

Trauma Care for the Patient with Obesity

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Learning Objectives

- Acknowledge the latest global trauma statistics and how these impact our patient demographic
- Understand the effect of obesity on morbidity and mortality in trauma
- Review the most common mechanisms of injury
- Discuss logistical challenges to medical evaluation and treatment in trauma patients with obesity
- Highlight comorbidities and complications to consider
- Target appropriate resuscitation goals



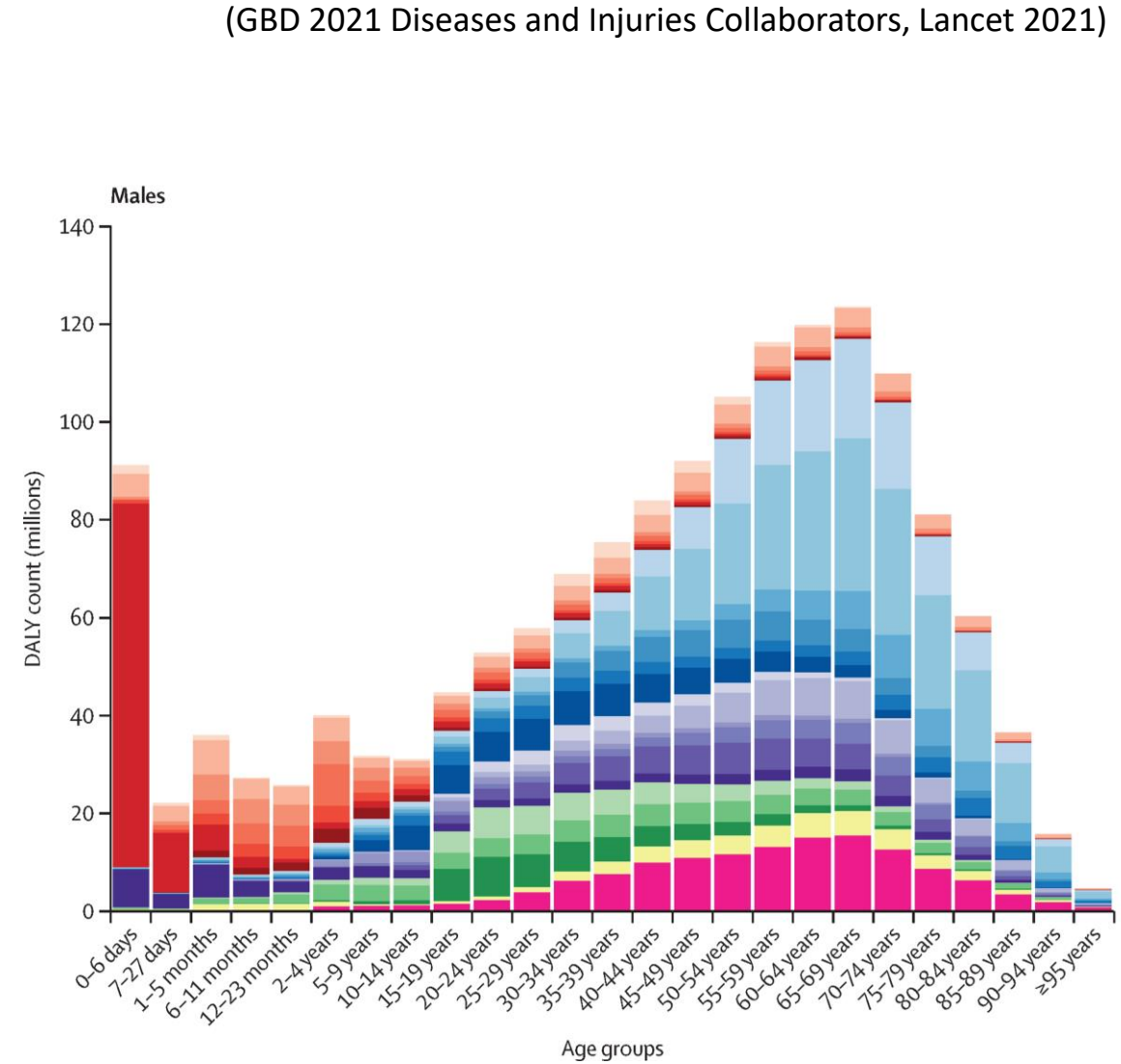
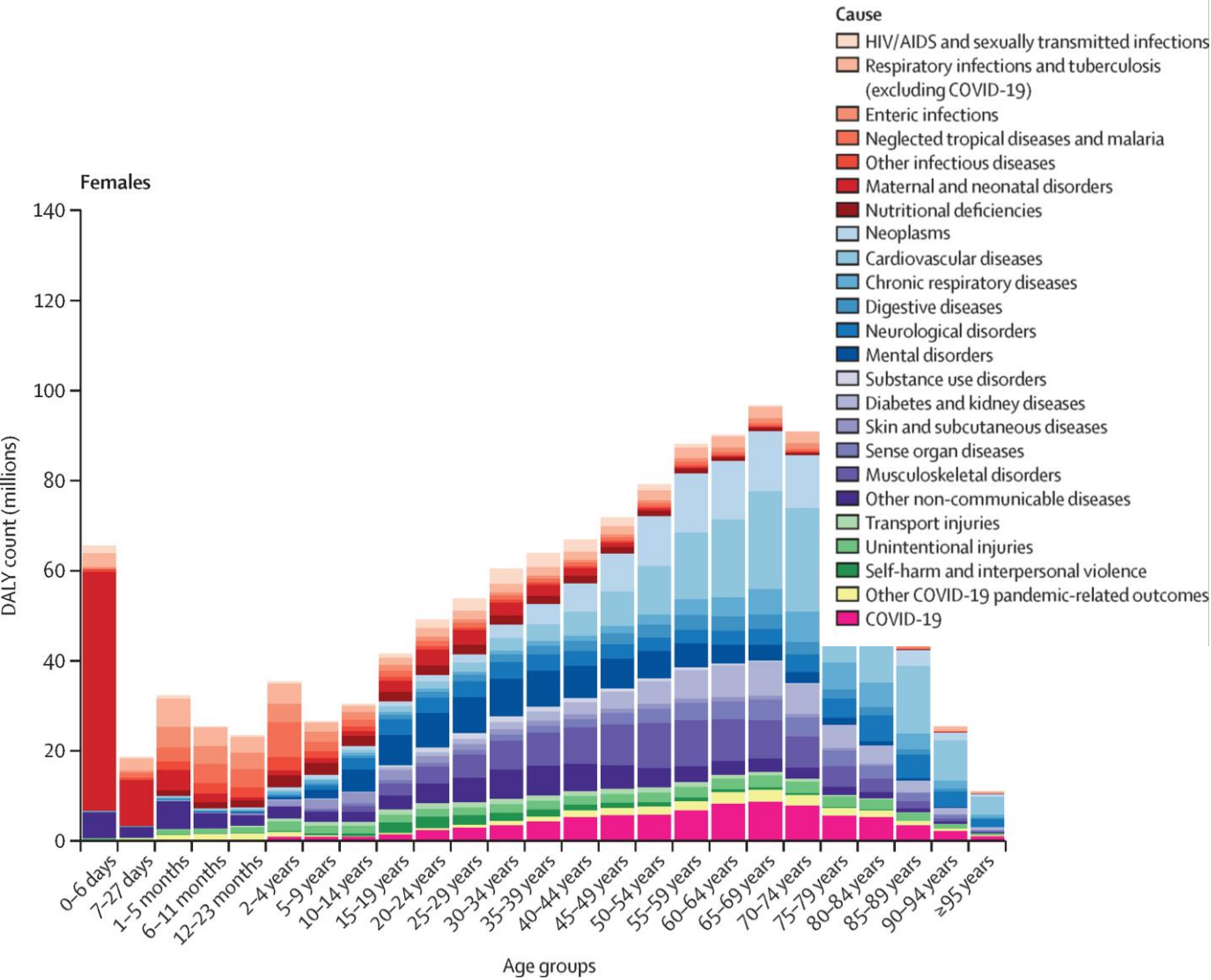
Global Trauma Statistics 2021

