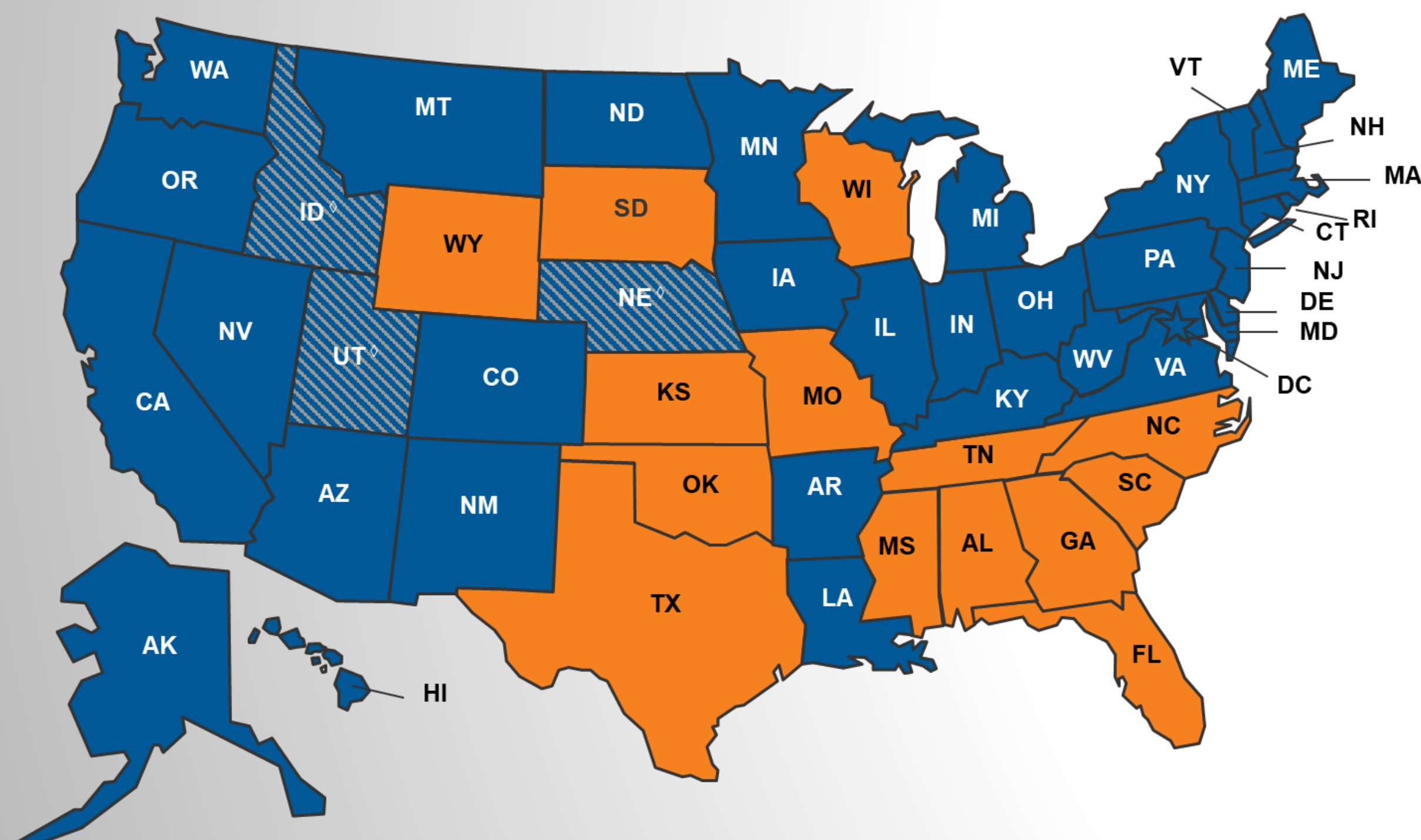
