

Impact of lab automation and reorganization on bloodstream infections management in ICU

G. Dewulf¹, M. Paluch¹, F. Canis¹, F. Lambiotte², B. Lagraulet³, L. Abad⁴, A. Dubrulle⁴, C. Cattoen¹, N Ettahar⁵

¹Laboratoire de microbiologie, centre hospitalier de Valenciennes, France. ²Service de réanimation, centre hospitalier de Valenciennes, France. ³Pharmacie hospitalière, centre hospitalier de Valenciennes, France. ⁴bioMérieux, Marcy l'Etoile, France. ⁵Service de maladies infectieuses et tropicales, centre hospitalier de Valenciennes, France

Background

- Rapid microbiological turn-around time (TAT):
 - Optimized antimicrobial stewardship
 - Better patient care

In 2021, lab went through 2 revolutions:

- Acquisition of WaspLab[®] automaton
- Reorganization : 24/7 microbiological samples treatment

Methods

Retrospective monocentric study

Study periods:

- Pre-intervention (Before): 01/01/2019 - 31/12/2019
- Post-intervention (After): 01/05/2021 - 01/04/2022

Patients over 18 years old in ICU with positive blood culture (PBC)

Results

Inclusions	Before	After	p
Episodes, n	116	128	
Patients, n	104	112	
Male, n (%)	65 (56.1)	84 (65.6)	.13
Age, mean (min-max)	65.1 (18-93)	64.2 (23-85)	.89

