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# Impact of Restriction Criteria on Optimal Ertapenem Use in a Community Health System

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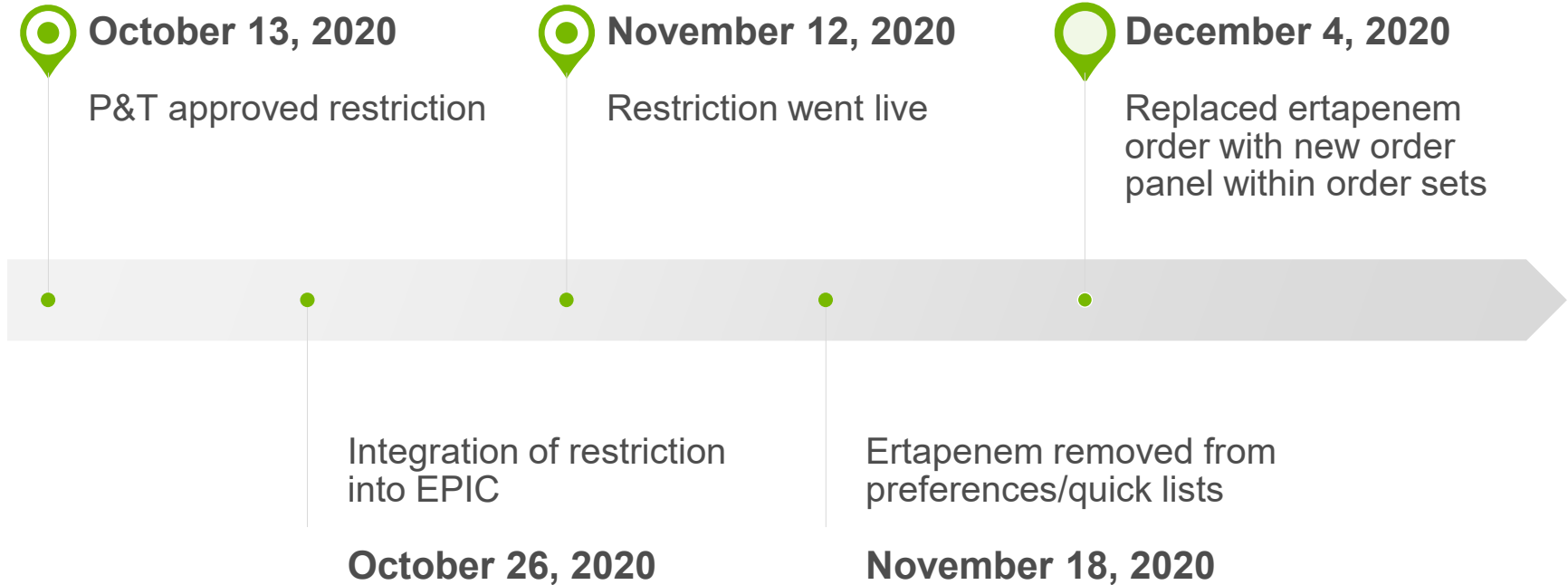
The speaker has no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation.

# Background

- Ertapenem is a convenient option for empiric treatment and surgical prophylaxis
  - More costly than suitable alternatives
- Parkview implemented ertapenem restriction in November 2020 as a departmental improvement initiative

Standard cost of therapy per day	
Ertapenem	\$56.23
Meropenem	\$17.28
Levofloxacin + metronidazole	\$6.50
Ceftriaxone + metronidazole	\$6.76
Piperacillin-tazobactam	\$9.87
Cefepime + metronidazole	\$8.84

# Restriction Process



# Ertapenem Restriction Criteria

- Inpatient orders for ertapenem will only be accepted for patients who meet the following criteria:
  - **Empiric therapy:**
    - Documented history of infection with ESBL-producing bacteria at any anatomical site within the past twelve months
    - Necrotizing pancreatitis confirmed by imaging
    - Severe community acquired pneumonia without Pseudomonal risk in patients with a severe penicillin or cephalosporin allergy
    - Colorectal surgery prophylaxis in patients with documented severe penicillin or cephalosporin allergy