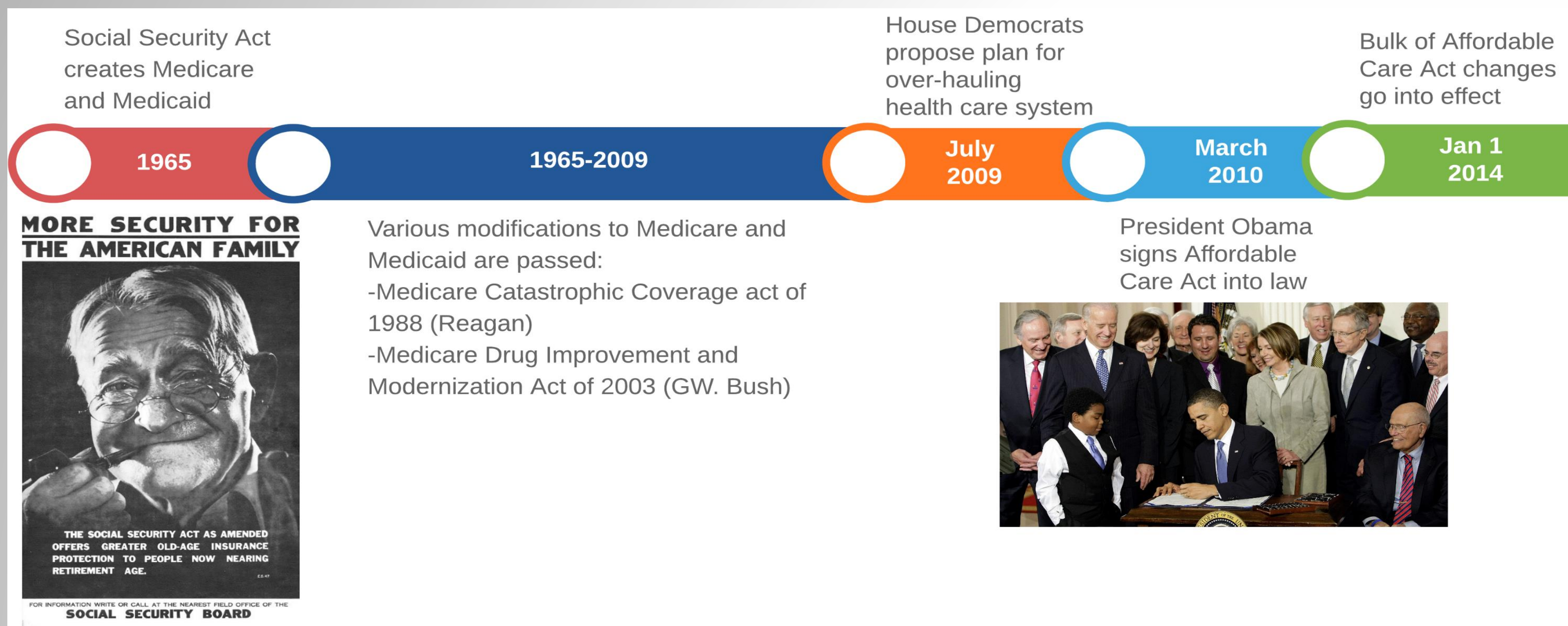


