

Antipsychotics in Older Adults Use and Misuse



TESTIMONY BEFORE
MENTAL HEALTH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 31, 2013

COMMISSIONER WEHRY
DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING AND
INDEPENDENT LIVING

Use



- Treat psychotic symptoms such as hallucinations, delusions, disorganized thinking
- Approved for
 - Schizophrenia
 - Huntington's chorea
 - Tourette's Disease
 - [Bipolar disorder]
 - [Major Depression with Psychosis]

Benefit/Risk Profile



Benefit

- Improve symptoms
- Shorten acute episodes
- Support recovery

Risk

- Weight gain
- Sedation
- Blood pressure changes
- Stiffness
- Tremors

Heightened risks in older adults



- Increased sedation
- Increased risk of falls
 - Broken hips
 - Head injury
- In older adults with dementia
 - Poorer quality of life (isolation)
 - Worsened cognition
 - Increased risk of death
 - Increased risk of stroke

Net effectiveness



**“For every 100 patients with dementia treated with
an antipsychotic medication, only 9 to 25 will
benefit and 1 will die”**

Drs Avorn, Choudhry & Fishcher

Harvard Medical School

Dr Scheurer

Medical University of South Carolina

Source: Independent Drug Information Service (IDIS) Restrained Use of
antipsychotic medications: rational management of irrationality. 2012

The New York Times
April 11, 2005

Popular Drugs For Dementia Tied to Deaths

By GARDINER HARRIS

WASHINGTON, April 11 — Older patients with dementia who are given antipsychotic medicines are far more likely to die prematurely than those given dummy pills, federal drug regulators said Monday. The warning adds to growing worries about the safety of the widely prescribed drugs.

The Food and Drug Administration said that it would now require manufacturers of the medicines to place black-box warnings — the agency's most severe — on the labels

FDA Black Box Warning

- Issued in 2005
- Warning: Increased Mortality in Elderly Patients with Dementia-Related Psychosis
 - Elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic drugs are at an increased risk of death. [Name of Antipsychotic] is not approved for the treatment of patients with dementia-related psychosis.

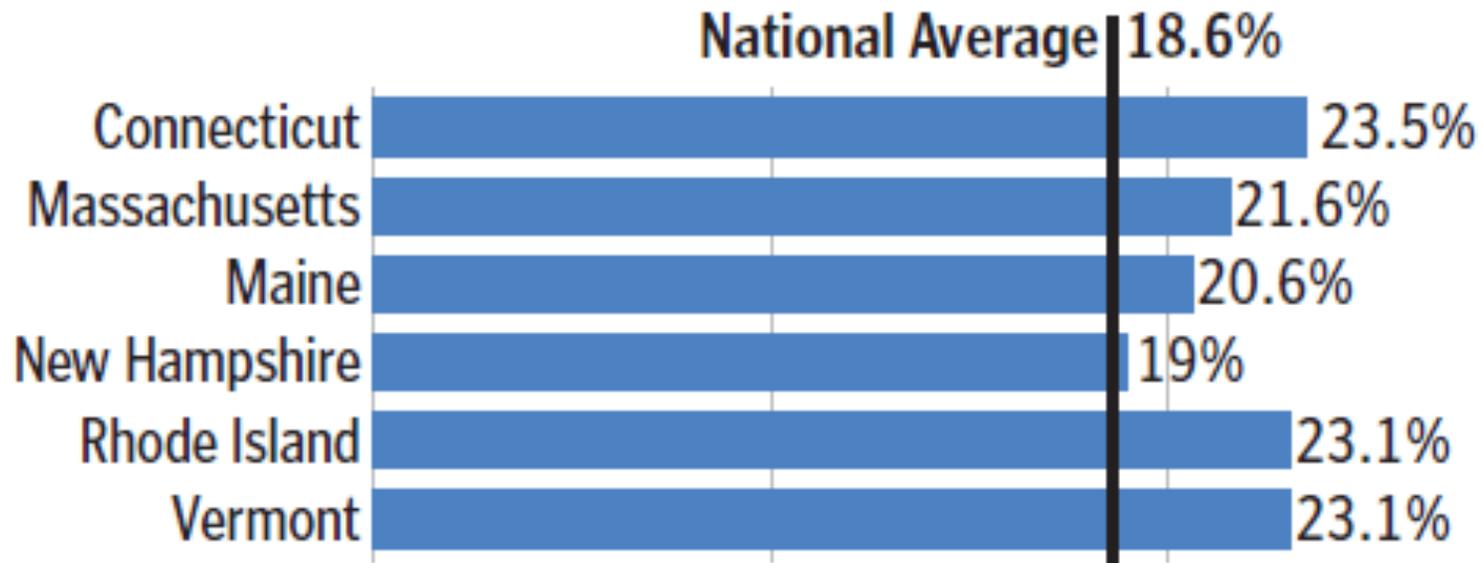
WARNING
Increased Mortality in Elderly Patients with Dementia-Related Psychosis — Elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis treated with atypical antipsychotic drugs are at an increased risk of death compared to placebo. Analyses of seventeen placebo-controlled trials (modal duration of 10 weeks) in these patients revealed a risk of death in the drug-treated patients of between 1.6 to 1.7 times that seen in placebo-treated patients. Over the course of a typical 10-week controlled trial, the rate of death in drug-treated patients was about 4.5%, compared to a rate of about 2.6% in the placebo group. Although the causes of death were varied, most of the deaths appeared to be either cardiovascular (e.g., heart failure, sudden death) or infectious (e.g., pneumonia) in nature. [this drug] is not approved for the treatment of patients with dementia-related psychosis.

