

ATS Highlights 2026:

Critical Care Assembly Early Career Professionals



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Tell us about yourself.

I am a pulmonary and critical care physician at Duke University and the Durham VA.

Is your research clinical, basic science, or translational?

Clinical.

Tell us about your research.

I study health inequities in PCCM. I focus on the role of interpersonal processes (e.g., clinician-family communication in the ICU) and structural policies (e.g., reproductive care legislation). I enjoy using a wide range of methods.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

Wow, hard to say these days! Hopefully doing more of the same – moving into intervention development and testing related to the above.

How has the Critical Care Assembly contributed to your career?

Working with kind, smart, mission-driven people is the best part of my day, and the assembly has allowed me to meet many people who fit that bill (see next slide!).



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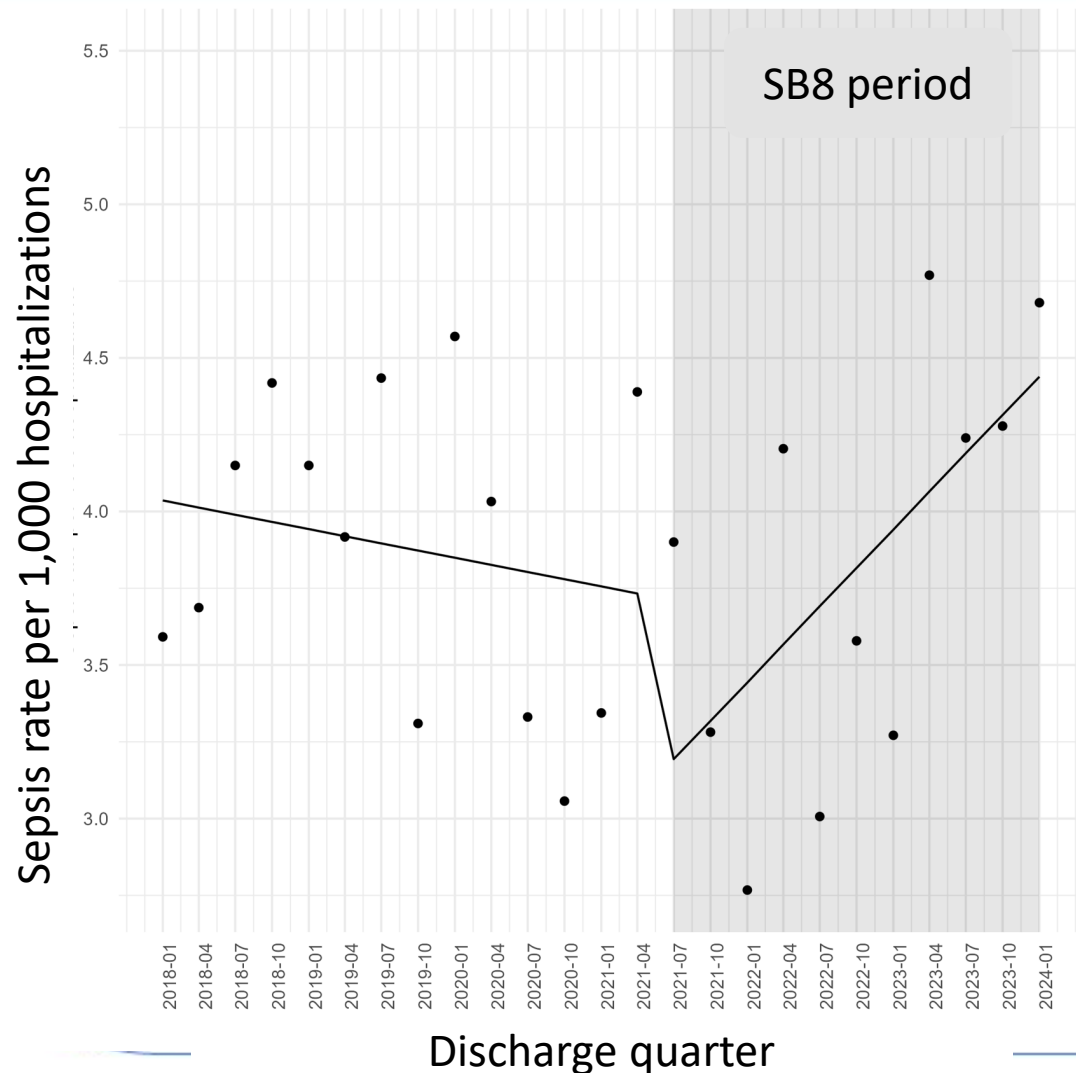


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Critical Illness Outcomes of Hospitalized Pregnant Women Following a Texas Abortion Ban

With other assembly members - Catherine Chen (UTSW), Hayley Gershengorn (Miami)

Rationale: Texas Senate Bill 8 (SB8) banned abortion after embryonic cardiac activity. We estimated the association of SB8 with rates of critical illness, sepsis, and mechanical ventilation.

Methods: Interrupted time series analysis of Texas inpatient data, including pregnant women hospitalized between 2018-24.

Results: Null associations in overall cohort. In a subgroup of patients with high-risk features (age <18 or >34 years or ≥ 1 chronic illnesses), SB8 was associated with increases in critical illness and sepsis (Figure).

Conclusions: A Texas abortion ban was associated with higher rates of sepsis among hospitalized, pregnant patients with high-risk features.