

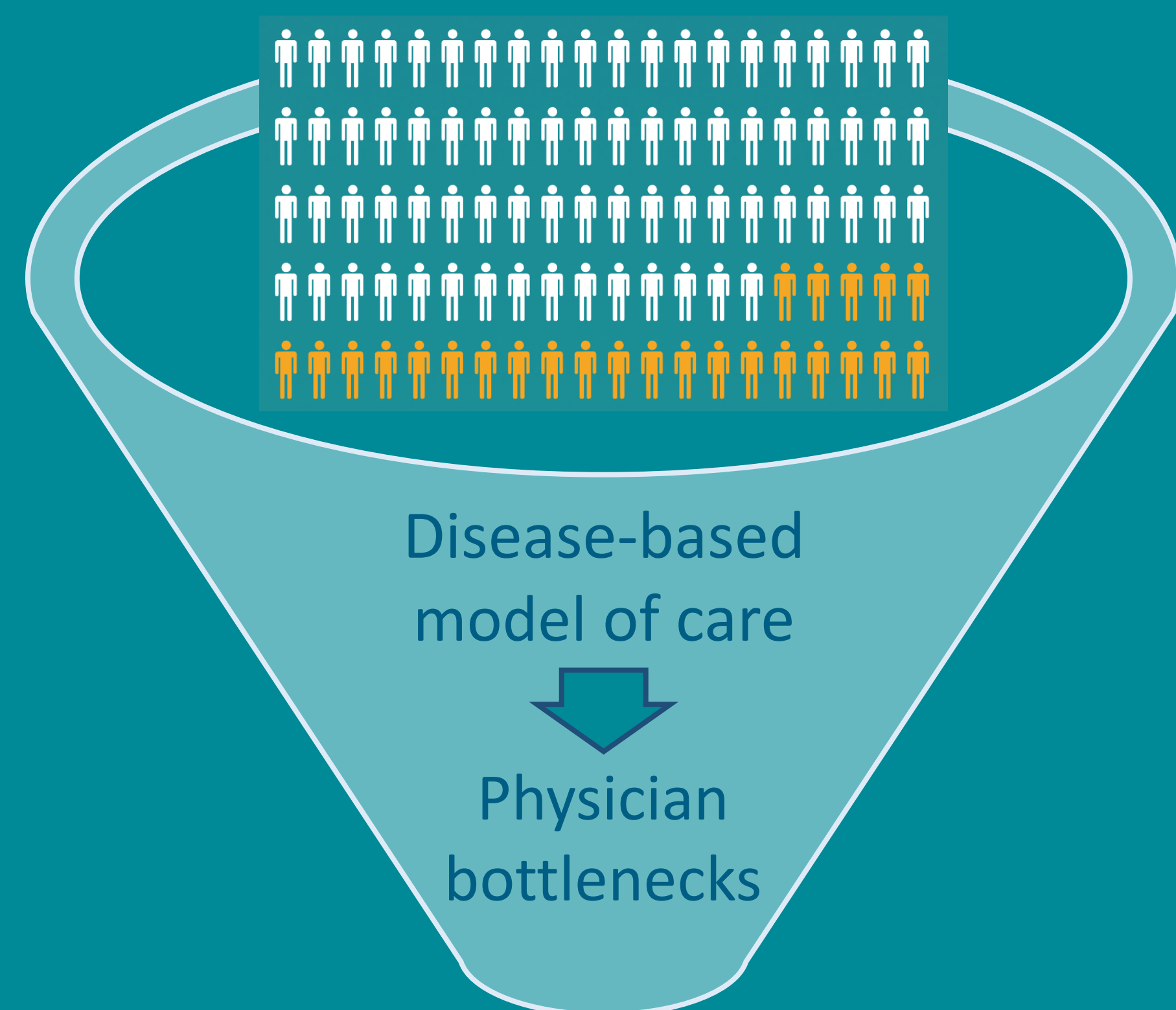
Steatosis Assessment and Fibrosis Evaluation- LiverSAFE

An Innovative Model for Service Delivery and Improvement of Liver Health at the University of Alberta Hospital

