

# Anti-microbial or hydrophobic materials vs conventional peripherally inserted central catheters (PICNIC):

A multicentre, randomised controlled trial

Amanda J Ullman, Deanne August, Tricia M Kleidon, Rachel M Walker, Nicole Marsh, Andrew C Bulmer, Ben Pearch, Naomi Runnegar, Joanne Leema, Paul Lee-Archer, Cathy Biles, Victoria Gibson, Ruth Royle, Katrina Southam, Joshua Byrnes, Vineet Chopra, Alan Coulthard, Peter Mollee, Claire M Rickard, Patrick Harris, Robert S Ware



This study was funded by the Australian Government (the National Health and Medical Research Council APP1157178).

No commercial entity had any role in the conception, design or funding of this study, or in the preparation of this manuscript.

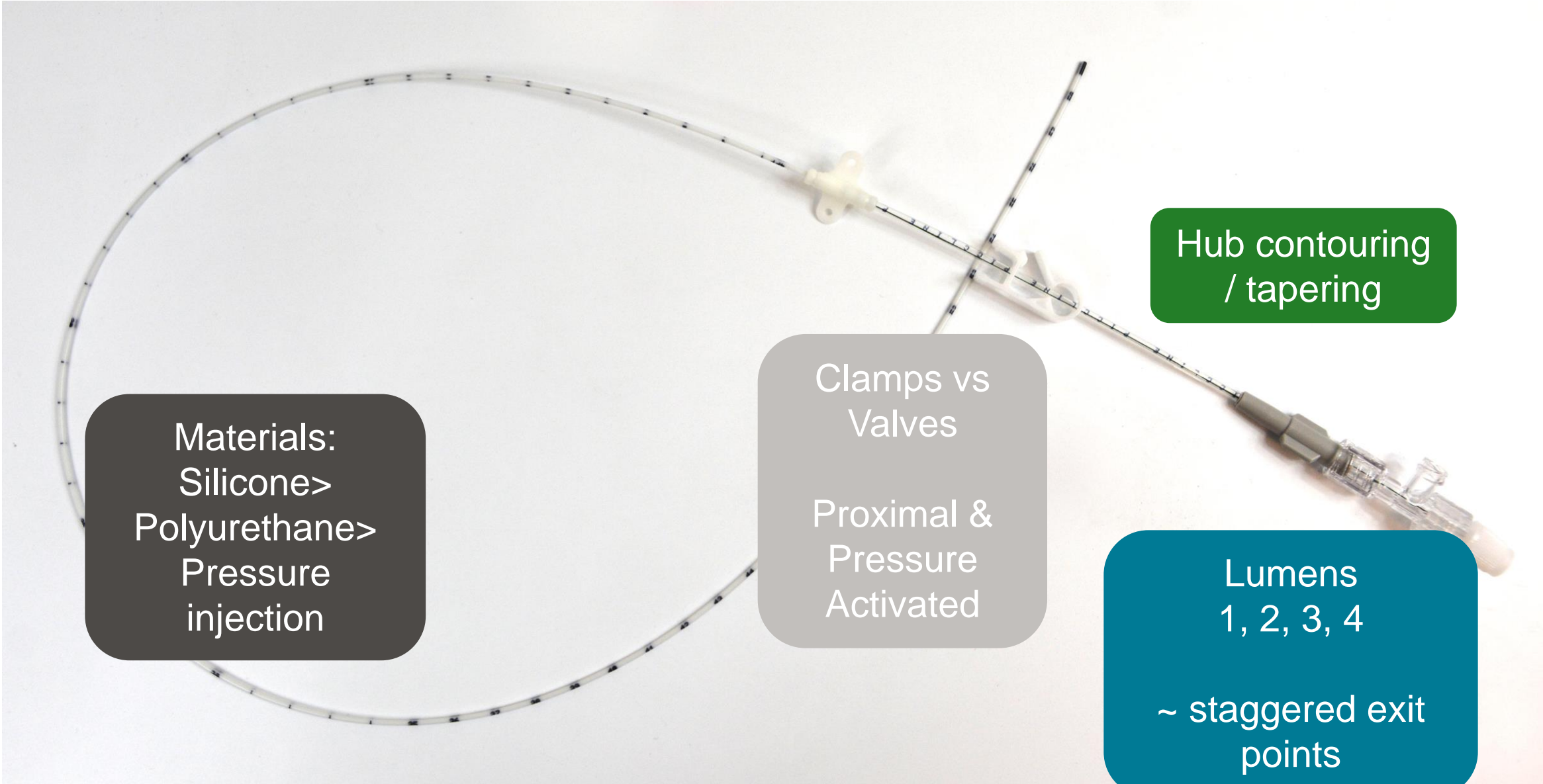
AJUs former and current employers have received unrestricted research and educational grants to support her research (unrelated from the current project) from 3M, Becton Dickinson, Medline and Bioline. DAs former and current employer has received consultancy payments for educational lectures based on her research and clinical expertise from 3M and Navi Medical Technologies. TKs former and current employer has received unrestricted research and educational grants from 3M, Becton Dickinson, and Medical Specialties Australasia. RMWs employer has received unrestricted research and educational grants to support her research (unrelated to current project) from Becton Dickinson. NMs former employer has received unrestricted research and educational grants to support her research (unrelated from the current project) from 3M, Becton Dickinson, Bioline and Cardinal Health. Griffith University (ACBs employer) has received educational and research grants from Angiodynamics, ICU Medical and 3M on behalf of the AVATAR group, in addition to consultancy payments from Becton Dickinson and investigator initiated research grant funding from B. Braun (unrelated to the current project). Griffith University (JB's employer) has received unrestricted research and educational grants to support her research (unrelated to current project) from Becton Dickinson, and Navi Technologies. PM is a member of Myeloma Advisory Boards for Celgene, Janssen, Amgen, Takeda, and Amyloidosis Advisory Boards for Pfizer and Caelum. No personal fees have been received for these services. PM's has received a research grant from Janssen for a clinical trial. PM has accommodation and registration provided by Amgen for attendance at the International Myeloma Workshop in 2019. CMRs current and prior employers have received unrestricted research and educational grants to support her research (unrelated to the current project) from 3M, Becton Dickinson and Cardinal Health.



