

# TWO EASY PIECES



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# WE'VE BEEN CHASING THIS HOLY GRAIL

- Performance measurement and quality in EMS
- For almost as long as we've been chasing response times





# MEASURING QUALITY IN EMS

Since 2001

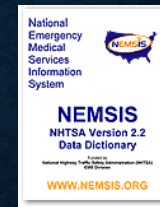
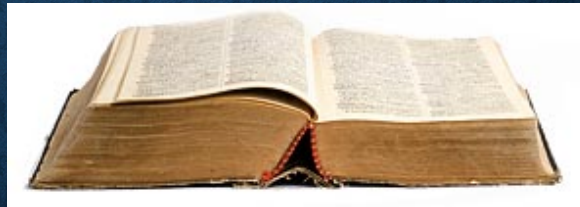
- Three national agencies: NASEMSO, HRSA MCHB and NHTSA
  - Really smart people
- Working to develop a national database
- Establish reliable & performance-based outcome measures
- Measure EMS quality of care





# MEASURING QUALITY IN EMS

- 2003
  - Created data dictionary of 400 elements





# **KEEP IT SIMPLE**

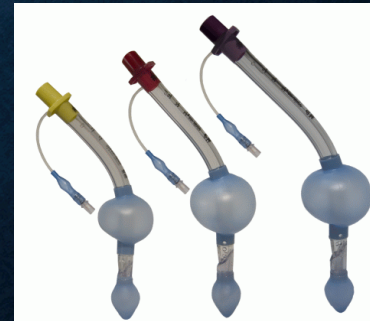
If you can figure out just one thing each year, that's pretty good



# TWO THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO LOOK AT

What happens when

- You put on mechanical CPR devices
- Blind-insertion Supraglottic Airways





# TWO GOOD CASE STUDIES

## Five-fold way to EMS problem-solving

- Identify a problem
- Throw something at it
- Close our eyes
- Hope it gets better
- Don't bother to check and see if it actually works





# MECHANICAL CPR

## The reason these came about

- CPR hard to do well
  - Many of us have gone to highly choreographed 'pit crew' CPR
- Studies demonstrate no benefit
  - Mechanical CPR versus manual CPR (when its done well)
- Many systems have chosen to use these devices
  - Especially to ensure high quality CPR & provider safety
    - Patient 'packaging' and transport

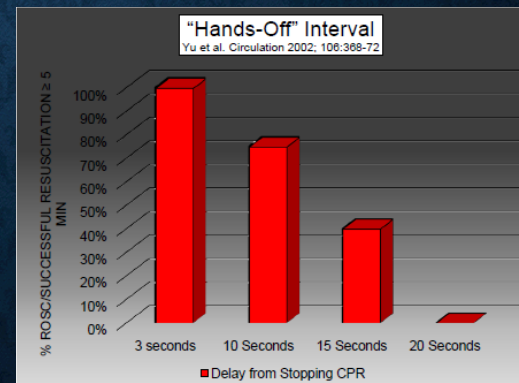




# THE SCIENCE

Optimizing 'time on chest' (CCF) is good and pauses are bad

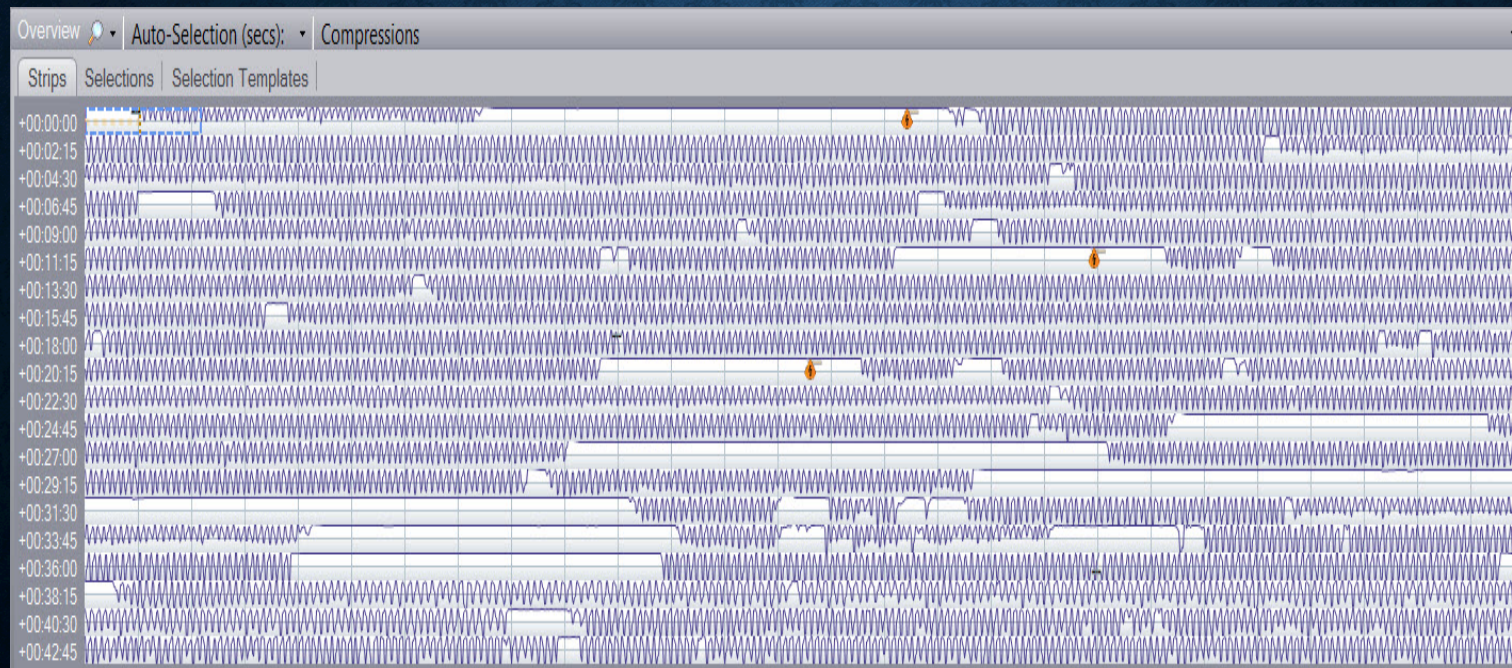
- Goal is to decrease both the frequency and length of pauses
- 30-minute resuscitation (1800 seconds)
- Use a 10-second pause as your baseline
- Pause just once > 15 seconds (0.8% of your entire 1800 second resuscitation)
- Survival decreases by about 50%





