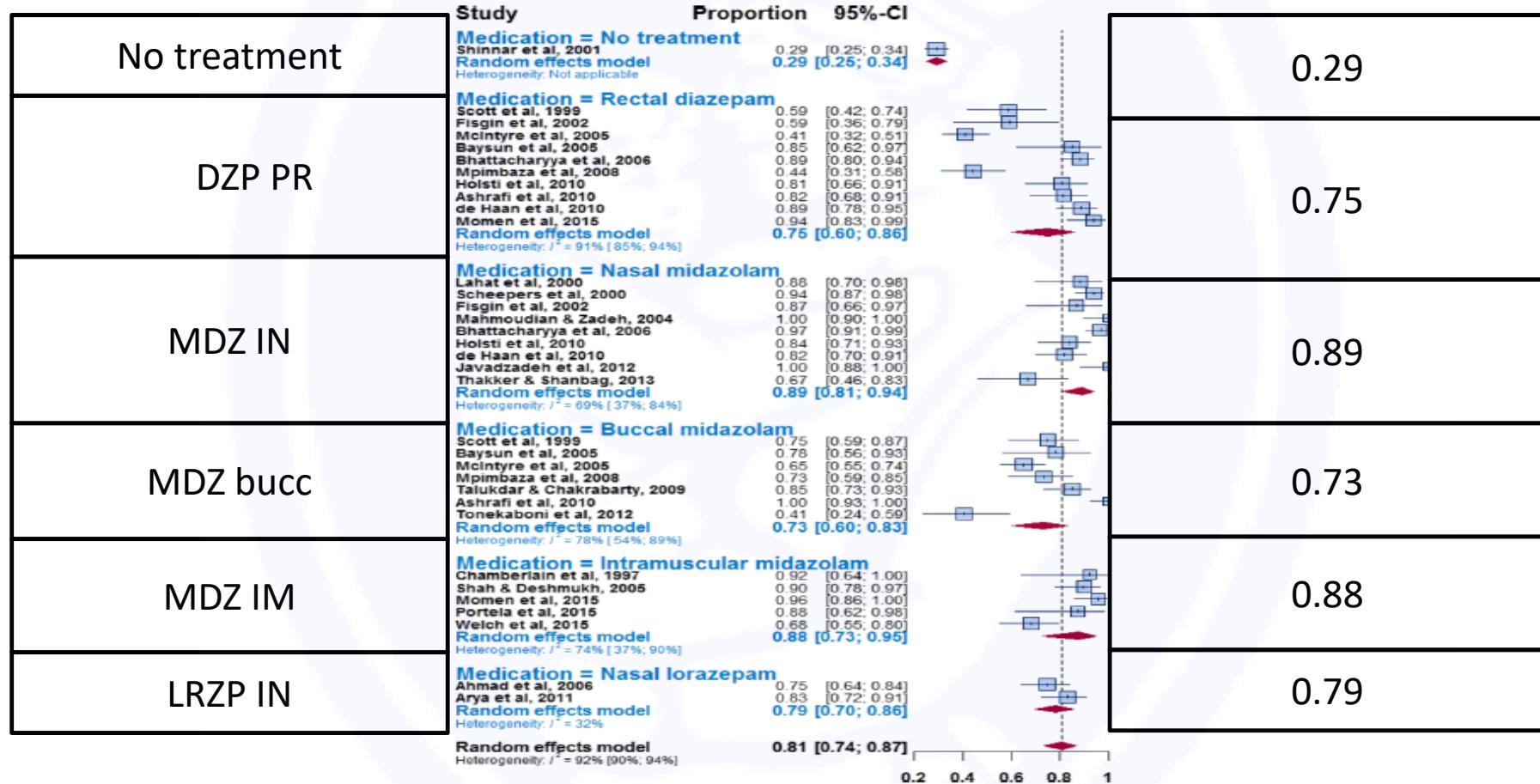
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Sanchez Fernandez et al., Epilepsia 2017



# Effectiveness of Non-IV First Line Treatment



Sanchez Fernandez et al., Epilepsia 2017

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**fosphenytoin** IV 20 mg PE/kg (maximum 1500 PE mg, can repeat 5-10 mgPE/kg if needed)

OR **levetiracetam** IV 30-60 mg/kg (maximum 4500 mg, can repeat 30 mg/kg if needed)

OR **valproic acid** IV 20 mg/kg (maximum 3000 mg, can repeat 20 mg/kg if needed)

OR **phenobarbital** IV 20 mg/kg (can repeat 5-10 mg/kg if needed)

can repeat the ASM above (as indicated in brackets) or give a different one if seizure persists

# ConSEPT Trial

## Open-label Randomized Trial of Two Anticonvulsant Medications for Pediatric Status Epilepticus

233 Children with benzodiazepine refractory SE  
(3 mos to 16 yrs)



Levetiracetam  
40 mg/kg



Phenytoin  
20 mg/kg



Clinical seizure cessation 5 minutes after complete infusion

50%  
(60/119)

60%  
(68/114)

LEV is not superior to PHT for second line management of pediatric CSE.

Dalziel et al., Lancet, 2019

# EcLiPSE Trial

## Open-label Randomized Trial of Two Anticonvulsant Medications for Pediatric Status Epilepticus

286 Children with benzodiazepine refractory SE



Levetiracetam  
40 mg/kg



Phenytoin  
20 mg/kg



Time from randomization to clinical cessation of Convulsive Status Epilepticus

70%  
(106/152)

64%  
(86/134)

LEV is not superior to PHT for second line management of pediatric CSE.

Lyttle et al., Lancet, 2019

# Established Status Epilepticus Treatment Trial

## Trial of Three Anticonvulsant Medications for Status Epilepticus

384 Children and adults with benzodiazepine refractory SE



Levetiracetam  
60 mg/kg



Phenytoin  
20 mg/kg



Valproate  
40 mg/kg



No clinical seizures and improved responsiveness at 60 minutes

47%  
(68/145)

45%  
(53/118)

46%  
(56/121)

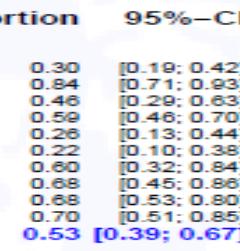
No significant differences in rates of seizure cessation or adverse events.

Kapur et al., NEJM, 2019

# Effectiveness of Second Line Treatment

PHT

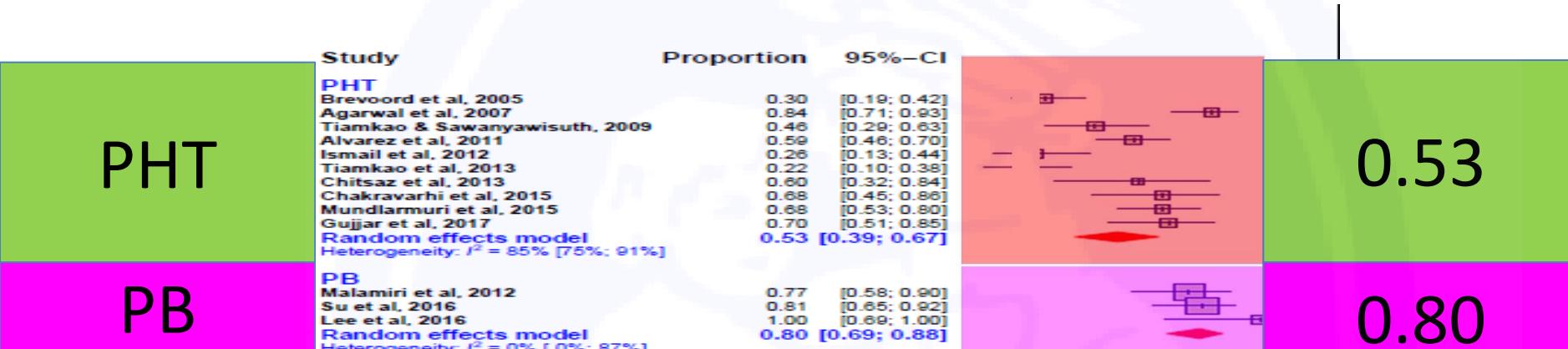
Study	Proportion	95%-CI
<b>PHT</b>		
Brevoord et al, 2005	0.30	[0.19; 0.42]
Agarwal et al, 2007	0.84	[0.71; 0.93]
Tiamkao & Sawanyawisuth, 2009	0.46	[0.29; 0.63]
Alvarez et al, 2011	0.59	[0.46; 0.70]
Ismail et al, 2012	0.26	[0.13; 0.44]
Tiamkao et al, 2013	0.22	[0.10; 0.38]
Chitsaz et al, 2013	0.60	[0.32; 0.84]
Chakravarhi et al, 2015	0.68	[0.45; 0.86]
Mundlarmuri et al, 2015	0.68	[0.53; 0.80]
Gujjar et al, 2017	0.70	[0.51; 0.85]
<b>Random effects model</b>		<b>0.53 [0.39; 0.67]</b>
Heterogeneity: $\chi^2 = 85\% [75\%; 91\%]$		



