



BROWN  
Alpert Medical School

# Key Diagnostic Challenges Related to Maternal Mental Health

Emily S Miller, MD MPH  
Associate Professor  
Alpert Medical School of Brown University  
Division Director, Maternal Fetal Medicine  
Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island  
[EmMiller@wihri.org](mailto:EmMiller@wihri.org)

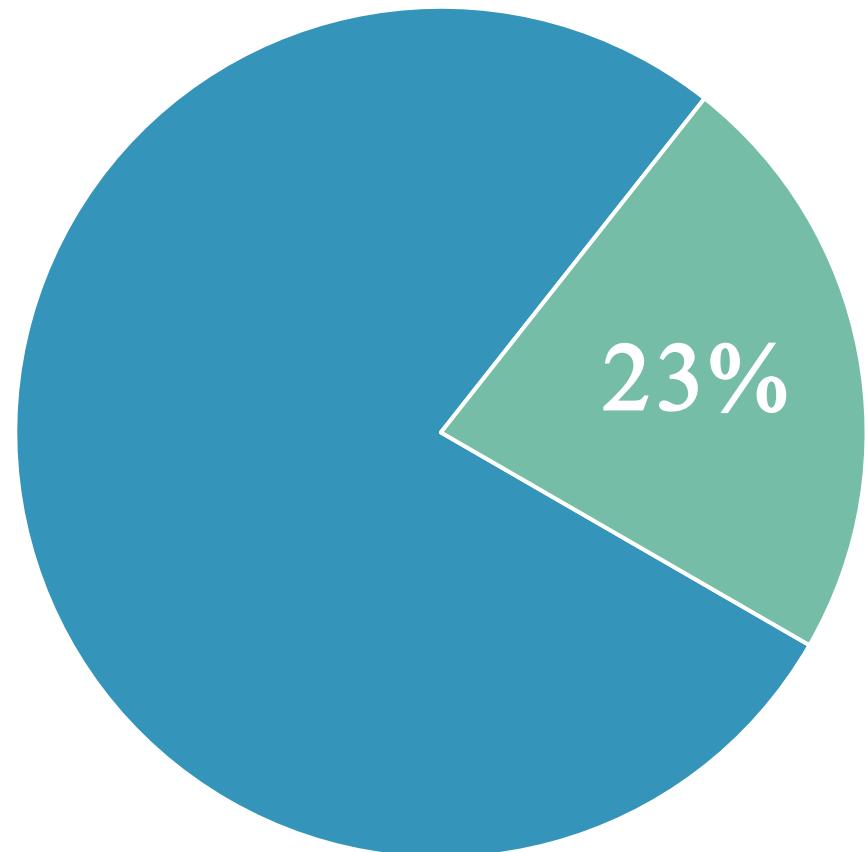
# Disclosure Statement

---

- No conflicts of interest
- Funding:
  - Friends of Prentice
  - R34 MH119029-5111
  - R01 HD105499
  - R34 MH130969