# CPR ANALYTICS

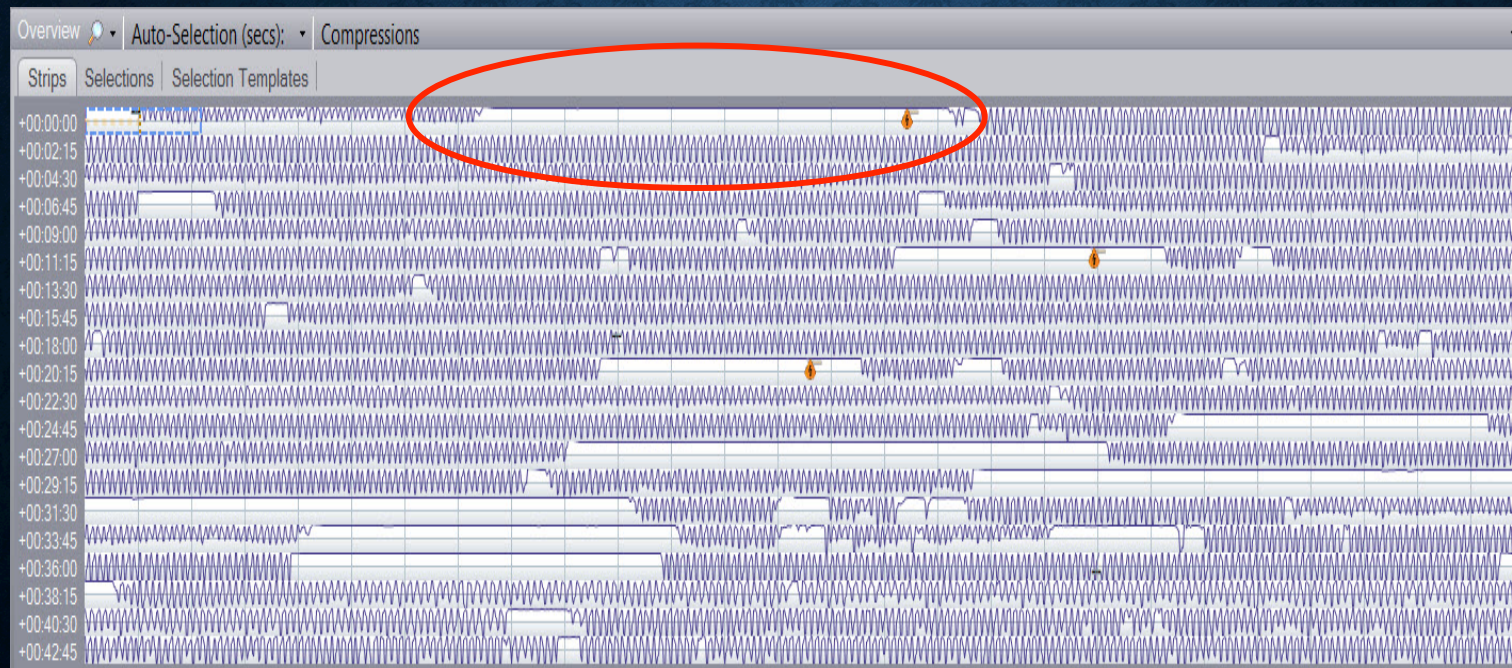
65 y/o female witnessed cardiac arrest





# CPR ANALYTICS

65 y/o female witnessed cardiac arrest



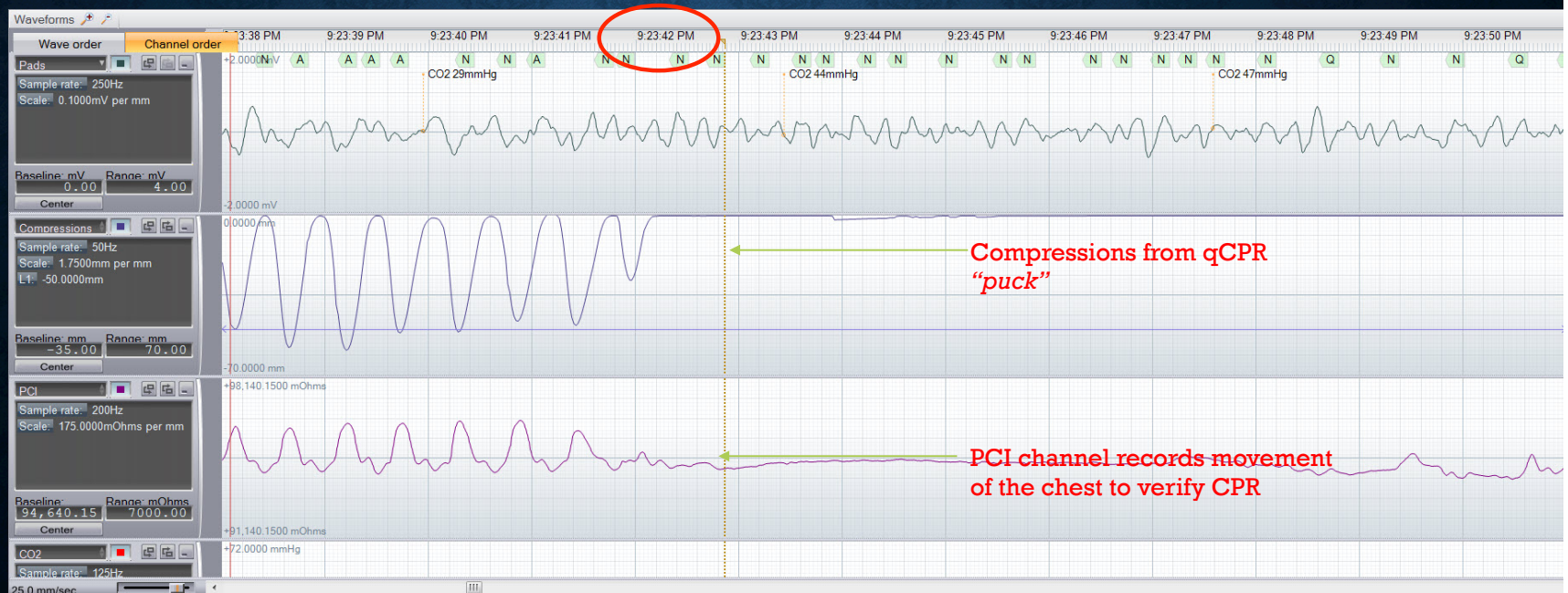


# Focus on placement of the device (LUCAS)