0.53

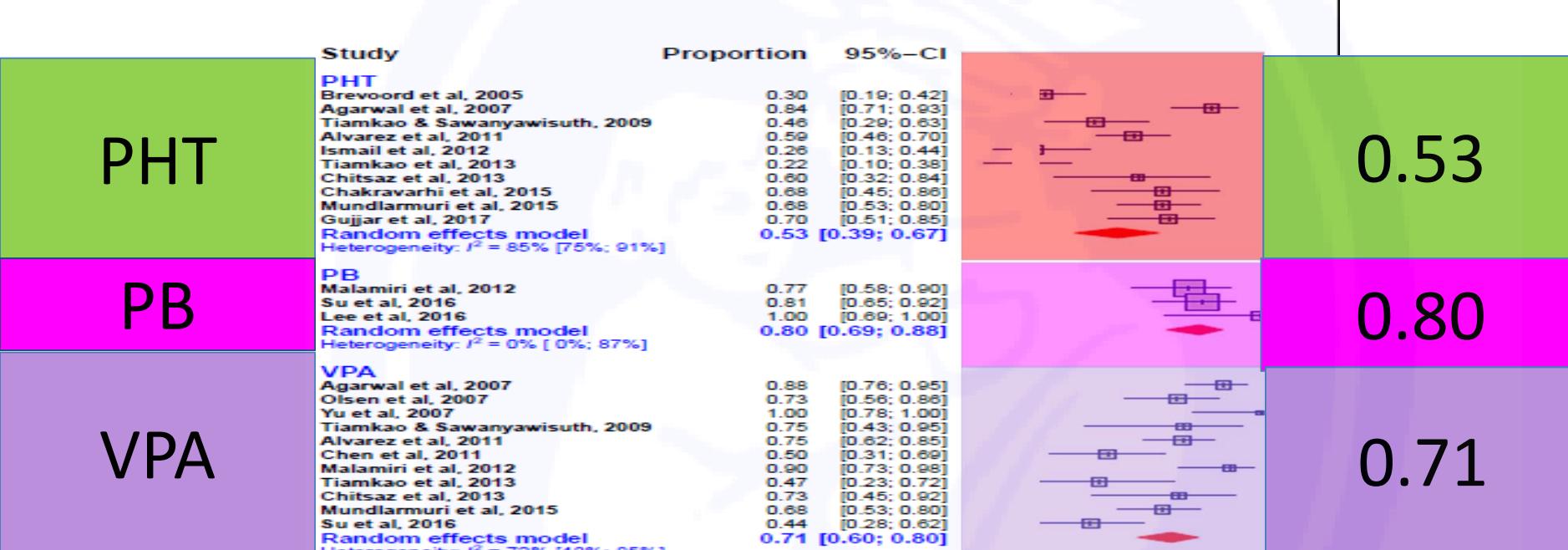
Sanchez Fernandez et al., Neurology 2019

# Effectiveness of Second Line Treatment



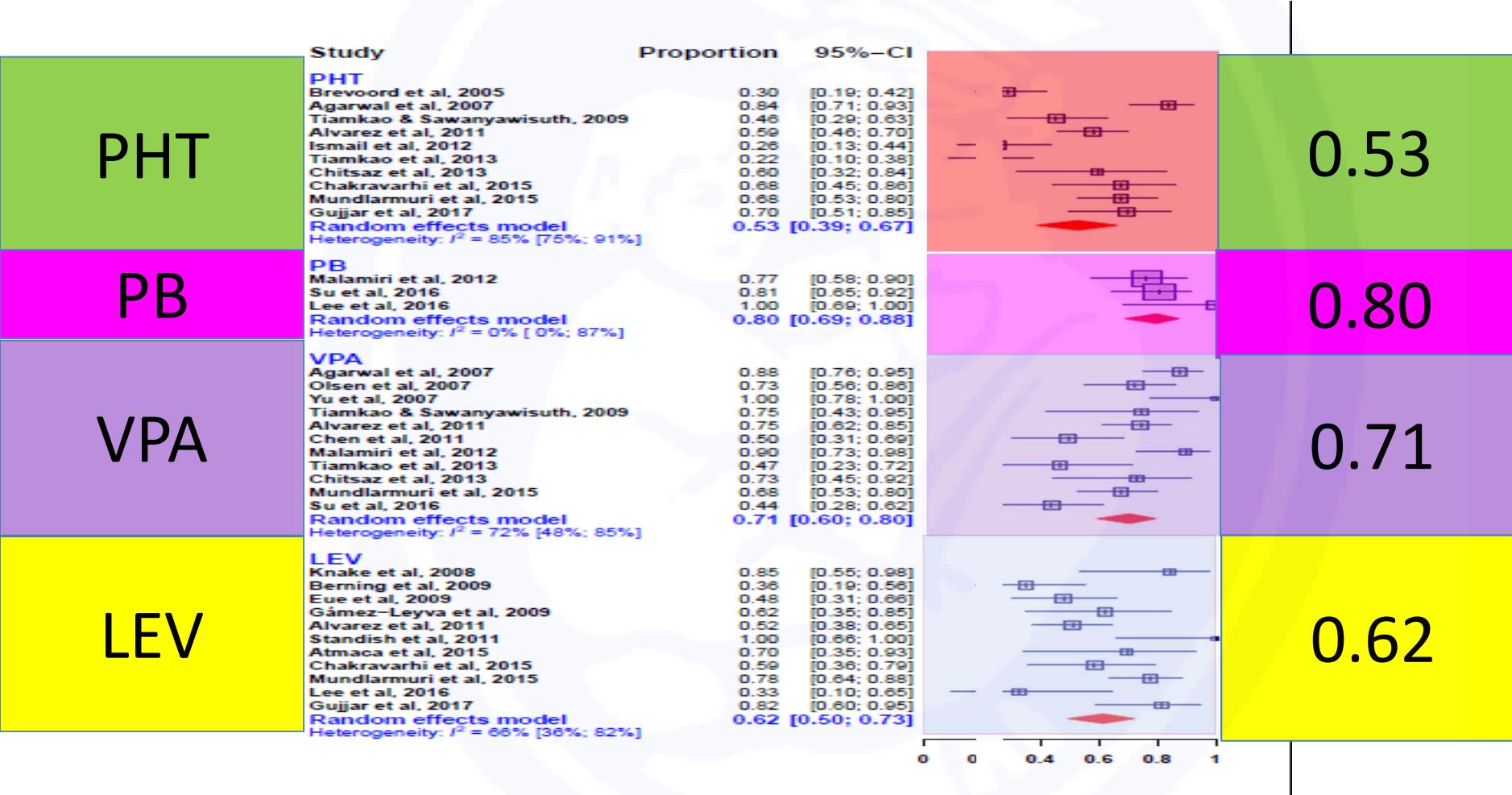
Sanchez Fernandez et al., Neurology 2019

# Effectiveness of Second Line Treatment



Sanchez Fernandez et al., Neurology 2019

# Effectiveness of Second Line Treatment



Sanchez Fernandez et al., Neurology 2019

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If IV access is available-

**lorazepam** IV 0.1 mg/kg (maximum 4 mg, can repeat once)  
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**fosphenytoin** IV 20 mg PE/kg (maximum 1500 PE mg, can repeat 5-10 mgPE/kg if needed)

OR **levetiracetam** IV 30-60 mg/kg (maximum 4500 mg, can repeat 30 mg/kg if needed)

OR **valproic acid** IV 20 mg/kg (maximum 3000 mg, can repeat 20 mg/kg if needed)

OR **phenobarbital** IV 20 mg/kg (can repeat 5-10 mg/kg if needed)

can repeat the ASM above (as indicated in brackets) or give a different one if seizure persists



**midazolam** (IV load with 0.2 mg/kg at 2 mg/min infusion, titrate with EEG, maximum 2 mg/kg/h)

OR **pentobarbital** (IV load with 5– 15 mg/kg at 50 mg/min, titrate with EEG, maximum 5 mg/kg/h)

OR **thiopental** (IV load with 2–7 mg/kg at 50 mg/min, titrate with EEG, maximum 5 mg/kg/h )

OR **propofol** (IV load with 1-2 mg/kg at 20 mcg/kg/min, caution with doses >65 mcg/kg/min and prolonged application due to propofol infusion syndrome)

OR **ketamine** (IV load with 1–3 mg/kg, max 4.5 mg/kg, titrate with EEG, maximum 100 mcg/kg/min)

# Treatment

## Early Status Epilepticus



IV fosphenytoin 20 mg PE/kg (maximum 1500 PE mg, can repeat 5-10 mgPE/kg if needed)

