



# Adding value to administrative data: Research methods, research data

**Louisa Jorm**

Data linkage Research Conversation, Adelaide  
6 December 2013

## Potentially preventable hospitalisations by condition type, NSW, South Eastern Sydney LHD, 2009-10

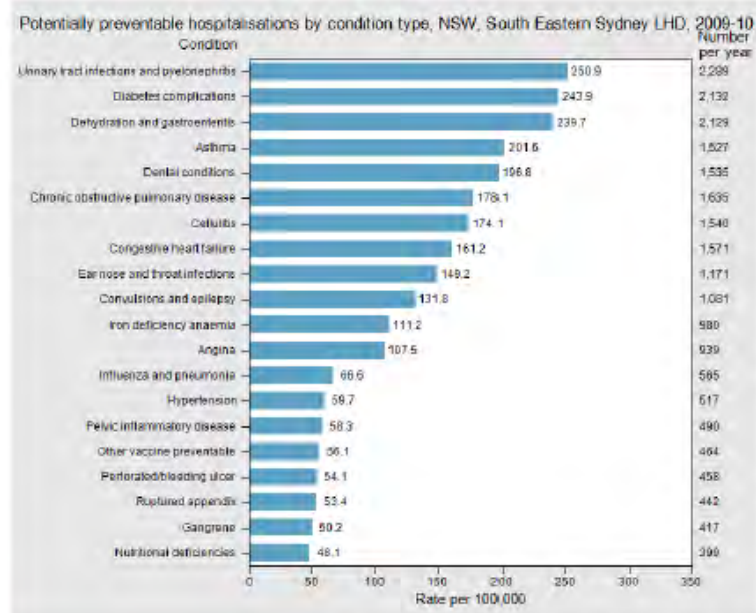


Table 3.11: Potentially avoidable hospitalisations<sup>1</sup> by sub-category/condition and Health Region, South Australia, 2005/06 and 2006/07  
Ratio of rates in each Health Region to State rate (based on data in Table 3.10)

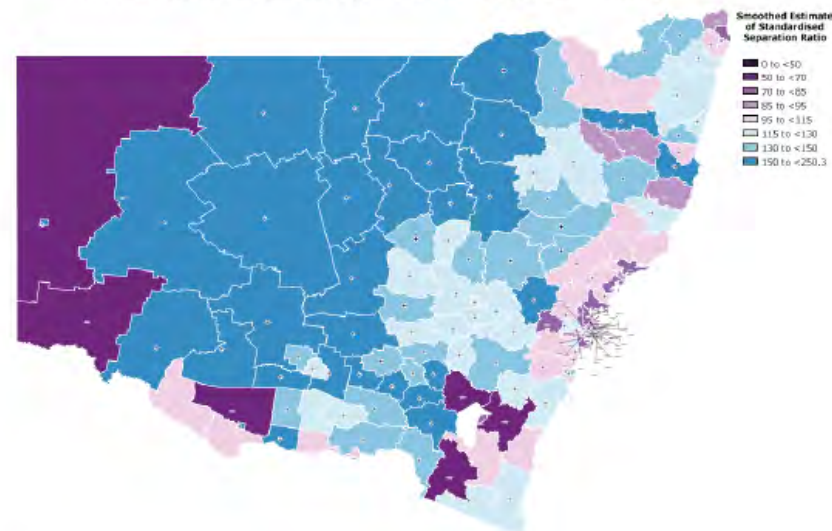
Health Region rate above State rate by: 50% or more, 25 to <50%, 10 to <25%

Sub-category/condition	Central Nthn Adelaide	Southern Adelaide	Hills Mallee Sthn	South East	Wakefield	Mid North	Riverland	Eyre	Northern & Far Western
Vaccine-preventable	0.95	0.82 <sup>1</sup>	1.15	0.60 <sup>1</sup>	1.09	0.95	0.71	1.95 <sup>1</sup>	1.24
Influenza and pneumonia	0.93	0.86	1.14	0.67	1.22	0.67	0.73	2.10 <sup>1</sup>	1.30
Other vaccine-preventable diseases	1.05	0.71	1.22	0.34	0.65	2.05	0.65	1.37	1.06
Chronic	0.90 <sup>1</sup>	0.97 <sup>1</sup>	0.93 <sup>1</sup>	1.07 <sup>1</sup>	1.02	1.62 <sup>1</sup>	1.11 <sup>1</sup>	1.16 <sup>1</sup>	1.61 <sup>1</sup>
Iron deficiency anaemia	0.84 <sup>1</sup>	1.65 <sup>1</sup>	0.79 <sup>1</sup>	0.92	0.88	0.49 <sup>1</sup>	0.57 <sup>1</sup>	0.29 <sup>1</sup>	0.92
Diabetes complications	0.90 <sup>1</sup>	0.90 <sup>1</sup>	0.86 <sup>1</sup>	1.08	1.01	1.67 <sup>1</sup>	1.13 <sup>1</sup>	1.17 <sup>1</sup>	1.76 <sup>1</sup>
Rheumatic heart disease	0.83	0.69	0.53	0.88	0.50	1.00	0.57	0.69	0.63
Hypertension	0.50 <sup>1</sup>	0.63 <sup>1</sup>	1.28	1.35	1.51 <sup>1</sup>	5.08 <sup>1</sup>	2.33 <sup>1</sup>	4.43 <sup>1</sup>	3.06 <sup>1</sup>
Congestive cardiac failure	0.89 <sup>1</sup>	0.97	0.99	1.23 <sup>1</sup>	1.12	1.47 <sup>1</sup>	1.13	1.57 <sup>1</sup>	1.51 <sup>1</sup>
Angina	0.96	0.75 <sup>1</sup>	1.10	1.35 <sup>1</sup>	1.24 <sup>1</sup>	1.50 <sup>1</sup>	1.17	1.09	1.18
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	0.94 <sup>1</sup>	1.00	0.86 <sup>1</sup>	0.95	0.90	1.53 <sup>1</sup>	1.08	1.09	2.14 <sup>1</sup>
Asthma	0.92 <sup>1</sup>	0.95	1.08	0.91	1.08	1.97 <sup>1</sup>	1.15	0.97	1.20
Acute	0.91 <sup>1</sup>	0.95 <sup>1</sup>	0.92 <sup>1</sup>	1.10 <sup>1</sup>	1.04	1.55 <sup>1</sup>	1.24 <sup>1</sup>	1.16 <sup>1</sup>	1.60 <sup>1</sup>
Dehydration and gastroenteritis	0.80 <sup>1</sup>	0.96	1.07	1.80 <sup>1</sup>	1.20 <sup>1</sup>	1.86 <sup>1</sup>	1.23 <sup>1</sup>	1.12	1.67 <sup>1</sup>
Convulsions and epilepsy	0.93 <sup>1</sup>	0.79 <sup>1</sup>	0.99	0.85	1.13	1.38 <sup>1</sup>	1.26	1.50 <sup>1</sup>	2.22 <sup>1</sup>
Ear, nose and throat infections	0.88 <sup>1</sup>	0.99	0.96	0.91	1.03	1.91	1.26	1.44	1.52
Dental conditions	0.97	0.93 <sup>1</sup>	0.85 <sup>1</sup>	0.85 <sup>1</sup>	0.97	1.21	1.50 <sup>1</sup>	0.96	1.66 <sup>1</sup>
Perforated/bleeding ulcer	1.08	0.90	0.75	0.88	1.09	0.99	0.89	0.61	0.77
Appendicitis	0.92	1.15	1.22	0.99	0.61	1.56	1.00	0.62	0.91
Cellulitis	0.87 <sup>1</sup>	0.99	0.88	1.28 <sup>1</sup>	1.17 <sup>1</sup>	1.80 <sup>1</sup>	1.20	1.21	1.41 <sup>1</sup>
Pyelonephritis (includes urinary tract infections)	1.01	0.97	0.83 <sup>1</sup>	0.86	0.90	1.38 <sup>1</sup>	0.96	1.00	1.21
Pelvic inflammatory disease	0.91	1.08	0.74	1.14	0.88	1.18	1.17	1.18	2.06 <sup>1</sup>
Gangrene	1.00	1.15	0.66	1.26	0.48 <sup>1</sup>	0.70	1.00	1.02	1.54
Total avoidable admissions	0.91 <sup>1</sup>	0.96 <sup>1</sup>	0.93 <sup>1</sup>	1.08 <sup>1</sup>	1.03 <sup>1</sup>	1.58 <sup>1</sup>	1.16 <sup>1</sup>	1.17 <sup>1</sup>	1.59 <sup>1</sup>

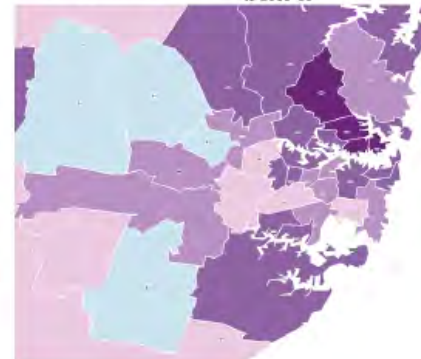
<sup>1</sup> Admissions resulting from ACS conditions

## Potentially preventable hospitalisations by Local Government Area, NSW, 2008-09 to 2009-10

Potentially preventable hospitalisations by Local Government Area, NSW, 2008-09 to 2009-10



Potentially preventable hospitalisations by Local Government Area, NSW, 2008-09 to 2009-10

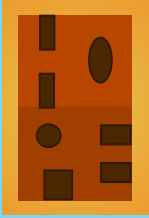


### Sources

NSW Admitted Patient Data Collection and ABS population estimates (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

# Adding value

- Applying new methods to linked administrative data
  - example: the IHOPE Study
- Linking research datasets to administrative data
  - example: the APHID Study

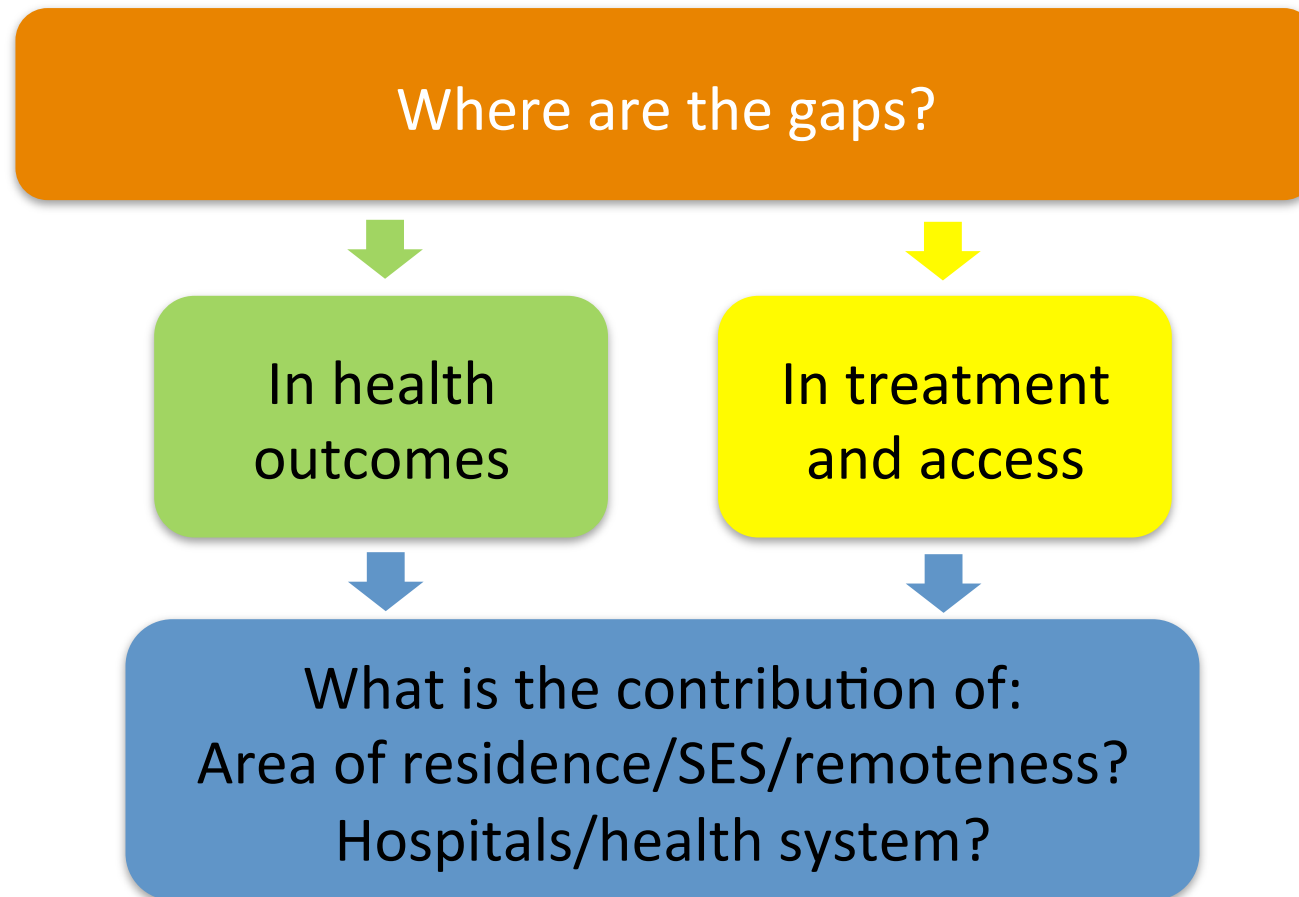


# IHOPE

- Indigenous Health Outcomes Patient Evaluation
  - funded by NHMRC project grant #573113
  - CIs: Louisa Jorm, Alastair Leyland, Tim Churches, Mary Haines, Sandra Eades, Sanja Lujic
  - Researchers: Deborah Randall, Michael Falster, Tim Harrold, Tracie Reinten, Holger Möller, Kathleen Falster
  - Community and policy reference group

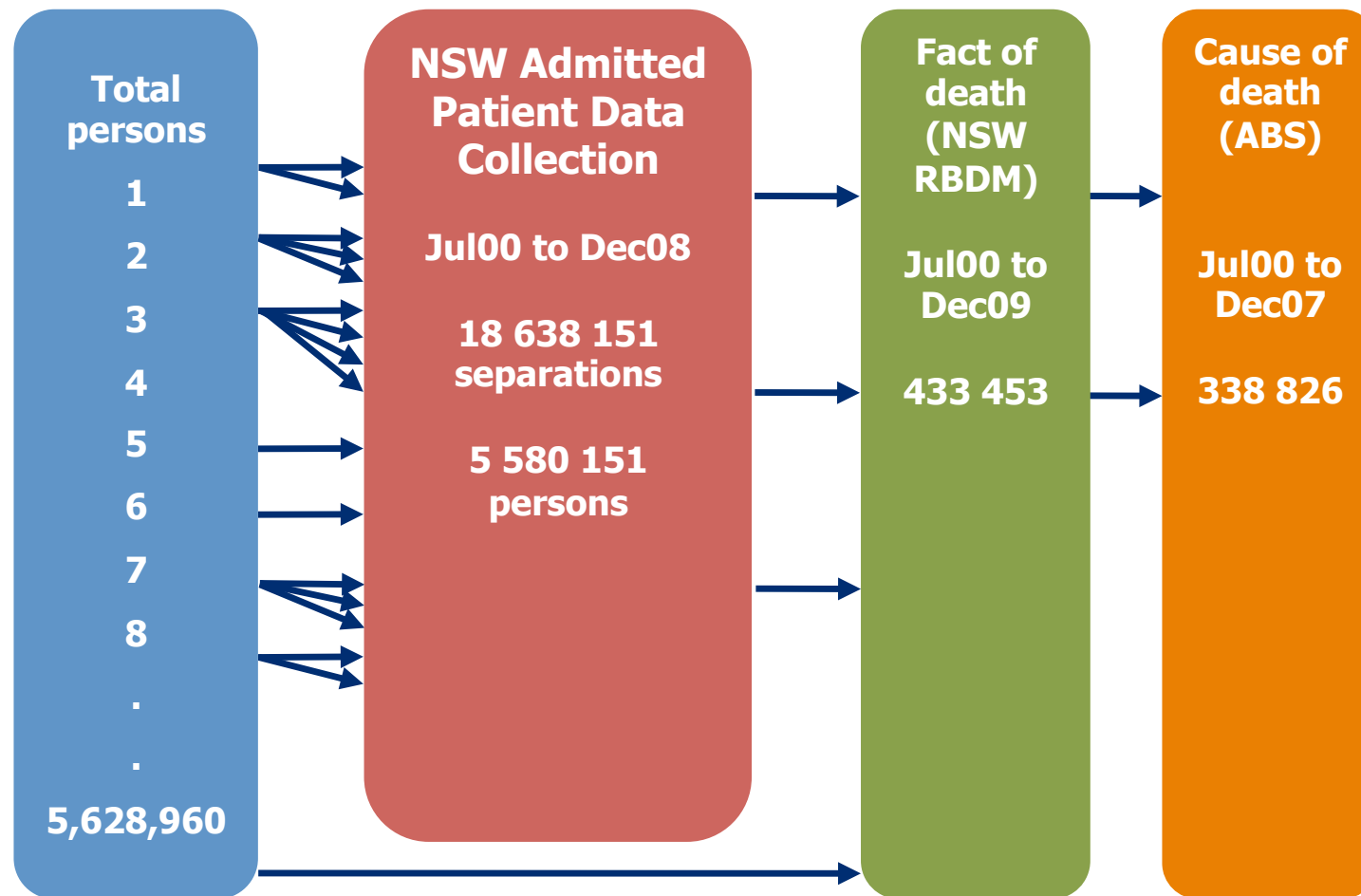
# Aims of the IHOPE project

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# Methods: IHOPE data

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# Research areas to date

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- Heart disease
- Transport injuries
- Dental procedures
- Cataract procedures
- Otitis media procedures in children
- Potentially preventable hospitalisations
- Improving identification of Aboriginal people using linked data

# Methods: multilevel modelling

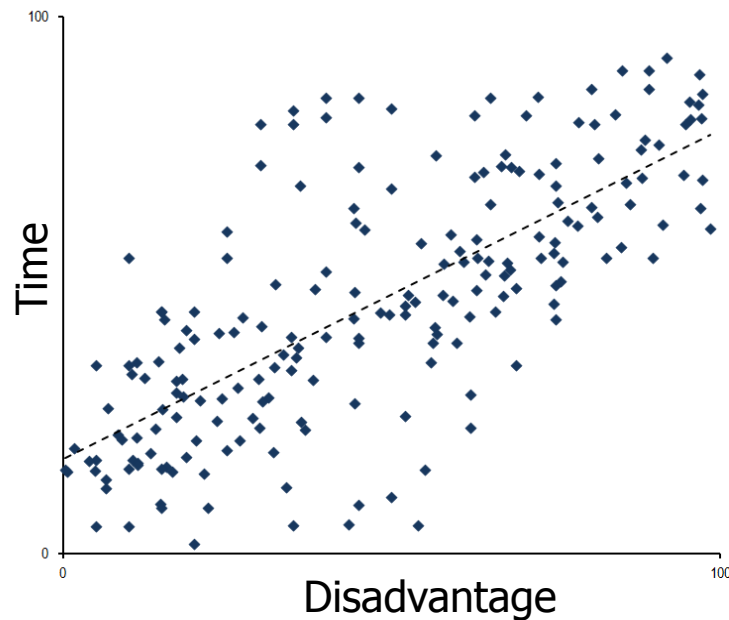
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- Models data that are clustered
  - eg live in same neighbourhood, go to the same hospital, same classroom
  - more similar than those in other areas, hospitals, classrooms because of shared exposure (often unmeasured)
  - can impact on standard errors and parameter estimates if not taken into account
  
- Particular issue for Aboriginal health research
  - geographic distribution of Aboriginal people
  - ~40% of Aboriginal people live in major cities compared with ~70% of non-Aboriginal people



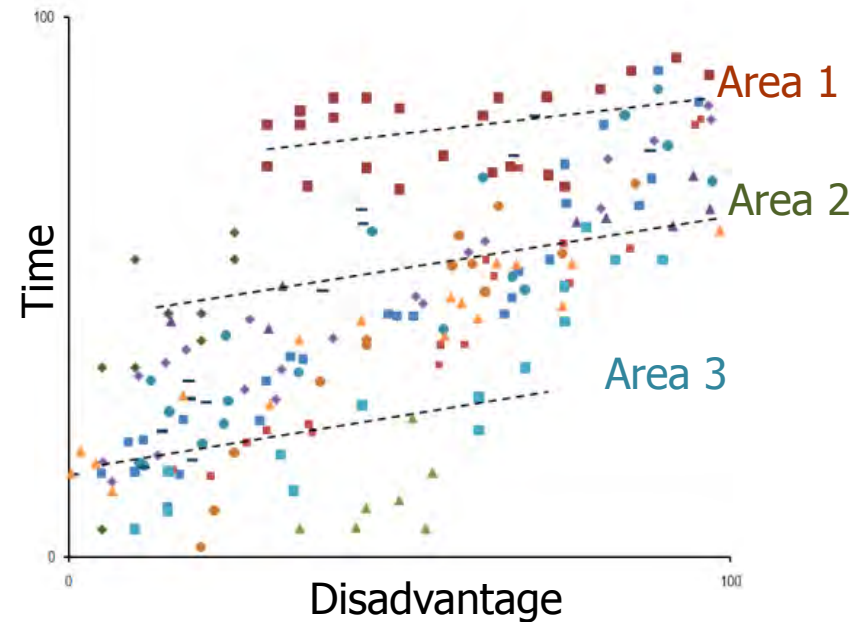
# How is multilevel modelling different?