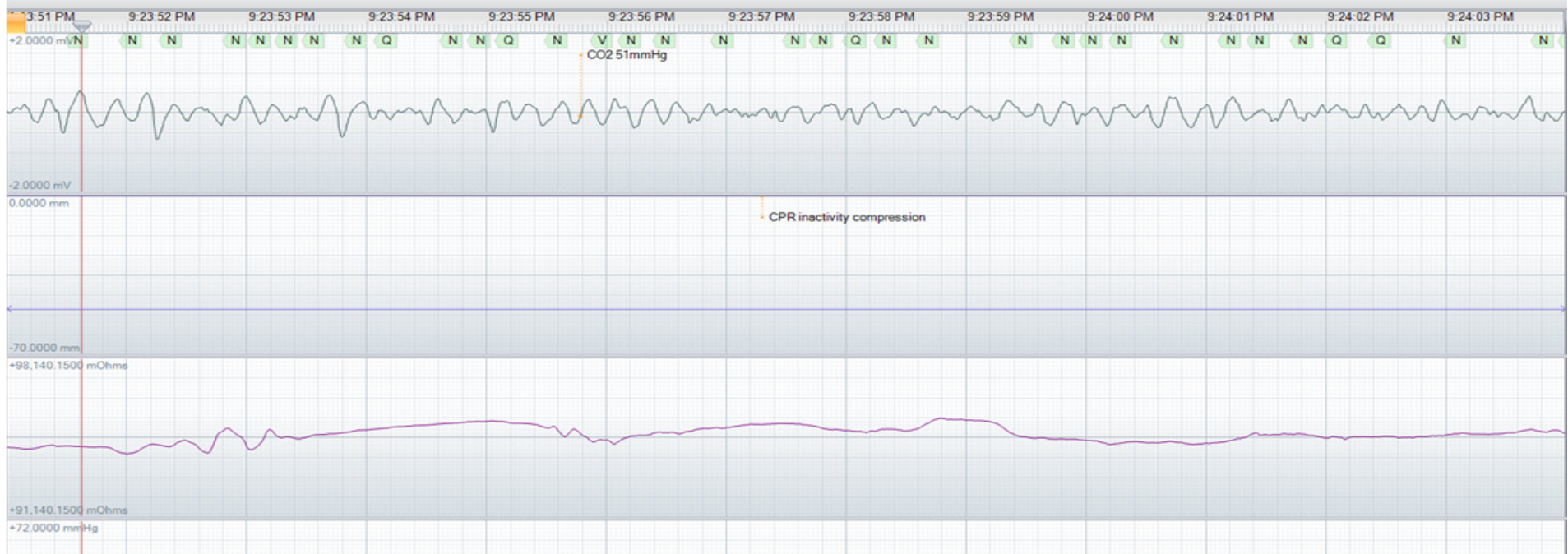
## Measure the transition from

- Stop manual CPR to placement of mechanical CPR device

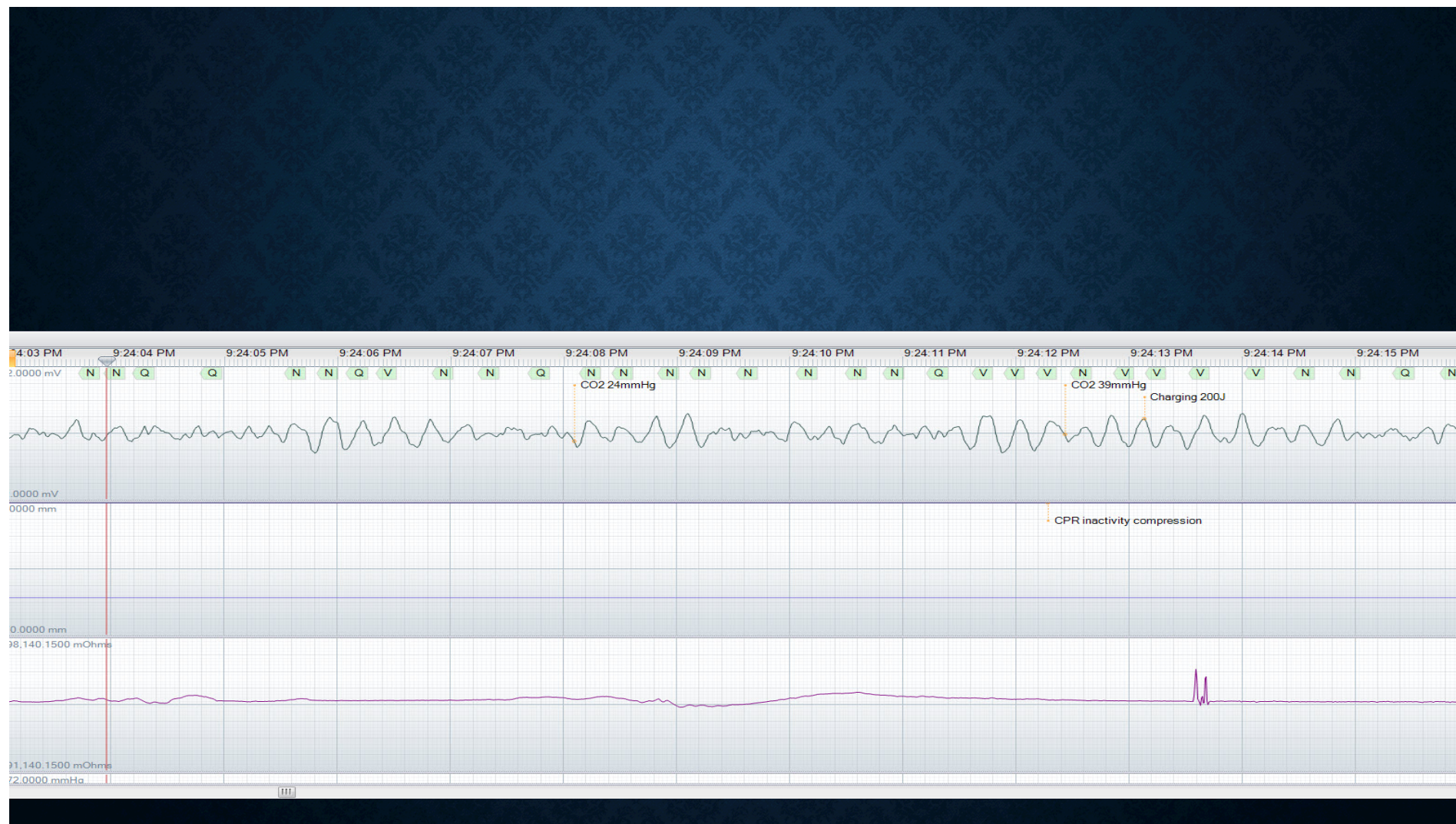
9:23:42 Stop CPR







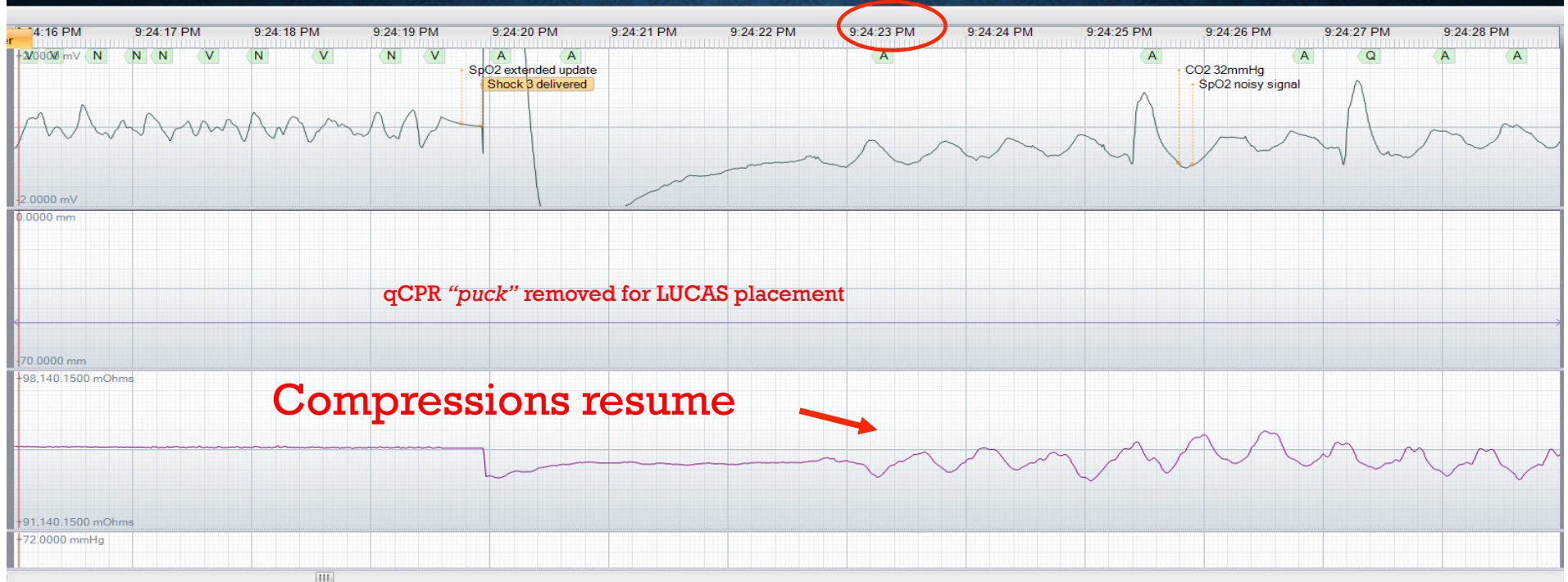






Defibrillation

