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Randomized Trial of Depression Screening after Acute Coronary Syndromes Results from CODIACS-QOL

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Disclosures

I have no conflicts of interest.

Importance

Depression is present in ~10% of ACS patients¹

Depression doubles risk of CVD events and mortality, increases health care costs, and lowers quality of life^{2,3}

Depression treatments are effective in ACS patients¹

Importance

Professional societies recommend depression screening in ACS patients, with referral of those who screen positive to specialty care¹

AHA Science Advisory

**Depression and Coronary Heart Disease
Recommendations for Screening, Referral, and Treatment**

¹Lichtman et al. *Circulation*. 2008

Importance

RCTs of depression treatments have been limited to treatment-seeking patients

Screening may be harmful

No RCTs of depression screening in ACS patients

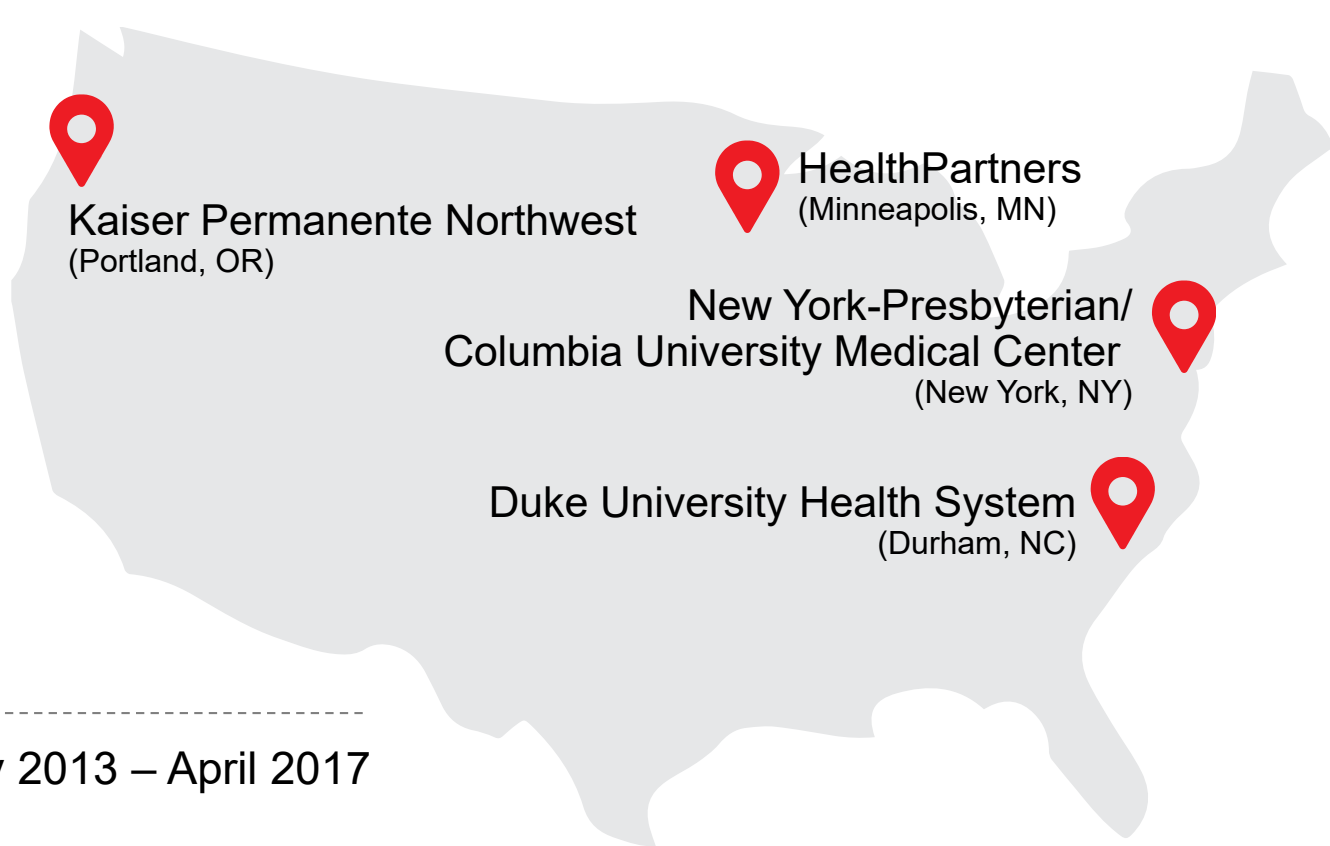
Objective

To conduct an RCT that evaluates whether systematically screening ACS patients for depression improves quality of life and depression as compared to usual care.

