



Dr Ngaire Kerse

Head of School

Population Health

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

University of Auckland

Saturday, August 10, 2019

(Room 2)

14:00 - 14:55 WS #115: Improving Outcomes for Falls and Fracture in Older People

15:05 - 16:00 WS #125: Improving Outcomes for Falls and Fracture in Older People
(Repeated)

Saturday, 10 August 2019

'Falls in older people'

Ngaire Kerse, Joyce Cook Chair in Ageing Well.
Professor, General Practice and Primary Health
Care and Head, School of Population Health



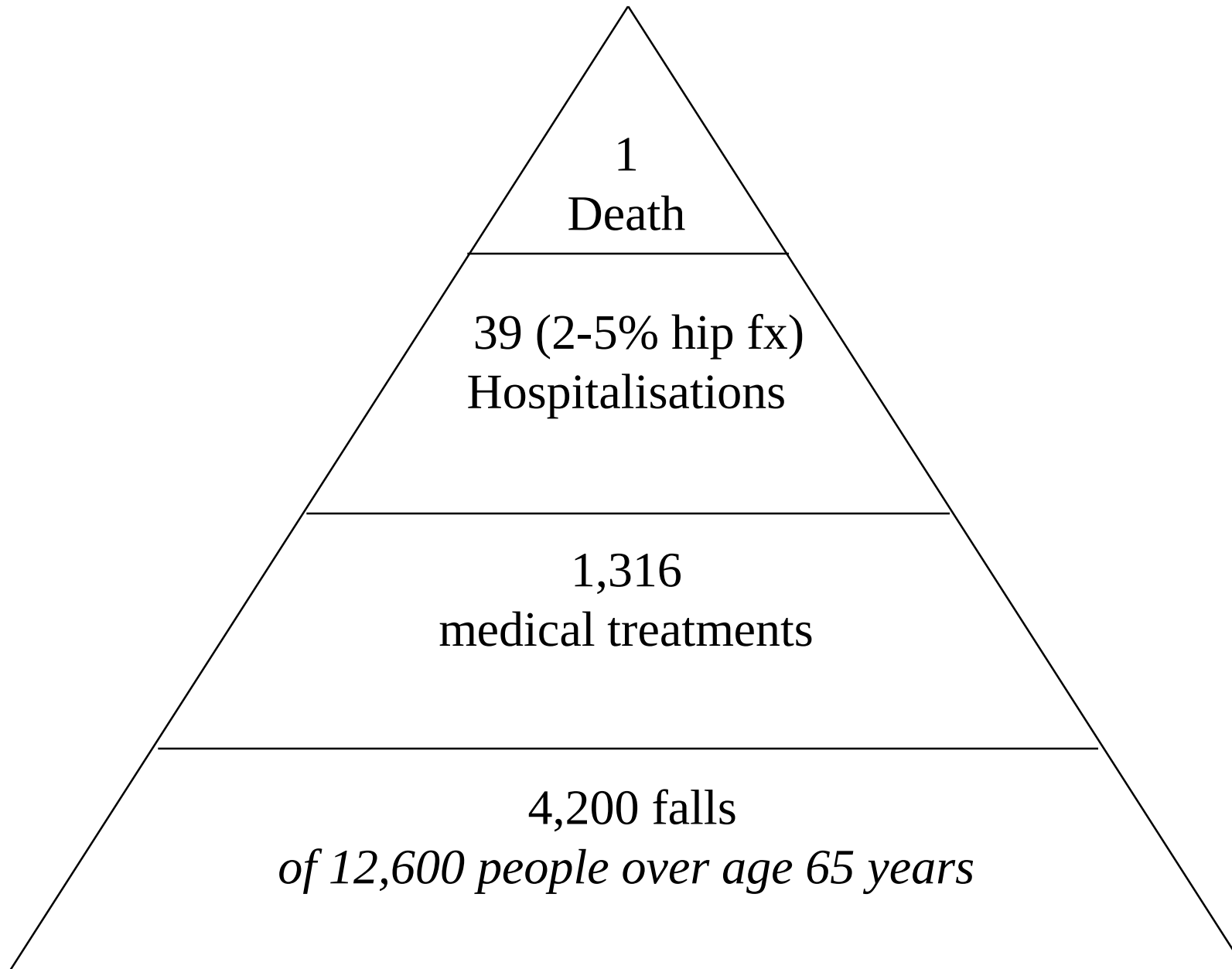
THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau
NEW ZEALAND

**MEDICAL AND
HEALTH SCIENCES**

Bert – 85 yrs, lives alone



- Fell in the night in the loo, hit his head
- Comes the next day for stitching of the laceration
- Known prostate probs
- Doxazosin (α 1 blocker)
- Aspirin



Falls – why?

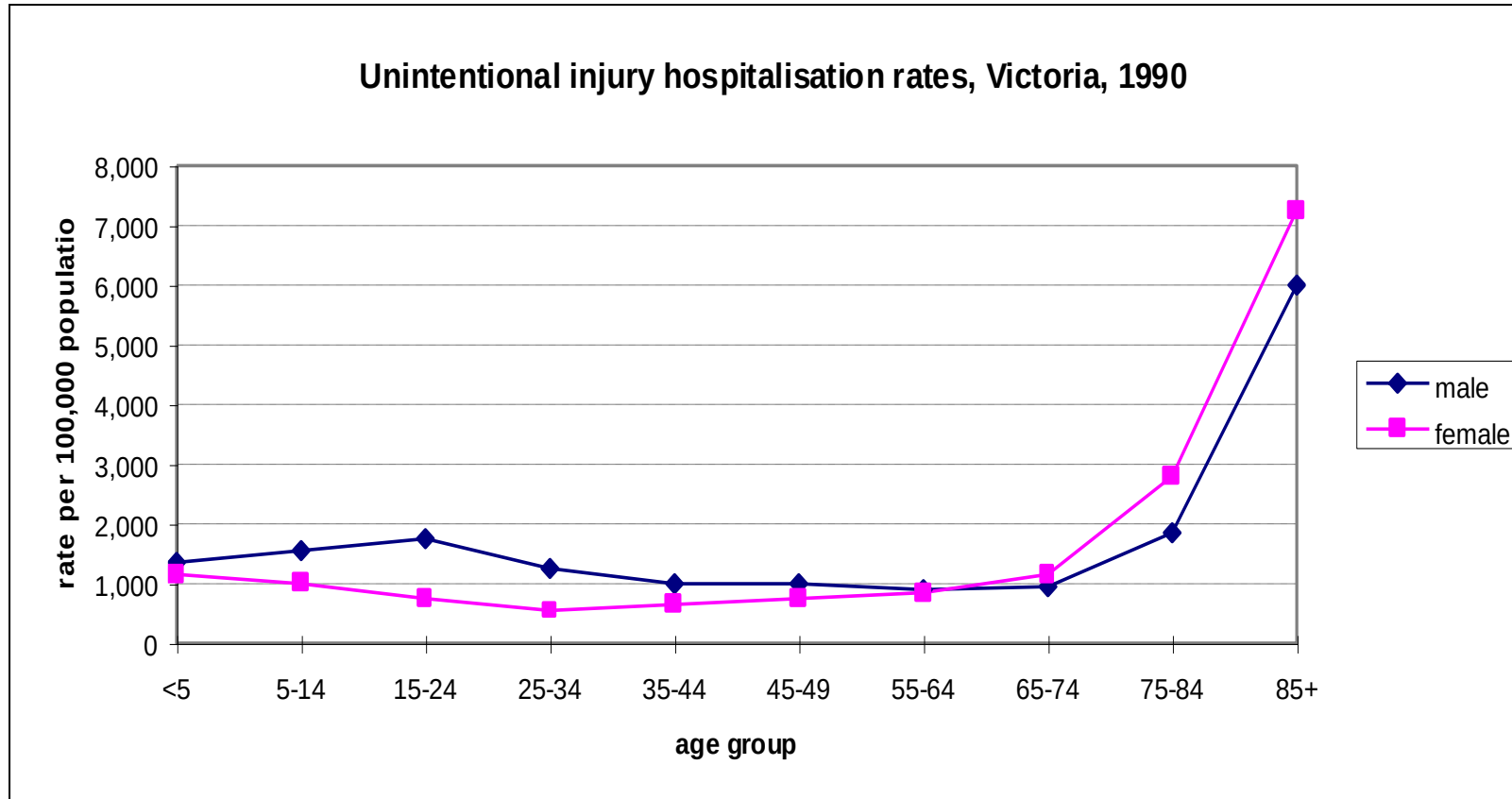
- Top 3 injury related death in older people
 - falls, MVA, suicide
- Specific subgroups
 - Parkinsons disease, 6 x more likely to fall
 - Lewy body dementia, intolerant of psychotropics, injury 8 x more likely
- Injury is tip of iceberg, loss of function, independence
- They are in your office all the time

