

Epidemiology and Outcomes of Soldiers Sustaining Isolated Blast Injuries During a Recent Armed Conflict

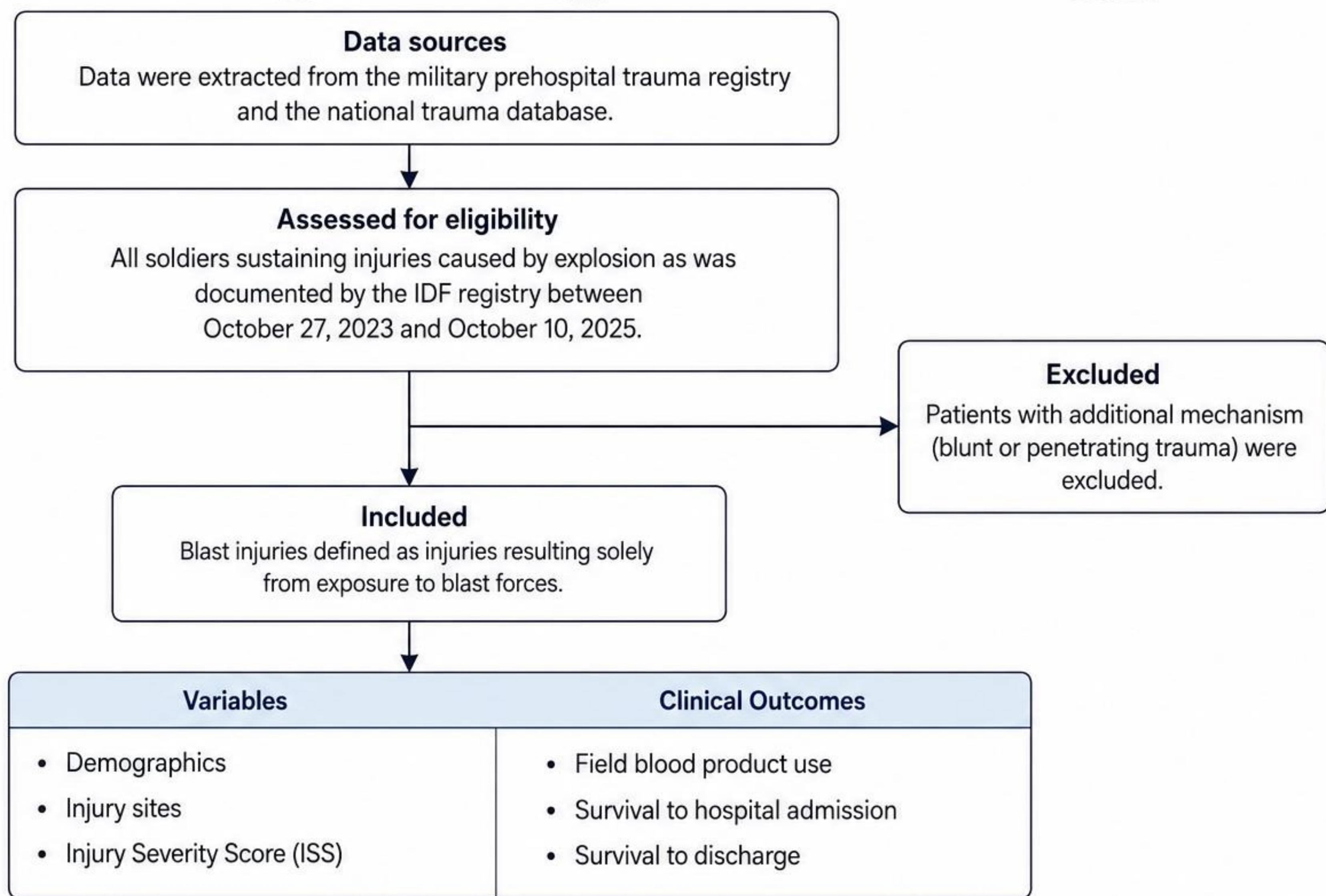
Noa Sofer-Sali¹, Or Asulin¹, Bar Zemer-Tov¹, Danielle Akler¹, Teva Amir¹, Harel Gershgoren¹, Irina Radomislensky², Israel Trauma Group, Ari M. Lipsky³

