

Reduced Intensive Care  
Workload but Higher  
Technology Dependency -  
Resulting Impacts on Health  
Authorities and Intensive Care  
Physicians

# *Acknowledgements*

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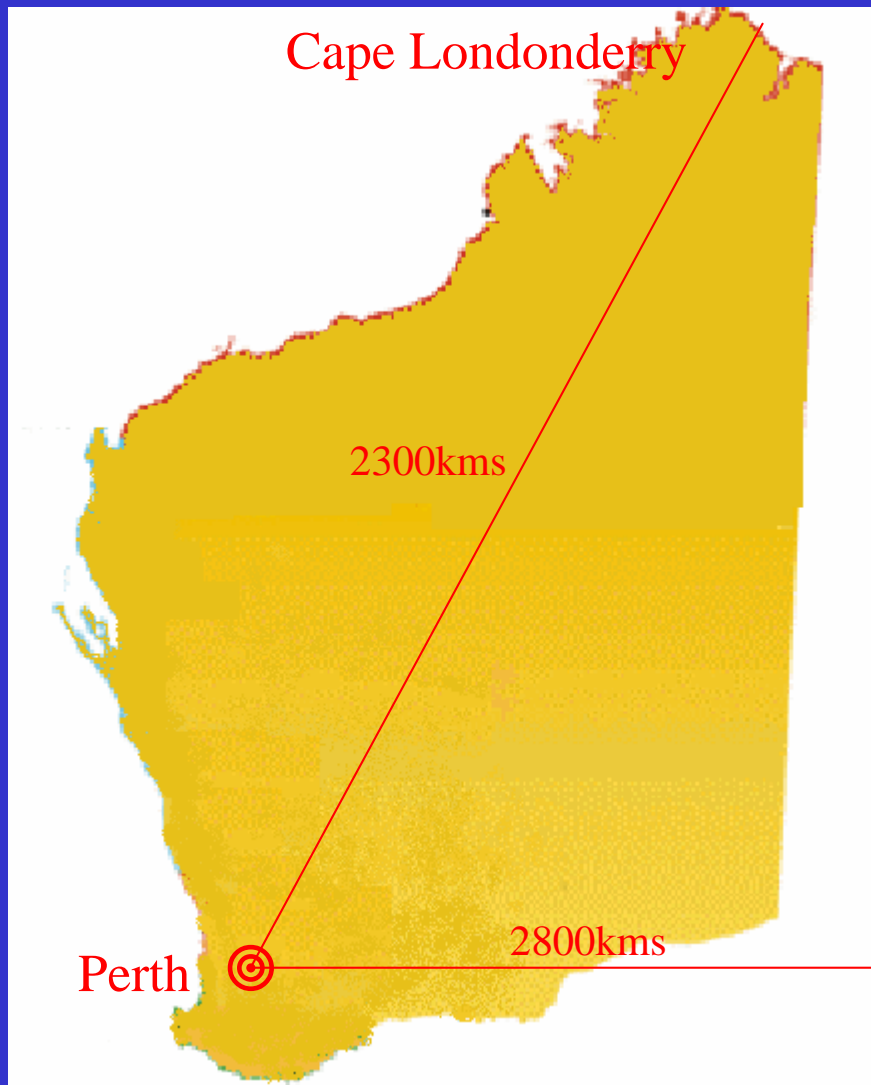
Scott Watson

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ANZICS PSG

(Simon Erickson)



Population 2.1 million

Metro 1.5 million

Indigenous 2%

- Up to 10% of PICU admissions
- Developing world problems

Adelaide

The past matters more than we realise....

We walk on it's ground, and if we don't know  
the soil we are lost

William David Williams

(Courtesy David Todres)

Where have we come from?

How did we get here?

What are the challenges?

What does the future hold?

# 1960's

## From humble beginnings....

- Recovery rooms
- Anaesthesia
- Prolonged nasal intubation
- Astrup apparatus



# 1970's

## “Age of ingenuity”

- Adapted ventilators
- Invasive monitoring
- Specialised equipment
  - Dinamap
  - Infant ventilators
  - Blood gas analysers
- Training programs



# 1970's

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# 1980's

## “Age of technology”

- Non-invasive monitoring
  - Oximetry, capnography
- Imaging
  - CT, echocardiography
- Life support technology
  - Haemofiltration
  - ECMO
  - HFOV
- Retrieval services

1990's

“Search for the magic bullet”