clinicaltrials.gov identifier: NCT01993017

Setting

4 healthcare systems



Recruitment from Nov 2013 – April 2017

Eligibility

Inclusions

≥ 21 years

ACS within 2-12 months

English or Spanish speaking

Exclusions

Prior or current depression

Life-expectancy < 1 year

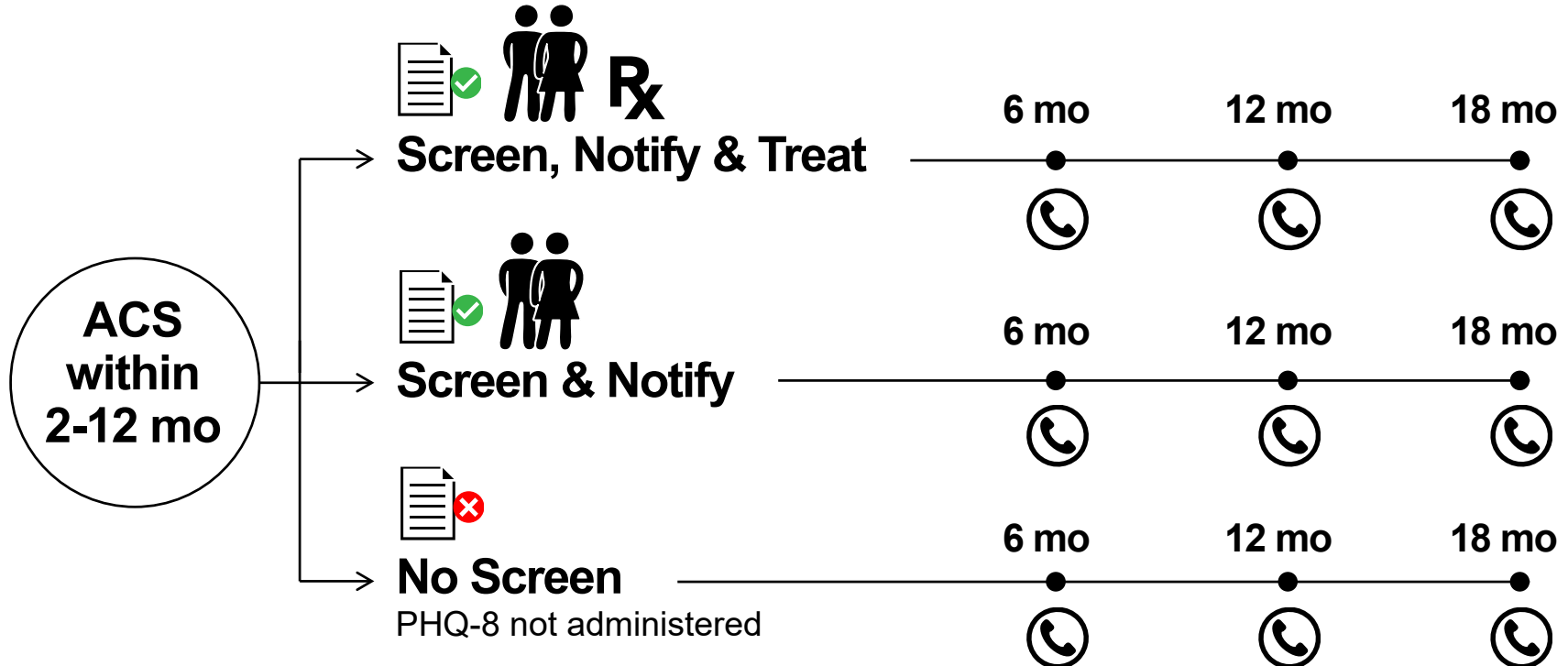
Severe mental illness

Severe physical illness

Dementia

Pregnancy

Design & Interventions



Outcomes

Primary Outcome

Change in QALYs from baseline to 18-mo¹

Secondary Outcomes

Cumulative depression-free days across 18-mo

Depressive symptoms (CESD-10)

