

The Advantages of the Ear for Monitoring Physiological Readiness in Dynamic Conditions: Blood Pressure and Blood Flow

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SESSION: OPTIMIZING THE HUMAN WEAPON SYSTEM: UTILIZING WEARABLE SENSOR DATA TO INFORM READINESS

Disclaimers & Financial Support

Official Disclaimer: The views expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Department of War, the Department of the Air Force, or the U.S. Government.

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Ethical Compliance: All research was conducted in accordance with applicable human subjects regulations and institutional review board (IRB) approvals.

Imagery Statement: All medical data plots, device prototypes, and experimental photos are the proprietary property of Lumia Health, Inc. External anatomical and clinical reference figures are adapted from published literature and cited individually.

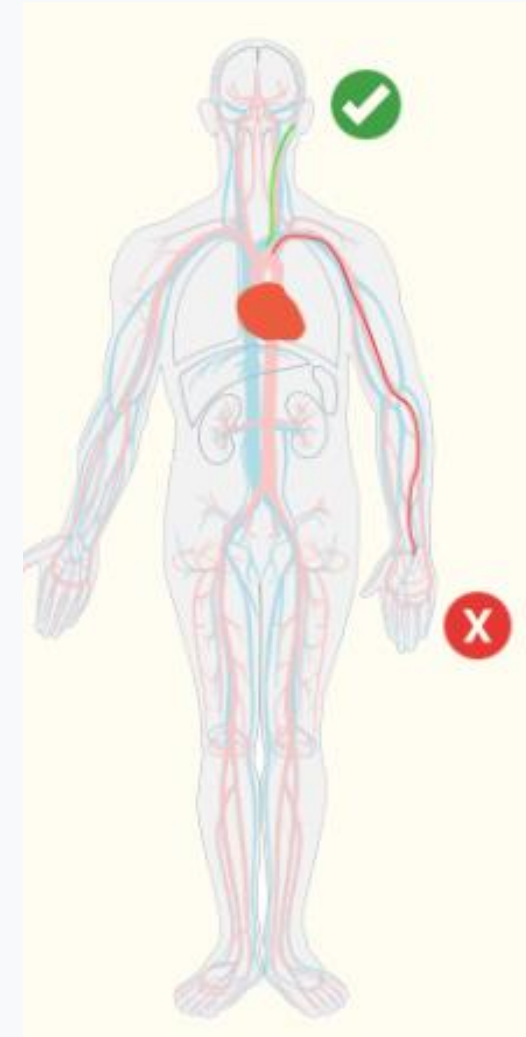
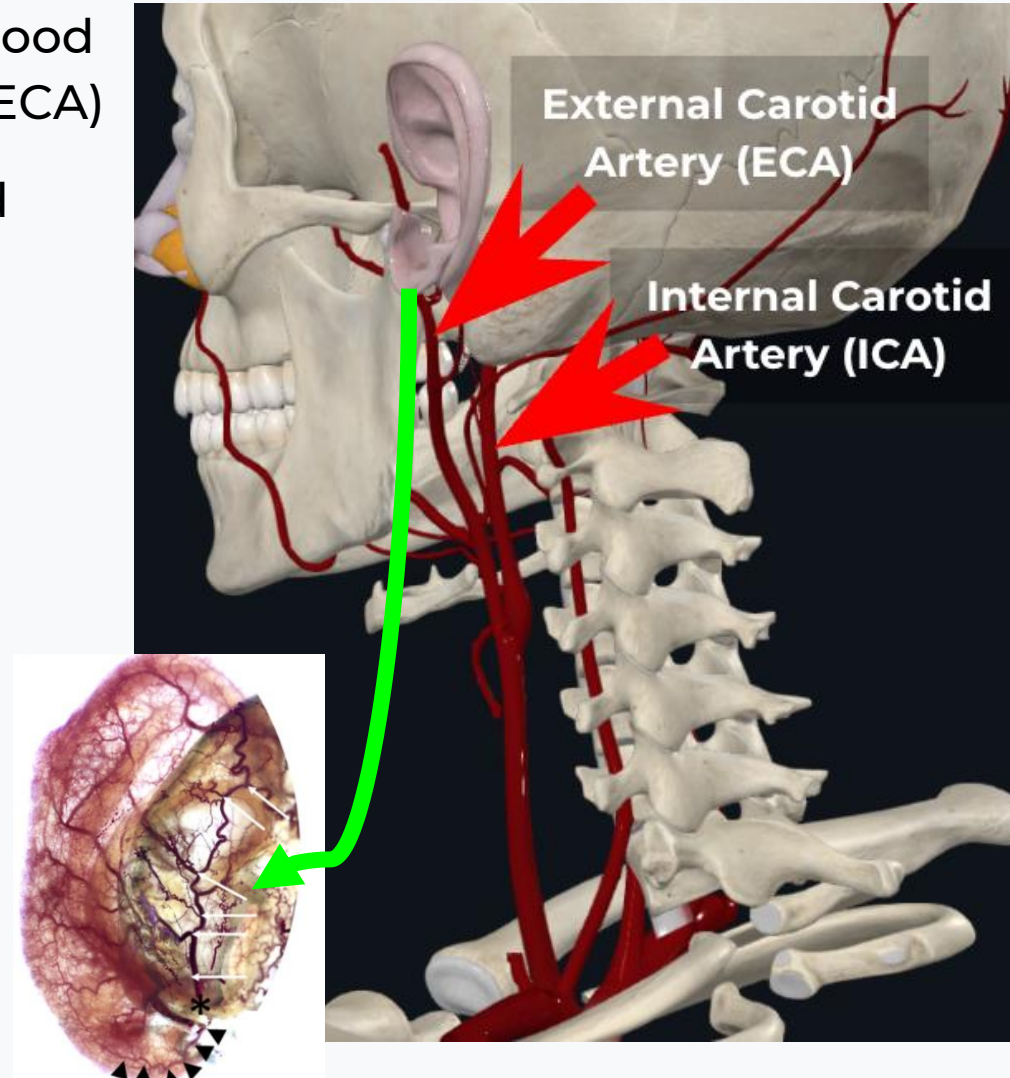
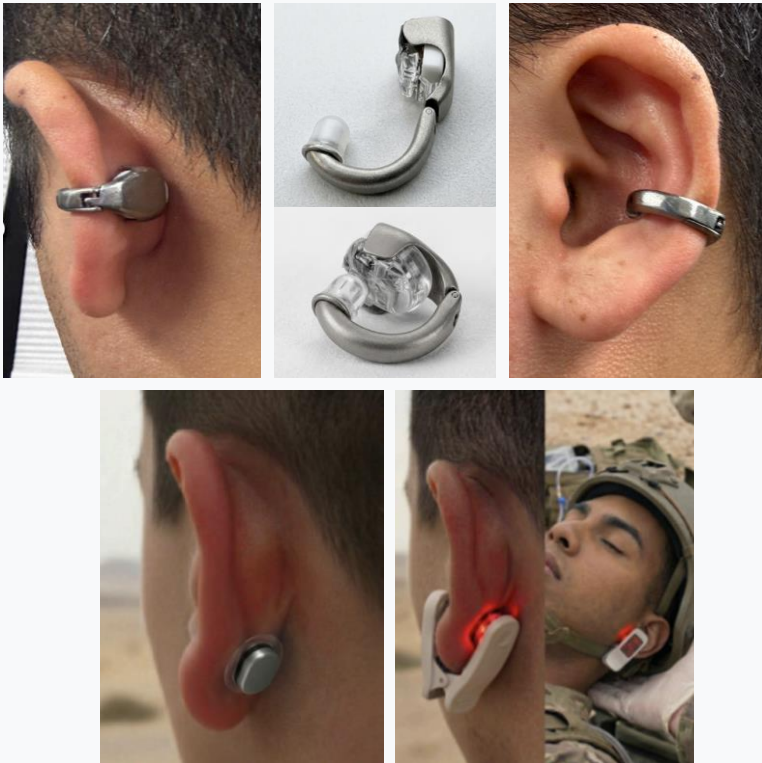
Distribution Statement A. Cleared case AFRL-2026-1298.



Targeting External Carotid Artery via Behind-Ear Sensor

Lumia: Infrared optical sensing of blood flow in the External Carotid Artery (ECA)

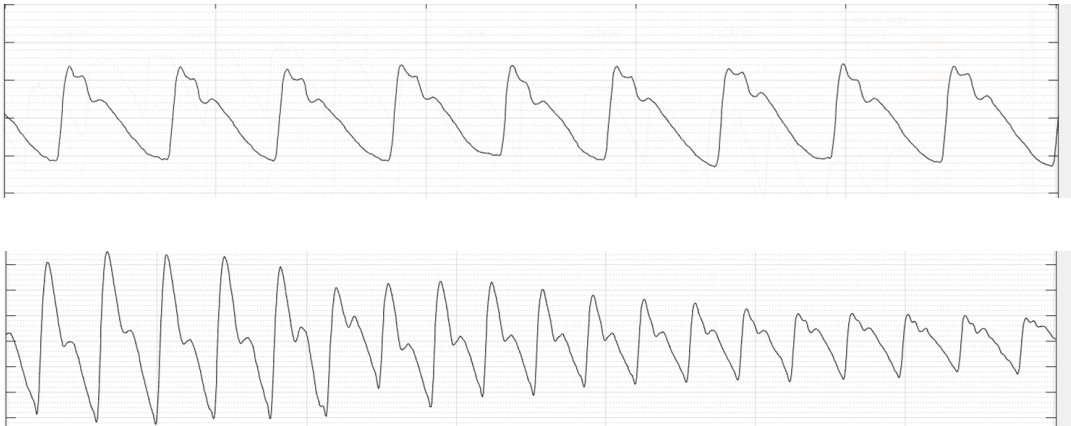
As close as possible to the brain and heart, non-invasively.



