

A close-up photograph of a complex mechanical watch movement. The image shows several interlocking gears of different sizes, some made of brass and others of steel. A prominent red jewel, likely a ruby, is visible in the center, surrounded by intricate metal components. The lighting highlights the textures and metallic sheen of the parts.

# ENHANCING PRE-HOSPITAL OUTCOMES FOR CARDIAC ARREST (EPOC)

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## Enhancing Pre-Hospital Outcomes for Cardiac Arrest (EPOC)

- 4-year study funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
- Partnership between University of Michigan, RAND Corporation, and SaveMiHeart with study team members from other institutions and organizations
- Co-PI: Dr. Brahmajee Nallamothu
- Goal: Identify best practices for improving cardiac arrest survival in the prehospital setting from a system of care perspective

Where you experience cardiac  
arrest should not matter.

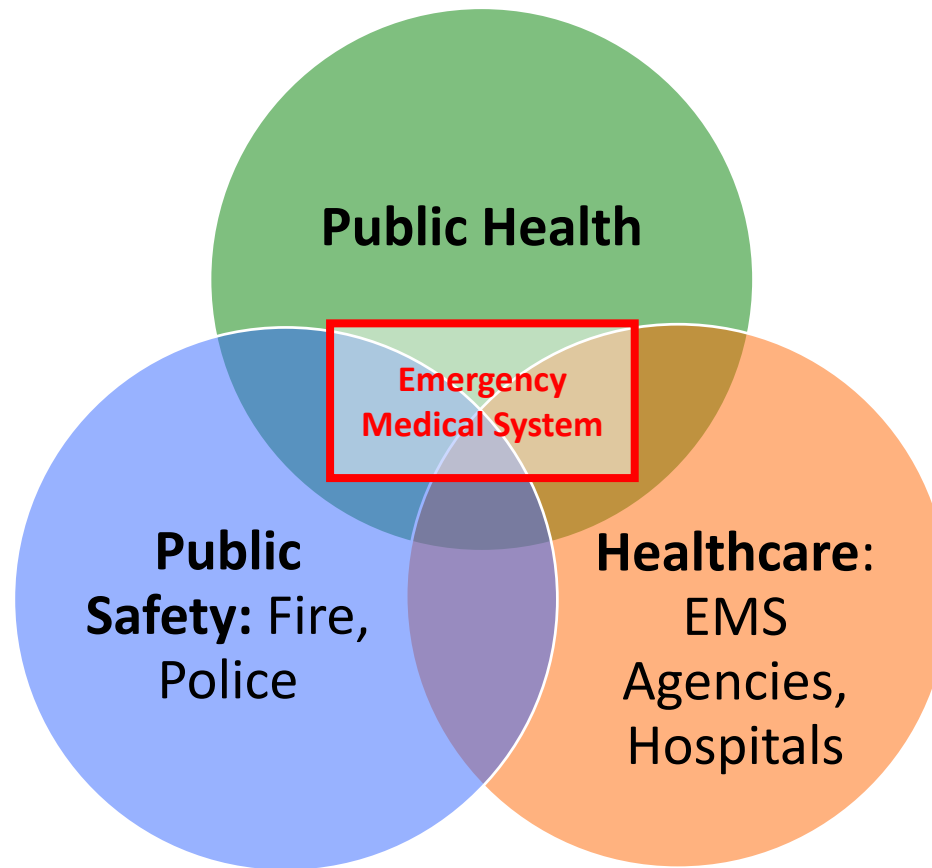
**5-15%**

variation in OHCA  
survival to hospital  
discharge among a sample  
of MI communities