Single level regression model



Fits an average association

Multilevel regression model  
(random intercept)



Strength of association may vary  
between areas

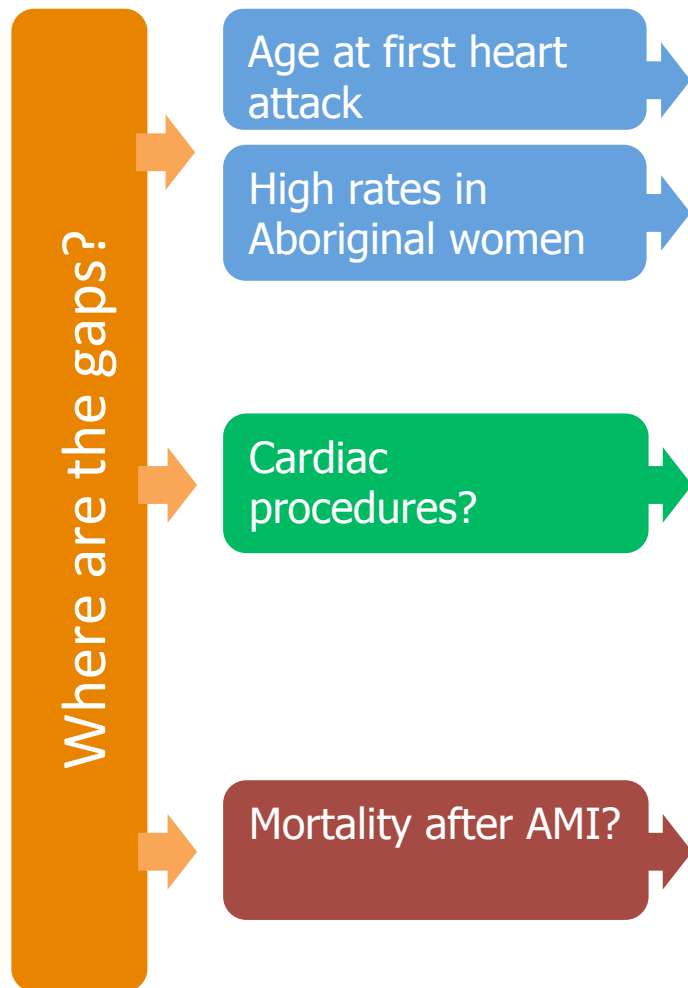
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## Summary of selected IHOPE findings

- acute myocardial infarction
- serious road traffic injuries
- cataract procedures

# Acute myocardial infarction

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# Characteristics of people admitted to hospital with AMI

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	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal
Average age	54 yo	66 yo
Current smokers	51%	27%
Private health insurance	16%	45%
Live in most disadvantaged areas	48%	26%
First admitted to:		
- major city hospital	33%	67%
- hospital with specialist cardiac facilities	27%	44%

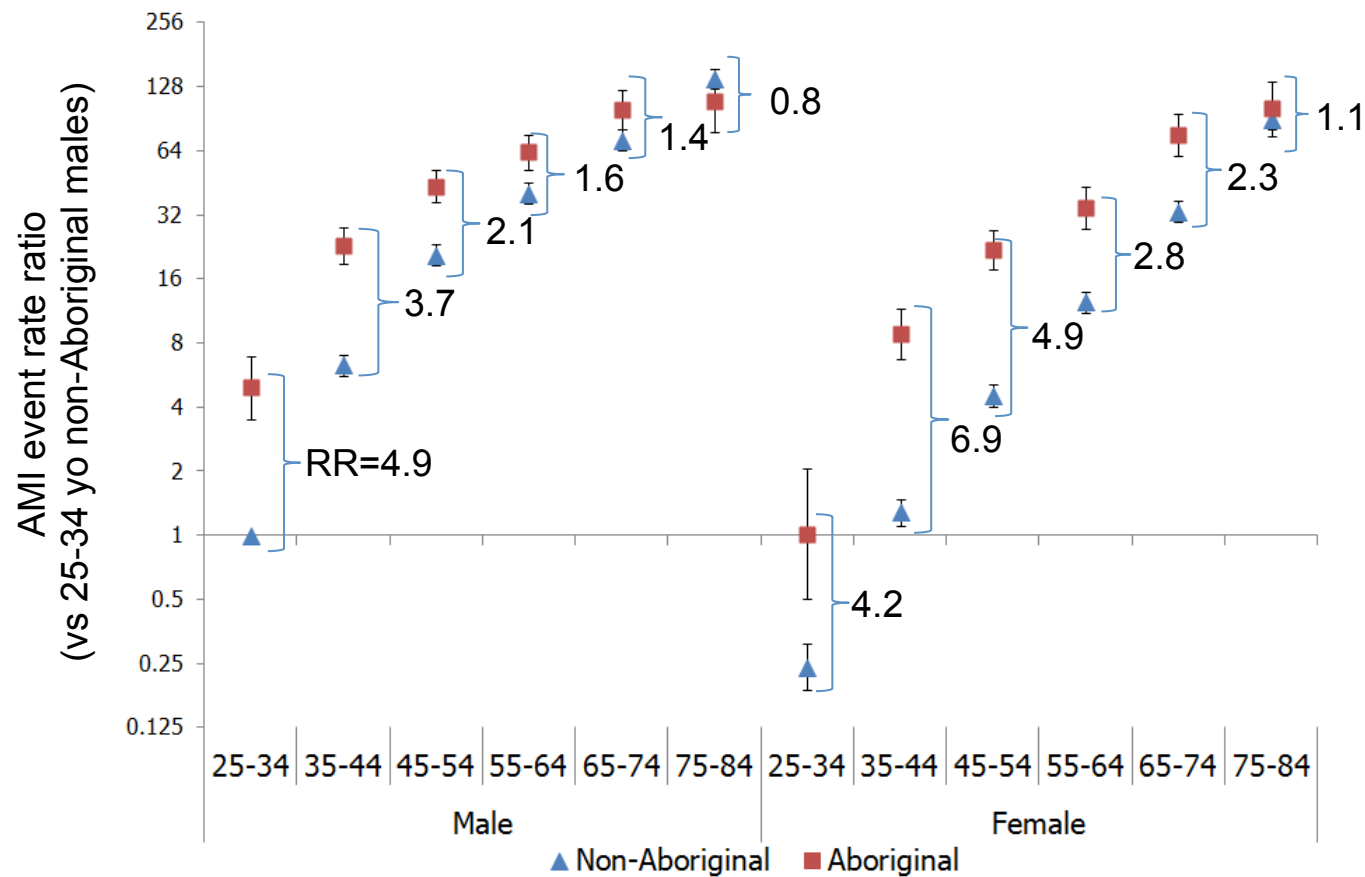
## Findings: AMI incidence rates

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- The age-standardised incidence of AMI in NSW between 2002 and 2007 was:
  - 464 per 100,000 for Aboriginal people
  - 234 per 100,000 for non-Aboriginal people
- An Aboriginal person has 2.1 (2.0-2.2) times the risk of an AMI as a non-Aboriginal person of the same age, sex and year of event, from the same area of residence

# Findings: AMI incidence rates

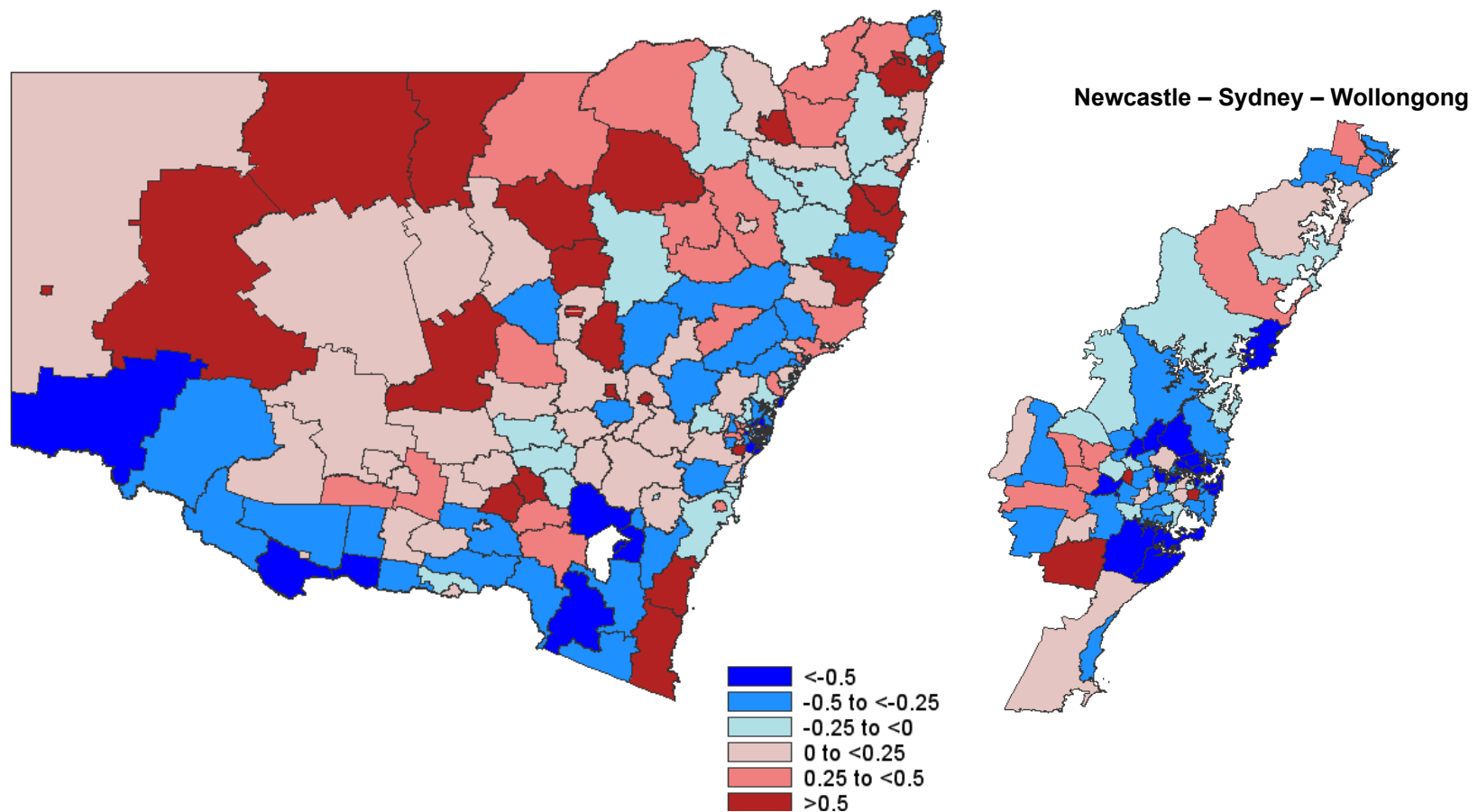
*The disparity is greatest in younger age groups and for females*



# Where are the higher rates for Aboriginal people?

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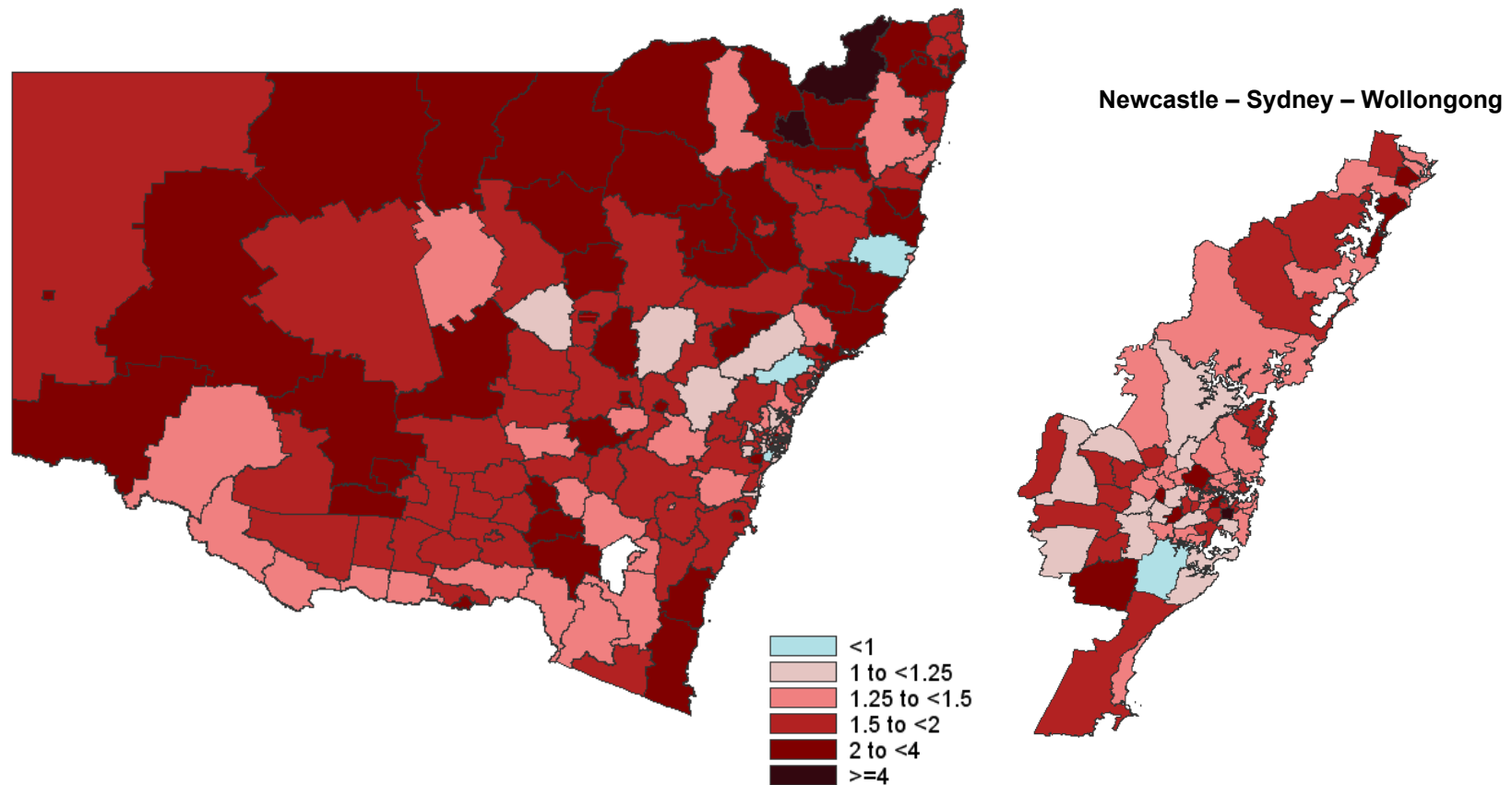
*Rates of AMI for Aboriginal people vary by Statistical Local Area, with higher rates generally in regional and rural areas*



# Where is the higher disparity for Aboriginal people?

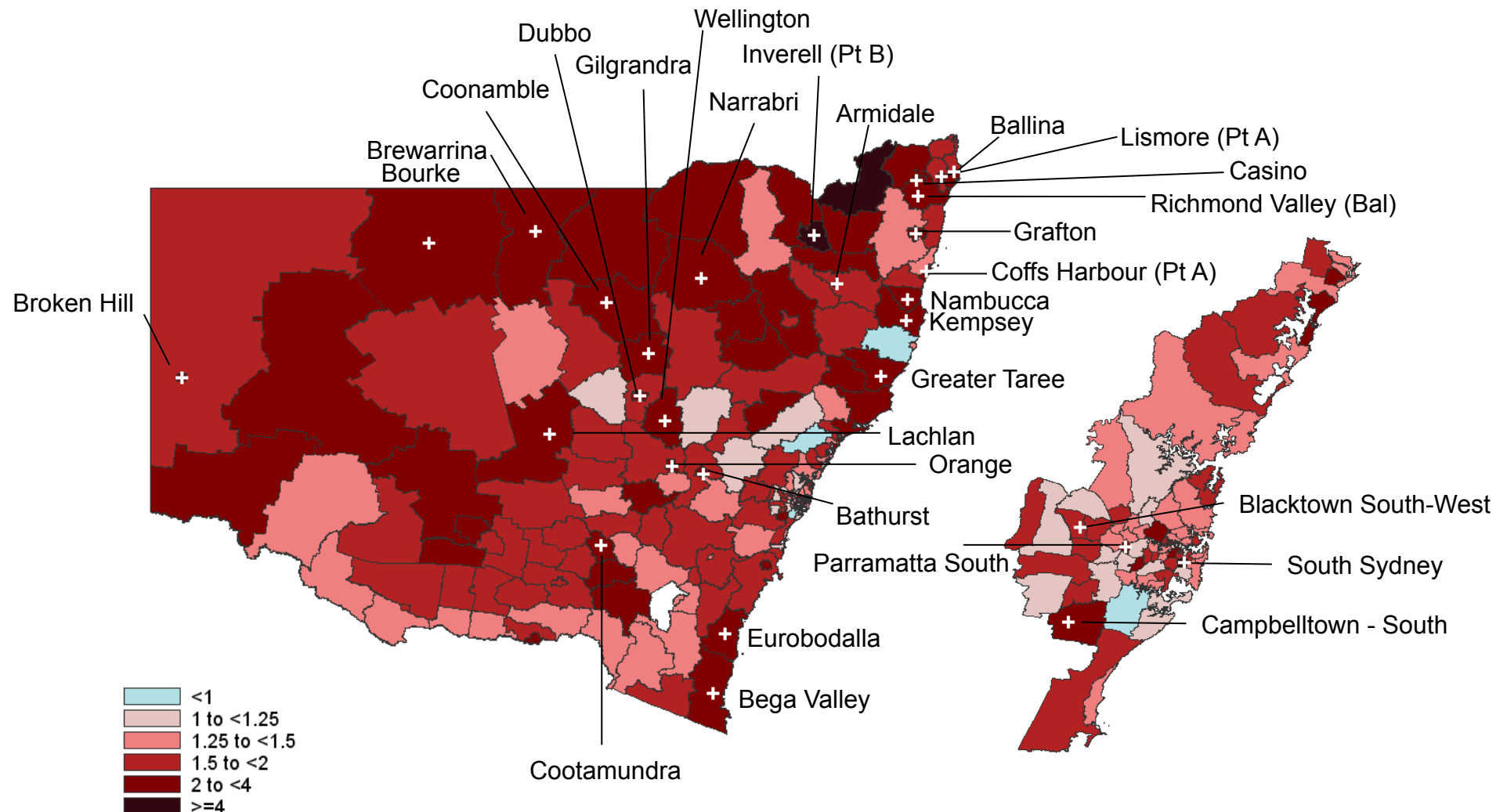
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*Almost all areas in NSW have a higher incidence of AMI for Aboriginal people compared with non-Aboriginal people*





# “High incidence, high disparity” areas

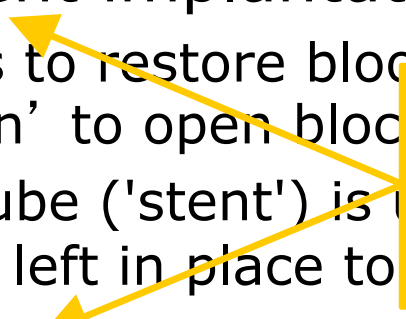


# Treatments for AMI

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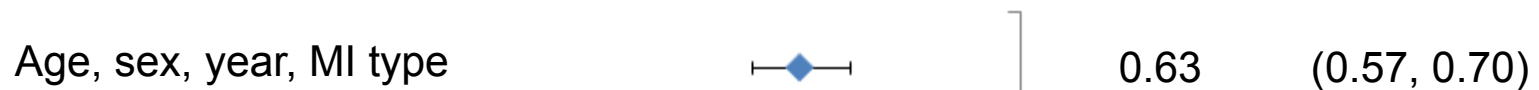
- Thrombolysis or fibrinolysis
  - clot-dissolving medicines administered directly into the blood stream
- Angioplasty and stent implantation
  - procedure that aims to restore blood flow to the heart with a 'balloon' to open blocked arteries
  - expandable metal tube ('stent') is placed at the site, expanded, and left in place to keep the artery open
- Coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG)
  - procedure where blood flow is redirected around a narrowed area in one or more coronary arteries, allowing blood to flow more freely to heart muscle

Revascularisation  
procedures

A yellow box with the text 'Revascularisation procedures' has two yellow arrows pointing from it to the text 'Angioplasty and stent implantation' and 'Coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG)' in the list above.

# Disparity in revascularisation rates

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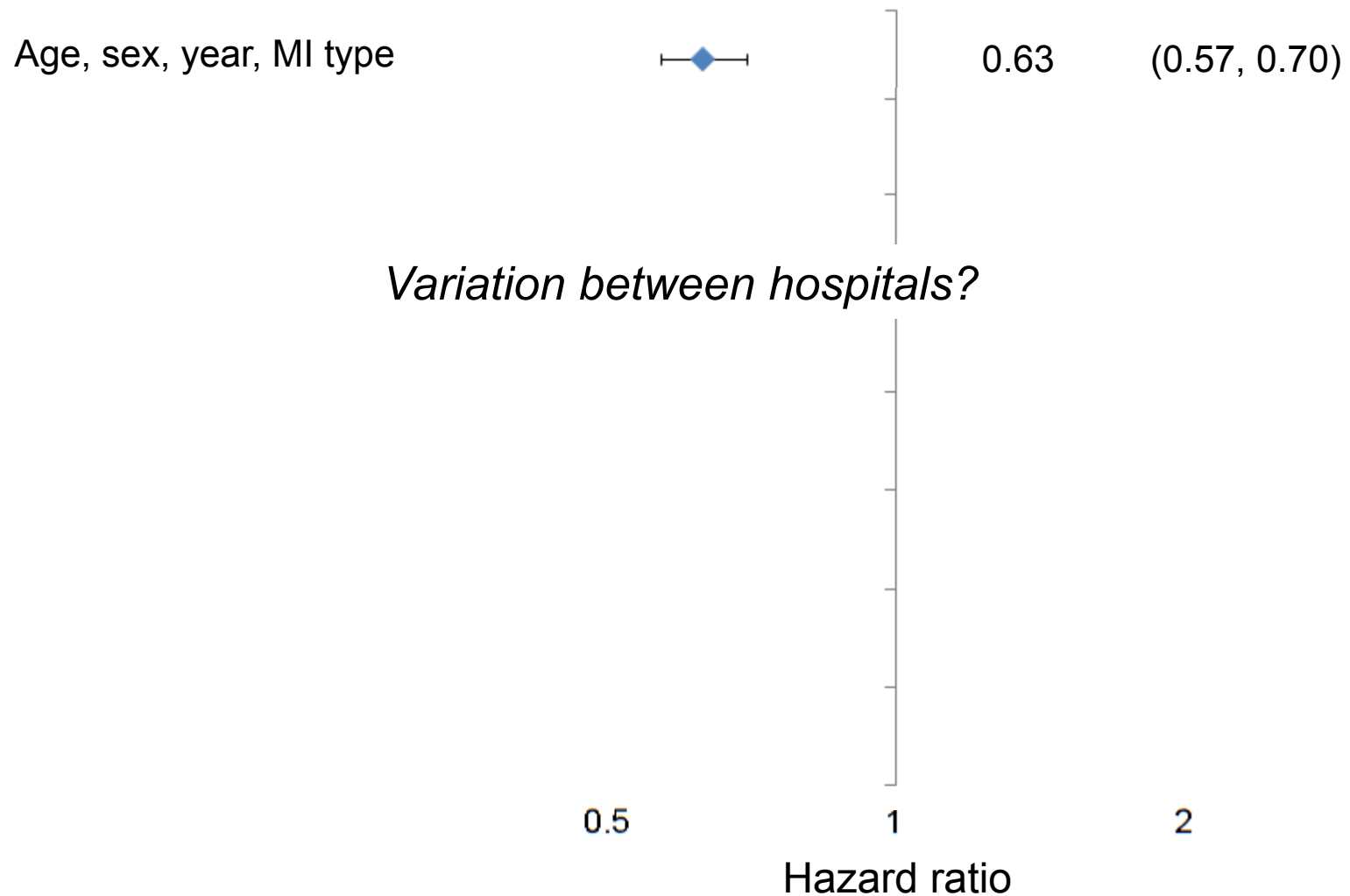
*An Aboriginal person in NSW has a **37%** lower hazard of revascularisation within 30 days of AMI than a non-Aboriginal person of the same age, sex, year of admission and AMI type*

0.5                      1                      2

Hazard ratio

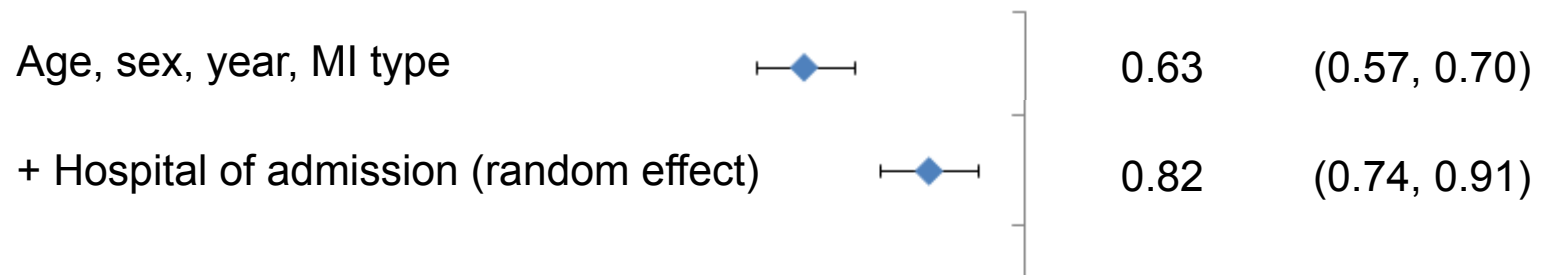
# What factors are influencing this gap?

