



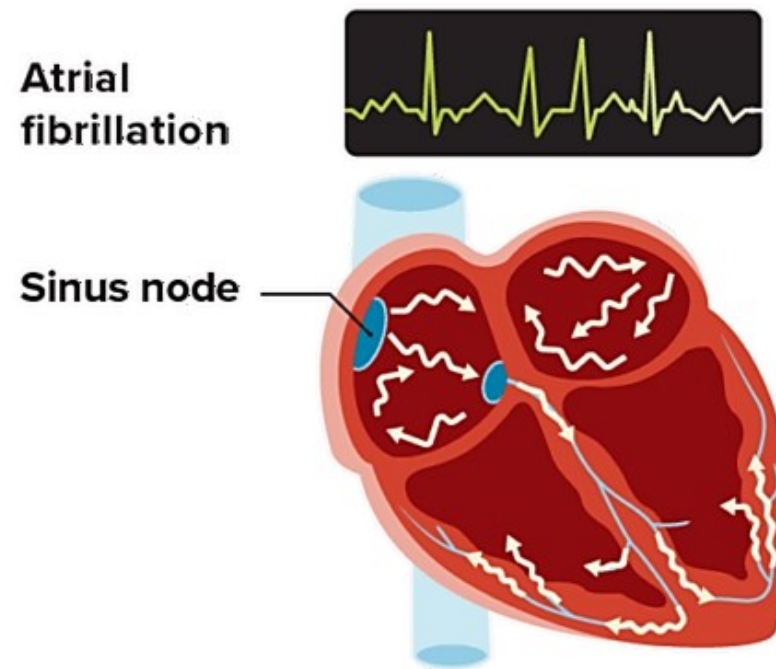
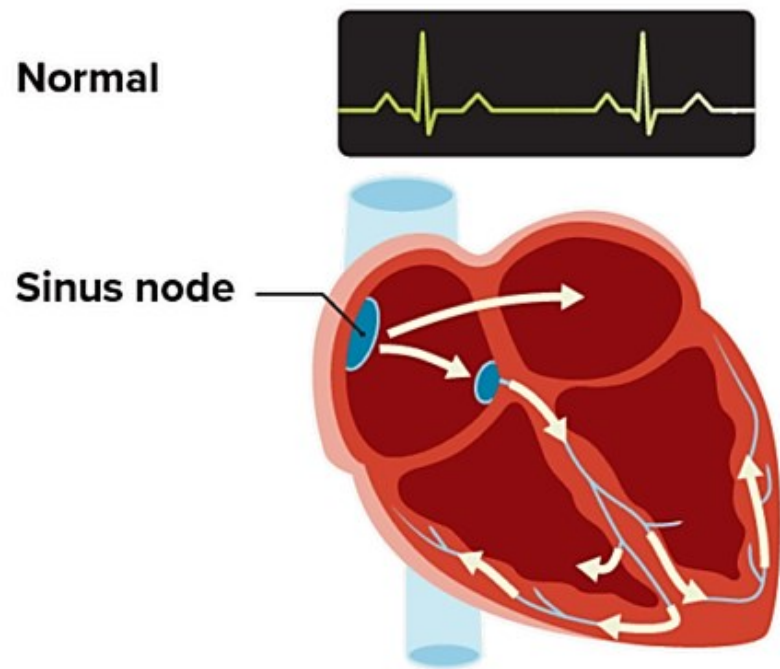
Regional trends in initiation and persistence of oral anticoagulation among patients with atrial fibrillation. Nationwide data from The Danish Atrial Fibrillation Registry.