¹Trauma and Operational Medicine Division, Surgeon General Headquarters, Israel Defense Forces Medical Corps, Tel HaShomer, Ramat Gan, Israel , ²2 Gertner Institute for Epidemiology and Health Policy Research, Sheba Medical Center Tel Hashomer, Ramat Gan, Israel , ³Department of Emergency Medicine, HaEmek Medical Center, Afula, Israel

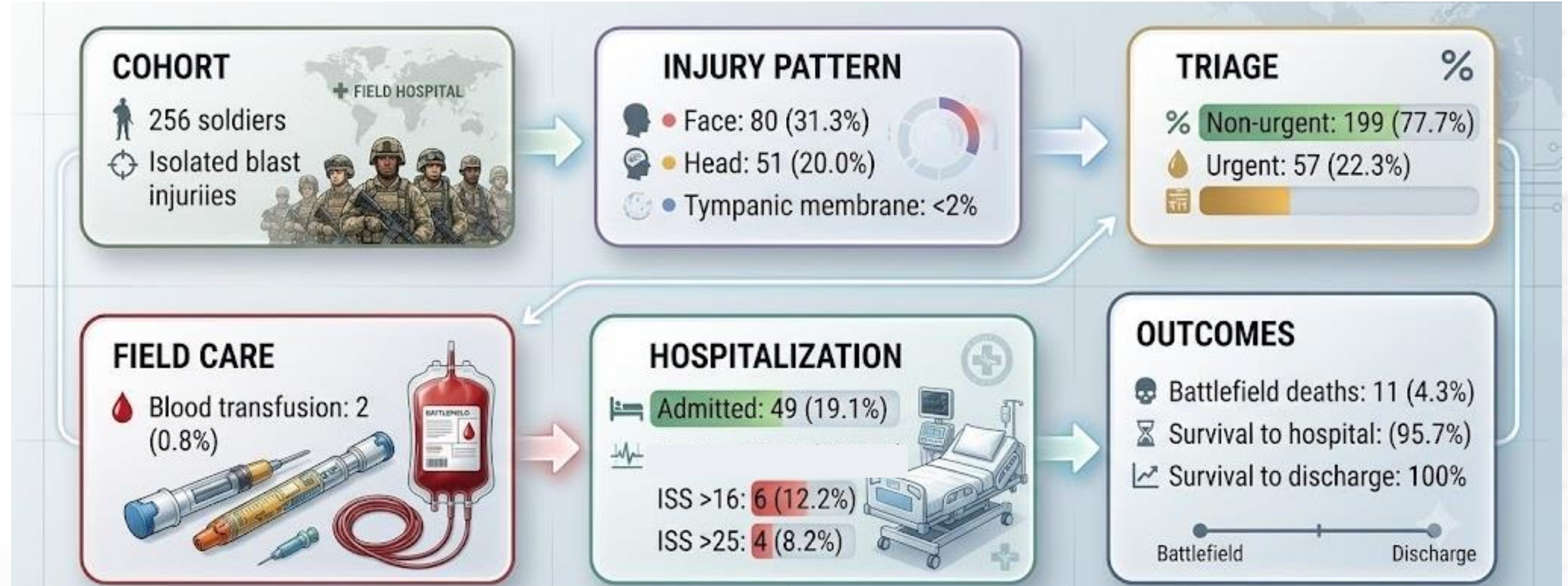
Introduction

- Blast injury remains a major mechanism of combat trauma in modern warfare.
- Despite decades of military experience, important gaps remain in characterizing isolated blast injuries - particularly triage assessment and injury severity.
- Blast-exposed casualties often present with an uncertain clinical picture, as occult injury can complicate early triage even without any additional injury mechanism.
- The “Swords of Iron” conflict offers a unique operational setting to re-examine these questions.

Methods



Results



Conclusions

- Most soldiers with isolated blast exposure and no other injury mechanism sustain relatively minor injuries, yet a small subset experience severe trauma.
- Identifying early clinical features that flag this severe subset could sharpen triage and refine battlefield care protocols.



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