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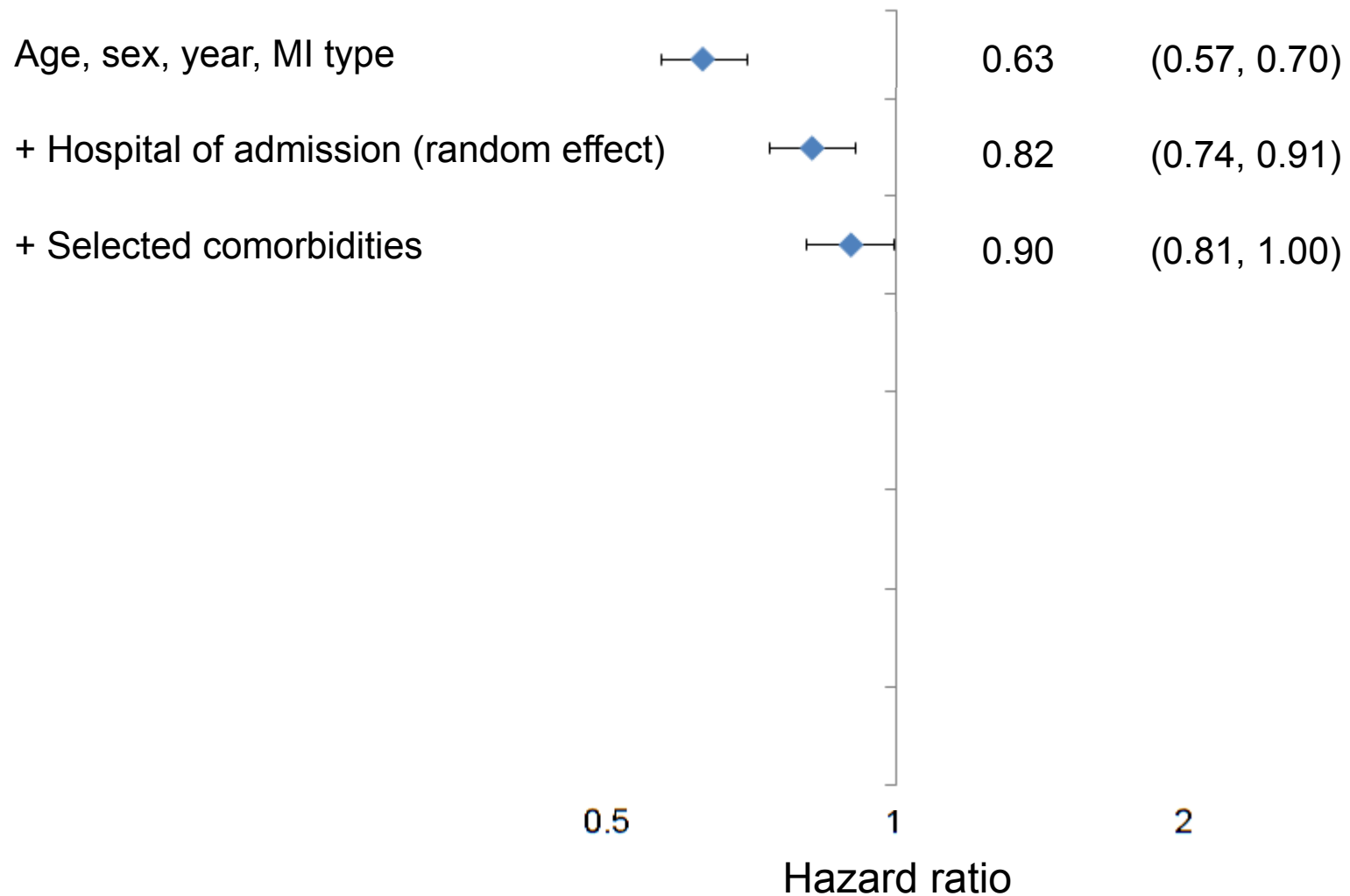


*Once we compare within hospitals, the disparity reduces - an Aboriginal person has a **18%** lower hazard of revascularisation than a non-Aboriginal person of the same age, sex, year of admission, AMI type, admitted to the same hospital*

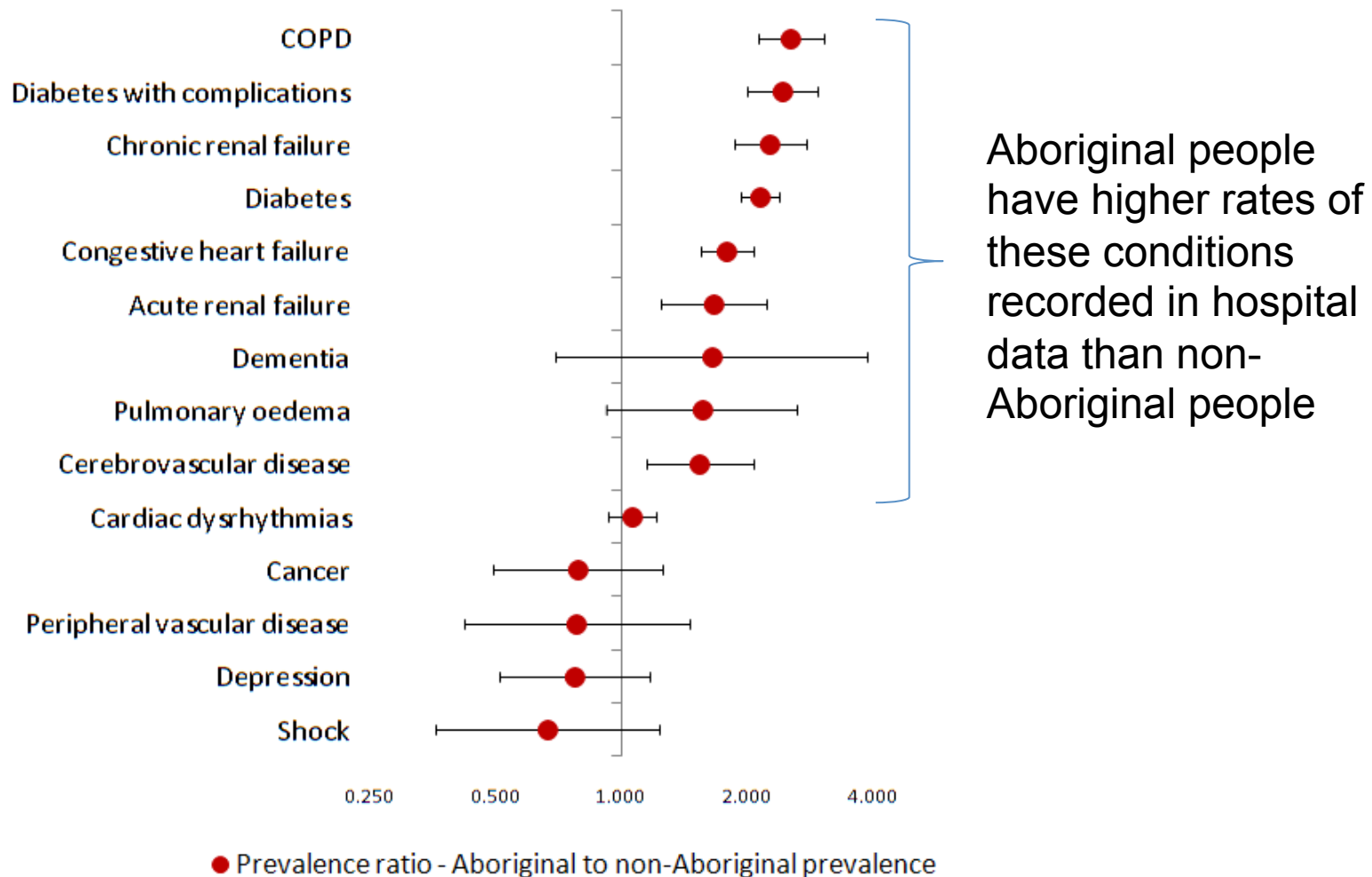
0.5                      1                      2  
Hazard ratio

# What factors are influencing this gap?

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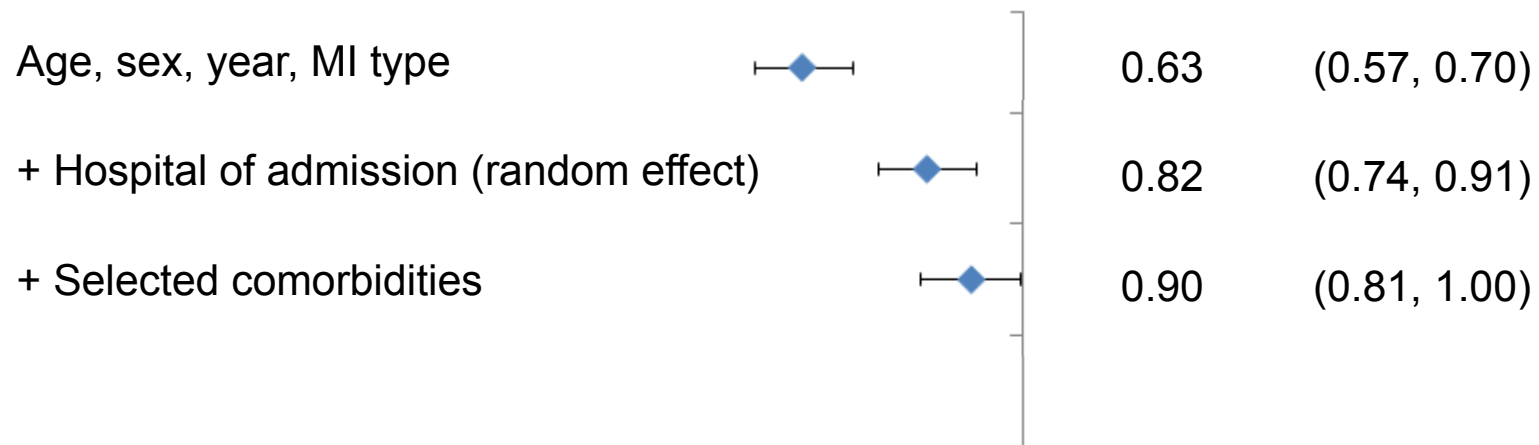


# Comorbidity burden on admission



# What factors are influencing this gap?

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*Once we adjust for comorbidities the gap is further reduced*

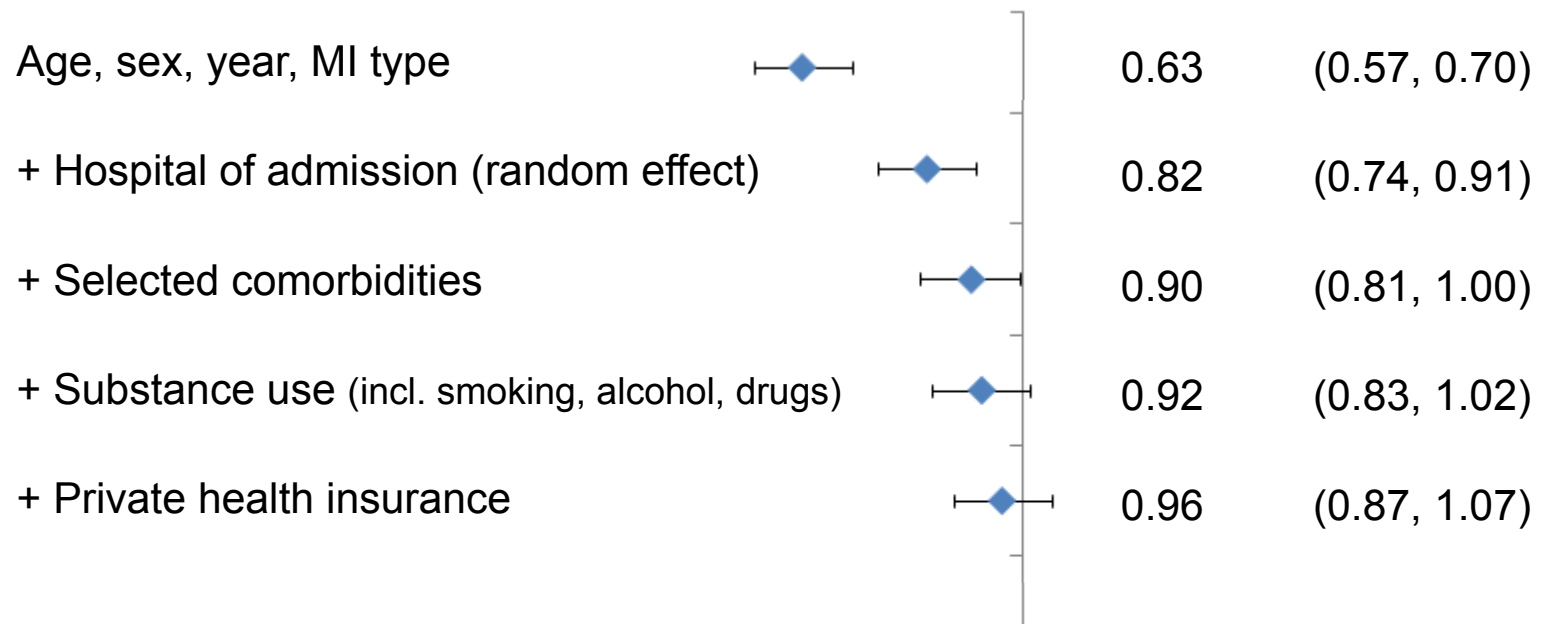
0.5                      1                      2

Hazard ratio



# What factors are influencing this gap?

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*After adjusting for substance use and private health insurance,  
there is no longer a significant difference*

0.5



1

2



Hazard ratio

# Findings: Mortality after AMI admission

## Mortality within 30-days

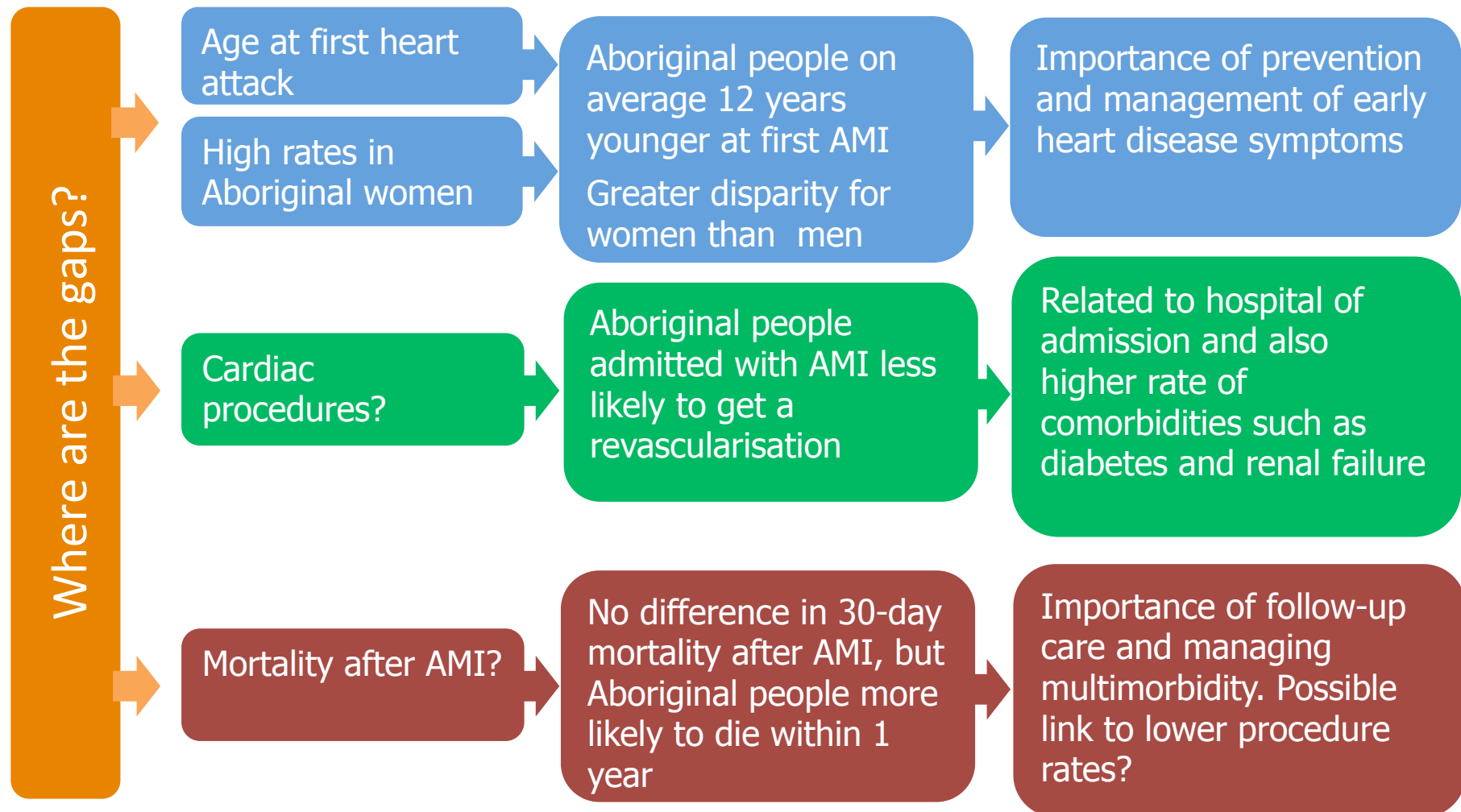
Adjusted for:	Aboriginal to non-Aboriginal OR (95% CI)	
+ Age, sex, year, hospital of admission	1.07 (0.83-1.37)	 No significant
		 No significant difference

## Mortality within 365-days

Adjusted for:	Aboriginal to non-Aboriginal OR (95% CI)	
+ Age, sex, year, hospital of admission	1.34 (1.10-1.63)	 Aboriginal patients more
		 No longer significant difference

# Summary - Acute myocardial infarction

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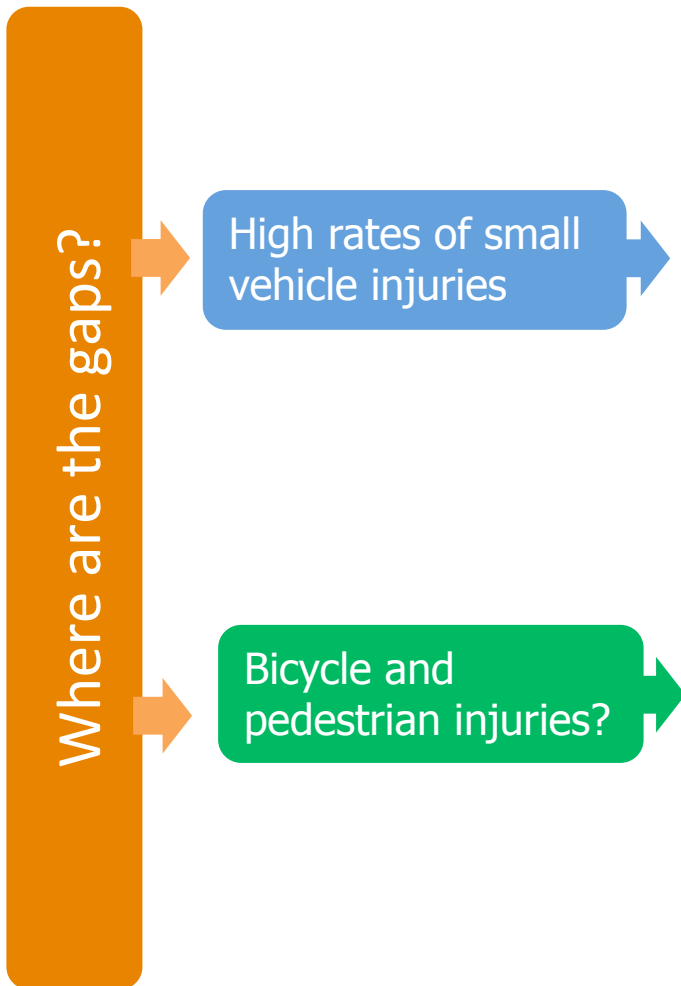
# Outcomes to date

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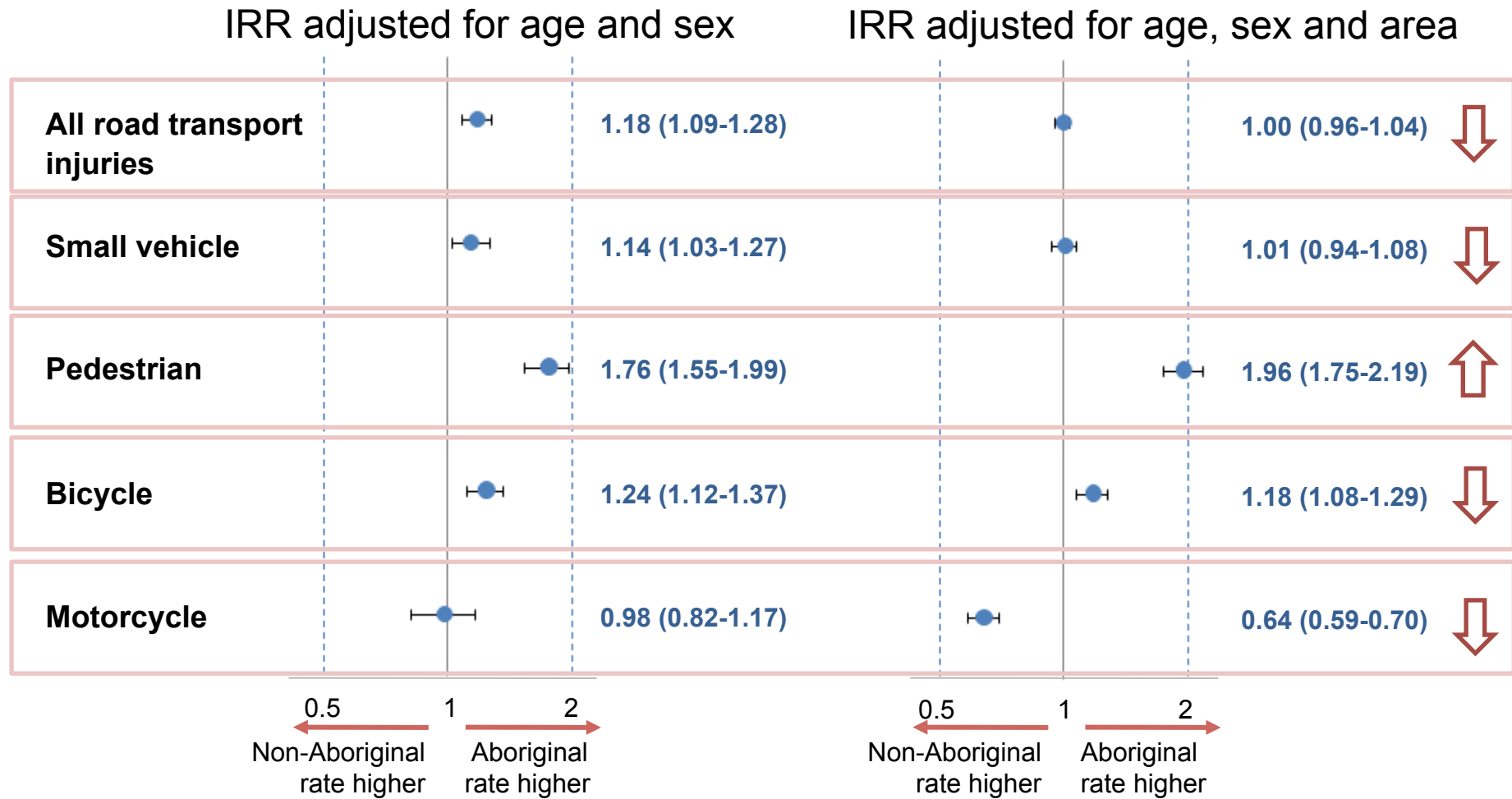
- Impact of Aboriginal identification algorithms on disparities published in *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*
- Mortality outcomes paper published in *BMC Public Health*
- Revascularisation paper published in *Circulation*
- Incidence rates paper under review (*Health and Place*)
- Presented findings on procedure rates to the Chief Health Officer and the Centre for Aboriginal Health at the Ministry of Health