CLABSI

Occlusion

Thrombosis



Materials:  
Silicone>  
Polyurethane>  
Pressure  
injection

Clamps vs  
Valves

Proximal &  
Pressure  
Activated

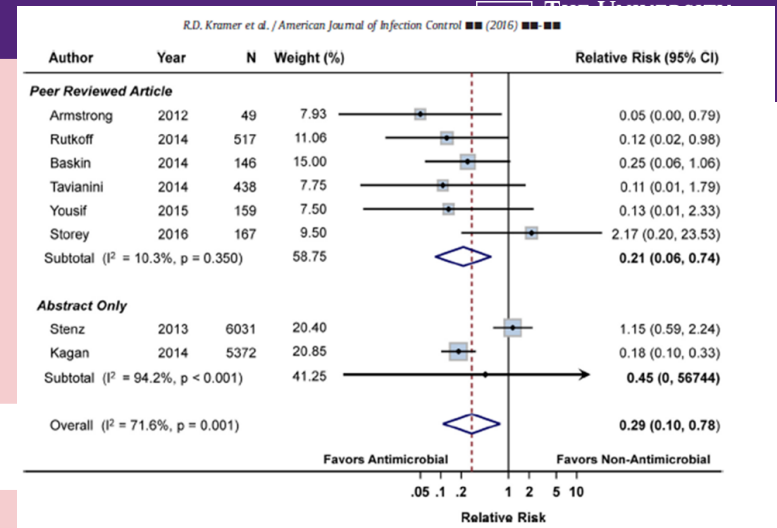
Hub contouring  
/ tapering

Lumens  
1, 2, 3, 4

~ staggered exit  
points



## Observational study metanalysis



## Observational study

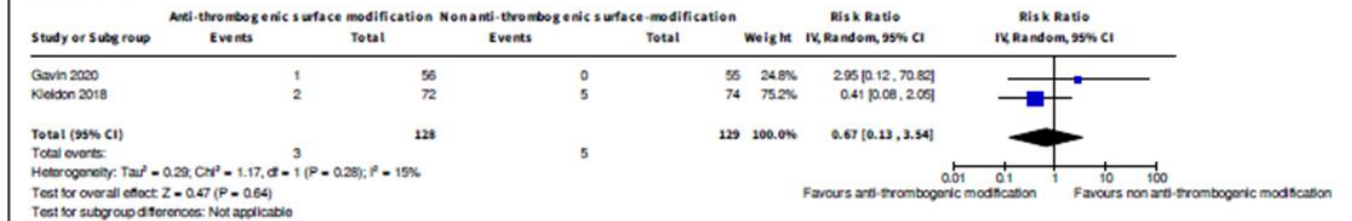
Table 2. Multivariate Cox Model for CLABSI

Variable	All PICCs (n=42,562)		Non-ICU/Nononcology (n=28,111)		ICU (n=12,078)		Oncology (n=1,407)	
	HR (95% CI)	P Value	HR (95% CI)	P Value	HR (95% CI)	P Value	HR (95% CI)	P Value
Antimicrobial coating <sup>a</sup>	1.16 (0.82-1.64)	.3997	1.22 (0.75-1.98)	.4254	1.10 (0.60-1.99)	.7655	2.14 (0.61-7.53)	.234