# Ertapenem Restriction Criteria

- Inpatient orders for ertapenem will only be accepted for patients who meet the following criteria:
  - **Definitive therapy:**
    - Treatment of infection caused by ESBL-producing bacteria
    - Treatment of infection caused by *Enterobacter* species, *Klebsiella aerogenes*, *Citrobacter* species, *Morganella* species or *Serratia* species
    - Inpatient orders placed by an Infectious Diseases physician for patients who will be discharged on ertapenem for outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy

# Study Purpose & Rationale



Evaluate the implementation of ertapenem restriction

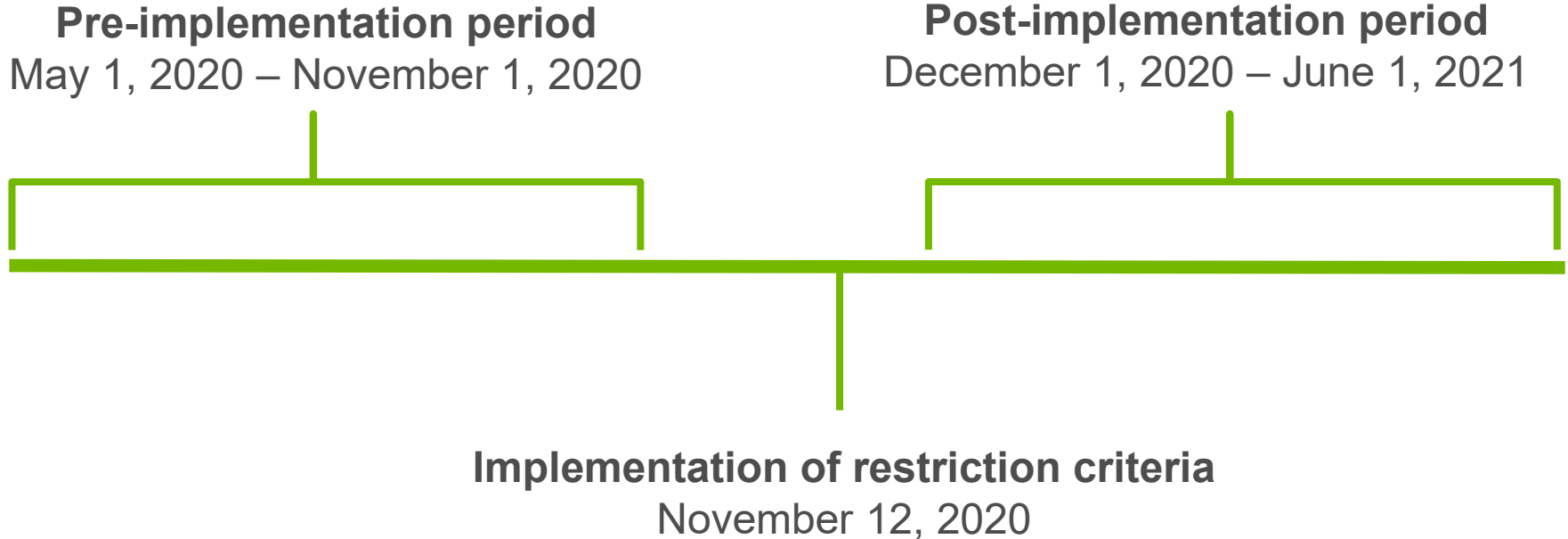


Identify the main indications of ertapenem use within the health system



Assess the potential for cost savings

# Methods - Overview





# Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

## Inclusion

- Receiving at least one dose of ertapenem during hospitalization as empiric or definitive therapy