CPR resumes @ 9:24:23  
40-second interruption in CPR





# STUDY

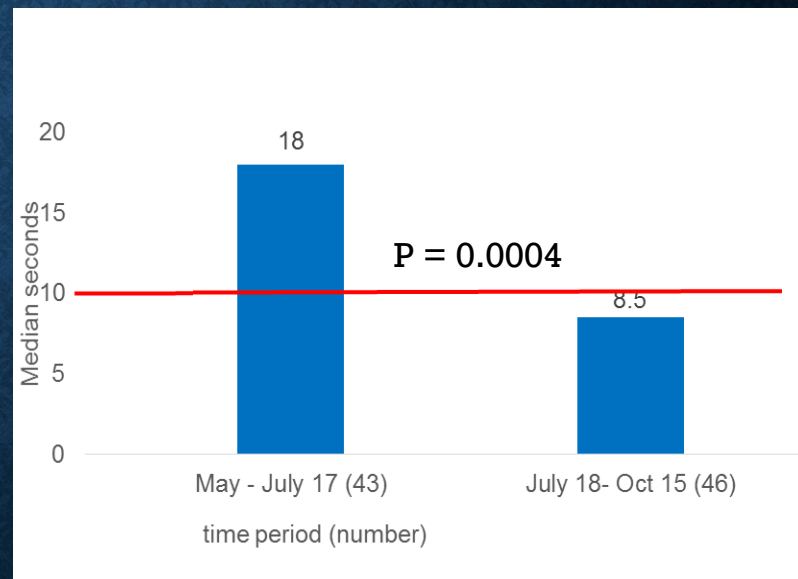
- May 1, 2015 – July 17, 2015 – 117 worked cardiac arrests
  - 43 had Lucas placement
- July 17 – Training Session on proper Lucas placement