Question of Interest

How has Affordable Care Act implementation and Medicaid expansion changed burn outcomes at Harborview Medical Center (HMC)?

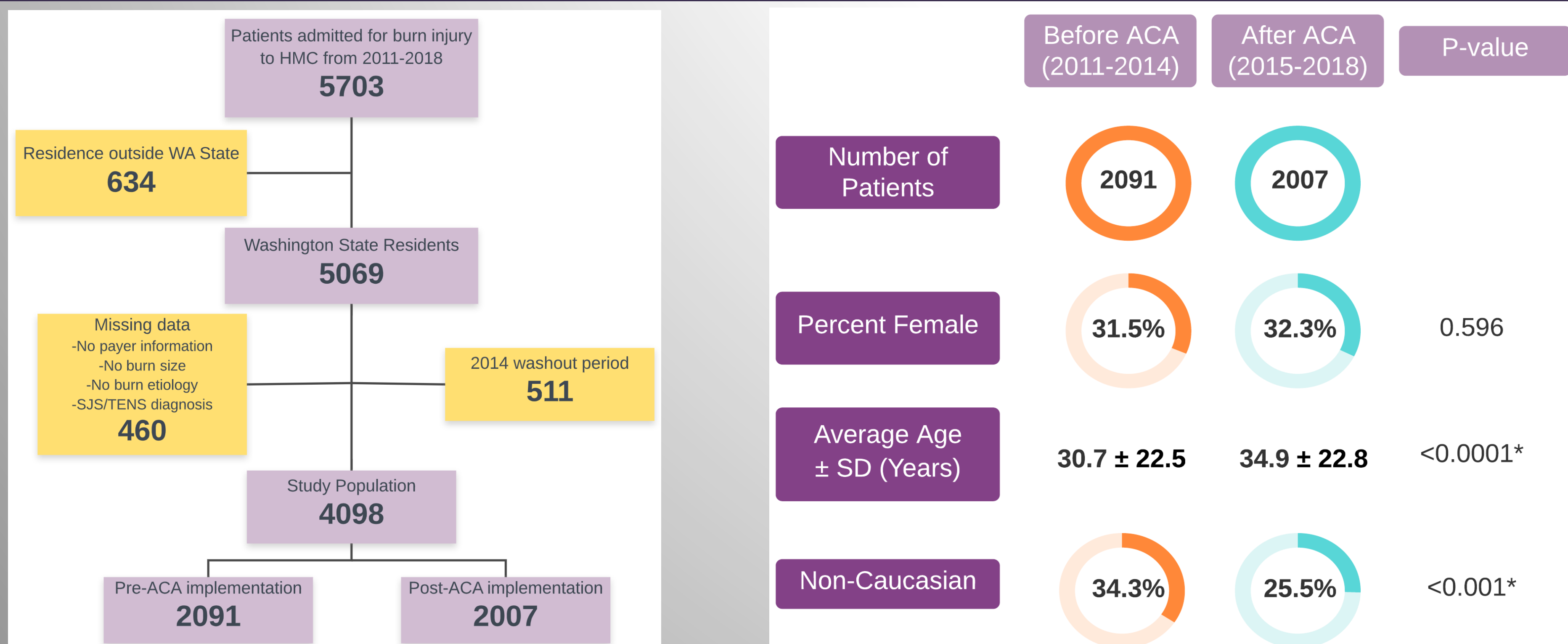
Healthcare Reform in the USA



- 37 states adopted expansion (blue)
- 14 states have not adopted expansion (orange)