Pharmacology

–Nitric oxide

1991 Molecule of the Year

Molecular biology

–Cytokines

Home ventilation

Internet



# 21st C

Models of care  
Quality and safety  
EBM  
Family expectations



Changes in technology

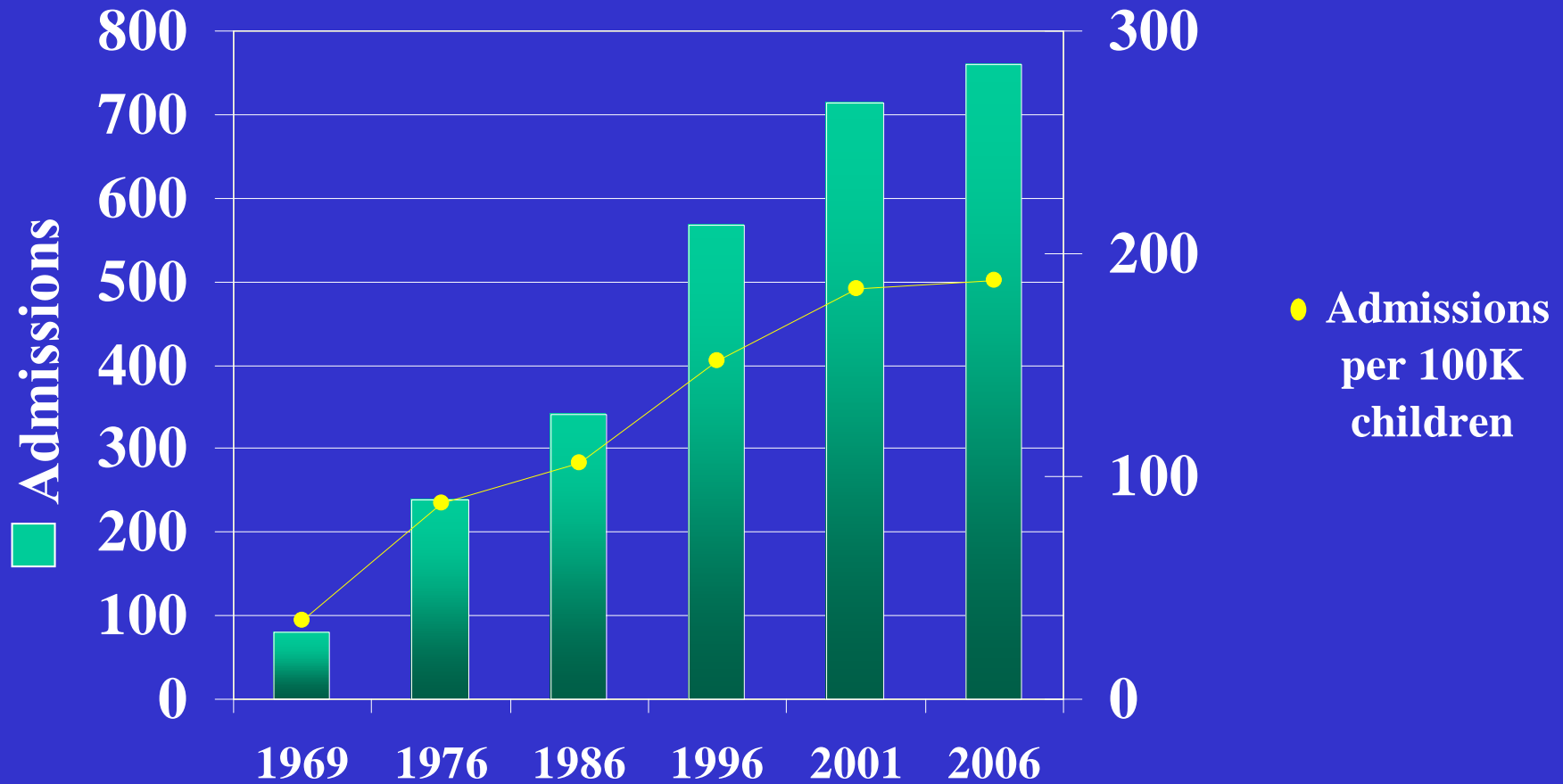
but also in utilisation

casemix