# Serious road traffic injuries

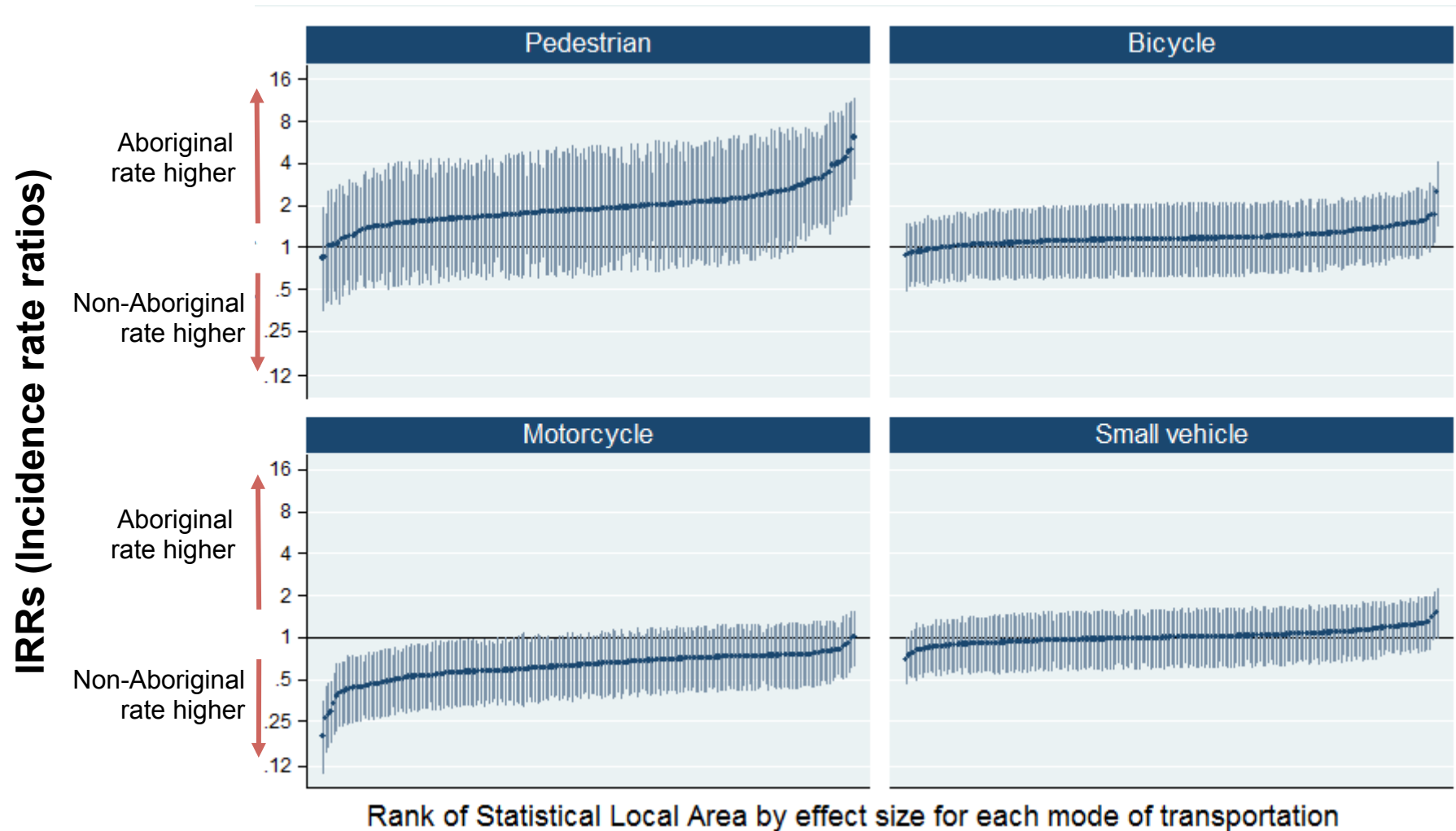
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# Is there a disparity in injury rates?

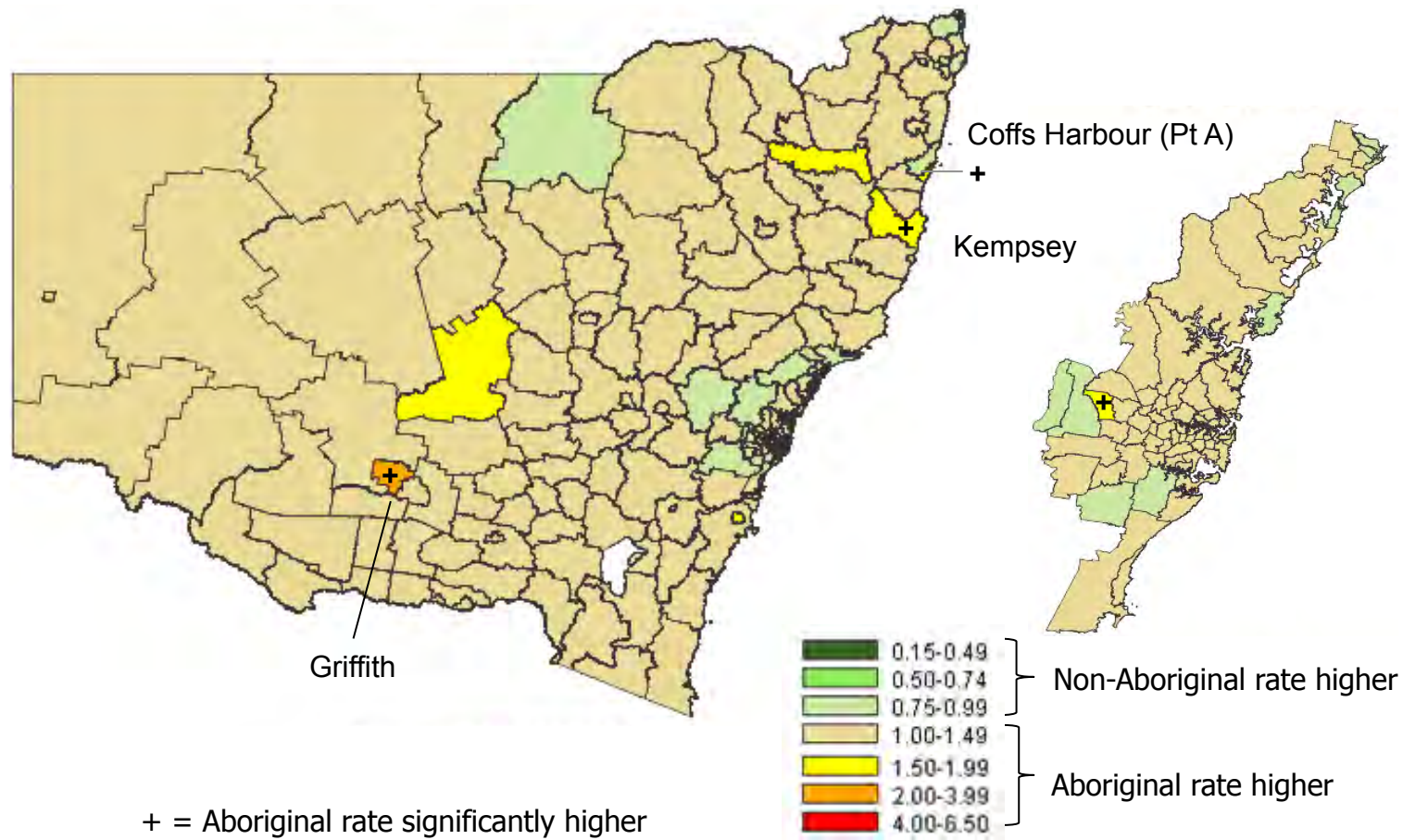


# Serious road traffic injury disparities by area



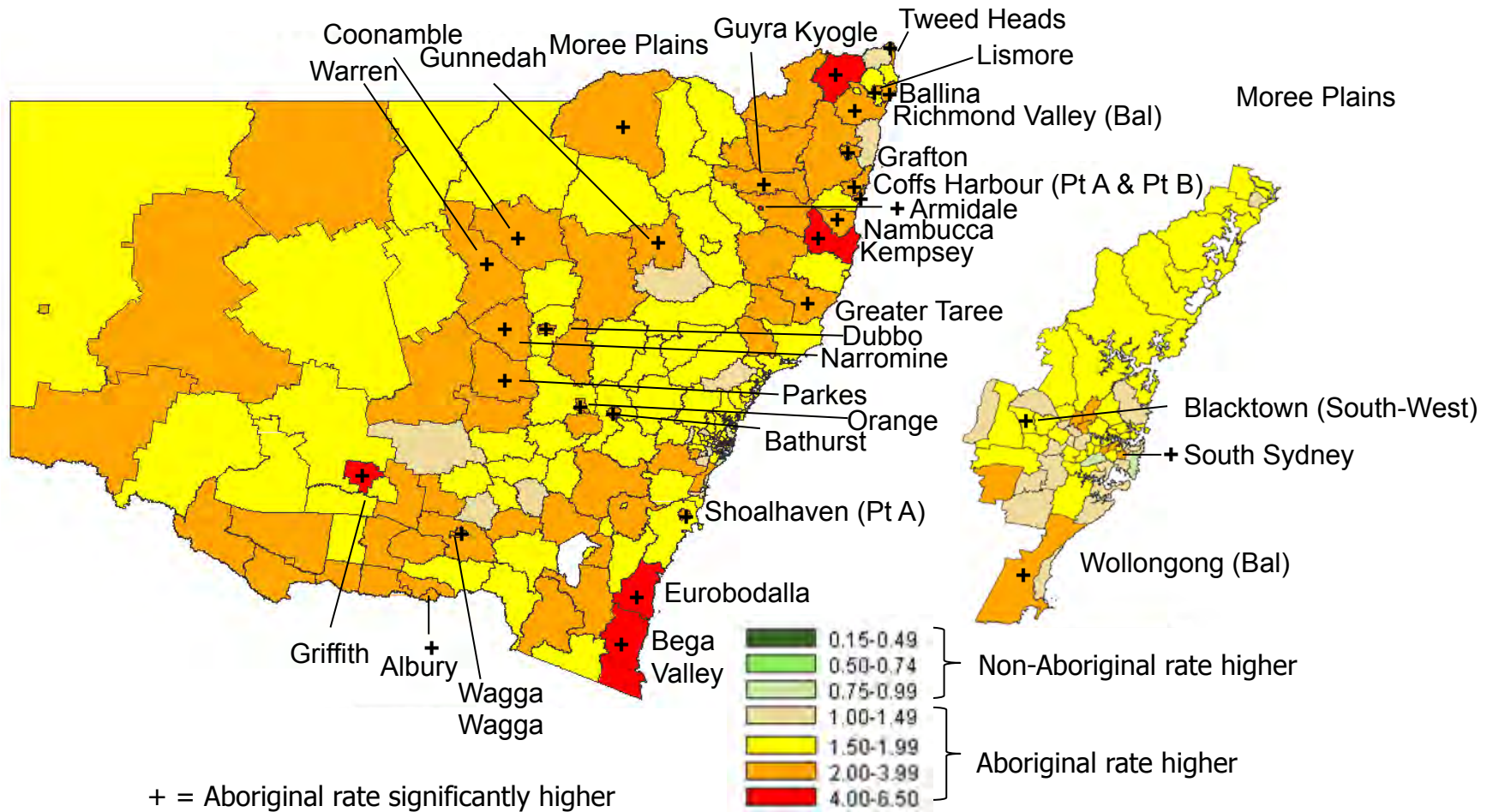
# Bicycling injury rate ratio

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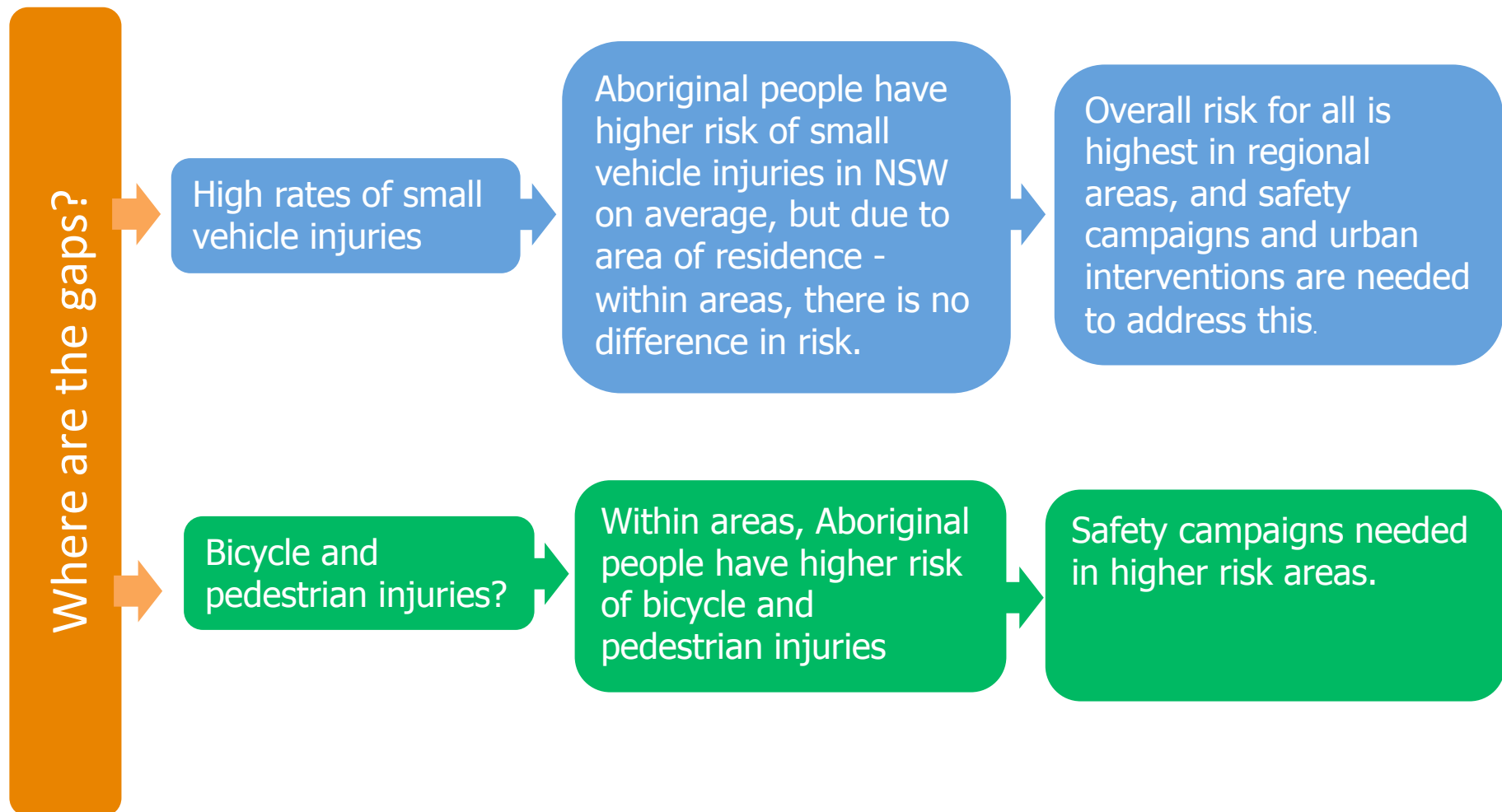


# Pedestrian injury rate ratio



# Summary - Serious road traffic injuries

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# Outcomes to date

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- Presentation to IHOPE reference group
  - how to work with specific local communities with high rates?
- Paper published in *Accident Analysis and Prevention*
  - linked to by the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet website
- Presentation to NSW cross-Agency Aboriginal policy committee scheduled
- PhD student working on more detailed analysis of childhood injury

# Cataract procedure rates

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Where are the gaps?

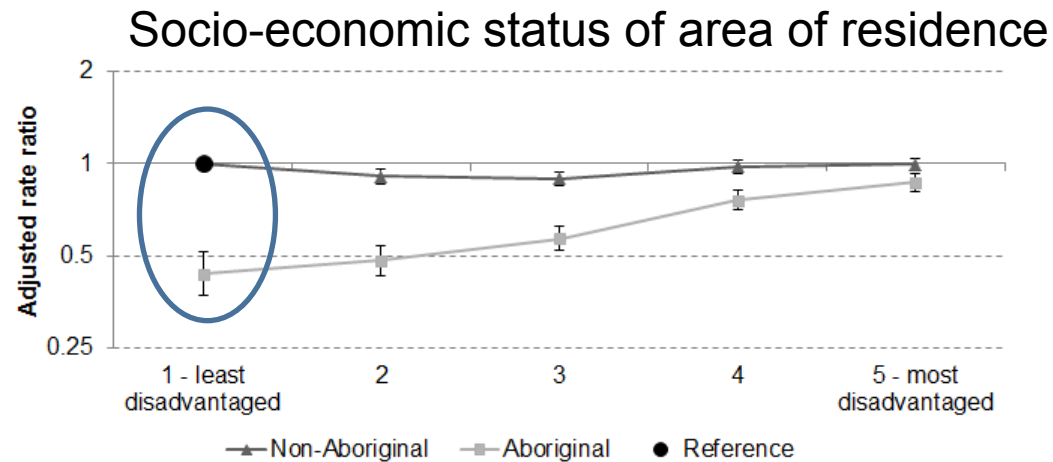
Lower rates of  
cataract surgery

# Rates of cataract surgery in NSW 2001 to 2008

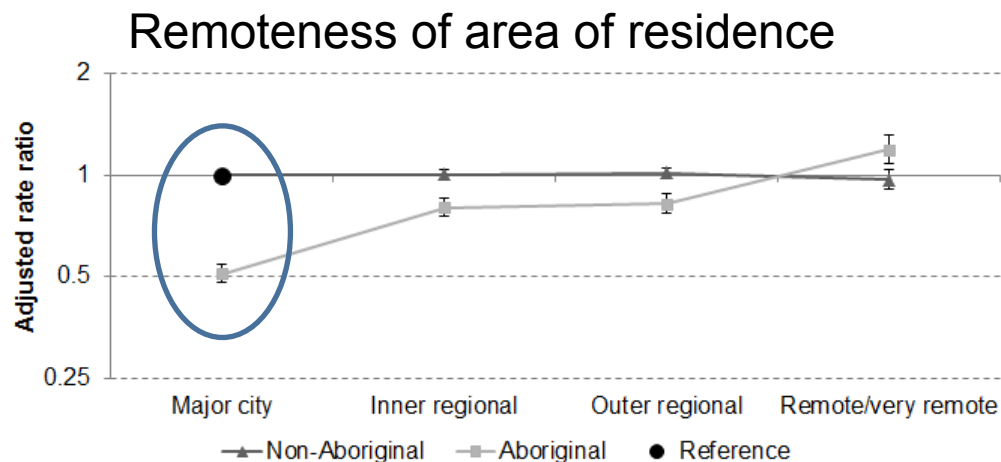
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- 641 per 100000 for Aboriginal people and 863 per 100000 for non-Aboriginal people, which is a rate ratio of 0.74 (0.71-0.77)
  - Despite evidence that Aboriginal people have a higher prevalence of cataracts