Falls and older people an ER series

- 20% of all older people presenting - fall
- Extrinsic – hazard
- Intrinsic – syncope, MI, Hgb, etc
- 10% alcohol
- 10% CVA, LOC, Sz

- | | Intrinsic | extr |
|--------------------------|-----------|------|
| • 50% 65-74 | | 49% |
| • 60% 75-84 | | 39% |
| • 64% 85+ | 38% | |
| • 23% unclassified | | |
| • 70% injured | | |
| • 36% fx, 36% (98) NOF | | |
| • 57% admitted | | |
| • 32 died, (4% of total) | | |

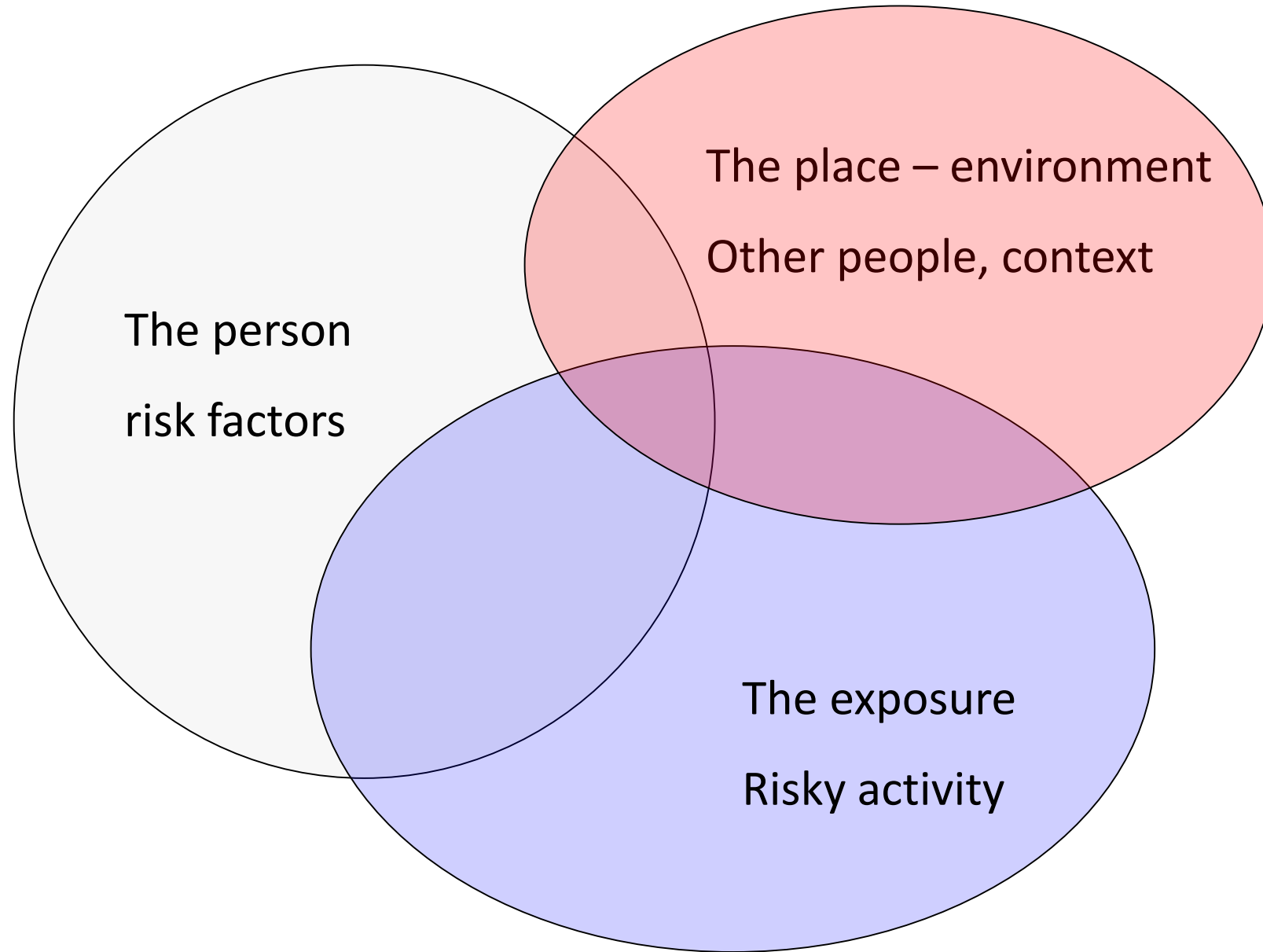
Hospitalisation



Mortality



The mechanism



Population and context – Res Care

<i>Risk factor</i>	<i>Res Care</i>	<i>Comm</i>
Prev falls	60%	30%
Use of assistive devises	80%	25%
Impaired ADL	100%	15%
Dementia	70%	6%
>80 year	70%	15%



Hot and cold falls



- Hot falls: acute medical problem
 - Infection
 - Cardiovascular event
 - Multifactorial
- Cold falls: non-acute
 - multifactorial

Hot fall: be a detective

- Is it new or old
- Are they acutely unwell
 - Intrinsic causes of falls, Stroke, MI, other CV, infection, constipation, dehydration
- Are they poisoned
 - Assume medication as a cause until proven otherwise, new medication, interaction, adverse reaction
- Have they injured themselves



Clinical evaluation- Hot fall



- Take a history,
 - Mechanism of fall
- do an examination
 - Postural hypotens
 - Gait and balance
 - Timed up and go
- Consider ALL meds
- ECG, Hb, MSU, U&Es
- Don't forget injury

Management

- Treat any cause identified
 - Infection, cardiovascular, medications
 - Parkinsons disease, Lewy Body dementia
- Treat injury
- Expect loss of confidence 'fear of falling'
- Restoration
- Prevent future falls

Bert – 85 yrs, lives alone



- Fell in the night in the loo, hit his head
- Stitched up
- Fell again
- Hb 77
- Gastric carcinoma

Joan – 78, rest home resident

- On your usual round, noted that Joan has had several falls
- Found on the floor, no injury
- Mild dementia, HTN
- Aspirin, Bendrofluazide



Definitions – cold falls

“a fall is an event which results in a person coming to rest inadvertently on the ground or other lower level, and other than as a consequence of the following: sustaining a violent blow, loss of consciousness, sudden onset of paralysis as in stroke, or an epileptic seizure”