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Postdoc

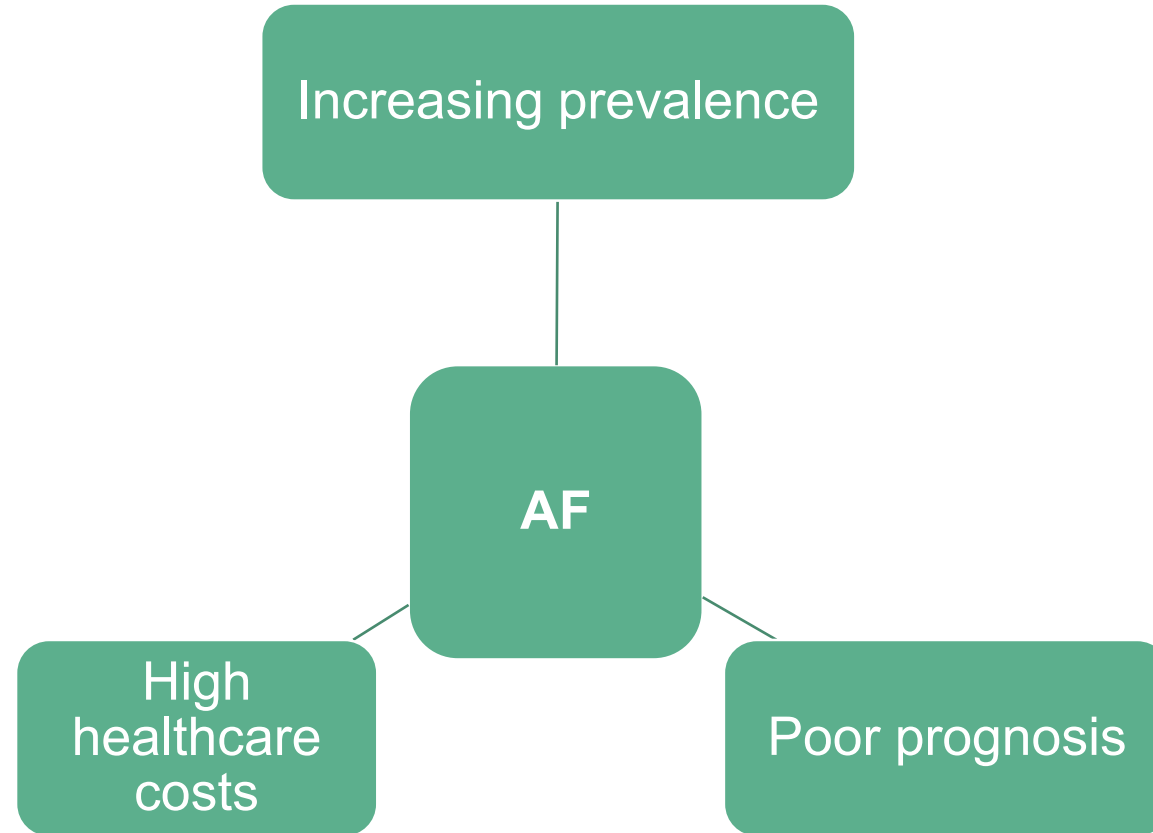
Danish Center for Health Services Research

Introduction

What is atrial fibrillation?