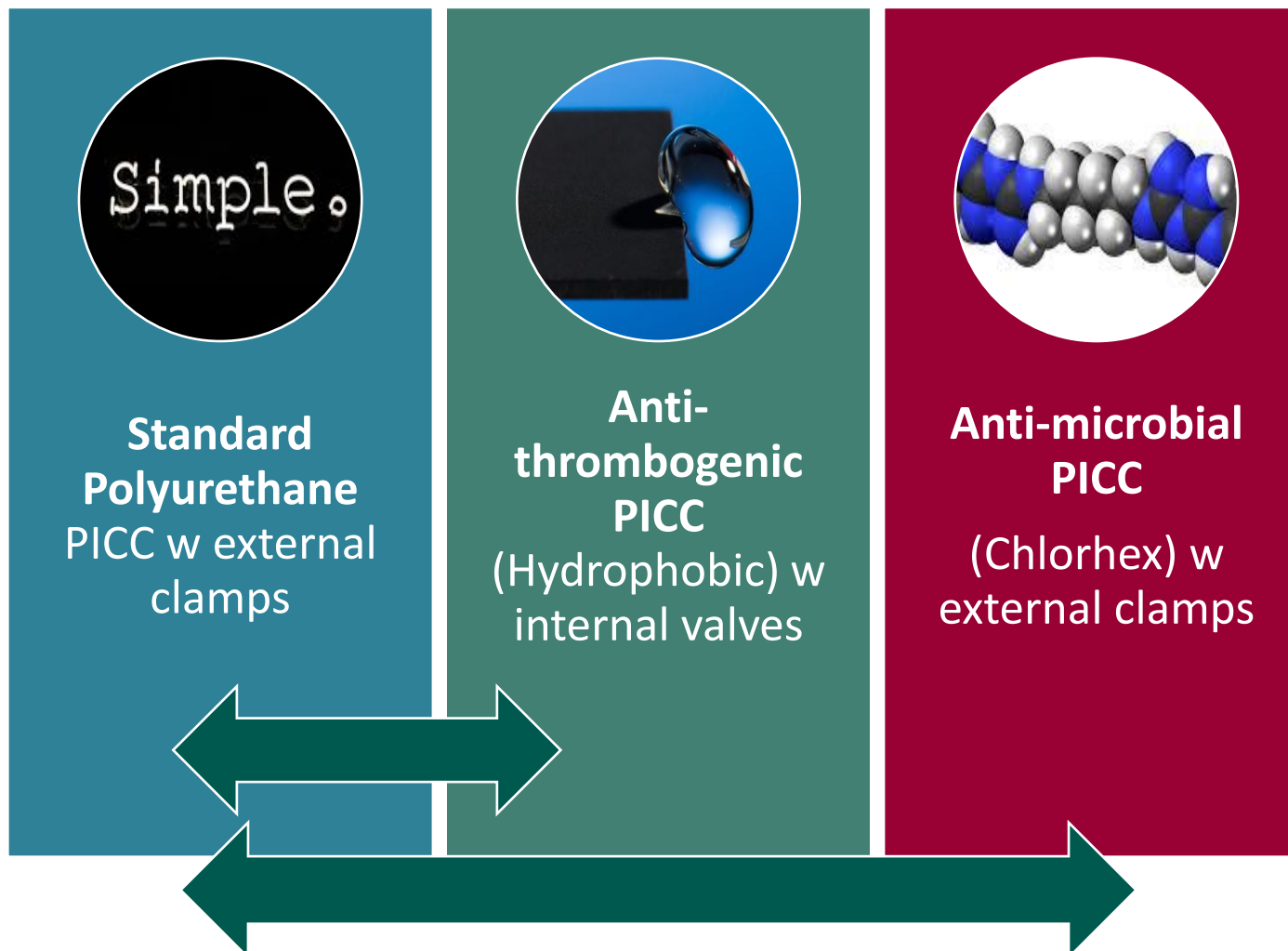
## Cochrane review

### Analysis 8.1



Comparison 8: Anti-thrombogenic surface modification versus non anti-thrombogenic surface modification , Outcome 1: Venous thromboembolism

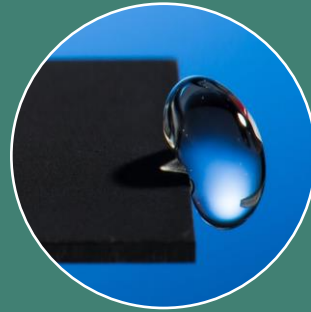
PICNIC: Multi-centre, investigator-initiated, parallel group, open-label, **superiority**, randomized controlled trial (RCT)



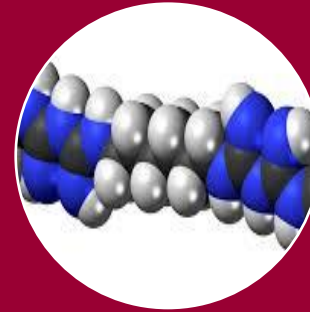
PICNIC: Multi-centre, investigator-initiated, parallel group, open-label, **superiority**, randomized controlled trial (RCT)



Standard  
Polyurethane  
PICC w external  
clamps



Anti-  
thrombogenic  
PICC  
(Hydrophobic) w  
internal valves



Anti-microbial  
PICC  
(Chlorhex) w  
external clamps



BMJ  
Open

3 Large Tertiary, Metropolitan Hospitals in Queensland  
2 Adult, 1 Paediatric  
1,098 patients: September 2019 to December 2022

## PICC failure

- Composite of thrombotic & infective complications severe enough to cause **cessation of PICC function** prior to therapy completion.