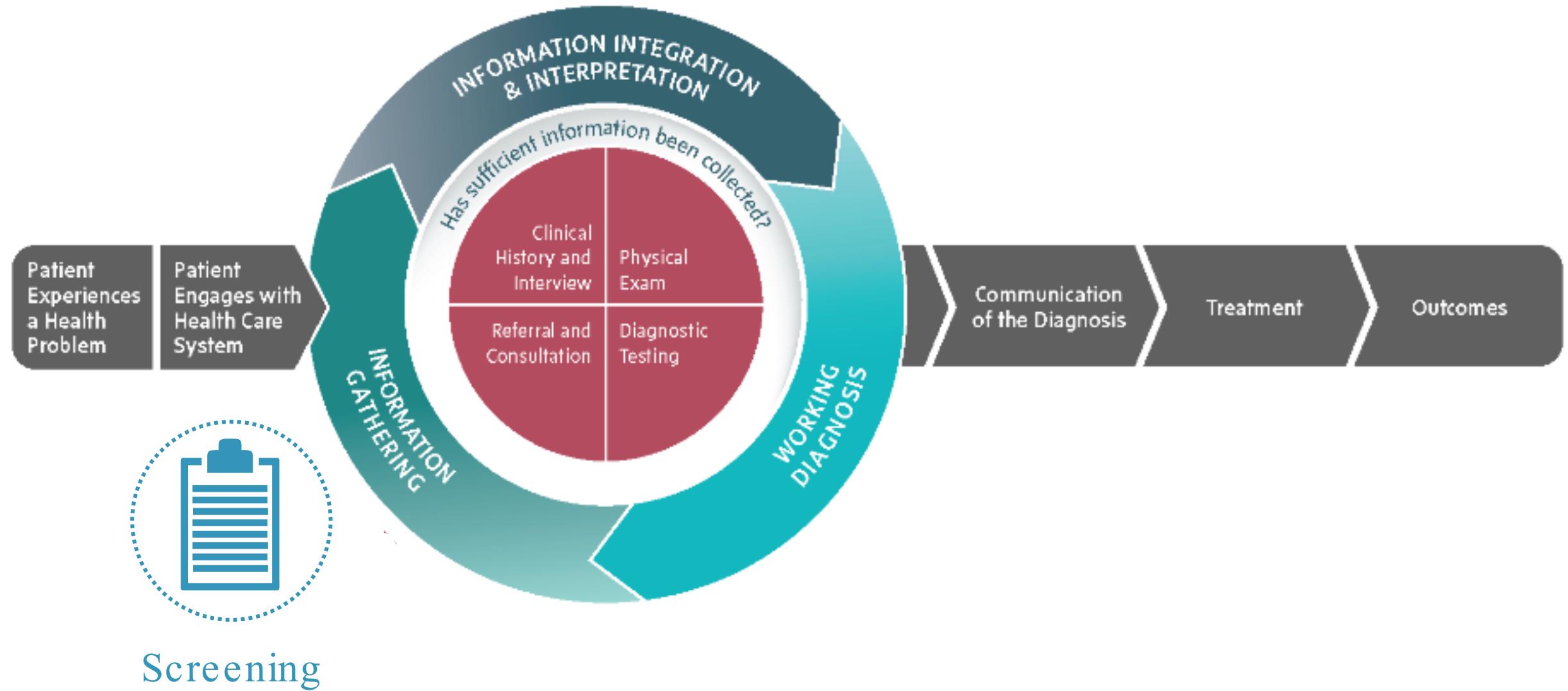
# Maternal Mortality

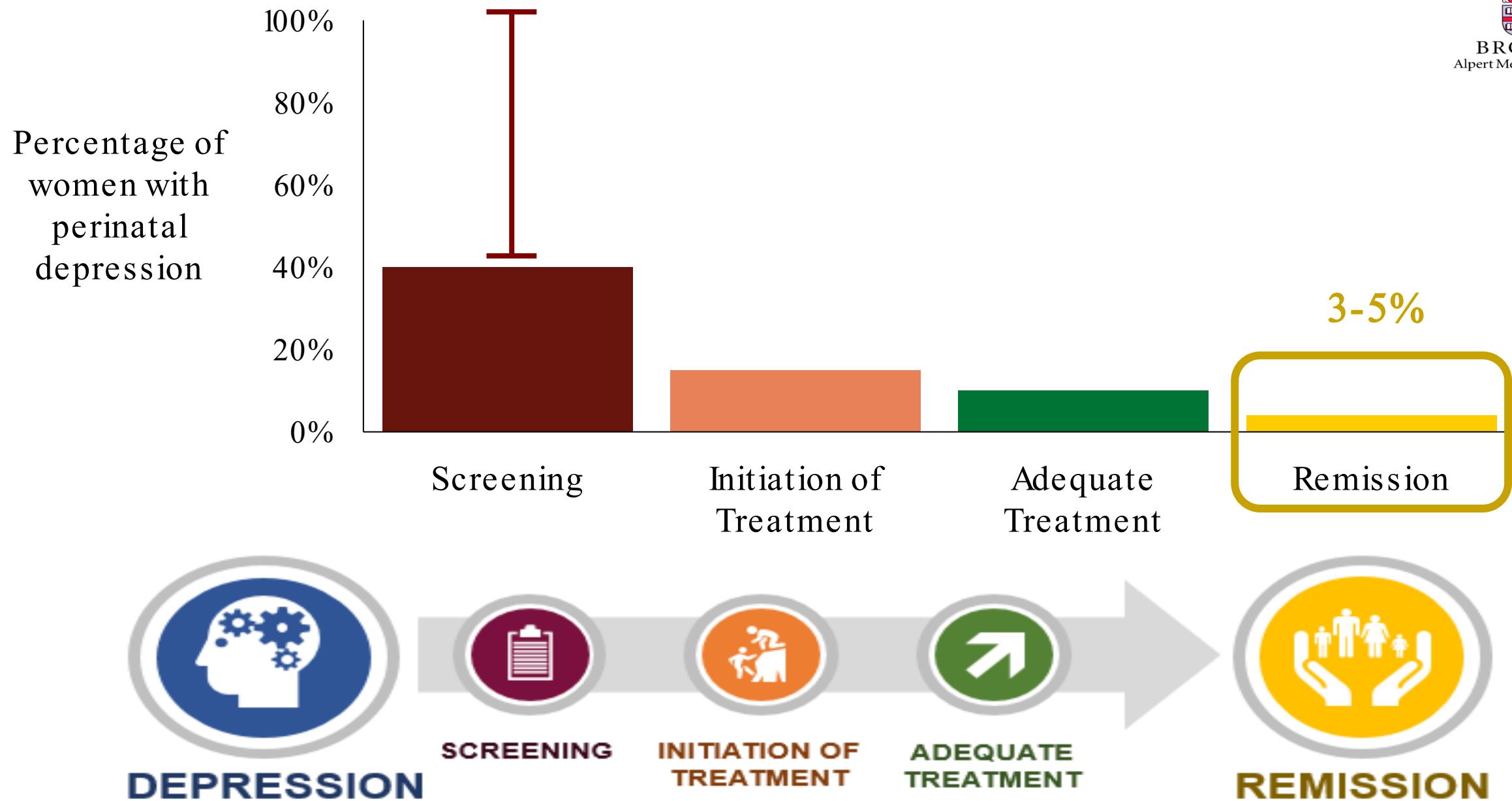
---



■ Mental Health Conditions

# The Diagnostic Journey



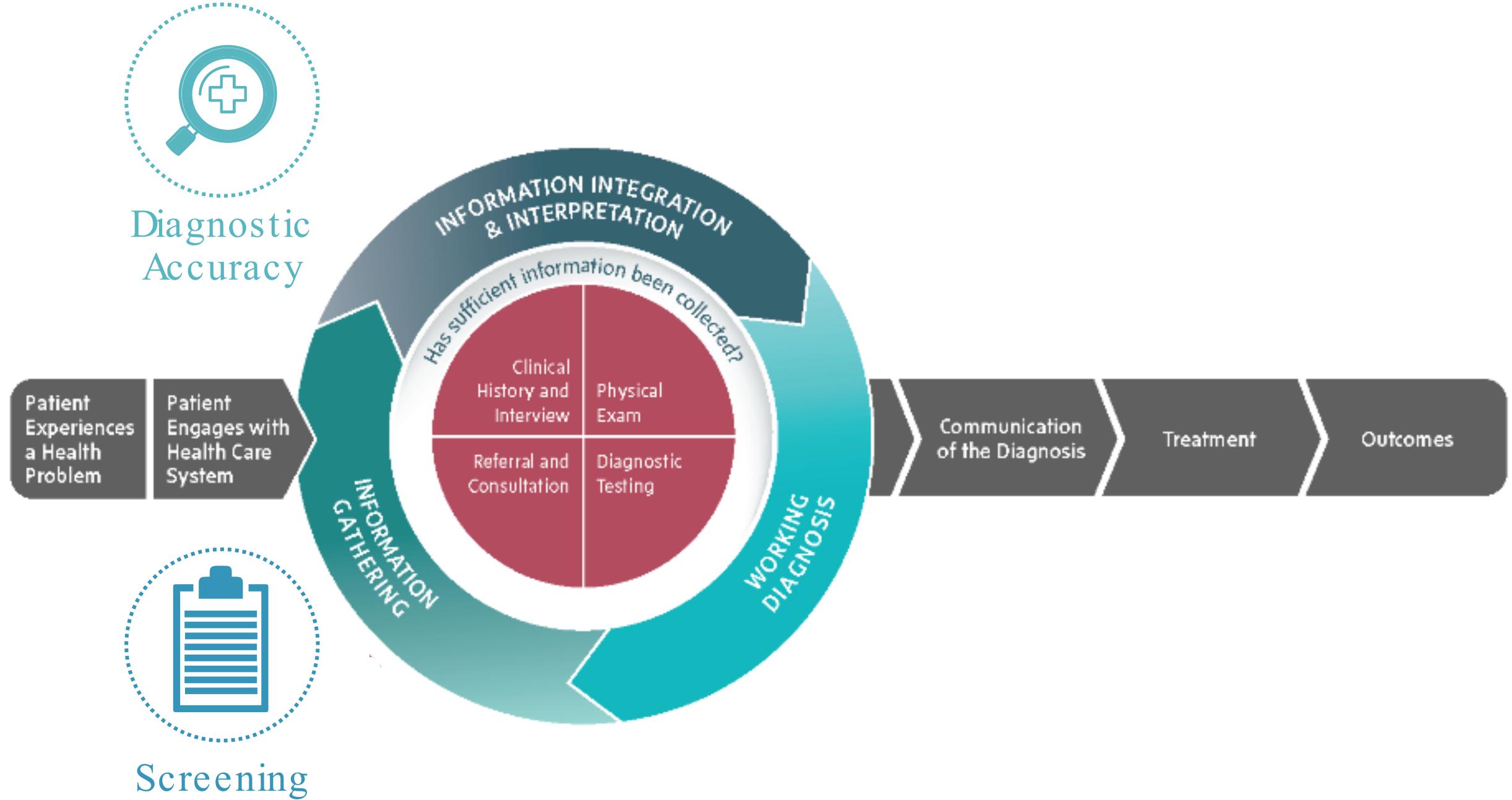


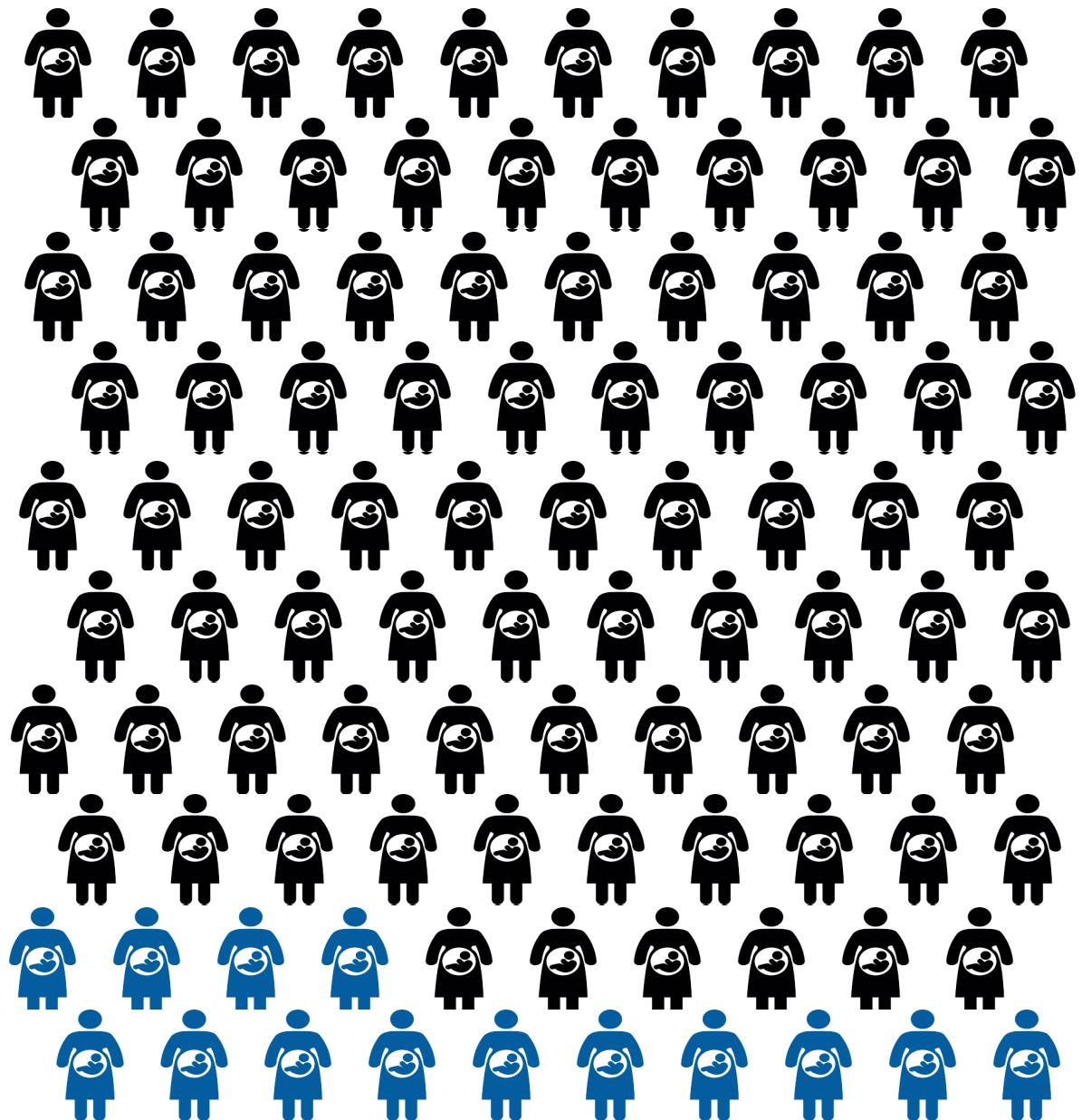
# Screening: Cultural Suitability

EPDS	
1. I have been able to laugh and see the funny side of things	6. Things have been getting on top of me
2. I have looked forward with enjoyment to things	7. I have been so unhappy that I have had difficulty sleeping
3. I have blamed myself unnecessarily when things went wrong	8. I have felt sad or miserable
4. I have been anxious or worried for no good reason	9. I have been so unhappy that I have been crying
5. I have felt scared or panicky for no very good reason	10. The thought of harming myself has occurred to me