# Disparity by SES and remoteness

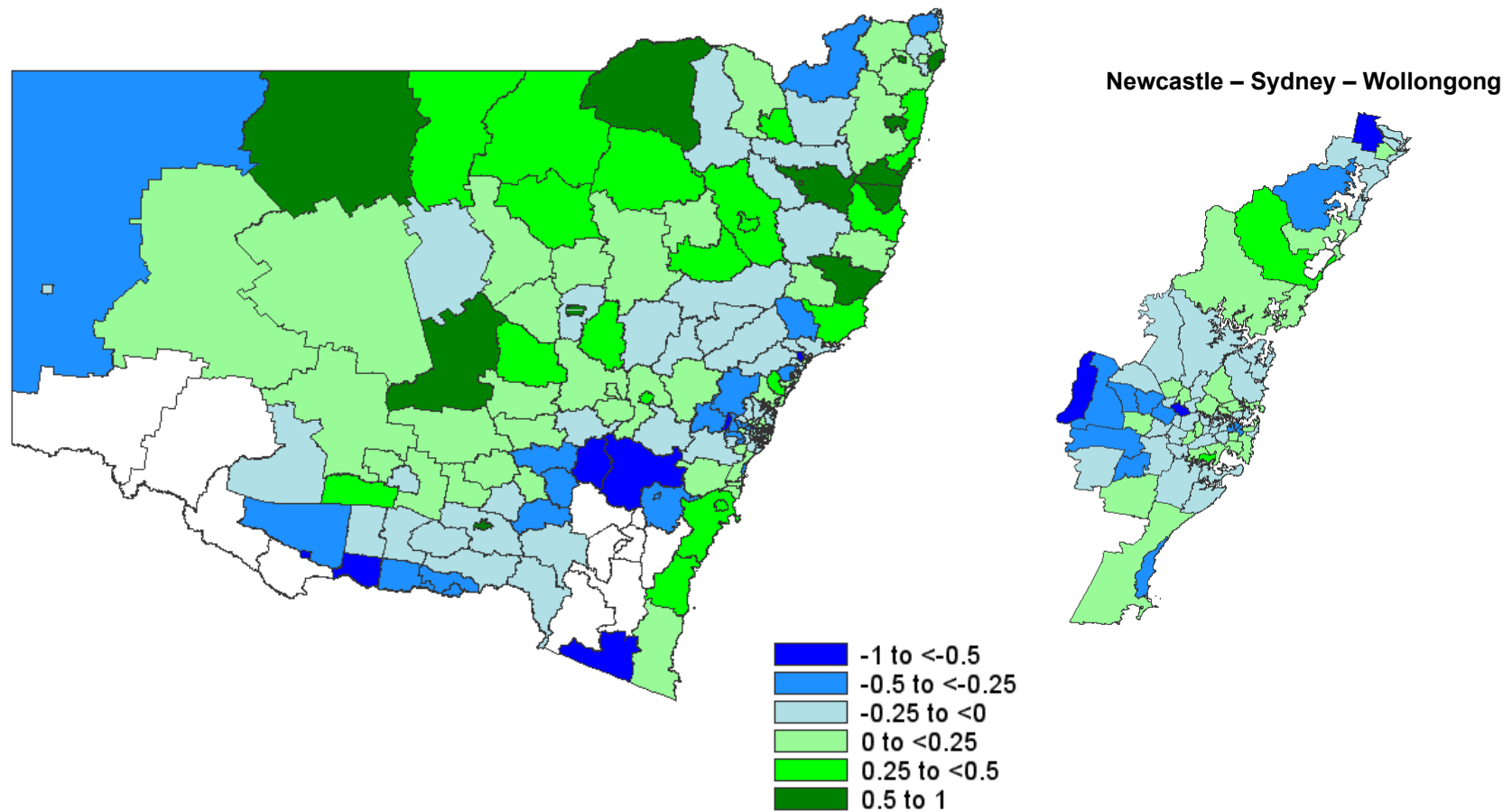


*Disparity is greatest in less disadvantaged and more urban areas*



# How do rates of cataract surgery for Aboriginal people vary by area

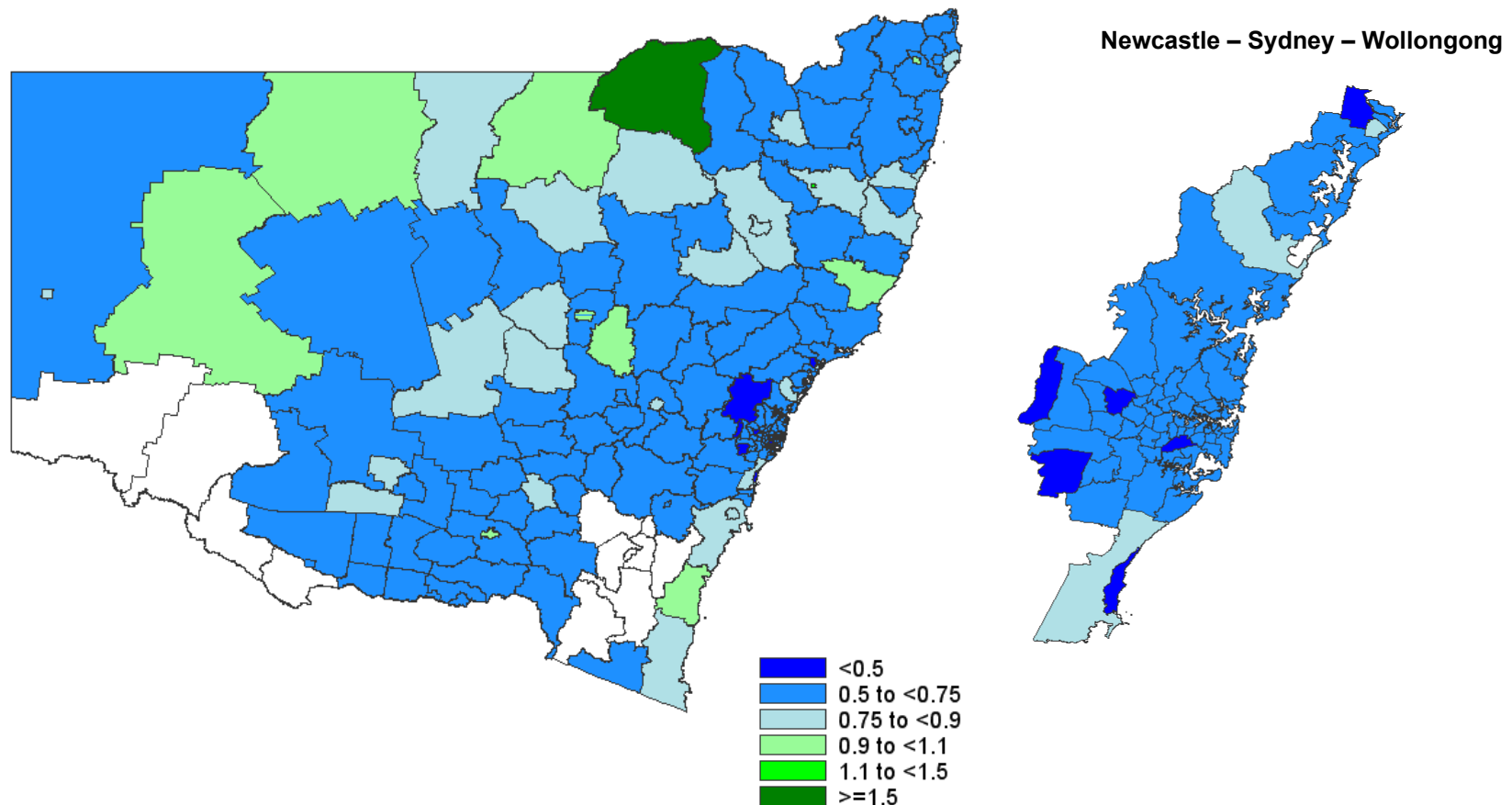
*Rates of cataract surgery by Statistical Local Area*



# How does the disparity in surgery rates vary?

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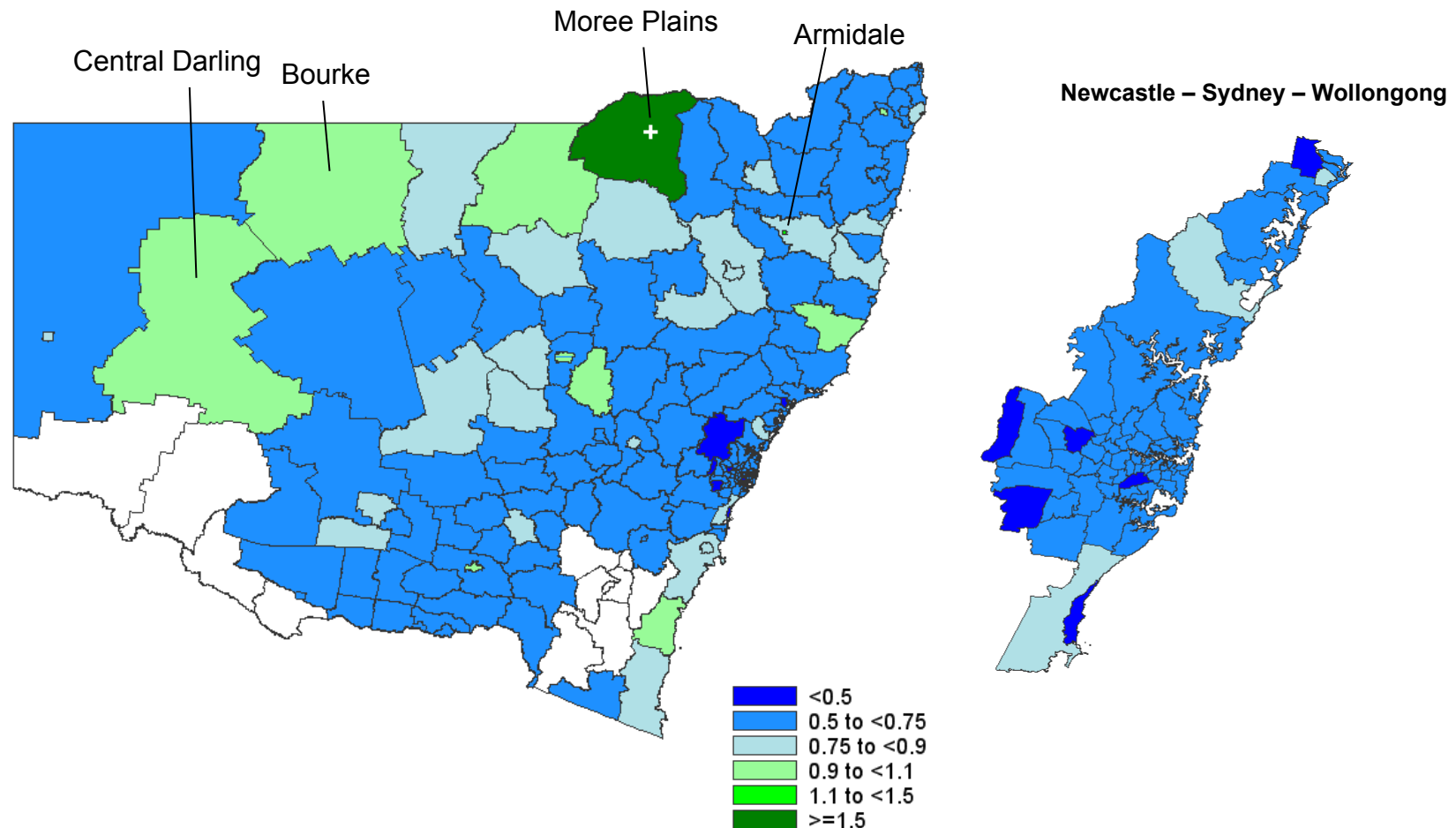
*The rate of cataract surgery is lower for Aboriginal people in almost all areas in NSW, with the exception of a couple of areas*





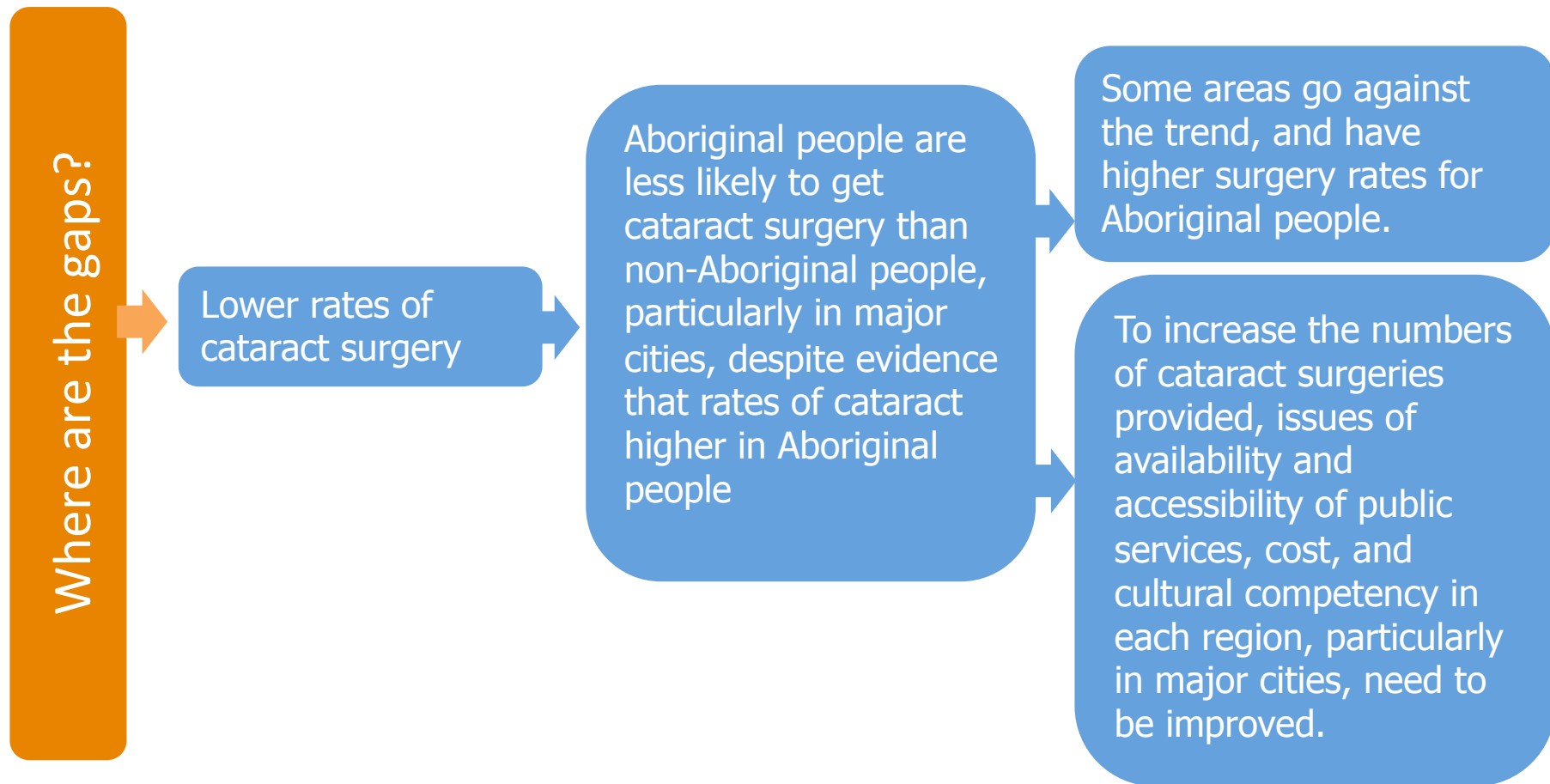
# Areas with higher rates of surgery for Aboriginal people

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# Summary - Cataract procedure rates

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# Outcomes to date

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- Presented preliminary findings to the International Centre for Eyecare Education (ICEE) Aboriginal program group
- Summary of findings sent to Vision2020
- Paper accepted by *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology*
- Presentation to Eye, Ear and Dental Health Section at OATSIH scheduled



# APHID

- Assessing Preventable Hospitalisation InDicators (APHID)
- Funded by NHMRC Partnership Project Grant #1036858
- Commenced in 2012



## Assessing Preventable Hospitalisation InDicators (APHID): protocol for a data-linkage study using cohort study and administrative data

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Louisa R Jorm,<sup>1,2</sup> Alastair H Leyland,<sup>3</sup> Fiona M Blyth,<sup>4,2</sup> Robert F Elliott,<sup>5</sup> Kirsty M A Douglas,<sup>6</sup> Sally Redman,<sup>2</sup> on behalf of the APHID Investigators



# Partners and partner organisations

## **University of Western Sydney**

- Louisa Jorm
- Michael Falster
- Sanja Lujic
- Deborah Randall

## **MRC Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, Glasgow**

- Alastair Leyland

## **The Sax Institute**

- Sally Redman

## **University of Aberdeen**

- Robert Elliott
- Marjon van der Pol
- Damilola Olajide

## **University of Sydney**

- Fiona Blyth

## **Australian National University**

- Kirsty Douglas
- Danielle Butler

## **Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care**

- Neville Board

## **NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation**

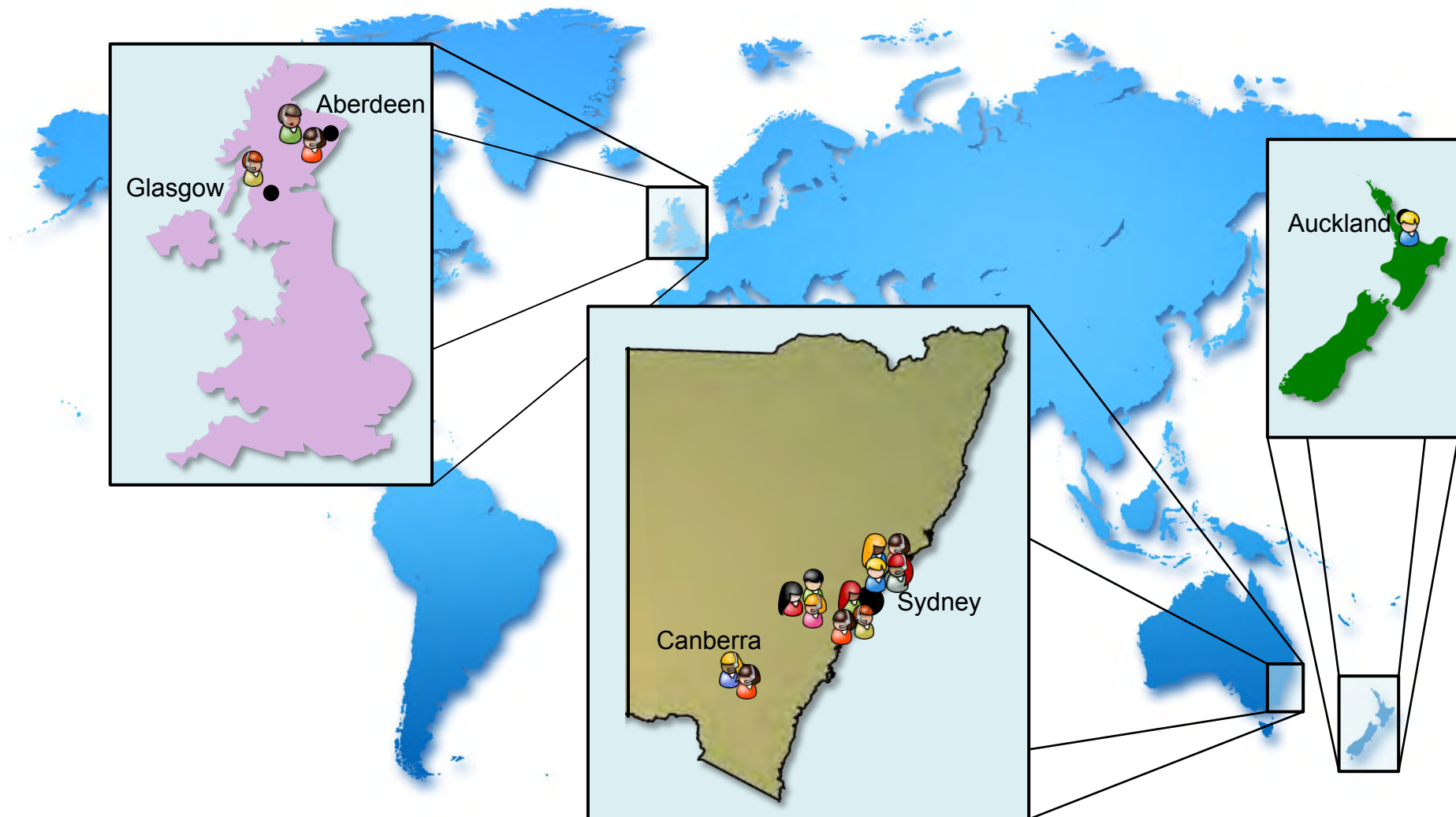
- Nigel Lyons
- Sonia Wutzke
- Chris Shipway
- Hunter Watt
- Kate Needham

## **NSW Bureau of Health Information**

- Jean-Frederic Levesque
- Kim Sutherland
- Douglas Lincoln
- Diane Watson



# The **APHID** study: Who we are



# Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations (PPH)

Those which could be potentially prevented by timely and effective provision of primary and preventative care

## Chronic

- Asthma
- Congestive heart failure
- Diabetes complications
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Angina
- Iron deficiency anaemia
- Hypertension
- Nutritional deficiencies
- Rheumatic heart disease

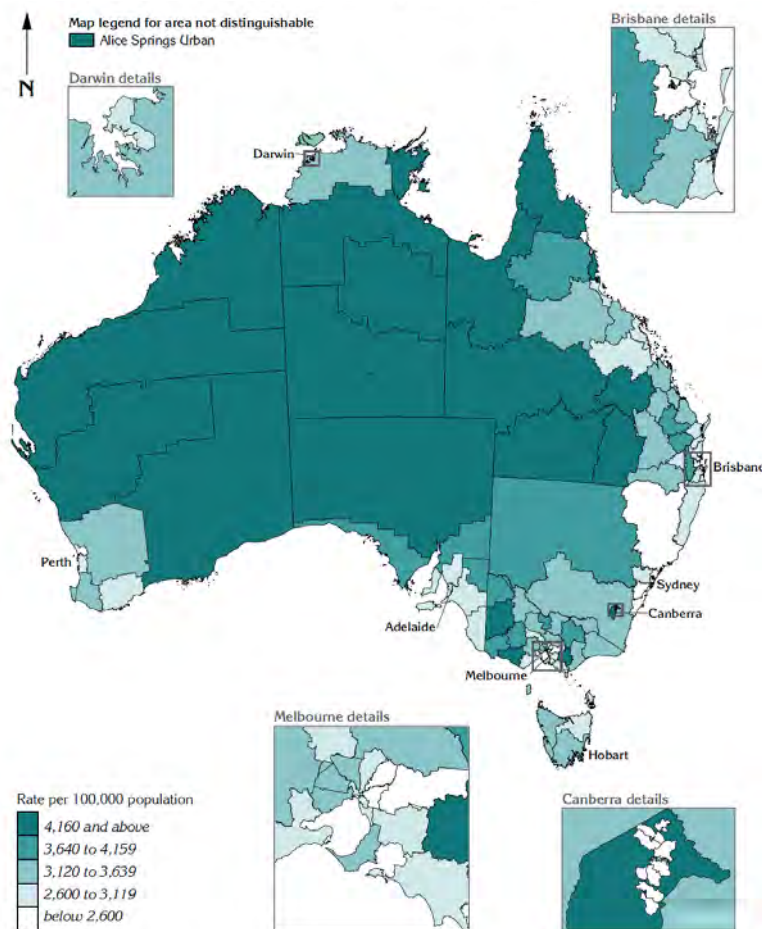
## Acute

- Dehydration & gastroenteritis
- Pyelonephritis
- Perforated/bleeding ulcer
- Cellulitis
- Pelvic inflammatory disease
- Ear, nose & throat infections
- Dental conditions
- Appendicitis with generalised peritonitis
- Convulsions & epilepsy
- Gangrene

## Vaccine preventable

- Influenza and pneumonia
- Other vaccine-preventable conditions

# Variation in PPH between areas



- Indicator of access to and quality of the primary health care system
- Rates of PPH are calculated for and compared between geographic regions
- Variation in PPH ~ variation in health service accessibility
- Currently used in Australia as part of the 2012 National Healthcare Agreement



A close-up photograph of several green leaves, likely from a tree, showing their veins and overlapping edges. The leaves are a vibrant green color and fill the entire background of the slide.

# What is the evidence base for PPH?

- Early literature identified correlation between PPH and socio-economic measures (income, health insurance)
- Hypothesised that socioeconomic barriers inhibiting access to primary care were resulting in higher rates of hospitalisation.
- Many research articles correlating area based rates of PPH with:
  - SES barriers to care - income, health insurance status, race, and area-level deprivation
  - Availability of primary care services – density of GPs in area, remoteness, availability of community centres, self-rated access to care

A close-up photograph of several green leaves with prominent veins, creating a textured background.

# Gaps in the literature

- Many additional factors contribute to risk of admission, including:
  - Demographics (age, sex, ethnicity)
  - Risk factor behaviour
  - Disease prevalence and severity
  - Availability of hospital care
  - Quality of care received
- Generalisability of research from the US to an Australian setting
- It can be difficult to assess the extent to which an admission is truly 'preventable' through access to quality primary care



# Objectives of the APHID study

1. Link questionnaire data from 267,000 participants in the 45 and Up study to prospective data on use of primary care services, hospitalisations, ED presentations and deaths
2. Better understand what drives variation in PPH admissions – individual-, geographic- or service-level factors?
3. Establish how the use and quality of primary care services impact on hospital admissions for PPH diagnoses
4. Quantify how these results vary between components of the PPH indicator
5. Make recommendations regarding refinements to the indicator



# The 45 and Up Study

- The 45 and Up Study
- 267,153 men and women aged over 45 in NSW
- Recruited from 2006 to 2008
- Sampled through Medicare Australia
- Completed baseline questionnaire
- Consent for long-term follow-up

**THE 45 AND UP STUDY**  
Research to improve health and wellbeing

## 45 and Up Study Questionnaire for Men

The 45 and Up Study relies on the willingness of people in New South Wales to share information about their lives and experiences, to provide knowledge that will help people live healthy and fulfilling lives for as long as possible. Participation is completely voluntary, and you are free to withdraw from the Study at any time. To take part, please read the participant information leaflet, then complete the questionnaire and consent form and return them in the envelope provided. We very much hope you will be able to take part.

