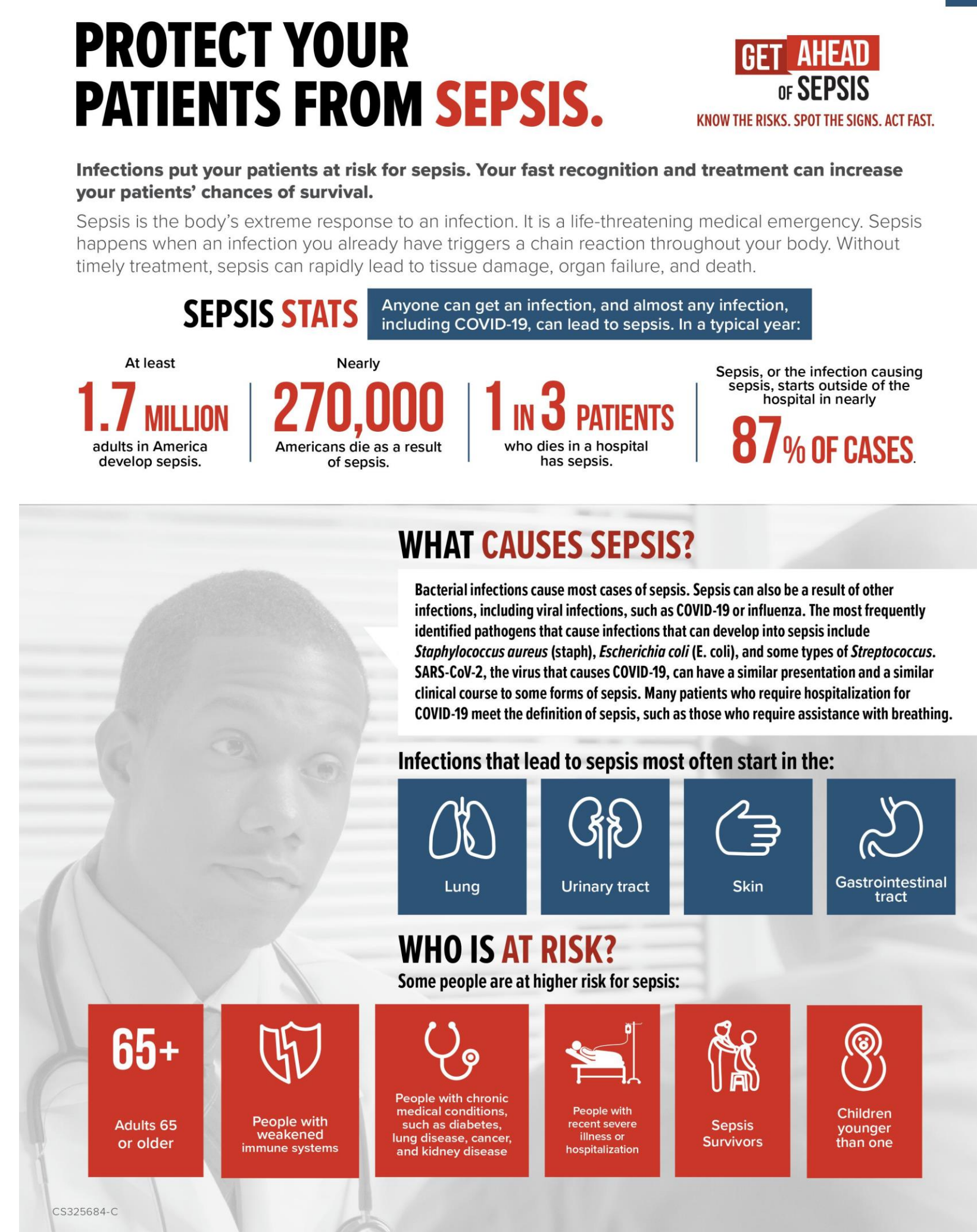


Background & Significance



Objectives

- Development of an evidence-based sepsis clinical pathway
- Implementation of a sepsis clinical pathway to improve early recognition and treatment of sepsis in a long-term care facility, and
- Evaluation of the sepsis clinical pathway through user feedback, utilization, and effectiveness.