## Exclusion

- Outpatient infusions for ertapenem

### Study Definitions

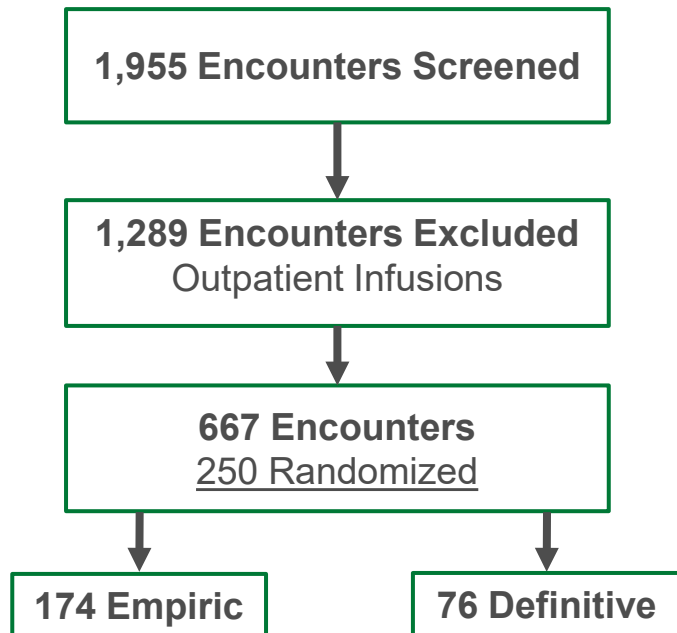
<b>Empiric</b>	Ertapenem use before relevant cultures have resulted, or as prophylaxis for surgery
<b>Definitive</b>	Ertapenem initiated after relevant culture results available

# Outcomes

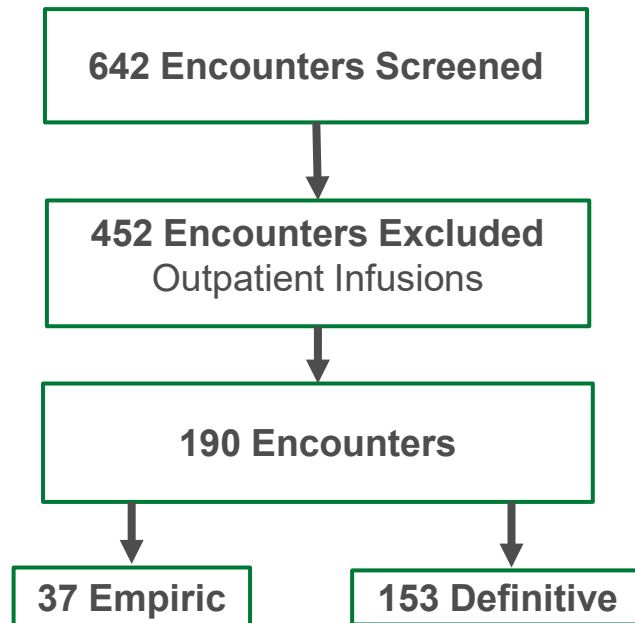
- **Primary outcome:**
  - Percent change of ertapenem orders considered optimal before and after implementation of restriction criteria
    - **Optimal use:** Matching an indication listed in the restriction criteria
- **Secondary outcomes:**
  - Percent change of ertapenem orders considered optimal for empiric and definitive therapy
  - Indications of any suboptimal use after implementation
  - Selected antibiotic use (ertapenem, levofloxacin, and meropenem)
  - Cost reduction estimate analysis