Based on Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) data

# EPOC:

## Closing the OHCA Survival Gap Using a System of Care Approach in the Prehospital Setting





# Cardiac Arrest “Chain of Survival”



***For every minute CPR is not administered the likelihood of survival from cardiac arrest drops by 10%***

# EPOC Goals

**Goal 1.** Identify variation in OHCA survival among EMS agencies in Michigan

**Goal 2.** Identify “best practices” for OHCA survival among emergency medical systems in the state

**Goal 3.** Validate & Disseminate best practices for OHCA survival through the “EPOC Toolkit”

# Goal 1. Identify variation in OHCA survival among EMS agencies in Michigan

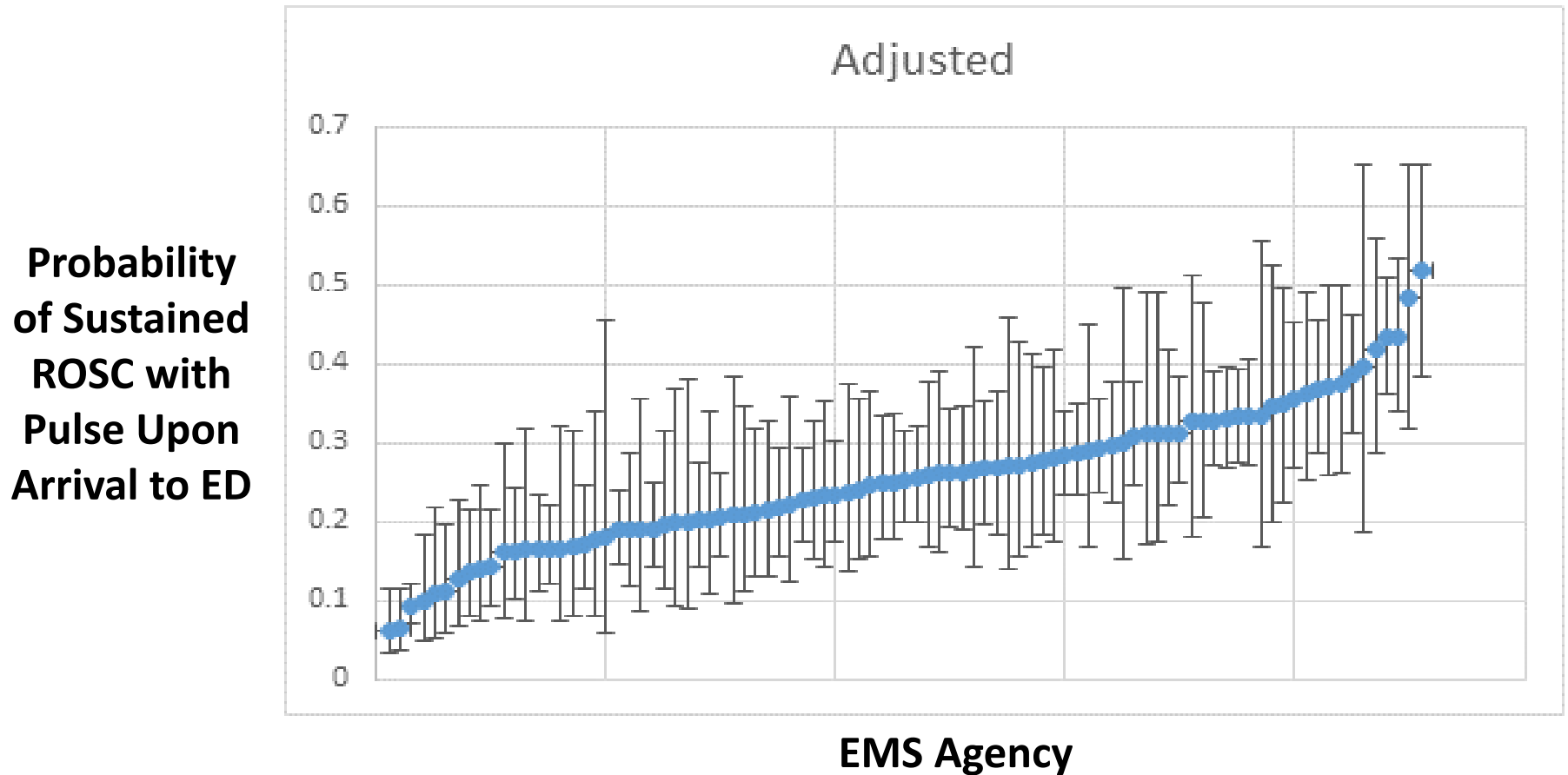
- Calculate 2014-2016 patient-standardized OHCA survival rates across EMS agencies using MI-CARES
  - Primary outcome: ROSC with pulse upon ED arrival
- Inclusion Criteria: EMS agencies with >5 total arrests over the study years

# Goal 1: Methods

- Random effects logistic regression
- Model covariates
  - Patient factors
  - Arrest characteristics
  - County-level demographic variables
- Examine the distribution of each agency's random effect to determine the posterior probability of being among the high survival/low survival 25%
  - Sample agencies with  $> 90\%$  posterior probability of being among the high survival/low survival 25% for Goal 2 site visits



# Goal 1: Results - 8-fold variation across EMS agencies in sustained ROSC with pulse upon ED arrival



**Figure 1.** Patient-standardized probability of sustained ROSC with pulse upon ED arrival across 91 EMS agencies covering > 6.8 million lives