- Leading causes of DALYs (disability-adjusted life years)
 - #10 Road Injuries (65.1M)
 - #22 Falls (43.8M)
 - #26 Self-harm (33.5M)
 - #30 Interpersonal violence (26.8M)

(GBD 2021 Diseases and Injuries Collaborators, Lancet 2021)

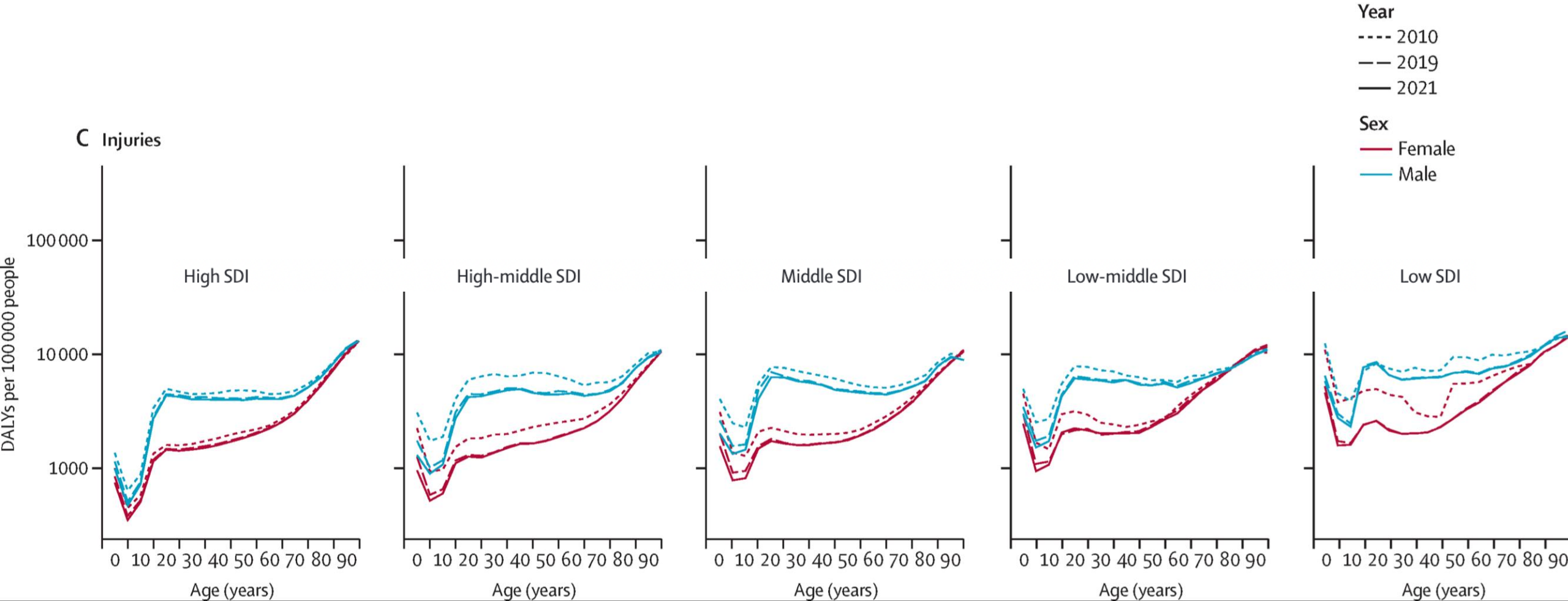
Trauma Care for the Patient with Obesity

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Obesity + Trauma = Worse Outcomes

- **Increased Morbidity** (Morris JA Jr 1990, Milzman DP 1992)
 - Injury severity
 - Hospital LOS
 - ICU admission
 - Pulmonary complications
 - Multiorgan failure
- **Increased Mortality** (Morris JA Jr 1990, Milzman DP 1992, Smith-Choban P, 1991, Neville A, 2004, Ditillo M 2014)

Traumatic Injuries

- Motor Crash
 - Increased odds ratio for death (Jehle 2012, Jehle 2014)
 - Normal weight drivers more likely to wear seatbelt (Elkbuli A, 2018)
 - Standard crash test dummy 5'10" and 170 lbs
 - Cushion Effect (Ryb 2008)
- Penetrating injuries
- Falls



Logistical Challenges

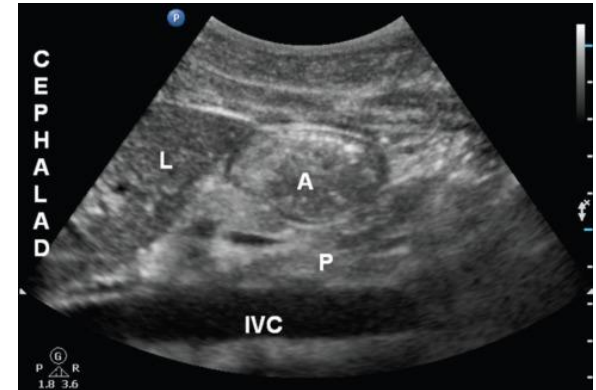
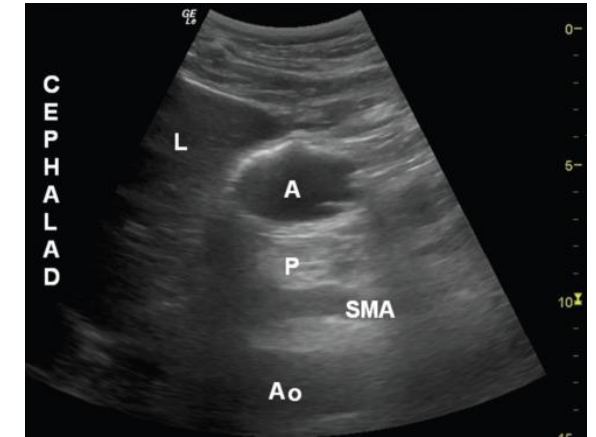
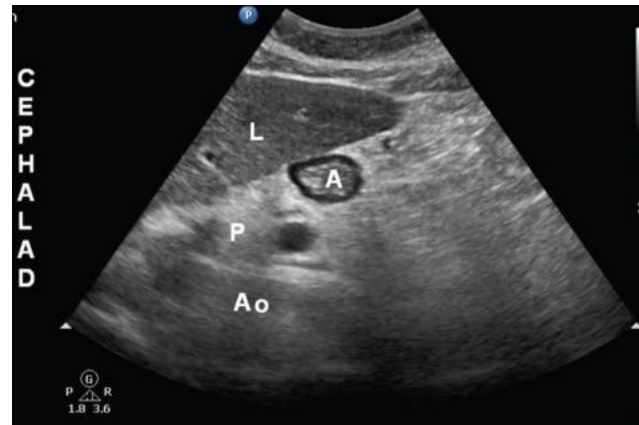
- Difficult extraction from MVs (Ziglar 2006)
- Improper fit of equipment
- Stretcher weight limit
- Safety regulations
- Size limits in CT and MRI
- Poor quality images on FAST and CT
- Difficult line placement