Shallow Ear Arteries Provide Unrivalled Cardiac Signal

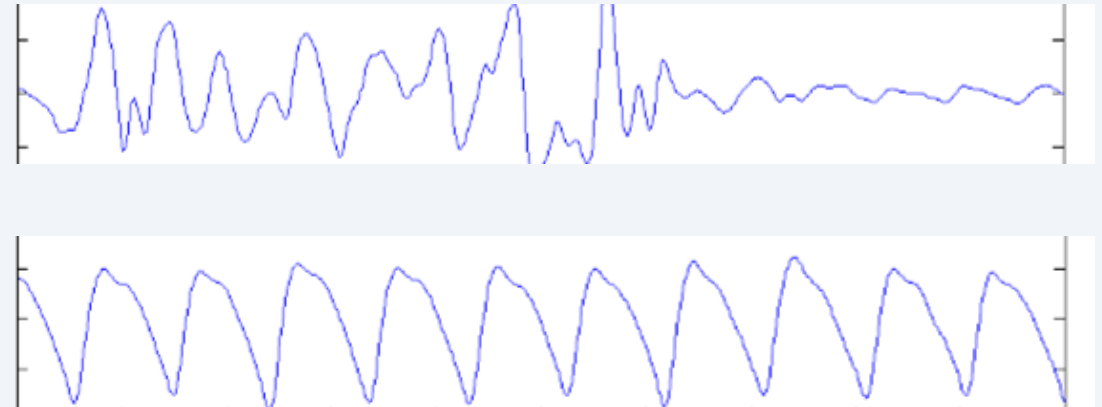
Ear (Lumia Approach)

- **Arterial Signal** (Infrared)
- **Consistent Person-to-Person Quality**
- **Superior Data Continuity** (>95% Daily)
- **Information-Rich Signal** (Blood Pressure, Blood Flow, etc)

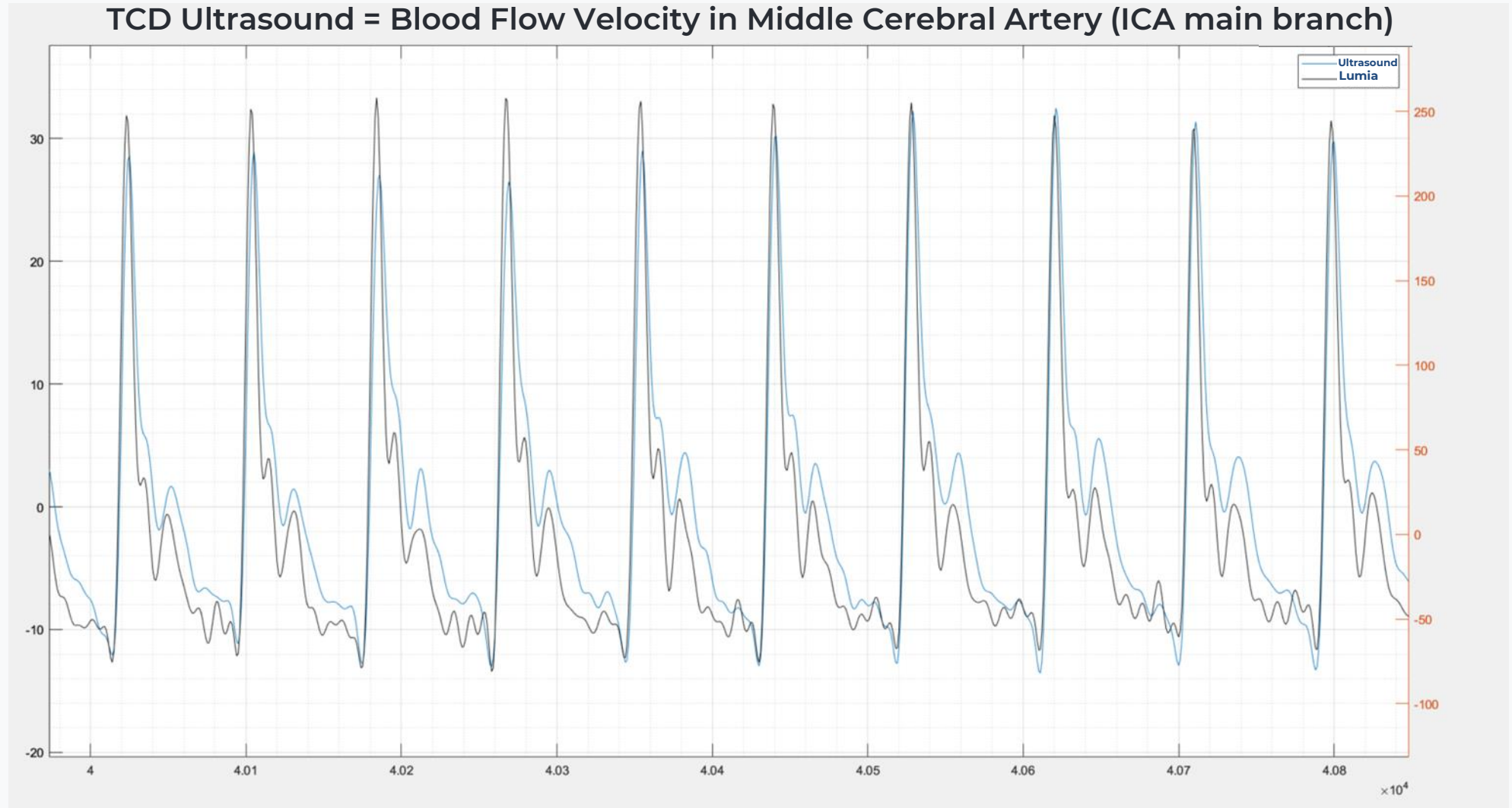


Wrist (Conventional)

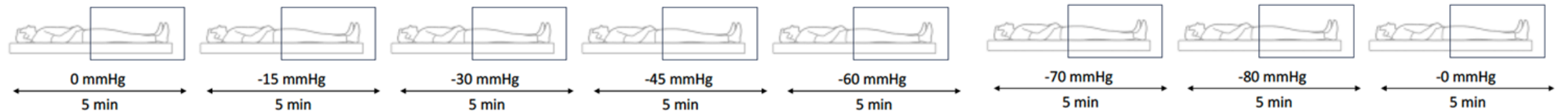
- **Capillary Signal** (IR Unusable)
- **Variable Person-to-Person Quality**
- **Poor Data Continuity** (<50% Daily)
- **Limited-Information Signal** (just HR/HRV)