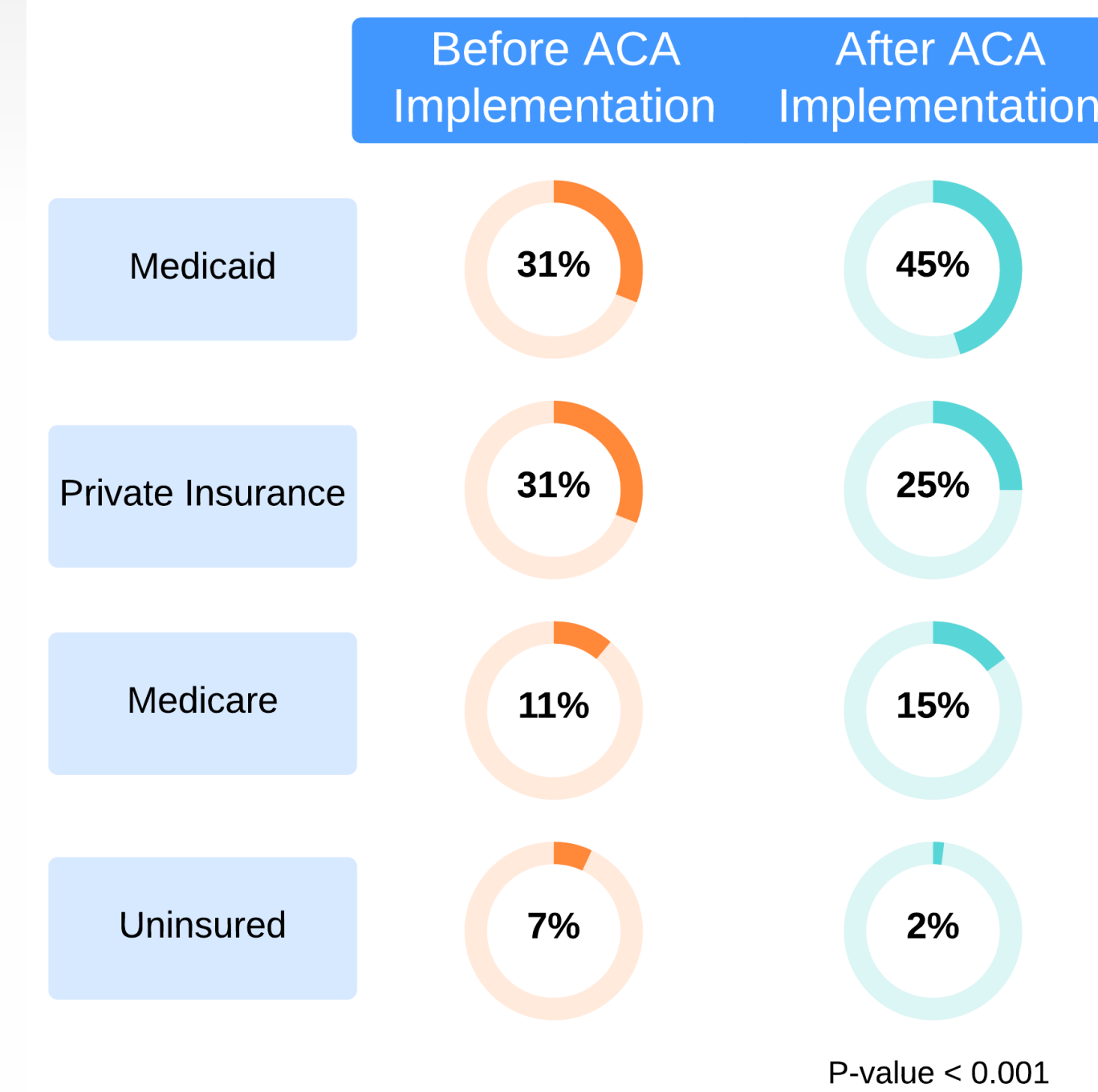
SOURCE: "Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion Decision," KFF State Health Facts, updated November 15, 2019. <https://www.kff.org/health-reform/state-indicator/state-activity-around-expanding-medicare-under-the-affordable-care-act/>

Patient Selection and Characteristics



Our population included HMC admissions for burn injury from 2011-2018 with a Washington State home address. We incorporated a washout period (patients admitted in 2014) as a transition period during implementation. Patients were divided into Pre-ACA and Post-ACA implementation groups.