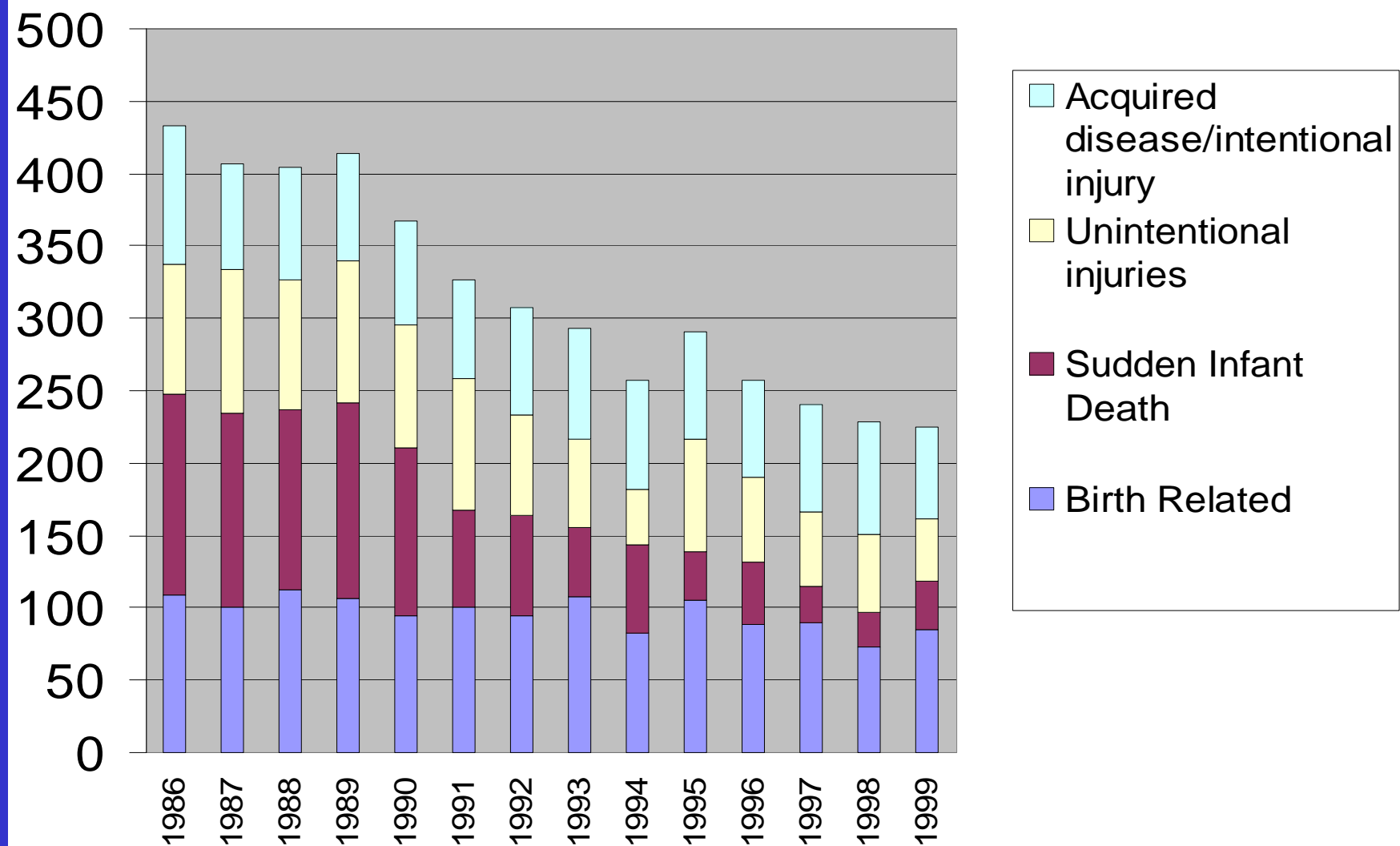
outcomes

process

# Utilization

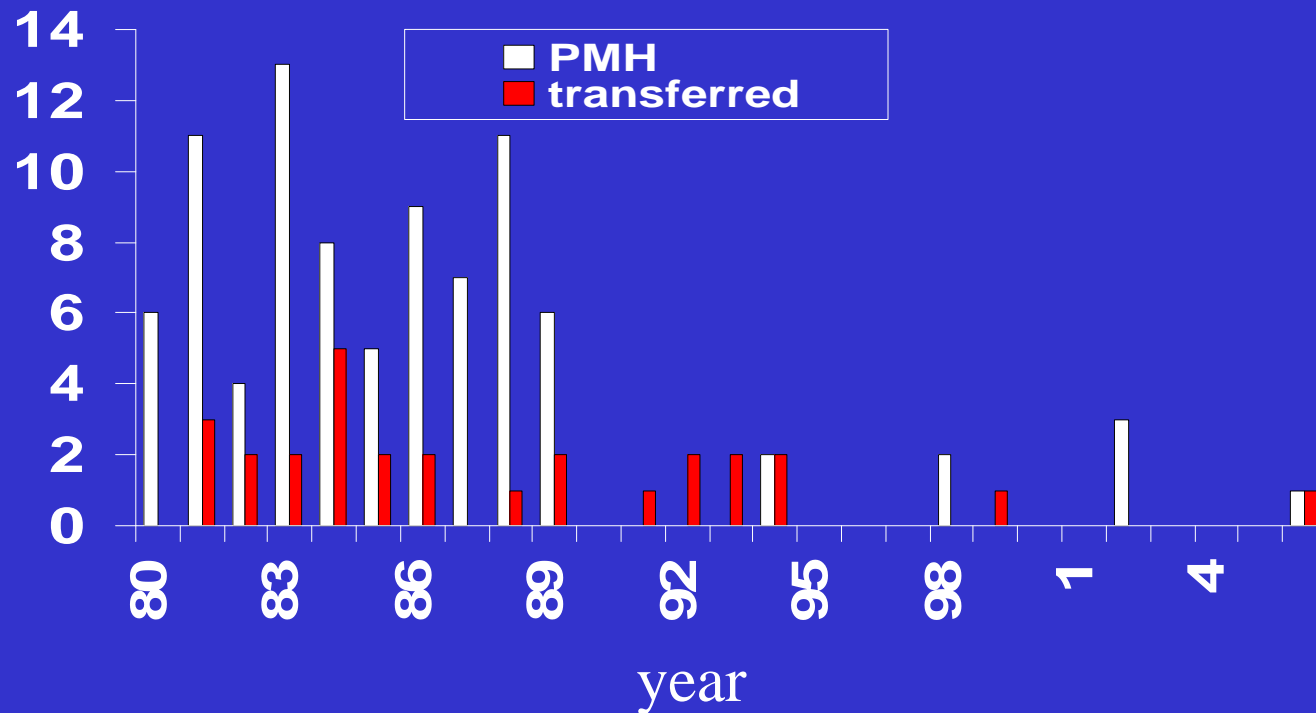


## Postneonatal infant and child deaths by major cause, Victoria 1986-99

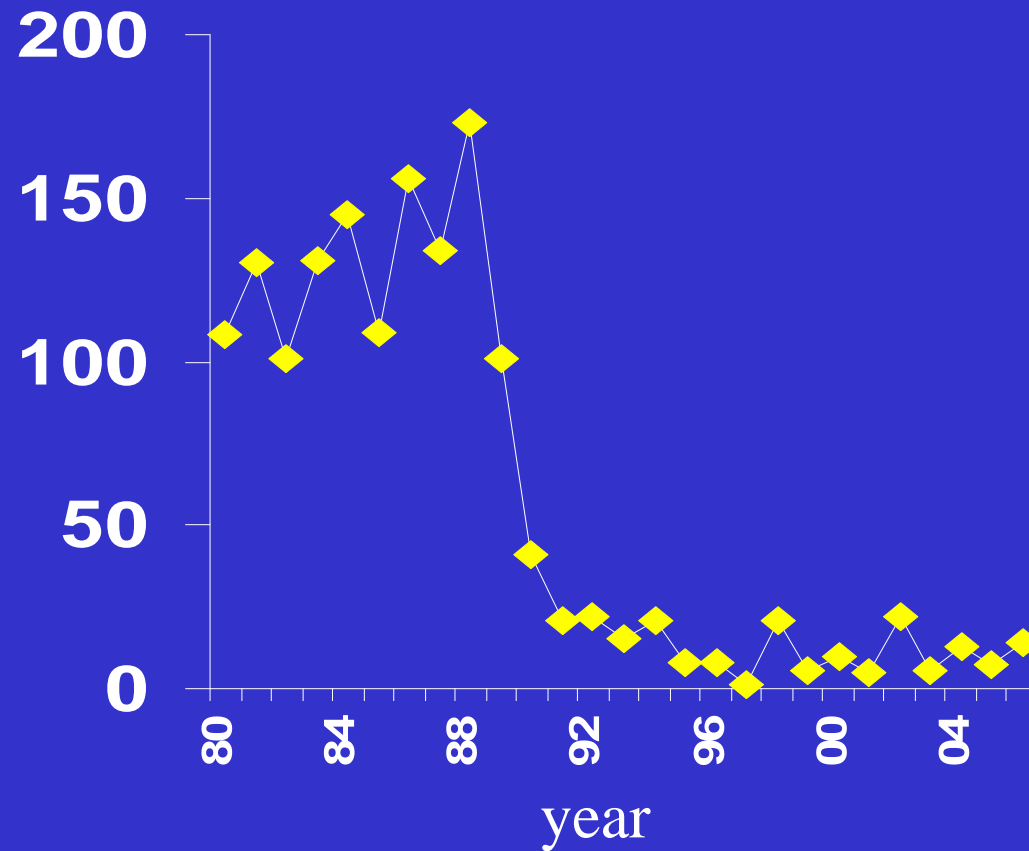


# Children intubated with croup 1980-2006 PMH

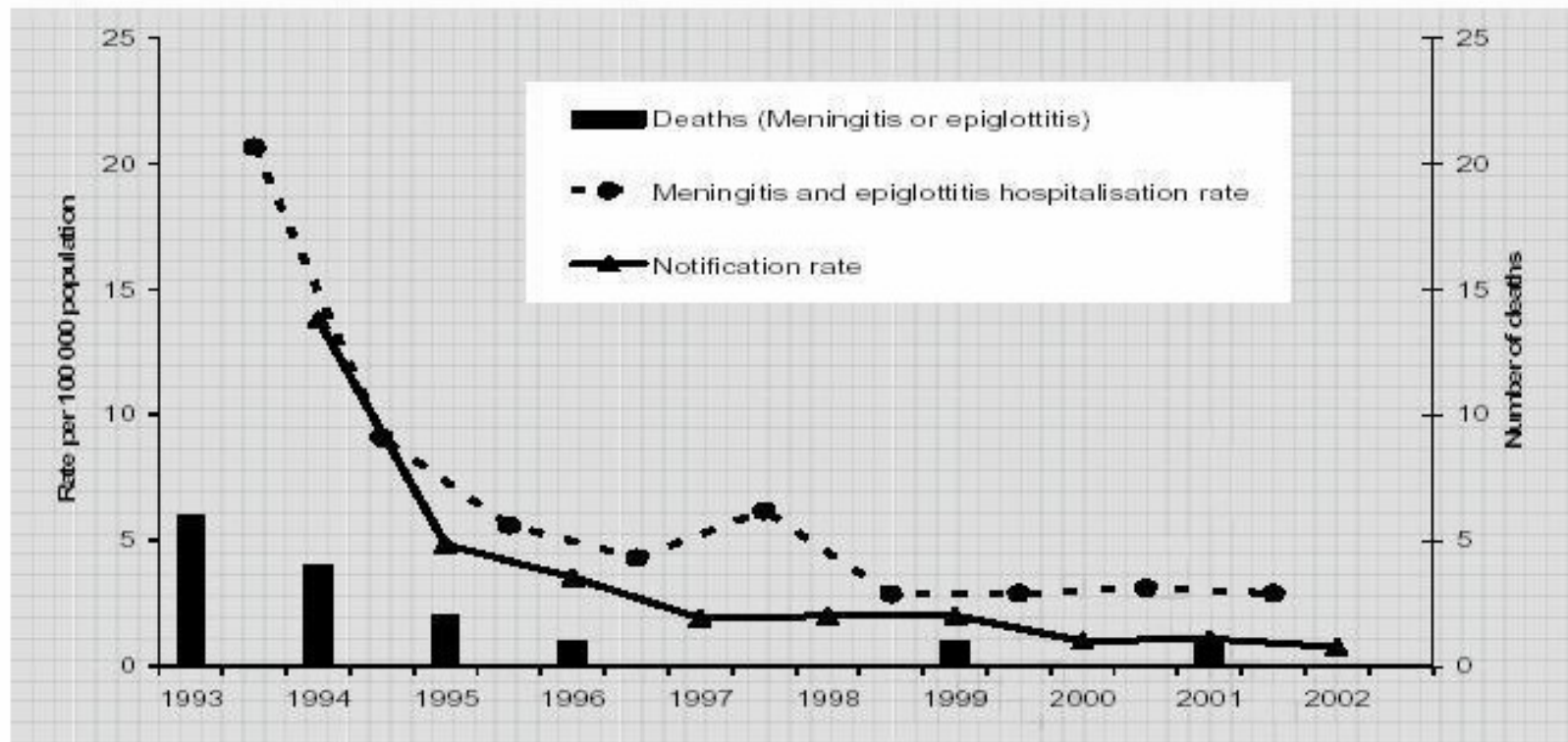
