



AUTHORS

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Nova Scotia Health Central Zone Drug Use Evaluation Team

Nova Scotia Health Critical Care Database Team

INTRODUCTION

Altered pharmacokinetics in critically ill patients and increasing resistance makes antimicrobial dosing challenging⁽¹⁻³⁾

Prolonged infusions of beta-lactams optimize pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic properties^(1,2,4) and have been associated with decreased mortality⁽⁵⁾

In 2019, a prolonged piperacillin-tazobactam protocol was implemented at 2 Intensive Care Units (ICUs)

Dosing: A loading dose immediately followed by a dose appropriate for the patient's renal function infused over 6 hours every 6 hours

OBJECTIVES

Primary Objective:

- Describe and define the successful implementation of a prolonged piperacillin-tazobactam protocol

Secondary Objectives:

- ICU mortality and length of stay (LOS)
- Safety incidents
- Non-fermenting gram-negative bacilli (NF GNB) prevalence & minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) for piperacillin-tazobactam

METHOD

• Single-center retrospective observational study

Inclusion Criteria

- ≥ 16 years old
- Admitted to ICU between October 1, 2020, and October 1, 2022
- Received ≥ 2 doses of piperacillin-tazobactam

Exclusion Criteria

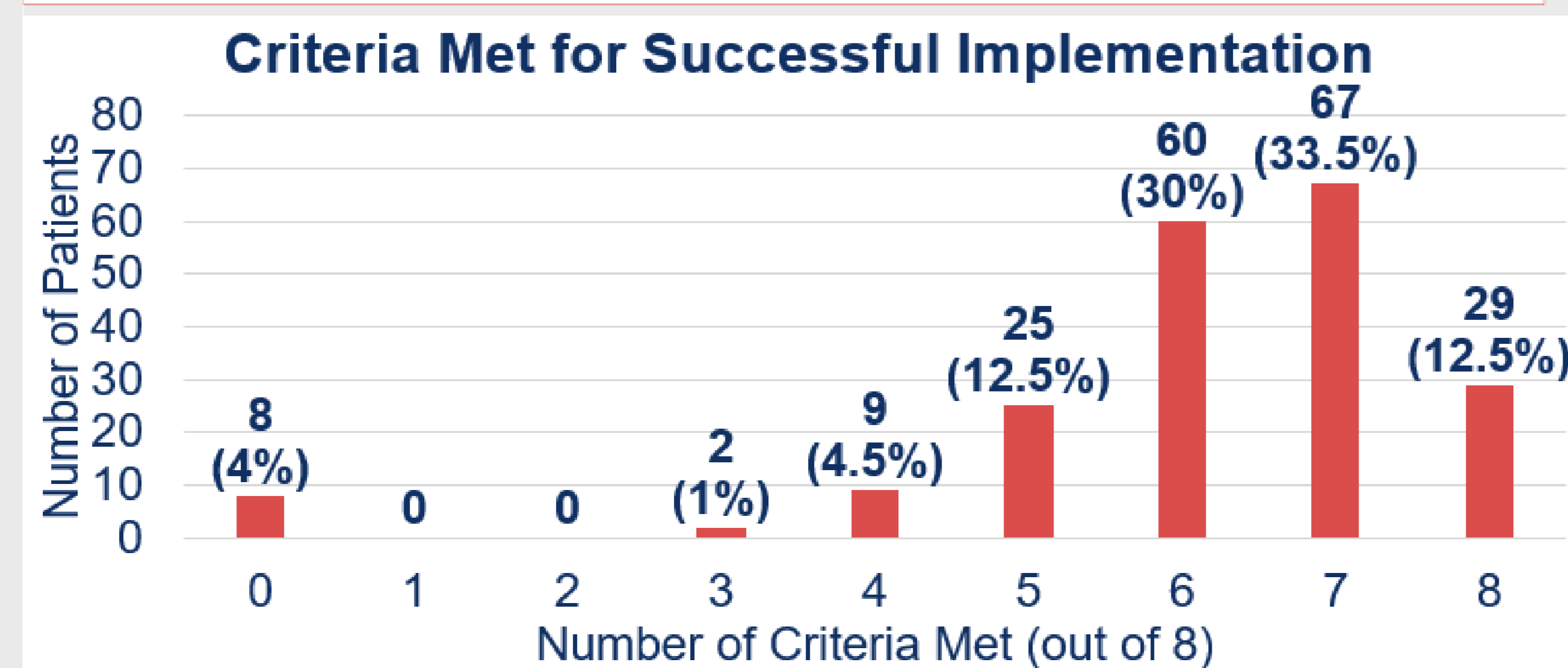
- Documentation of dose administration in the medication administration record (MAR) or nursing notes absent