- July 18, 2015 – October 15, 2015 – 173 worked cardiac arrests
  - 46 had Lucas placement





# RESULTS

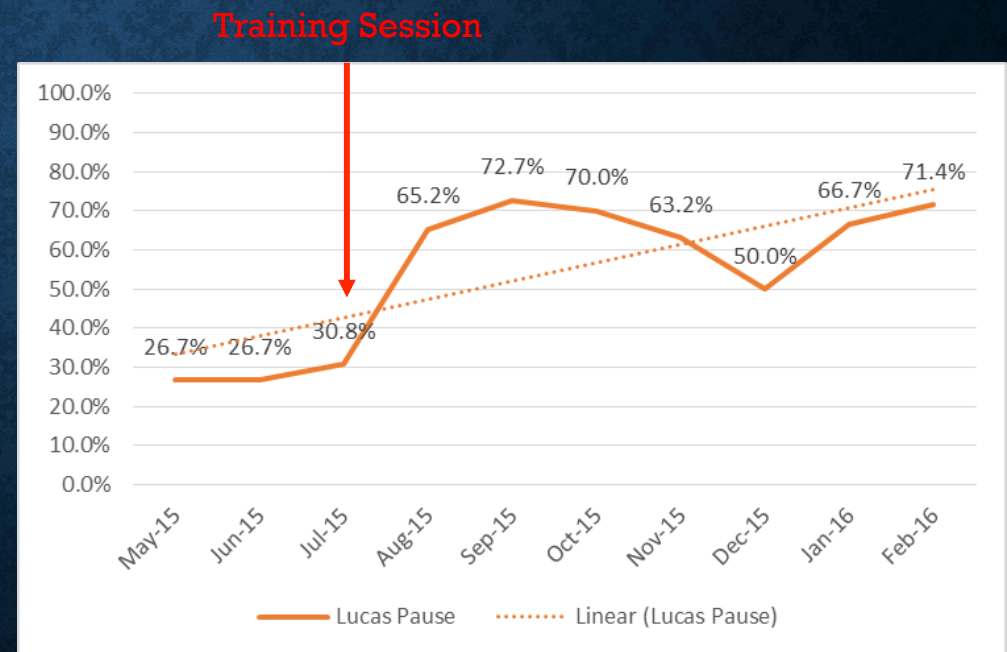
- Statistically significant decrease in median time to LUCAS placement post-intervention