- steroids used from late 1989



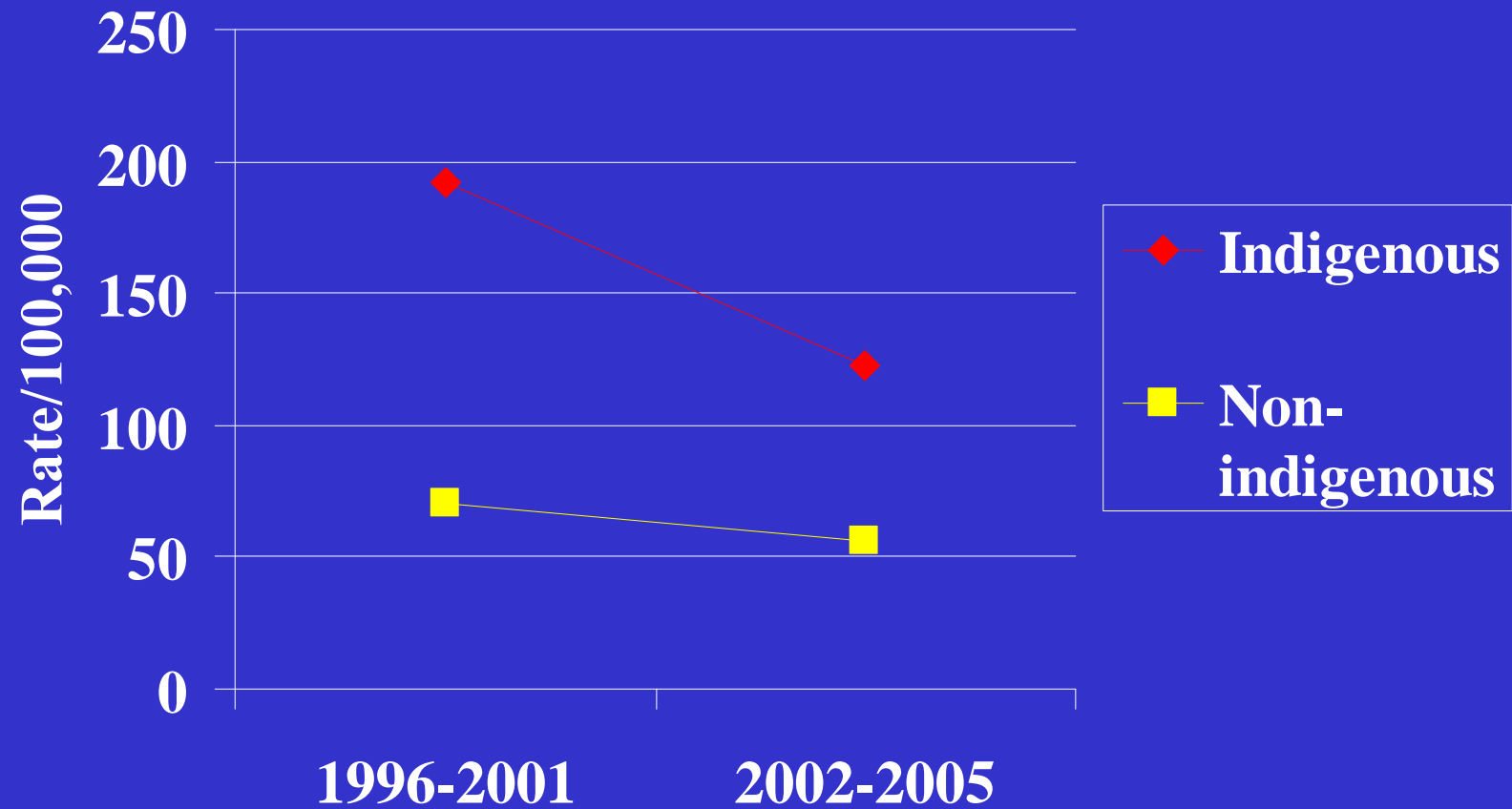
# ICU croup days 1980-2006



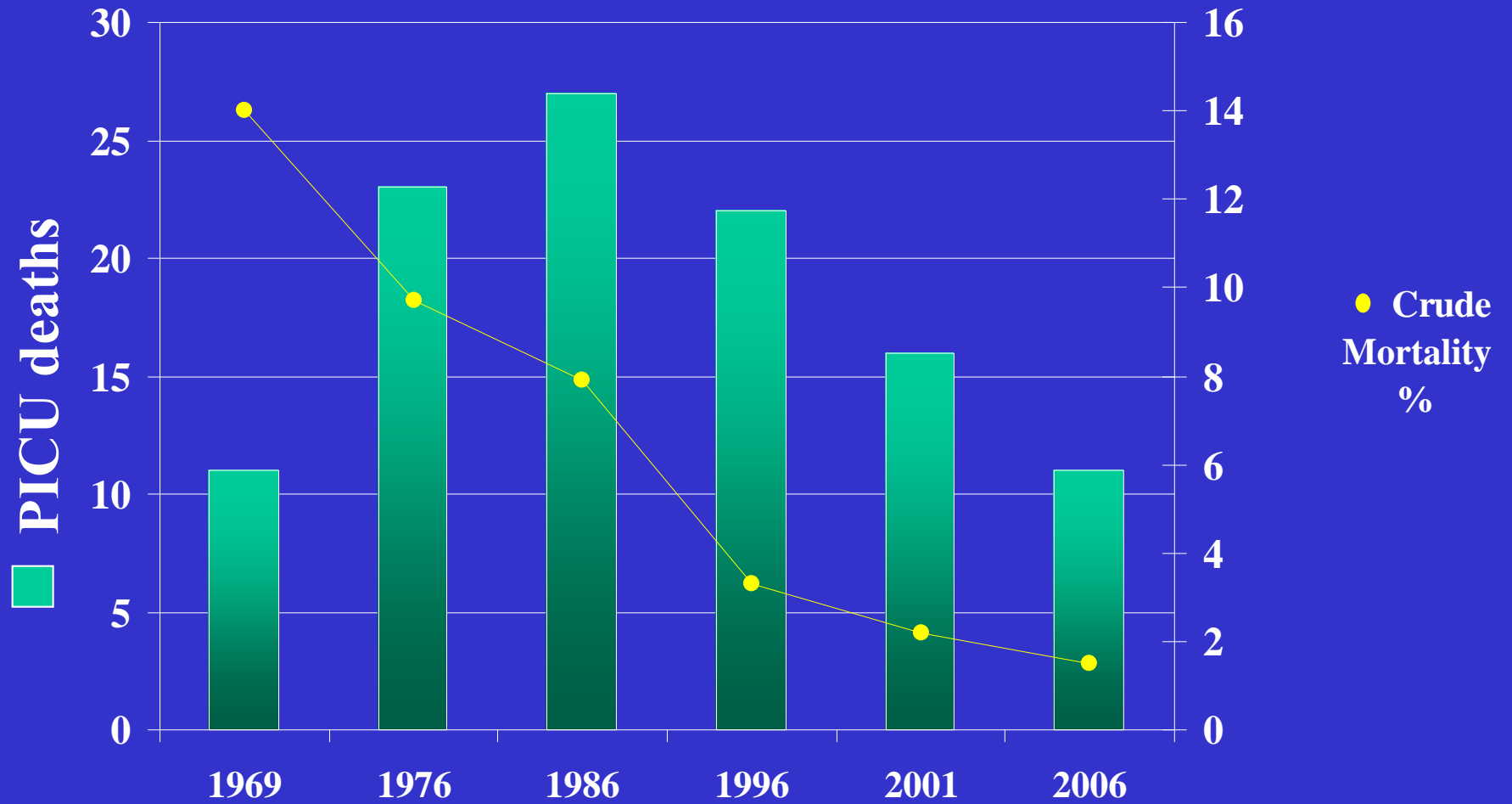
*H. influenzae* type b (Hib) notifications, presumed Hib hospitalisations\* and deaths of children aged 0 to 4 years from Hib, Australia 1993 to 2002.<sup>†</sup>