- Convenience sample: 200 patients
- Successful implementation defined as meeting 6 of 8 predefined criteria
- Nova Scotia Health Research Ethics Board #1028843

RESULTS

Criteria for Successful Implementation

Individual Criteria	Frequency	Percent
1 Order Set Used	180/200	90.0%
2 Initial Loading Dose	145/200	72.5%
3 Infusion started immediately after loading dose	45/145	31.0%
4 Dose appropriate for renal function	171/200	85.5%
5 Documentation in MAR q6h for bag change or infusion section for treatment duration	183/200	91.5%
6 If changed to intermittent infusion regimen started within 3 hours of stopping prolonged infusion	21/52	40.4%
7 No incompatible medications via same IV lumen	168/200	84.0%
8 All interruptions handled correctly	31/47	66.0%



ICU Mortality and LOS

- 41/200 patients (20.5%) died in ICU
- 31/156 (19.9%) patients in the successful implementation and 10/44 (22.7%) in the unsuccessful implementation group died in ICU
- Median ICU LOS 4.9 days (IQR 2.4-10.7)

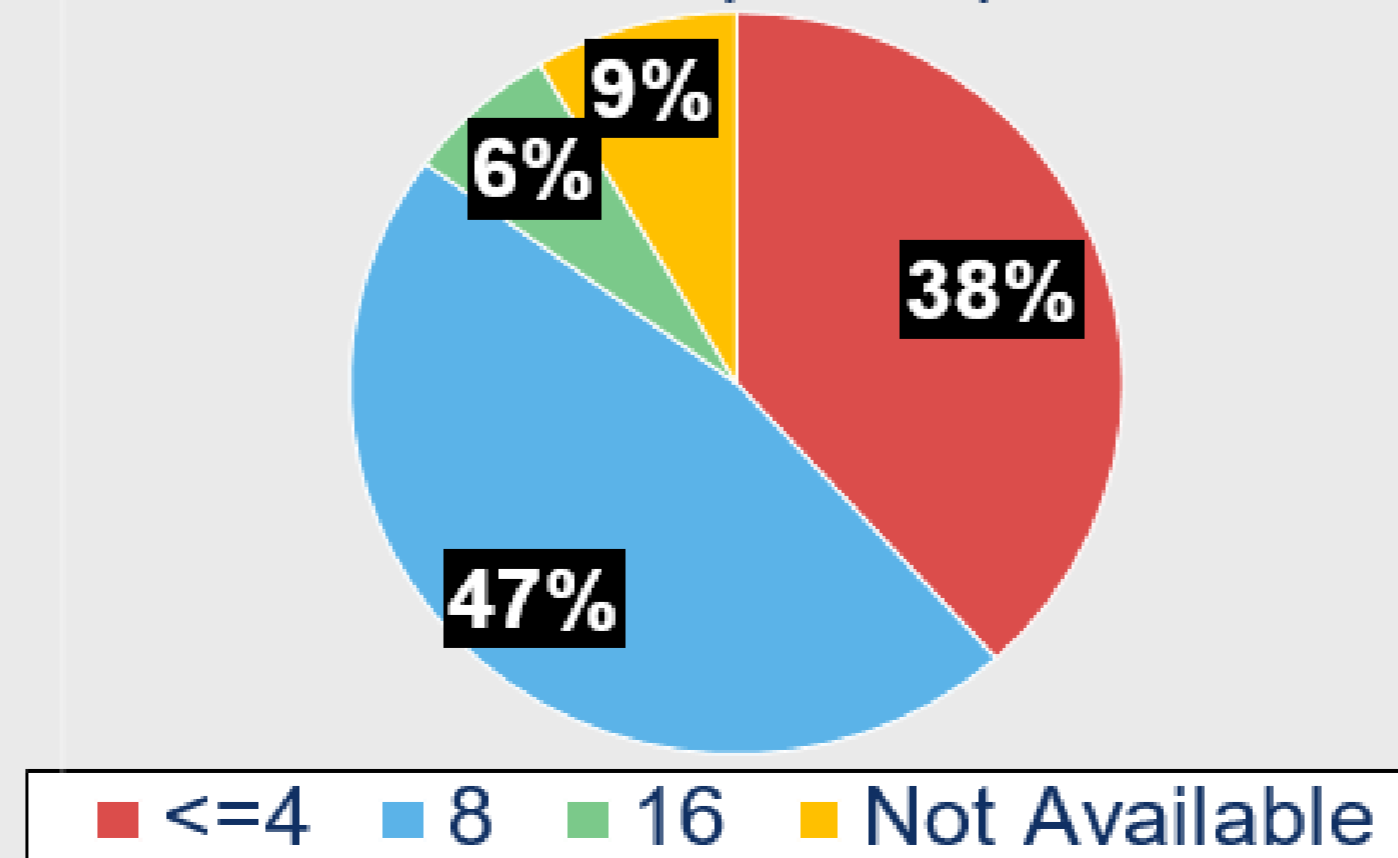
Safety Findings

- No safety incidents reported

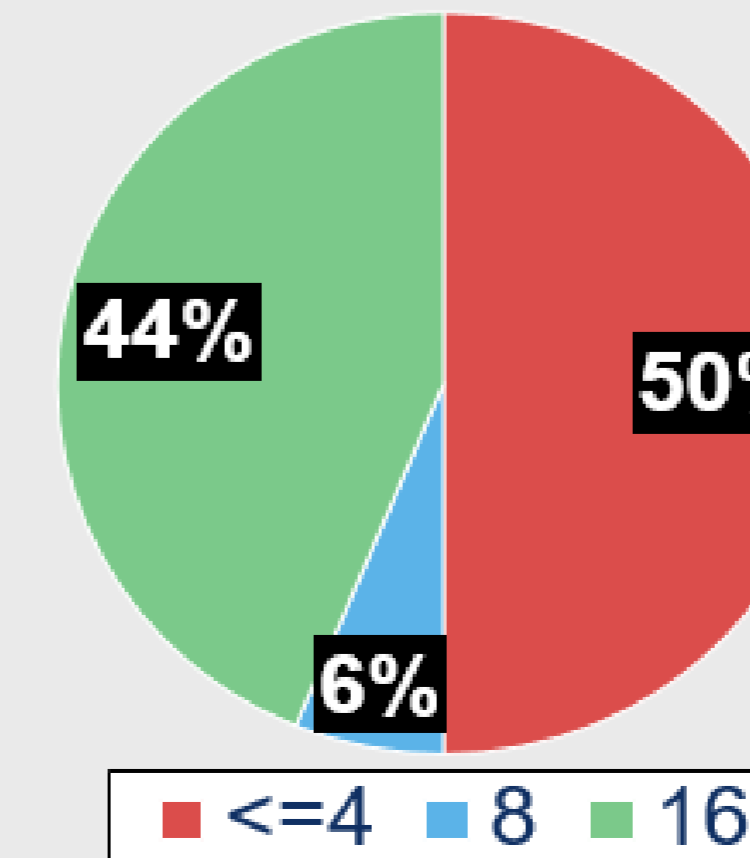
Microbiologic Data

- Prevalence of NF GNB 3.1%

Susceptible *Pseudomonas* MICs (n=68)



Susceptible *Acinetobacter* MICs (n=16)



CONCLUSION

- Prolonged infusion protocol implemented successfully in 78% of the cohort
- No safety incidents reported
- Findings similar to prior studies:
 - Patients not on unit as a cause of interruptions in therapy (6)

Strengths	Limitations
Safety Data	Sample Size
Multi-disciplinary collaboration	Missing Data