Ear ECA and Brain ICA Have Strikingly Similar Morphology

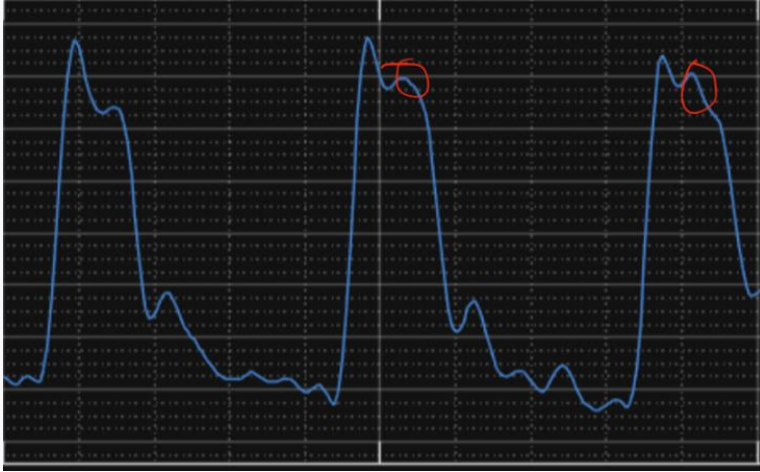


Study Design: Session 1



Primary Feature for Ear-Based Blood Pressure

High P2/P1 Ratio →
Higher Systolic BP



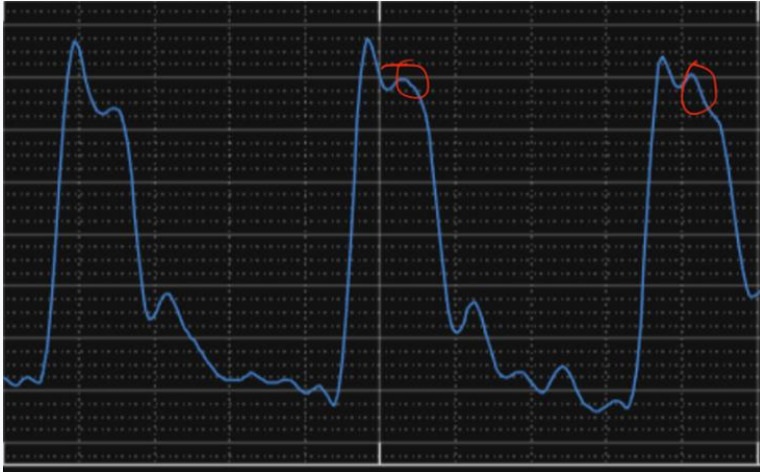
Low P2/P1 Ratio →
Lower Systolic BP



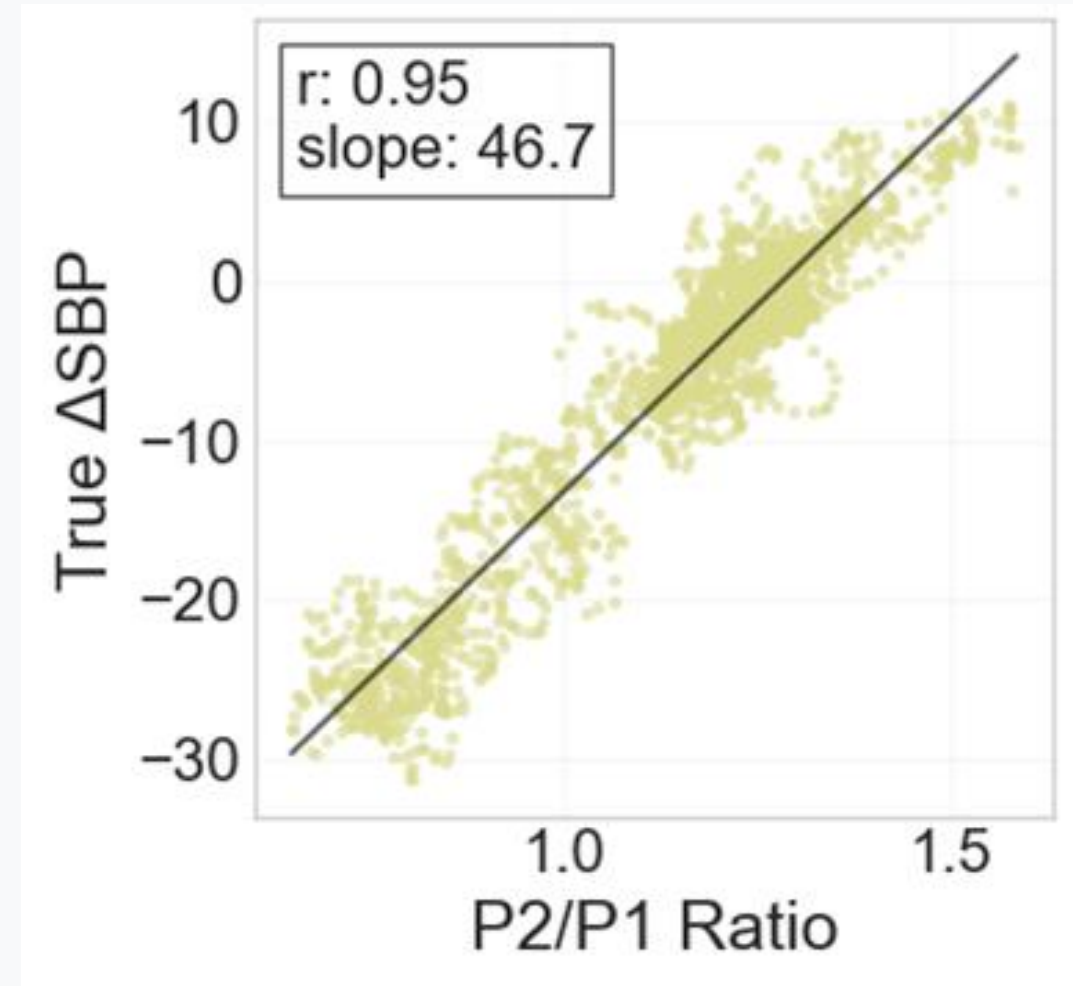
**Multiple Patents Granted & Pending*

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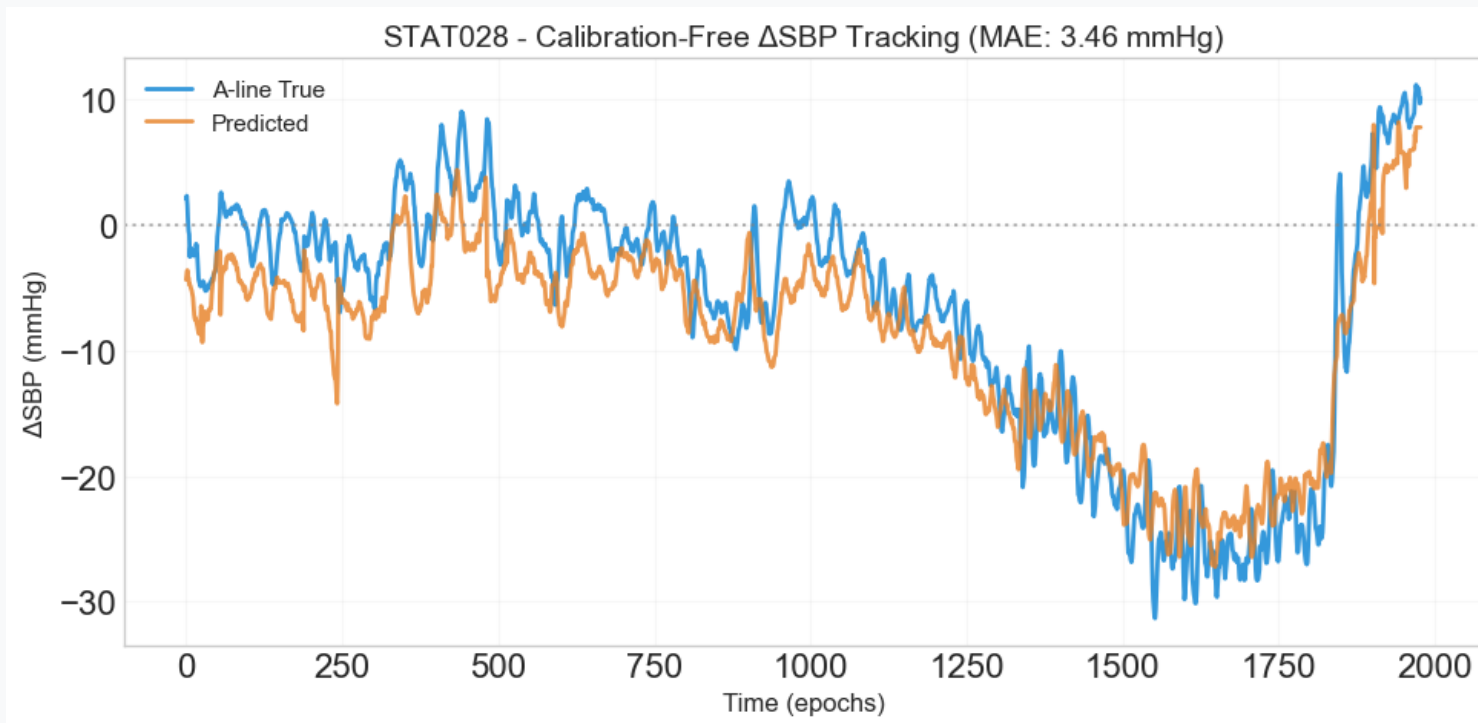


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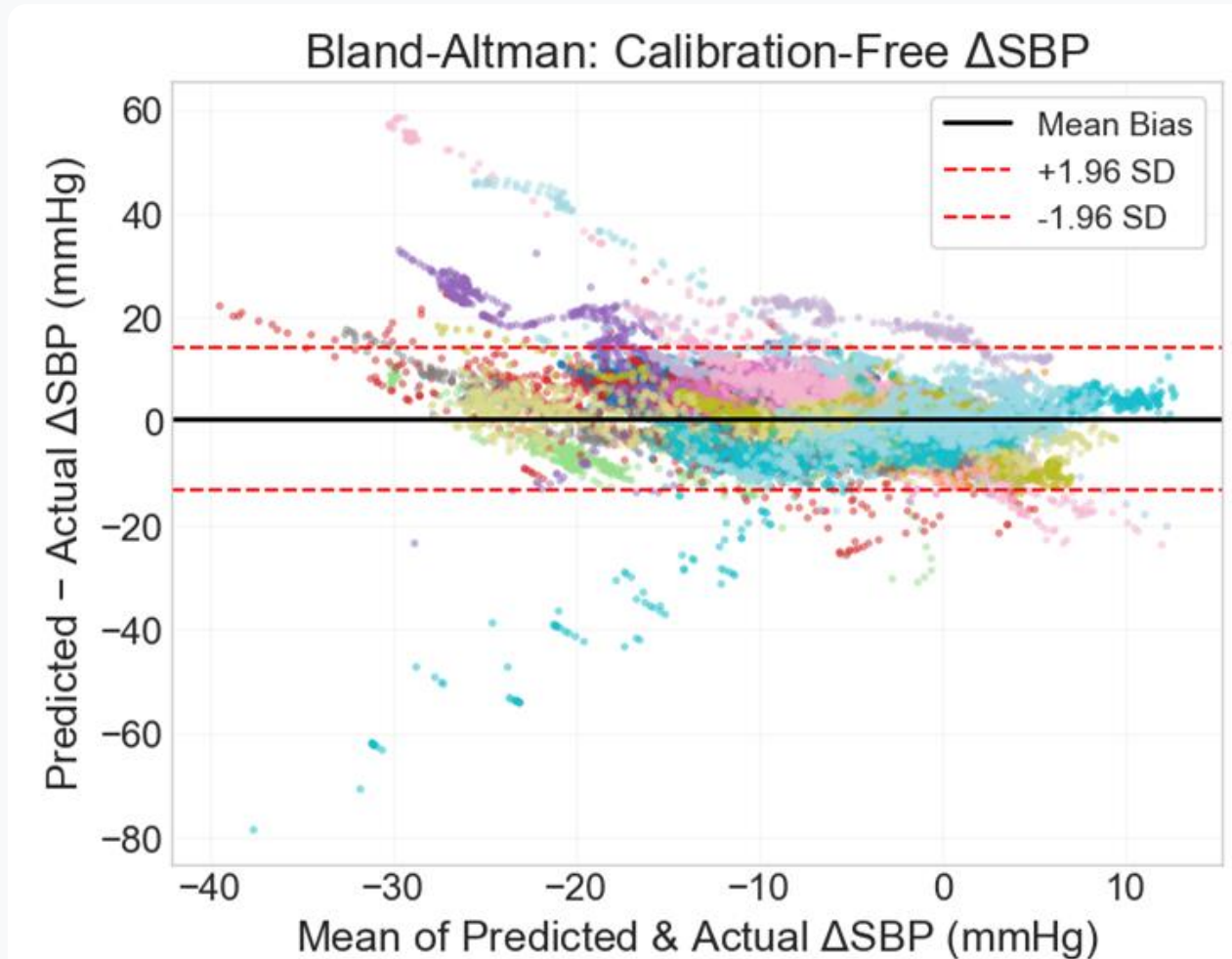
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Real-Time Δ SBP Tracking: Representative Subject



- Continuous, beat-to-beat Δ SBP prediction tracks arterial line ground truth throughout the full LBNP protocol
- Subject MAE: 3.46 mmHg
- Demonstrates the clinical utility of a calibration-free, wearable-ready algorithm for continuous hemodynamic monitoring