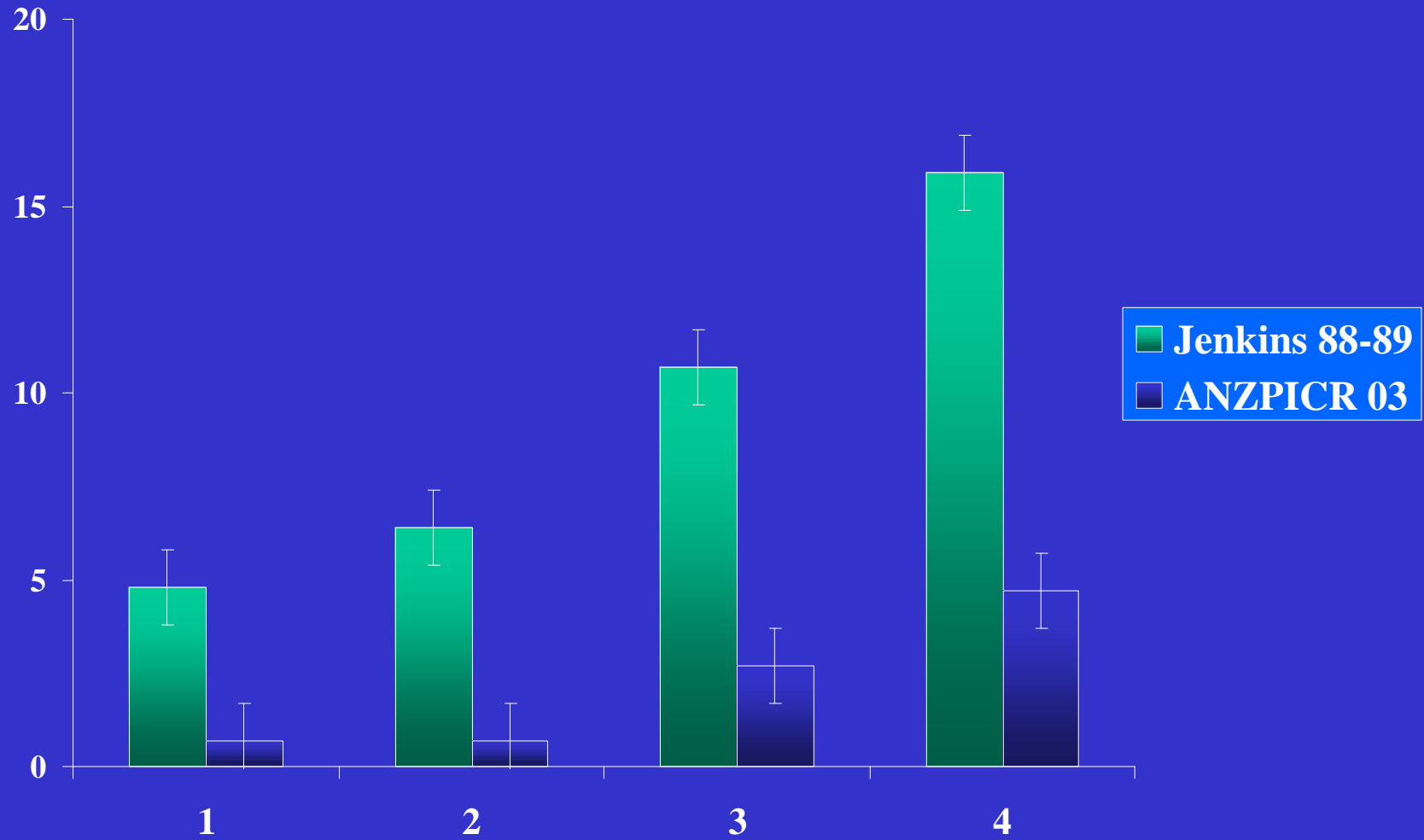
## Invasive Pneumococcal Disease aged < 2 years