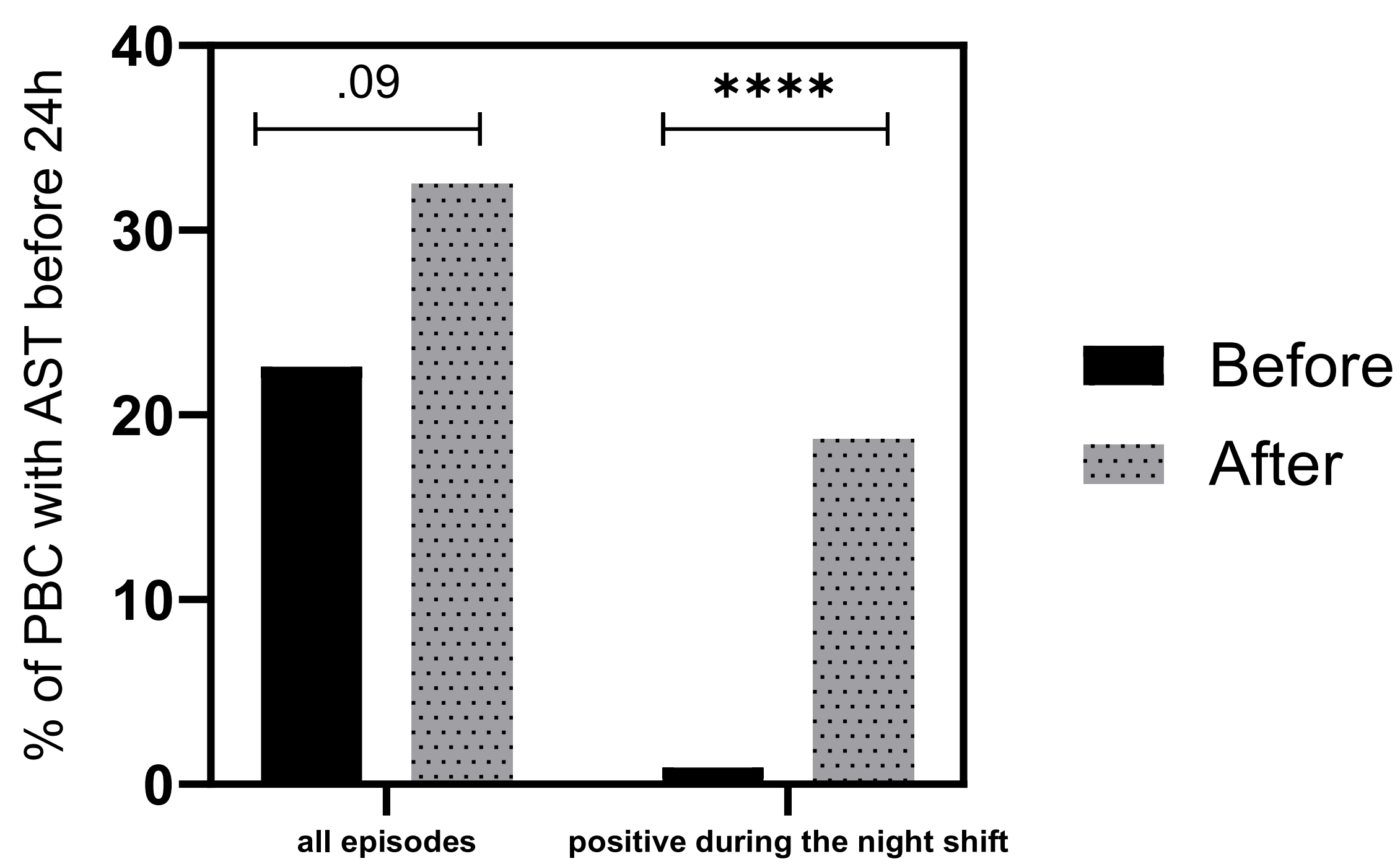


Figure 1. Percent of PBC with an available AST before 24h from positivity

*P < 0.05; **P < 0.01; ***P < 0.001; ****P < 0.0001

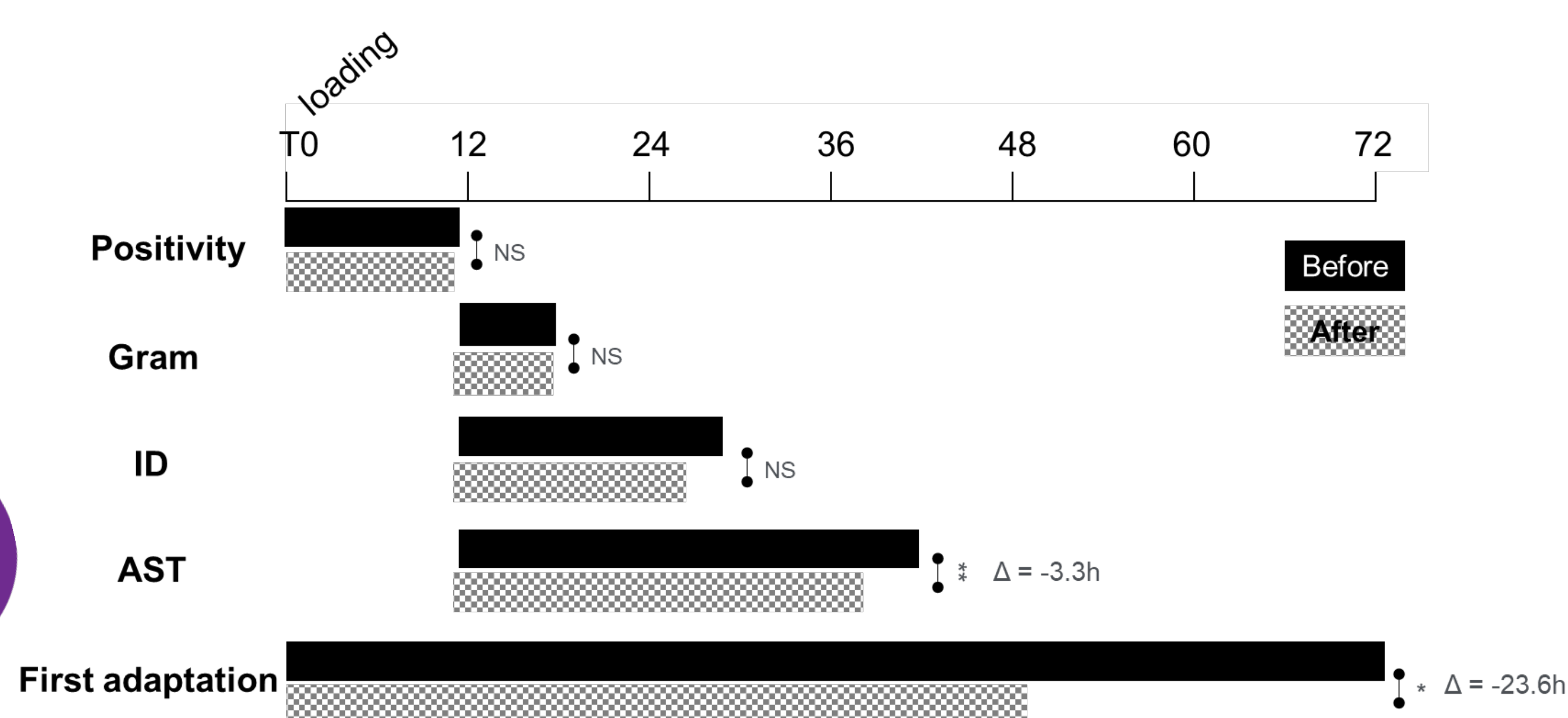


Figure 2. Times before/after lab reorganization among clinically significant episodes