Kellogg International Working group on prevention of Falls by the Elderly

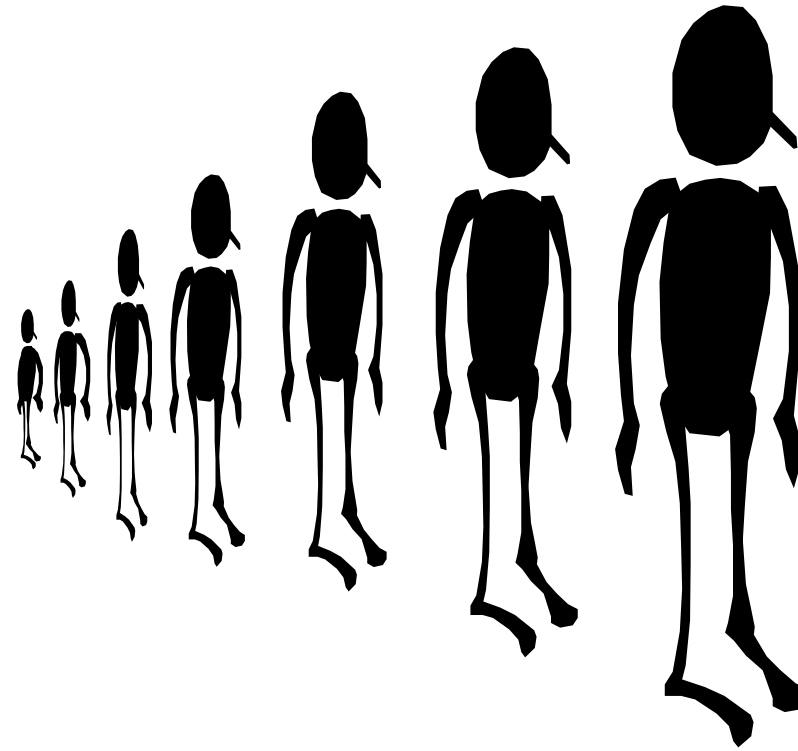


Florence Houghton,
ACOTA-Vic

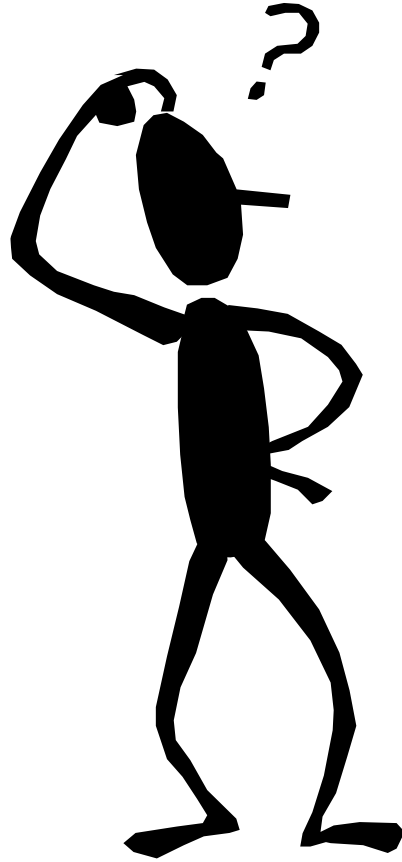
Risk factors for falling:

Physical health

- Episode of serious illness
- Balance and gait impairment
- Reduced lower limb strength
- Hx arthritis, Parkinson's disease
- Near-vision loss >20%
- Hearing loss, moderate
- Foot problem
- Urinary incontinence



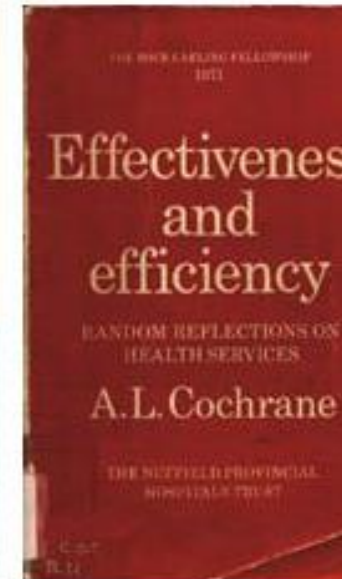
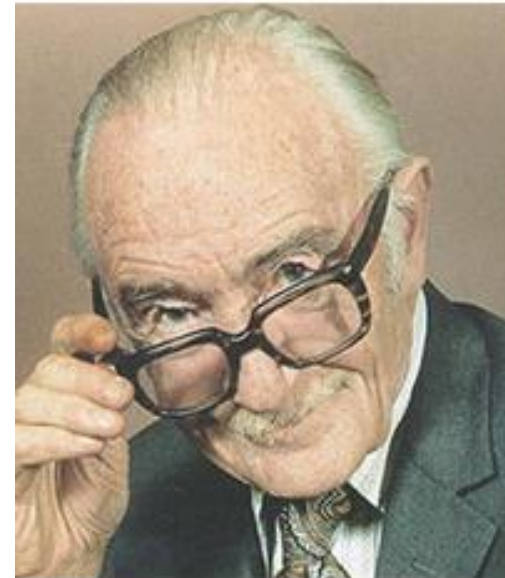
Risk factors; medications, mental health, hazards



- Sedatives ↑↑↑
- >3 drugs↑
- Fear of falling↑↑↑
- Depression
- Impaired cognition
- >1 bedroom hazard
- Use of cane or walker

A Cochrane review

Definition of interventions and population group
Systematic search
Quality assessment
Data extraction
Meta-analysis



Successful prevention – community

(Gillespie, Cochrane review 2015)

159 trials, 79,193 people

- **multiple-component group exercise**, (RaR 0.71, 95% CI 0.63 to 0.82; 16 trials; 3622 participants (Stephen Lord, Cathie Sherrington)
- **multiple-component home-based exercise** (RaR 0.68, 95% CI 0.58 to 0.80; 7 trials; 951 participants and RR 0.78, 95% CI 0.64 to 0.94; 6 trials; 714 participants)
- **Tai Chi** (RR 0.71, 95% CI 0.57 to 0.87; 6 trials; 1625 participants)
- **Multifactorial interventions**, - individual risk assessment, medication, environment, exercise (RaR 0.76, 95% CI 0.67 to 0.86; 19 trials; 9503 participants)
- **OT home assessment** for those with low vision and at high risk of falls

- **Prescribing modification** in primary care with patient engagement yes, review alone no.
- **Reduction of sedatives** (*Campbell 1999, JAGS*)
- Multifocal to single lens **glasses**: *better if doing things outside, worse if not.*
- First **cataract** extraction
- **Pacemaker** for those with carotid sensitivity
- **Antislip footwear** in the ice, **podiatry** for foot pain
- **Not**
 - Education alone, cognitive behavioural strategies, patients with dementia.
 - Vit D except low sun exposure

Joan – 78, rest home resident

- Found on the floor, no injury
- Postural drop
- Crepitations L base
- Pneumonia, dehydrated
- Treated in the rest home, no further falls

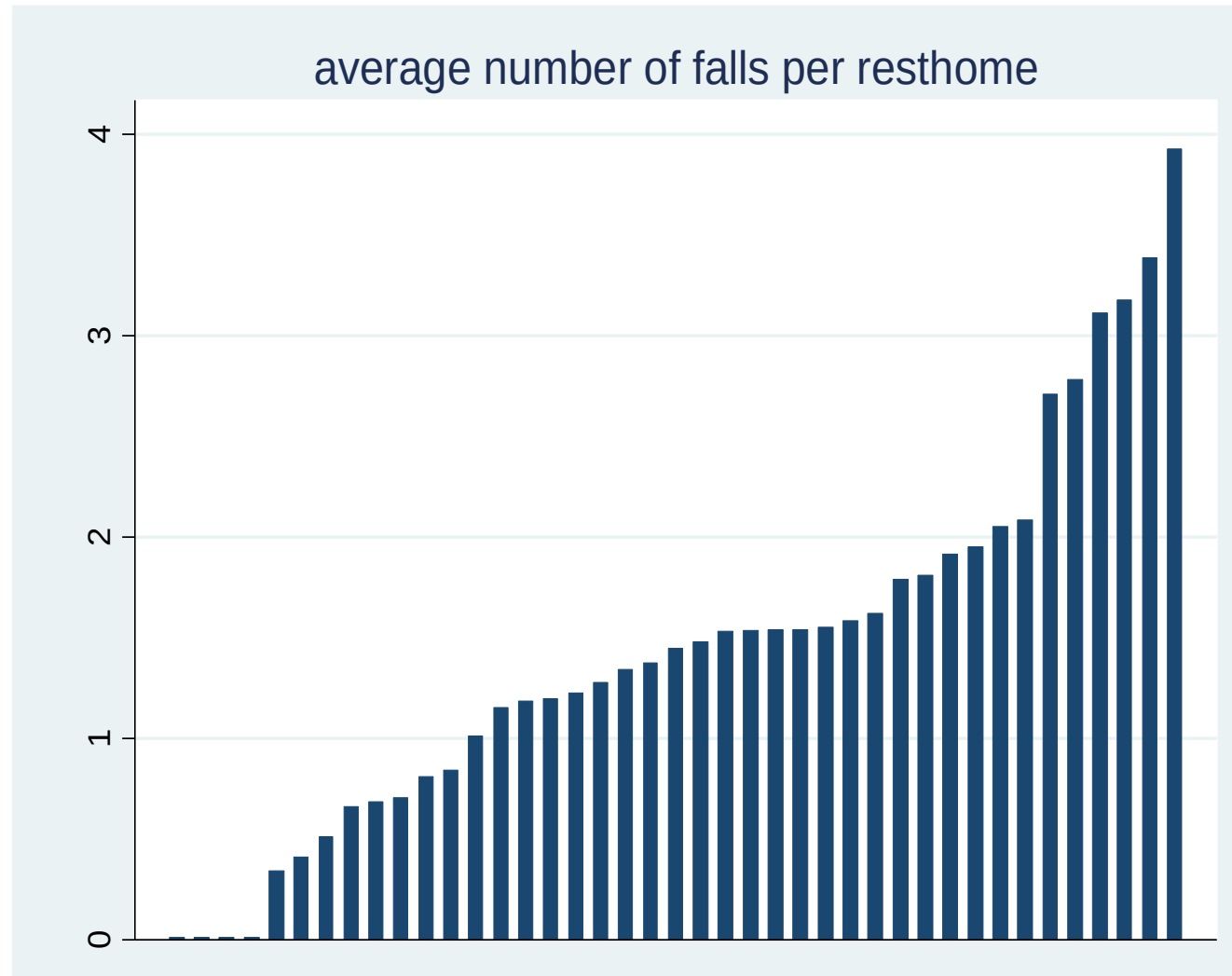


Interventions for preventing falls in older people in **care facilities and hospitals** (Review)