Harms

Antidepressant side-effects, bleeding

All-cause mortality

¹QALYs, Quality Adjusted Life Years: calculated from utilities derived from the SF-12 using SF-6D transformation

Statistical Analyses

2-step gate-keeping test: ANOVA used to calculate F-test for 3-group difference in change in QALY score; paired t-tests planned if F-test p-value < .05

All analyses intent-to-treat

Missing data handled with multiple imputation

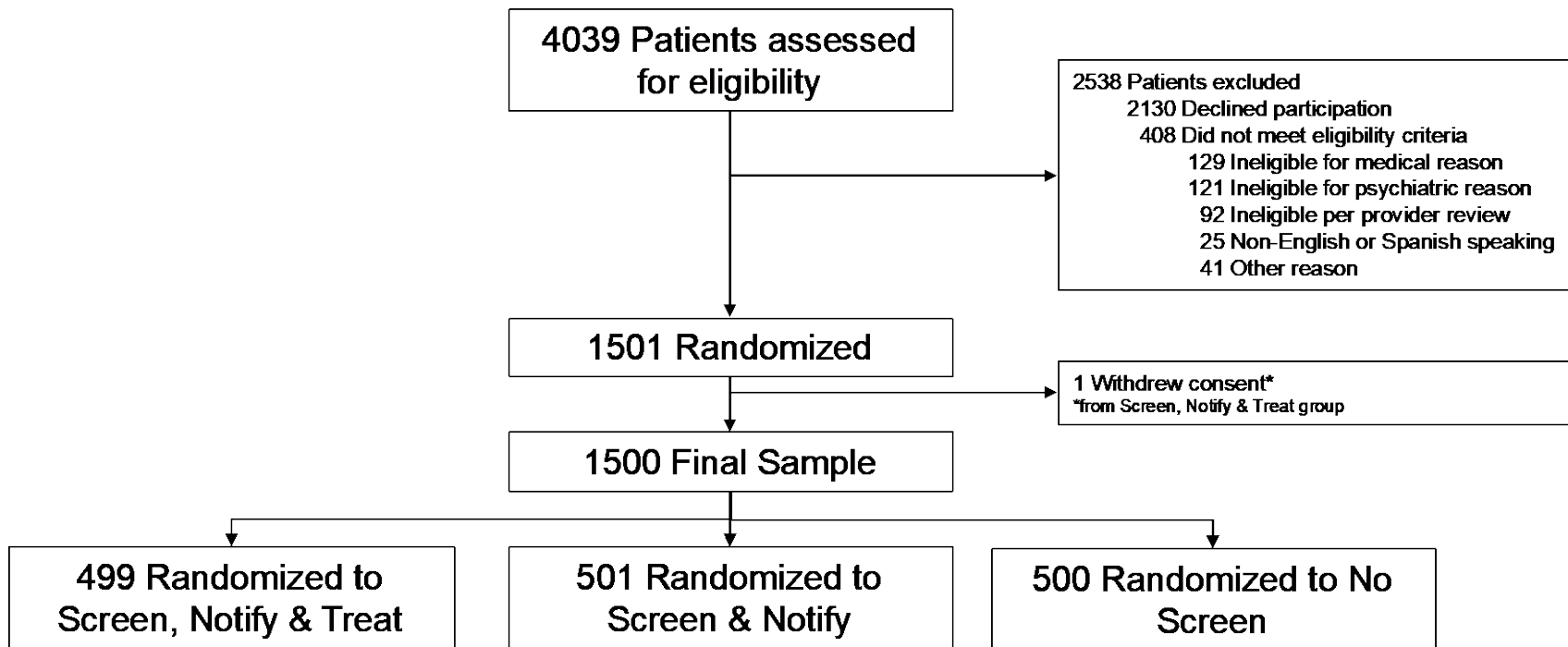
Sample Size

500 participants per group provided 80% power to detect clinically significant difference in change in QALYs for a 2-sided t-test at 5% level

Assumptions:

- 20% screen positive for depression
- net improvement in QALYs of 0.155 over 18-months for depressed ACS patients in Screen, Notify & Treat group
- 5% loss to follow-up