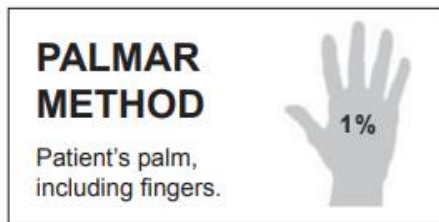
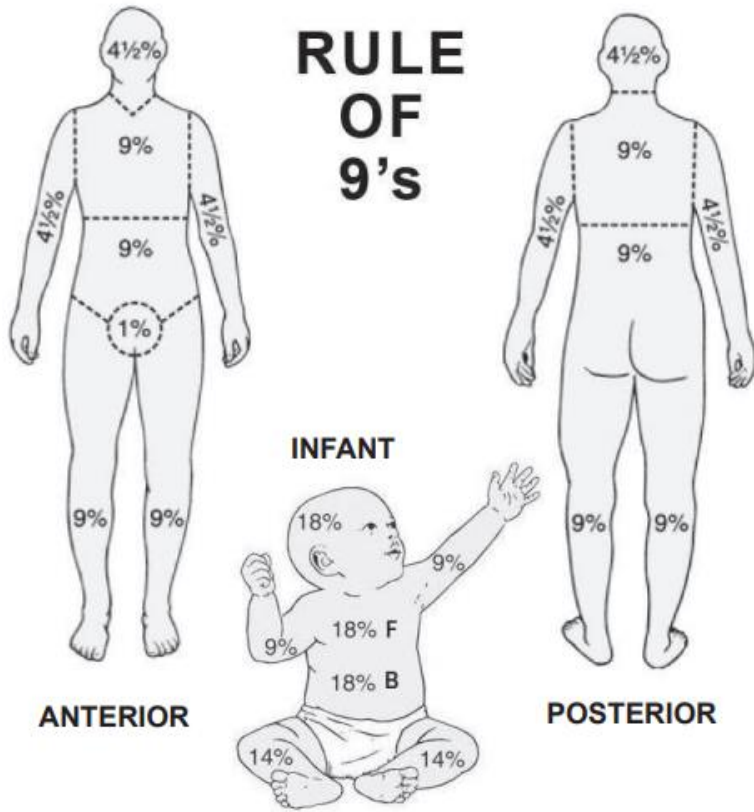
(Carucci 2013)

Comorbidities and Complications to Consider

- Hypertension and diastolic heart failure
- OSA and OHS
- Pulmonary hypertension
- GERD and aspiration
- Non-alcoholic liver disease
- Renal insufficiency
- DVT/PE



(Van de Putt, 2014)



Burn Resuscitation

- Parkland Formula (Guilabert 2016)
 - Fluid replacement in 24 hours = $4 \text{ mL} \times \% \text{ BSA burned} \times \text{TBW (kg)}$
 - Half of volume in first 8 hours, second half in next 16 hours
- Obese burn patients (Livingston 2000)
 - Lower extremity BSA underestimated
 - Head and arm BSA overestimated
 - Adipose tissue less vascular
 - Resuscitation by TBW may lead to hypervolemia
- Goal-directed resuscitation

Take Aways

- Trauma is a leading cause of death worldwide
- Trauma patients with obesity have unique prehospital and in-hospital challenges
- Remember common comorbidities and complications
- Utilize goal-directed volume resuscitation

Thank You

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