# Prehospital Triage of Emergency Patients by EMS

A comparison of CTAS scores by EMS and triage nurses

The Canadian Triage Acuity Scale (CTAS) is recognized across Canada as the standard for triage of patients



Evidence suggests medical professionals other than triage nurses can be taught to accurately use CTAS



CTAS classifies patients into 5 categories based on the urgency of their presentation

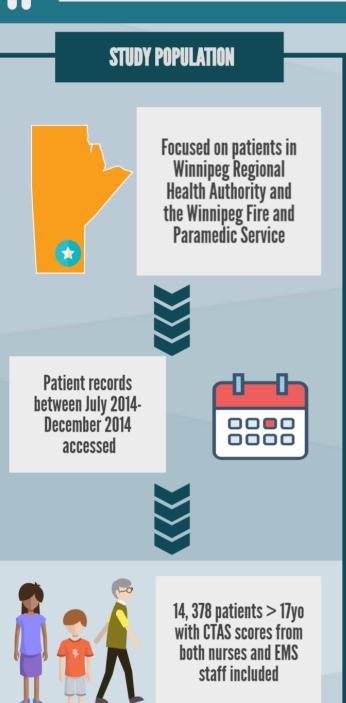


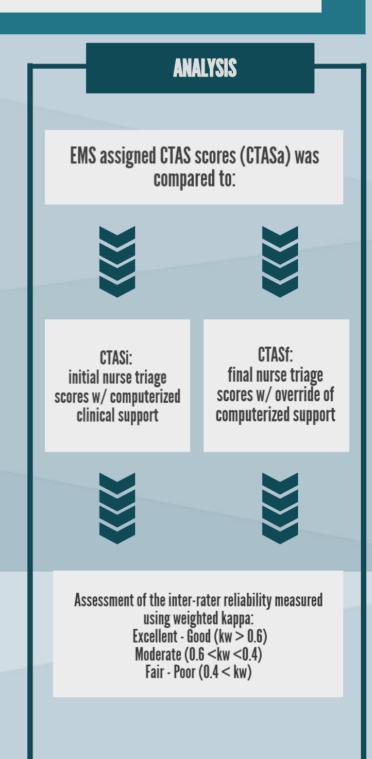
## A Prospective, Observational Study

### **PURPOSE**



To assess the accuracy of prehospital EMS assigned CTAS scores compared to triage nurse assigned CTAS scores





## RESULTS



Moderate agreement between CTASa and CTASi (kw=0.437, p<0.001, 95% CI)



CTASa and CTASi were within one grade point in 84.3% of cases



Moderate agreement between CTASa and CTASf (kw=0.452, p<0.001, 95% CI)



CTASa and CTASf were within one grade point in 86.5% of cases

#### **CONCLUSION**

This system wide implementation study demonstrates moderate inter-rater reliability between CTAS scores assigned by trained EMS and triage nurses.

#### References:

Leeies M., ffrench C., Strome T., Weldon E., Bullard M., Grierson R. Prehospital application of The Canadian Triage Acuity Scale by emergency medical services. CJEM 2016, Vol. 19 p.26-31