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# Treatment

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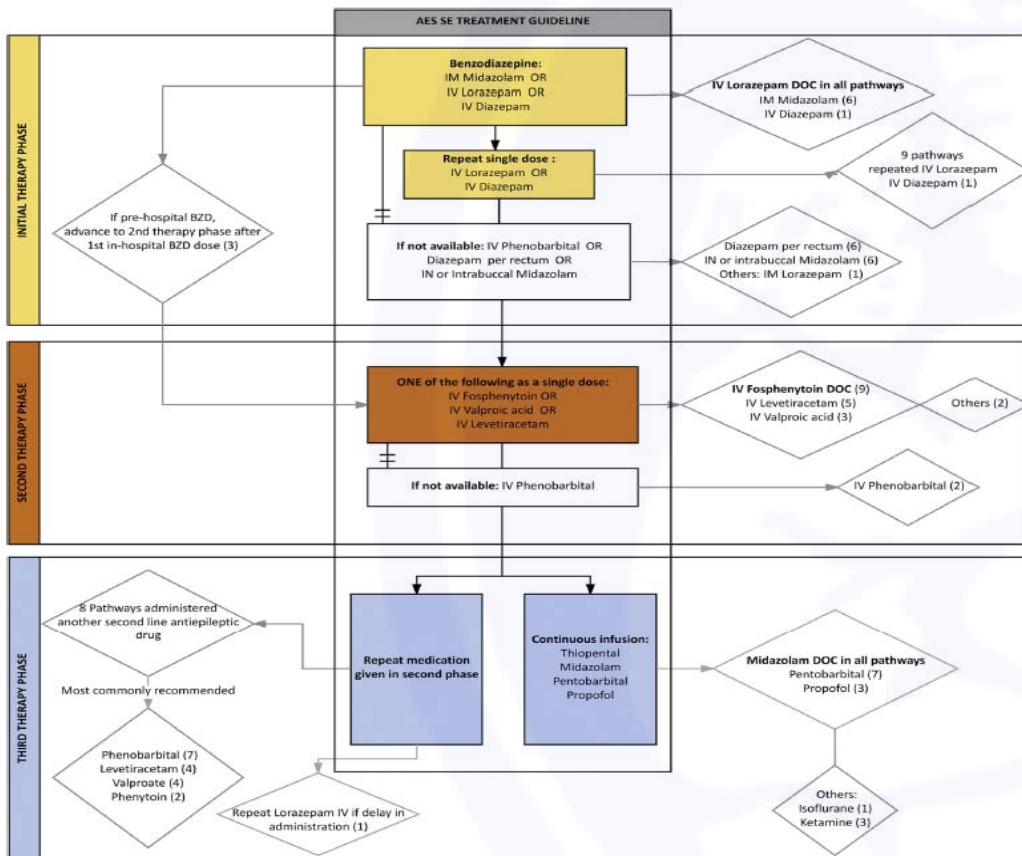
OR thiopental (load with 2–7 mg/kg at 50 mg/min, titrate with EEG, maximum 5 mg/kg/h )

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## Refractory Status Epilepticus

# AES Guideline



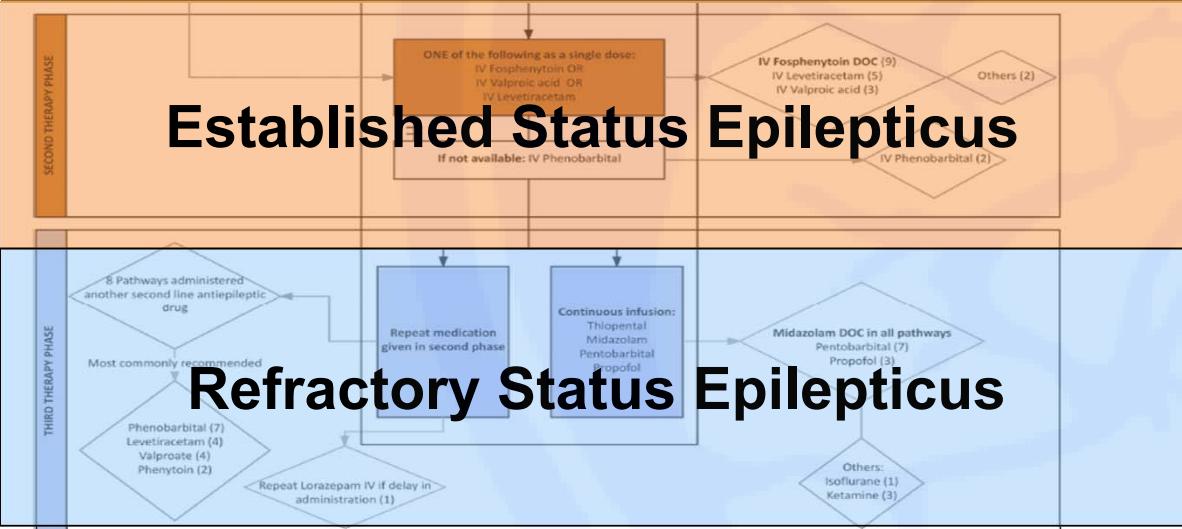
Modified based on Glauser et al., Epilpesia, 2016  
AES Treatment Guideline

# AES Guideline

## Early Status Epilepticus

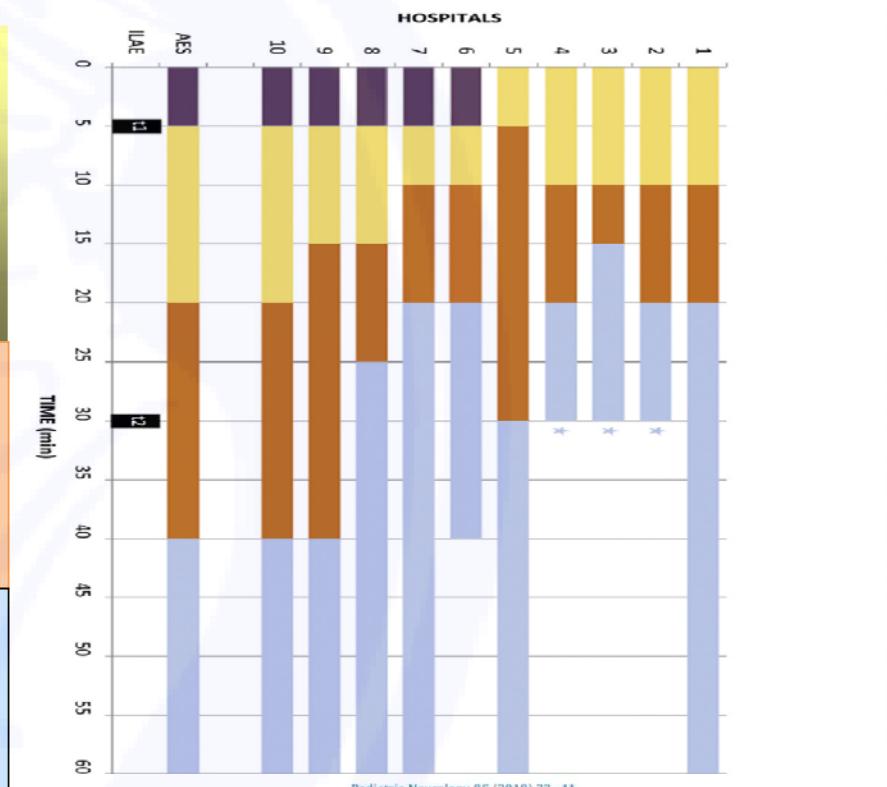
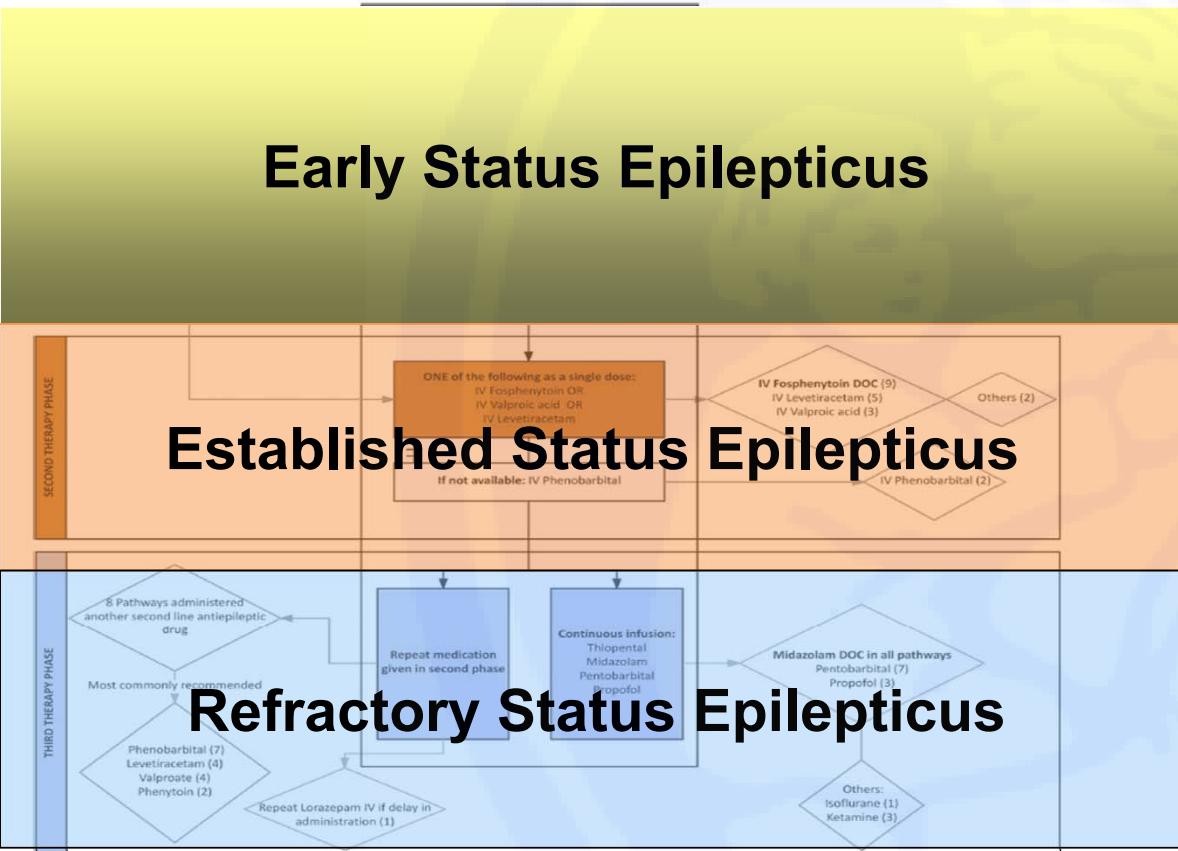
## Established Status Epilepticus