*P < 0.05; **P < 0.01; ***P < 0.001; ****P < 0.0001

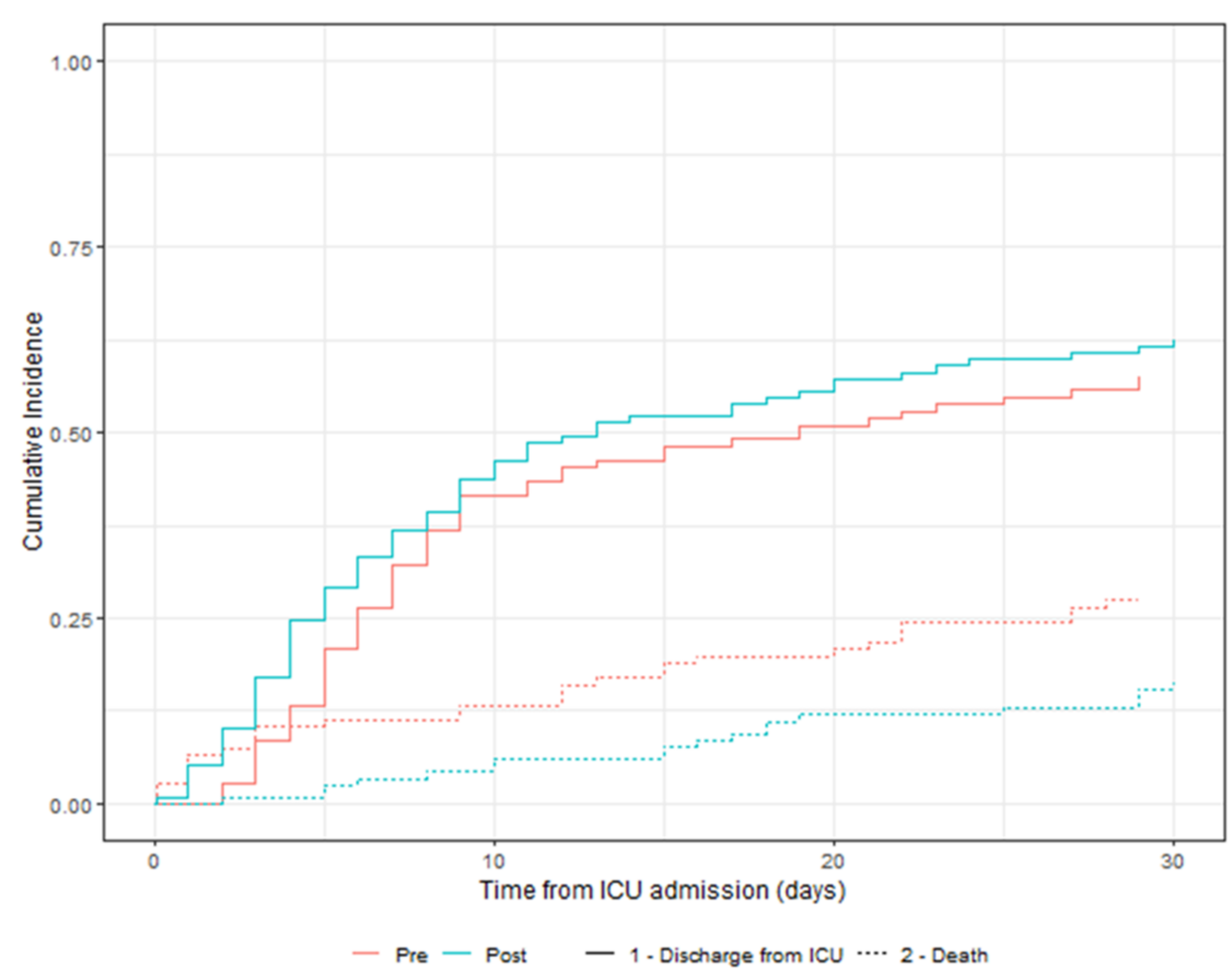


Figure 3. Cumulative ICU discharge from ICU admission considering death as competitive risk

Post vs pre periods:

- Higher percent of PBC with available AST within 24h
- Among clinically significant episodes:
 - Lower TAT (30.4 vs 27.1h)
 - Lower time to first adaptation (72.6 vs 49h)
- Higher ICU discharge (HR = 1.38; p=0.04)
- No difference for hospital discharge
- Lower risk of death trend (HR = 0.63; p=0.05)

Conclusion

Our results suggest that:

Lab reorganization supported by the benefits of Lab automation leads to lower TATs for clinically significant PBC. Shorter TAT supported AMS effort decreasing time to first antimicrobial adaptation and improving patients' outcomes.

Acknowledgment

We want to thank the Biofortis team (Nantes, France) that was commissioned by the Sponsor to conduct the data management and statistical analyses of the study, especially S. Barré (data manager), B. Douillard (statistical programmer) and F. Gillaizeau (biostatistician).