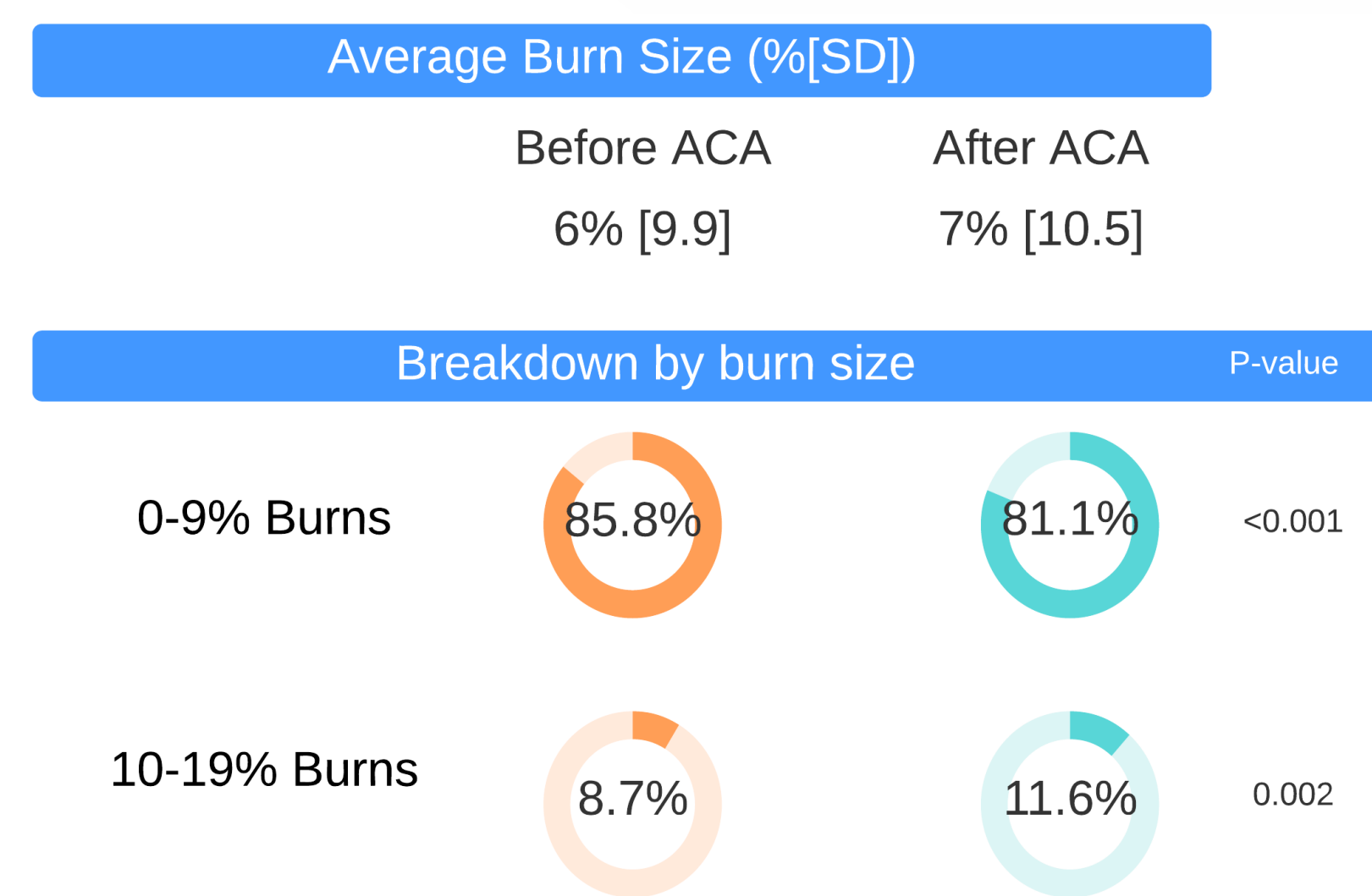
Insurance Status



After ACA implementation

- Rates of Medicaid significantly increased with expansion.
- Rates of private insurance and uninsured patients decreased with expansion.