# ONGOING RESULTS

- Percent of Lucas placements < 10-seconds

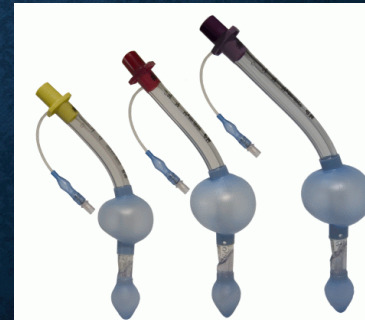




# SO WHAT ABOUT BLIND INSERTION DEVICES?

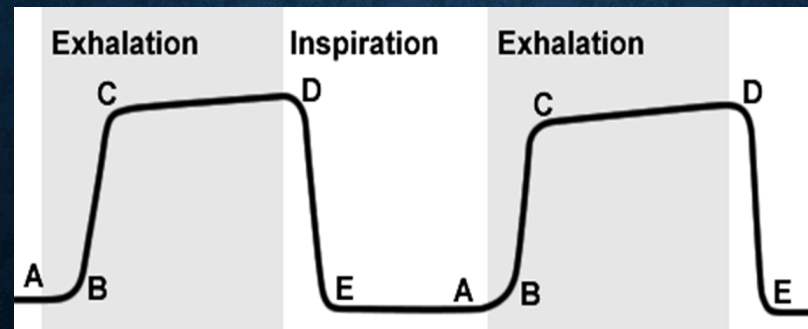
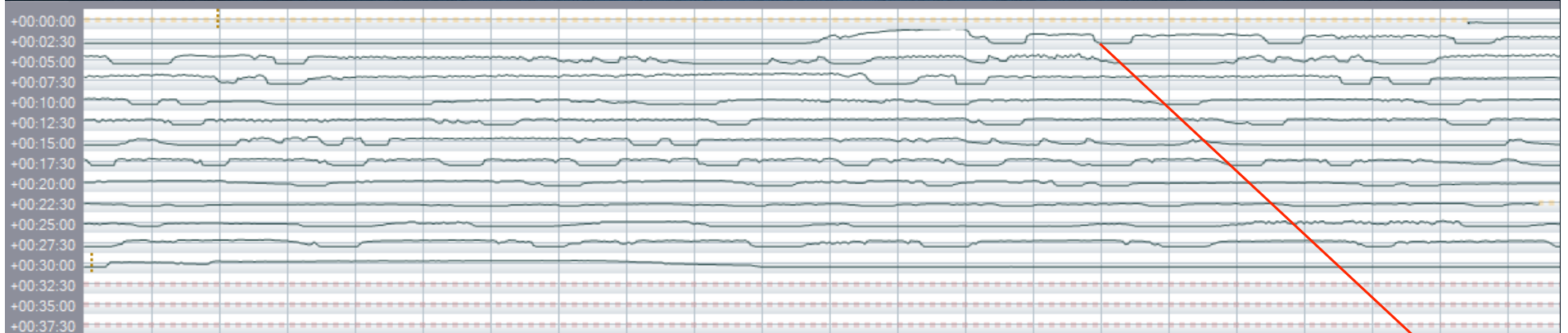
## Why we moved to them

- Literature demonstrates a 25% rate of unrecognized misplaced endotracheal tubes
- Direct laryngoscopic endotracheal intubation during CPR
  - Decreases CCF or % time-on-chest
  - Increases the length of pauses





# CAPNOGRAPHY IN CARDIAC ARREST



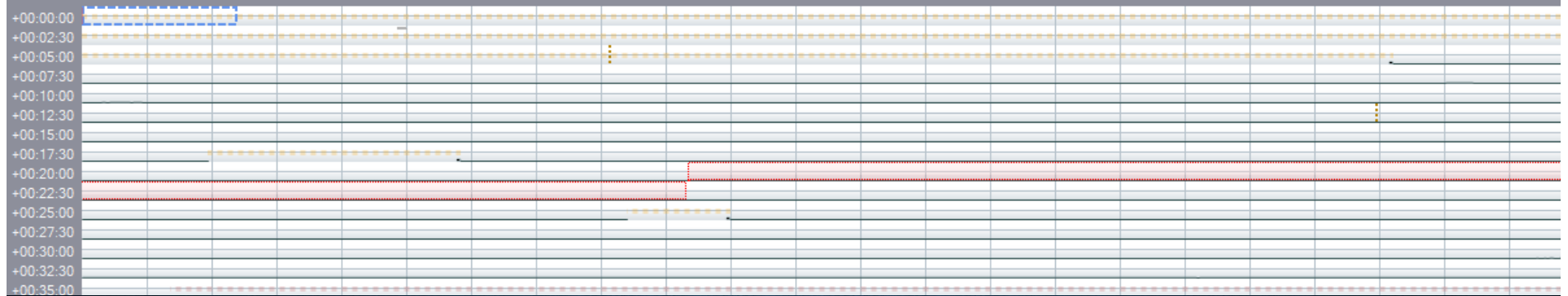
<http://airwayeducation.homestead.com/Capnography.html>