# Goal 1: Results - Sampling for Aim 2

- Mean patient-standardized rate of sustained ROSC with pulse upon ED arrival: 25.3% (range 6.1%-51.9%)
  - 7 high OHCA survival agencies
    - ROSC with pulse upon ED arrival: 40.0% (95%CI: 36.5%-43.4%)
  - 7 low OHCA survival agencies
    - ROSC with pulse upon ED arrival: 10.8% (95%C: 9.1%-12.5%)
- The identified high and low survival EMS agencies informed the sampling for Goal 2 site visits

# Goal 2. Identify “best practices” for OHCA survival among emergency medical systems in the state

## Methods

- Sampled 9 emergency medical systems based on urbanicity, geography, and EMS agency OHCA survival:
  - 4 high-survival
  - 2 intermediate-survival
  - 3 low-survival
- Each system included 911/dispatch, Police, Fire, EMS and hospitals
- Two-day site visits including interviews and a multi-disciplinary focus group



# Goal 2: Methods – Data Analysis

- Within-site and cross-site analysis
- Thematic analysis to identify intra- and inter-organizational barriers, facilitators and innovation to effective OHCA response. The following categories of key factors were identified:
  - Training
  - Quality Improvement
  - Resource Management
  - System-Level Clinical Management
  - Stakeholder Cultural Mindset
  - Time to Arrival
  - On Scene
  - Community Interface

# Goal 2: Preliminary Results

- Emerging strategies from three high-, two intermediate-, and three low-survival sites
  - Mix of urban, suburban, and rural emergency medical systems across Michigan

# Community & Bystanders

- Conducting community education on:
  - Sudden cardiac arrest
  - Hands-only CPR
  - Interfacing with 911/dispatch
  - First responder roles





# Dispatch

- Providing call taker and dispatcher training on cardiac arrest recognition
- Providing continuing education on Telephone CPR (T-CPR) or Dispatch-Assisted CPR
- Streamlining 911 triaging of cardiac arrest
- Conducting audits on all OHCA resuscitations for quality improvement (QI)

Is the person  
conscious?

**No?**

Is the person  
breathing normally?

**No?**

**Go, Perform CPR**

cardioproof 

# Police

- Providing training on rapid recognition of sudden cardiac arrest
- Providing training and continuing education on high-quality CPR
- Providing training and access to AEDs
- Promoting a culture that embraces basic medical response
  - Community policing



# Non-Transport Fire

- Providing training on high-quality CPR
- Adopting dual-dispatching model with transporting agencies
- Riding in the ambulance to provide extra hands for CPR



# EMS



- Increasing number of responders/staffing for cardiac arrest
  - Role of mechanical CPR devices
- Adopting evidence-based prehospital practices for cardiac arrest response – role of EMS champion
- Flexibility in evidence-based practice – e.g., “stay and play” vs. “load and go”
- Implementing data-driven, systematic continuous quality improvement programs (CQI)
- Instituting centers to provide simulation-based training and introduction to emerging technologies and therapies
- EMS training of non-transport fire and police

# Multidisciplinary

- Standardizing response protocols across the chain for all responders
- Practicing/training for multidisciplinary response
- Multidisciplinary QI/QA
- Spending a day in the other person's shoes



## **Goal 3. Validate and disseminate best practices for OHCA survival through the “EPOC Toolkit”**

- Statewide electronic survey of EMS agencies
  - Include facilitators and barriers to effective OHCA response identified in Goal 2
    - Link results from 120 CARES-participating agencies with CARES data to validate factors associated with increased OHCA survival



