

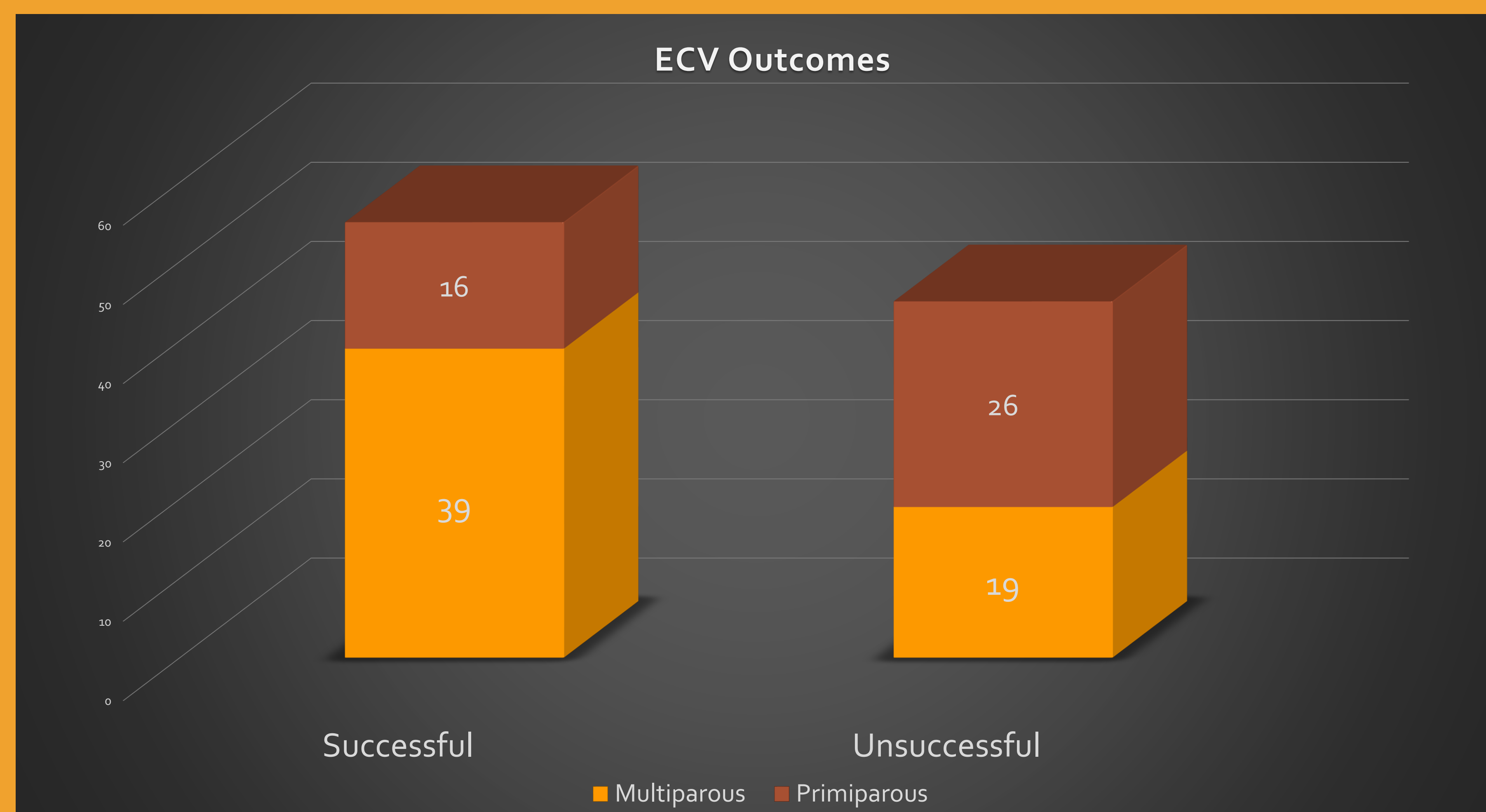
External Cephalic Version (ECV) – a retrospective audit of predictors and outcomes

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Introduction:

Women carrying a breech baby, approaching term are often offered an External Cephalic Version (ECV) in the absence of contraindications. Success rates of ECV's are variable and are dependant on various factors. The South Australian Perinatal Practice Guideline's suggest that success rates of ECV's are approximately 60% in multiparous women, and 40% in primiparous women. Tocolysis is often used for an ECV and has been shown to increase the success rate.