*Cameron ID, Dyer SM, Panagoda CE, Murray GR,
Hill KD, Cumming RG, Kerse N*

95 trials (138,164 participants),
71 (40,374) in care facilities,
24 (97,790) in hospitals

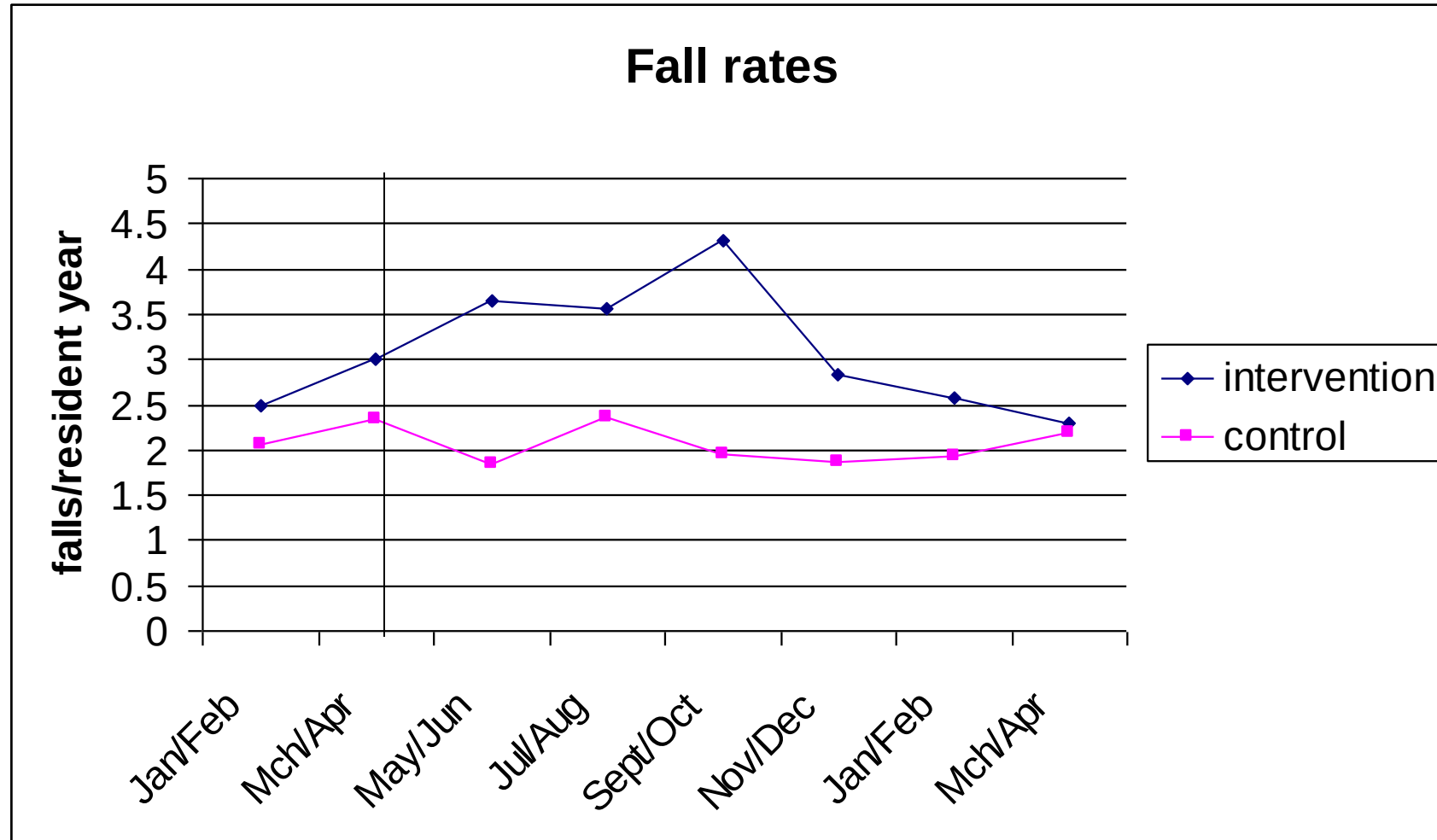
Variation in residential care



Intervention - *multidisciplinary falls risk assessment and falls logo*

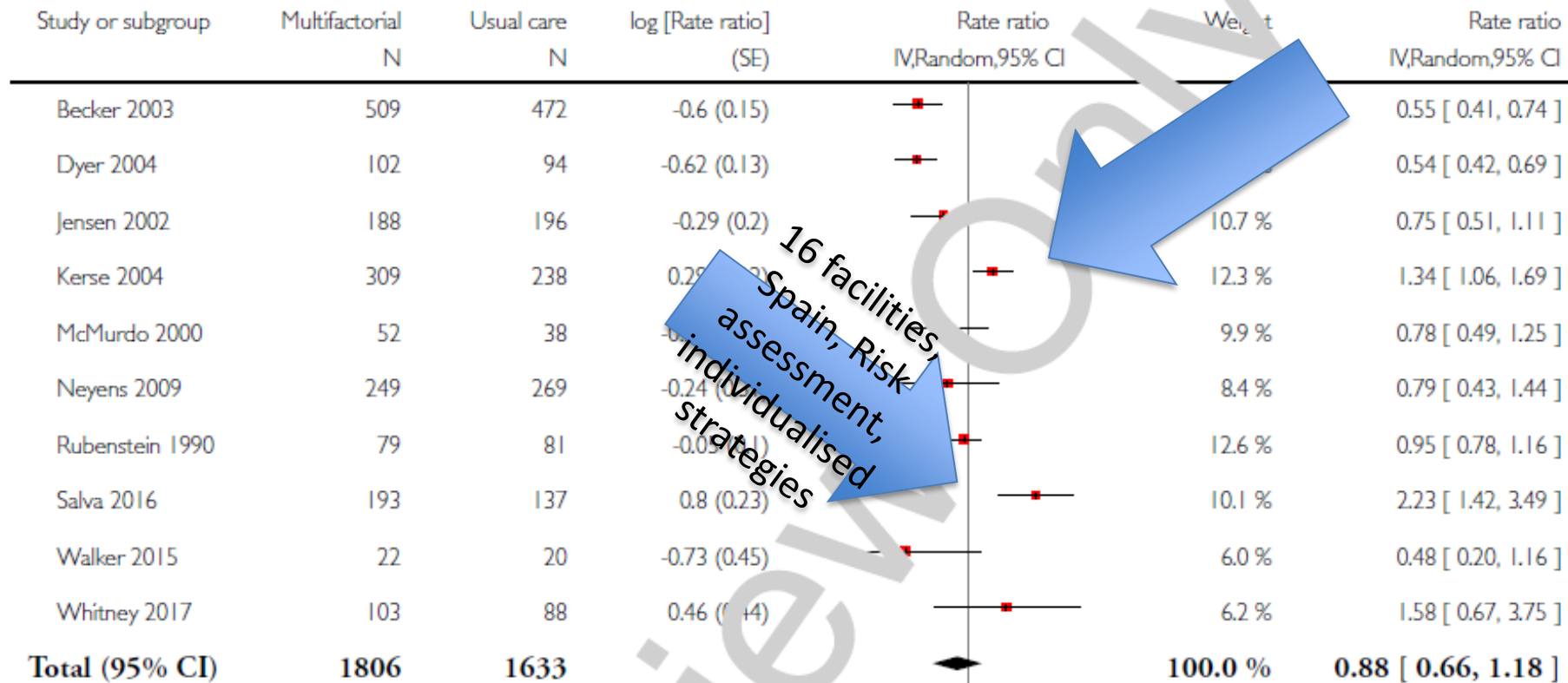


Fall rates



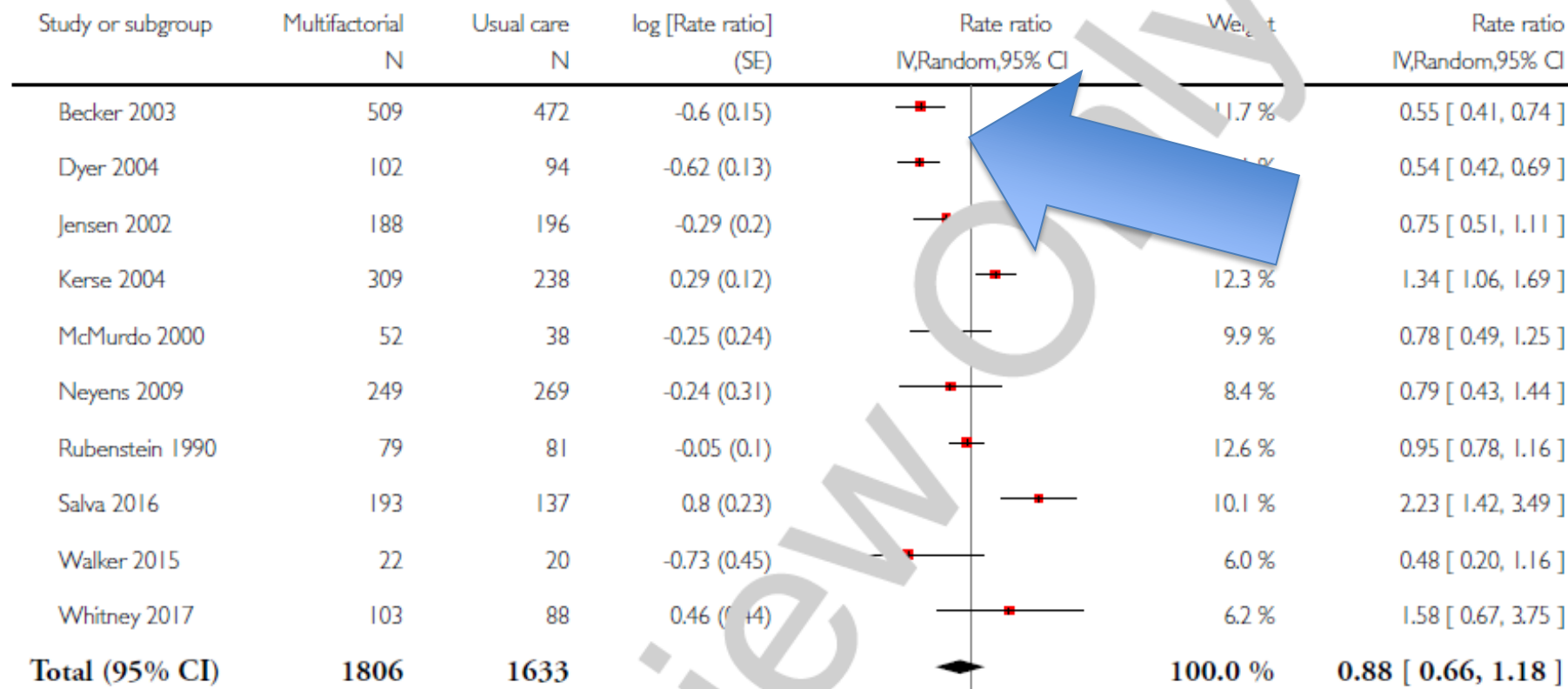
Care facilities: Multifactorial interventions vs usual care,