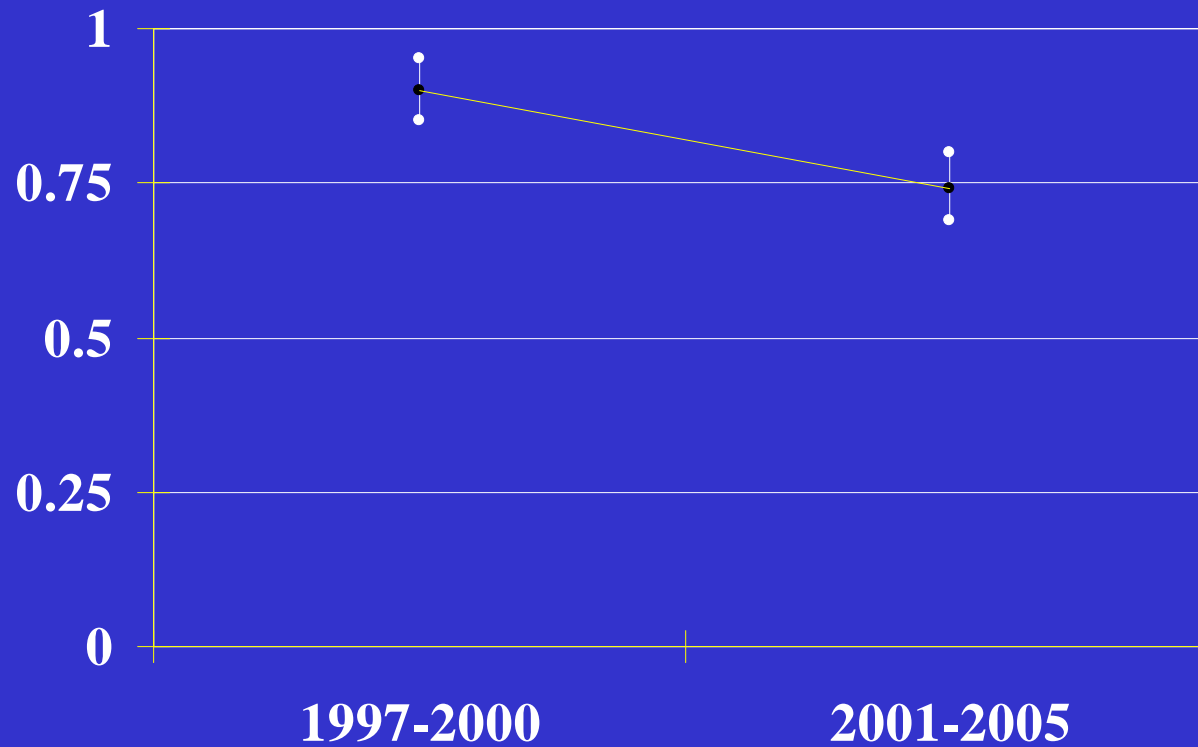
# Outcome



# Cardiac Surgery: ICU mortality by risk category



# Standardised Mortality Rates (ANZPIC Registry)



? Improved

• Therapy

• Processes

# What can we conclude so far?

- Preventative measures highly effective
- PICU case load has stabilised
- Technology requirements have increased
- PICU outcomes have improved
- Case mix has changed

# PIC: Changing case mix

- Cardiac surgery
- Surgery - cranio-facial, spinal
- Chronic URTO - OSD, airway reconstruction
- Ventilator dependency – CLD, SCI, SMA
- Chronic disease - cerebral palsy

# ARDS: a forty year journey

## Description

Ashbaugh et al      Lancet 1967

## Therapy

CPAP

Gregory et al      NEJM 1971

Optimum PEEP

Suter et al      NEJM 1975

## VILI

Barotrauma

Webb

Am Rev Resp Dis 1974

Volutrauma

Dreyfus

Am Rev Resp Dis 1988

Biotrauma

Tremblay

J Clin Invest 1997

## Heterogeneity

Gattinoni

Am Rev Resp Dis 1987

# ARDS

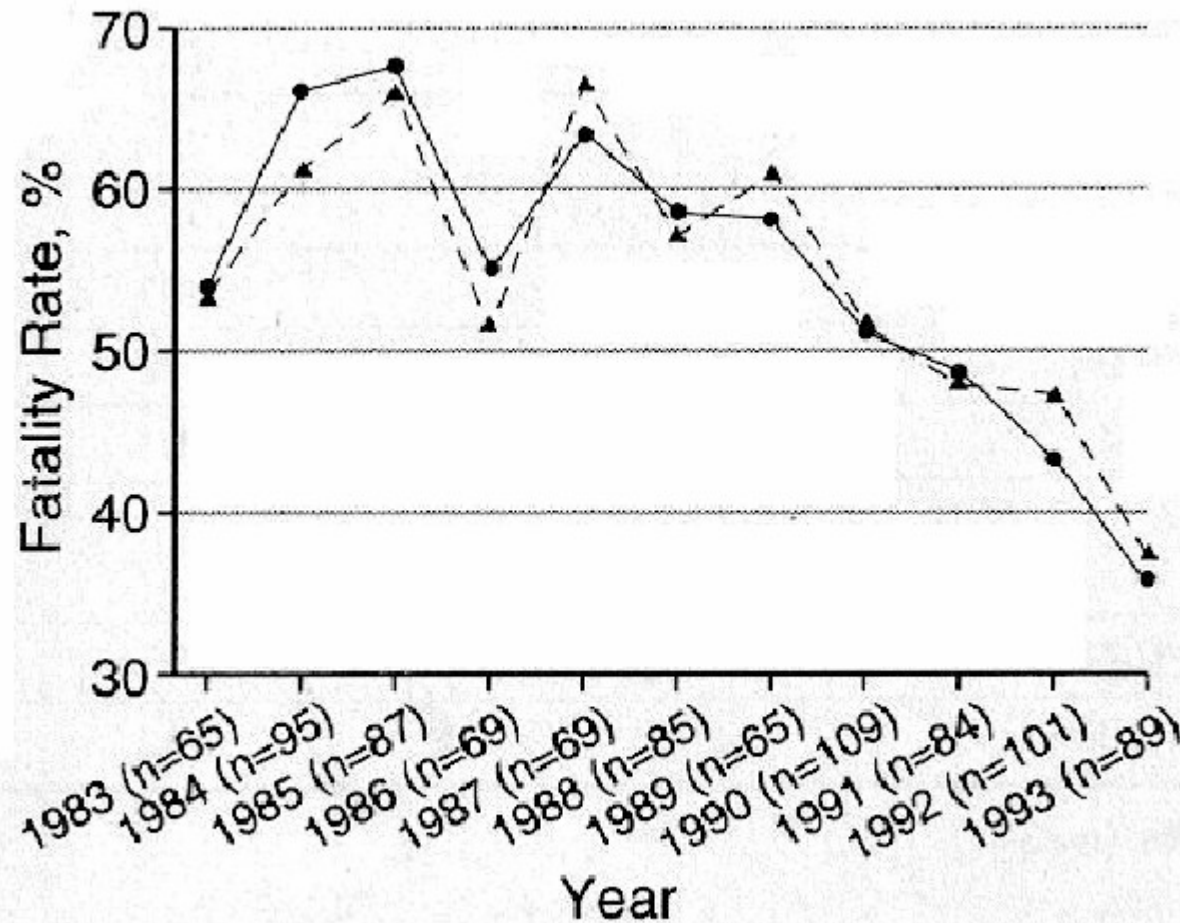
## Strategies to prevent VILI

Permissive hypercapnia	Hickling	Intensive Care Med 1990
Protective ventilation	Amato	NEJM 1998
Low TV	ARDS network	NEJM 2000

## Other strategies

Nitric oxide	Rossaint	NEJM 1993
NIV	Brochard	NEJM 1995
Surfactant	Anzueto	NEJM 1996
Prone position	Chathe	AmJ Resp CCM 1997
Steroids	Meduri	JAMA 1988