Tracy Davyduke RN¹, Michelle Carbonneau NP¹, Dr. Juan G. Abraldes², Dr. Puneeta Tandon², Ralph Ennis-Davis RN¹, Dr. Mang Ma²

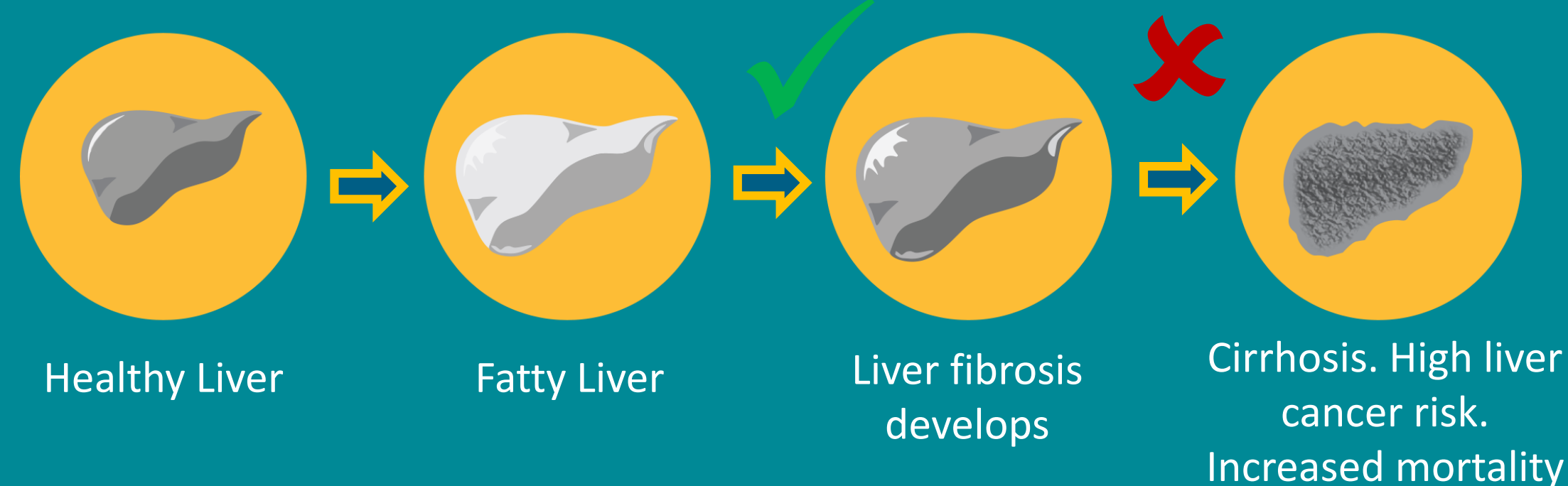
The Problem

1 in 4 Canadians has Fatty Liver



Long wait times
Patient anxiety
Late presentation of advanced disease

Earlier intervention needed



The Solution



LiverSAFE

RN rapid assessment of underlying liver disease, degree of liver fibrosis and steatosis using bloodwork, self-reported medical history/risk assessment and Fibroscan®

The Journey



Evidence-based algorithms developed for RN triage. Algorithms tested and revised as patients assessed



Physician engagement through the primary care networks. Continuing medical education regarding fatty liver assessment



Feedback sought from patients and referring physicians regarding clinic model and satisfaction with care