## All-cause PICC complications

- Any thrombotic or infection complications **during dwell & at removal**

## Non-infectious complications

- VTE: Symptomatic, image confirmed
- Breakage: Split with leakage or scan
- Occlusion: Partial & complete (CINAS)

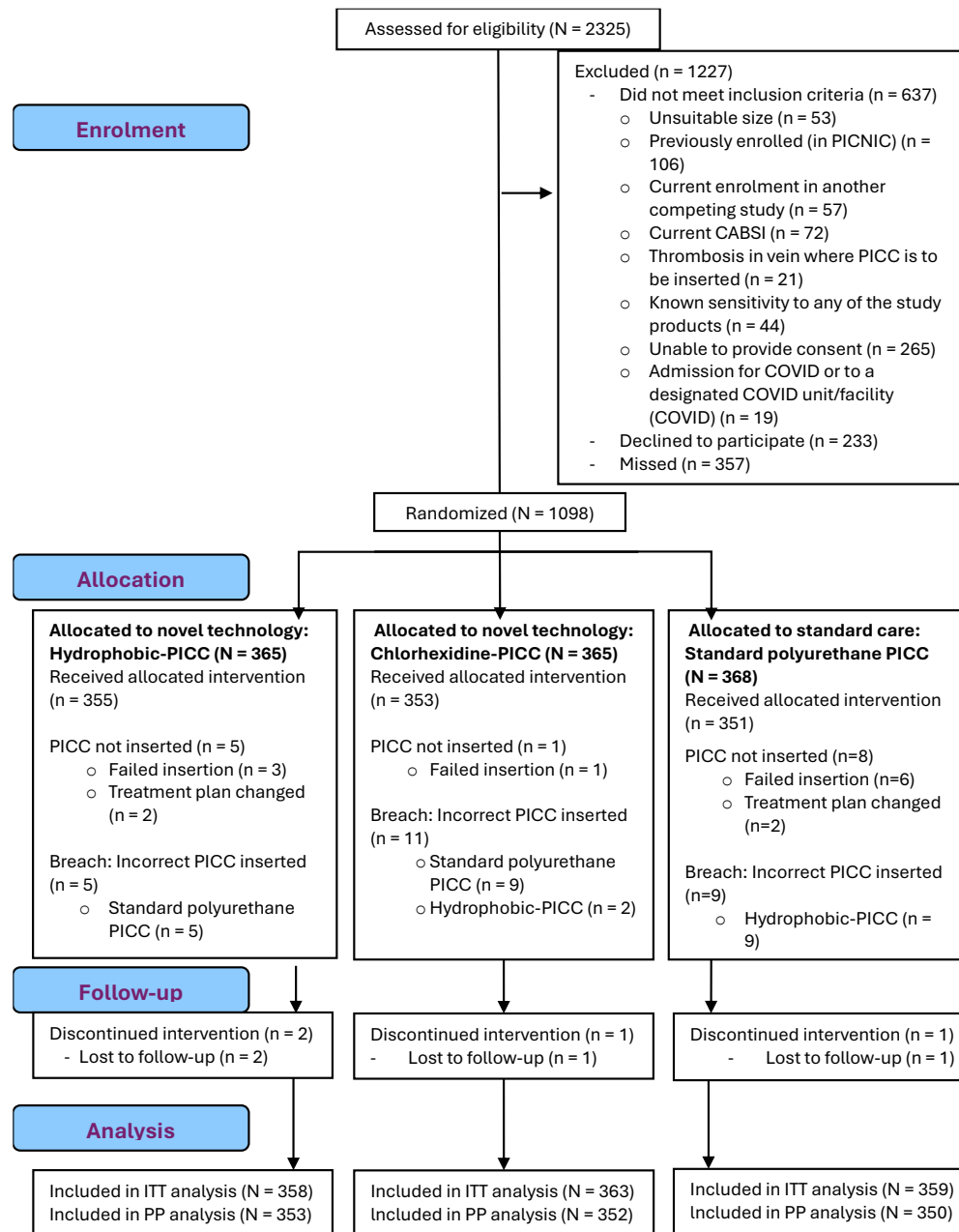
## Infectious complications


- PICC associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI NHSN)
- Local infections (VASC, NHSN)

## Secondary outcomes

- Individual complication types
- Adverse events, Dwell, Patient/parent satisfaction
- Costs