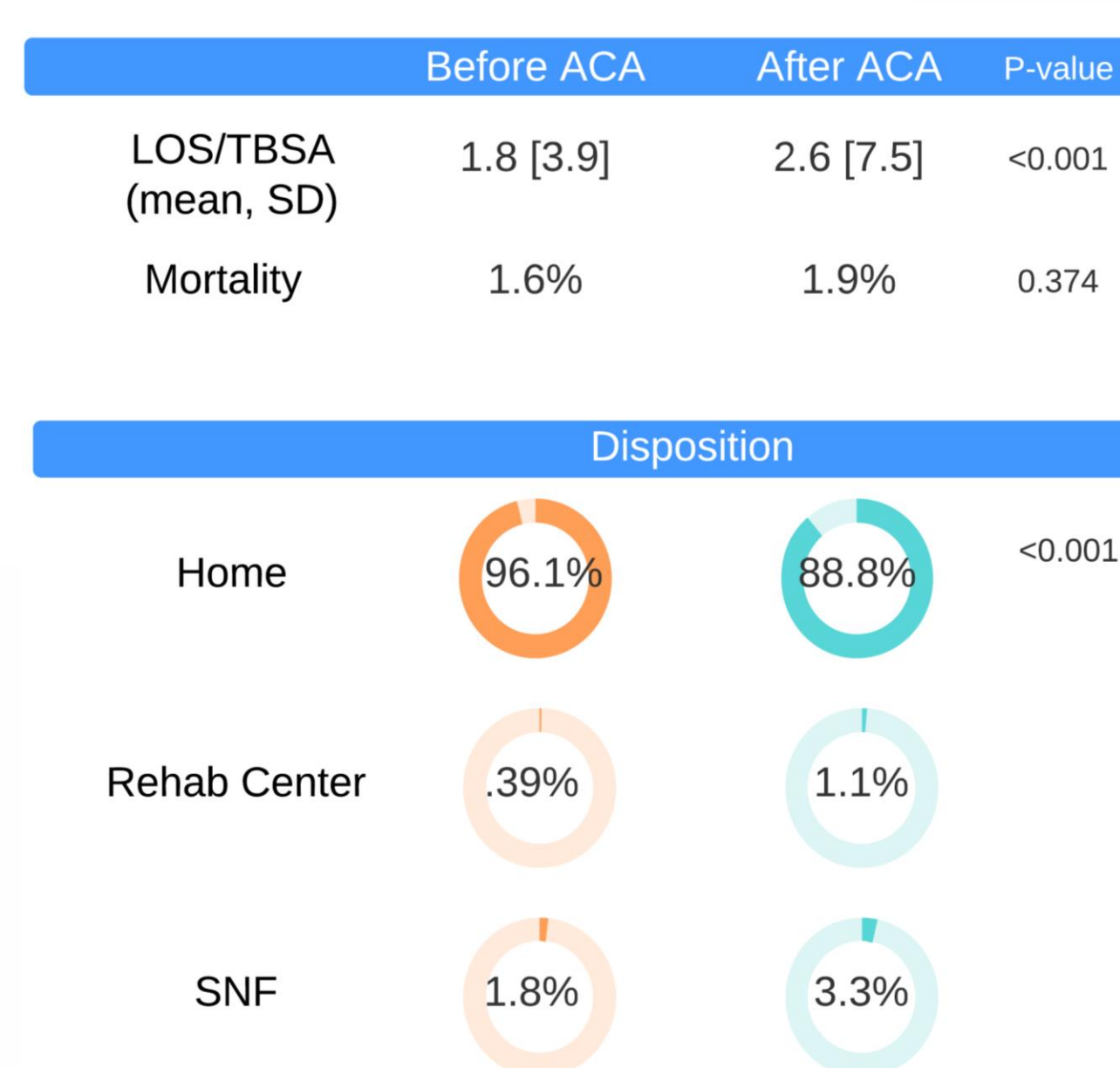
Burn Size



After ACA implementation

- Average burn size decreased
- Fewer small (0-9% TBSA) and more moderate (10-19% TBSA) burns were treated at the burn center

Outcomes



After ACA implementation

- Mortality rate was unchanged
- More patients were discharged to skilled nursing facilities and rehabilitation centers.
- Length of Stay/TBSA increased

Conclusions

With implementation of the ACA, we have shown a shift in insurance status and patient characteristics at a regional burn center. Our observation that patients admitted to the burn center were older with larger burns suggests that local facilities are managing more healthy individuals with smaller burns. Burn center resource planning should account for longer anticipated LOS and increased need for SNF and inpatient rehabilitation care.

Disclosures

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