Outcome: Rate of falls



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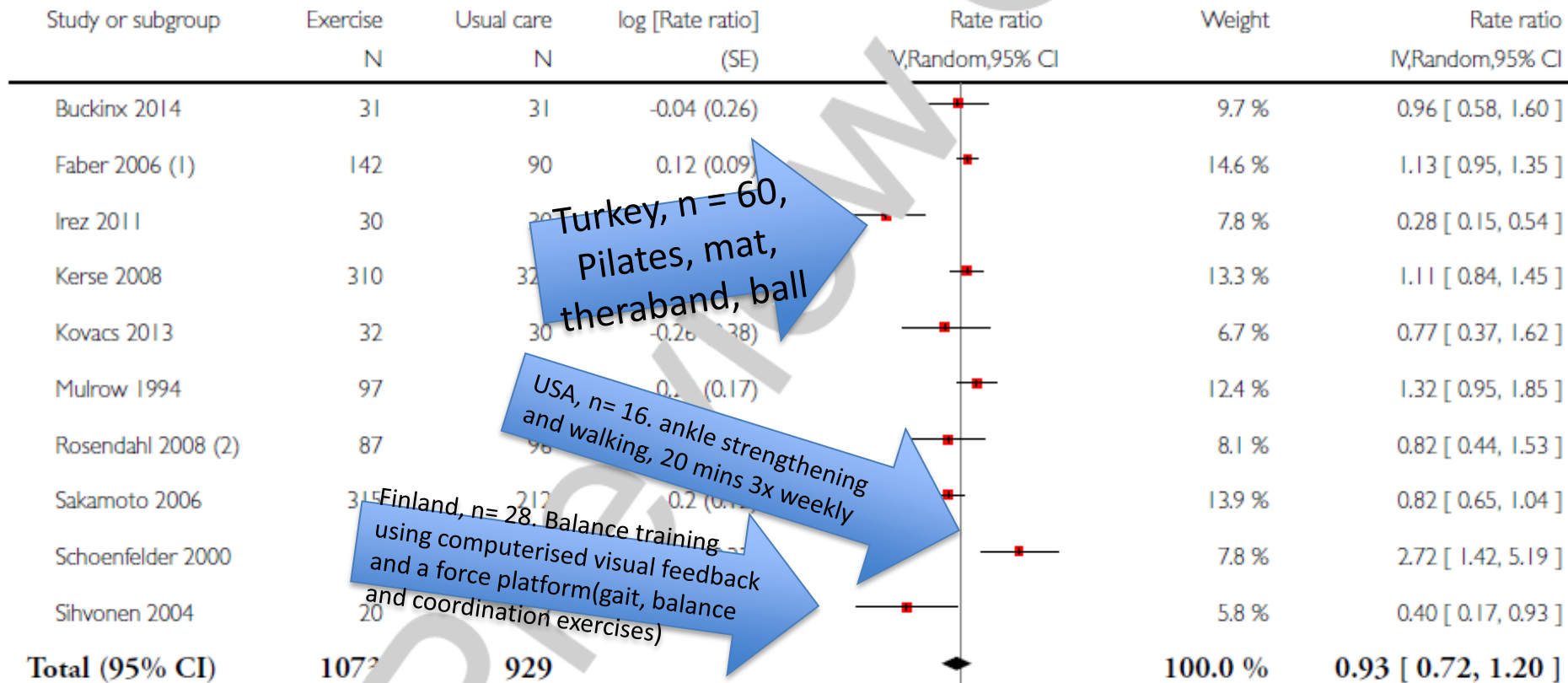
Success in residential care

- Multifaceted
 - Staff and resident education
 - Balance and strength exercises
 - Environmental adaptations
 - Hip protectors
 - Resident choice
- Falls – 0.55 (0.41 – 0.75)
- Fallers & frequent fallers reduced
- Time to first fall increased
- Effective in those with dementia