## Refractory Status Epilepticus



Modified based on Glauser et al., Epilpesia, 2016  
AES Treatment Guideline

# Variability in Care



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Original Article

## Hospital Emergency Treatment of Convulsive Status Epilepticus: Comparison of Pathways From Ten Pediatric Research Centers

Alejandra Vasquez, MD<sup>a</sup>, Marina Gainza-Lein<sup>a,b</sup>,

Modified based on Glauser et al., Epilpesia, 2016  
AES Treatment Guideline

# Etiology and related workup

If no IV access available -

midazolam (IM 0.2 mg/kg OR IN 0.2 mg/kg OR Buccal 0.5 mg/kg; maximum 10 mg)

OR rectal diazepam (0.2-0.5 mg/kg; maximum 20 mg)

If IV access is available-

IV lorazepam 0.1 mg/kg (maximum 4 mg, can repeat once)

OR diazepam (PR 0.2-0.5 mg/kg; maximum 20 mg; OR IN 0.2-0.3 mg/kg; maximum 20 mg)



**CABs**

**Hypoxia**

**Hemodynamics**

**Hyperthermia**

**Hypoglycemia**

**Hyponatremia**

**Labs**  
**EKG**  
**Imaging**

IV fosphenytoin 20 mg PE/kg (maximum 1500 PE mg, can repeat 5-10 mgPE/kg if needed)

OR IV levetiracetam 30-60 mg/kg (maximum 4500 mg, can repeat 30 mg/kg if needed)

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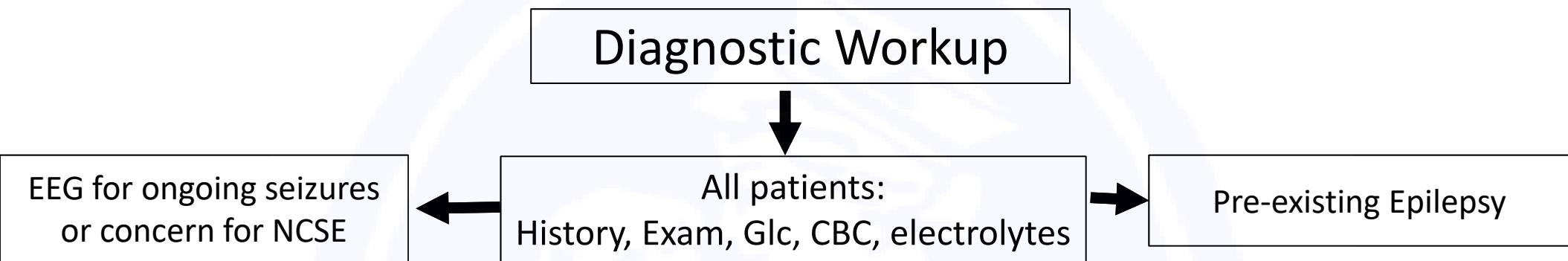
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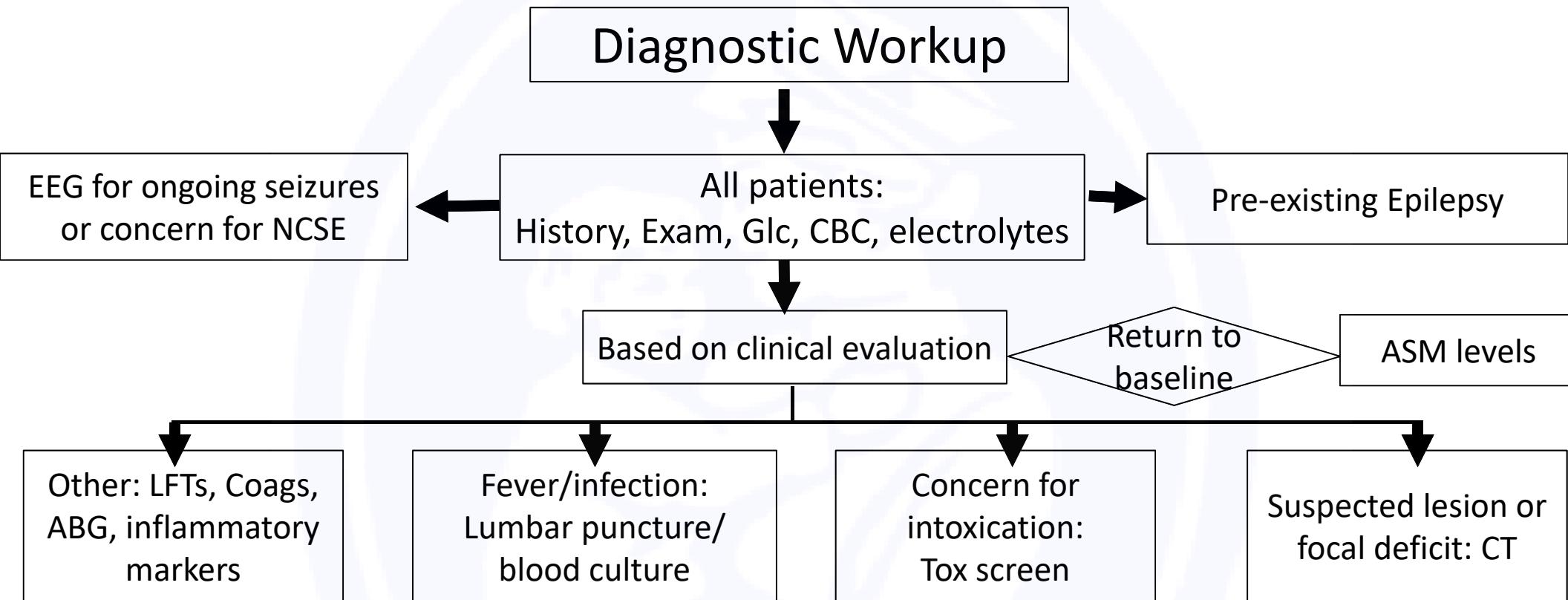
OR ketamine (load with 1–3 mg/kg, max 4.5 mg/kg, titrate with EEG, maximum 100 mcg/kg/min)