Participant Flowchart



Participant Characteristics

	Screen, Notify & Treat (n = 499)	Screen & Notify (n = 501)	No Screen (n = 500)
Age in years, mean (SD)	66.2 (11.3)	65.8 (11.7)	65.8 (11.7)
Male	71.5%	72.7%	71.0%
White	70.7%	73.5%	71.8%
Hispanic	16.4%	17.6%	14.8%
Education, high school or lower	38.7%	35.7%	33.7%
Married	64.2%	67.5%	62.9%
Employed	41.7%	39.6%	40.9%

Screening Outcomes



Screen, Notify & Treat



Screen & Notify



No Screen

1500 Final Sample

499 Screen, Notify & Treat

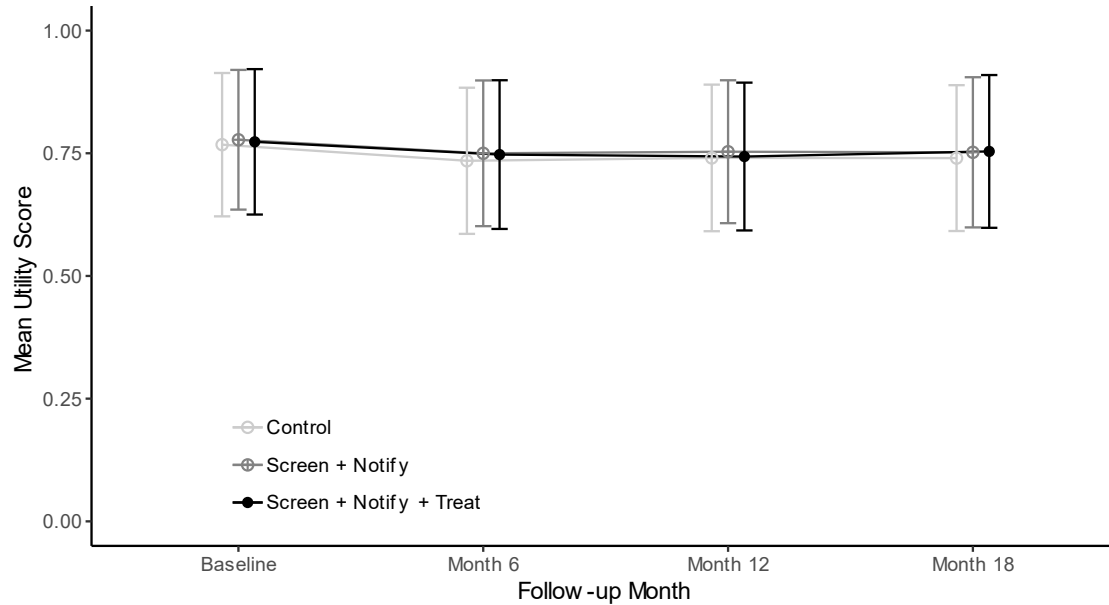
- 38 (7.6%) Depressed
 - 14 Chose PST
 - 4 Chose Meds
 - 10 Chose PST & Meds
 - 10 Declined study tx