- Areas for improvement have been identified and include editing the order set and interprofessional education and collaboration

REFERENCES

- Rhodes A, Evans LE, Alhazzani W, Levy MM, Antonelli M, Ferrer R, et al. Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock. 2016. *Intensive Care Med.* 2017 Mar;43(3):304–77.
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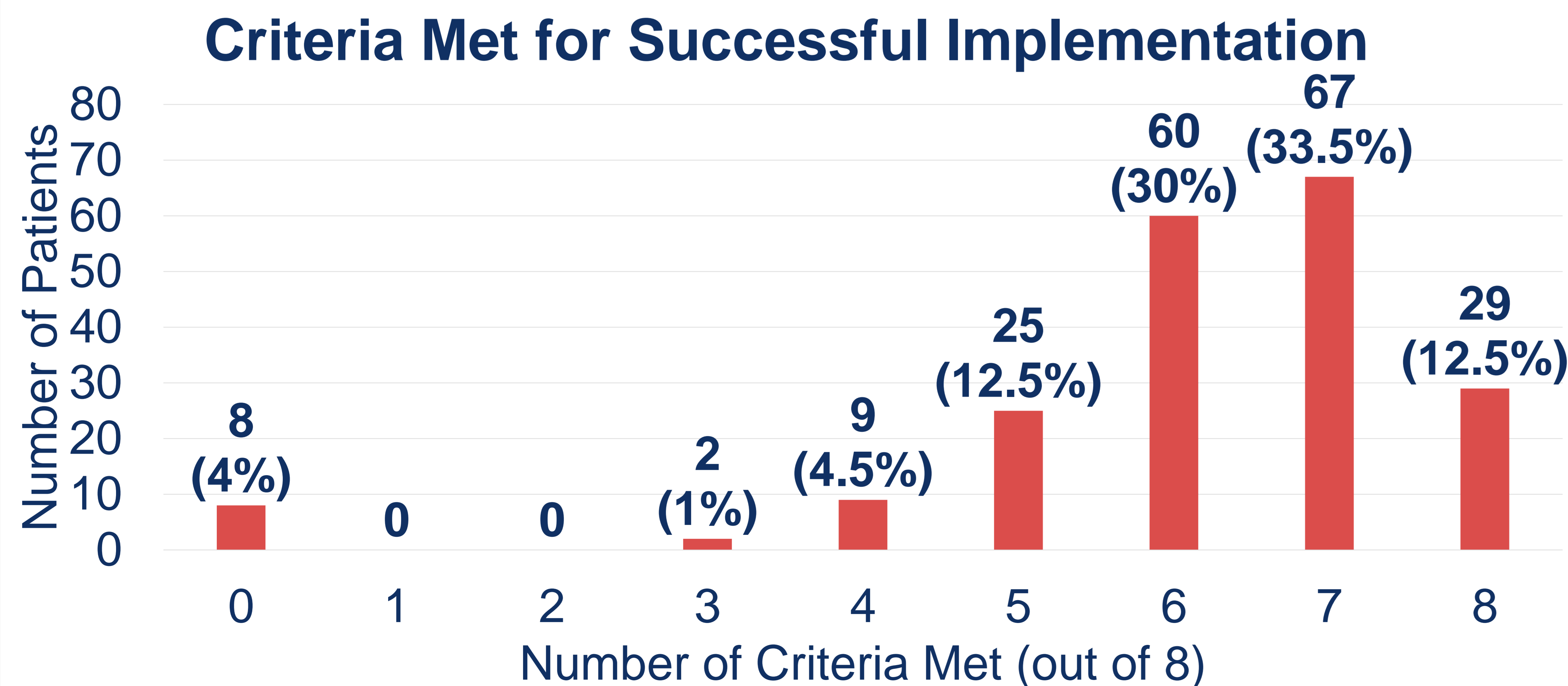
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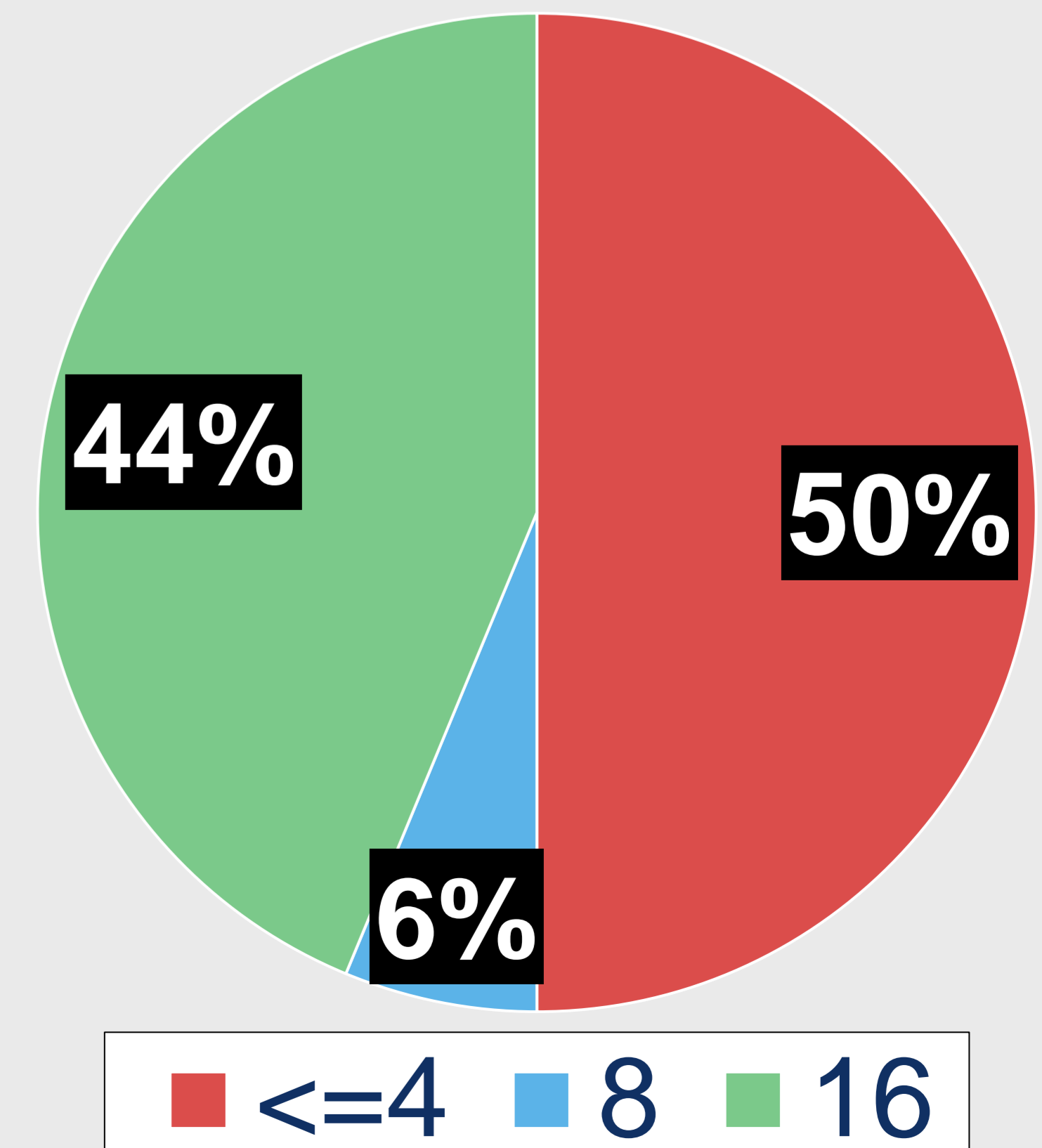
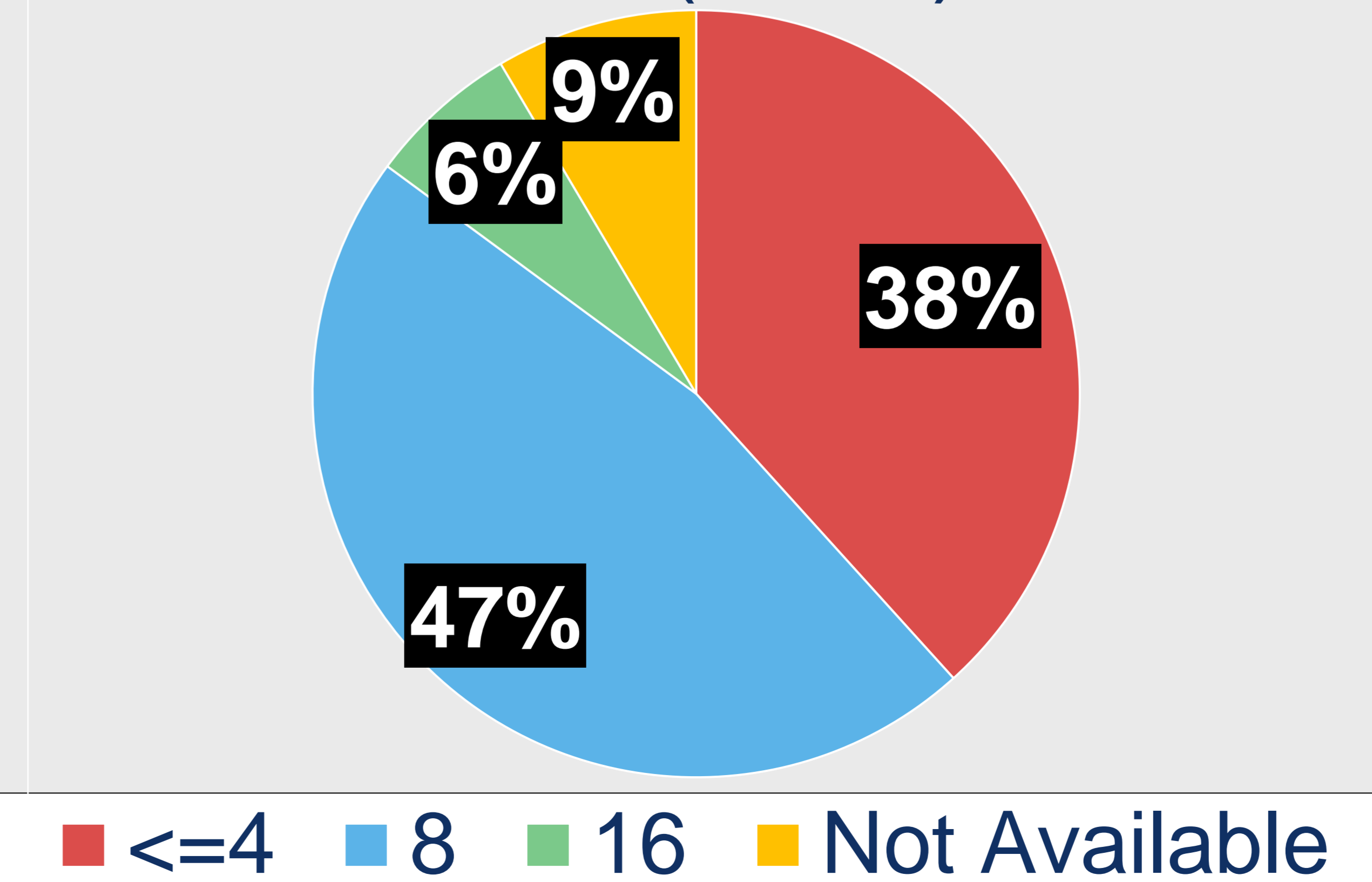
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RESULTS

Demographics

Characteristic	Frequency n=200 (%)
Male	118 (59.0%)
Immunocompromised	72 (36.0%)
Mean Age (Years)	59.6 (SD 16.3)
Median APACHE IV Score	38.7 (IQR 13.8 – 70.9)
Median Duration of Piperacillin-Tazobactam Therapy (Days)	1.98 (IQR 0.9 – 3.4)

Loading Doses

- 26 patients who did not receive loading dose were not ordered one.
- 19/26 received piperacillin-tazobactam prior to ICU admission, a median of 5.0 hours (IQR 3.3-9.5) earlier

Interruptions

HANDLING OF INTERRUPTIONS N = 75