# Patient Inclusion

## Pre-Implementation



## Post-Implementation



# Baseline Characteristics

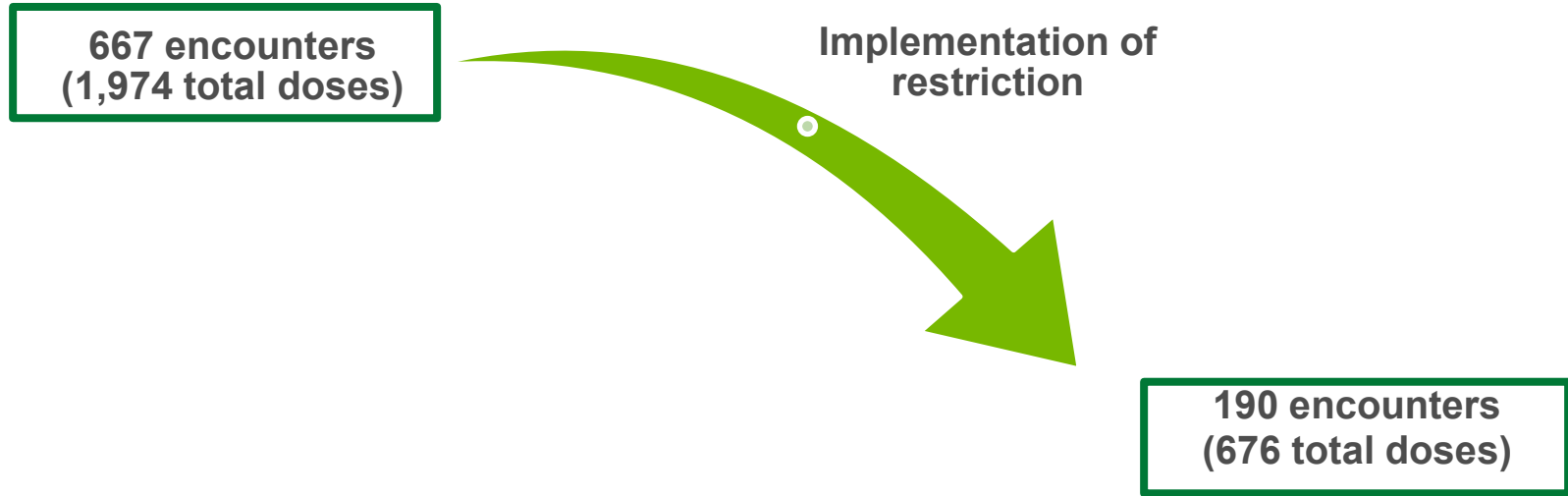
Characteristic, mean ( $\pm$ SD or %)	Pre-Implementation (n = 250)	Post-Implementation (n = 190)
Age	51.9 ( $\pm$ 21.3)	60.9 ( $\pm$ 16.2)
Male (n, %)	126 (50.4%)	89 (46.8%)
Doses of ertapenem per encounter	3 ( $\pm$ 4.9)	3.6 ( $\pm$ 3.9)
Length of stay in days	5.5 ( $\pm$ 8.2)	9.1 ( $\pm$ 9.0)
Severe allergies (n, %)		
Penicillin	52 (20.8%)	20 (10.5%)
Cephalosporin	21 (8.4%)	6 (3.2%)

# Ertapenem Indication

Indication, n (%)	Pre-Implementation (n = 250)	Post-Implementation (n = 190)
Intraabdominal infection	68 (27.2%)	29 (15.3%)
Appendicitis	45 (18.0%)	4 (2.1%)
Urinary tract infection	34 (13.6%)	39 (20.5%)
Surgical prophylaxis (primarily colorectal)	27 (10.8%)	6 (3.2%)
Bloodstream infection	23 (9.2%)	23 (12.1%)
Skin or soft tissue infection	19 (7.6%)	11 (5.8%)
Bone or joint infection	15 (6.0%)	51 (26.8%)
Pneumonia	7 (2.8%)	11 (5.8%)
Other	12 (4.8%)	16 (8.4%)

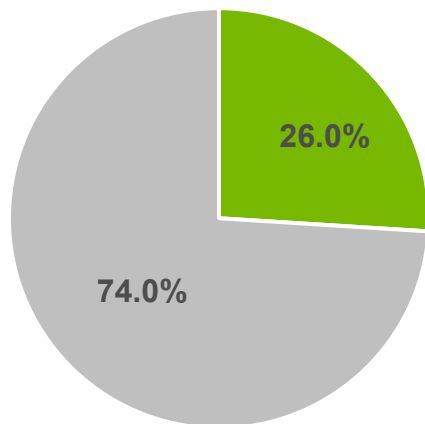
\*Other indications include infective endocarditis, empyema, fever of unknown etiology, etc.

# Impact of Restriction Criteria



# Primary Outcome – Optimal Use

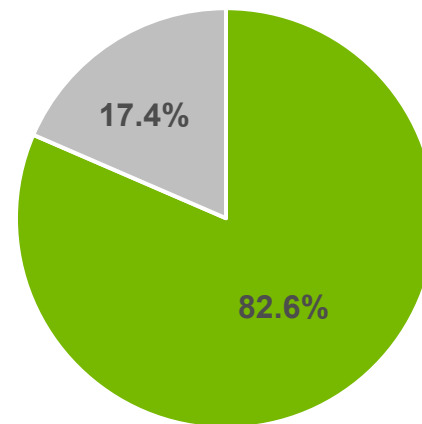
Pre-Implementation  
(n=250)