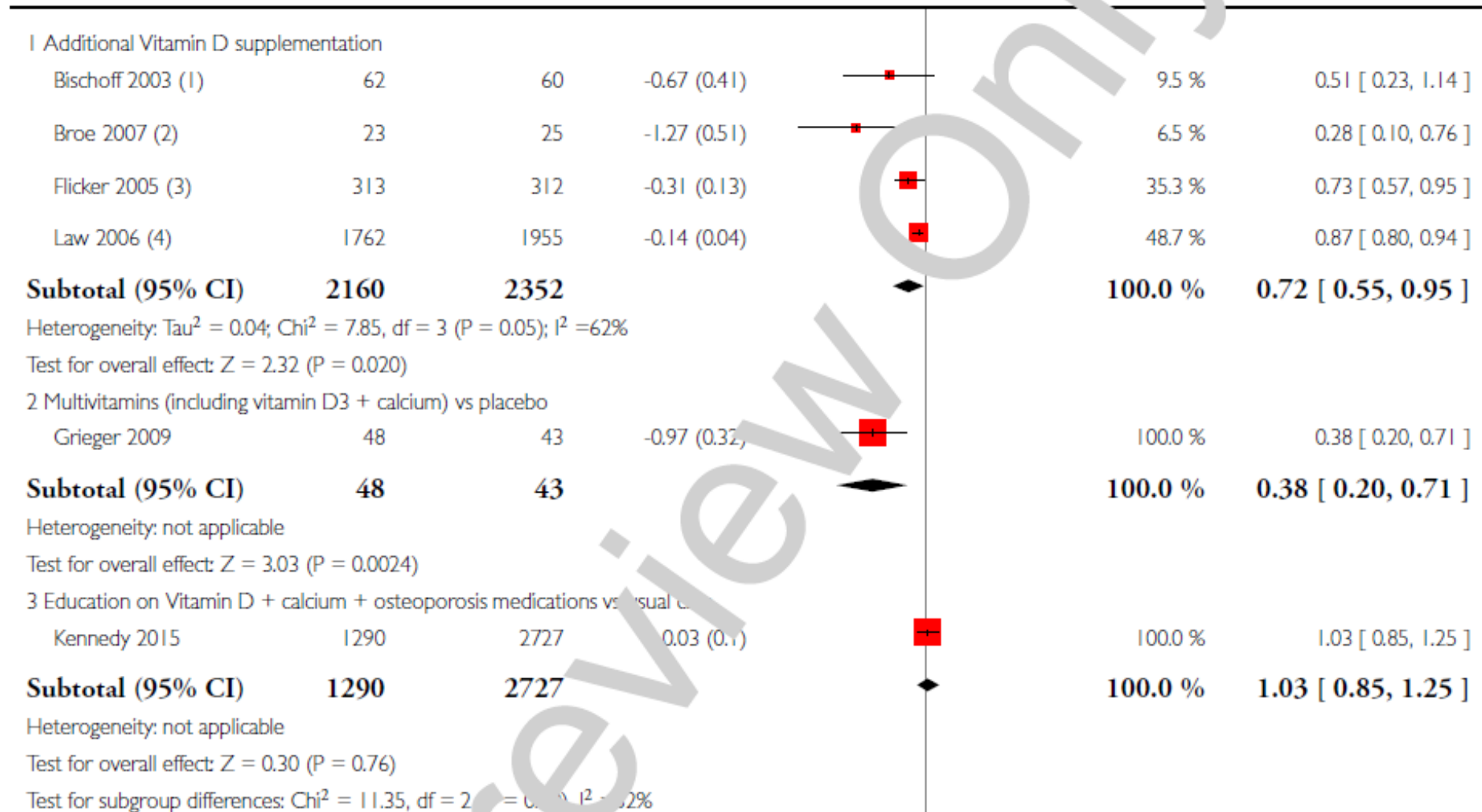
C Becker et al J American Geriatrics Society 2003;51(3):306–13.

Care facilities: Exercise vs usual care, Rate of falls.

Outcome: Rate of falls



Care facilities: Vitamin D supplementation vs no vitamin D supplementation,



Care facilities

- Vit D reduces falls, not fallers
- Exercise alone, inconsistent, low quality
- Risk assessment, ineffective alone
- Dementia care mapping, inconsistent
- Medication review, inconsistent
- Multifactorial strategies more effective in low level care, less effective in high level care.

- 16 care homes, mixed type
- **1481** total, Excl 15/30 on MMSE (296), palliative, unable (265), 679 refused, Enrolled **225** (25%) eligible; 10-15% drop out
- Attendance >60% of Sunbeam classes 1 hr 2x wk, 40% maintenance ½ hour 2x wk
- Physical function (SPPB) improved
- Fallers and falls reduced IRR 0.45 (0.17,0.74),
- Injury reduced 45% - sig not reported

HUR training apparatus

CAL AND
TH SCIENCES



Twist Rehab 5340



Adduction /
Abduction Rehab
5520



Abdomen / Back
Rehab 5310



Leg Press Rehab
5540



Leg Press Incline
Rehab 5545



Leg Extension / Curl
3530



Body Extension 3510



Chest Press 3140



10 reps x 3

1 hr 2x wk

Physio led

1 physio:5 res

6 m machines

6 m maintenance

pneumatic resistance equipment that resisted both concentric and eccentric contractions throughout the range; progressed by 100 gm incr (HUR Health and Fitness Equipment). Run in a circuit with interspersed complex static and dynamic balance exercises, progressive.

**LIVE STRONGER
FOR LONGER**

PREVENT FALLS & FRACTURES

**ND
IENCES**

Falls and Fracture Prevention Health System Change at Scale

Ken Stewart

April 2019



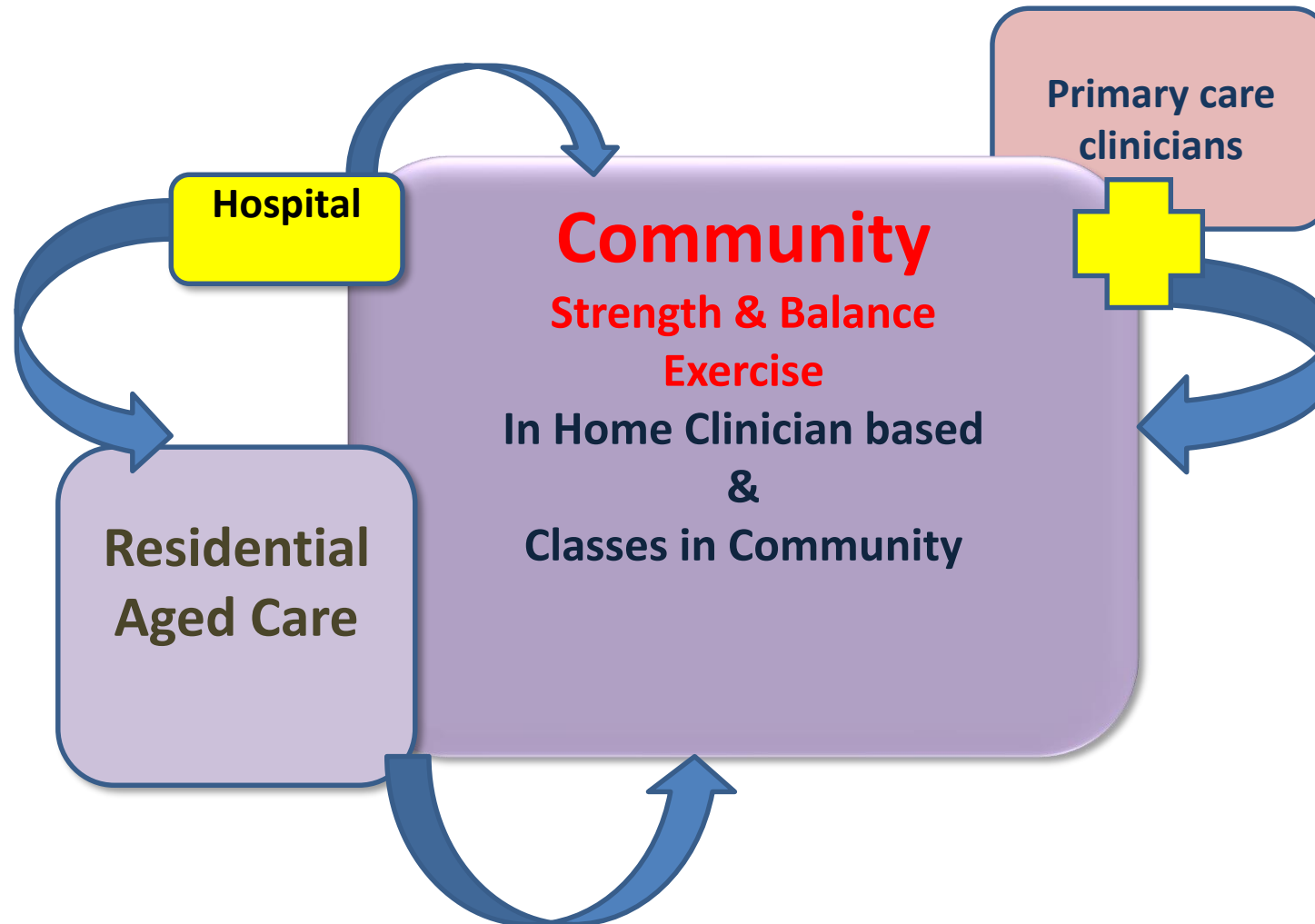
Primary Care Falls & Fracture prevention

What is **Best Practice**?