Bland-Altman Analysis: FDA/AAMI Criterion 1 — PASS



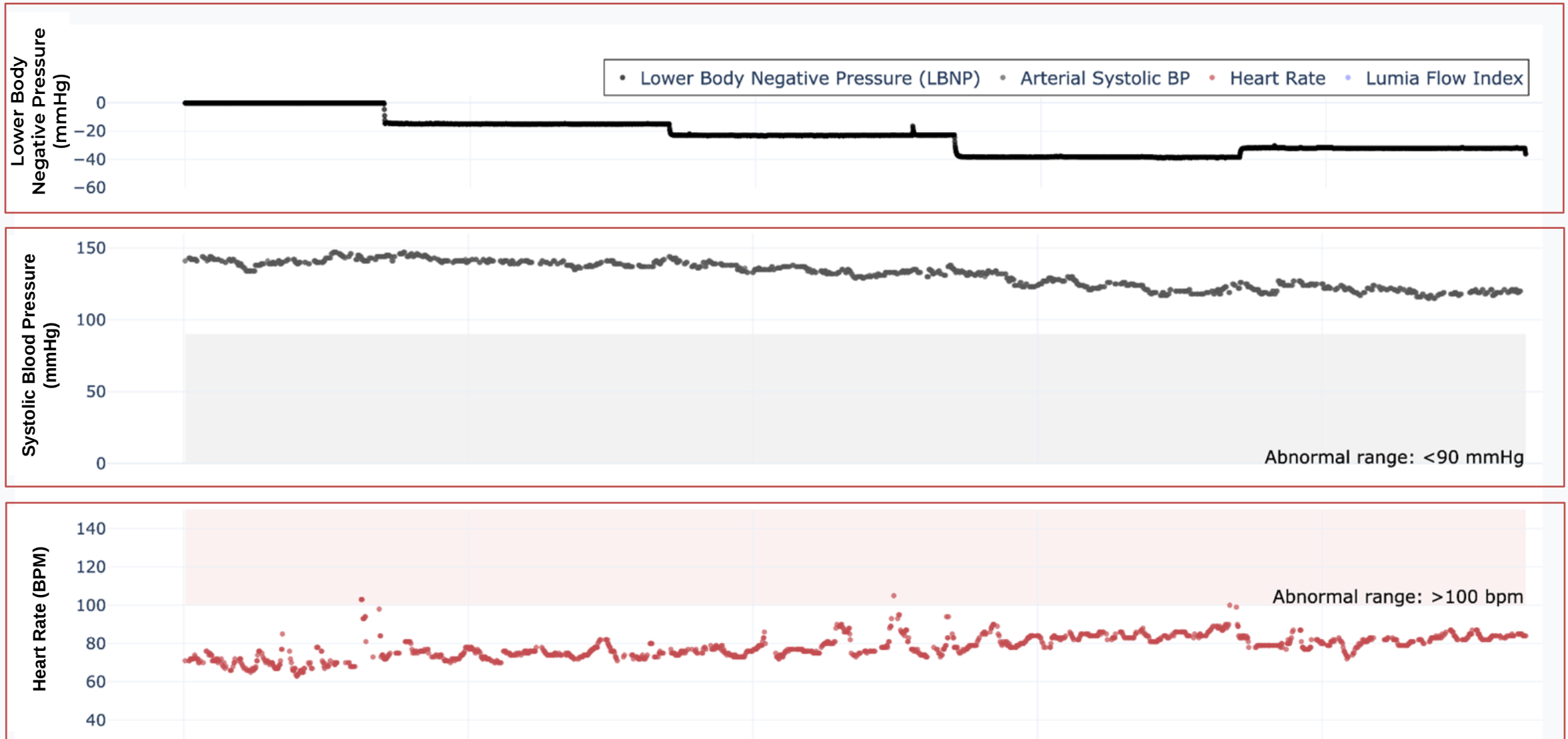
KEY VALIDATION RESULTS

Mean Bias: +0.42 mmHg ✓

SD of Bias: 6.99 mmHg ✓

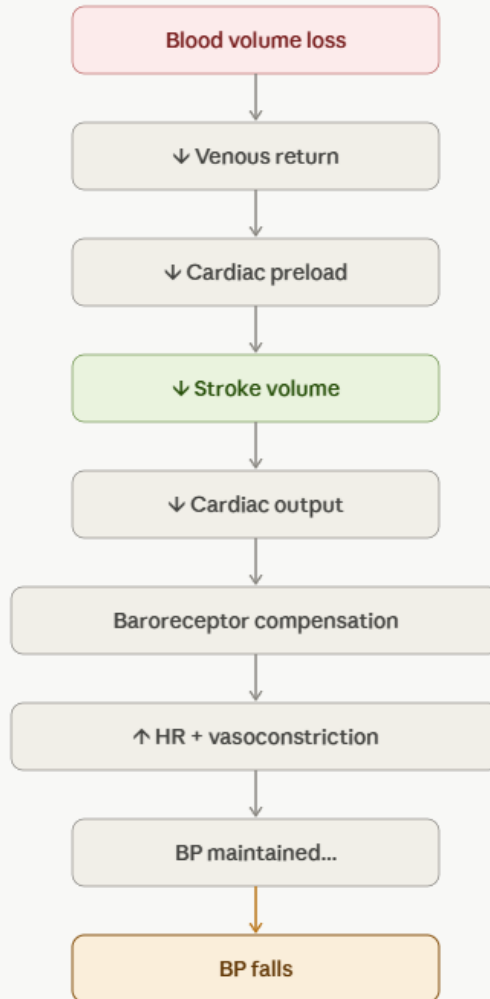
- Limits of Agreement: [-13.29, +14.13] mmHg
- No systematic proportional bias observed (uniform scatter across range)
- Meets ANSI/AAMI/ISO 81060-2 statistical accuracy thresholds
- Validated in a proof-of-concept cohort ensuring high reliability

No Clinically Significant Drop in Blood Pressure?!



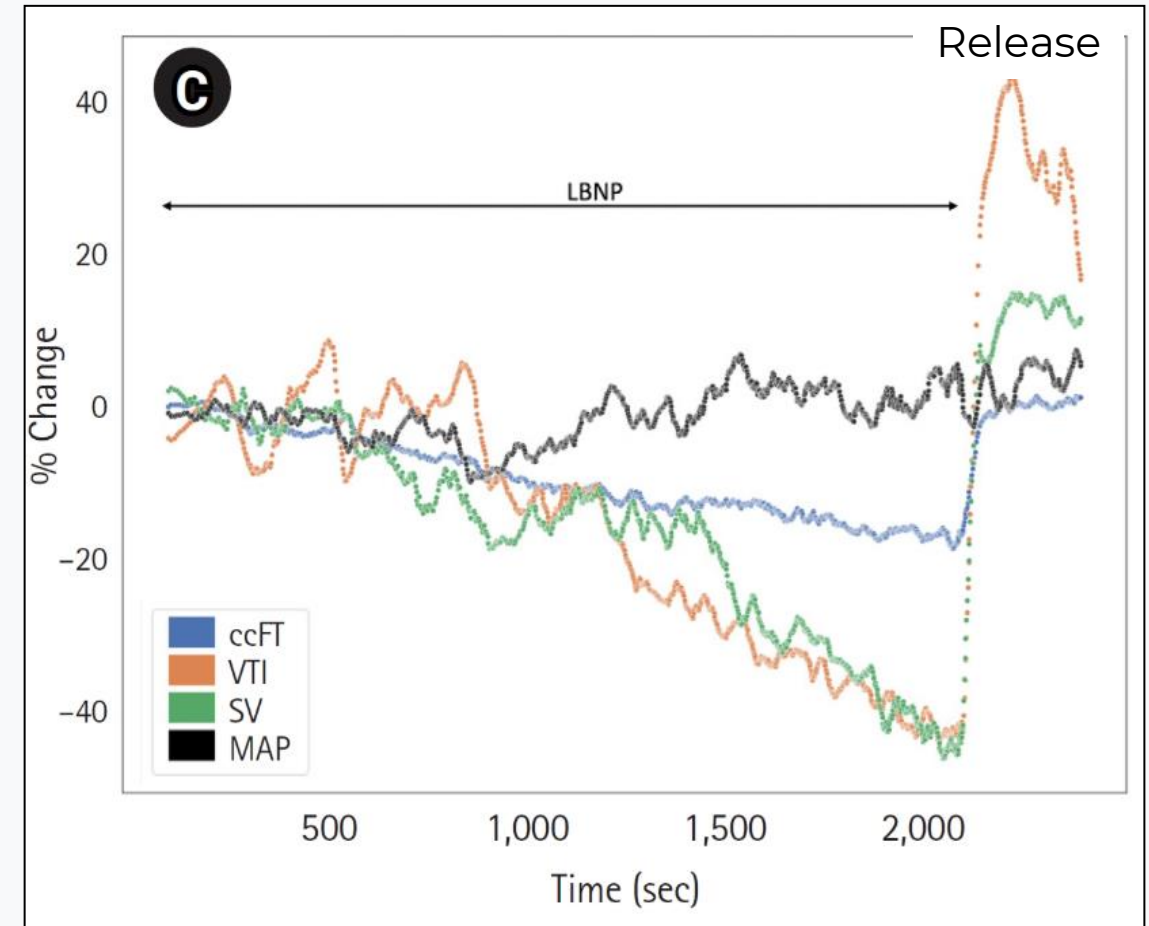
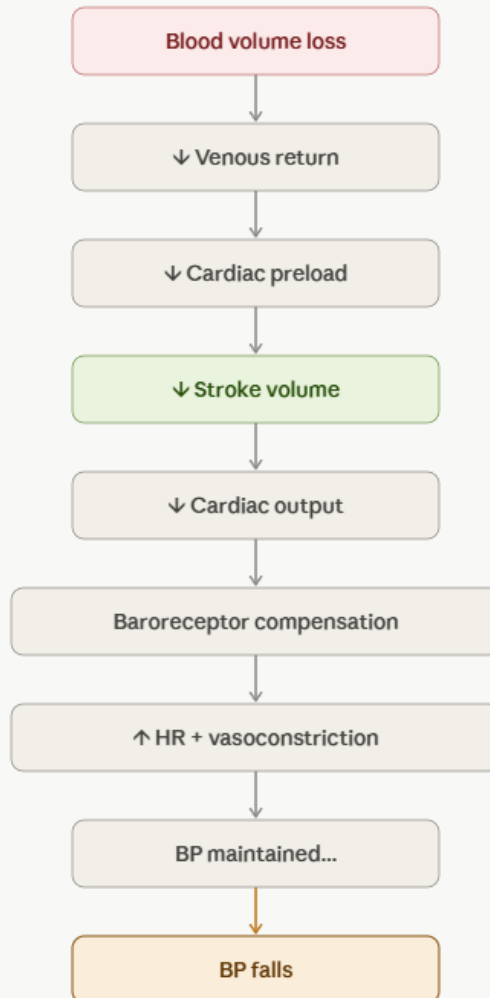
What Happens During Hemorrhage?

Hemodynamics during hemorrhage



What Happens During Hemorrhage?