# ARDS Outcome



Improved Outcome

? Therapy

? Technology

? Process

## ARDS Prevalence: A-EEC criteria

Adults: 4.8-14.6/100,000

Children: 2/100,000

Bindl et al Crit Care Med 2005

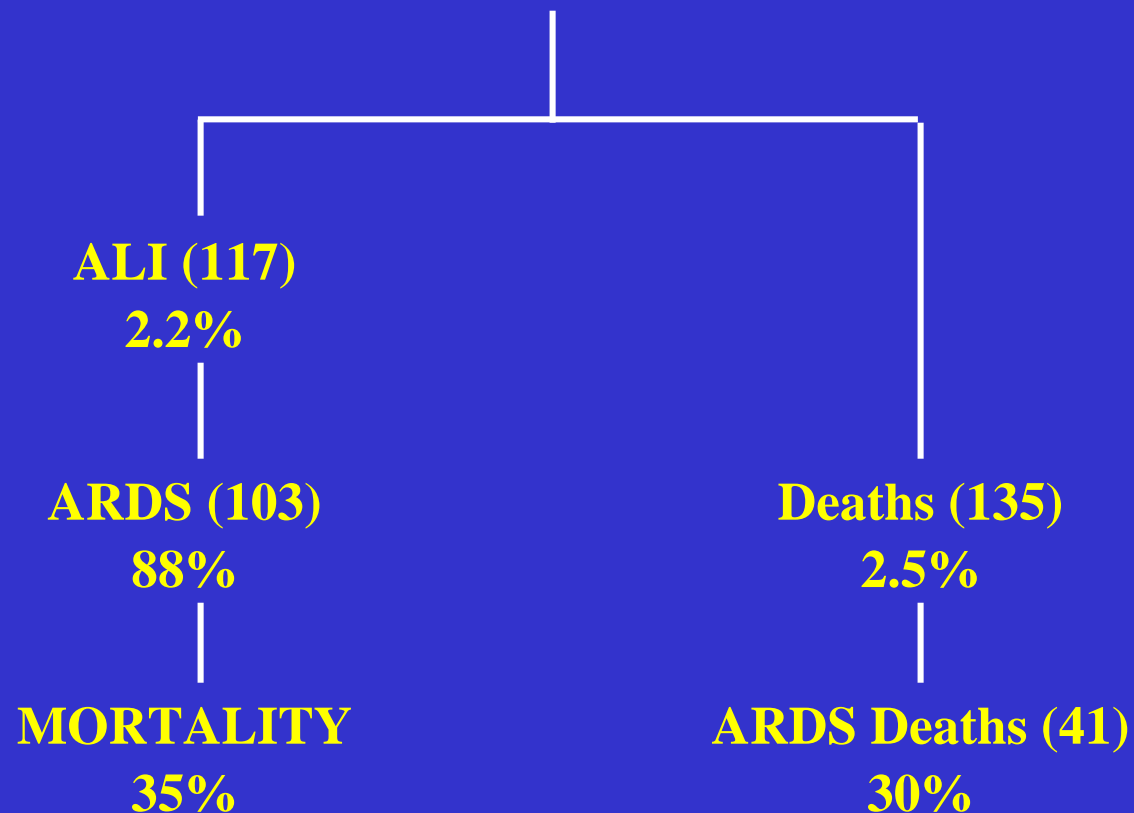
2.9/100,000

ANZICS PSG 2005

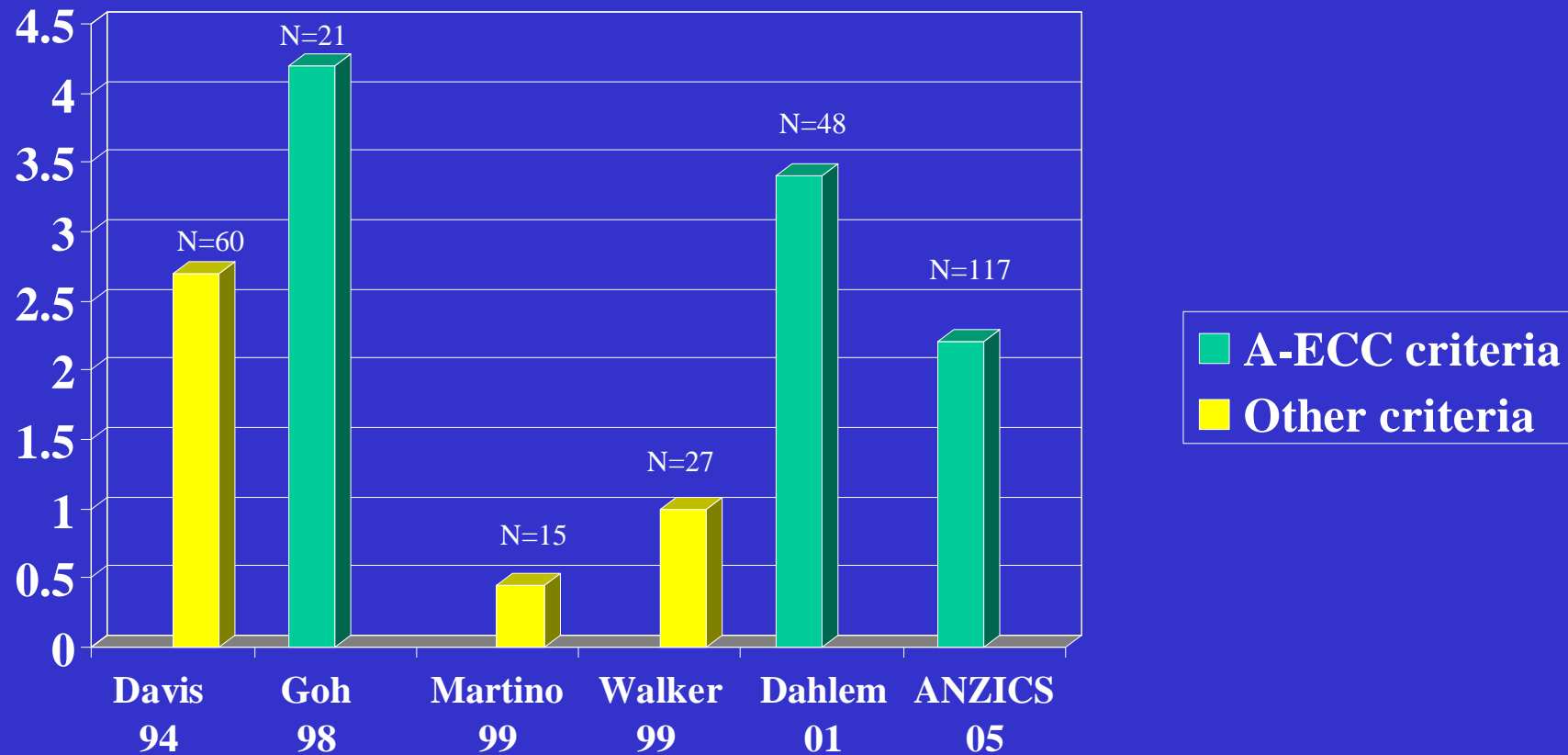
# Paediatric ARDS

**ANZICS PSG 04/05**

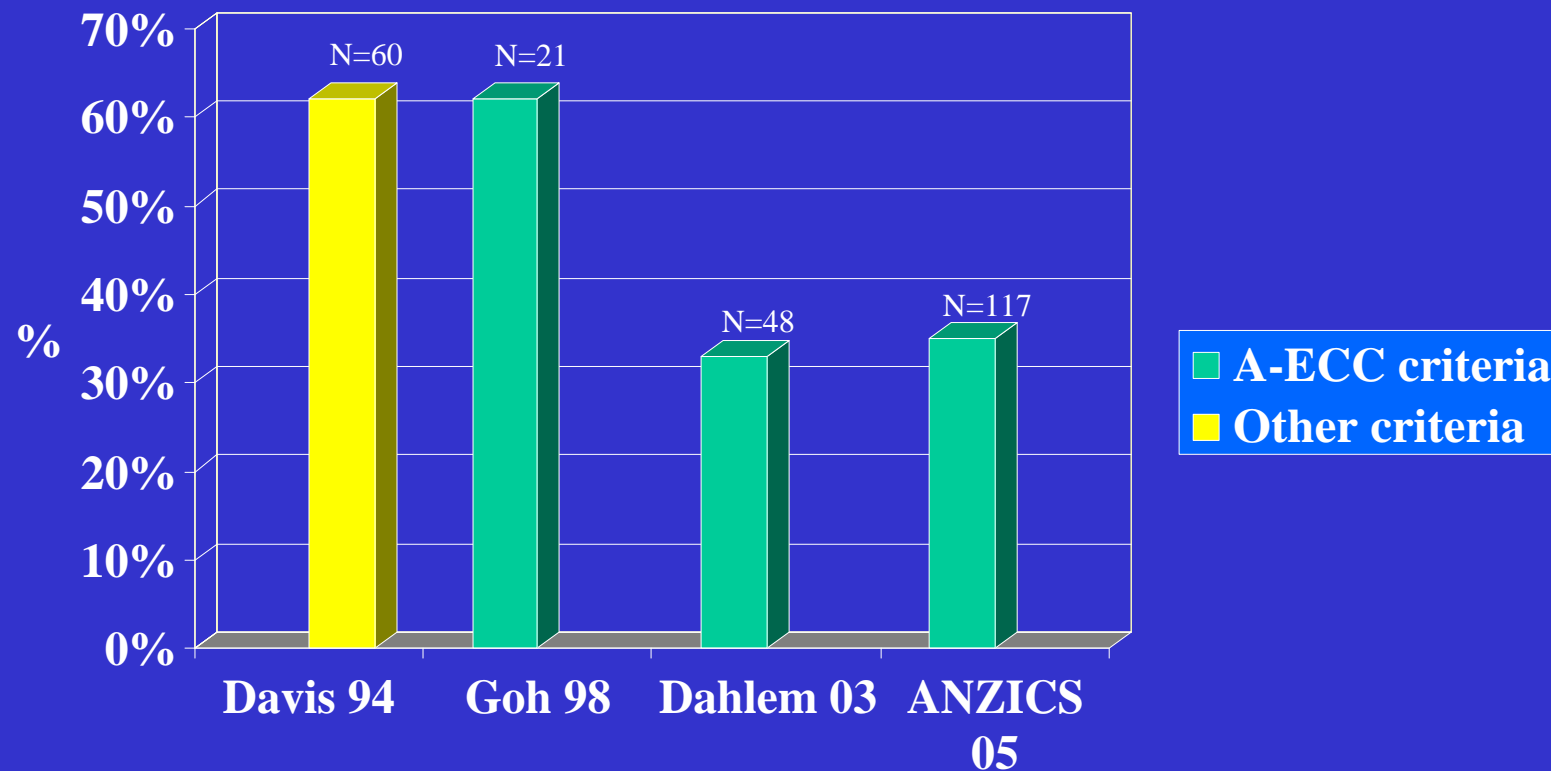
**5252 Admissions**



# Paediatric ARDS PICU admissions (%)



# Mortality Paediatric ARDS




# Paediatric ARDS

- Less common than adults
- High mortality
- Common cause of PICU death
- Challenges
  - Prevention
  - Protocol compliance
  - Optimal recruitment
  - CVVH or other strategies
- CTG's : Large RCT's

# Where have the gains come from?

Advances in therapy, technology or maturation of specialty?

- organised service, training, certification

	improved survival	Pronovost	JAMA 1999
	fewer complications	Hanson	CCM 1999
	shorter LOS		
	and reduced cost	Dimick	CCM 2001

# Organisational Issues

## Staffing

- physician                      Pronovost                      JAMA 2002
- nurses                              Aiken                              JAMA 2002
- pharmacists                      Leape                              JAMA 1999

## Training

Pollack                      CCM 1997

## Patient volume

Pollack                      CCM 1993

## Protocols

Kollef                      CCM 1997

## Quality programs

Clemmer                      CCM 1999

# PIC: Challenges

Pain, suffering, palliative care

Family support, communication

Quality and safety

Cost containment

- utilization
- pre-emptive care

Research

Medical informatics

# PIC: Research

“A fool is a man who never tried an experiment in his life”

*Erasmus Darwin, 1792*

**Challenge** - lack of a clearly defined body of knowledge unique to the specialty

**Define** - disease processes  
patient populations  
research efforts            unique to PCCM

# PIC: Research

“Endothelium - the organ of the intensivist”

- ARDS
- Sepsis
- Brain injury
- Myocardial dysfunction

Molecular biology  
Multicentre trials:CTGs

Partnerships or  
Sub-sub-specialisation

# Medical Informatics

“Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information on it”

*Samuel Johnson 1709-1784*



There are known knowns.  
These are things that we  
know we know.

There are known unknowns.  
That is to say, there are  
things that we know we don't  
know.

But there are also unknown  
unknowns. There are things  
we don't know we don't  
know.