Methodology

- Method- development, implementation, and evaluation of a clinical pathway to improve sepsis' early recognition and treatment in a long-term care facility
- Population- 46 long-term care patients and 50 nurses
- Setting- long-term care facility located in central, NJ

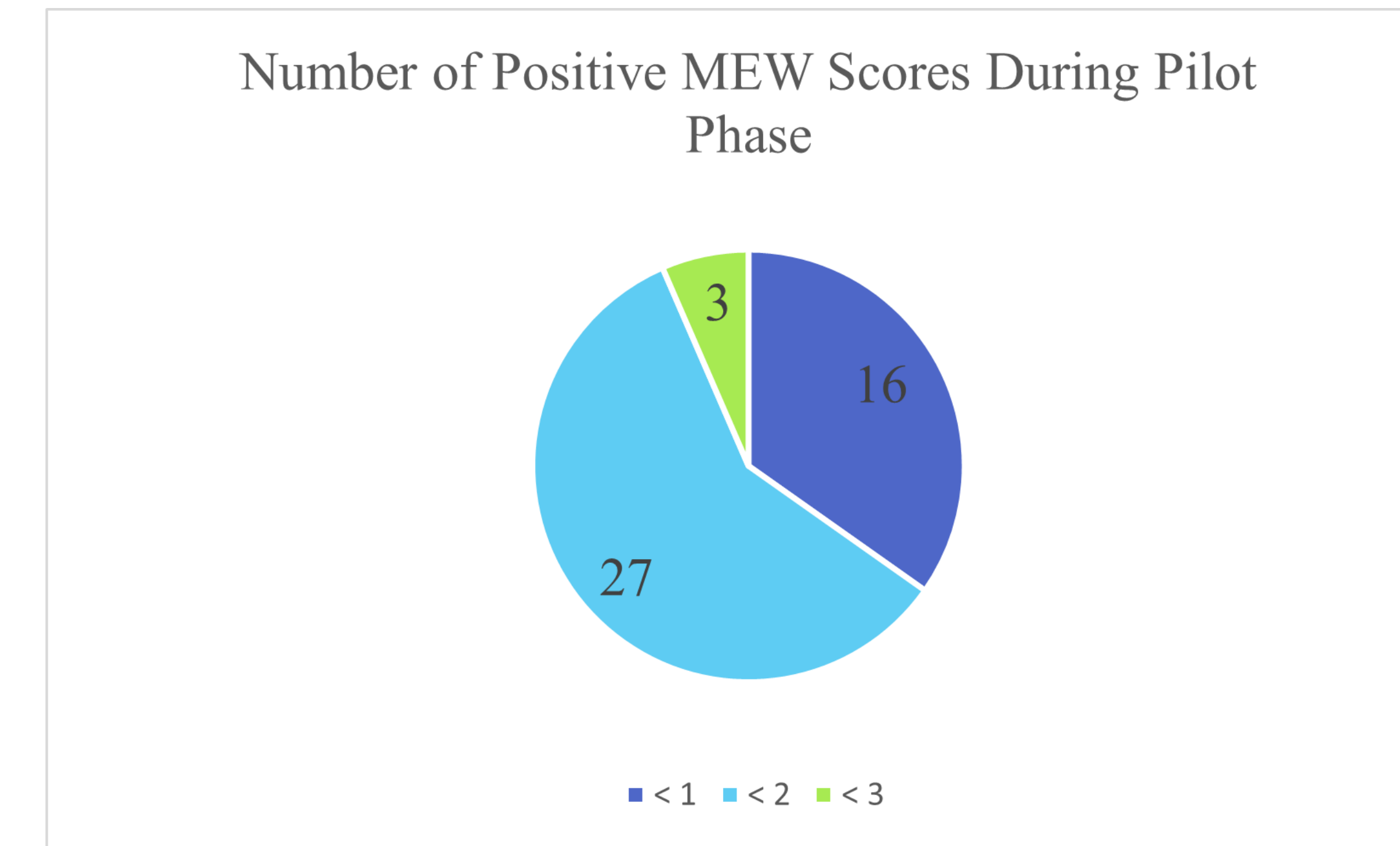
- Development phase consisted of building the sepsis clinical pathway using the MEWS scale, a sepsis screening checklist and sepsis flowchart.
- Implementation was a six-week pilot phase including education on the pathophysiology of sepsis and how to use the sepsis screening tool. Followed by the utilization of the sepsis screening tool.
- Evaluation of the program's effectiveness was an anonymous web-based survey to gather information on the overall perception of the program's effectiveness.
- Outcomes were measured by conducting prospective chart reviews to measure staff nurse's adherence and appropriate use of the sepsis clinical pathway.

