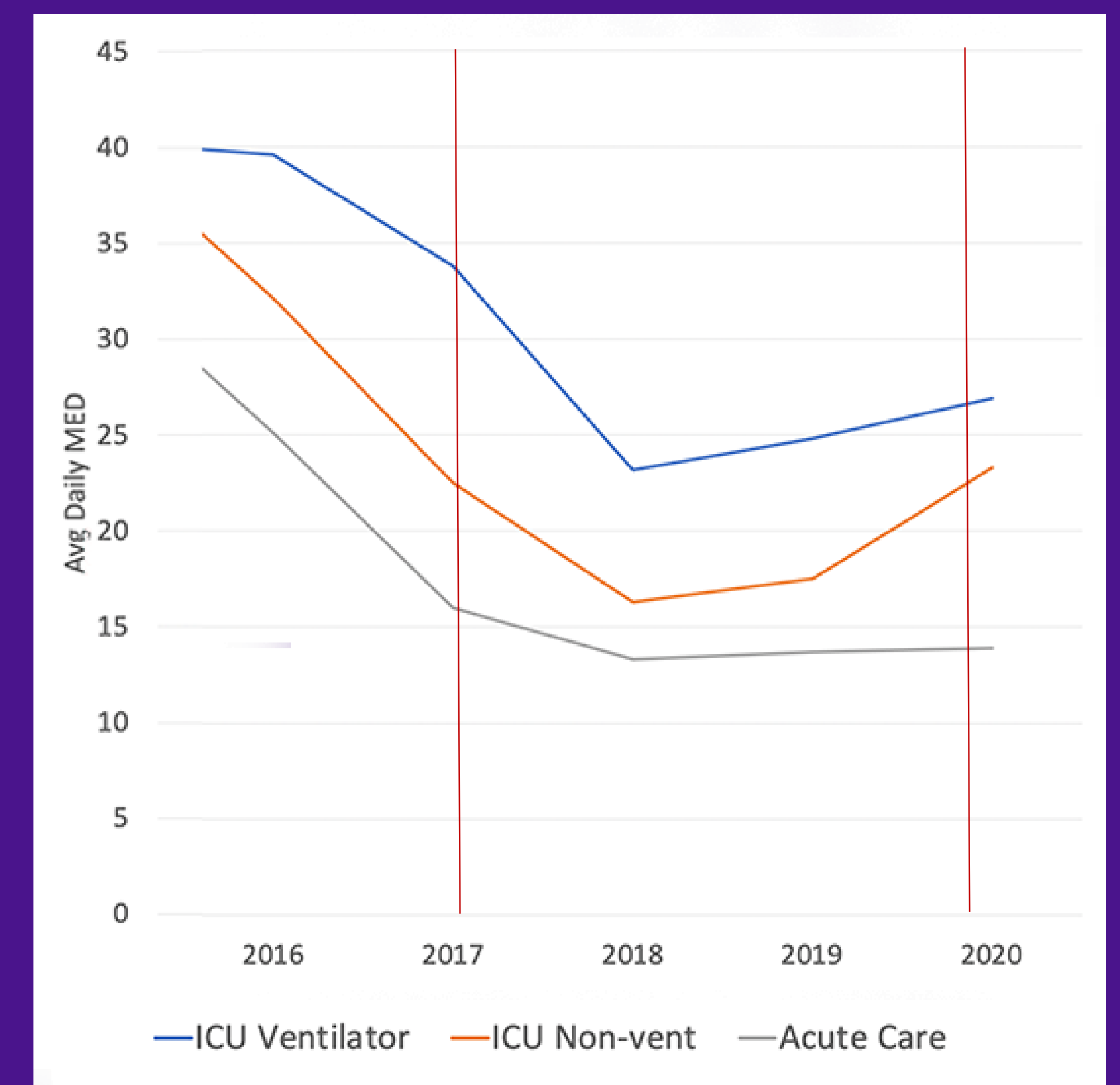


# Opioid use is changing course in acute TBI care. Decreases following national and state opioid prescribing policies may be reversing course during the COVID response.