The Impact

Earlier Advanced Assessment

85%
sooner

51 days to RN assessment vs 349 to Hepatologist assessment

Improved Resource Utilization

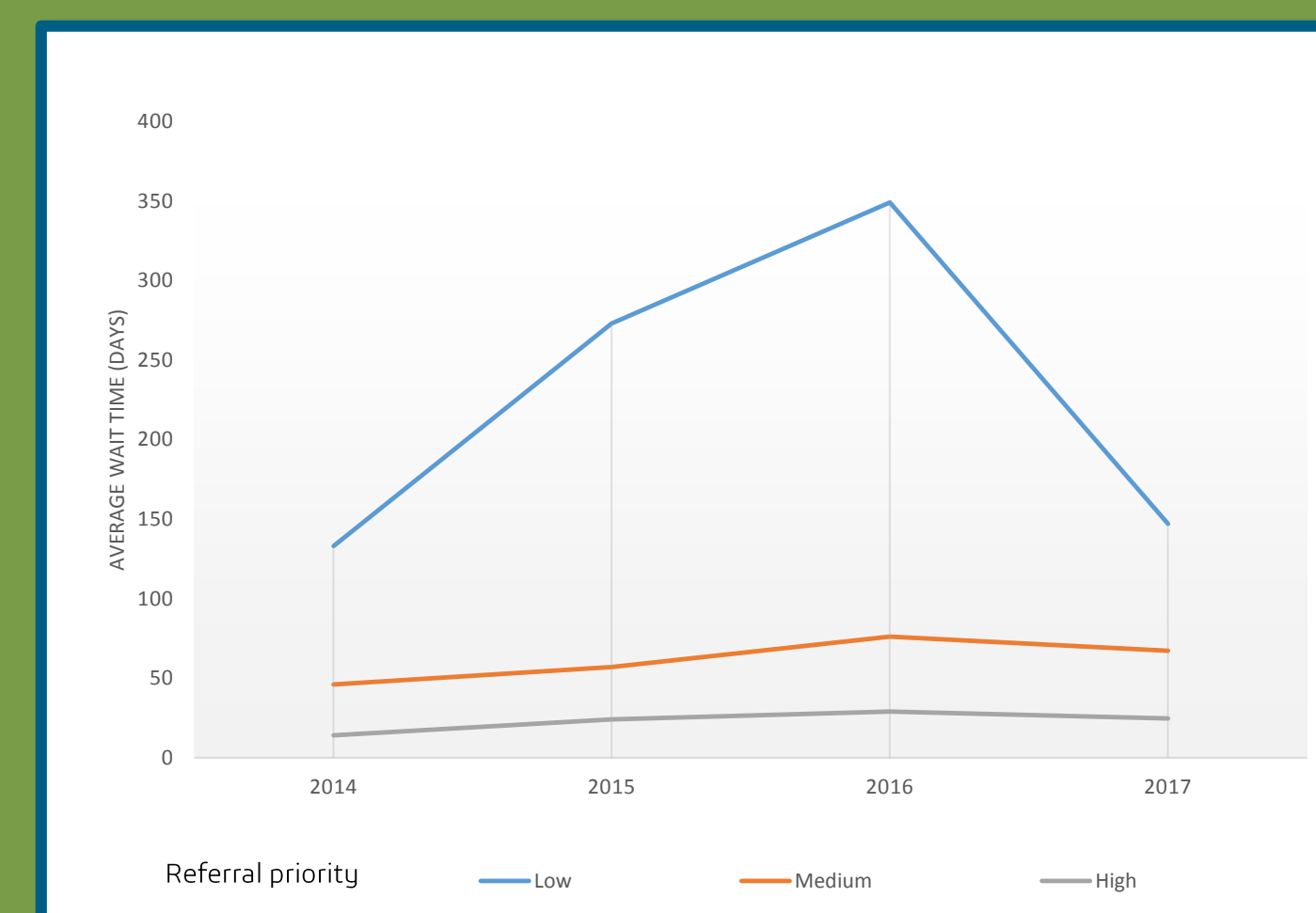
80%

of patients did not need to see a Hepatologist

Timelier Access to Specialist Care

58%

Hepatology wait time decreased



High Satisfaction

91% of physicians reported benefit for patients

“ I think pre-screening makes patients feel they are in the process of assessment and treatment. Hence decreasing their anxiety ”

93% of patients were satisfied

“ I liked the fact that I got in fairly quickly to the triage clinic and found out that I have fatty liver disease and not something a lot more serious. The nurse was very nice and friendly and answered all my questions. A great way to alleviate fears! ”

The Future

- Analyze quality data to further refine the model
- Pre-screen patients with FIB-4 index for risk stratification
- Secure long-term funding to operationalize the program
- Develop provincial pathway for liver care



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¹Alberta Health Services, ²University of Alberta- Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Disease progression image adapted from <https://www.oregonclinic.com/fatty-liver#causes-tab>