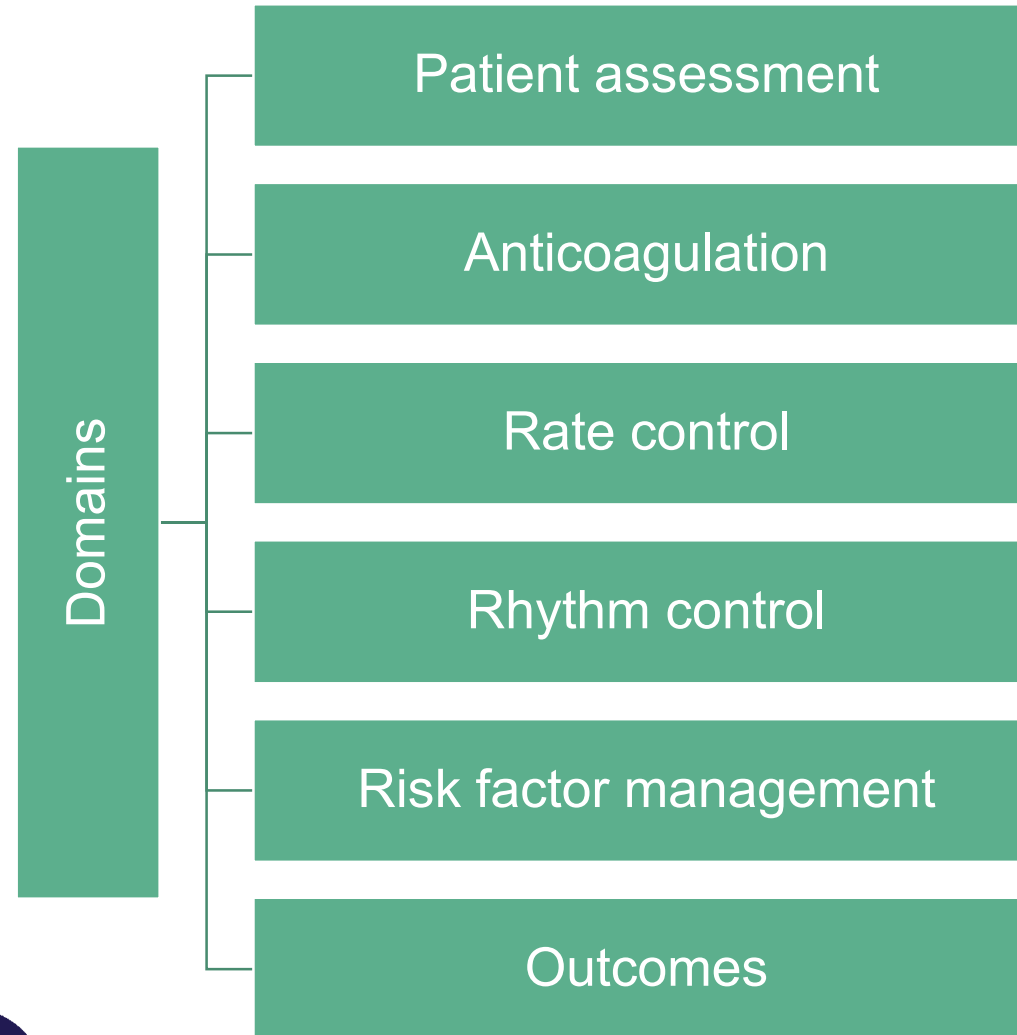


Why monitor quality of care?