■ Optimal ■ Suboptimal

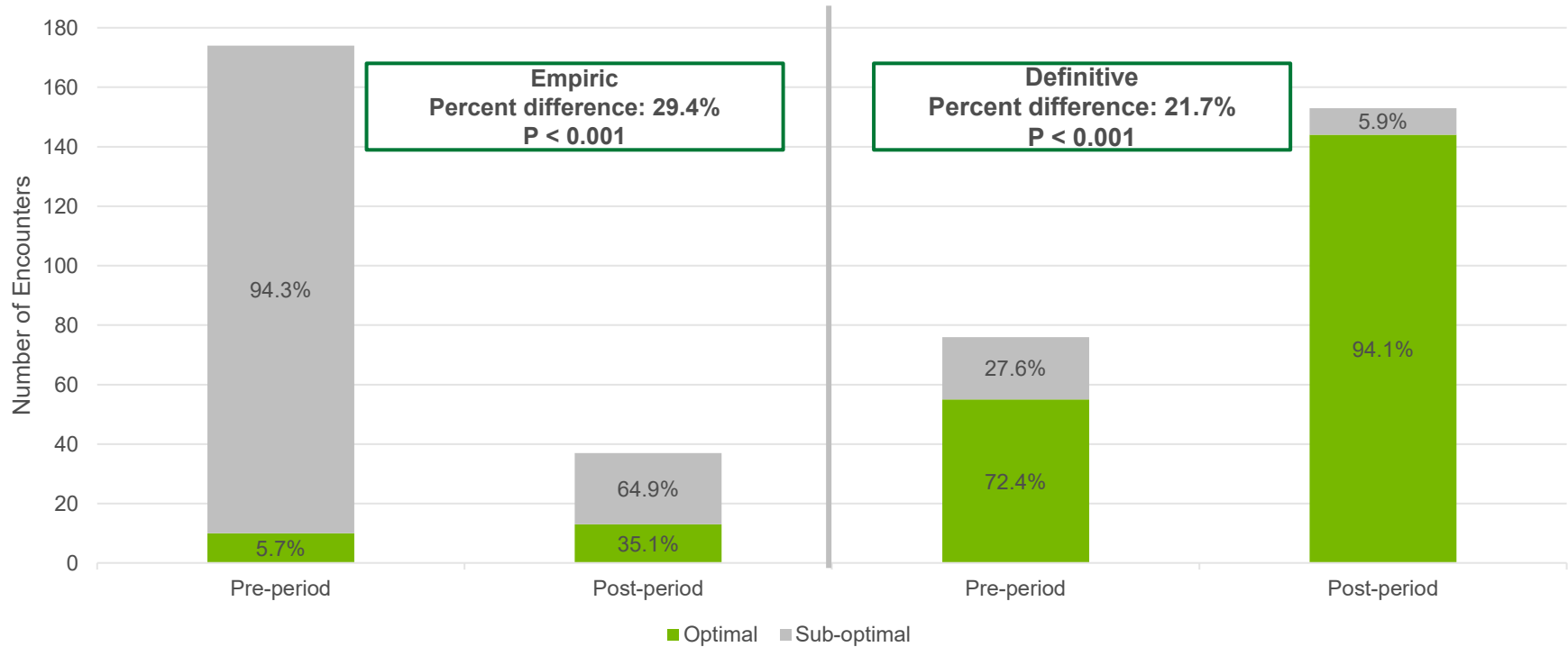
Percent difference: 56.6%  
 $P < 0.001$

Post-Implementation  
(n=190)