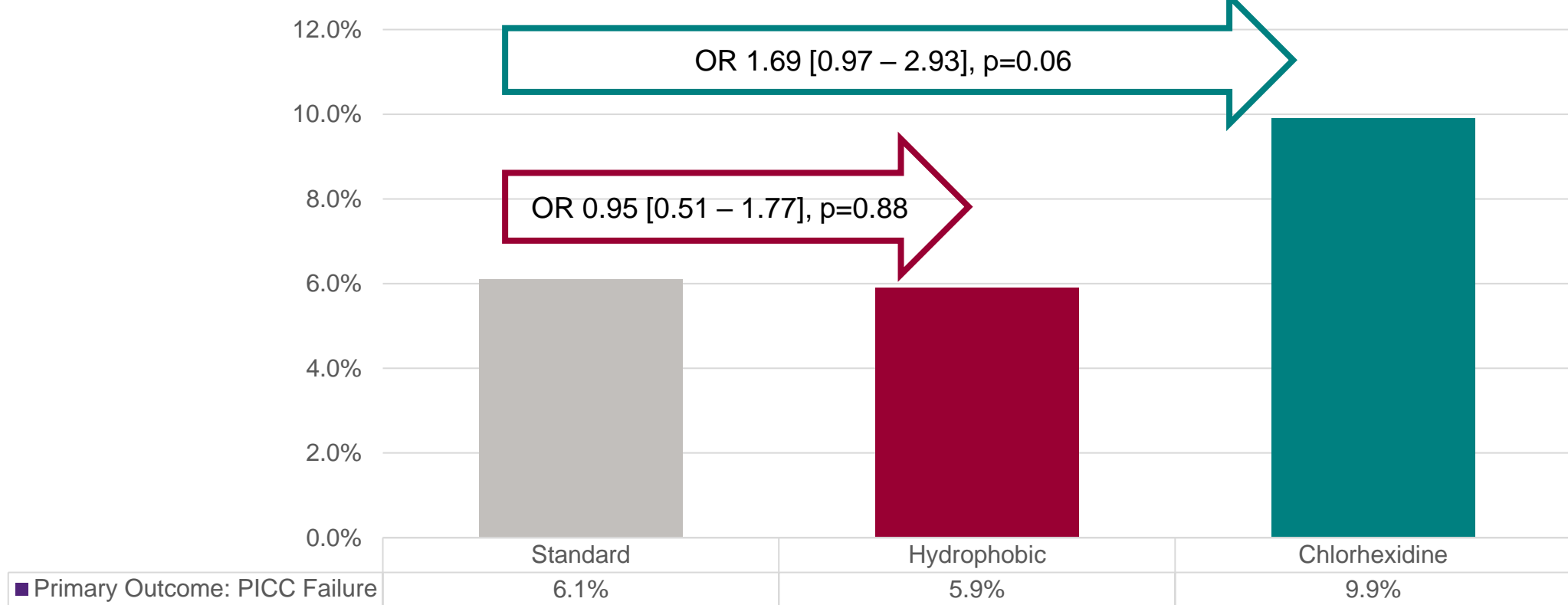




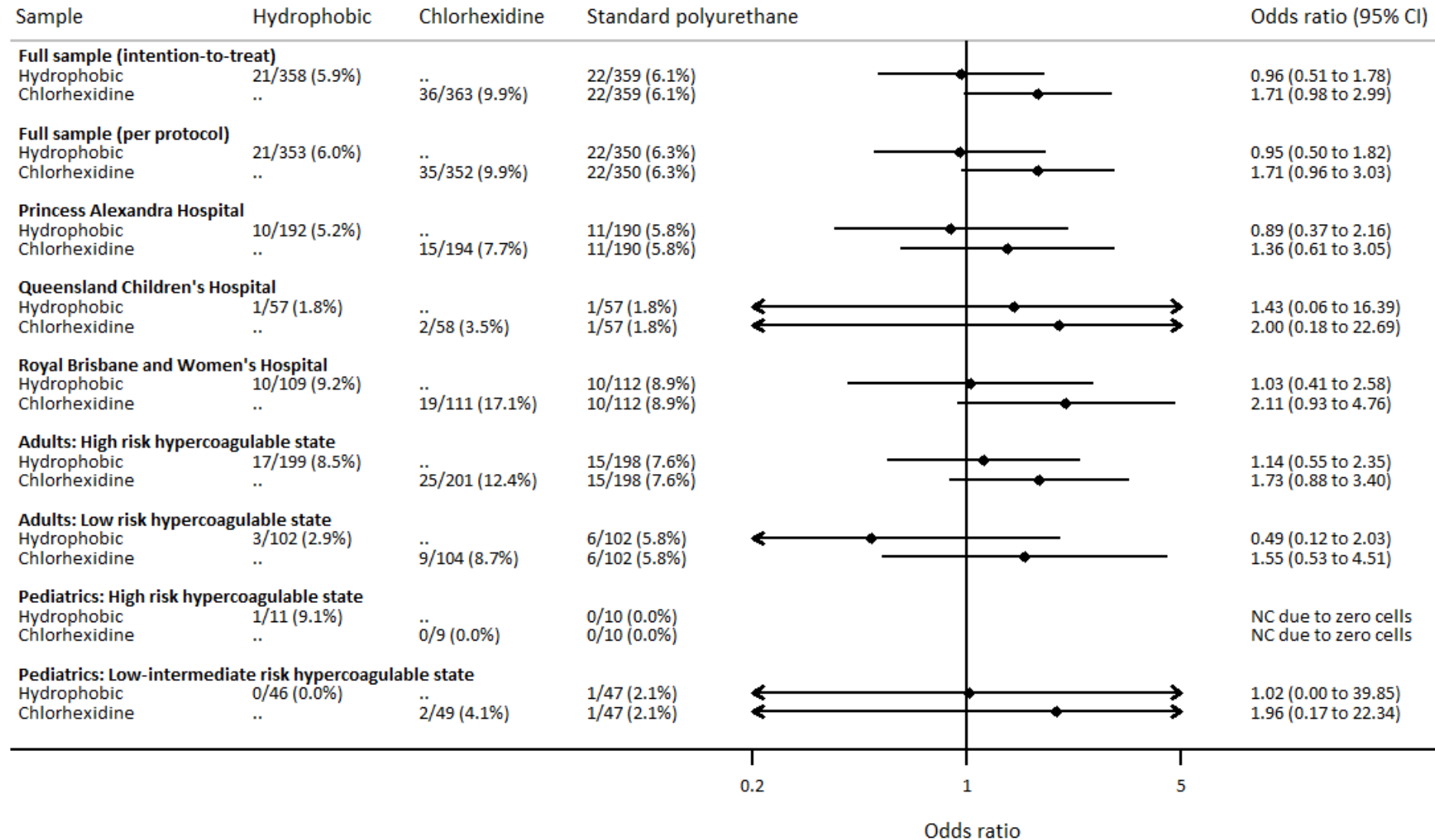
	Characteristic	Standard polyurethane (N = 368) n (%)	Hydrophobic (N = 365) n (%)	Chlorhexidine (N = 365) n (%)	
	<b>Age (in years)</b>	49.7 (SD 21.7)	50.7 (SD 22.3)	50.4 (SD 21.7)	
	<b>Gender (Female)</b>	149 (40.5)	144 (39.5)	146 (40.0)	
	<b>Number of co-morbidities</b>				
	1	65 (17.7)	65 (17.8)	67 (18.4)	
	2	52 (14.1)	63 (17.3)	61 (16.7)	
	3	32 (8.7)	21 (5.8)	27 (7.4)	
	>3	179 (48.6)	171 (46.9)	161 (44.1)	
	<b>Diagnostic group</b>				
	Surgical	118 (32.1)	129 (35.3)	120 (32.9)	
	Oncology	91 (24.7)	82 (22.5)	82 (22.5)	
	Hematology	52 (14.1)	54 (14.8)	54 (14.8)	
	Respiratory	25 (6.8)	29 (8.0)	23 (6.3)	
	Gastroenterology	33 (9.0)	26 (7.1)	27 (7.4)	
	Medical	40 (10.9)	28 (7.7)	27 (7.4)	
	Cardiac	8 (2.2)	20 (5.5)	27 (7.4)	
	Infectious diseases	12 (3.3)	11 (3.0)	15 (4.1)	