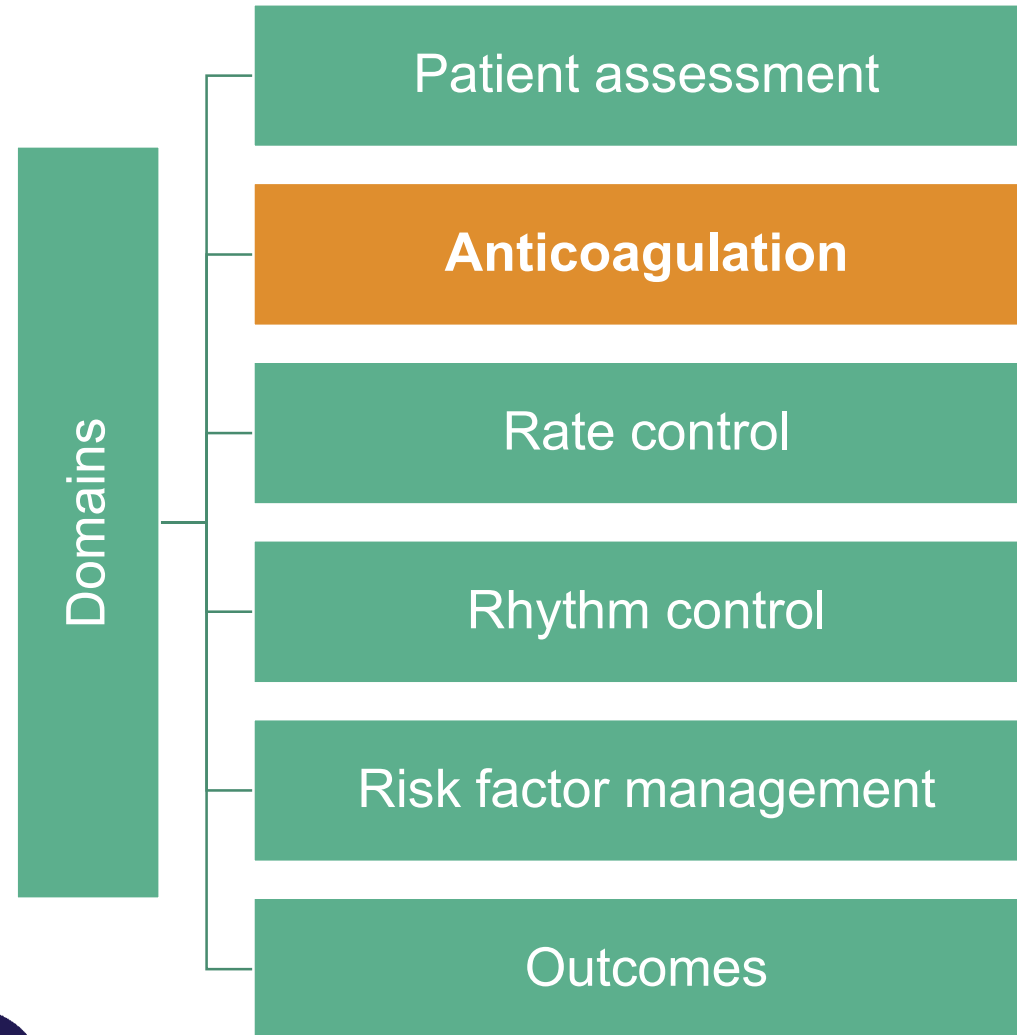
Odutayo. BMJ 2016
Vinter BMJ 2020
Burdett P. Eur Heart J Qual Care Clin Outcomes 2022
Johnsen. BMC Health Serv Res 2017

What is recommended to monitor?



Hindricks. Eur Heart J 2021
Arbelo. Europace 2021

What is recommended to monitor?



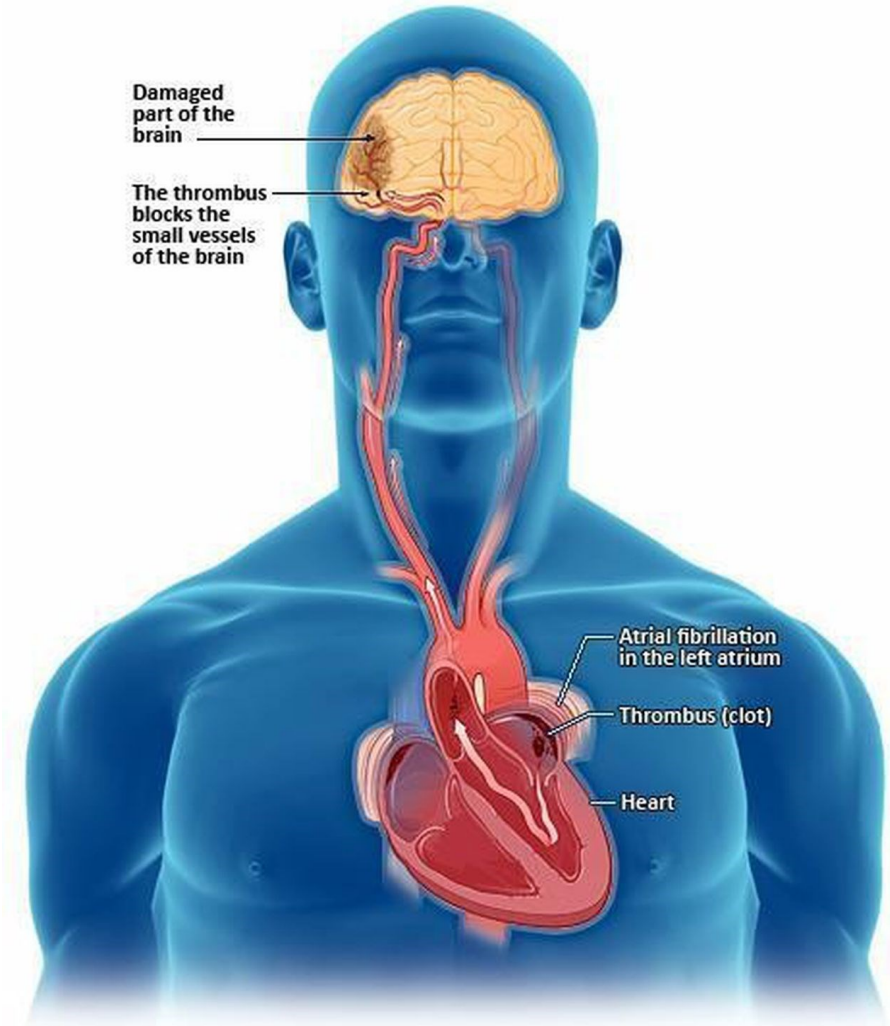
Hindricks. Eur Heart J 2021
Arbelo. Europace 2021