Any questions or comments? Please call the Study helpline: 1300 45 11 45 or go to [www.45andUp.org.au](http://www.45andUp.org.au)

Auspiced by **the Sax Institute** In collaboration with **The Cancer Council New South Wales**, **Heart Foundation**, **NSW HEALTH**, **NSW Cancer Research Centre**, **NSW Health Research Institute**, **NSW Health Research Institute**, **NSW Health Research Institute**

Your answers and experiences are important to us. To help us read your answers, please write as clearly as possible using a BLACK or BLUE pen, and be sure to complete the questionnaire as shown:

Please put a cross in the appropriate box(es) ☒ Yes ☐ No  
OR put numbers in the appropriate box, e.g. 21st June 1945

21/06/1945 age 62

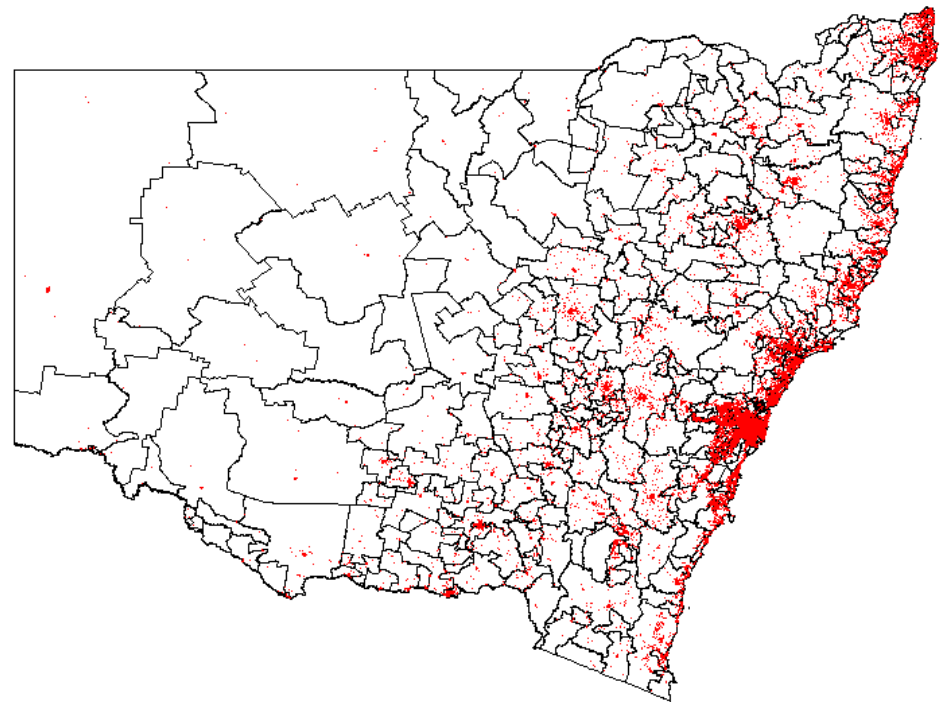
### General questions about you

- What is your date of birth?  
day month year  
1 9
- What is today's date?  
day month year  
2 0
- How tall are you without shoes?  
cm OR feet inches  
(please give to the nearest cm or inch)
- About how much do you weigh?  
kg OR stone lbs
- What is the highest qualification you have completed?  
please put a cross in the most appropriate box  
☐ no school certificate or other qualifications  
☐ school or intermediate certificate (or equivalent)  
☐ higher school or leaving certificate (or equivalent)  
☐ trade/apprenticeship (e.g. hairdresser, chef)  
☐ certificate/diploma (e.g. child care, technician)  
☐ university degree or higher
- Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?  
(you can cross more than one box)  
☐ No ☐ Yes, Aboriginal ☐ Yes, Torres Strait Islander
- In which country were you born?  
Australia = please go to question 9  
☐ UK ☐ Ireland ☐ Italy ☐ China  
☐ Greece ☐ New Zealand ☐ Germany ☐ Lebanon  
☐ Philippines ☐ Netherlands ☐ Vietnam ☐ Malta  
☐ Poland ☐ other (please specify)
- What year did you first come to live in Australia for one year or more? (e.g. 1970)
- What is your ancestry? (please cross up to 2 boxes)  
☐ Australian ☐ English ☐ Irish ☐ Chinese  
☐ Italian ☐ Greek ☐ Scottish ☐ German  
☐ Lebanese ☐ Dutch ☐ Maltese ☐ Polish  
☐ Filipino ☐ Indian ☐ Croatian ☐ Vietnamese  
other (please specify)
- Do you speak a language other than English at home?  
☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have you ever been a regular smoker?  
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ If No - please go to question 12  
How old were you when you started smoking regularly? years old  
Are you a regular smoker now? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
If No - how old were you when you stopped smoking regularly? years old  
About how much do you/did you smoke on average each day?  
(if you are an ex-smoker, how much did you smoke on average when you smoked?)  
cigarettes per day pipes and cigars per day
- About how many alcoholic drinks do you have each week?  
one drink = a glass of wine, middy of beer or nip of spirits  
(put "0" if you do not drink, or have less than one drink each week)  
number of alcoholic drinks each week
- On how many days each week do you usually drink alcohol? days each week

BLFMD710

# The 45 and Up Study

- Of the 267,153 participants...
- 46% are male
- 56% live in regional or remote areas
- Average age of 62, with 10% aged over 80
- 0.8% Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- 10% language other than English at home



# APHID data

## 45 & Up Study

- Prospective cohort of 267,091 men and women aged over 45 in NSW
- Questionnaire data
- Completed 2006-2008

## NSW Admitted Patient Data Collection

- Census of all hospital separations in NSW public and private hospitals and day procedure centres
- Linked data, 2000-2010
- N=1,206,742 records

## MBS

- Claims for subsidised medical and diagnostic services in Australia
- Linked data, 2004-2011
- N=46,203,507 records

## PBS

- Claims for subsidised pharmaceuticals in Australia
- Linked data, 2004-2011
- N= 35,453,776 records

## Emergency Department Data Collection

- Presentations to 80 EDs (75% of NSW presentations)
- Linked data, 2006-2011
- N= 347,602 records



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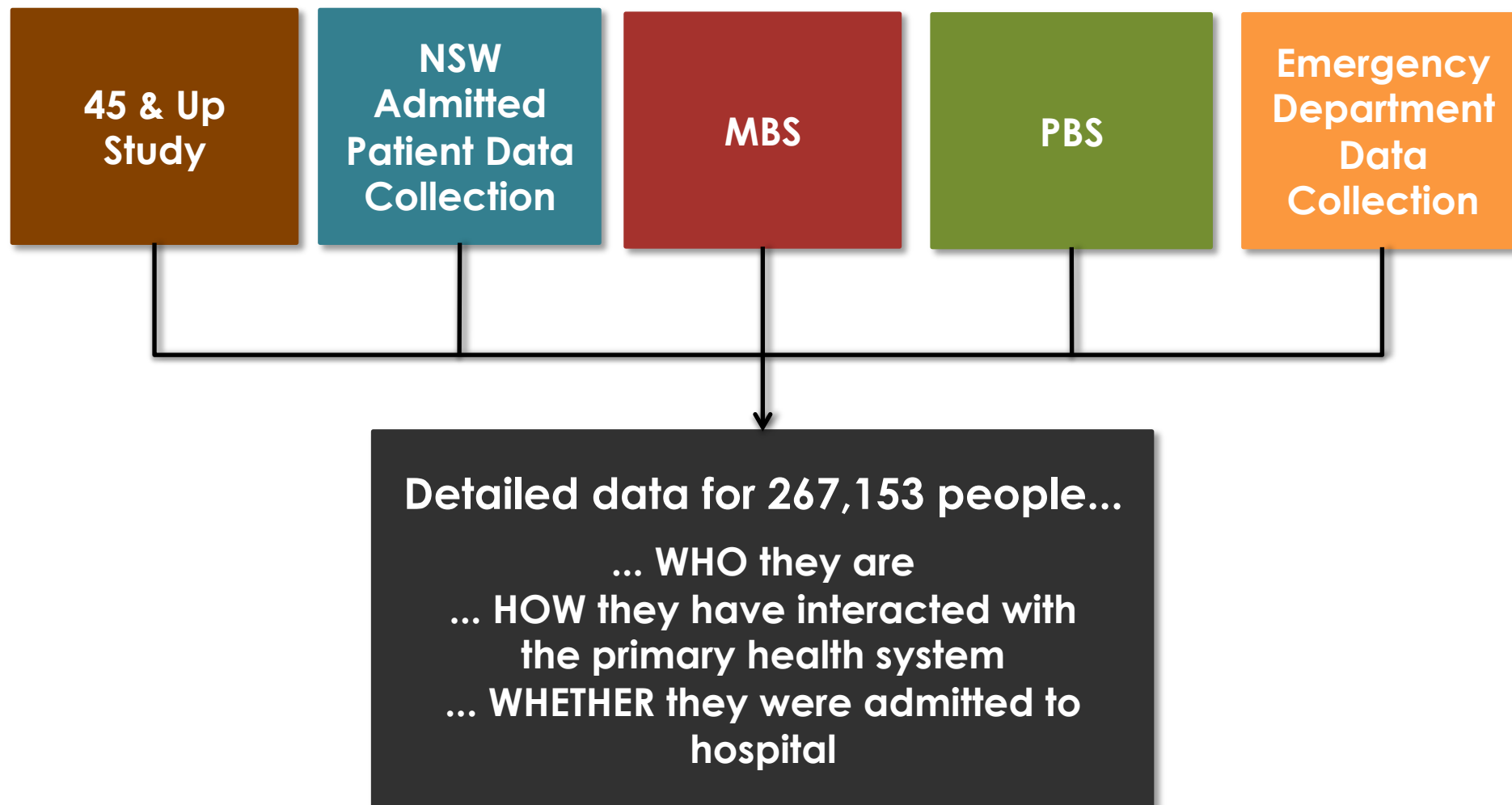
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+ Fact of death to 2012

# APHID data





# APHID data

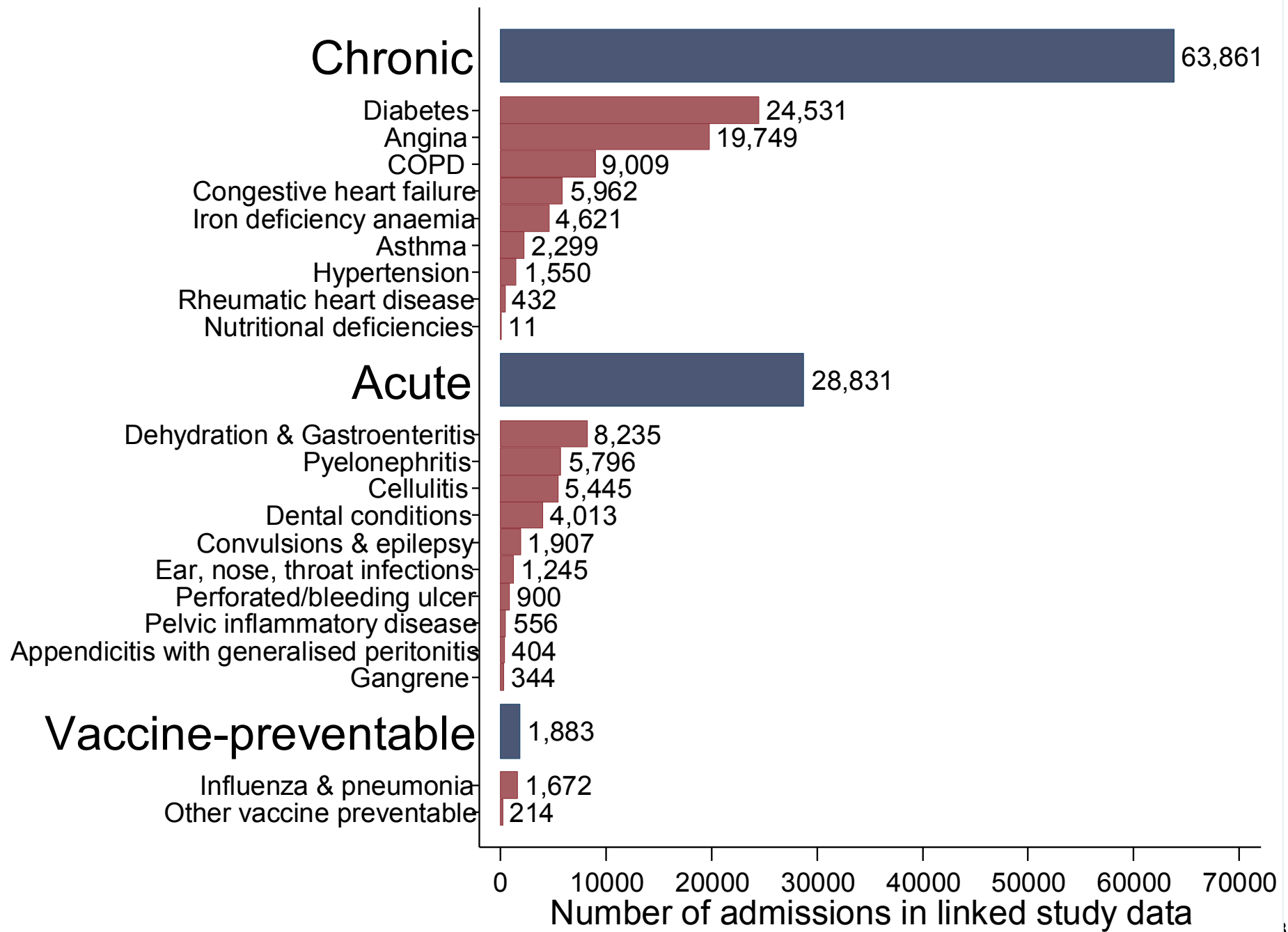


267,153 people...

they are  
e interacted with  
health system  
were admitted to  
ital



Secure Unified  
Research Environment



# Explaining variation in rates of PPH

## Method

Multilevel logistic regression model  
PPH admission in 2 years from study entry  
People clustered in SLA of residence

## Step (1)

What individual-level characteristics are associated with PPH?

## Step (2)

How much variation is there between geographic areas?

## Step (3)

What explains the area-level variation?



# Explaining variation in rates of PPH

## Method

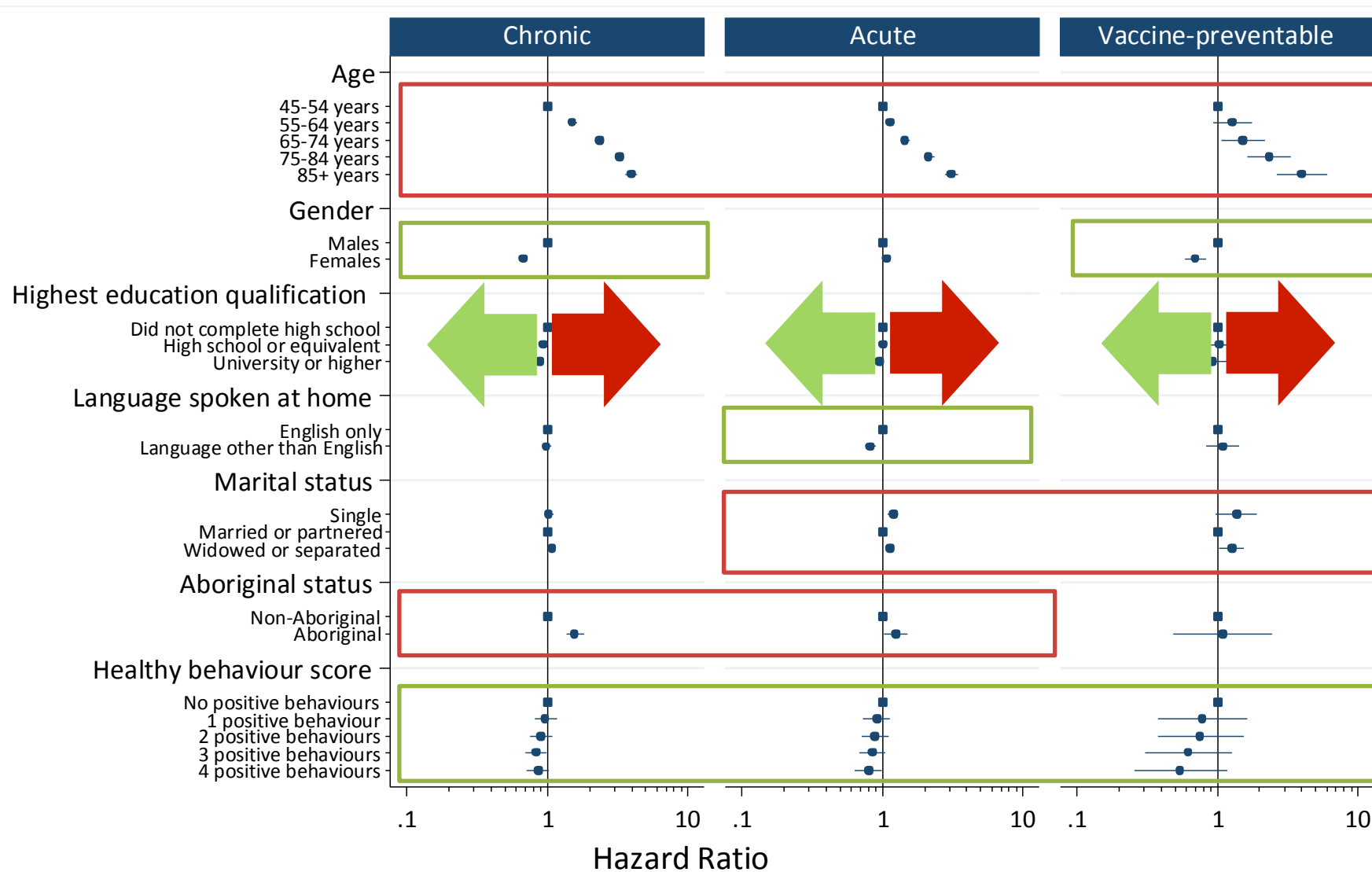
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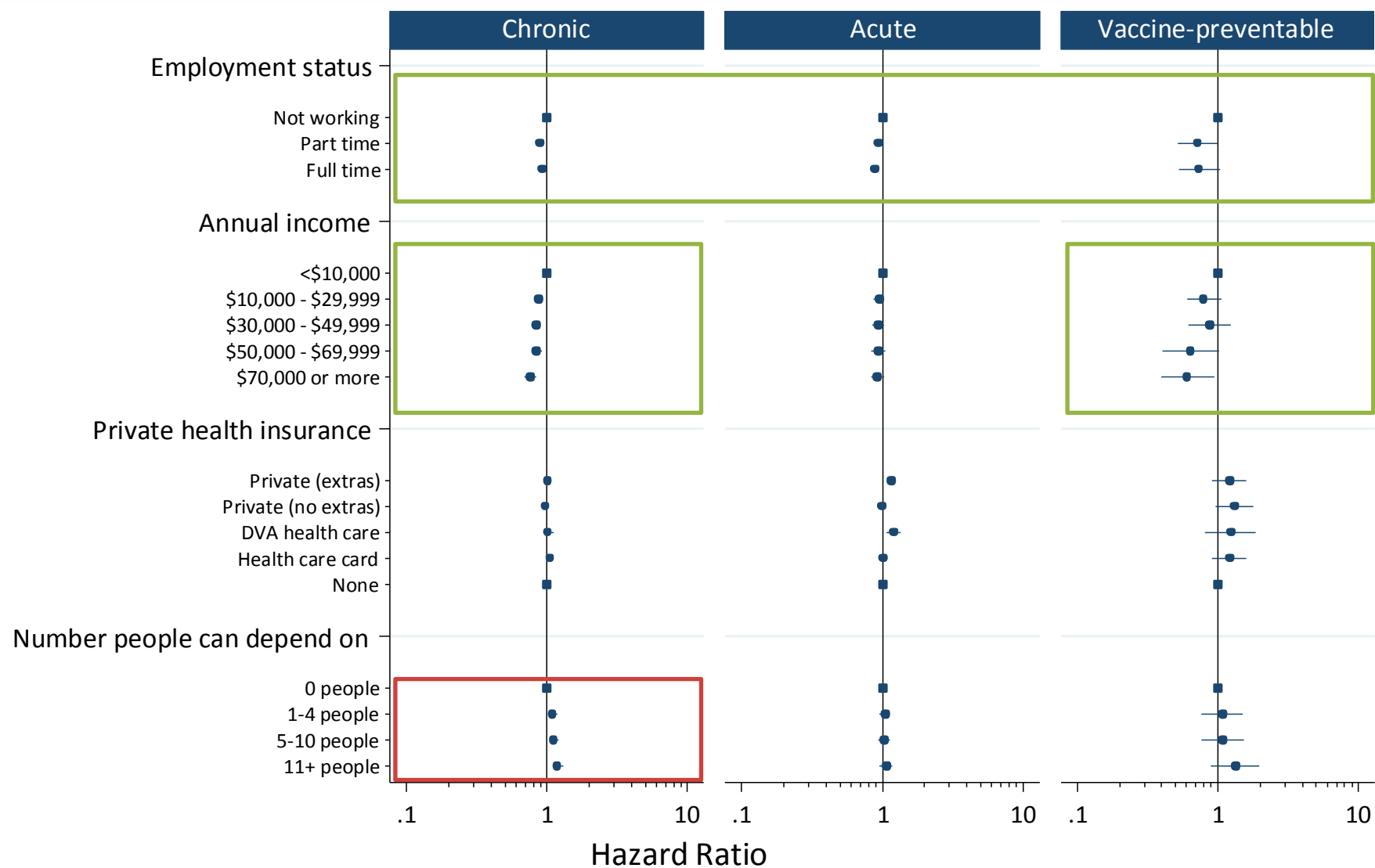
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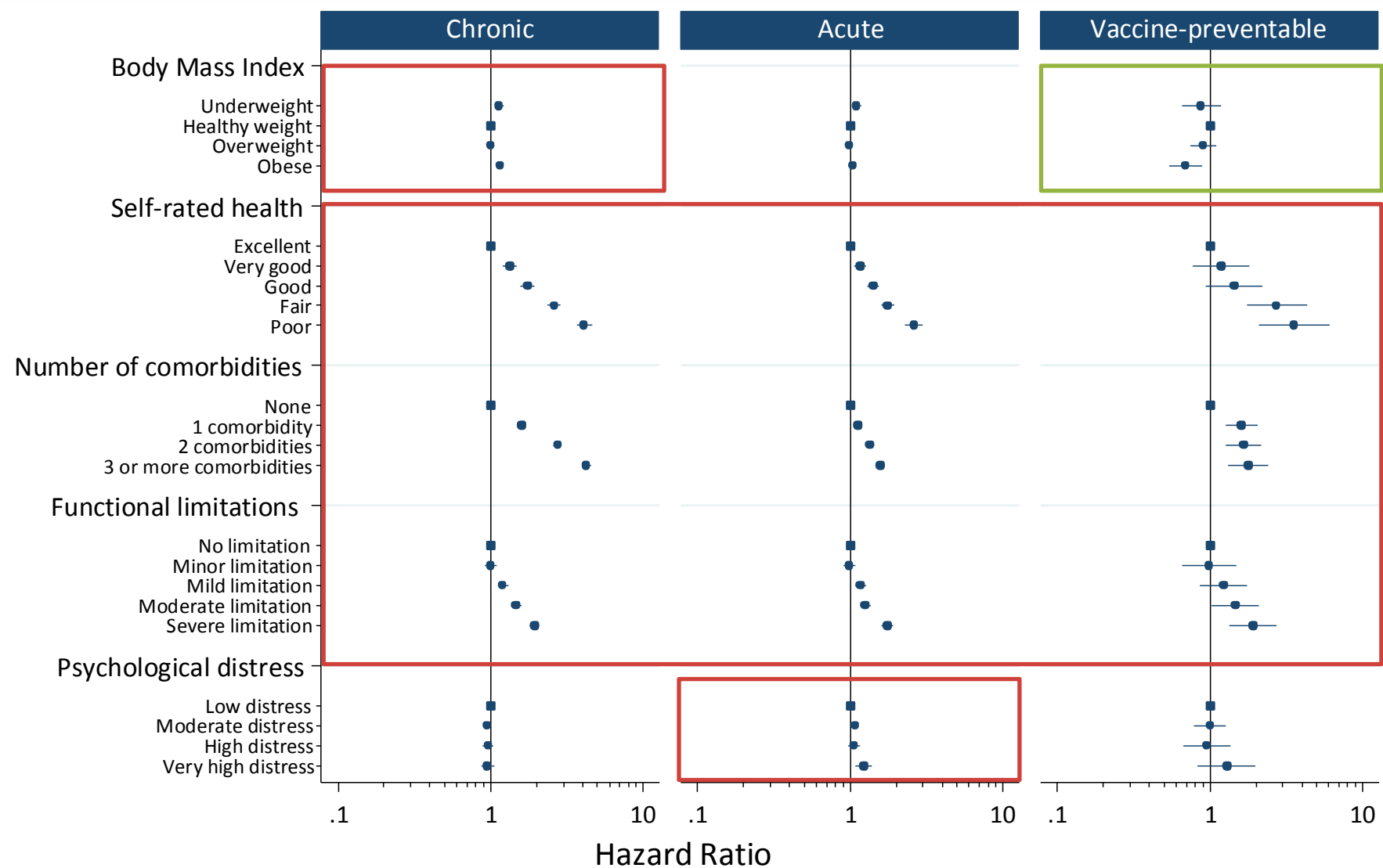
# Predisposing factors