501 Screen & Notify

- 33 (6.6%) Depressed

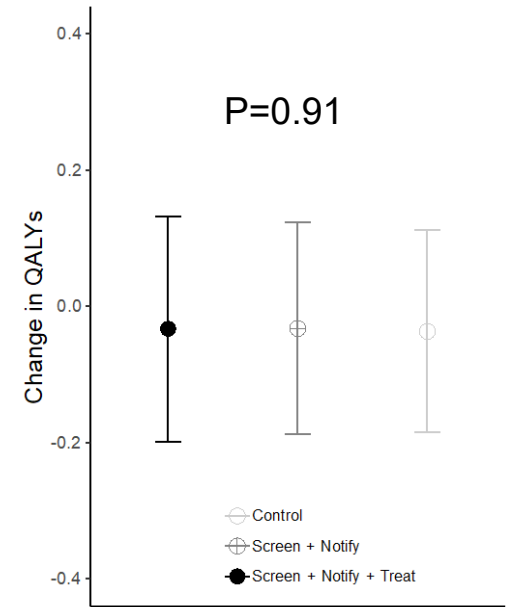
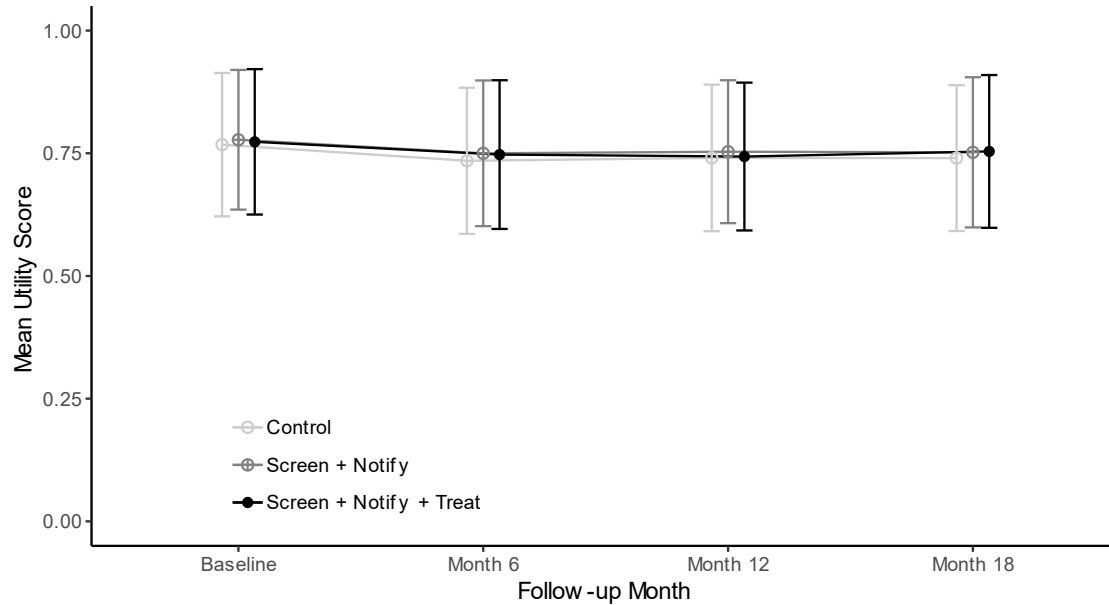
500 No Screen

Utilities and Change in QALYs



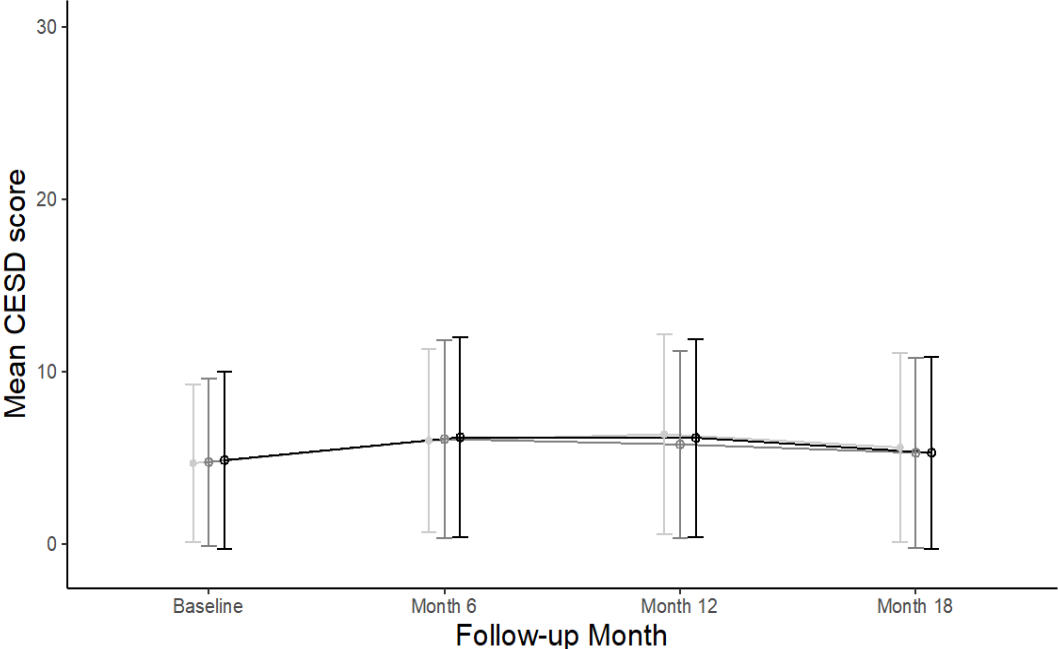
Utilities were derived from the SF-12 using SF-6D transformation

