

DECLUTTERING THE PROBLEM LIST IN ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS

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INTRODUCTION

- The electronic health record (EHR) problem list has many uses within clinical decision support (CDS), problem-oriented charting, reporting, research, and billing. The maintenance, completeness, and accuracy of the problem list are essential to meet these goals.
- Yet clinician attitudes towards the problem list vary greatly with controversy as to what should be documented and who should update it.
- The literature has mainly focused on evaluating the *completeness* of the problem list.
- However, clinicians are burdened with the upkeep of problem lists weighed down by duplication, lack of specificity, and persistence of resolved problems.
- Therefore, the objective of this study is to evaluate the current state of problem list maintenance.

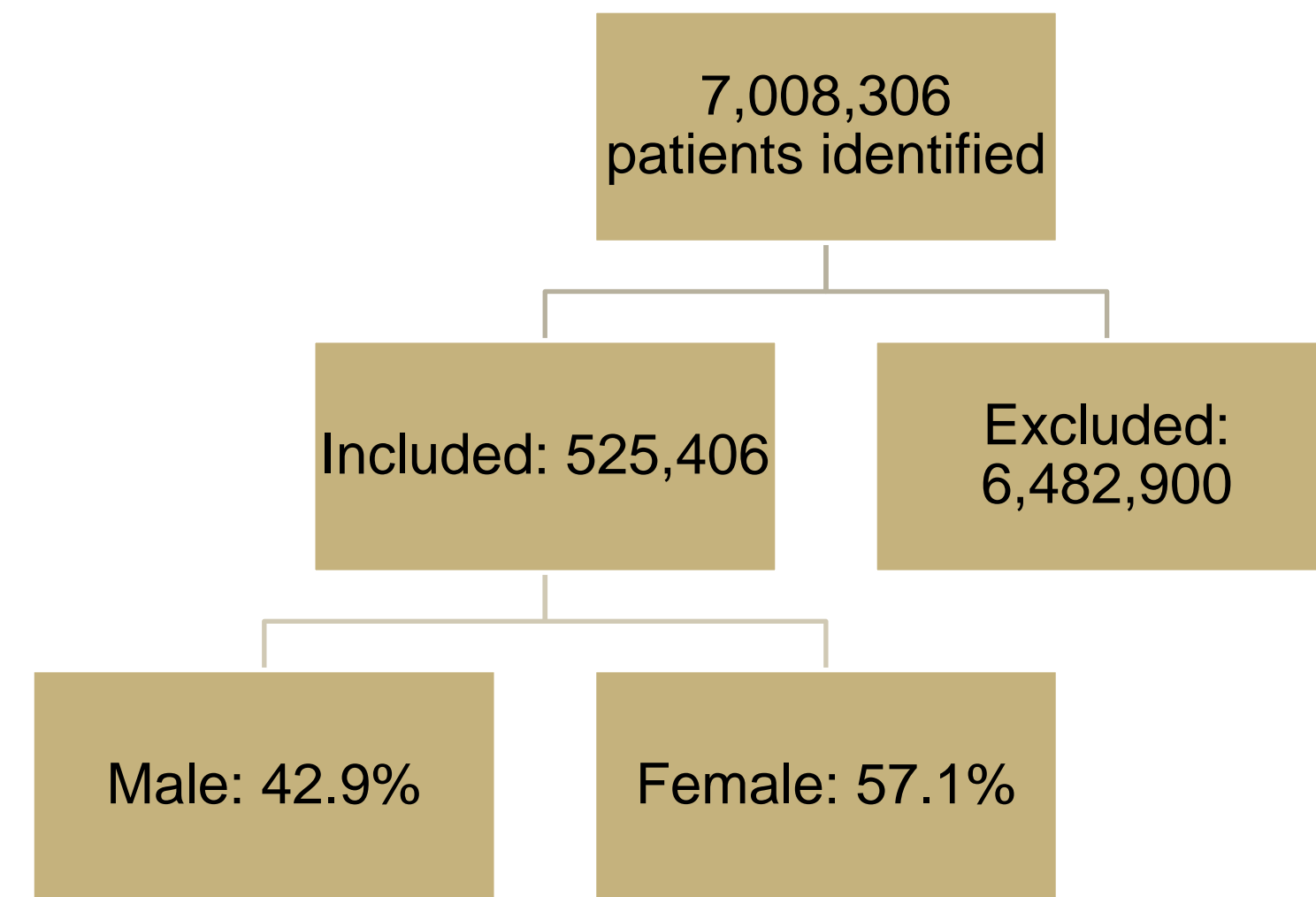
METHODS

Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC)