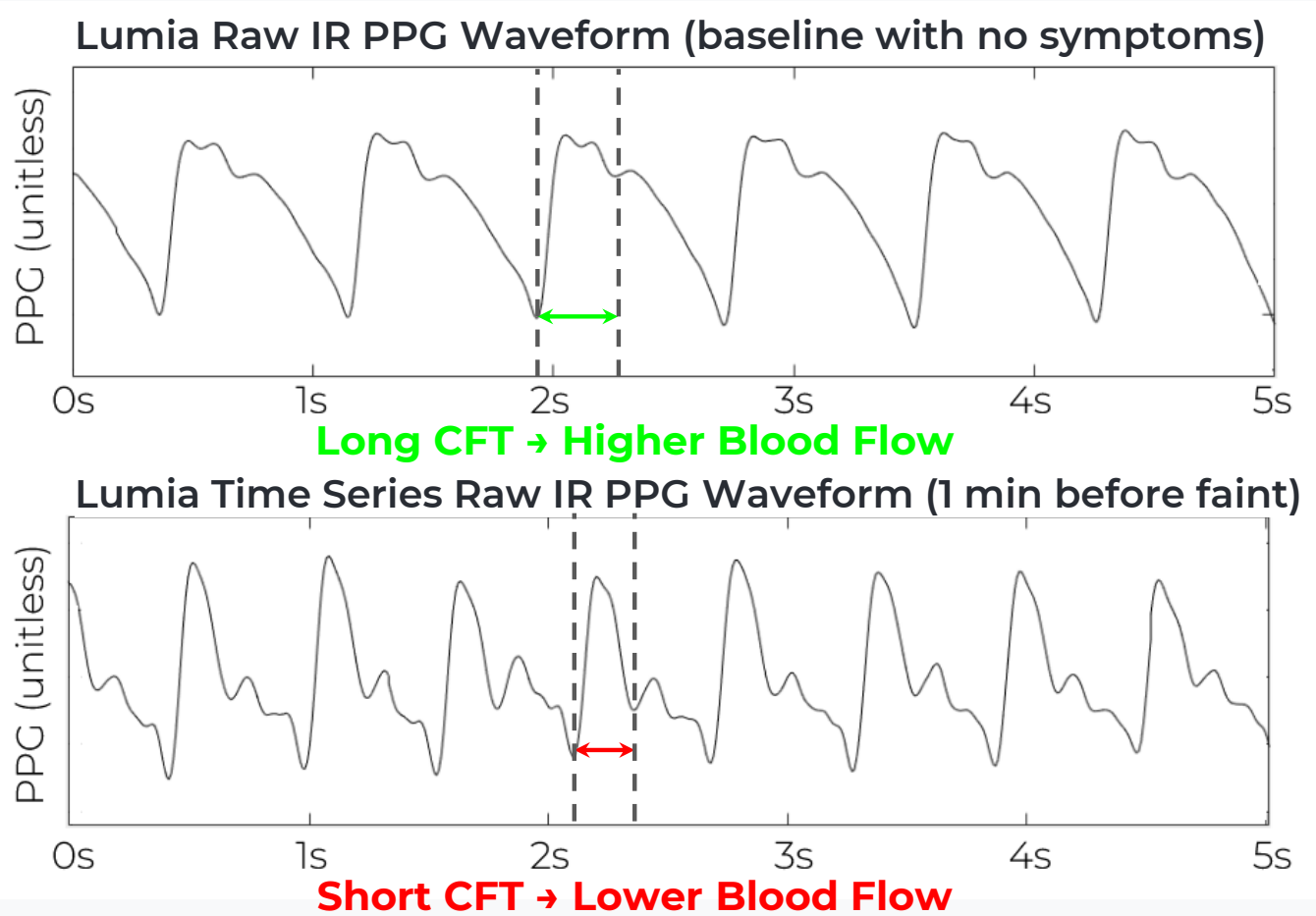
Hemodynamics during hemorrhage



Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP) is a lagging indicator of hemorrhage compared to flow time

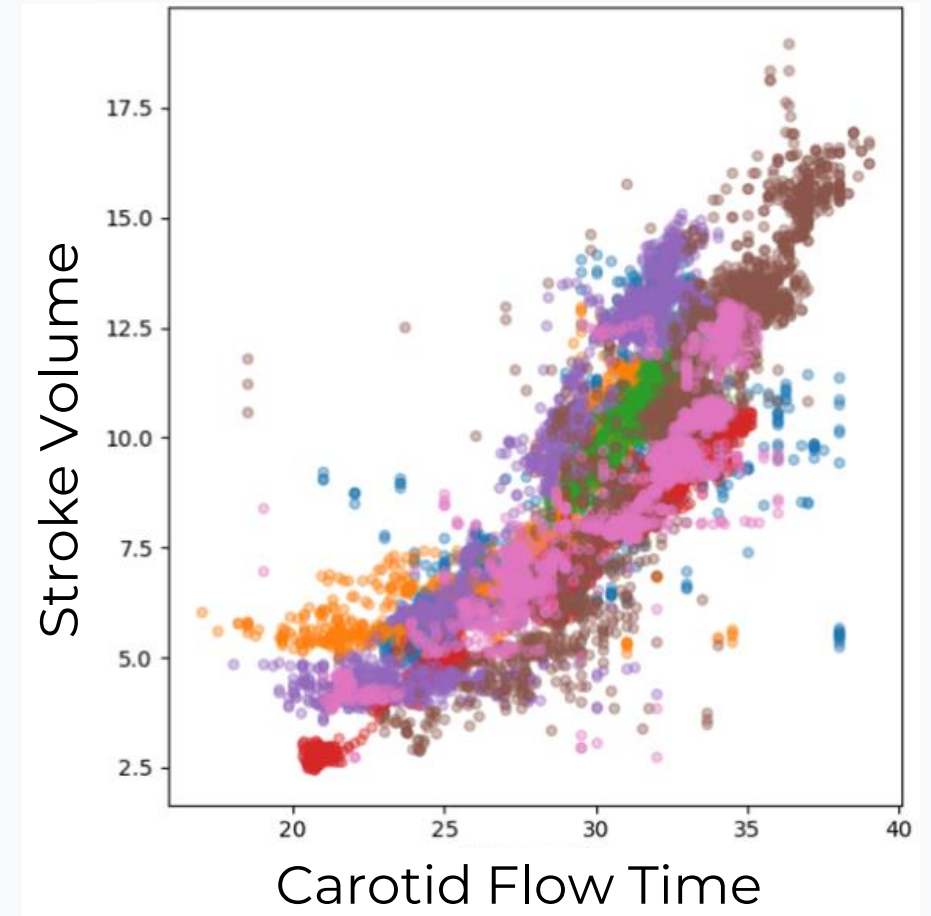
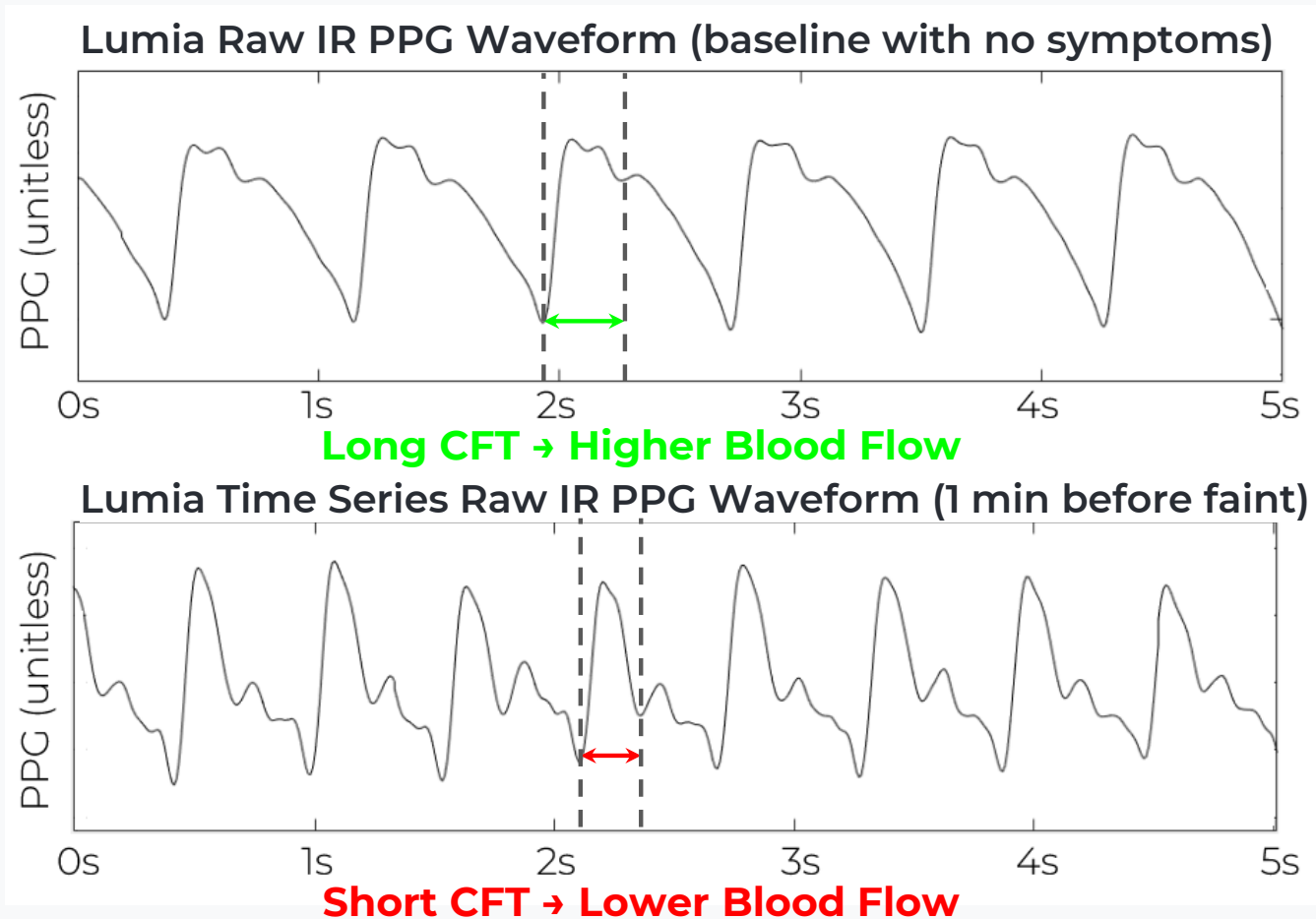
Photo Credit: Reproduced from *Acute and Critical Care*, 2024;39(1):162-168. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4266/acc.2023.01095>