	<b>Initial CVAD across life span of participant</b>	212 (57.6)	214 (58.9)	216 (59.2)	
	<b>High Michigan Risk Scores (Adults)</b>	200 (64.9)	200 (65.6)	203 (66.1)	

Characteristic	Standard polyurethane (N = 368) n (%)	Hydrophobic (N = 365) n (%)	Chlorhexidine (N = 365) n (%)
<b>PICC lumens</b>			
1	48 (13.3)	46 (12.8)	50 (13.7)
2	311 (86.4)	310 (86.1)	307 (84.3)
3	1 (0.3)	4 (1.1)	7 (1.9)
<b>PICC placement</b>			
Basilic	305 (84.7)	322 (89.4)	306 (84.1)
Brachial	44 (12.2)	32 (8.9)	54 (14.8)
<b>Department of insertion</b>			
Radiology	327 (90.1)	324 (89.8)	338 (92.9)
Operating theatre	36 (9.9)	37 (10.3)	26 (7.1)
<b>Multiple attempts required</b>	50 (13.8)	51 (14.1)	46 (12.6)
<b>Number of times inserter has used product</b>			
First time	12 (3.3)	28 (7.8)	59 (16.2)
2-10	30 (8.3)	111 (30.8)	107 (29.4)
11-20	25 (6.9)	75 (20.8)	73 (20.1)
>20	289 (79.6)	144 (39.9)	121 (33.2)