# Enabling factors



# Health need factors



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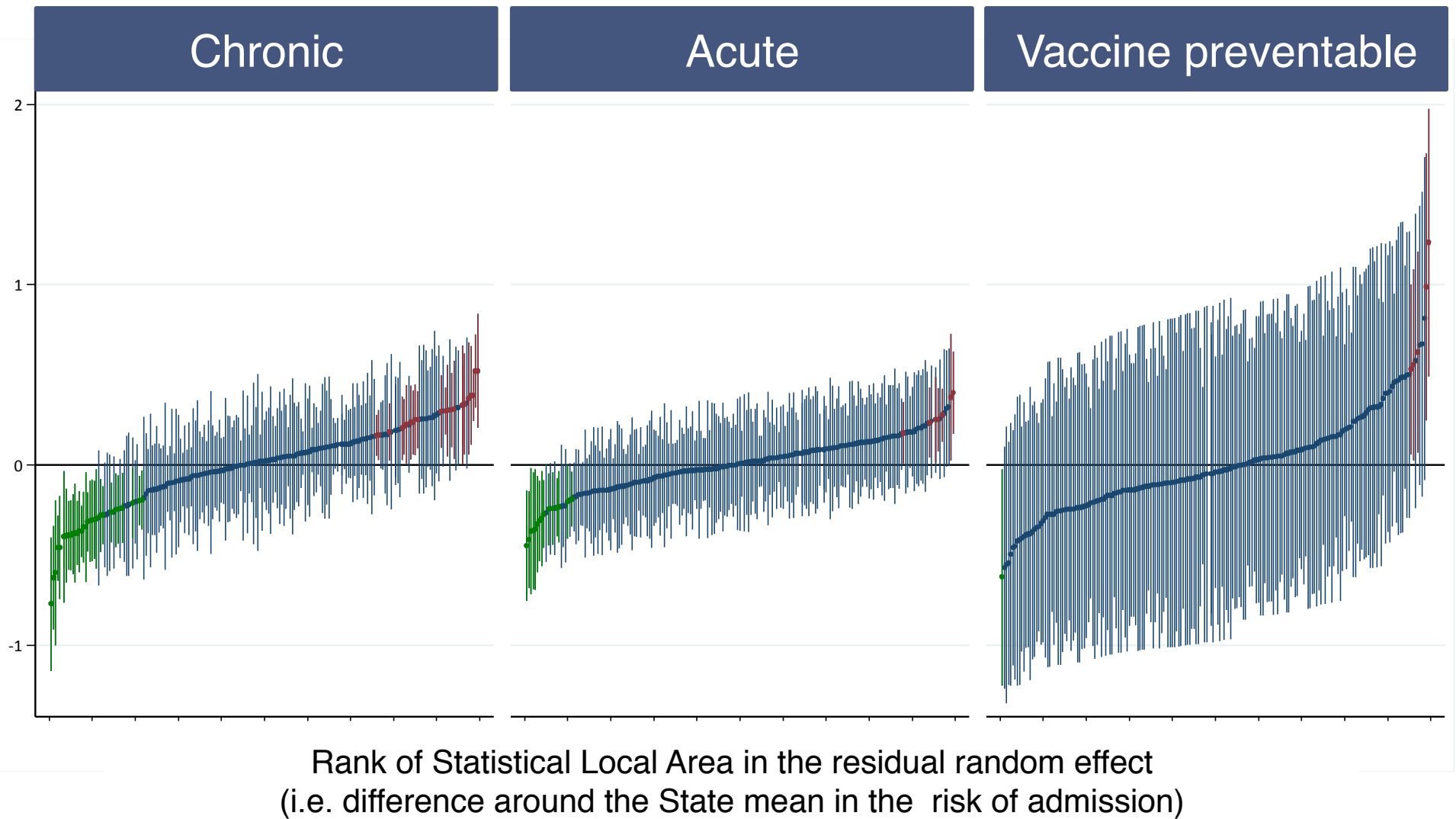
What individual-level characteristics are associated with PPH?

## Step (2)

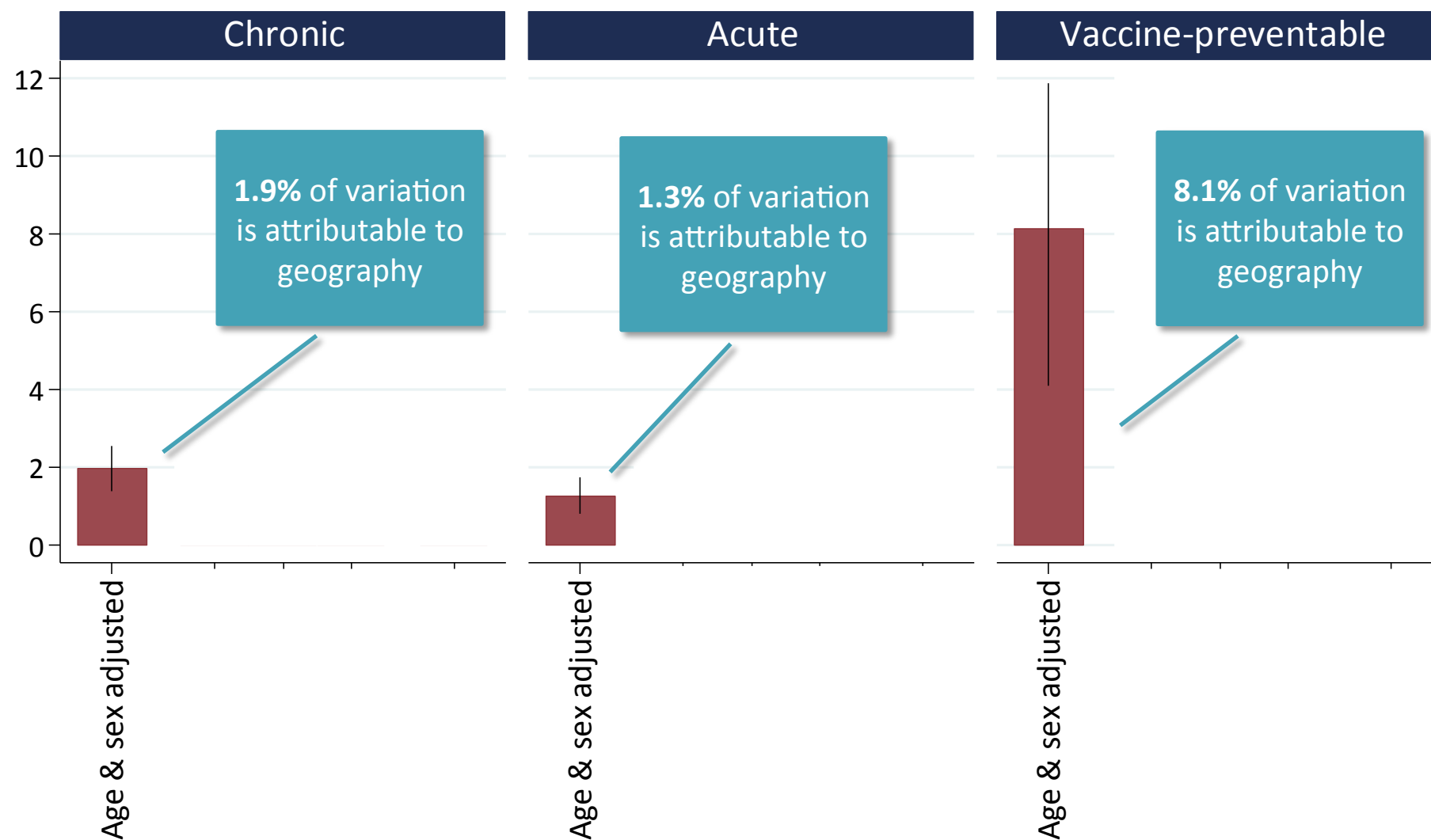
How much variation is there between geographic areas?



# Variation between geographic areas



# Variation between geographic areas



# Explaining variation in rates of PPH

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What individual-level characteristics are associated with PPH?

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How much variation is there between geographic areas?

## Step (3)

What explains the area-level variation?

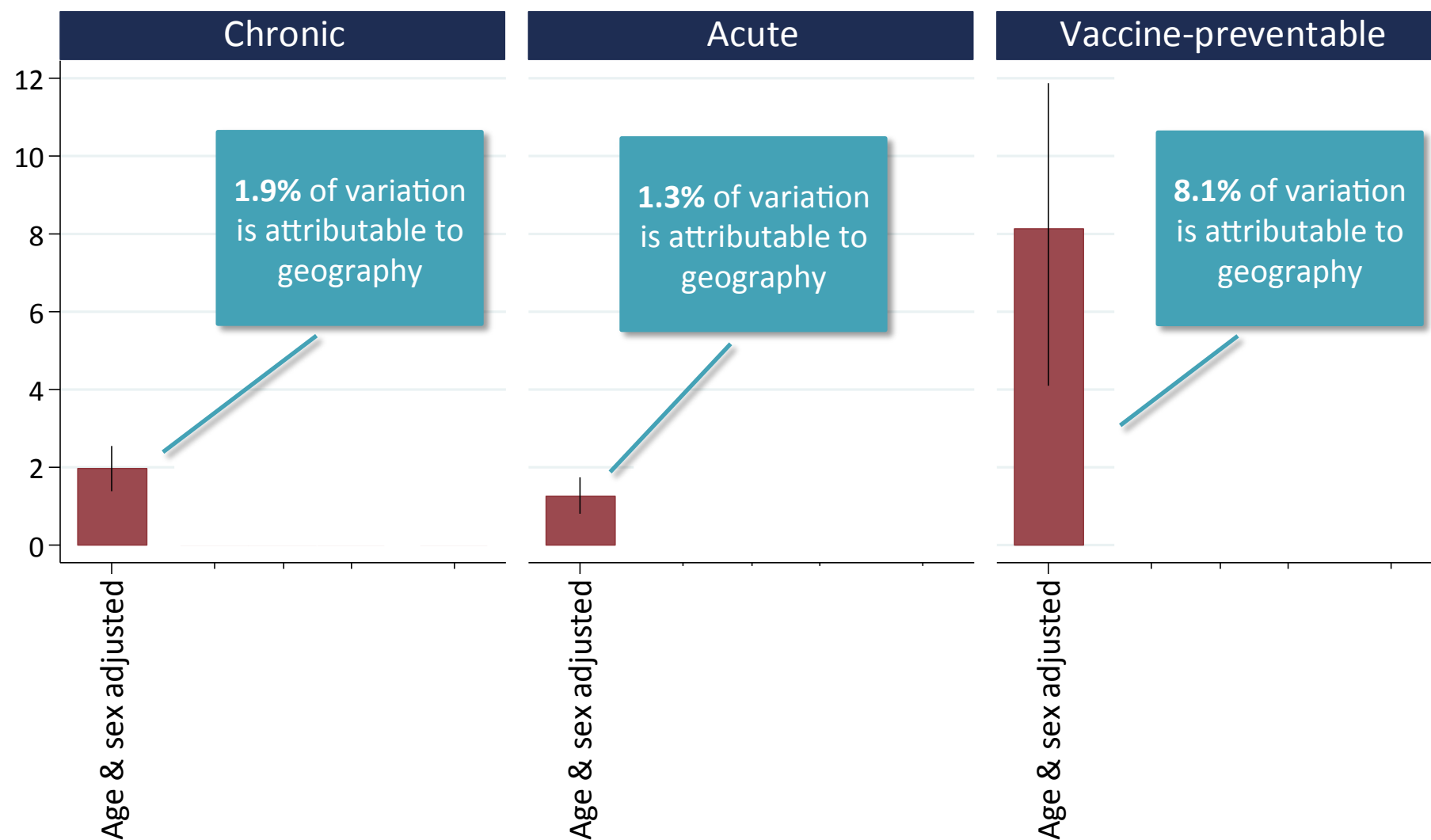
# Explaining area level variation

Which personal characteristics explain area-level variation?

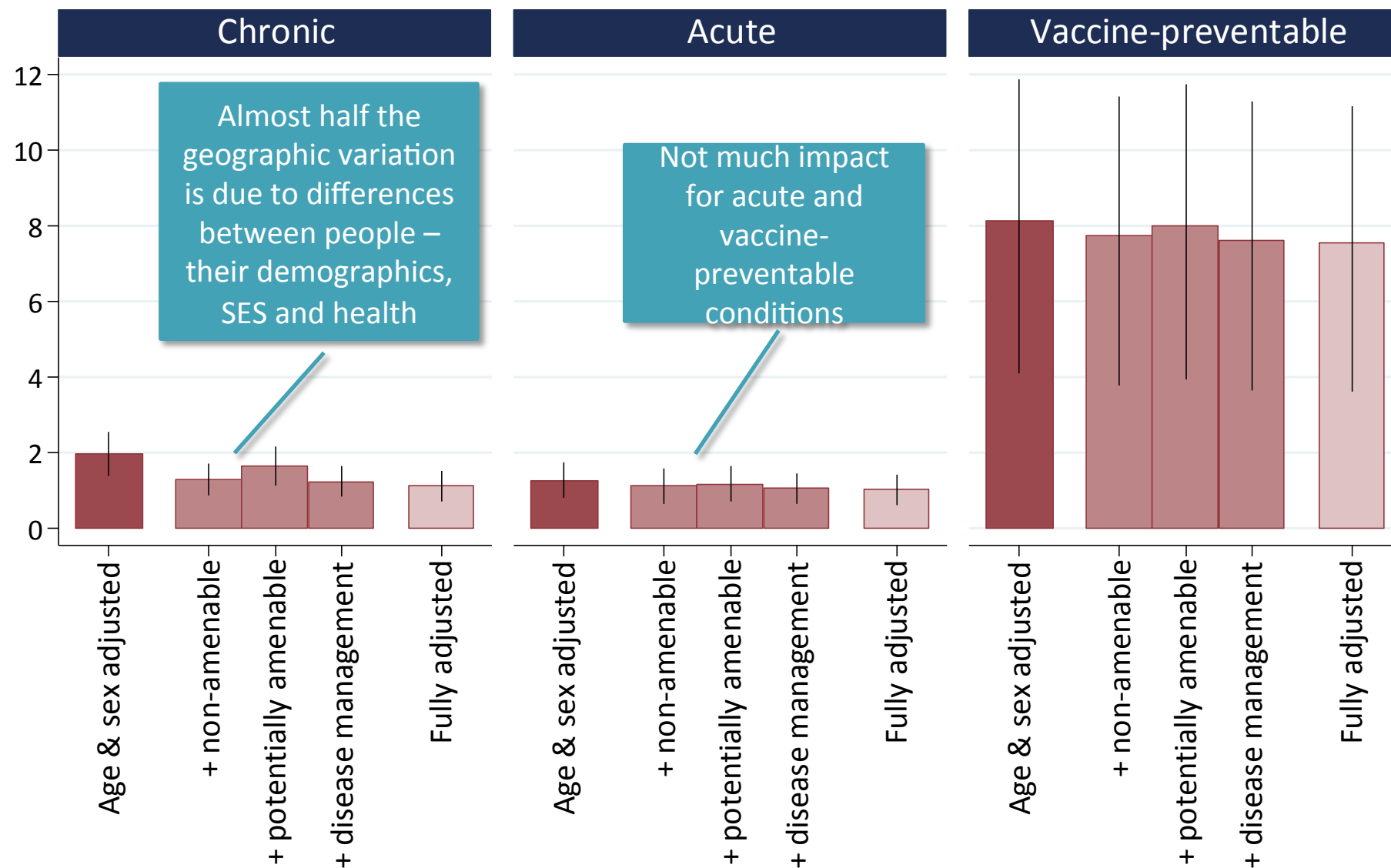
Not primary care amenable	Potentially amenable factors	Amenable to disease management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Education</li><li>▪ Language spoken at home</li><li>▪ Marital status</li><li>▪ Aboriginal status</li><li>▪ Income</li><li>▪ Employment</li><li>▪ Health insurance status</li><li>▪ Number of people can depend on</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Healthy behaviours</li><li>▪ Body Mass Index</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Self-reported health</li><li>▪ Number of co-morbidities</li><li>▪ Functional status</li><li>▪ Psychological distress</li></ul>



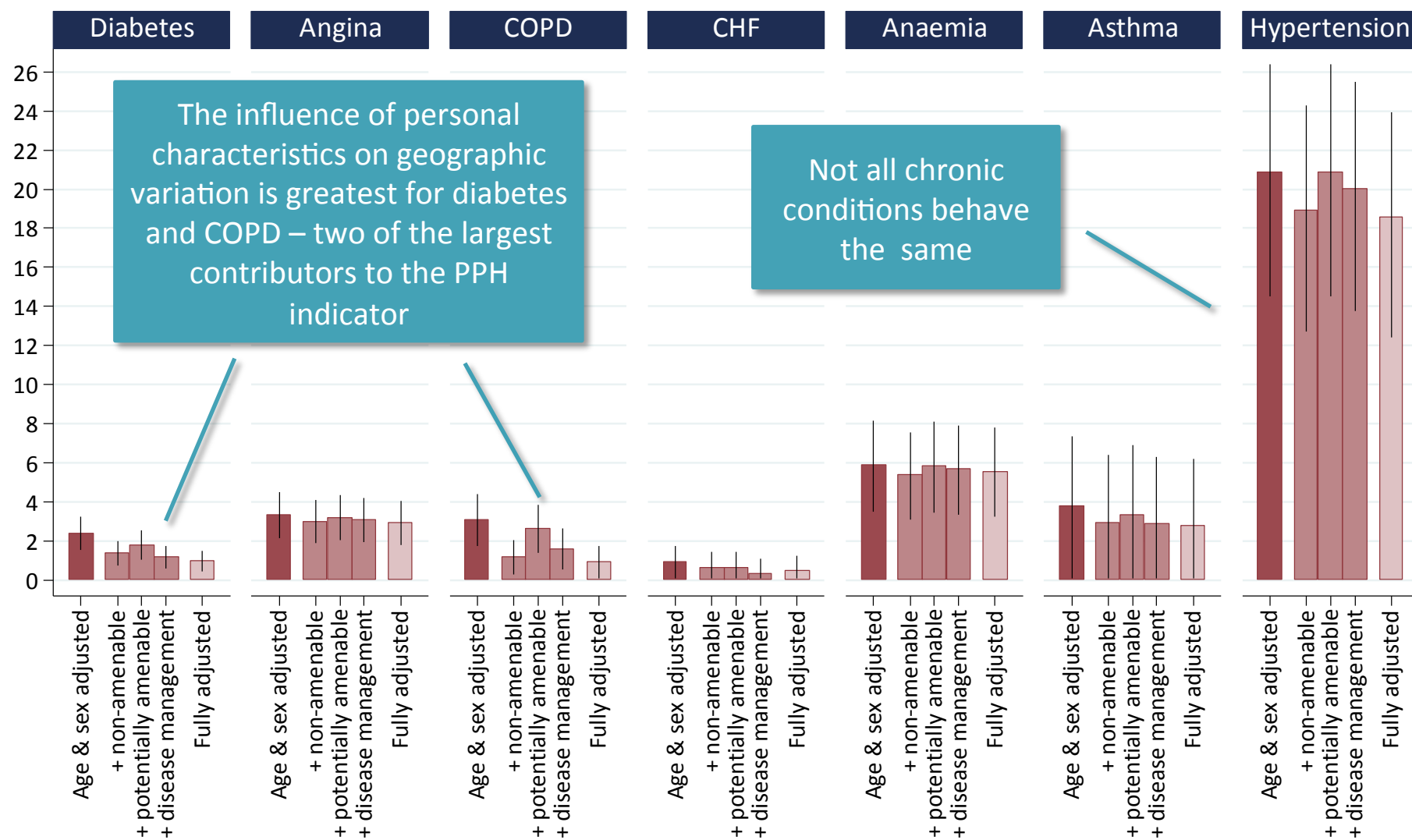
# Explaining area level variation



# Explaining area level variation



# Explaining variation for chronic conditions



A close-up photograph of several green leaves, showing their veins and overlapping edges, serving as a background for the title.