The Boston Globe

WORRISSOME DRUGS

The percentage of nursing home patients who were given antipsychotic drugs but did not have conditions that called for such treatment:

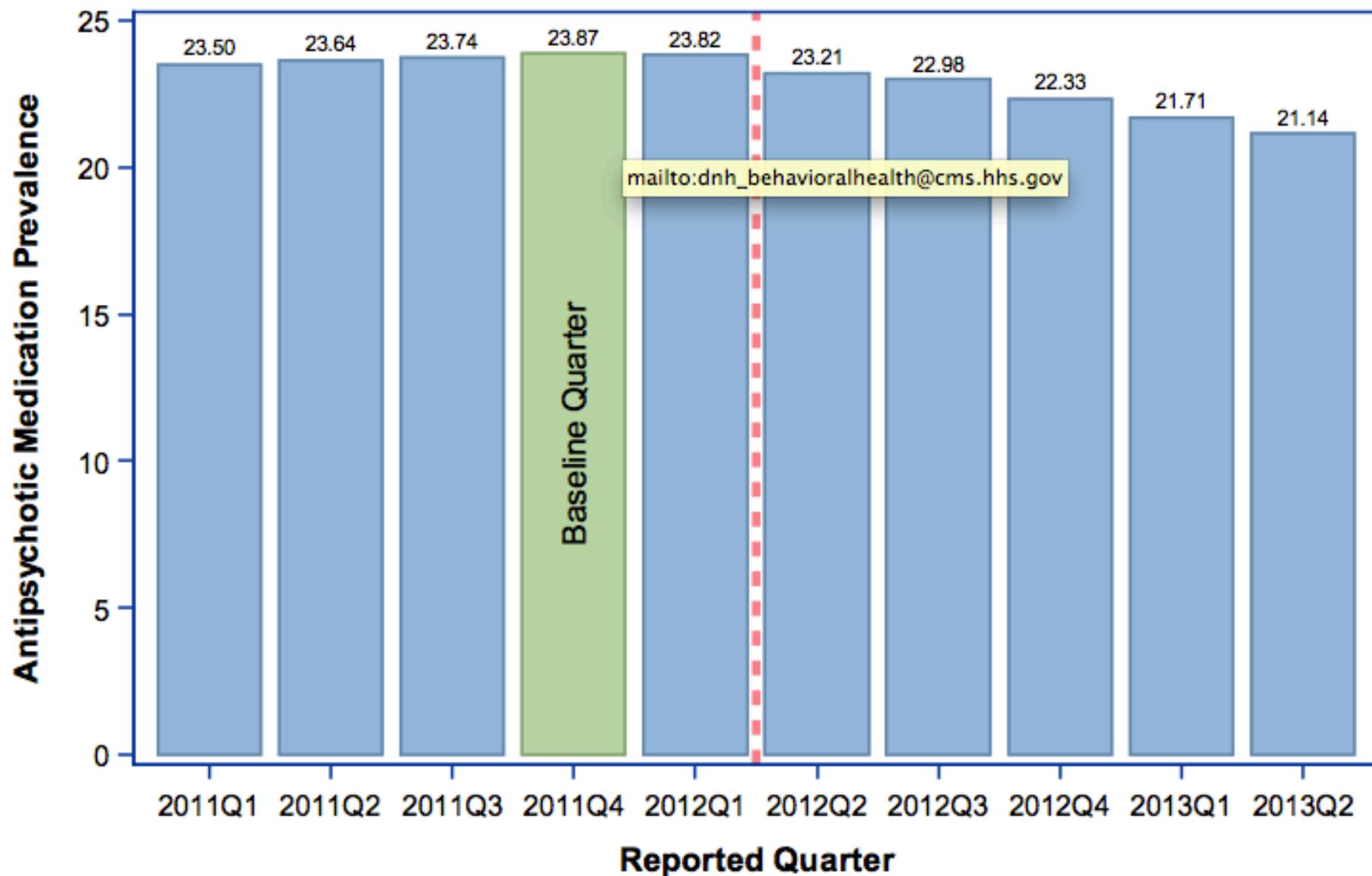
New England states, July through September, 2009



SOURCE: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, MDS Quality Measure/Indicator Reports.