## Concerns:

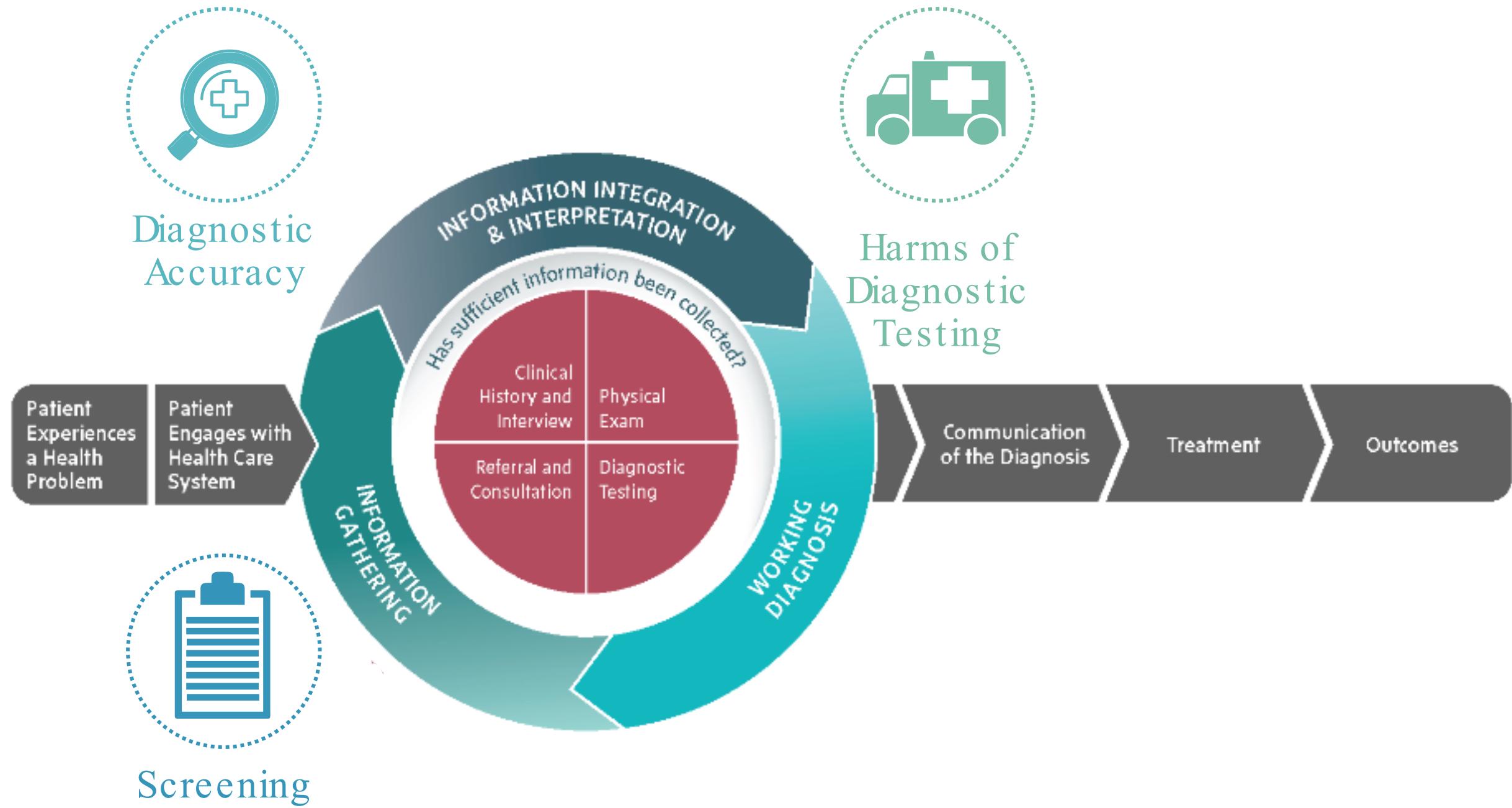
- Linguistic barriers
- Expression of symptoms
- Manifestation of mental health conditions