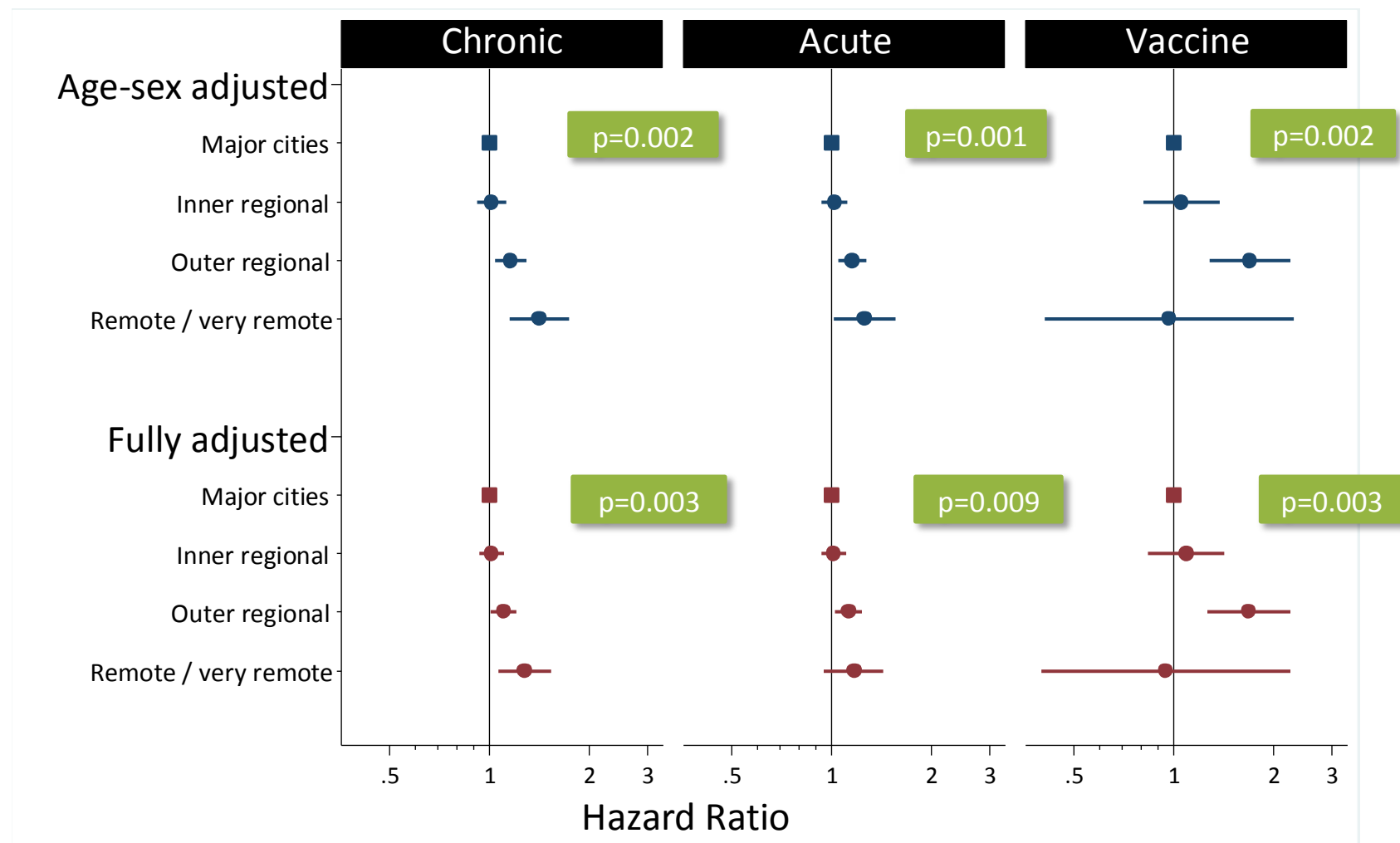
# Explaining area level variation

Which area characteristics explain area-level variation?

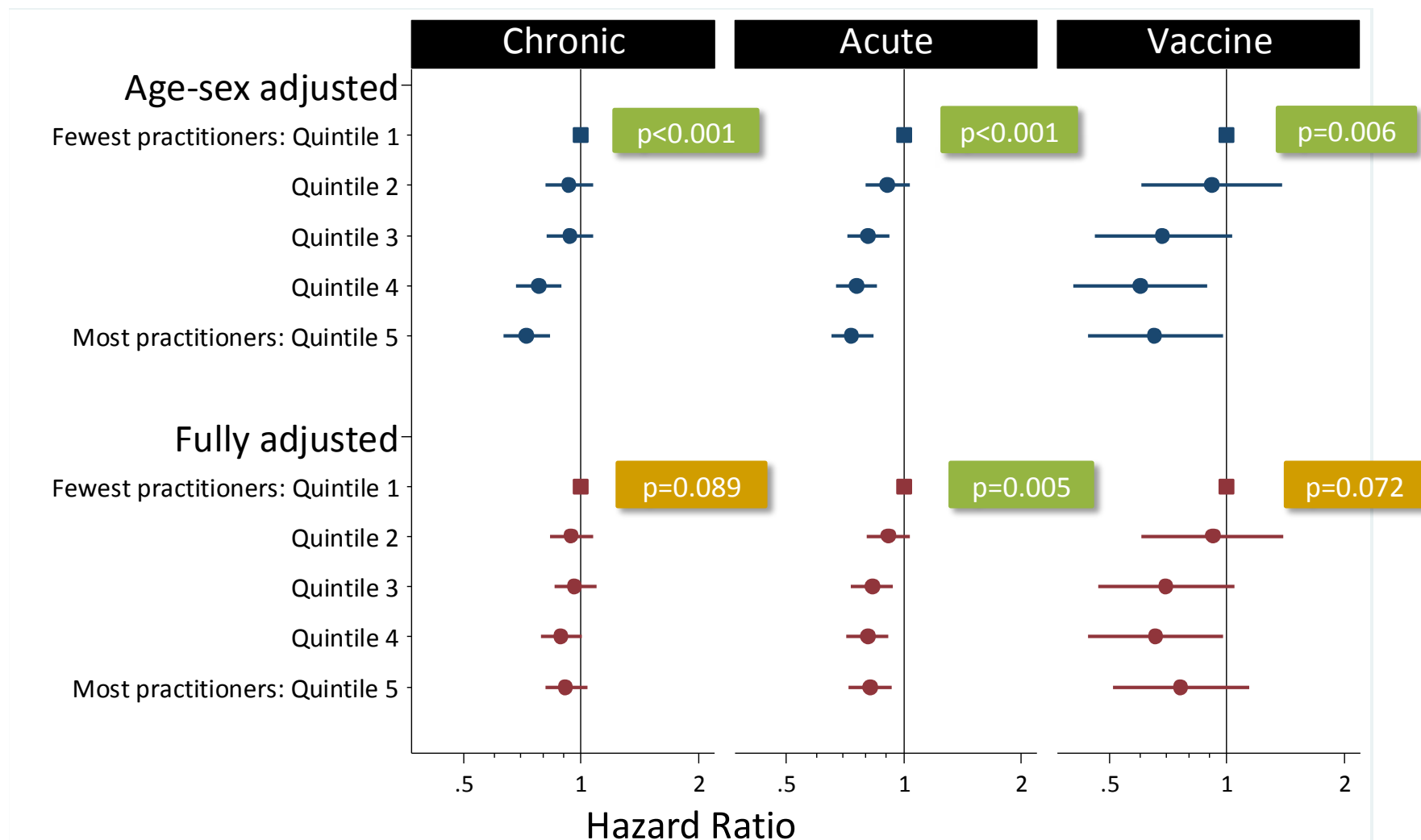
- Remoteness
- Medical practitioners per 10,000 population
- GPs per 10,000 population
- Perceived access to care



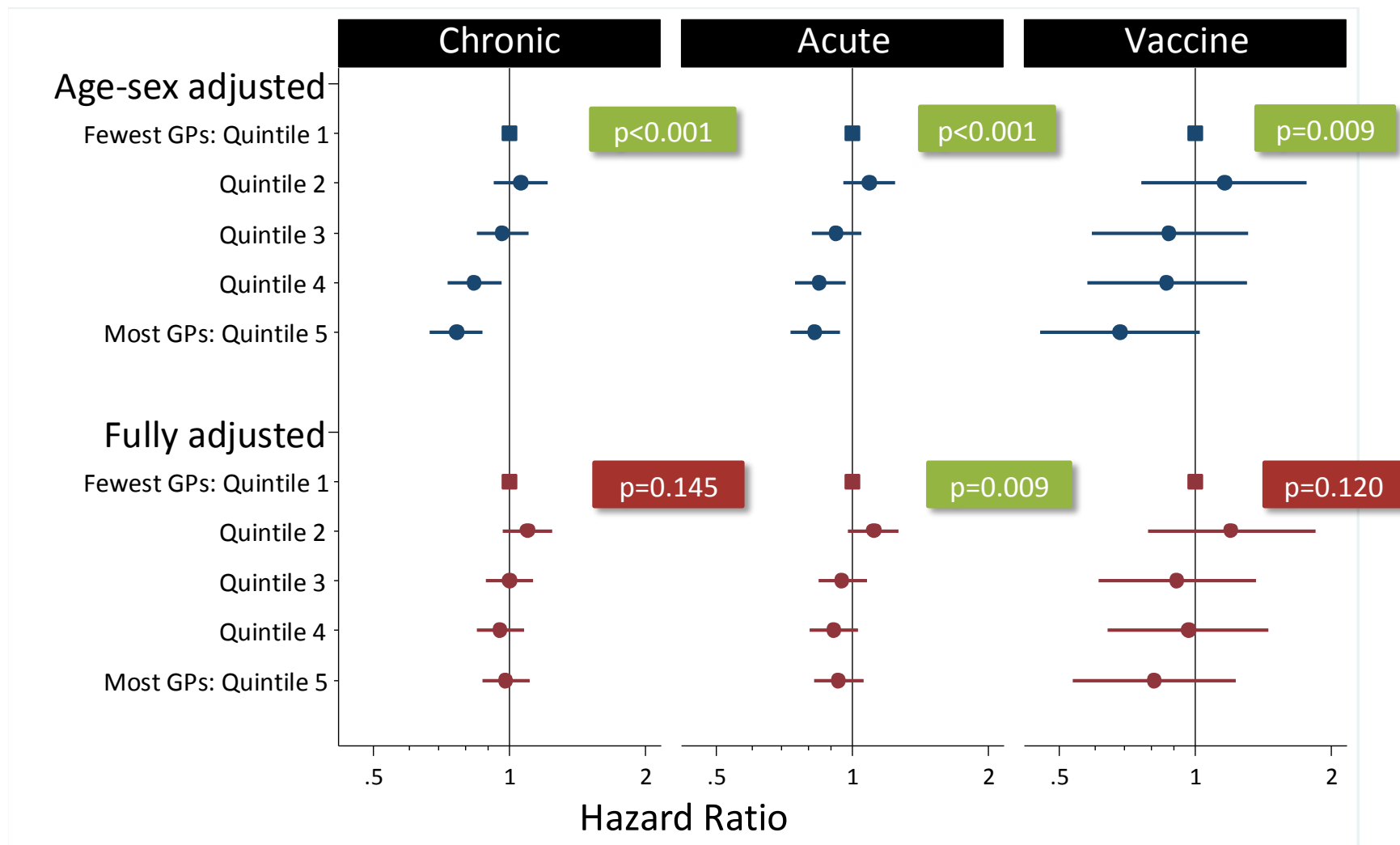
# Remoteness (ARIA+)



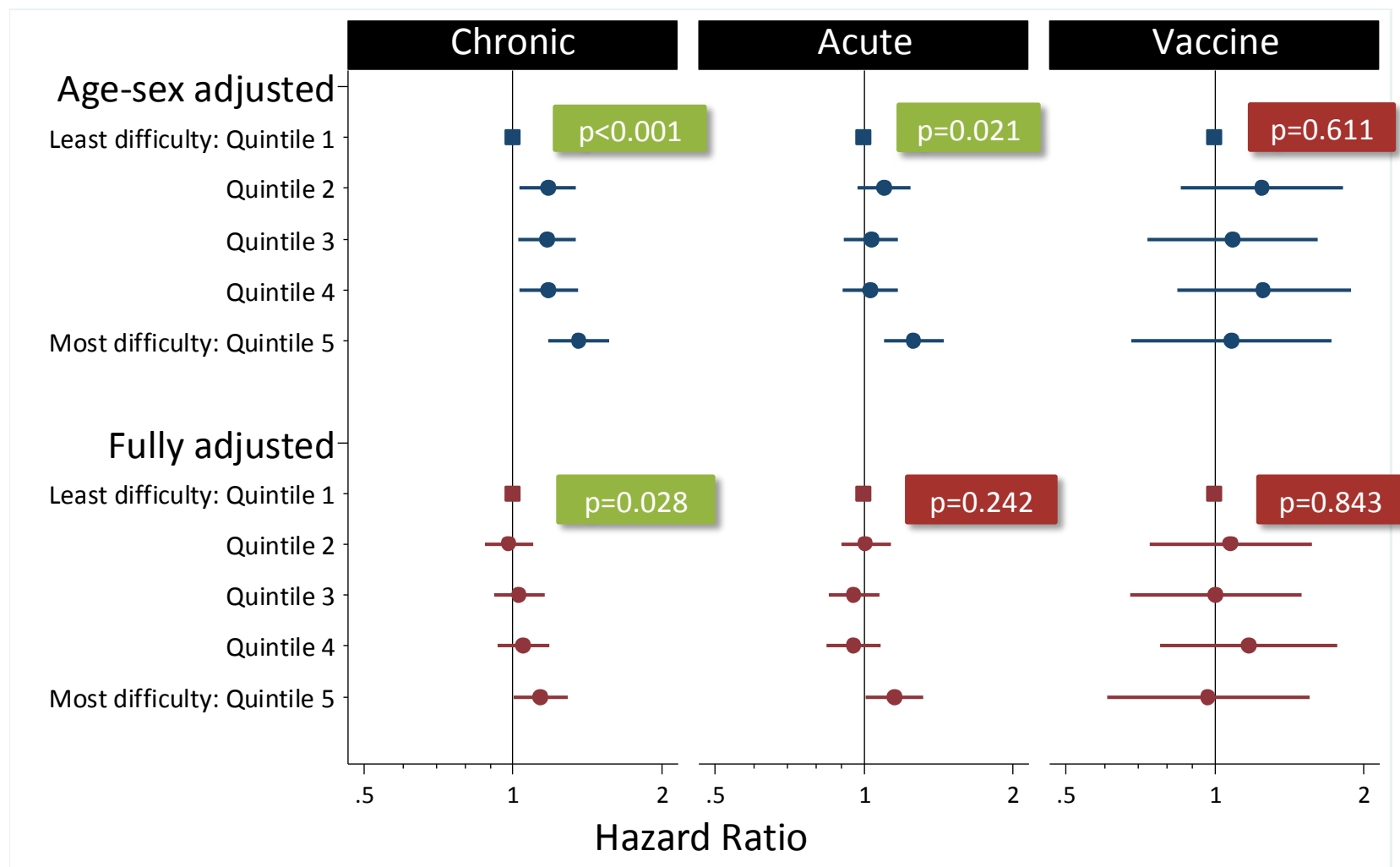
# # medical practitioners per 10,000



# # GPs per 10,000 population



# Perceived difficulty in accessing care







## Key findings so far

- (1) Social determinants of health are a key driver of PPH admission, and should be adjusted for if possible
- (2) The aggregate indicator masks important differences between PPH conditions and their relationship with primary care
- (3) Features of local health provision may play a relatively minor role in driving PPH admissions.

BUT.... still much more work to do!

- Additional measures that better reflect different aspects of health service provision (e.g. FTE and FWE workforce)
- Recommendations on revising the indicator to maximise the association with accessibility of primary care.

# Adding value

- Applying new methods to linked administrative data
  - example: the IHOPE Study
- Linking research datasets to administrative data
  - example: the APHID Study

## Potentially preventable hospitalisations by condition type, NSW, South Eastern Sydney LHD, 2009-10

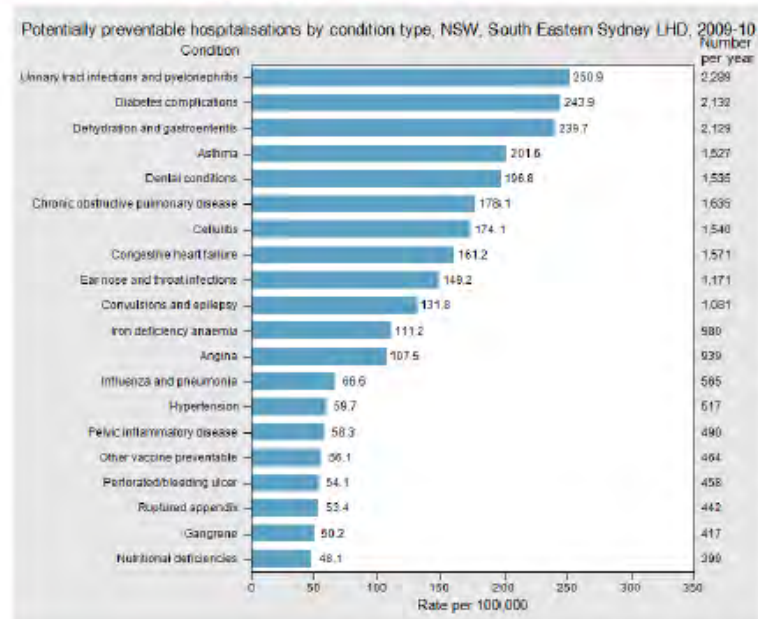


Table 3.11: Potentially avoidable hospitalisations<sup>1</sup> by sub-category/condition and Health Region, South Australia, 2005/06 and 2006/07  
Ratio of rates in each Health Region to State rate (based on data in Table 3.10)

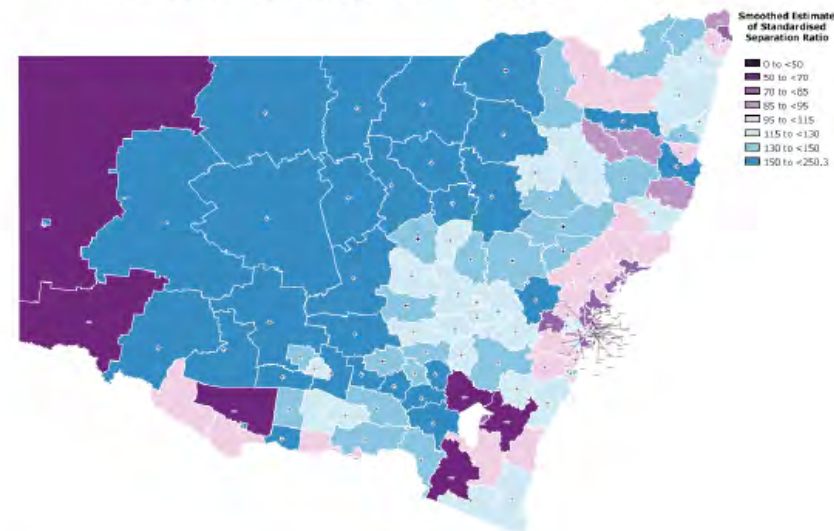
Health Region rate above State rate by: 50% or more, 25 to <50%, 10 to <25%

Sub-category/condition	Central Nthn Adelaide	Southern Adelaide	Hills Mallee Sthn	South East	Wakefield	Mid North	Riverland	Eyre	Northern & Far Western
Vaccine-preventable	0.95	0.82 <sup>1</sup>	1.15	0.60 <sup>1</sup>	1.09	0.95	0.71	1.95 <sup>1</sup>	1.24
Influenza and pneumonia	0.93	0.86	1.14	0.67	1.22	0.67	0.73	2.10 <sup>1</sup>	1.30
Other vaccine-preventable diseases	1.05	0.71	1.22	0.34	0.65	2.05	0.65	1.37	1.06
Chronic	0.90 <sup>1</sup>	0.97 <sup>1</sup>	0.93 <sup>1</sup>	1.07 <sup>1</sup>	1.02	1.62 <sup>1</sup>	1.11 <sup>1</sup>	1.16 <sup>1</sup>	1.61 <sup>1</sup>
Iron deficiency anaemia	0.84 <sup>1</sup>	1.65 <sup>1</sup>	0.79 <sup>1</sup>	0.92	0.88	0.49 <sup>1</sup>	0.57 <sup>1</sup>	0.29 <sup>1</sup>	0.92
Diabetes complications	0.90 <sup>1</sup>	0.90 <sup>1</sup>	0.86 <sup>1</sup>	1.08	1.01	1.67 <sup>1</sup>	1.13 <sup>1</sup>	1.17 <sup>1</sup>	1.76 <sup>1</sup>
Rheumatic heart disease	0.83	0.69	0.53	0.88	0.50	1.00	0.57	0.69	0.63
Hypertension	0.50 <sup>1</sup>	0.63 <sup>1</sup>	1.28	1.35	1.51 <sup>1</sup>	5.08 <sup>1</sup>	2.33 <sup>1</sup>	4.43 <sup>1</sup>	3.06 <sup>1</sup>
Congestive cardiac failure	0.89 <sup>1</sup>	0.97	0.99	1.23 <sup>1</sup>	1.12	1.47 <sup>1</sup>	1.13	1.57 <sup>1</sup>	1.51 <sup>1</sup>
Angina	0.96	0.75 <sup>1</sup>	1.10	1.35 <sup>1</sup>	1.24 <sup>1</sup>	1.50 <sup>1</sup>	1.17	1.09	1.18
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	0.94 <sup>1</sup>	1.00	0.86 <sup>1</sup>	0.95	0.90	1.53 <sup>1</sup>	1.08	1.09	2.14 <sup>1</sup>
Asthma	0.92 <sup>1</sup>	0.95	1.08	0.91	1.08	1.97 <sup>1</sup>	1.15	0.97	1.20
Acute	0.91 <sup>1</sup>	0.95 <sup>1</sup>	0.92 <sup>1</sup>	1.10 <sup>1</sup>	1.04	1.55 <sup>1</sup>	1.24 <sup>1</sup>	1.16 <sup>1</sup>	1.60 <sup>1</sup>
Dehydration and gastroenteritis	0.80 <sup>1</sup>	0.96	1.07	1.80 <sup>1</sup>	1.20 <sup>1</sup>	1.66 <sup>1</sup>	1.23 <sup>1</sup>	1.12	1.67 <sup>1</sup>
Convulsions and epilepsy	0.93 <sup>1</sup>	0.79 <sup>1</sup>	0.99	0.85	1.13	1.38 <sup>1</sup>	1.26	1.50 <sup>1</sup>	2.22 <sup>1</sup>
Ear, nose and throat infections	0.88 <sup>1</sup>	0.99	0.96	0.91	1.03	1.91	1.26	1.44	1.52
Dental conditions	0.97	0.93 <sup>1</sup>	0.85 <sup>1</sup>	0.85 <sup>1</sup>	0.97	1.21	1.50 <sup>1</sup>	0.96	1.66 <sup>1</sup>
Perforated/bleeding ulcer	1.08	0.90	0.75	0.88	1.09	0.99	0.89	0.61	0.77
Appendicitis	0.92	1.15	1.22	0.99	0.61	1.56	1.00	0.62	0.91
Cellulitis	0.87 <sup>1</sup>	0.99	0.88	1.28 <sup>1</sup>	1.17 <sup>1</sup>	1.80 <sup>1</sup>	1.20	1.21	1.41 <sup>1</sup>
Pyelonephritis (includes urinary tract infections)	1.01	0.97	0.83 <sup>1</sup>	0.86	0.90	1.38 <sup>1</sup>	0.96	1.00	1.21
Pelvic inflammatory disease	0.91	1.08	0.74	1.14	0.88	1.18	1.17	1.18	2.06 <sup>1</sup>
Gangrene	1.00	1.15	0.66	1.26	0.48 <sup>1</sup>	0.70	1.00	1.02	1.54
Total avoidable admissions	0.91 <sup>1</sup>	0.96 <sup>1</sup>	0.93 <sup>1</sup>	1.08 <sup>1</sup>	1.03 <sup>1</sup>	1.58 <sup>1</sup>	1.16 <sup>1</sup>	1.17 <sup>1</sup>	1.59 <sup>1</sup>

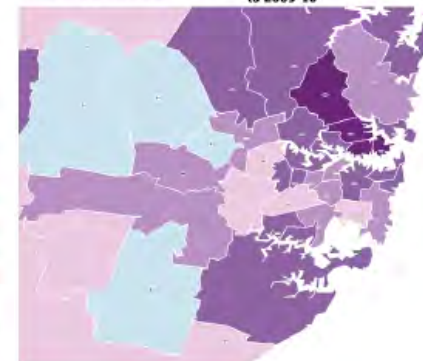
<sup>1</sup> Admissions resulting from ACS conditions

## Potentially preventable hospitalisations by Local Government Area, NSW, 2008-09 to 2009-10

Potentially preventable hospitalisations by Local Government Area, NSW, 2008-09 to 2009-10



Potentially preventable hospitalisations by Local Government Area, NSW, 2008-09 to 2009-10



### Sources

NSW Admitted Patient Data Collection and ABS population estimates (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

**Thank you!**