Utilities and Change in QALYs

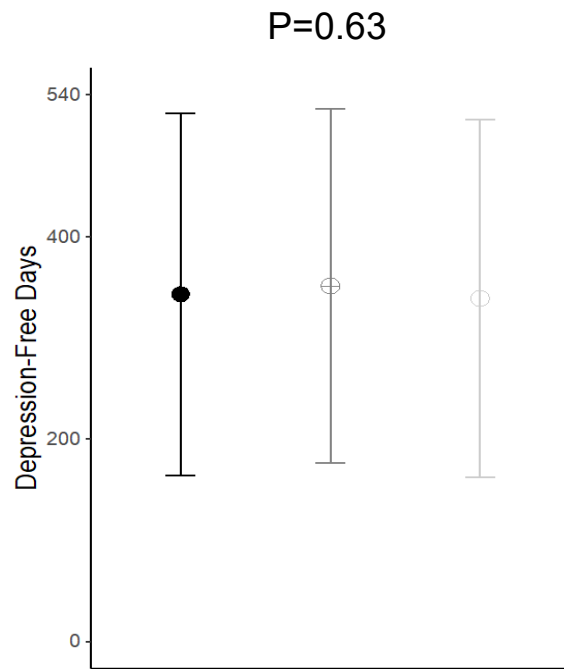
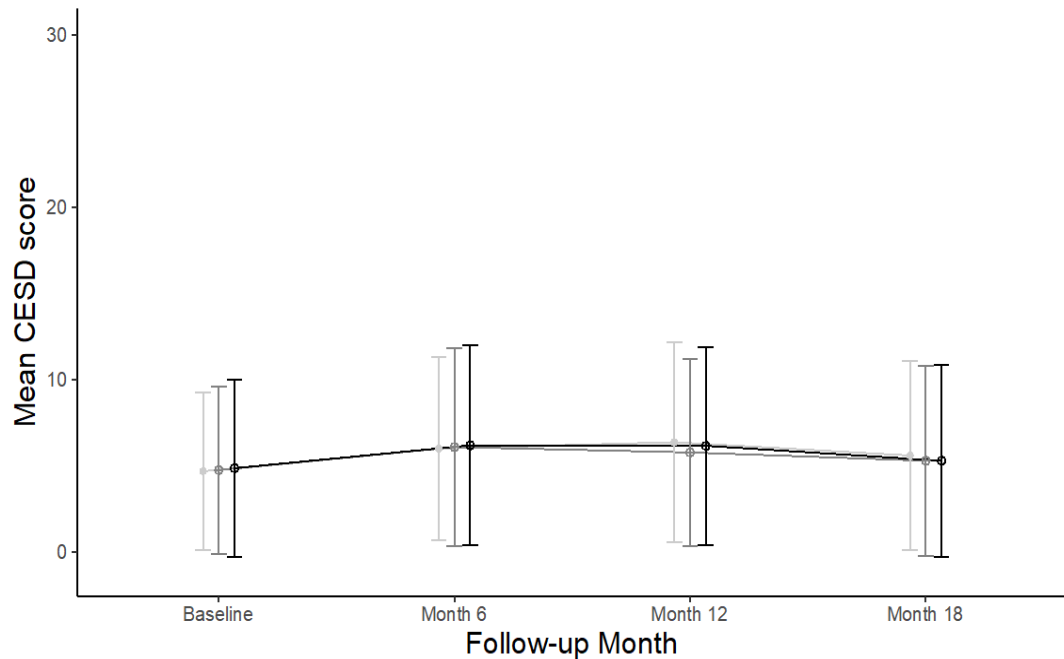


QALYs, Quality Adjusted Life Years

Depressive Symptoms and Depression-Free Days



Depressive Symptoms and Depression-Free Days



Harms

No differences in bleeding, appetite, drowsiness, or GI upset across the 6-, 12-, and 18-month time points

No differences in mortality at 18-month (4.5% died)

Conclusions

Depression screening with or without providing treatment did not alter QALYs or depression, nor increase harms

The prevalence of positive depression screens with systematic depression screening was only 7%