# Information Technology

- Computer based patient record (CIS)
  - charting, order entry, labs, trends
- Internet references
- Picture archiving and communication system (PACS)
- Remote access - PACS, monitors, labs
- Telemedicine
- Education, simulation
- Decision support tools

# Real-time Decision Support (artificial intelligence)

To improve process and outcome of decision making

1. Passive - physician requires help

- reference material (EBM), protocols
- databases

2. Active - alerted by pre-programmed rules

- drug allergies
- drug interactions, monitoring, dose adjustment
- critical incidents, quality indicators, audit
- pathways to diagnosis, therapy – “Map of Medicine”

# PIC: Developed countries

“The best way to predict the future is to invent it”

*Alan Kay*

Incremental gains are long past

Future lies in

- Research - Clinical Trials Groups  
partnerships
- Process - reduce variability  
safety and quality  
medical informatics

# PIC: Developing countries

Annual health expenditure: USD 21 v's 2702 per capita

Reduced overseas aid

99% childhood deaths

90% preventable

Ethical dilemma -      different problems  
                                    different priorities  
                                    similar expectations

Application of basic technologies, standardised clinical  
guidelines (WHO)

**POCKET BOOK**  
**of**  
**Hospital care for children**

**Guidelines for the Management of Common  
Illnesses with Limited Resources**

**World Health Organisation**  
**2005**

**ISBN-13 9789241546706**

[http://who.int/bookorders/MDI book JPG/Book/11500626.jpg](http://who.int/bookorders/MDI_book_JPG/Book/11500626.jpg)

# PIC: Developing countries

- Quality and safety – reduce adverse factors (76%)
  - unsafe medical equipment
  - contaminated syringes
  - lack of oxygen
- WHO Global Alliance for Patient Safety – “Clean care is safe care”
- Meet the unrealised vision of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child: Article 26

# PIC: Developing countries

“The future is here. It is just not widely distributed yet”

*William Gibson 1948 -*

# The PICU of the future???

- Changing case mix
- Chronic conditions - technology dependent children
- Increased technology - monitoring, organ support
- Clinical information systems - passive and active decision support
- Outreach – “PICU without walls”

# Health authorities      Clinicians

Costs - medical technology  
          medical informatics

Rehabilitation

Hospital in the home

Family expectations

Chronic disease

Recruitment

Retention