- 1421 bed academic medical center
- > 2 million outpatient visits per year
- Electronic Health Record utilizes hospital and outpatient problem lists

- Measures of problem list maintenance
 - Number of problem list additions and removals per 100 encounters
 - Duplicates
 - Exact
 - Semantic
 - Persistence of temporary problems
 - Inconsistent problems
 - Misplaced items

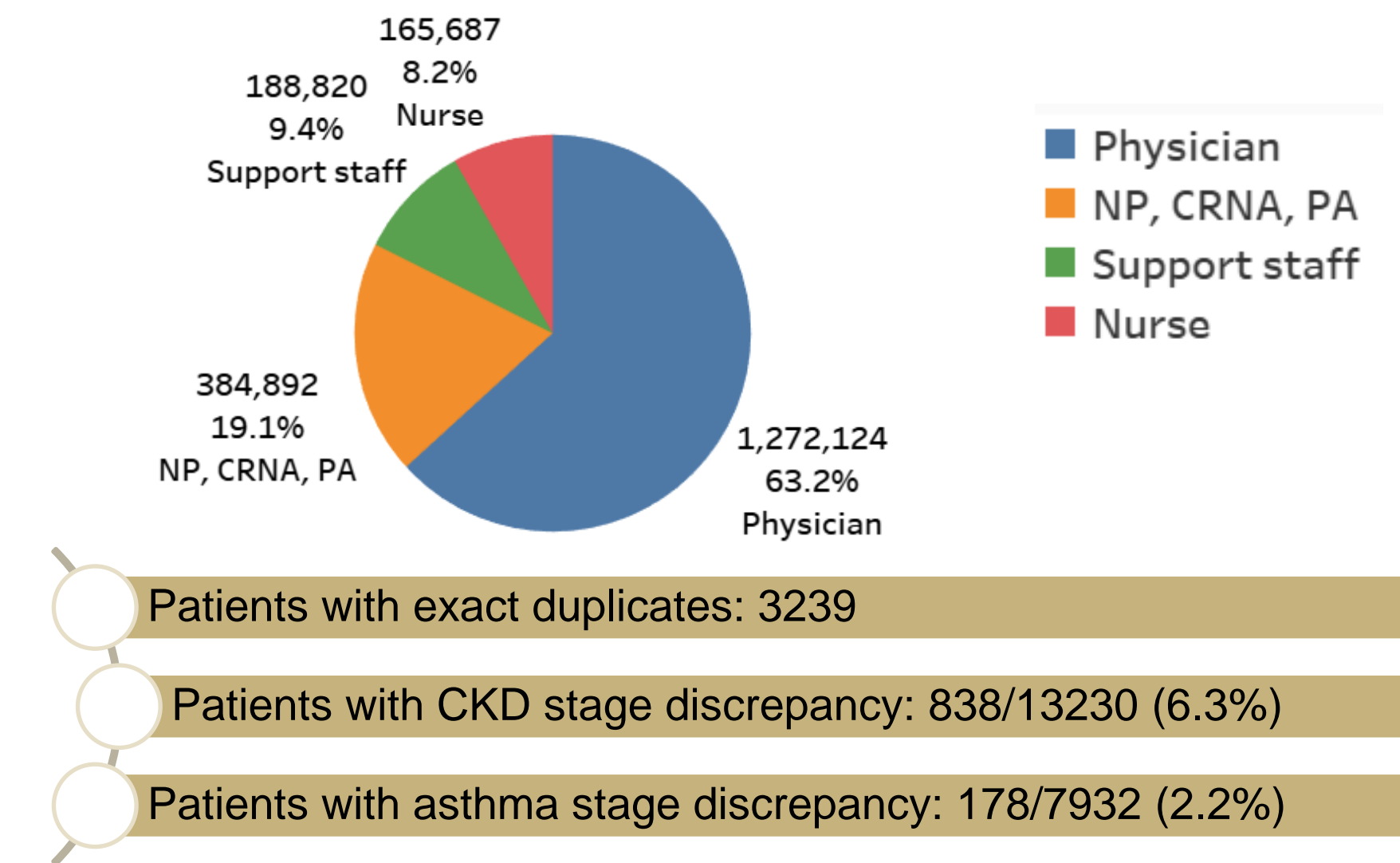
PRELIMINARY RESULTS (JAN 1, 2019 TO OCT 31, 2019)