## Phases of ventilation:

- A-B: beginning of exhalation
- B-C: expiratory upstroke
- C-D: alveolar plateau
- D-E: inspiratory downstroke
- E-A: inspiration
- D: end-tidal CO<sub>2</sub>



# FLAT-LINE (ETCO2 = 0)

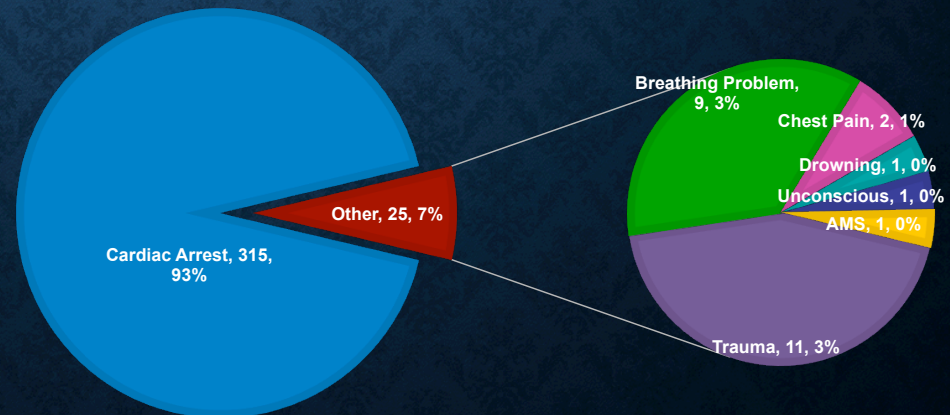




# STUDY

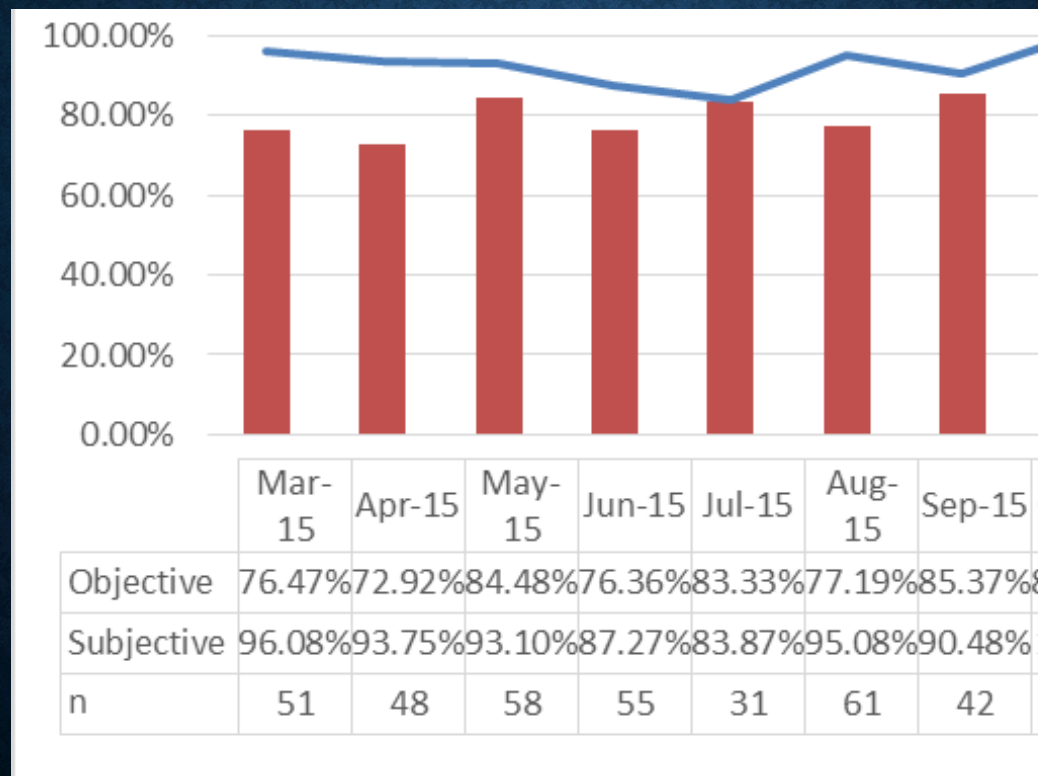
March 1 – September 30, 2015

- 340 King tube placements
- 1 without detailed data —————> 339-cases for analysis
  - 328: 1-attempt
  - 10: 2-attempts
  - 3-attempts