**EEG**  
**Monitoring**

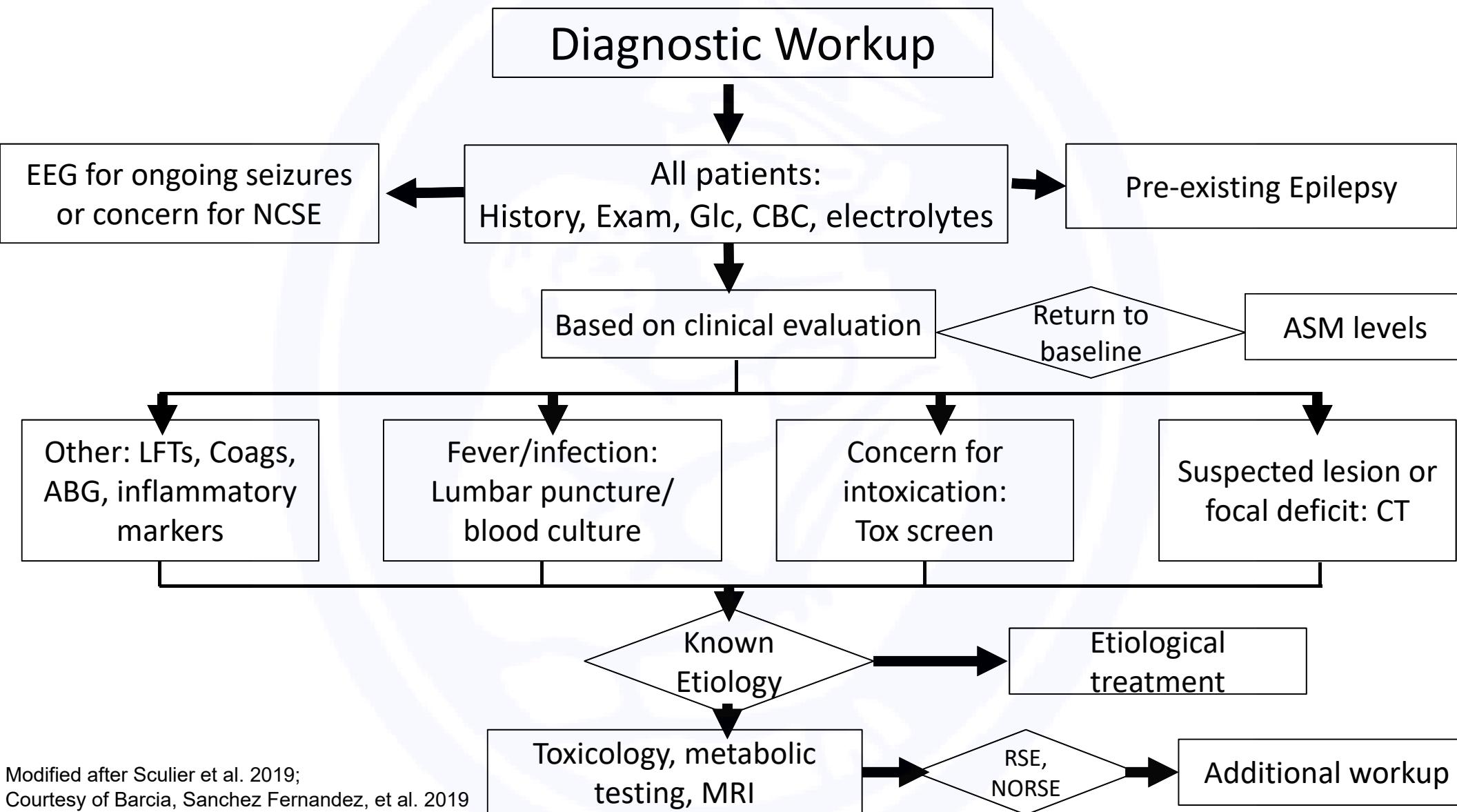
# Diagnostic Workup



Modified after Sculier et al. 2019;  
Courtesy of Barcia, Sanchez Fernandez, et al. 2019



Modified after Sculier et al. 2019;  
Courtesy of Barcia, Sanchez Fernandez, et al. 2019



Modified after Sculier et al. 2019;  
Courtesy of Barcia, Sanchez Fernandez, et al. 2019

# Survival

- Short-term mortality of SE ranges from:
  - **0-4%** in children
  - **2-40%** in adults
- Long-term mortality after an episode of SE, including in-hospital deaths:
  - **0 to 22%** in children
  - **0 to 57%** in adults
- Risk factors include:
  - Etiology
  - Older age
  - SE duration
  - Development of subsequent epilepsy

Sculier et al., 2017

# Recurrence of (SR)SE

- Recurrent SE range:
  - 10-56% in children
  - 13-37% in a mixed population of adults and children
- Predictors of recurrent SE:
  - Age <4 years
  - Female gender
  - Lack of response to the first ASM for SE
  - Remote symptomatic and progressive etiologies

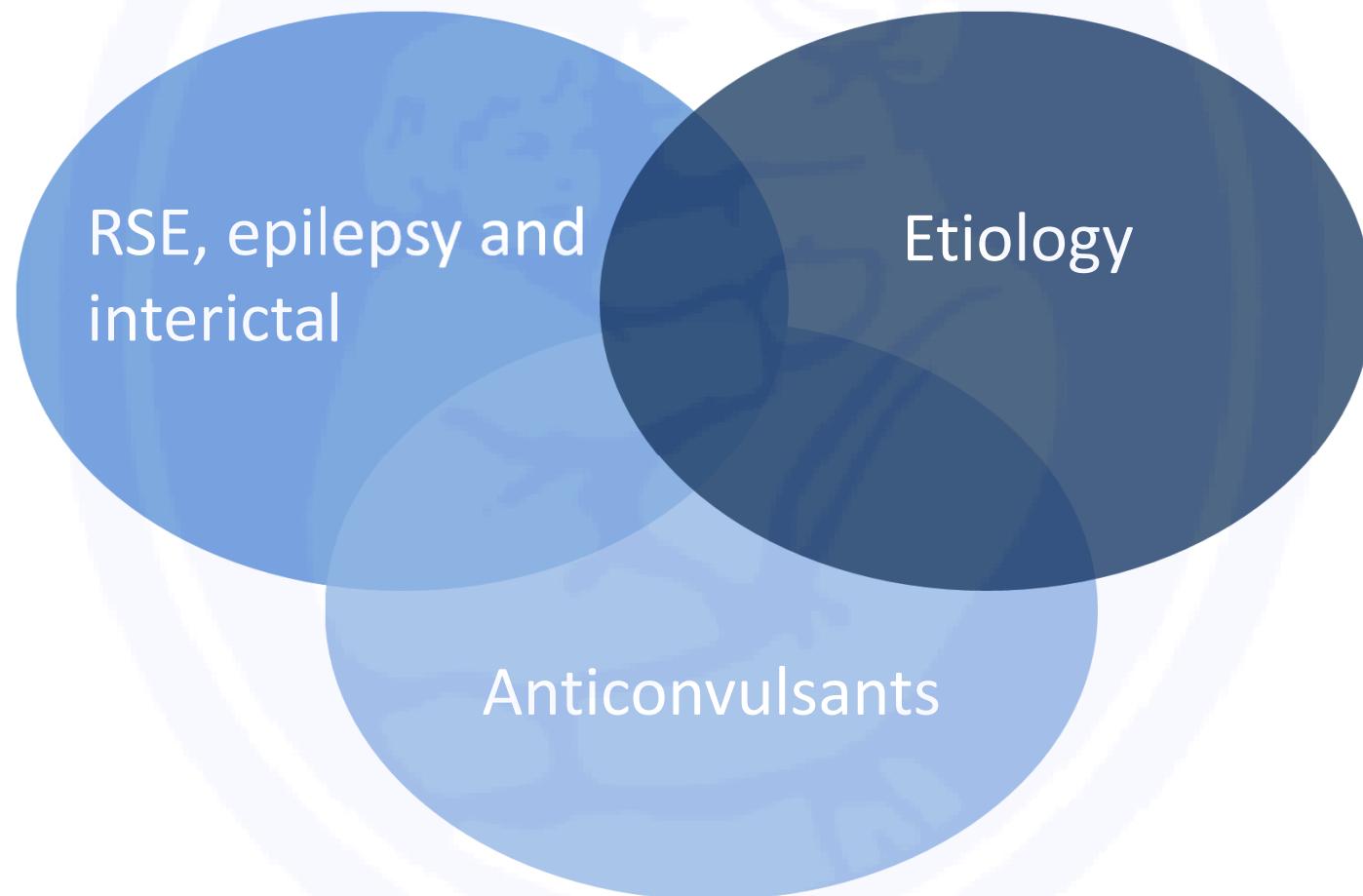
**Sculier et al., 2017**

# Subsequent Epilepsy

- RSE is associated with 87.5% risk of subsequent epilepsy
- Highest onset risk of epilepsy/epilepsy worsening during the first year of follow-up:
  - Pediatric patients 5 to 36%
  - Adults 22 to 41%
- Patients with epilepsy after SE have lower rates of epilepsy remission (66.4 to 80%) than those without SE (55 to 61.5%)