■ Optimal ■ Suboptimal

# Secondary Outcome – Empiric and Definitive Therapy



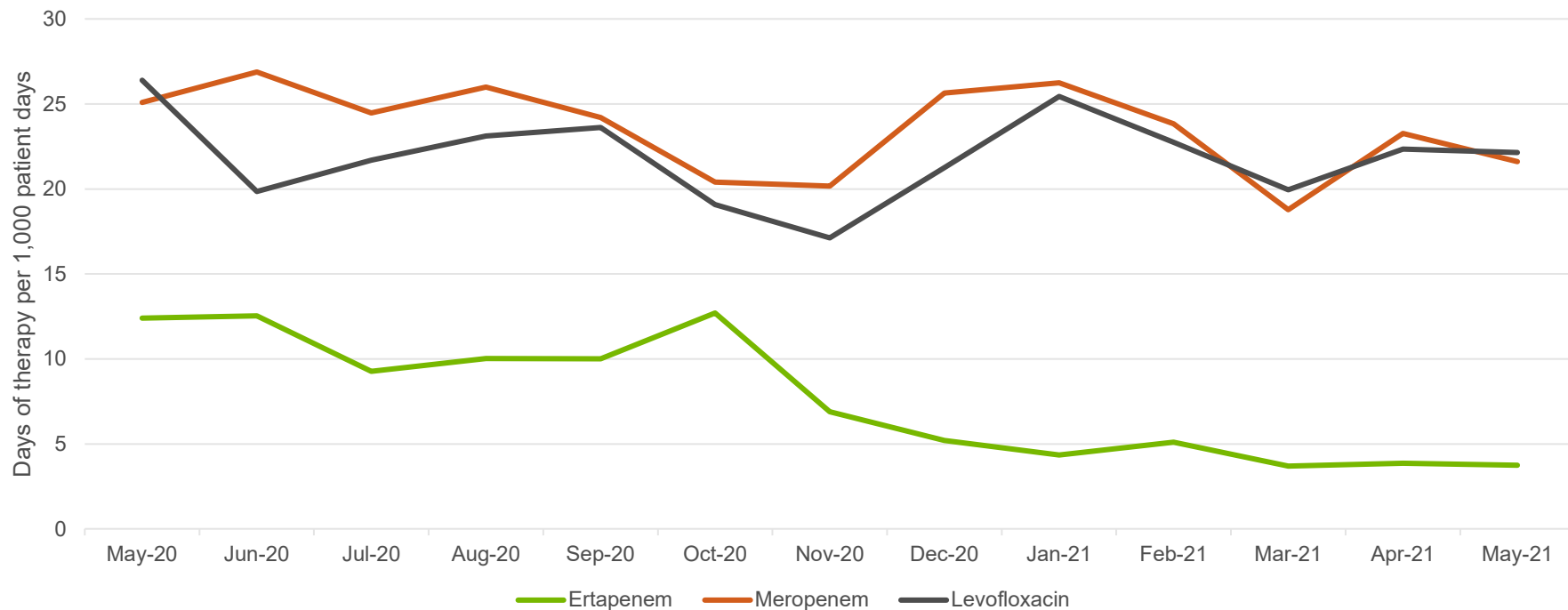


# Suboptimal Indications Post-Implementation

Suboptimal Empiric Indication (n=24)	Number of encounters, n (%)
Bone or joint infection	7 (29.1%)
Appendicitis	4 (16.7%)
Intraabdominal infection	4 (16.7%)
Surgical prophylaxis	3 (12.5%)
Pneumonia	2 (8.3%)
Infective endocarditis	1 (4.2%)
Fever	1 (4.2%)
Lung abscess or empyema	1 (4.2%)
Skin or soft tissue infection	1 (4.2%)

Suboptimal Definitive Indication (n=9)	Number of encounters, n (%)
Intraabdominal infection	5 (55.6%)
Bone or joint infection	2 (22.2%)
Urinary tract infection	2 (22.2%)

# Secondary Outcome – Antibiotic Usage



## Secondary Outcome – Cost Reduction Estimate

	Total days of therapy	Difference in days of therapy	Cost of ertapenem	Cost of levofloxacin + metronidazole*	Cost of meropenem**	Range of cost savings
Pre-implementation	1,974	1,298	\$73,376	\$8,437	\$22,417	<b>\$50,959 – \$64,939</b>
Post-implementation	676					

\*The least expensive alternative to ertapenem on Parkview formulary

\*\*The most expensive alternative to meropenem on Parkview formulary

# Discussion

- Decreased ertapenem use overall
  - No sustained increase in meropenem or levofloxacin
- Major improvement in optimal orders after implementation
  - Decreased use for intrabdominal infections and appendicitis
- Estimated cost savings up to \$64,000

# Future Direction

- Update current restriction criteria to address unique clinical situations found during study time frame
  - Address continuation of ertapenem from OPAT on admission
  - Clarify appropriate definition of colorectal surgery prophylaxis
- Pharmacist education to ensure compliance with policy
- Develop manuscript and seek publication
  - Serve as a guide for other institutions
  - Share challenges encountered

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