Primary Feature for Ear-Based Blood Flow



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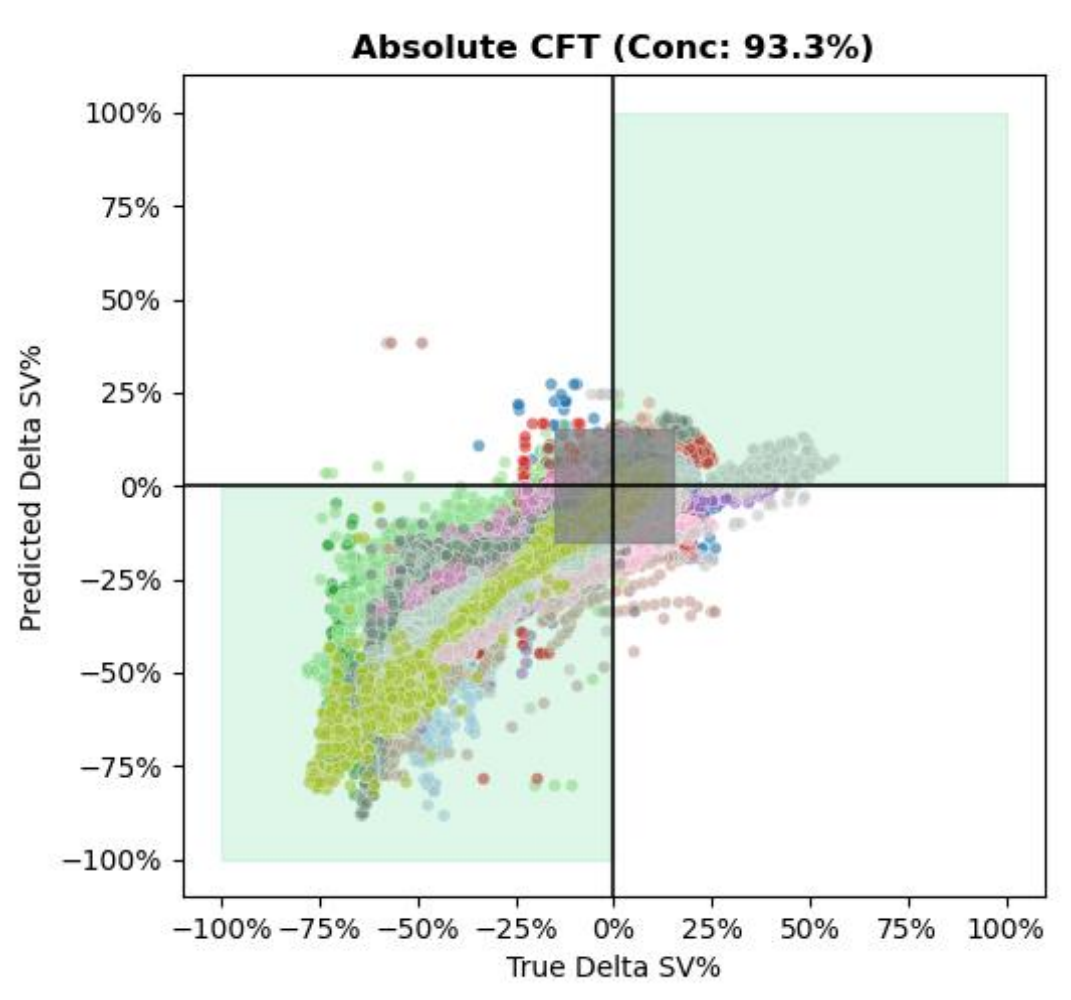
Primary Feature for Ear-Based Blood Flow



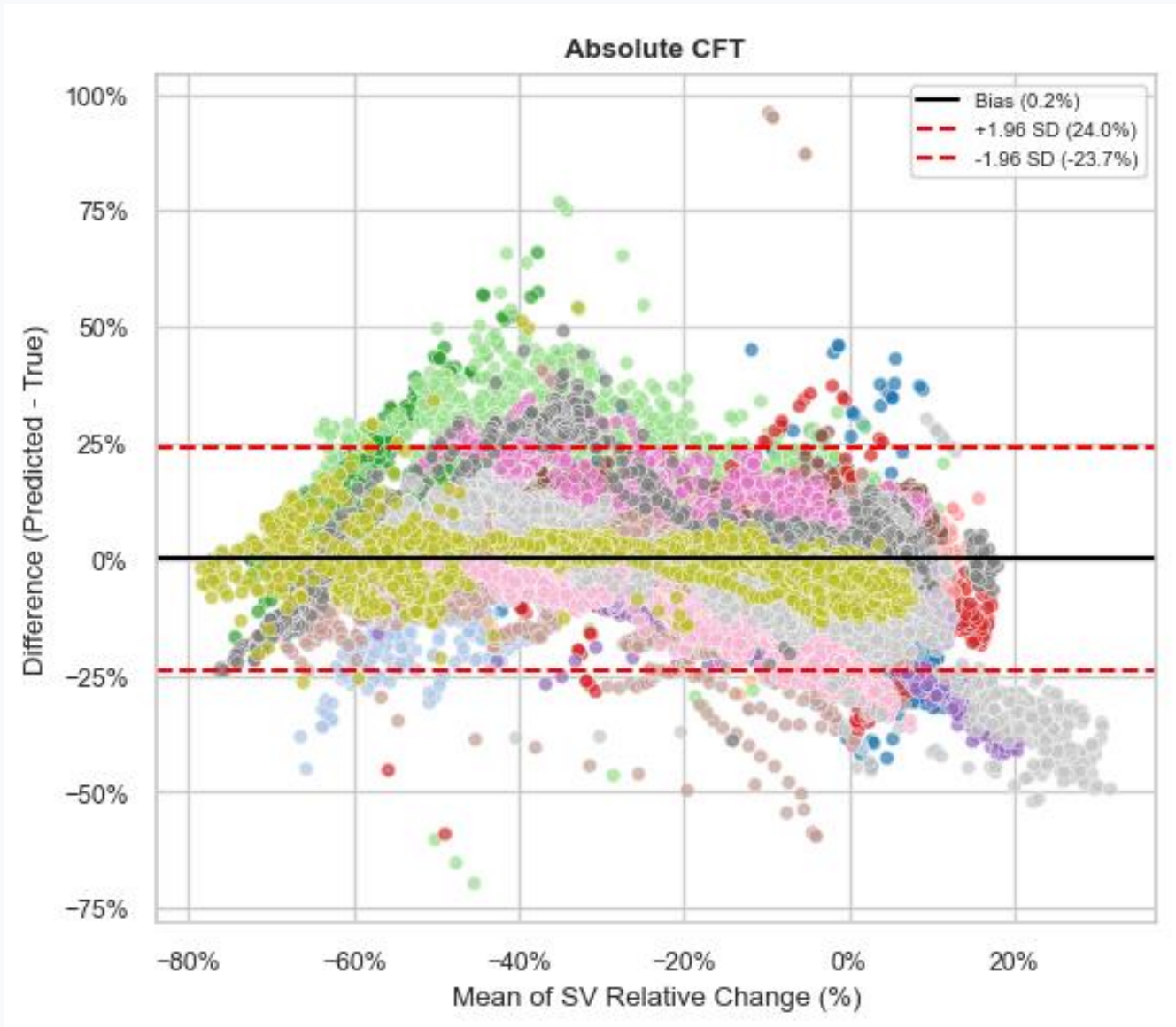
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CFT is a Strong Predictor of Reduced Stroke Volume

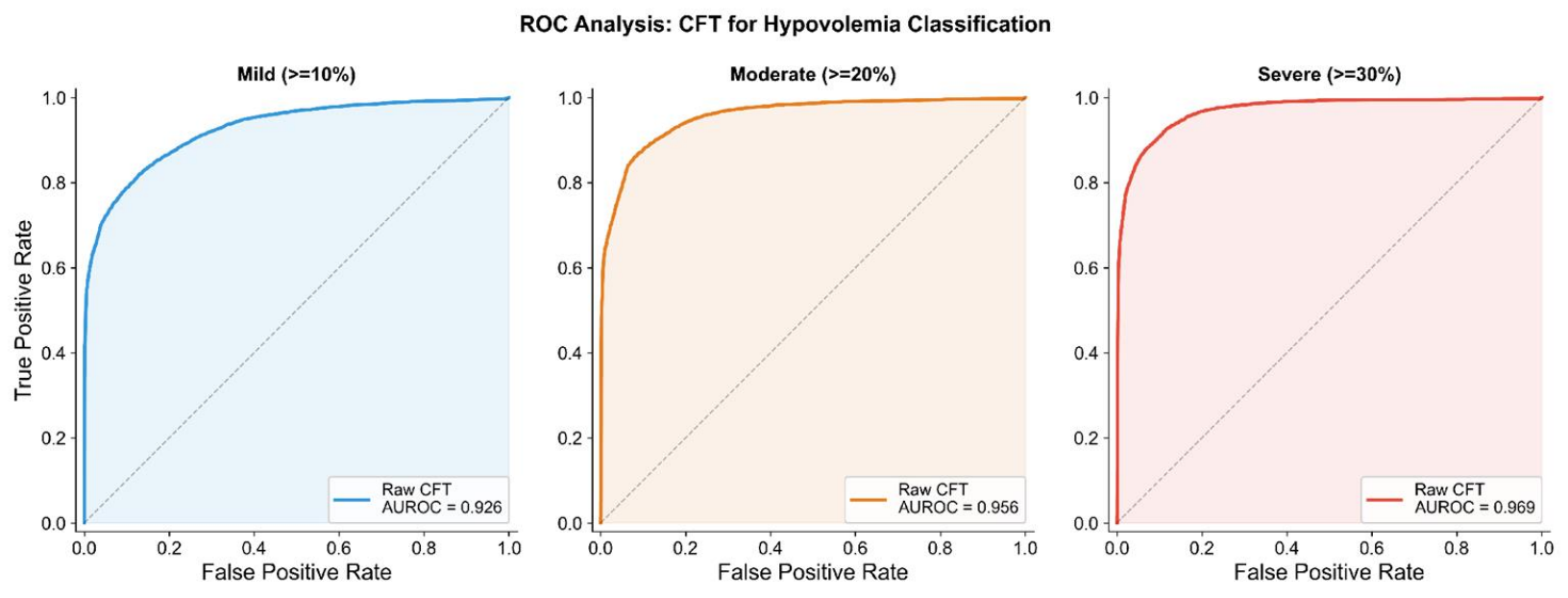
4-Quadrant Concordance Tracking
(15% Exclusion Block)