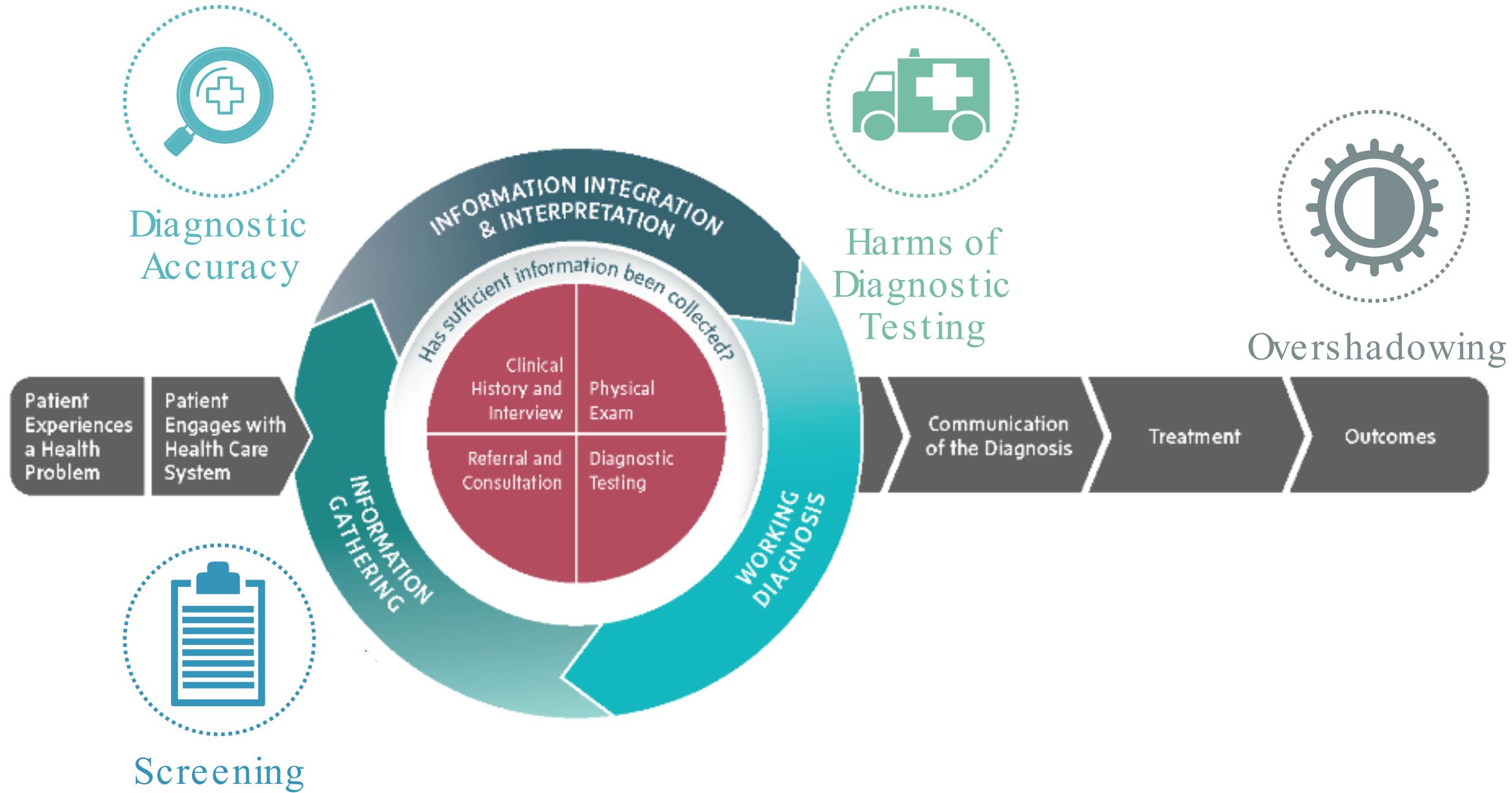
# DSM-IV disorders

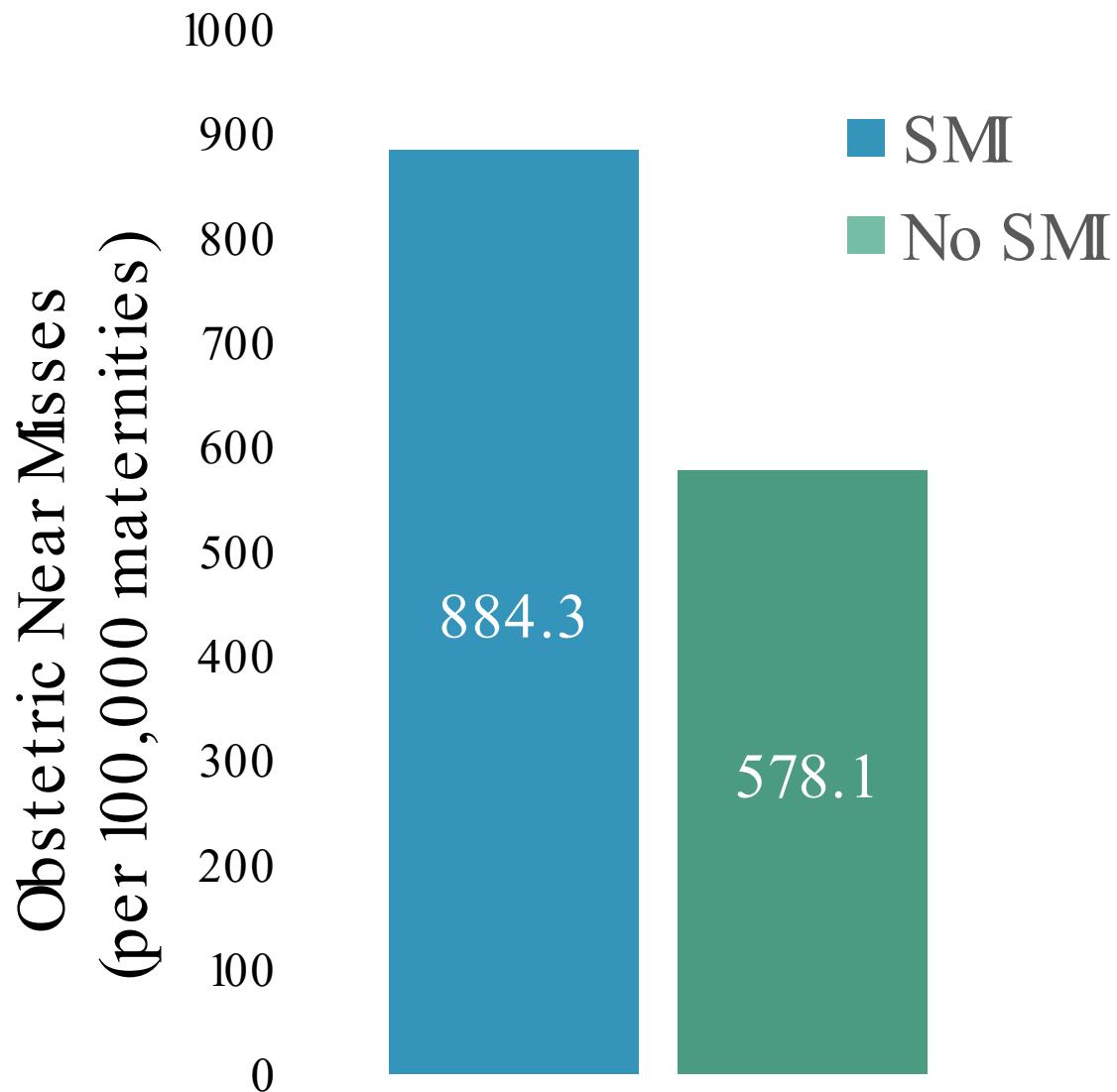
	Primary Diagnosis
Major depressive disorder	70%