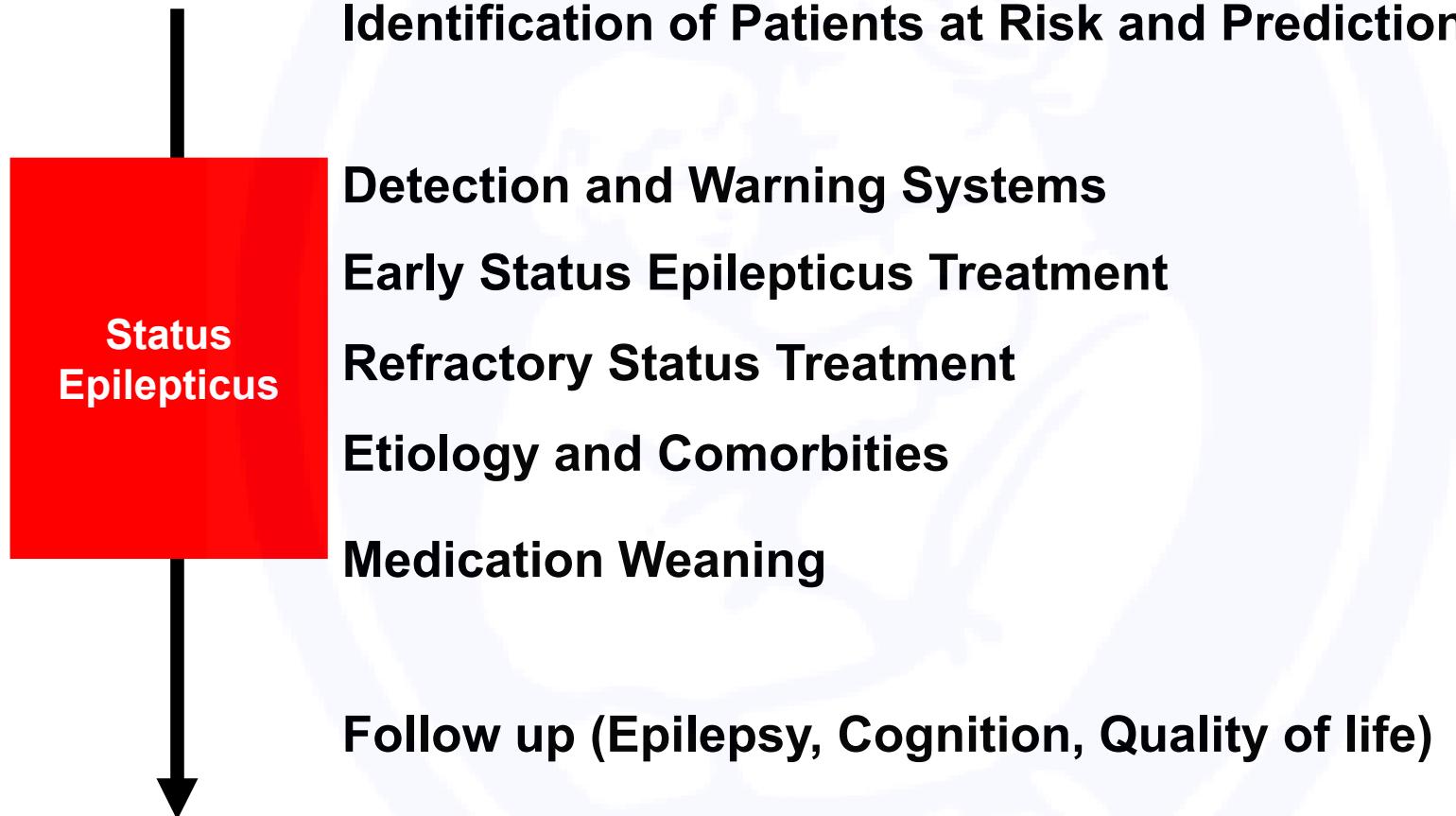
**Sculier et al., 2017**

# Intellectual impairment in RSE



# Challenges

## Timeline



# pSERG

- Pediatric RCSE was based on little evidence and extrapolated from adult studies and case reports/series in children
- Gaps
  - Risk factors for SE
  - Biomarkers
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> line treatment options
  - Long term outcomes



Sánchez Fernandez et al, Seizure 2014

# pSERG Inclusion Criteria

## Inclusion Criteria

- ✓ Age 1 month to 21 years old
- ✓ Convulsive seizures at onset (focal or generalized)
- ✓ Seizure duration of 5 minutes or longer
- ✓ Case (Refractory SE)
  - ✓ Failure of 2 or more types ASMs and/or use of Continuous Infusion
- ✓ Control
  - ✓ Cessation of seizure after treatment with one 2<sup>nd</sup> line ASM

Sánchez Fernandez et al, Seizure 2014

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- ✓ Control
  - ✓ Cessation of seizure after treatment with one 2<sup>nd</sup> line ASM

## Exclusion Criteria

- ✗ Non Convulsive at onset
- ✗ Unclear Seizure onset
- ✗ Nonconvulsive SE with motor manifestations limited to infrequent myoclonic jerks

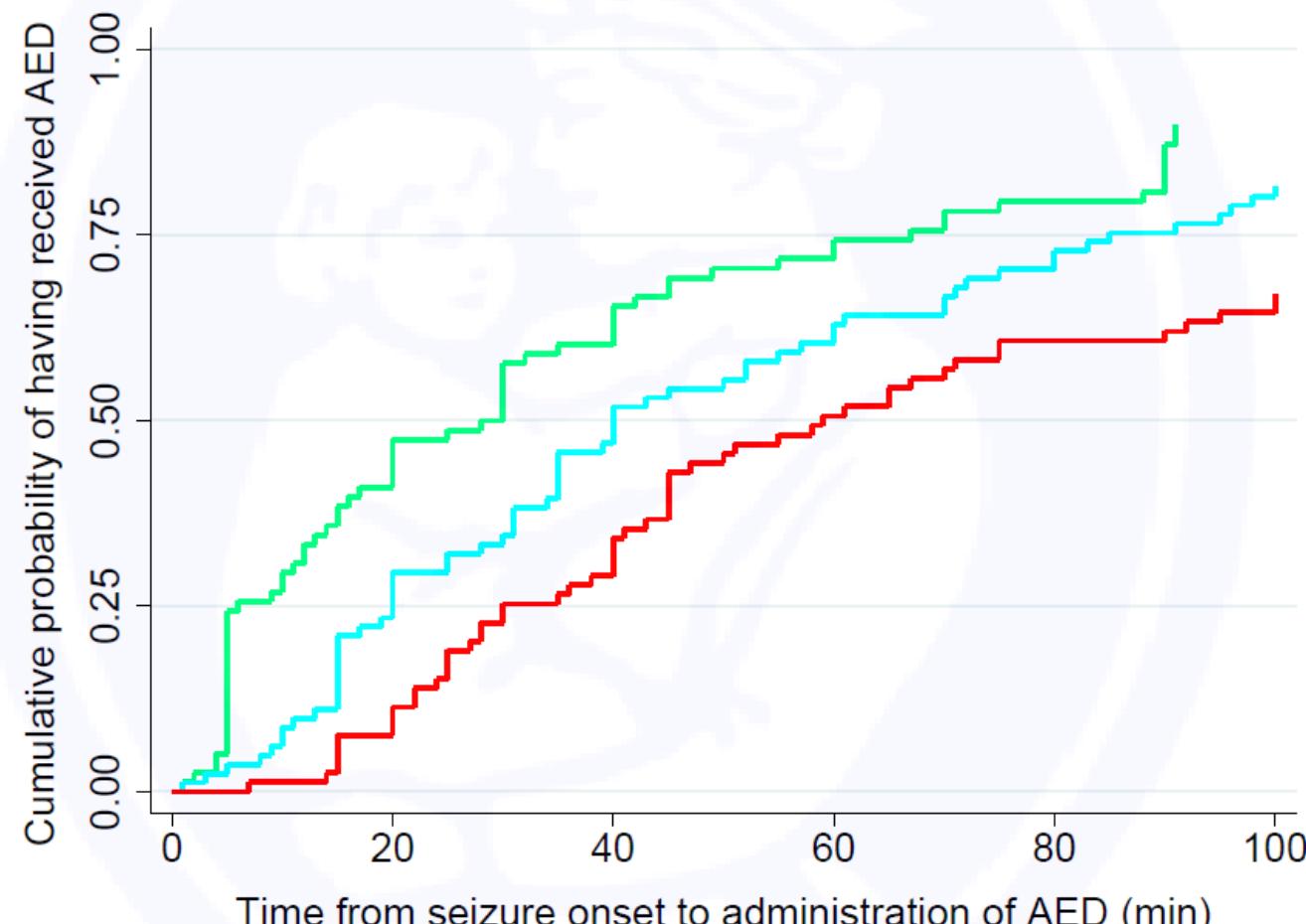
Sánchez Fernandez et al, Seizure 2014

# Goals of pSERG

- Foster an evidence based approach to **assessing the current variation in care** and **converting that information to knowledge** for improving the management and prognosis of children with RCSE.
  - Collaboration between pediatric hospitals that care for children with RCSE.
  - Prospective computerized database that provides valuable information on current acute care of children with RCSE.
  - Observational data on the follow-up of children with RCSE and identify biomarkers and predictors of treatment response and long-term outcomes.