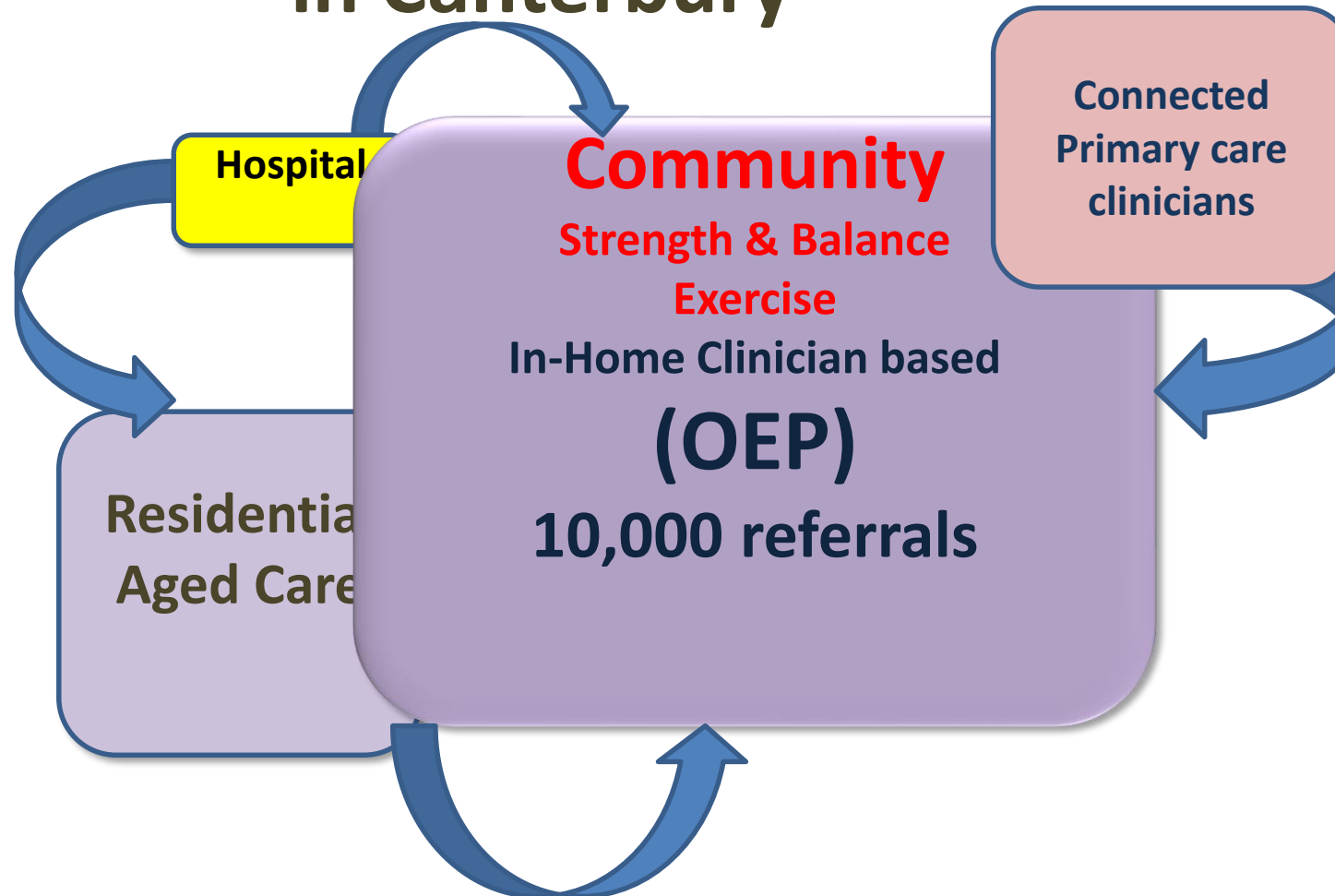
Clinical assessment
and management of
older person's key
risk factors
& their context