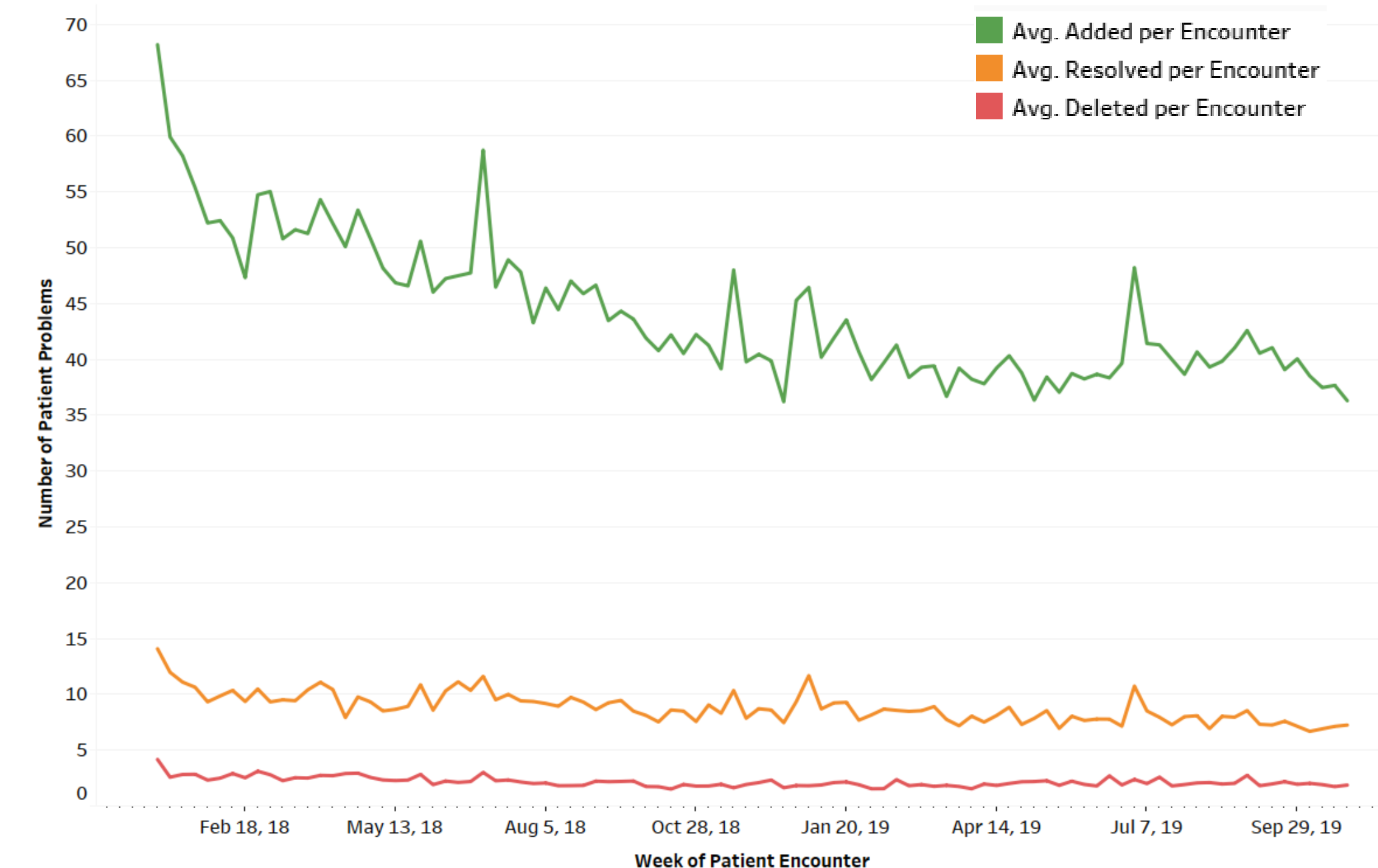
Age (years)	Patients	Percent of Total Patients
0	69,131	13.2%
10	64,884	12.3%
20	52,115	9.9%
30	54,874	10.4%
40	56,631	10.8%
50	69,412	13.2%
60	75,855	14.4%
70	57,048	10.9%
≥80	25,456	4.8%