Stroke and oral anticoagulation

- ▶ Average 5-fold increase in risk of stroke [1]
- ▶ European guidelines: clinicians should consider prescribing oral anticoagulation (OAC) therapy to patients at increased risk for stroke [2]
- ▶ Nationwide monitoring initiatives are important to
 - ▶ Provide contemporary data
 - ▶ Evaluate success or failure of medication use by geography.

[1] Wolf Stroke 1991.

[2] Hindricks. Eur Heart J 2020



Objective

- ▶ To examine temporal trends in initiation and persistence of OAC by administrative regions.

Methods

The Danish AF Registry

- ▶ Aims for complete registration and monitoring of all patients with a hospital diagnosis of AF in Denmark.
- ▶ The Danish administrative registries provide data on
 - ▶ contacts to general practice
 - ▶ contacts to private cardiology practice
 - ▶ hospital contacts
 - ▶ medication prescriptions
 - ▶ updated vital status information
 - ▶ biochemical test results
 - ▶ and results from the Danish Stroke Registry.



Indicators in the Danish AF Registry

1	Initiation of OAC therapy
2	Performance of echocardiography
3	Thyroid stimulating hormone
4	OAC therapy 1, 2, 5 years after diagnosis Creatinine measurement
5	Incidence of ischemic stroke
6	Incidence of intracranial bleeding
7	Incidence of major bleeding
8	Patient education
9	Mortality

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No indicators
about risk factors