View Sepsis Screening Checklist Here

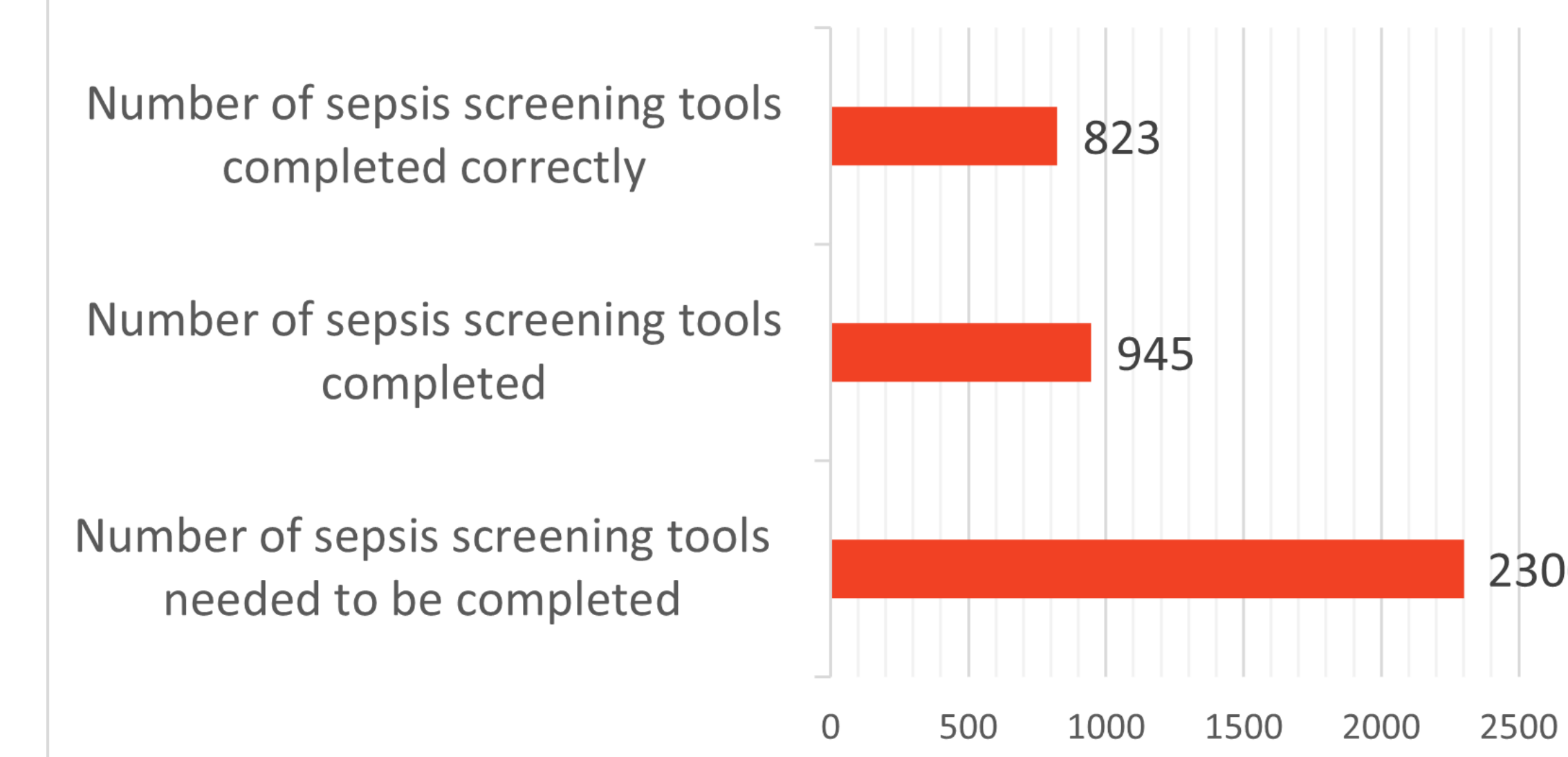


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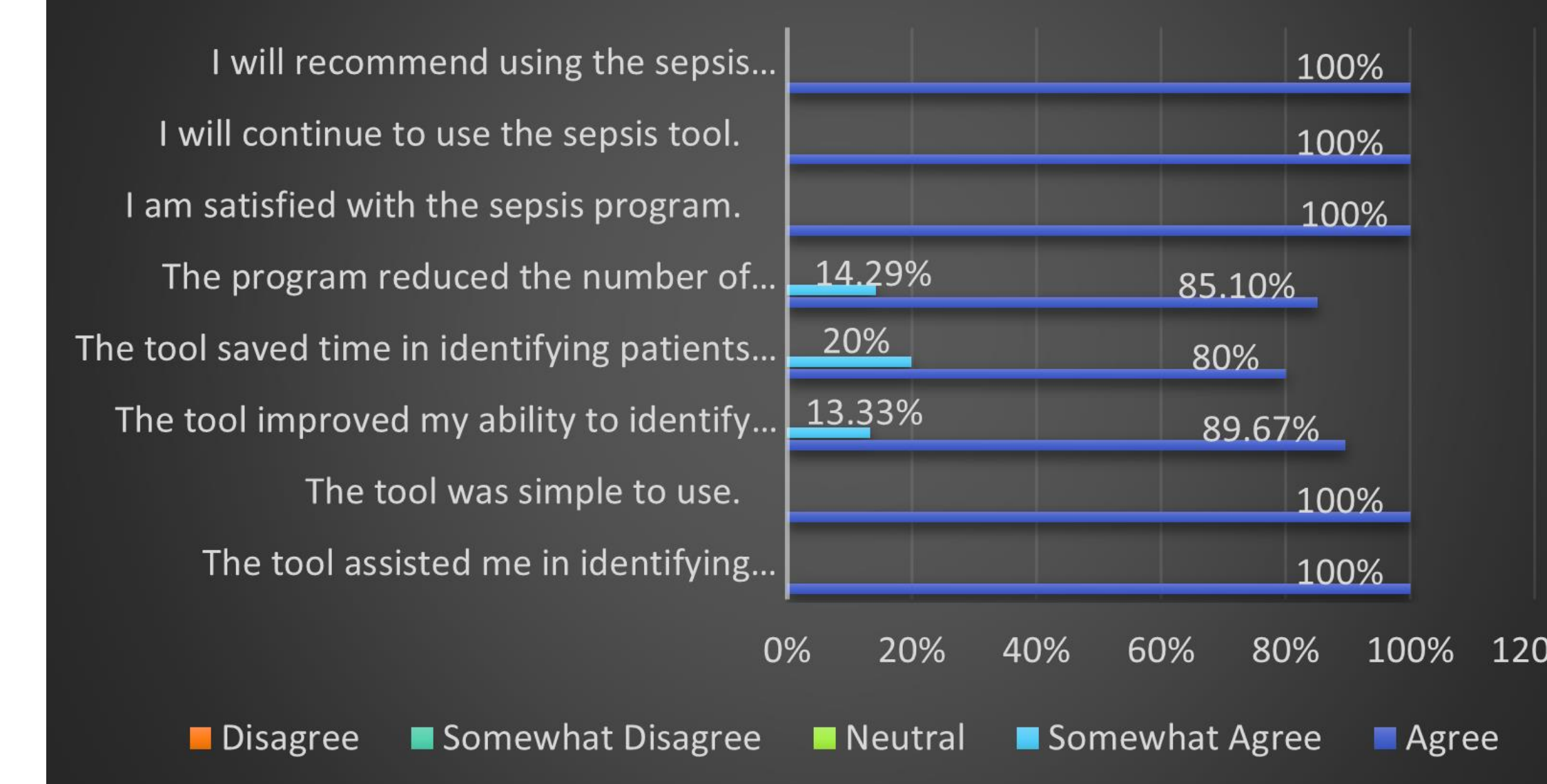
Results



Sepsis Screening Tool Adherence



Evaluation Responses



Limitations

- Small sample size
- Low adherence
- Time constraints

Implications

Economic:

- Implementing is of no cost to the facility
- Reduce healthcare costs by increasing early identification and treatment of sepsis

Quality and Safety:

- Improved patient care through early identification and treatment of sepsis
- Decrease in mortality and improvement in overall patient outcomes.

Conclusion

Routine use of the sepsis clinical pathway in a long-term care setting can serve as the first step in addressing missed diagnosis of sepsis and initiate prompt interventions which will improve patient outcomes and decrease mortality.

Contact and References



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