## Primary Outcome: PICC failure prior to completion of treatment



**Confirmation of null hypothesis:  
No evidence of superiority of interventions  
on primary outcome**



Secondary outcomes	Standard polyurethane (N = 359)	Hydrophobic (N = 358)	OR (95% CI)	Chlorhex (N = 363)	OR (95% CI)
<b>All-cause complications (ever):</b> occurring during PICC dwell or at or near treatment completion, with or without associated failure	78 (21.7)	77 (21.5)	0.99 (0.69 to 1.41)	140 (38.6)	2.26 (1.63 to 3.14)
<b>Non-infectious complication (ever)</b>	70 (19.5)	71 (19.8)	1.02 (0.71 to 1.48)	132 (36.4)	2.36 (1.68 to 3.31)
Venous thrombosis	23 (6.4)	11 (3.1)	0.46 (0.22 to 0.96)	12 (3.3)	0.50 (0.24 to 1.02)
Breakage	2 (0.6)	3 (0.8)	1.51 (0.25 to 9.08)	0 (0.0)	NC to due zero cells
Occlusion	51 (14.2)	61 (17.0)	1.24 (0.83 to 1.86)	122 (33.6)	3.06 (2.12 to 4.42)
<i>Complete occlusion</i>	18 (5.0)	32 (8.9)	1.86 (1.02 to 3.38)	87 (24.0)	5.97 (3.51 to 10.16)
<i>Partial occlusion</i>	37 (10.3)	41 (11.5)	1.13 (0.71 to 1.81)	82 (22.7)	2.56 (1.68 to 3.89)
<b>Infective complication (ever)</b>	14 (3.9)	12 (3.4)	0.85 (0.39 to 1.87)	16 (4.4)	1.14 (0.55 to 2.36)
PICC-associated BSI	7 (2.0)	5 (1.4)	0.71 (0.22 to 2.27)	6 (1.7)	0.85 (0.28 to 2.54)
Local Infection	8 (2.2)	7 (2.0)	0.88 (0.31 to 2.44)	10 (2.8)	1.24 (0.48 to 3.19)

Secondary outcomes	Standard polyurethane (N = 359)	Hydrophobic (N = 358)	OR (95% CI)	Chlorhex (N = 363)	OR (95% CI)
<b>All-cause complications (ever):</b> occurring during PICC dwell or at or near treatment completion, with or without associated failure	78 (21.7)	77 (21.5)	0.99 (0.69 to 1.41)	140 (38.6)	2.26 (1.63 to 3.14)
<b>Non-infectious complication (ever)</b>	70 (19.5)	71 (19.8)	1.02 (0.71 to 1.48)	132 (36.4)	2.36 (1.68 to 3.31)
Venous thrombosis	23 (6.4)	11 (3.1)	0.46 (0.22 to 0.96)	12 (3.3)	0.50 (0.24 to 1.02)
Breakage	2 (0.6)	3 (0.8)	1.51 (0.25 to 9.08)	0 (0.0)	NC to due zero cells
Occlusion	51 (14.2)	61 (17.0)	1.24 (0.83 to 1.86)	122 (33.6)	3.06 (2.12 to 4.42)
<i>Complete occlusion</i>	18 (5.0)	32 (8.9)	1.86 (1.02 to 3.38)	87 (24.0)	5.97 (3.51 to 10.16)
<i>Partial occlusion</i>	37 (10.3)	41 (11.5)	1.13 (0.71 to 1.81)	82 (22.7)	2.56 (1.68 to 3.89)
<b>Infective complication (ever)</b>	14 (3.9)	12 (3.4)	0.85 (0.39 to 1.87)	16 (4.4)	1.14 (0.55 to 2.36)
PICC-associated BSI	7 (2.0)	5 (1.4)	0.71 (0.22 to 2.27)	6 (1.7)	0.85 (0.28 to 2.54)
Local Infection	8 (2.2)	7 (2.0)	0.88 (0.31 to 2.44)	10 (2.8)	1.24 (0.48 to 3.19)

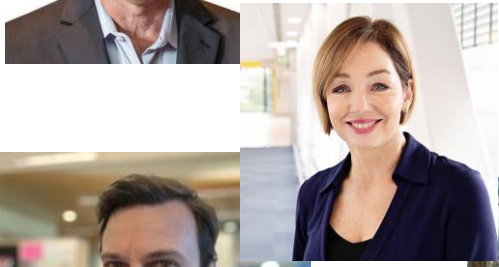
Secondary outcomes	Standard polyurethane (N = 359)	Hydrophobic (N = 358)	OR (95% CI)	Chlorhex (N = 363)	OR (95% CI)
<b>All-cause complications (ever):</b> occurring during PICC dwell or at or near treatment completion, with or without associated failure	78 (21.7)	77 (21.5)	0.99 (0.69 to 1.41)	140 (38.6)	2.26 (1.63 to 3.14)
<b>Non-infectious complication (ever)</b>	70 (19.5)	71 (19.8)	1.02 (0.71 to 1.48)	132 (36.4)	2.36 (1.68 to 3.31)
Venous thrombosis	23 (6.4)	11 (3.1)	0.46 (0.22 to 0.96)	12 (3.3)	0.50 (0.24 to 1.02)
Breakage	2 (0.6)	3 (0.8)	1.51 (0.25 to 9.08)	0 (0.0)	NC to due zero cells
Occlusion	51 (14.2)	61 (17.0)	1.24 (0.83 to 1.86)	122 (33.6)	3.06 (2.12 to 4.42)
<i>Complete occlusion</i>	18 (5.0)	32 (8.9)	1.86 (1.02 to 3.38)	87 (24.0)	5.97 (3.51 to 10.16)
<i>Partial occlusion</i>	37 (10.3)	41 (11.5)	1.13 (0.71 to 1.81)	82 (22.7)	2.56 (1.68 to 3.89)
<b>Infective complication (ever)</b>	14 (3.9)	12 (3.4)	0.85 (0.39 to 1.87)	16 (4.4)	1.14 (0.55 to 2.36)
PICC-associated BSI	7 (2.0)	5 (1.4)	0.71 (0.22 to 2.27)	6 (1.7)	0.85 (0.28 to 2.54)
Local Infection	8 (2.2)	7 (2.0)	0.88 (0.31 to 2.44)	10 (2.8)	1.24 (0.48 to 3.19)