Design

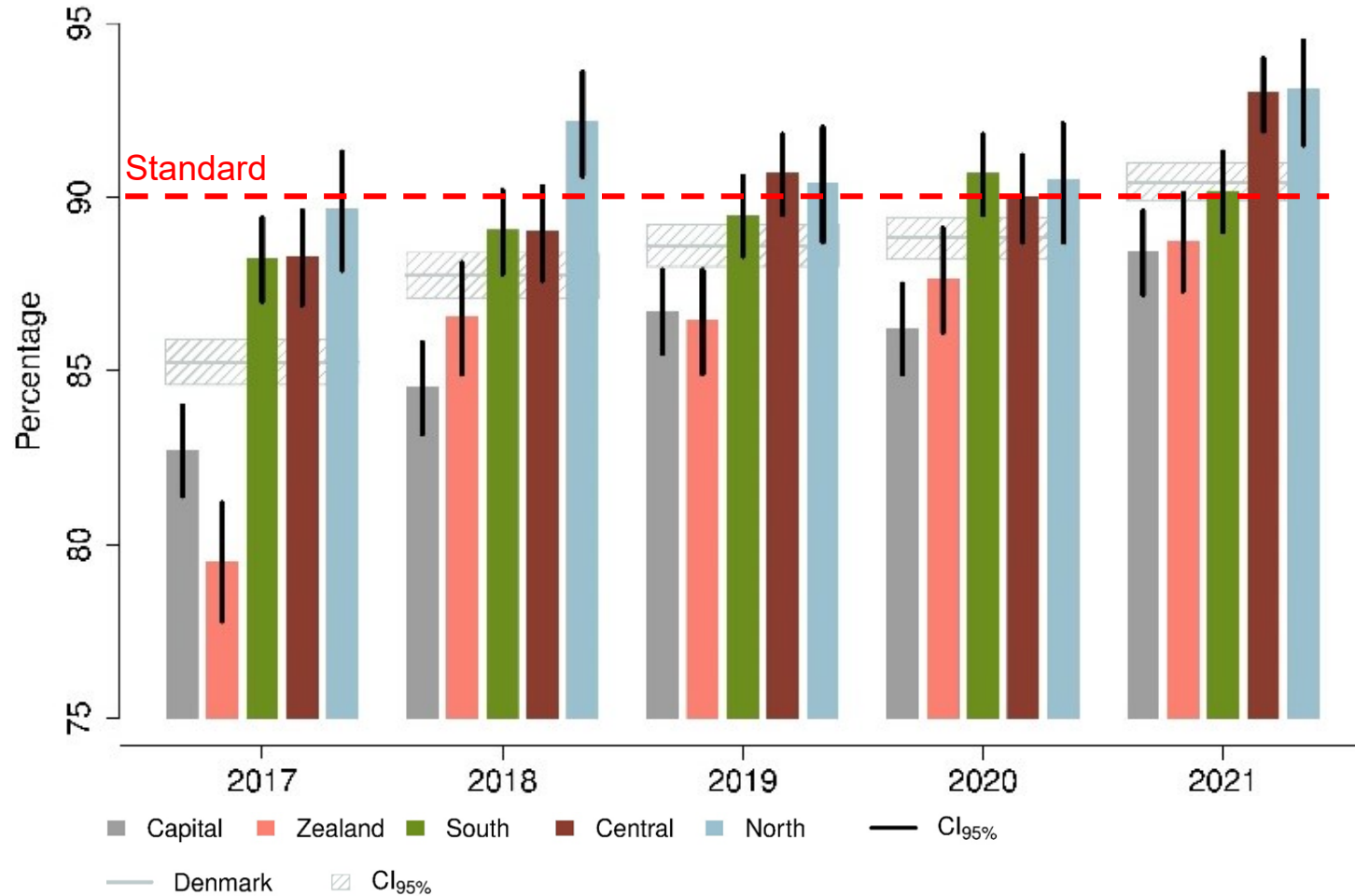
- ▶ Cohort study
- ▶ Period: 2017-2022.

	Initiation of OAC	OAC persistence
Calculation	Proportion of patients dispensing at least one prescription of OAC from 90 days before and 30 days after AF diagnosis.	Proportion of patients dispensing at least one prescription of OAC at 1 and 2 years after AF (+/- 90 days).
Stroke risk	CHA2DS2-VASc-score ≥ 2	CHA2DS2-VASc-score ≥ 2
Quality target	$\geq 90\%$	$\geq 90\%$