Limitations

Individuals with history of depression were excluded

Underpowered to detect smaller benefits

Depression screening may have occurred in the “No screen” group

Screening was conducted in context of research study

Implications →

Systematic depression screening may not be warranted

Depression screening guidelines may need to be reconsidered

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Questions



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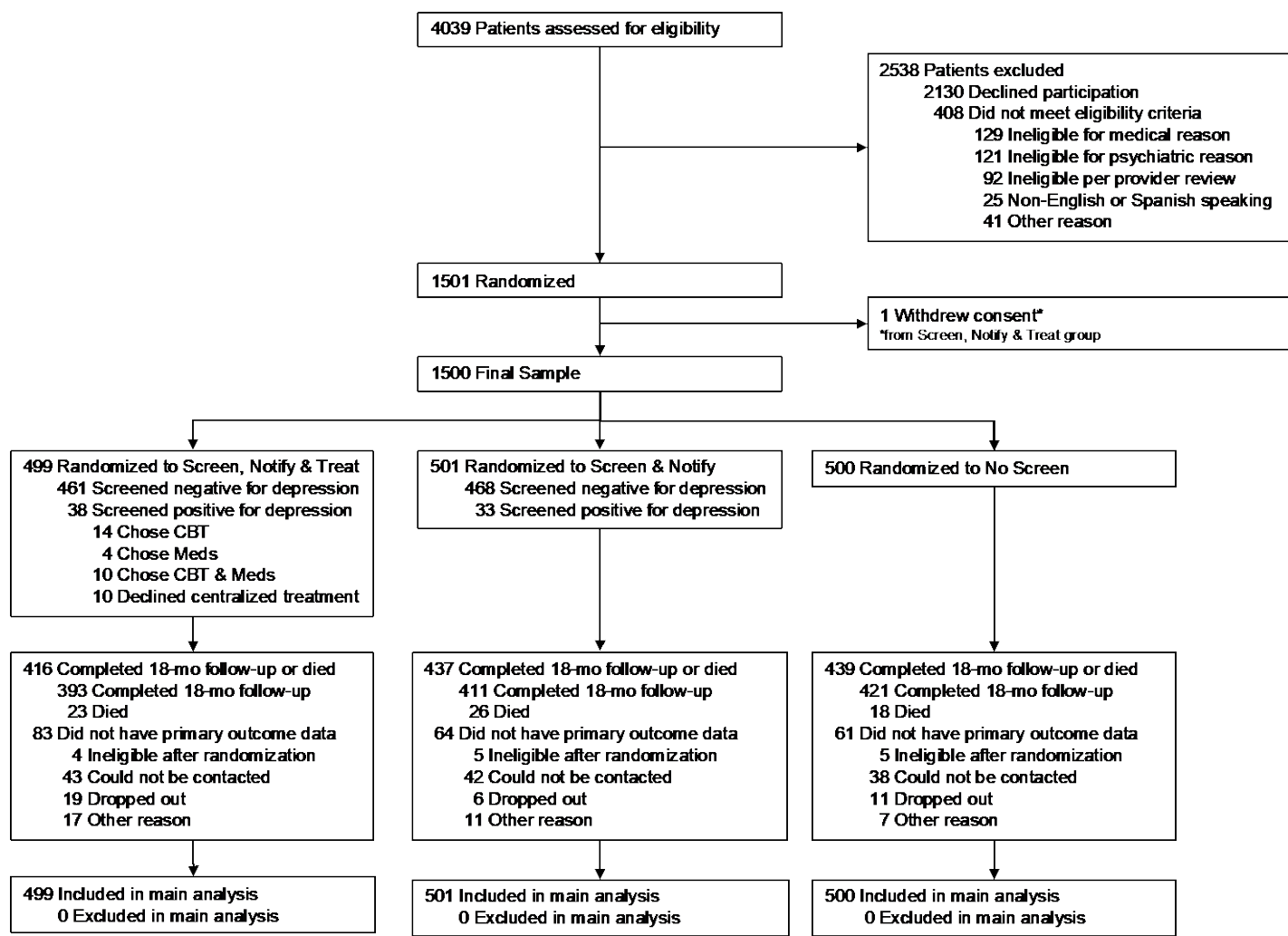
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Thank you.

Extra Slides



Depressive Symptoms (PHQ-8)