Risks of emergency psychiatric care  
Broad differential diagnosis  
Education for perinatal clinicians



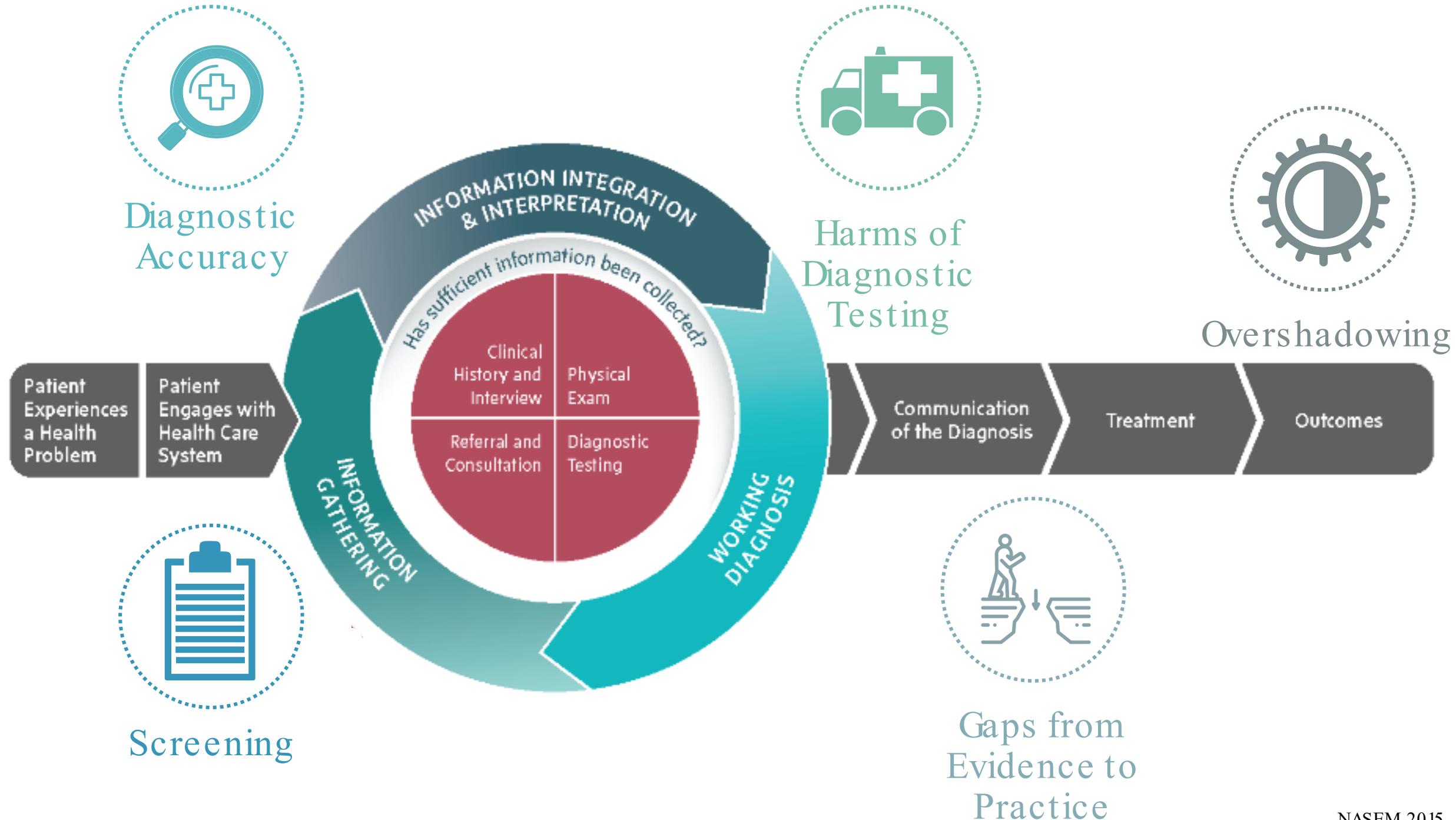


SM=serious mental illness

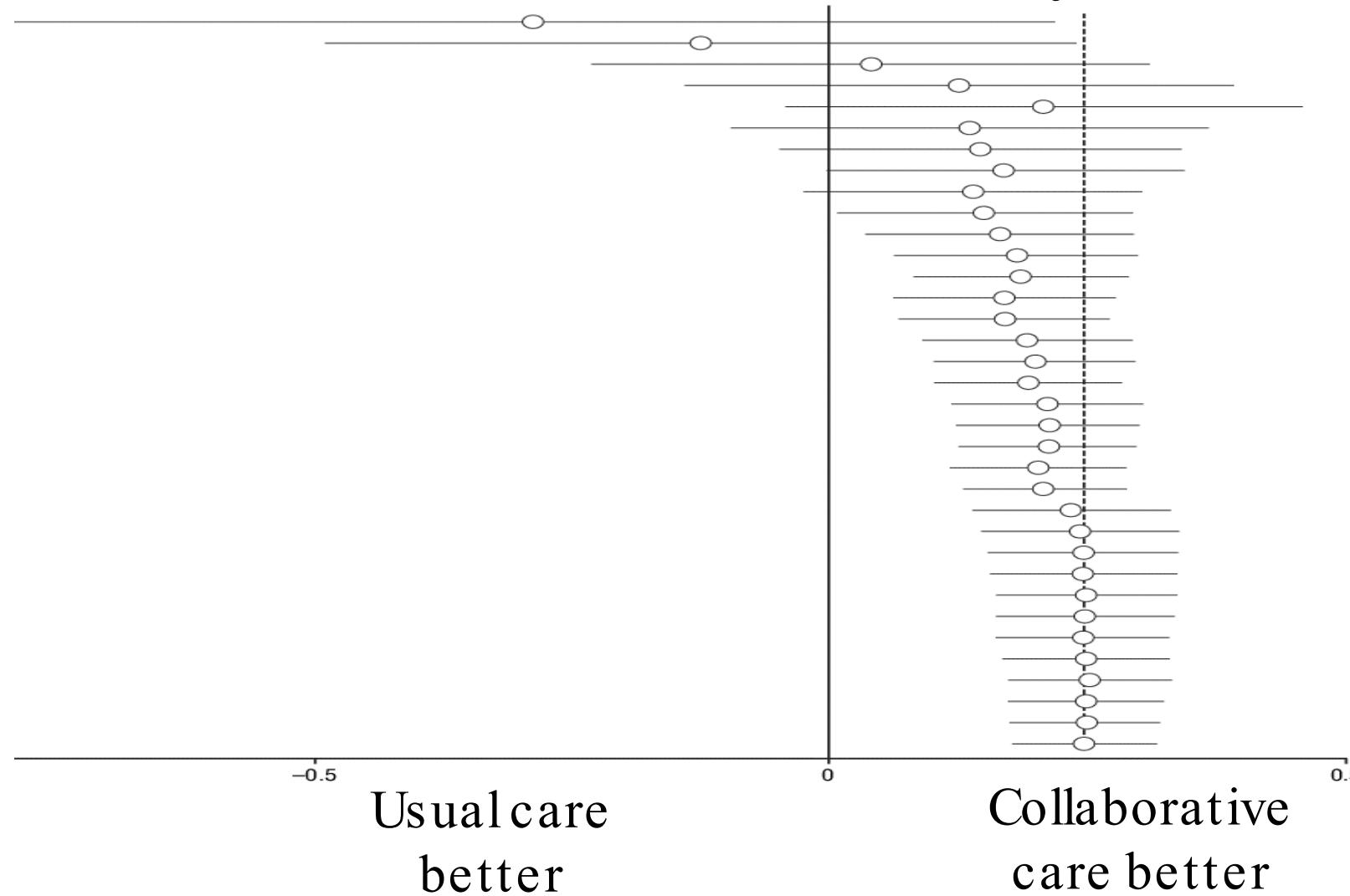
Event	OR (95% CI)
Sepsis	1.5 (1.0-2.4)
Acute renal failure	1.9 (1.1-3.5)