CFT-derived SV Changes Have Strong Agreement with Invasive A-line



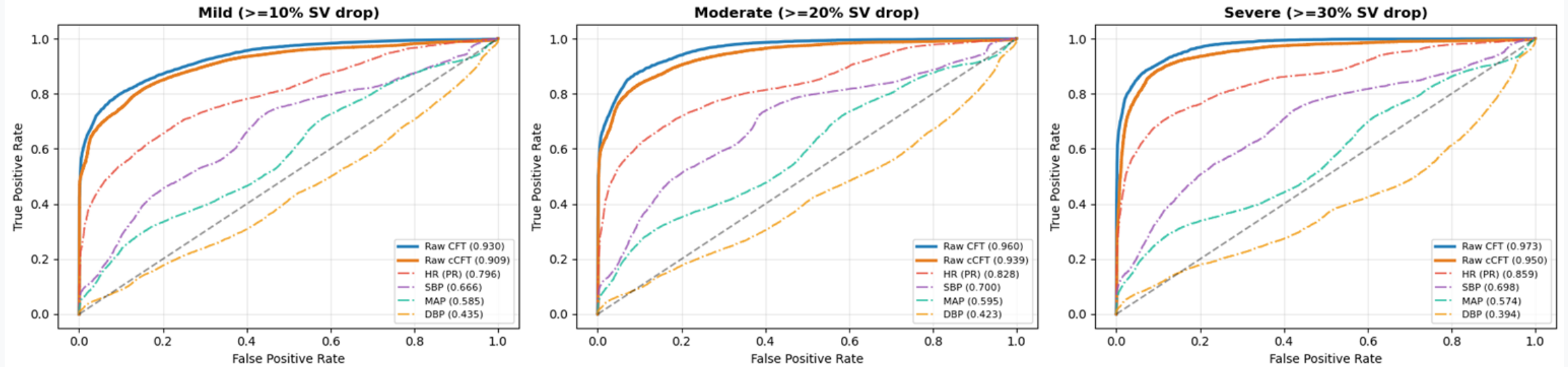
Initial Results: CFT Discriminates Hypovolemia Severity with High Accuracy



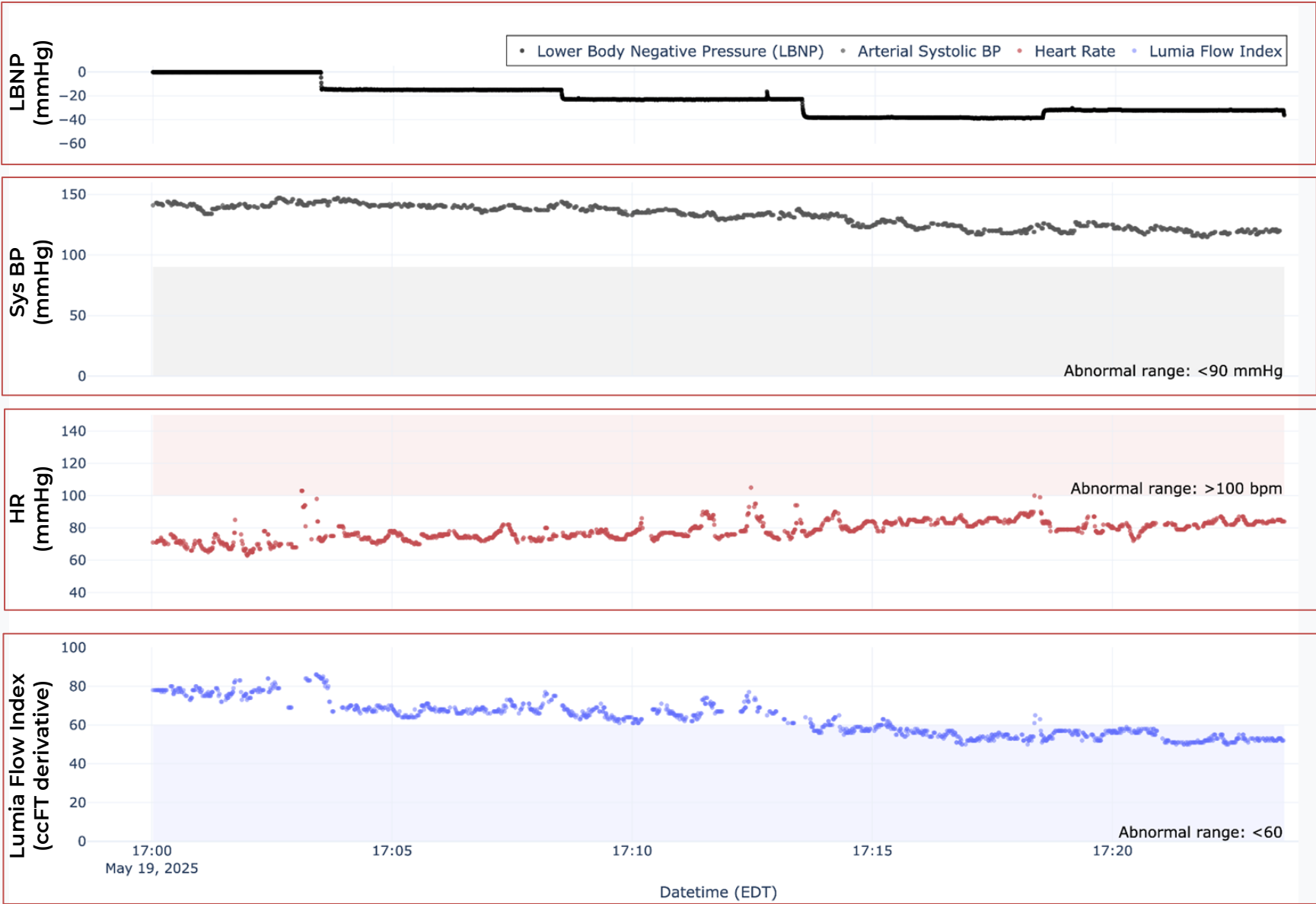
Metric	Severe ($\geq 30\%$)
Sensitivity	88.4%
Specificity	93.0%
AUROC	0.969
Concordance	91.4%

Initial Results: CFT Outperforms Standard Vital Signs for Hypovolemia

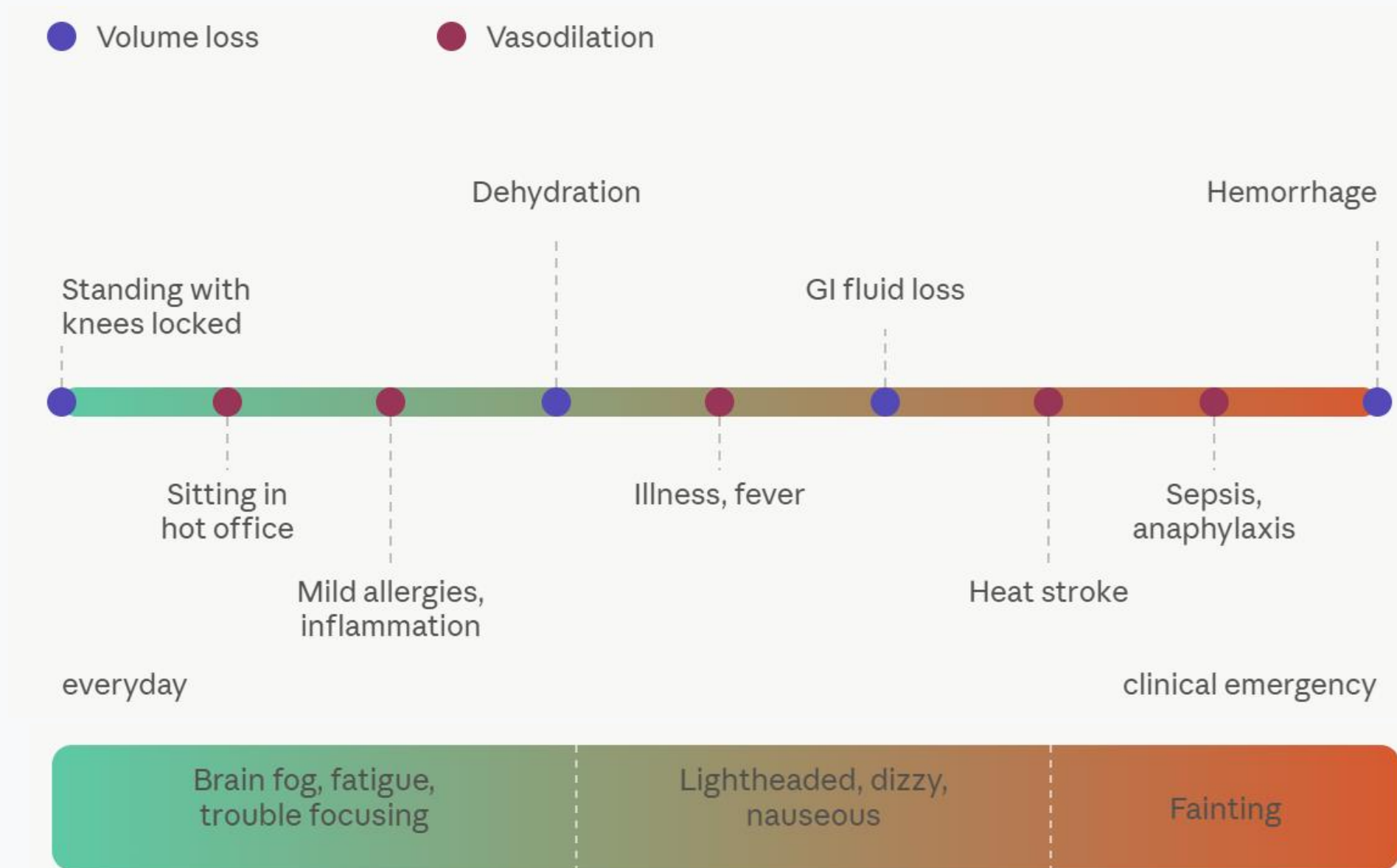
ROC Curves: CFT/cCFT vs Traditional Vital Signs