**Strength &
Balance
Exercises**

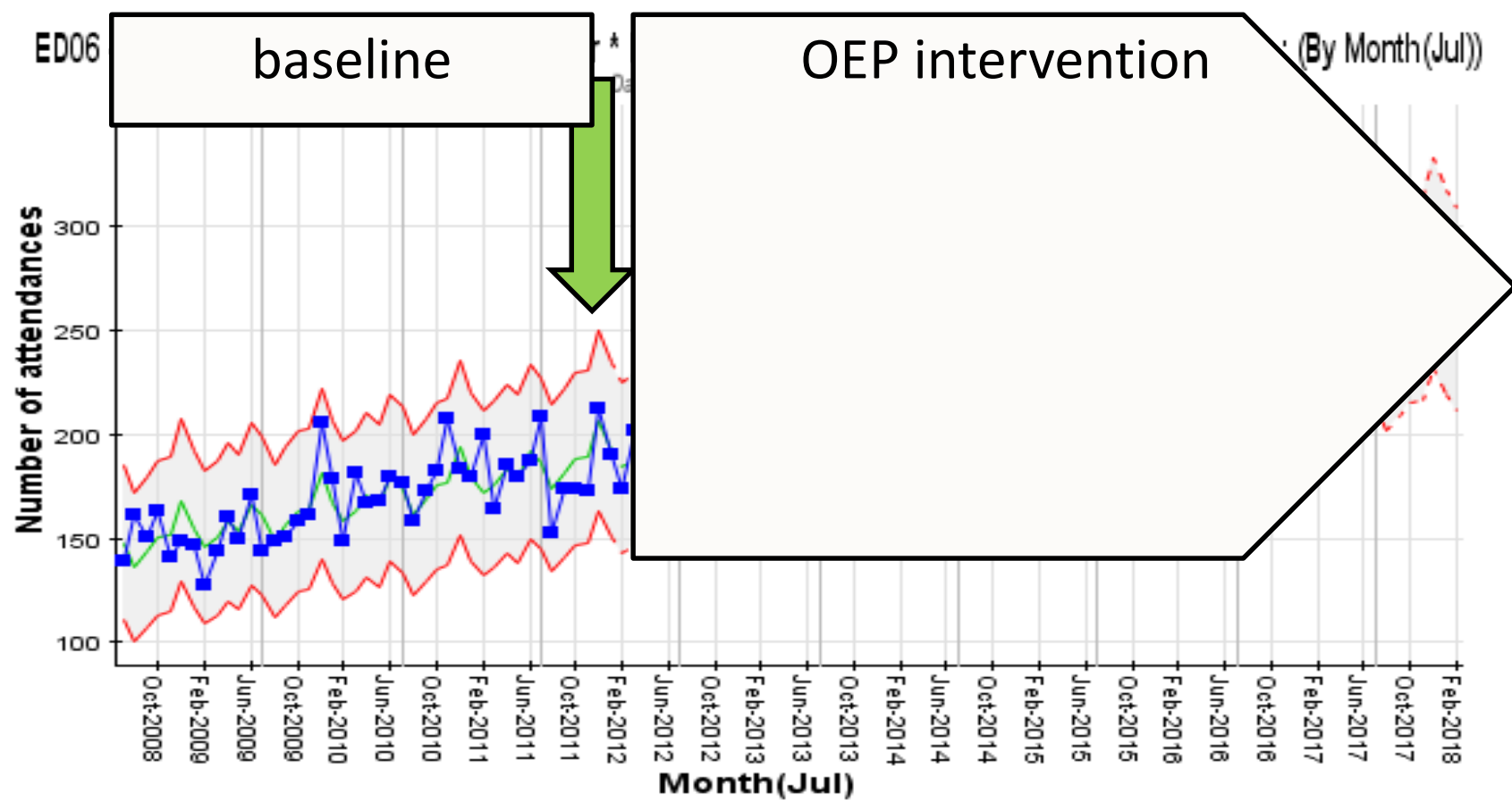




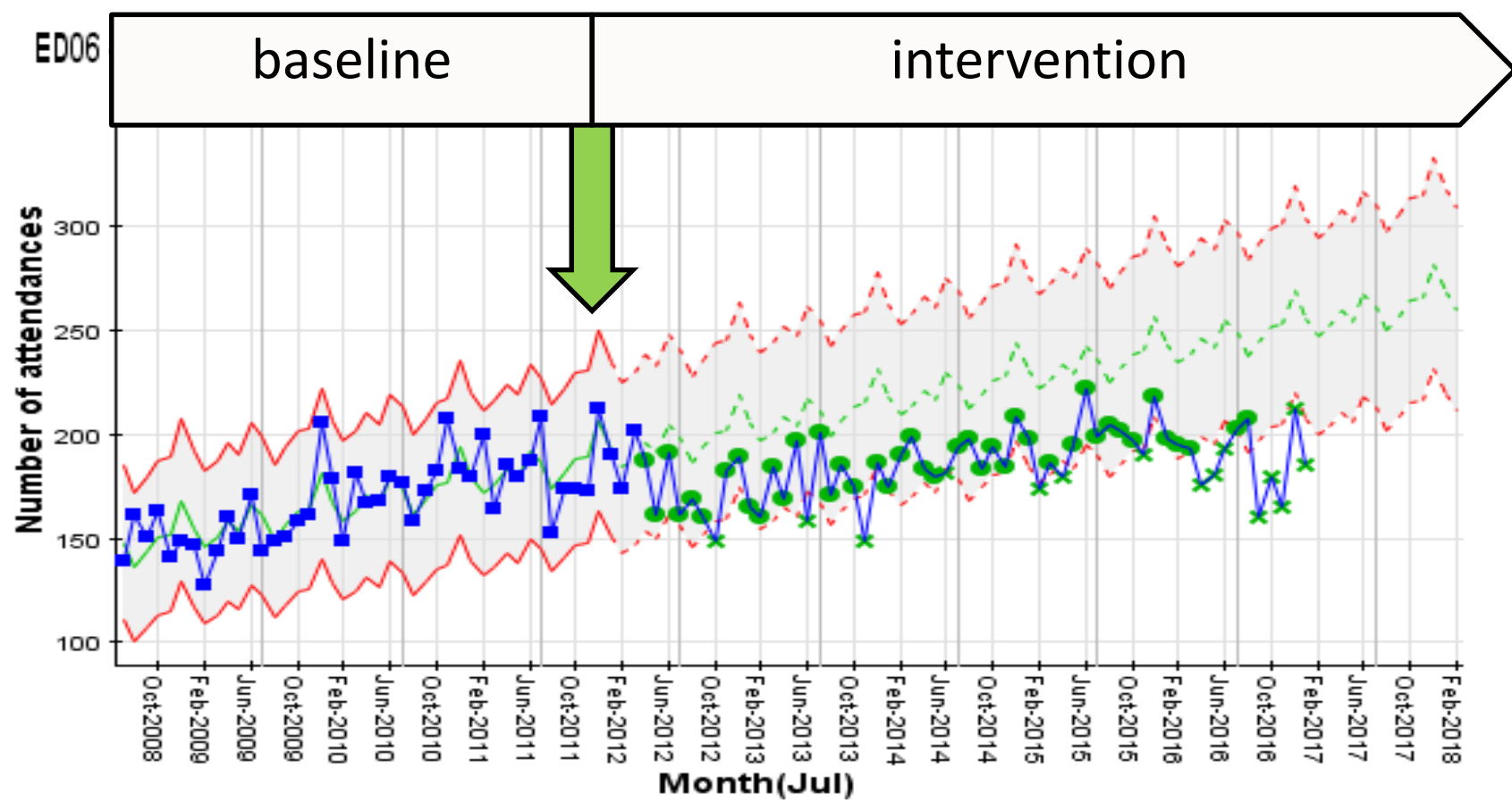
Exercise for Falls & Fracture Prevention in Canterbury



Number of **fall injuries** >75 years old presenting to Canterbury Emergency Department 2008-2017



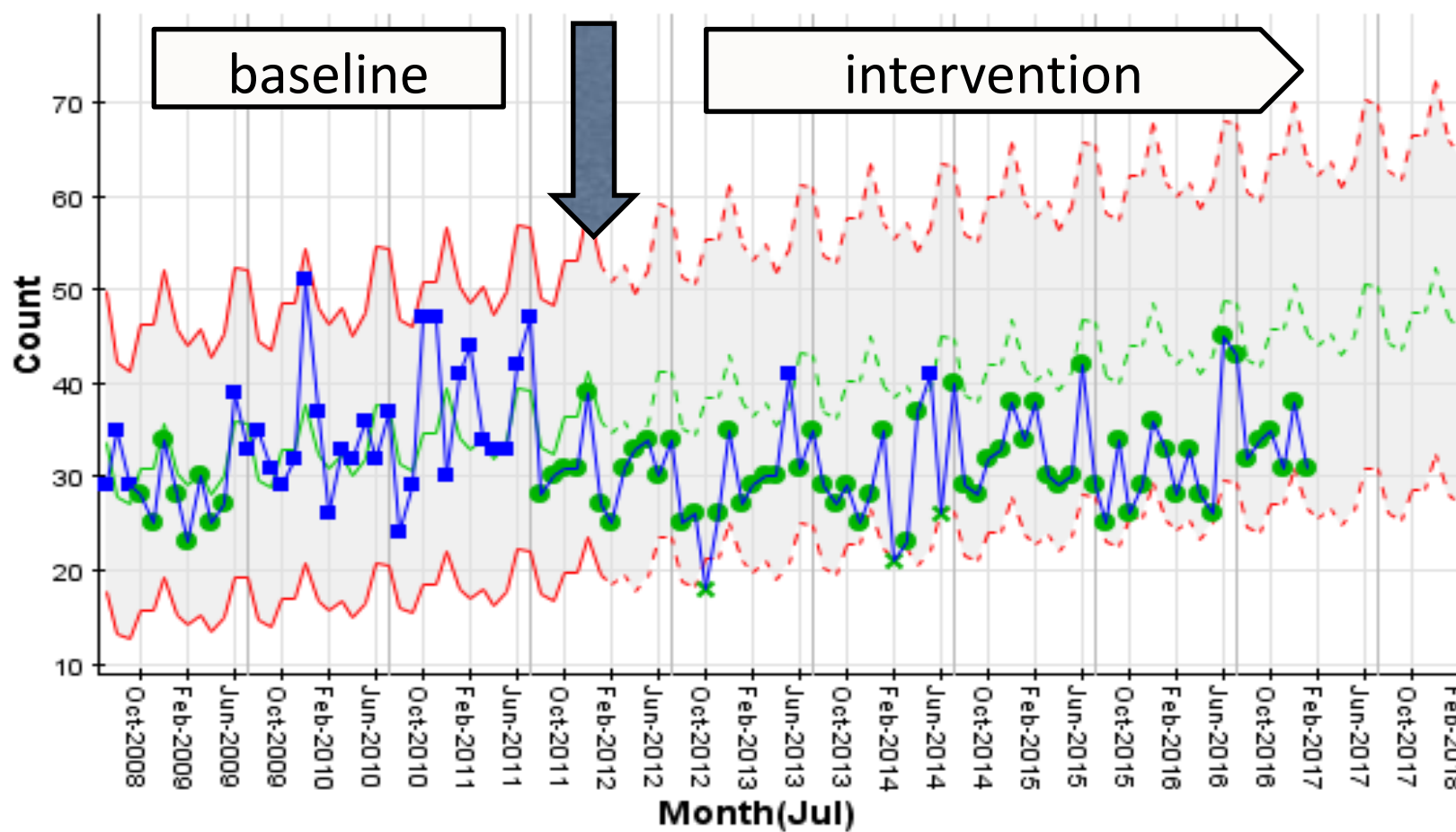
Number of **fall injuries** >75 years old presenting to Canterbury Emergency Department 2008-2017





Canterbury Hospital admissions for a fractured hip >75 years old (**serious harm fall**) 2008-2017

Count of All Admissions to Stays: AC - Acute Admission [EP] + 2C - Acute - ACC Covered [EP] + 47919-01 - Internal fixation of fracture of trochanter [EP] + 47922-01 - Hemiarthroplasty of femur [EP] + 48215-01 - Partial arthroplasty of hip [EP] + 48216-01 - Total arthroplasty of hip, unilateral [EP] * >75 : (By Month(Jul))
Data updated: 2017-02-28 09:03:02



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PREVENT FALLS & FRACTURES

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IENCES**

Evidence into Practice Health System Change at Scale



Effective population approaches need to target those at risk...& at scale to achieve outcomes

People accessing effective services by year three
(~2020/21)

- **In home:** 15,000 per year
- **Community classes:** 100,000 places per year
- **Fracture Liaison Services:** 16,000 people on bisphosphonates per year

Full National Service Coverage



Since LS4L alliance:
51,000 people in S&B classes
12,000 people receive in-home S&B
17,000 access fracture liaison service.

Beryl – 82 years, lives with husband



- Repeated falls with injury to head, elbow, shoulder
- Parkinson's disease, topples, freezes, festinates
- Carbidopa Levodopa 25/250 $\frac{1}{2}$ 6 hrly

Beryl – 82 years, lives with husband



- Repeated falls with Parkinson's disease
- Help!
- Not ill, no MI, no infection
- Dosage adjustment, may be to 2 hourly
- Physiotherapy

Conclusions

- Make sure about medical events
- Assume poisoning
- Context important to effectiveness.
- Targeting of populations
- Care with ensuring strategies work
- Attention to implementation
- People with dementia need more attention
- Refer for exercise classes, home safety

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8th Biennial Australia and New Zealand Falls Prevention Conference

18th-20th November 2018, Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart, Tasmania

Thursday, 22