DAIGO FUJIWARA/GLOBE STAFF

Quarterly Prevalence of Antipsychotic Use for Long-Stay Nursing Home Residents, 2011Q1 to 2013Q2



--- Start of Partnership

Vermont response



- **2008 Gold Star Nursing Home Project**
 - 4 pilot homes test new approach (2 succeed, 1 no change, 1 no data)

- **2012**
 - Elder Justice Work Group targets antipsychotics
 - ✦ Sends biannual letters to facilities describing progress
 - DAIL joined CMS National Partnership to improve dementia care
 - ✦ Target 15% reduction by December
 - LANE adopts antipsychotic reduction #1 priority
 - OASIS introduced

- **2013**
 - OASIS fully launched after funding approved
 - Training Partnerships SASH, DMH, Blueprint, Elder Care Clinicians

OASIS



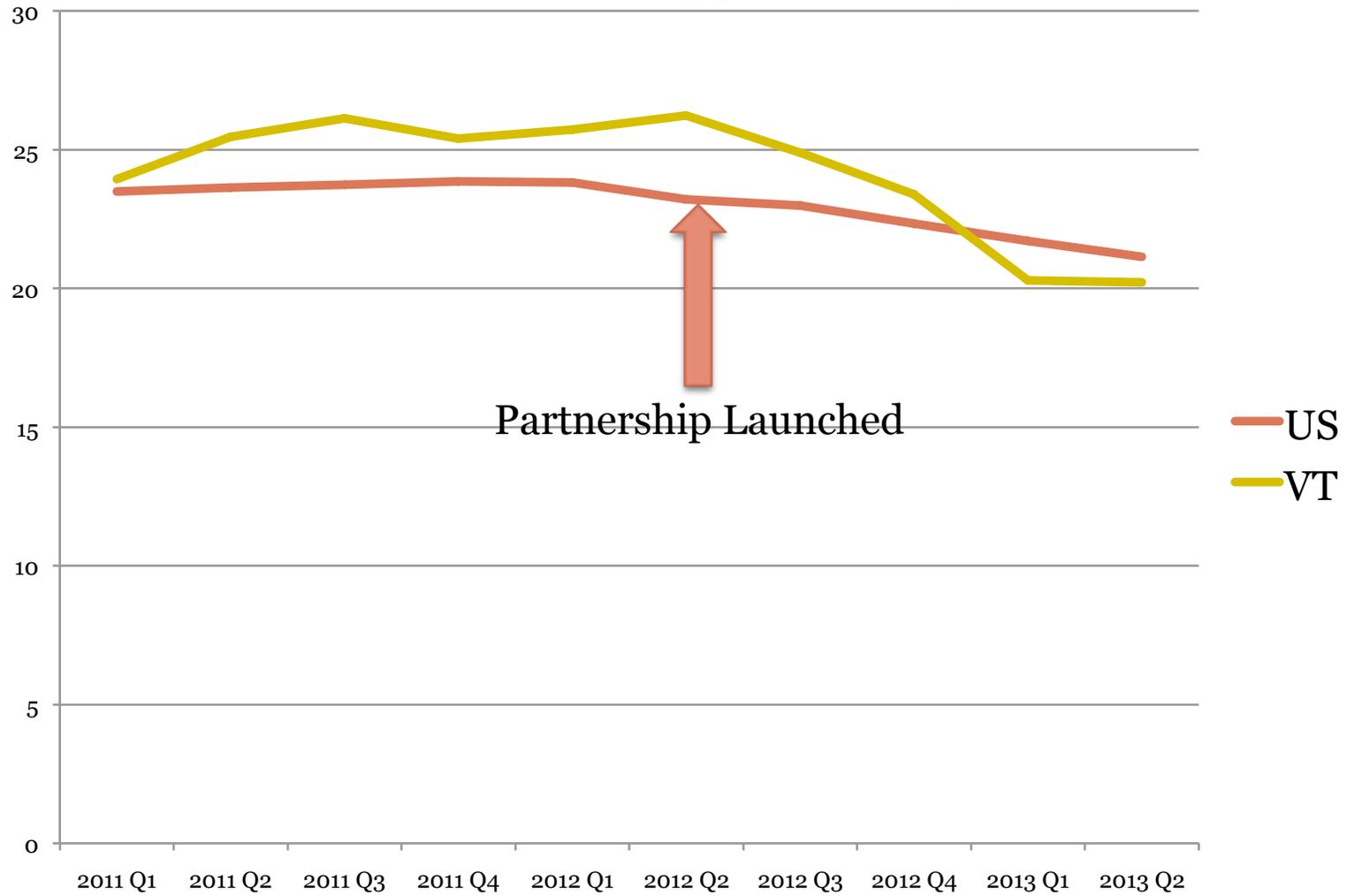
- LANE has provided 4 Train the Trainer Sessions
- 239 Staff, including 45 from Enhanced Residential Care
- Embedded 37 OASIS Champions
 - 100% participation rate in nursing facilities!