Lumia Flow Index Detects Simulated Hemorrhage Before Standard Vitals

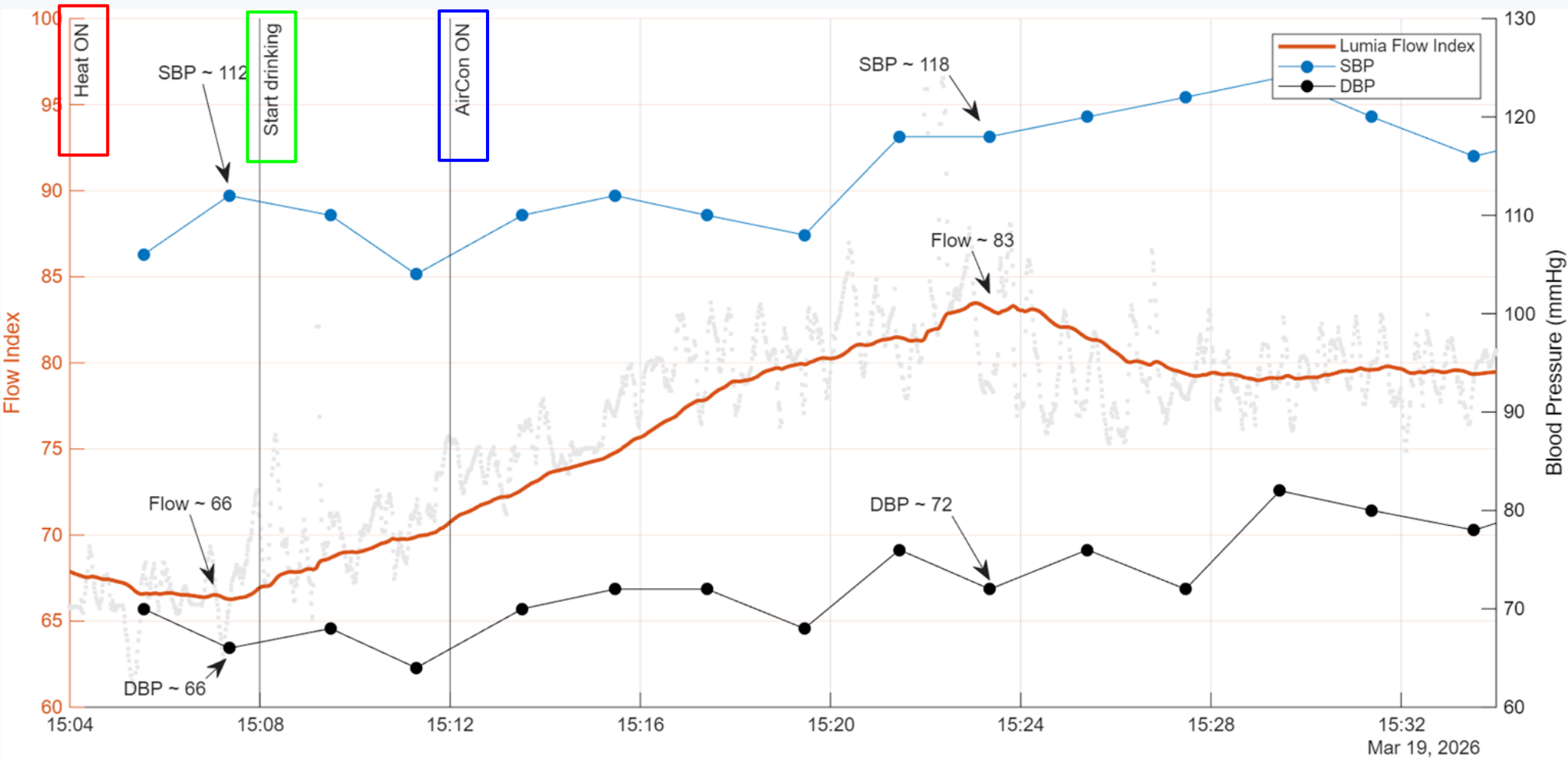


Bleeding Out Isn't the Only Cause of Compromised Blood Flow



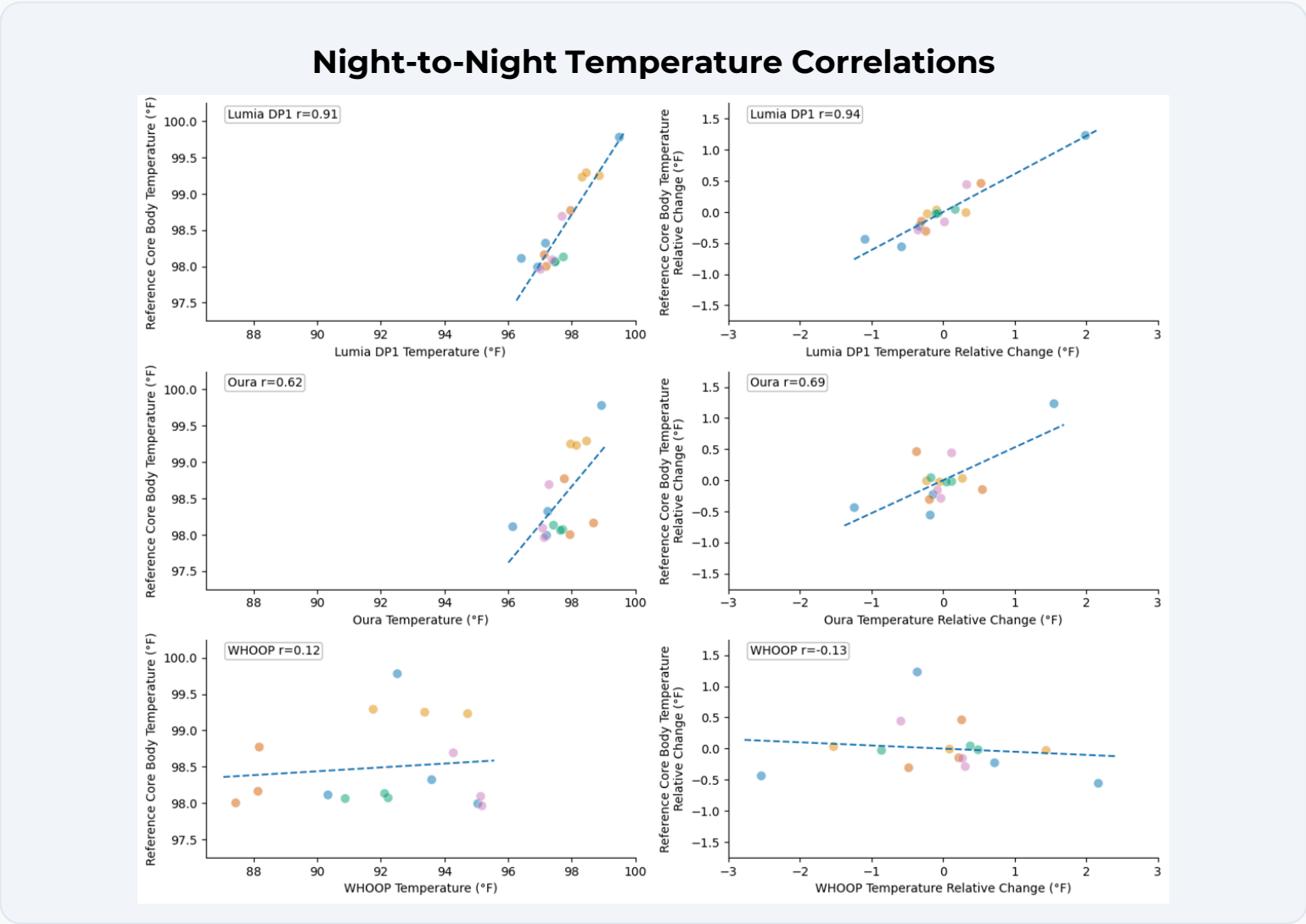
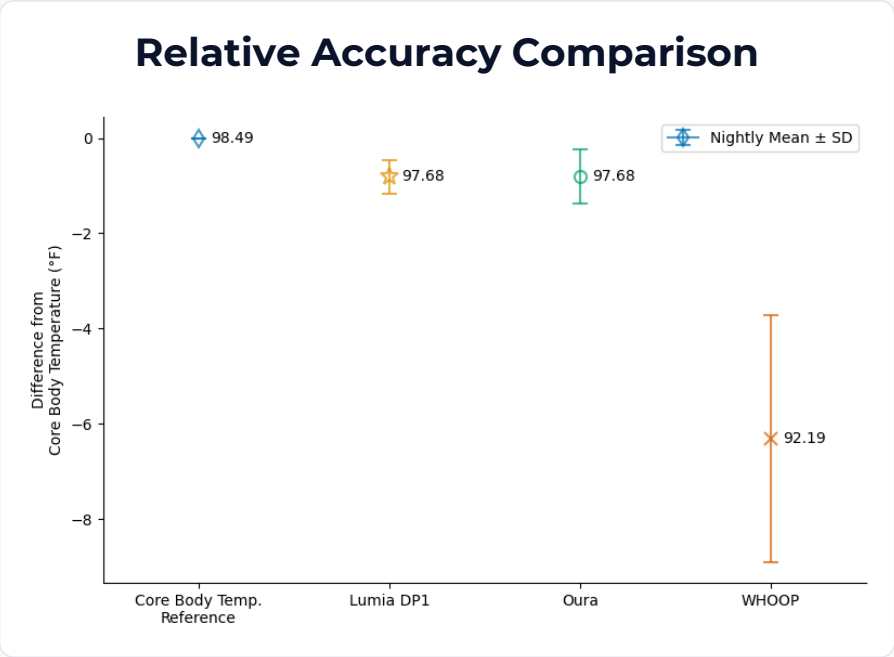
Everyone Experiences Reduced Blood Flow Every Day

Session 2 of Study Design



Other Lumia Data: Temperature Sensing

Lumia Ear/Neck temp tracks Core Body Temperature more closely than Oura, Whoop, and Apple Watch



Acknowledgement and Other Lumia Results at MHSRS

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- Maria Angela Franceschini, PhD, Stefan A. Carp, PhD, Nikola Otic, PhD, Olivia S. Kierul

Contact: Selina Zhu, ScD (selina@lumiahealth.com)

Poster 1

Comparison of an Ear-Worn Wearable Against Commercial Wearables in Overnight Relative and Absolute Temperature Tracking

Session: Optimizing the Human Weapon System: Utilizing Wearable Sensor Data to Inform Readiness

Poster 2

Improved HRV Accuracy and Signal Stability Using an ear-based Photoplethysmography Wearable Compared to Finger-Based Sensors

Session: The Key to Medical Readiness

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