Sánchez Fernandez et al, Seizure 2014

# Time to Treatment



Sánchez Fernández, I et al. Neurology 2015

# What is causing the delay?

- **Intermittent RSE**
- **Out of hospital onset**
- 38% did not receive any ASM prior to hospital arrival
- **1<sup>st</sup> BZD given (median time)**
  - 24.1% at home ( 5 minutes)
  - 32.6% by EMS (18.5 minutes)
  - 24.8% non-pSERG hospital (55 minutes)
  - 18.4% at pSERG hospital (50 minutes)

ARTICLE

## Factors associated with treatment delays in pediatric refractory convulsive status epilepticus

I. Sánchez Fernández, MD, MPH, M. Gainza-Lein, N.S. Abend, MD, MSCE, A.E. Anderson, MD, R. Arya, MD, DM, J.N. Brenton, MD, J.L. Carpenter, MD, K.E. Chapman, MD, J. Clark, MPH, W.D. Gaillard, MD, T.A. Glauser, MD, J.L. Goldstein, MD, H.P. Goodkin, MD, PhD, A.R. Helseth, MD, PhD, M.C. Jackson, BA, K. Kapur, PhD, Y.-C. Lai, MD, T.L. McDonough, MD, M.A. Mikati, MD, A. Nayak, MD, K. Pearson, MD, PhD, J.J. Rivello, Jr., MD, R.C. Tasker, MBBS, MD, D. Tchapyjinikov, MD, A.A. Topjian, MD, MSCE, M.S. Wainwright, MD, PhD, A. Wilfong, MD, K. Williams, MD, PhD, and T. Loddenkemper, MD, On behalf of the Pediatric Status Epilepticus Research Group (pSERG)

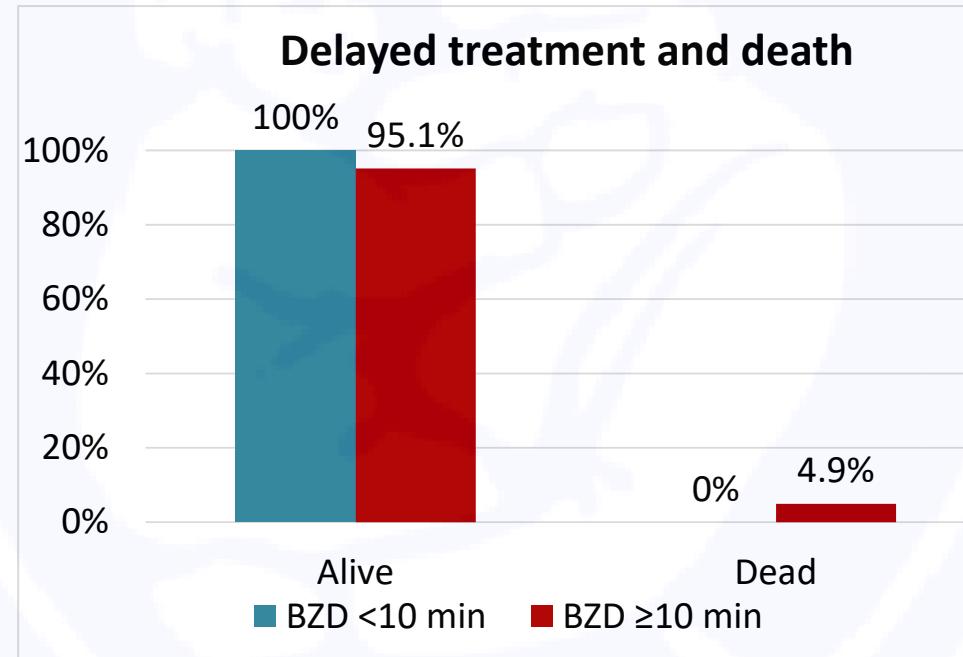
*Neurology*® 2018;0:e1-e10. doi:10.1212/WNL.0000000000005488

Correspondence  
Dr. Loddenkemper  
[tobias.loddenkemper@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:tobias.loddenkemper@childrens.harvard.edu)

Sánchez Fernández, I et al. *Neurology* 2018

# Delayed first BZD ( $\geq 10$ min) and association with death

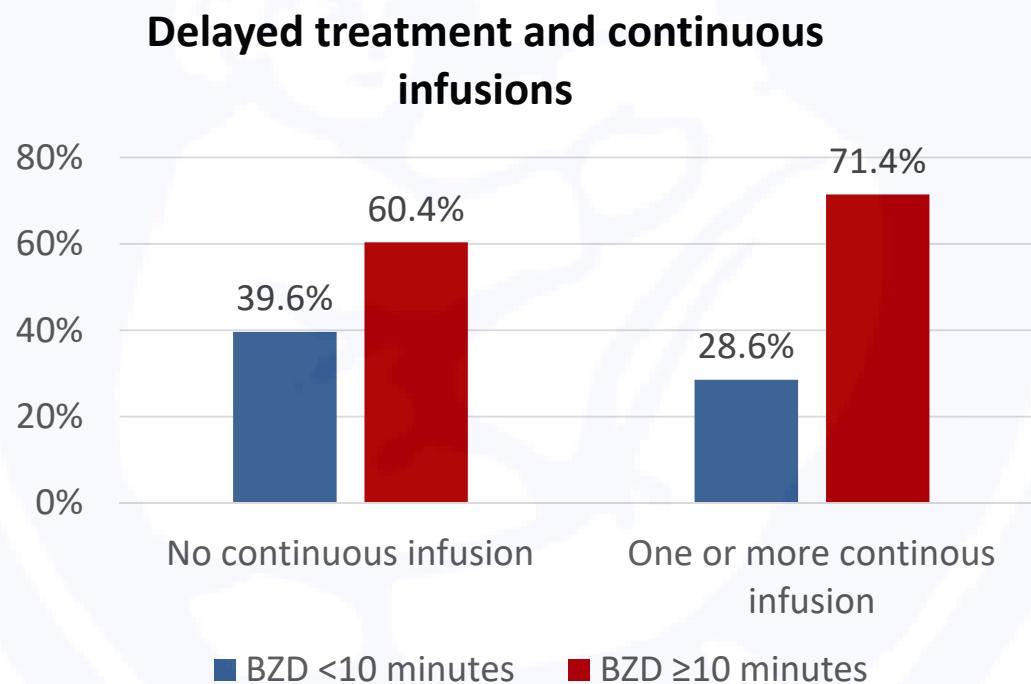
All patients who died prior to hospital discharge (n=7) received the first BZD  $\geq 10$  minutes (OR 7.33; p<0.05).



Gaínza-Lein M, et al. JAMA Neurology 2018

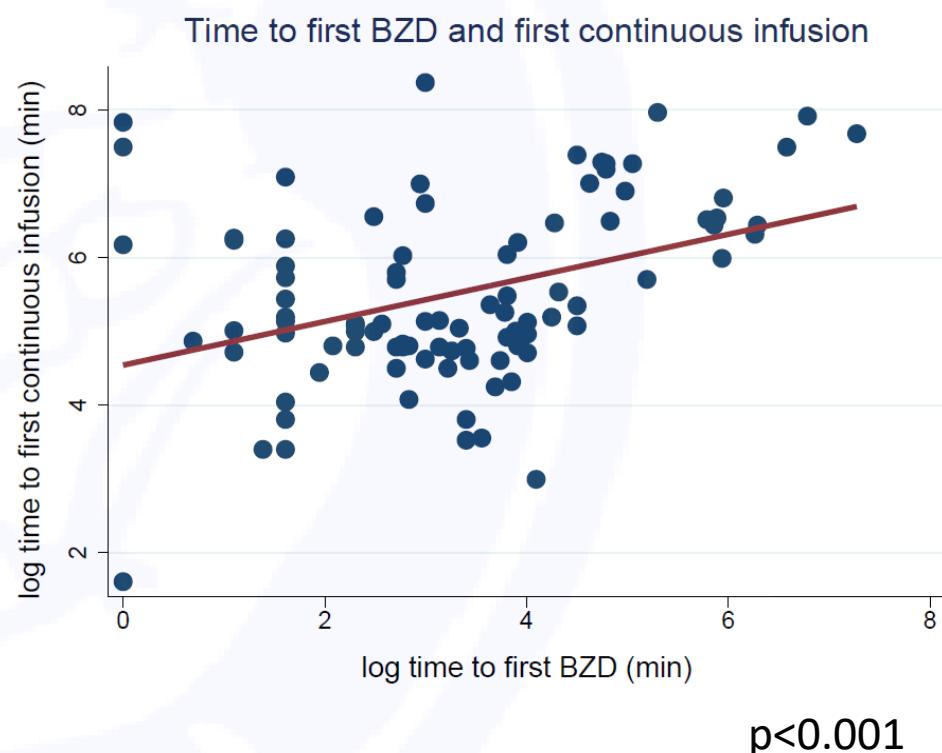
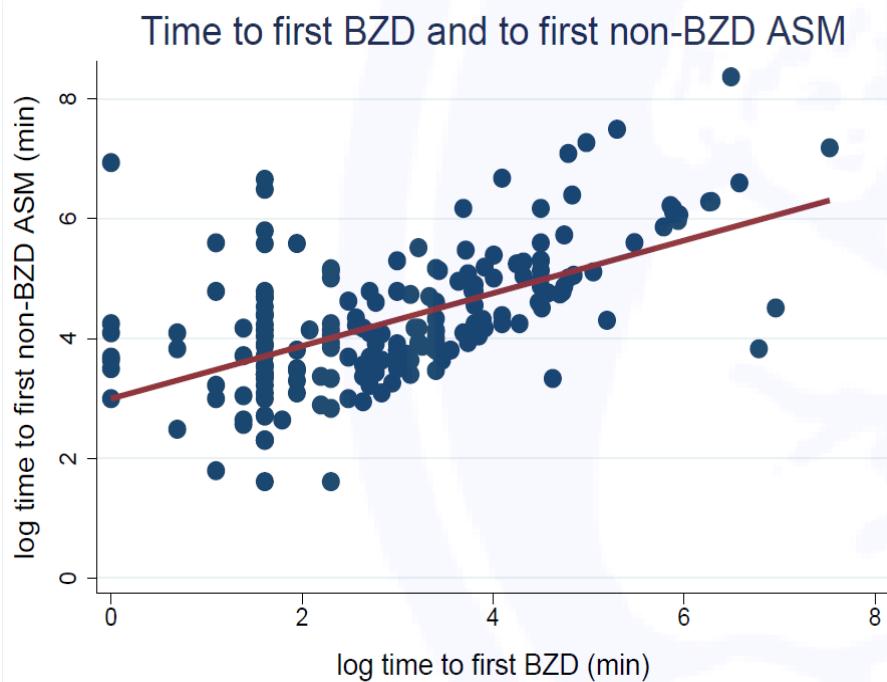
# Delayed first BZD ( $\geq 10$ minutes) and the use of continuous infusion