Age information for patients meeting inclusion criteria

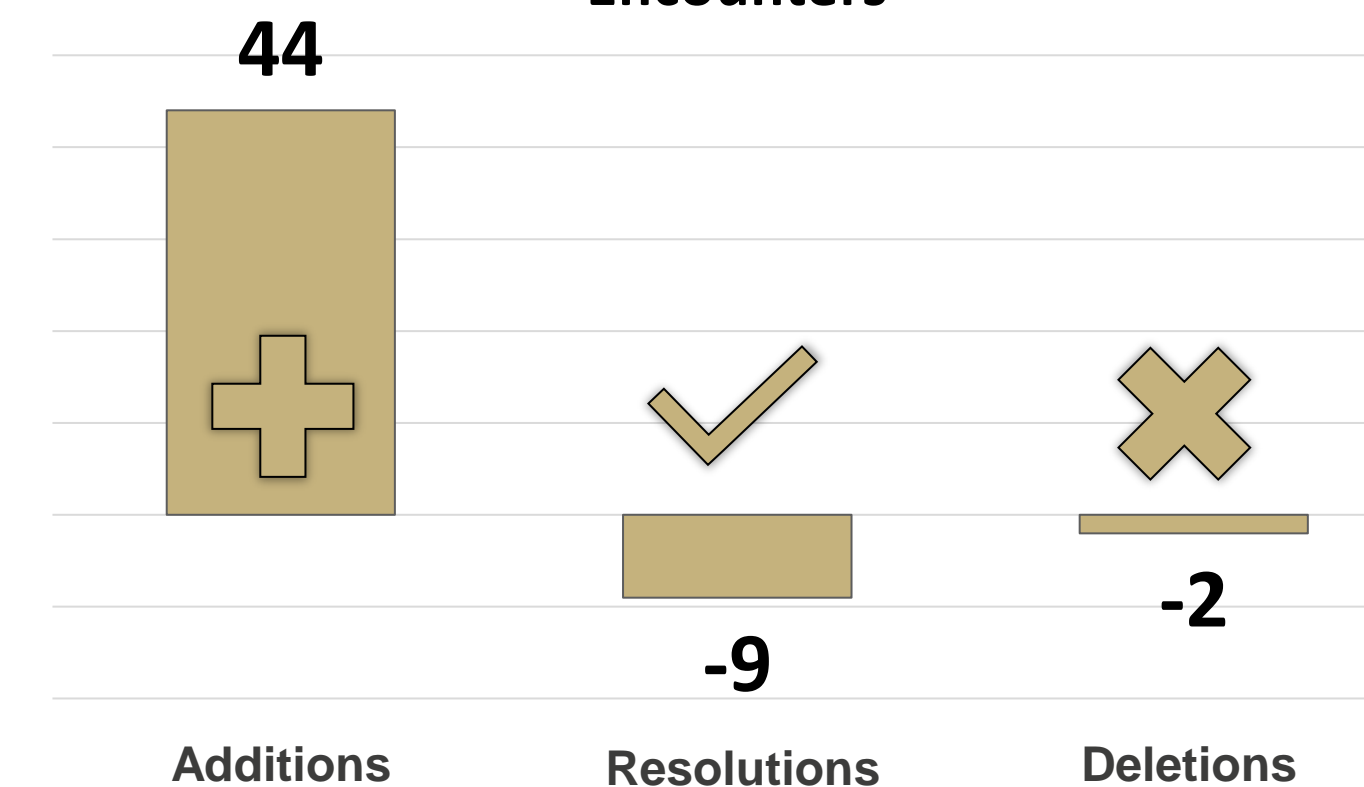
User Type Adding Patient Problem



Problems per 100 Encounters (Average)



Average Problem List Changes per 100 Encounters



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Poster information