Results

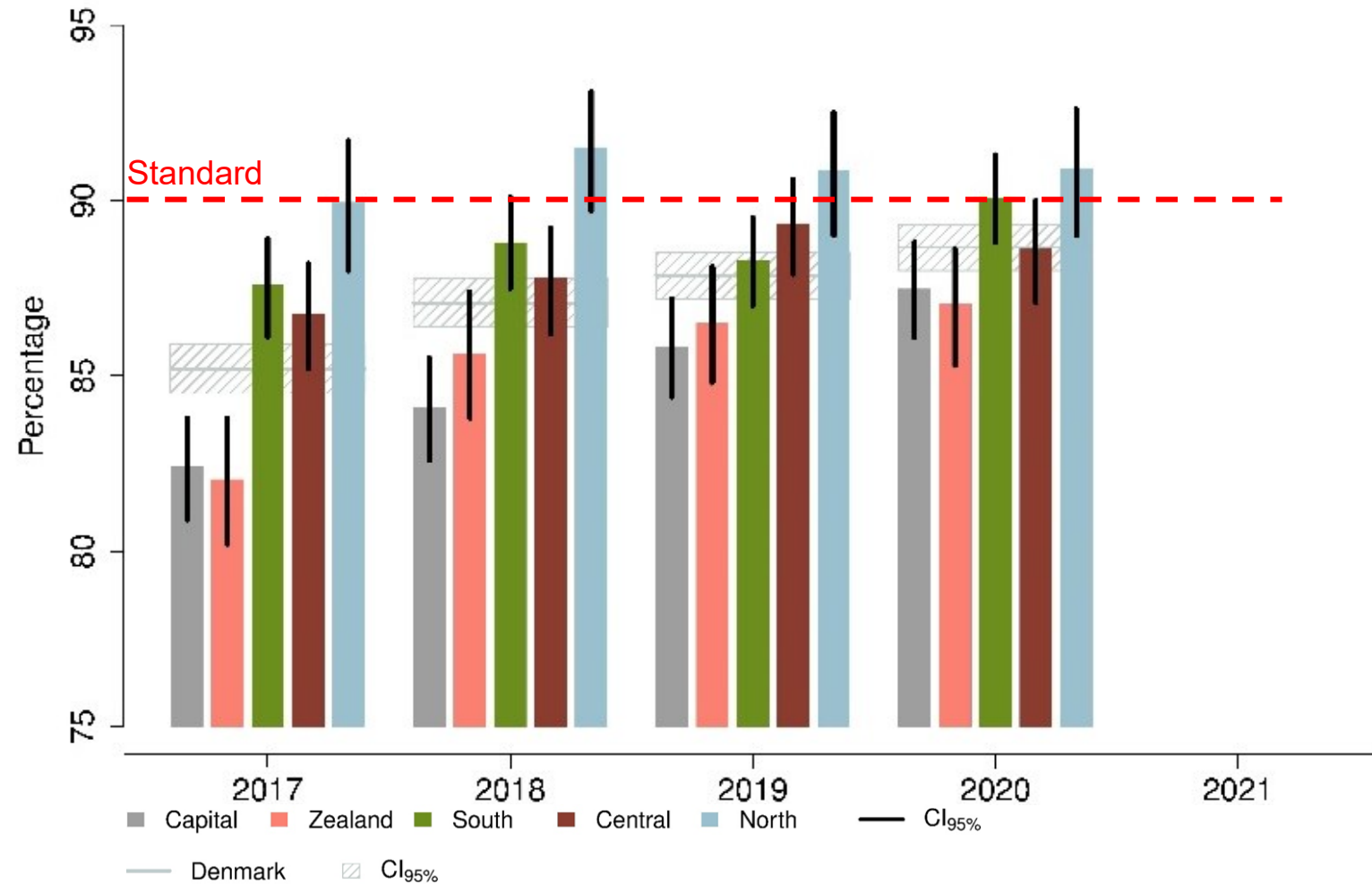
Initiation of OAC therapy

- ▶ Increased overall
- ▶ Increased in all regions
- ▶ In 2021, all regions except the Capital and Zealand reached the quality target.