Out of the 112 (51%) patients who received a continuous infusion for RSE treatment, 80 (71%) were treated with the first BZD  $\geq 10$  minutes (OR 1.83;  $p<0.05$ ).



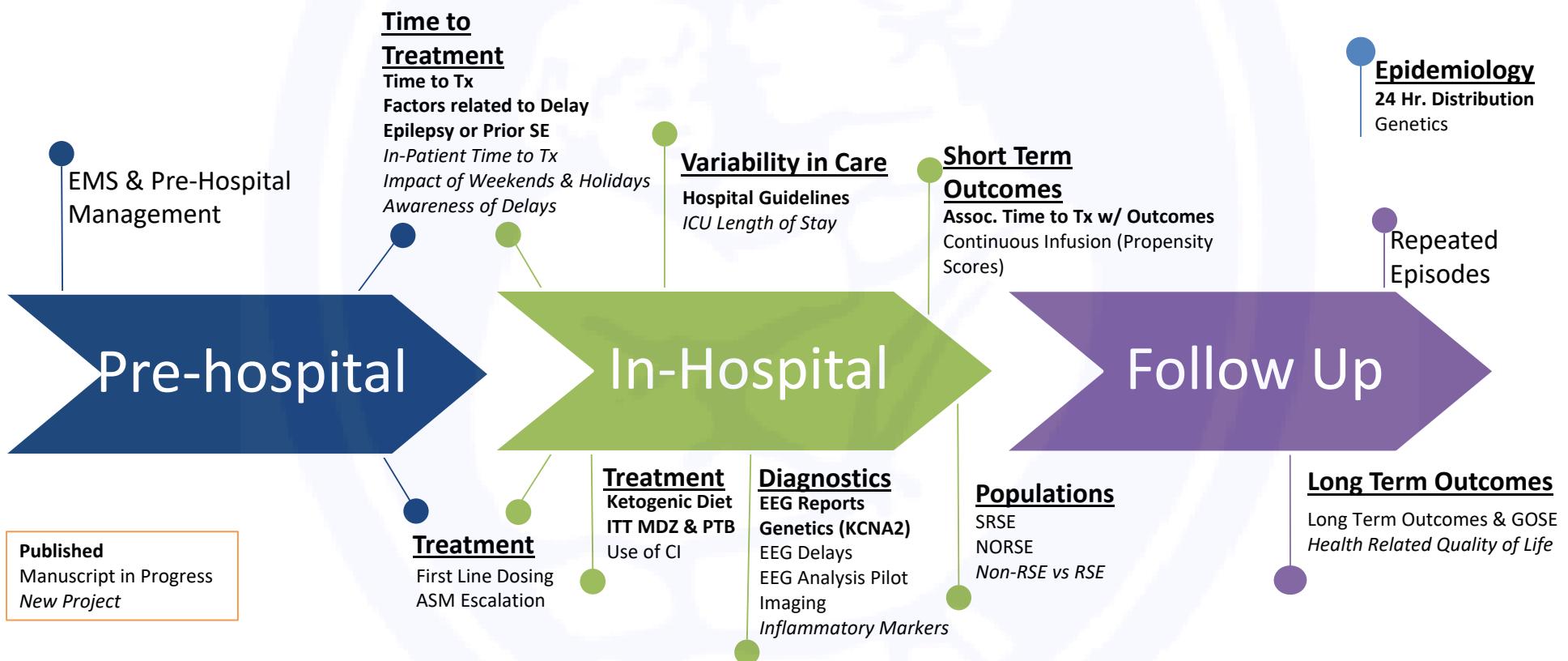
Gaínza-Lein M, et al. JAMA Neurology 2018

# Workflow delay



Gaínza-Lein M, et al. JAMA Neurology 2018

# pSERG Body of Work



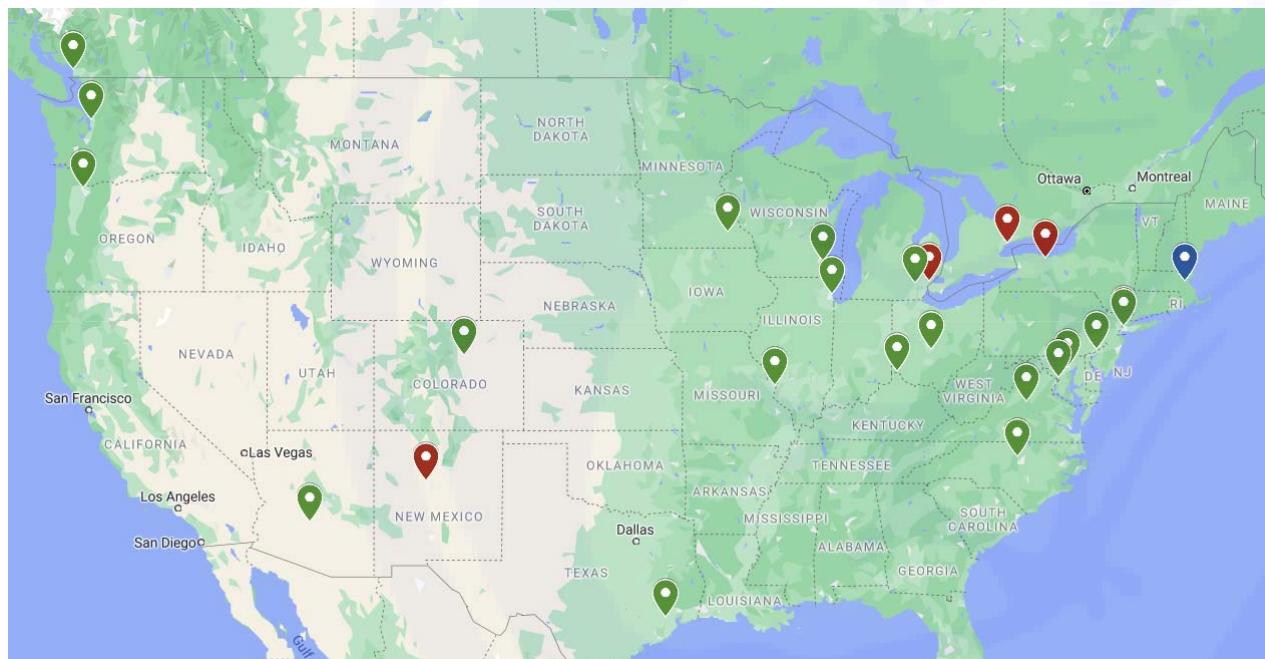
Courtesy of Justice Clark & pSERG team

# Next steps

- Improved care and risk factor monitoring
- Implementation work & Interventions
- Biomarker analysis & Novel tools



# Pediatric Status Epilepticus Research Group (pSERG)



pSERG Sites

- University of New Mexico Health Science Center
- Mott Children's Hospital
- Johns Hopkins Hospital
- Boston Children's Hospital (BCH)
- University of Virginia
- Lurie Children's Hospital
- Cincinnati Children's Hospital
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
- Colorado Children's Hospital
- Children's Hospital of Michigan
- Duke University Medical Center
- Texas Children's Hospital
- Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
- Columbia University Medical Center
- Weill Cornell Medical Center
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Phoenix Children's Hospital
- OHSU-Doernbecher Children's Hospital
- Mayo Clinic
- Strong Memorial Hospital
- Seattle Children's Hospital
- St. Louis Children's Hospital
- British Columbia Children's Hospital
- The Children's National Medical Center
- The Hospital for Sick Children

# Thank you

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  - Previous Fellows: Fatemeh
- **Our Admin Staff**
  - Michael Kelly
- **Our Interns**
  - Many previous intern cohorts
  - Current Interns: Cepideh Razavi, Emily Peter, Meher Mathur, SM Shariar, Suporna Chaudhuri
- **Previous Lodenkemper Lab members:**
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