# The EPOC Toolkit

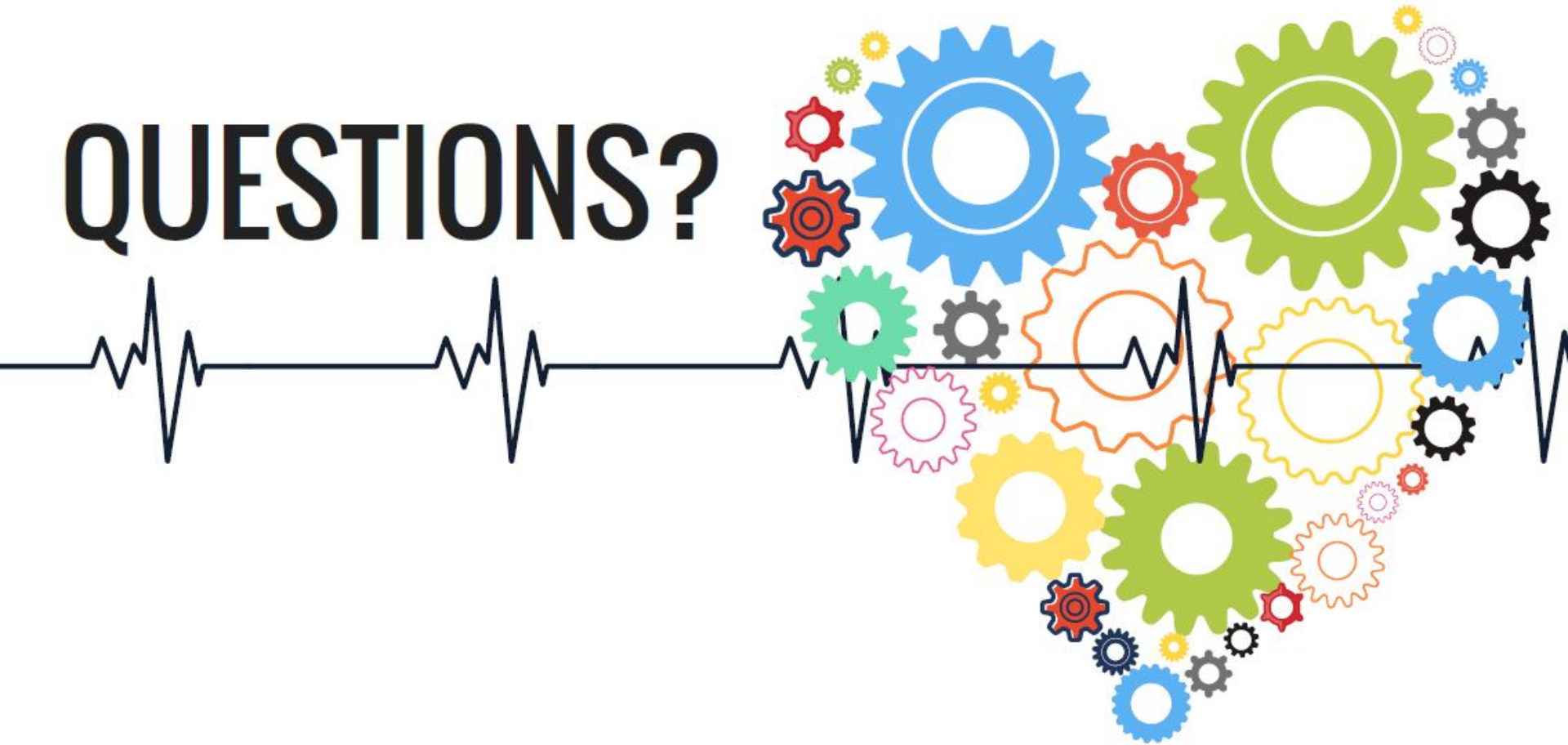
- Results will be used to generate a toolkit of best practices
- Recommendations will be outlined by stakeholder group and links along the chain of survival



# EPOC Implications

- Closing the OHCA survival gap through...
  - Identifying best practices for OHCA from a system of care perspective (dispatch, police, fire, EMS, and hospitals)
  - Informing policy around cardiac arrest care in the prehospital setting

# QUESTIONS?



# Aim 1: Results – Patient Characteristics

Patient Characteristics (N=14,219)	N (%)
<b>Sustained ROSC to ED</b>	
<b>No</b>	<b>10,850 (76.3%)</b>
Yes	3,369 (23.7%)
Age (M, SD)	63 (19.6)
Gender	
Male	8,530 (60.0%)
Female	5,688 (40.0%)
Race	
White	7,127 (50.2%)
Unknown	3,538 (24.9%)
Black/African-American	3,261 (23.0%)
Hispanic/Latino	151 (1.1%)
Asian	65 (0.5%)
American Indian/ Alaskan	48 (0.3%)
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	10 (0.1%)

# Aim 1: Results – Arrest Characteristics

Arrest Characteristics (N=14219)		N (%)
<b>Location Type</b>	<b>Home/Residence</b>	<b>10,045 (70.6%)</b>
	Nursing Home	2,156 (15.2%)
	Public/Commercial Building	781 (5.5%)
	Street/Hwy	480 (3.4%)
	Healthcare Facility	416 (2.9%)
	Place of Recreation	158 (1.1%)
	Industrial Place	95 (0.7%)
	Other	88 (0.6%)
<b>Arrest Witness Status</b>	<b>Unwitnessed</b>	<b>7,729 (54.4%)</b>
	Bystander Witnessed	4,949 (34.8%)
	911 Responder Witnessed	1,541 (10.8%)
<b>First Monitored Rhythm</b>	Asystole	6,734 (47.4%)
	Idioventricular/PEA	2,524 (17.8%)
	Unknown Unshockable Rhythm	2,368 (16.7%)
	Ventricular Fibrillation	1,650 (11.6%)
	Unknown Shockable Rhythm	806 (5.7%)
	Ventricular Tachycardia	137 (1.0 %)