Cardiac arrest or infarction	2.2 (1.1-4.4)
Obstetric embolisms	2.5 (1.4-4.6)

Easter A et al. Br J Psychiatry 2021

<https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrrace-uk/reports>

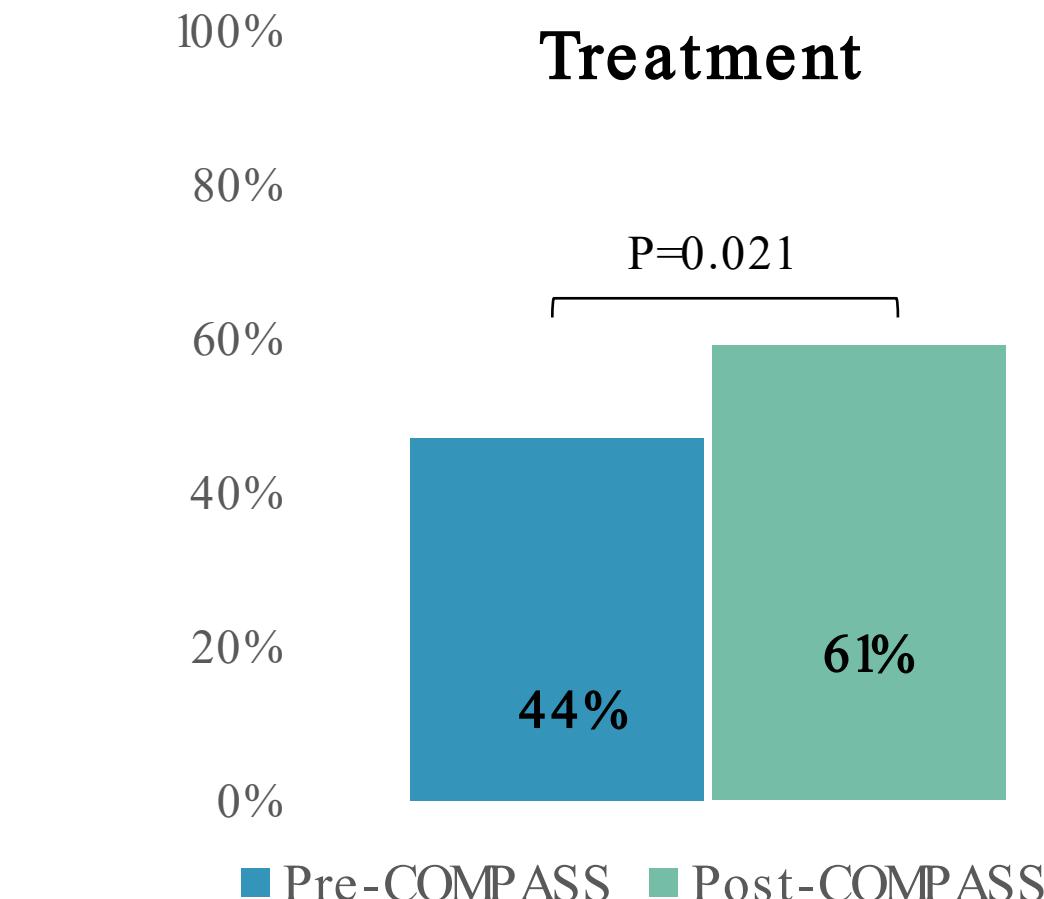
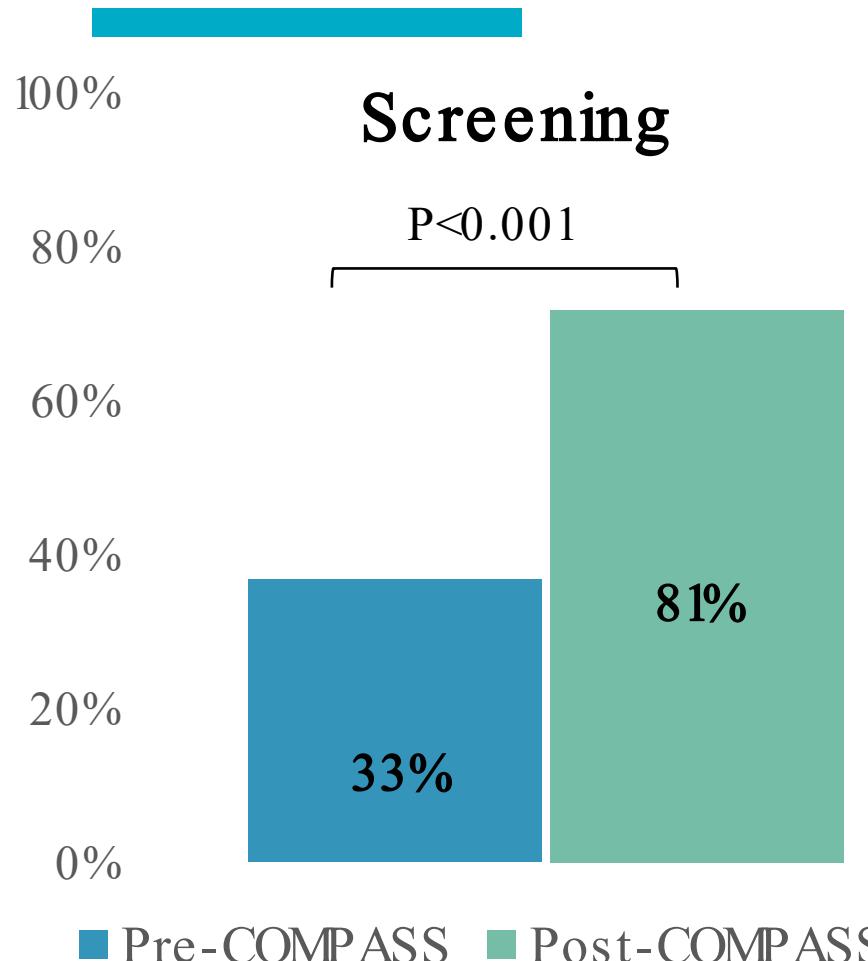