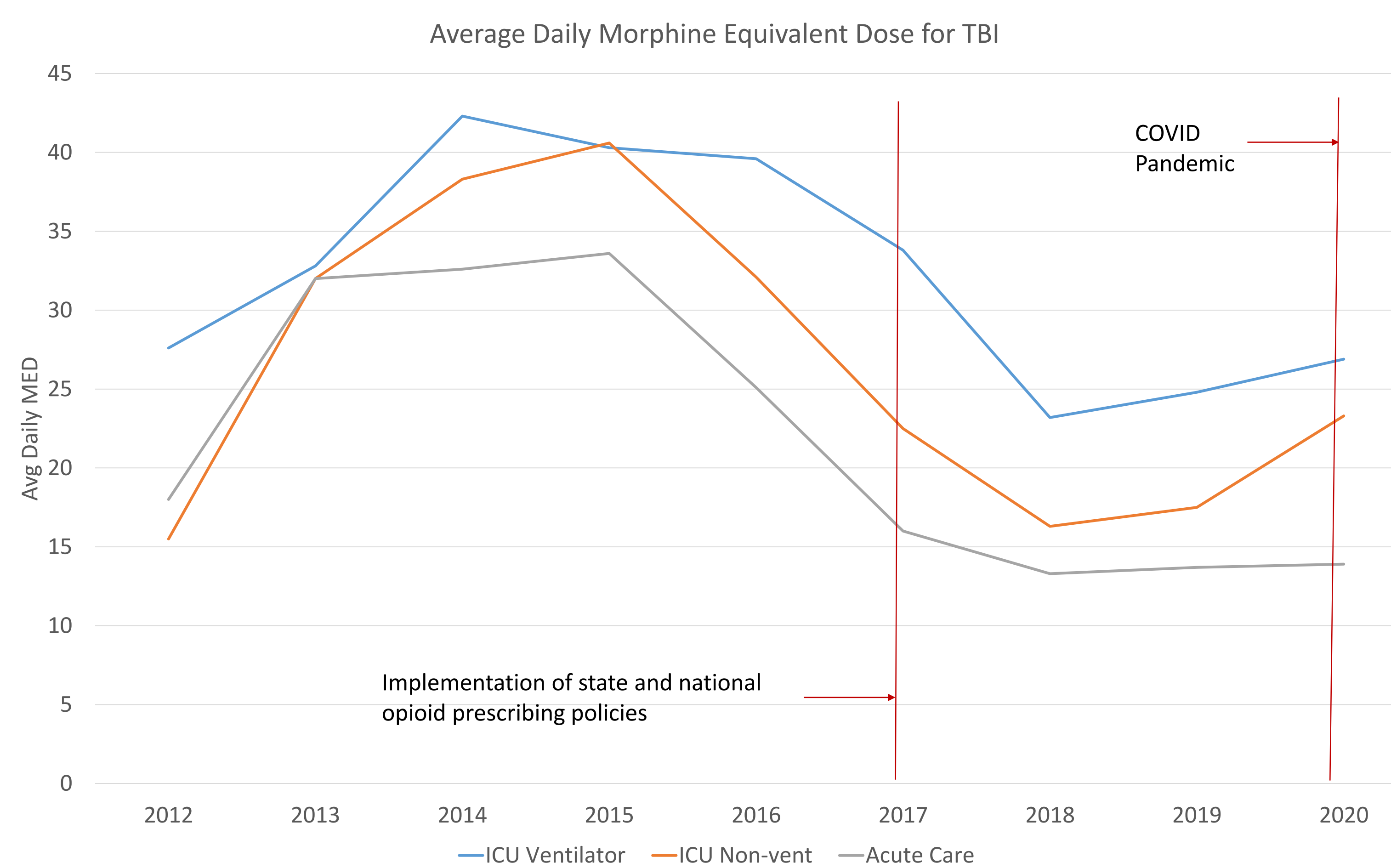
## Characterization of opioid use during hospital care for traumatic brain injury (TBI)

### INTRO

- Individuals with TBI are commonly prescribed opioids during acute and post-acute care,<sup>1,2</sup> but are especially vulnerable to post-injury alcohol and drug use problems.<sup>3,4</sup>
- In response to the opioid crisis, oversight groups and state governments updated recommendations and policies for opioid prescribing starting in 2017. To date, the impact of these policies has only been examined on outpatient opioid use.<sup>5</sup>

### METHODS

- N = 9,980
- Retrospective observational study utilizing electronic health records from one Level 1 trauma center merged with local trauma registry from 2012-2020
- Interrupted time series analyses



### OBJECTIVE

Examine the use of opioid medication during acute care for TBI and how that care has changed following national and state level policy changes.

### DISCUSSION

- State and national policies appeared to reduce the use of opioids during TBI hospitalizations.
- Opioid use may be increasing again during shift in care during COVID pandemic. Need more data to confirm.
- As acute care may be an initiation point for opioid use,<sup>6</sup> addressing opioids in this context is critical to reducing the opioid epidemic.

	N	%	
Gender	Male	6864	68.8
	Female	3116	31.2
Age	18-39	3200	32.1
	40-64	3687	36.9
	65+	3039	31
Race/Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	3607	36.1
	People of Color	6373	63.9
Language	English	9163	91.8
	Non-English	817	8.2
Insurance	Private	6503	65.2
	None (Charity)	362	3.6
	Public (under 65)	2993	30
	Unknown	122	1.2
Medical Care Settings	ICU Mechanical Ventilation	3981	39.9
	ICU non-ventilation	7463	74.8
	Acute Care	6798	68.1

Variable	Pre-2017		2017-2019		After 2020	
	Est	p-value	Est	p-value	Est	p-value
Intercept	-116.0	0.259	568.3	0.040	-1477.4	3.69
Injury Date	5.0	0.031	-12.7	0.028	29.5	0.366

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