# RESULTS





# RESULTS

Out of total 339 King placements

- Misplaced ( $\text{ETCO}_2 = 0$ ) in 19.4%
- Unrecognized in 13.9%

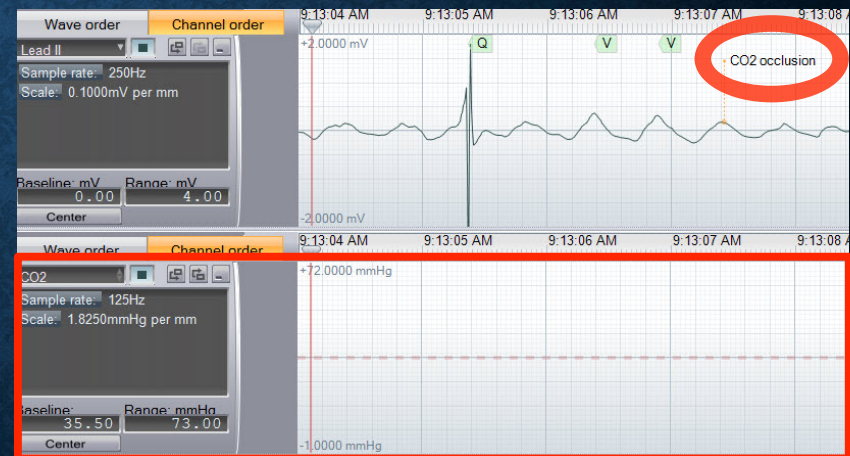


# WHAT'S GOING ON

- Flatline EtCO2

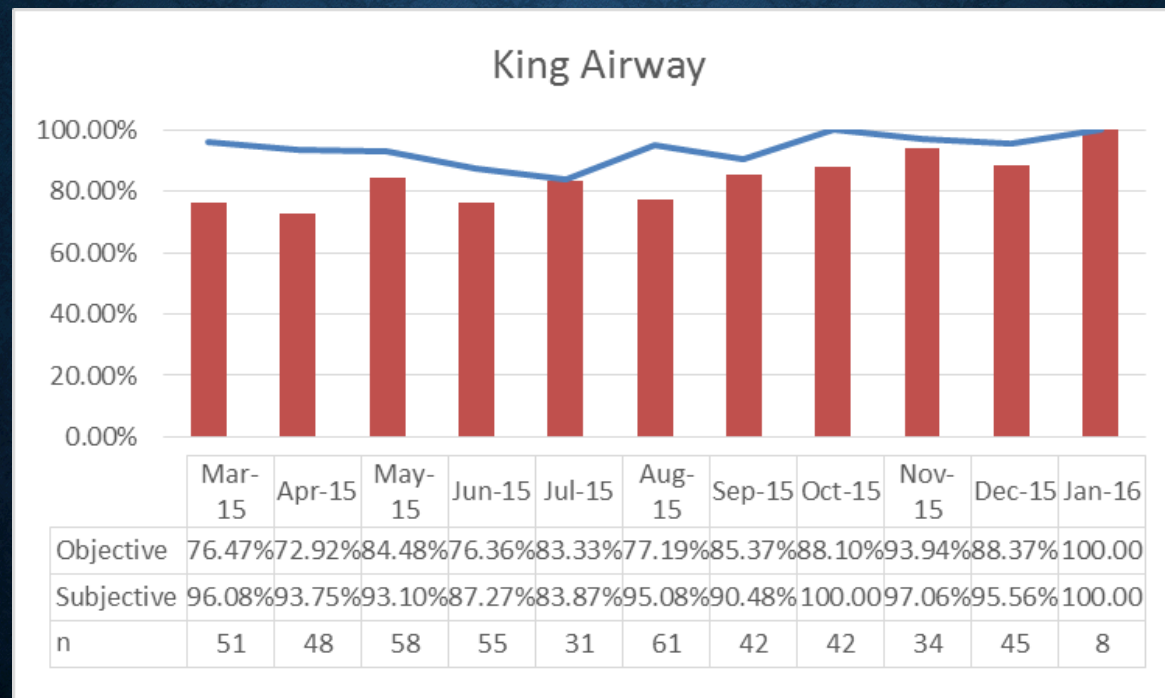


- EtCO2 device clog



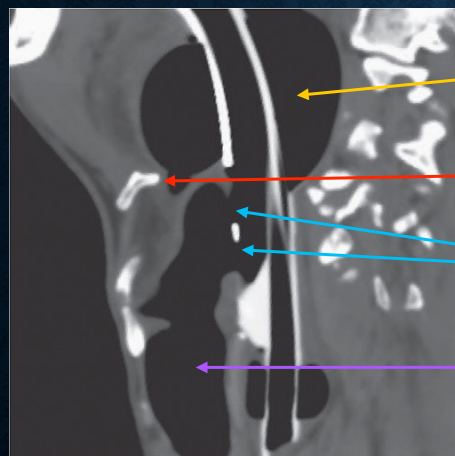


# ONGOING RESULTS





# WHAT'S A MISPLACED KING ANYWAY?



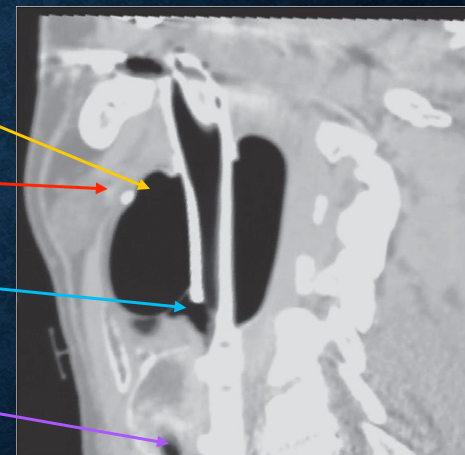
Optimal position above hyoid bone

Oropharyngeal balloon

Hyoid

Ventilatory opening

Trachea



Position distal (caudal) to hyoid bone



# BOTTOM LINE

- There are simple things you can measure that make a difference
- Assume nothing until you measure it
- Should we be embarrassed by these results?
  - At least we have the tools and processes in place to look and to make things better
  - Instead of just hoping we're doing a good job or
  - In the words of Dr. Juliette Saussy "*putting out a lot of feel good gibberish*"
  - But here's the thing: If you think you're a whole lot better than anyone else...just remember



WE ARE  
ALL D.C.