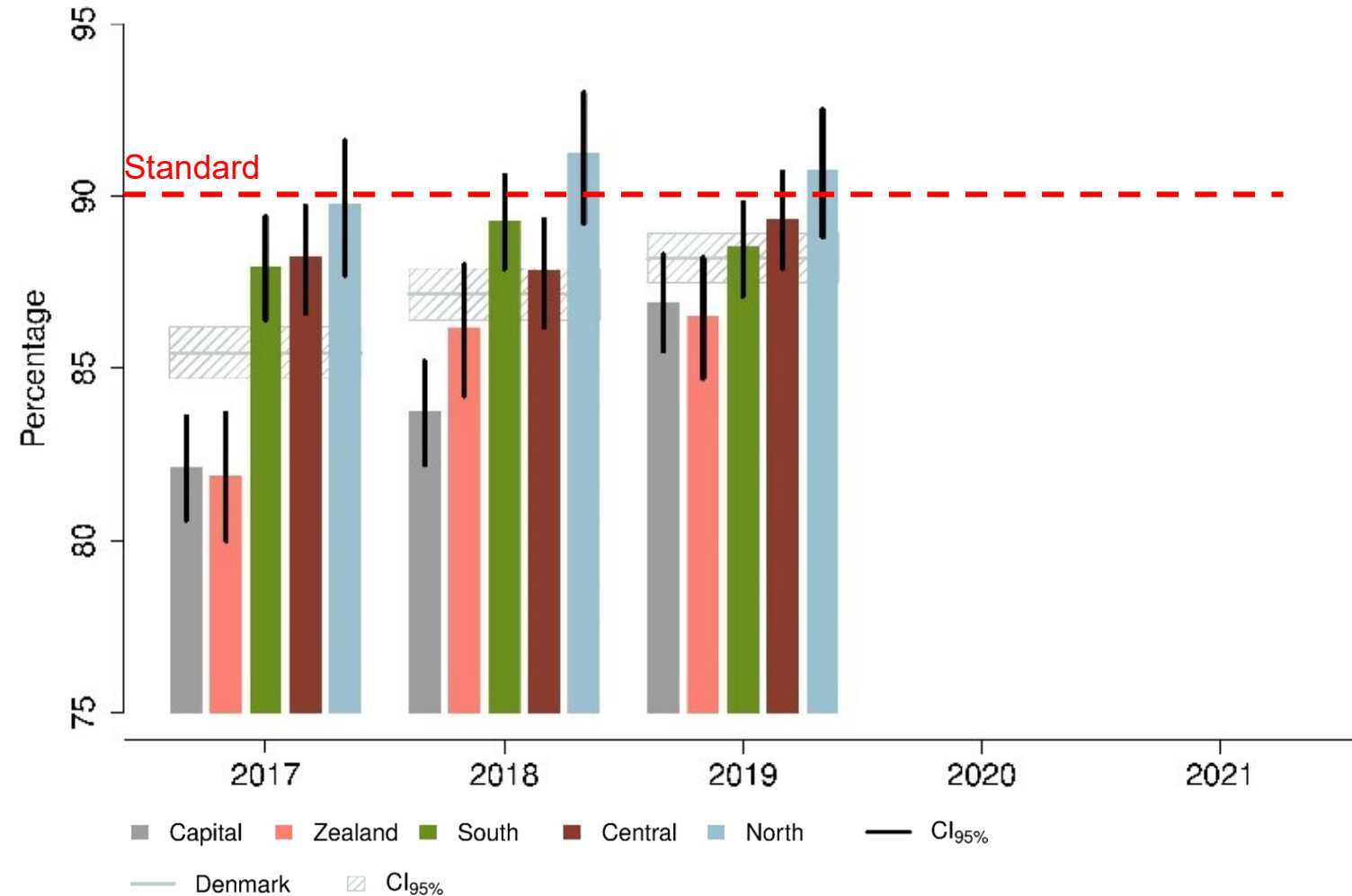
Persistence after 1 year

- ▶ Increased overall
- ▶ Increased in all regions
- ▶ The Capital, Zealand, and the Central regions did not reach the quality target in 2020.



Persistence after 2 years

- ▶ Increased overall
- ▶ Increased in the Capital and Zealand regions only.
- ▶ The Capital, Zealand, South, and the Central regions did not reach the quality target in 2019



Conclusion

- ▶ The AF Registry employs a practical approach to monitor the quality of care nationwide by retrieving data from nationwide registries.
- ▶ The use of oral OAC therapy for AF has improved in all regions
- ▶ Potential remains for improvement, particularly in terms of persistence.