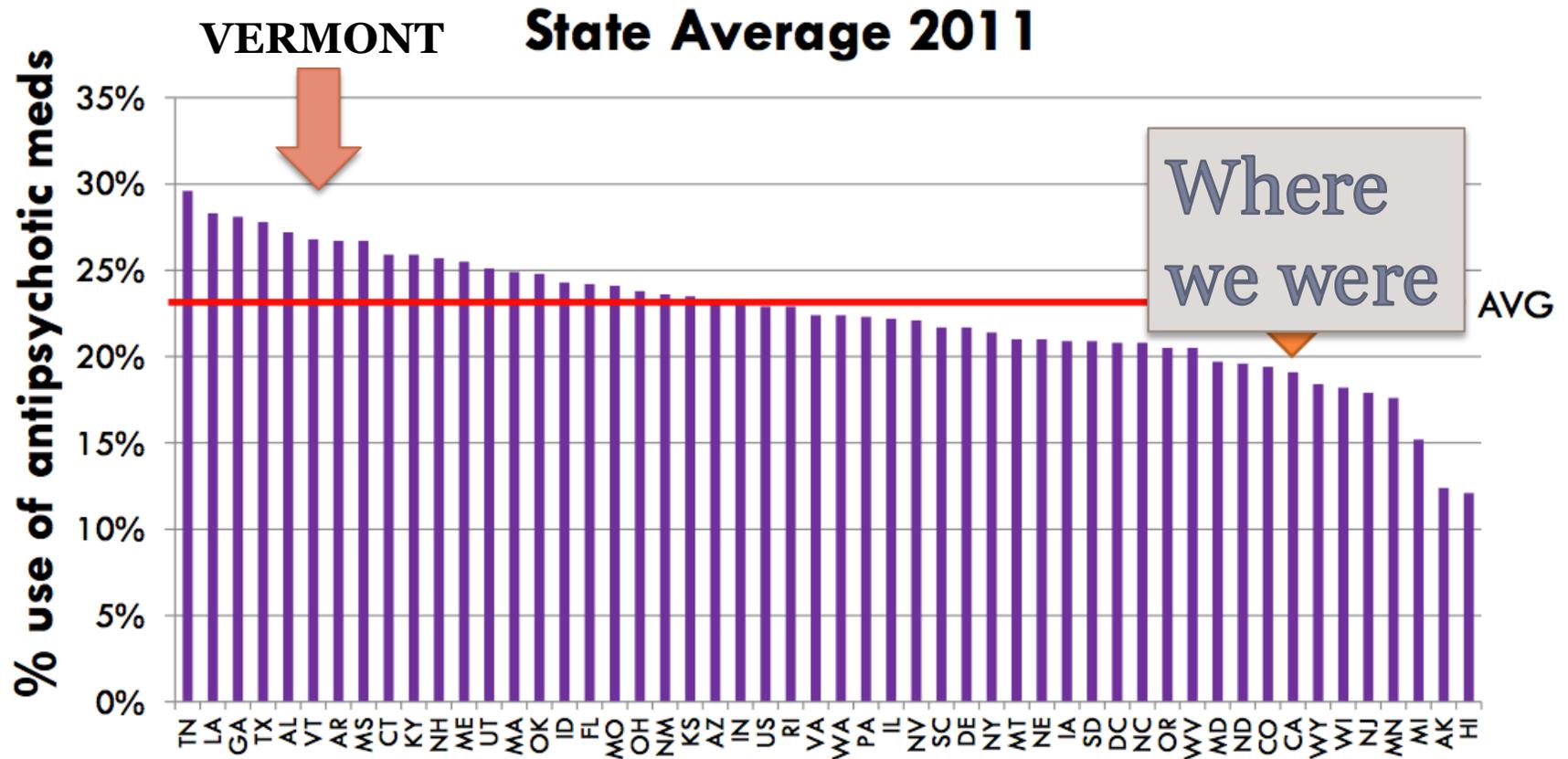
Where we are now



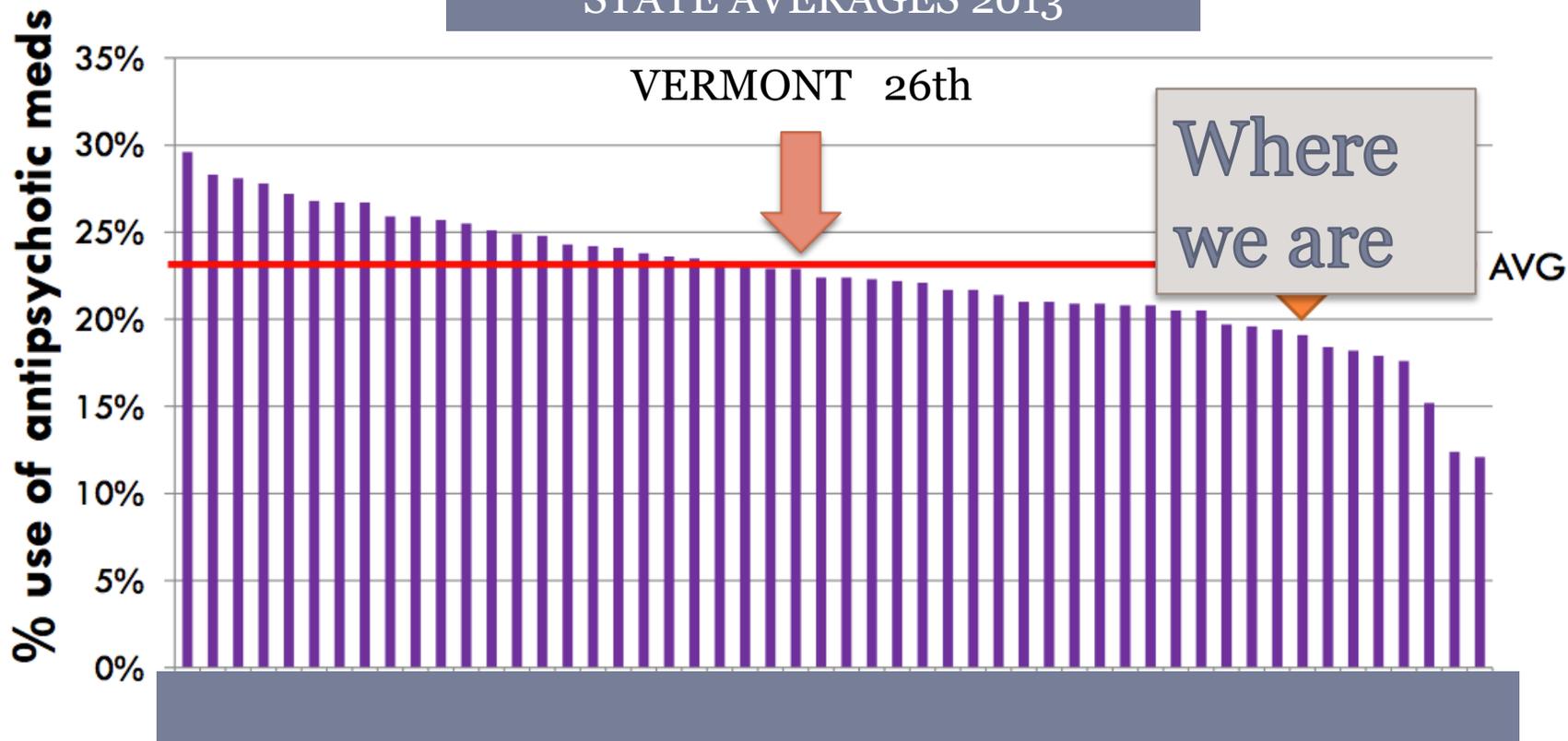
- US rates ↓ 9%
- VT ↓ 20%
- One of 11 states to hit or exceed 15% target

% of Long Stay Residents on Antipsychotics without a CMS approved Diagnosis





STATE AVERAGES 2013



Integration



- SASH Platform for training in mental health and aging with initial focus on dementia
- Audience: Non-categorical Case managers (DMH), AAA case managers, Blueprint Community Health Teams, ElderCare Clinicians (Trainers and Trainees)
- Web-based training for Adult Day Programs