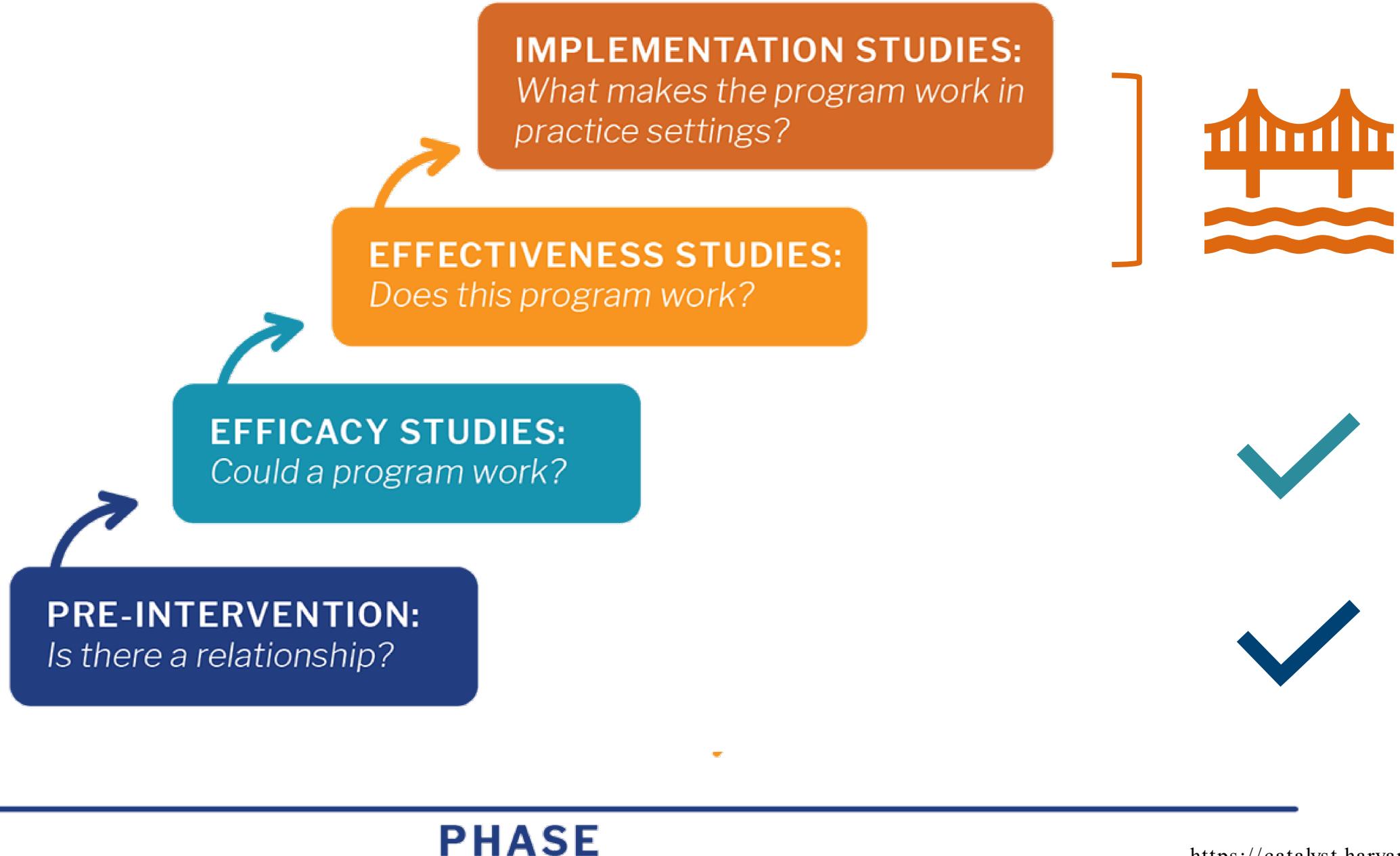
# Collaborative Care Model Efficacy in Primary Care



Gilbody S et al, JAMA Internal Medicine 2006  
Archer J et al, Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2012

# Antenatal Care Cascade







Questions