Secondary outcomes	Standard polyurethane (N = 359)	Hydrophobic (N = 358)	OR (95% CI)	Chlorhex (N = 363)	OR (95% CI)
<b>All-cause complications (ever):</b> occurring during PICC dwell or at or near treatment completion, with or without associated failure	78 (21.7)	77 (21.5)	0.99 (0.69 to 1.41)	140 (38.6)	2.26 (1.63 to 3.14)
<b>Non-infectious complication (ever)</b>	70 (19.5)	71 (19.8)	1.02 (0.71 to 1.48)	132 (36.4)	2.36 (1.68 to 3.31)
Venous thrombosis	23 (6.4)	11 (3.1)	0.46 (0.22 to 0.96)	12 (3.3)	0.50 (0.24 to 1.02)
Breakage	2 (0.6)	3 (0.8)	1.51 (0.25 to 9.08)	0 (0.0)	NC to due zero cells
Occlusion	51 (14.2)	61 (17.0)	1.24 (0.83 to 1.86)	122 (33.6)	3.06 (2.12 to 4.42)
<i>Complete occlusion</i>	18 (5.0)	32 (8.9)	1.86 (1.02 to 3.38)	87 (24.0)	5.97 (3.51 to 10.16)
<i>Partial occlusion</i>	37 (10.3)	41 (11.5)	1.13 (0.71 to 1.81)	82 (22.7)	2.56 (1.68 to 3.89)
<b>Infective complication (ever)</b>	14 (3.9)	12 (3.4)	0.85 (0.39 to 1.87)	16 (4.4)	1.14 (0.55 to 2.36)
PICC-associated BSI	7 (2.0)	5 (1.4)	0.71 (0.22 to 2.27)	6 (1.7)	0.85 (0.28 to 2.54)
Local Infection	8 (2.2)	7 (2.0)	0.88 (0.31 to 2.44)	10 (2.8)	1.24 (0.48 to 3.19)

Secondary outcomes	Standard polyurethane (N = 359)	Hydrophobic (N = 358)	Effect Estimates (95% CI)	Chlorhex (N = 363)	Effect Estimates (95% CI)
Adverse events (n (%))	1 (0.3)	0 (0.0)	OR = NC due to zero cells	0 (0.0)	OR = NC due to zero cells
PICC dwell, days (mean (SD))	28.8 (18.9)	26.1 (18.1)	MD = -2.6 (-5.3 to 0.1)	27.5 (18.0)	MD = -1.2 (-3.9 to 1.4)
Satisfaction (NRS 0 to 100), median (IQR)					
Staff (at insertion), ease of PICC insertion	100 (90 to 100)	90 (70 to 100)	MedD = -10 (-12 to -8)	100 (90 to 100)	MedD = 0 (-2 to 2)
Staff (at insertion), satisfaction with insertion kit	100 (100 to 100)	80 (50 to 100)	MedD = -20 (-22 to -19)	100 (90 to 100)	MedD = 0 (-1 to 1)
Patient/parent (at removal), overall experience	96 (70 to 100)	98 (77 to 100)	MedD = 2 (-3 to 7)	88 (59 to 100)	MedD = -8 (-13 to -3)

# The PICNIC trial team

## Thank you!!!



Not pictured: Joanne Leema, Cathy Biles, Katrina Southam, Nimco Habbad, Haiyang Tian, Michelle Bauer, Cat O'Brien, Stephanie Hall

What's causing all those occlusions?

Is Chlorhexidine Acetate that different from CHG?

De-implementation process in the US?

If its not catheter materials – what will work across all 3 complications? Is this possible?

Future projects should target high risk populations only



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

# Thank you

Professor Amanda Ullman  
a.ullman@uq.edu.au



facebook.com/uniofqld



Instagram.com/uniofqld



@a\_ullman

CRICOS code 00025B