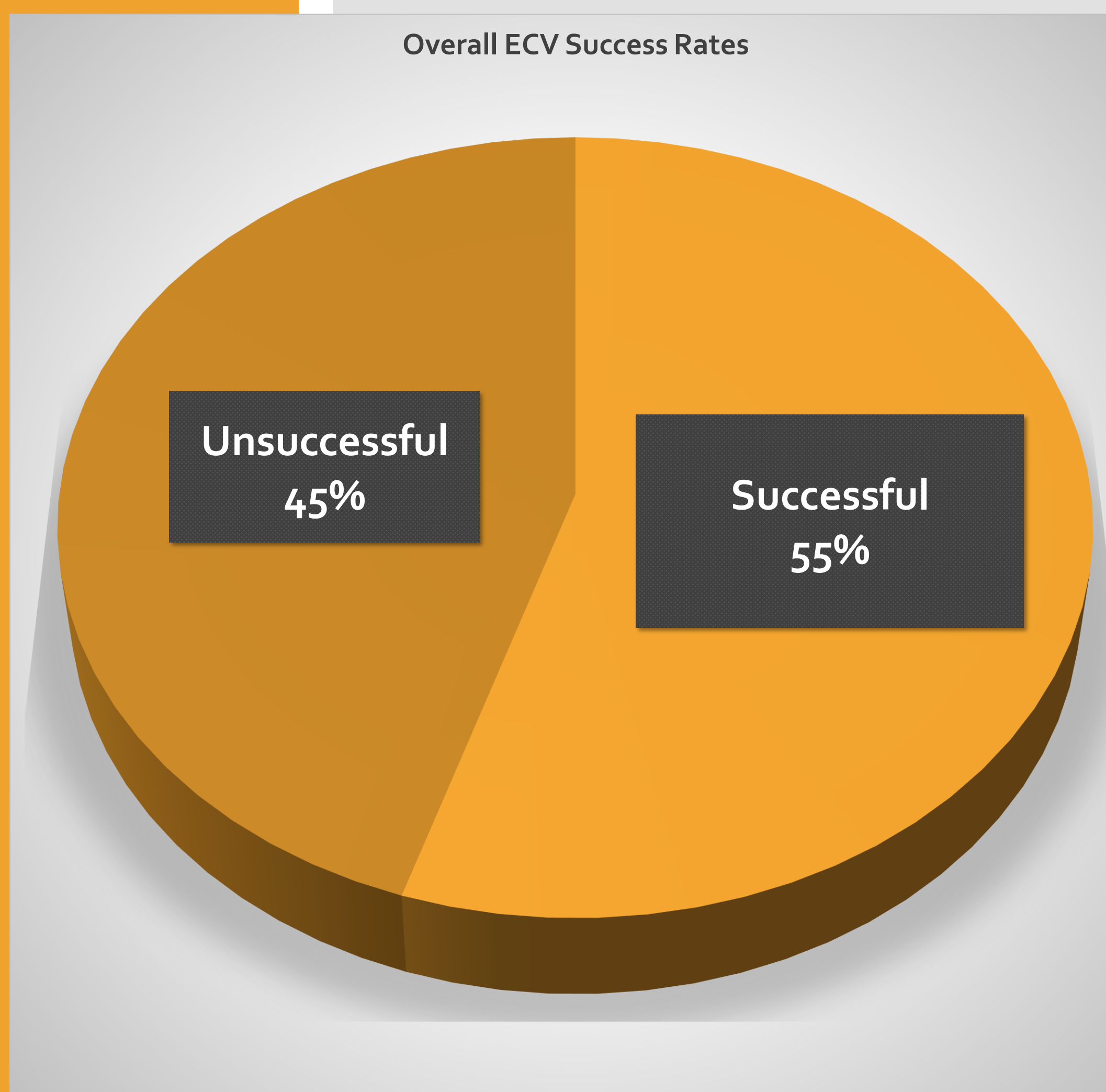


Methods: A retrospective audit of 100 ECV's attempted in multiparous and primiparous women in a tertiary South Australian Hospital. Success rates were assessed against parity and use of tocolysis.

Results: Of the 100 attempts, 58 were multiparous, and 42 were primiparous. Of the total women who underwent an attempted ECV, 55% were successful and 45% were unsuccessful. Of the successful group, 39 were multiparous and 16 were primiparous.

Overall, the success rate for multiparous women was 67% and 38% for primiparous women.

ECV's documented as being performed using tocolysis had a success rate of at least 55%, however 37% of the ECV attempts were not documented as using tocolysis or not. There was no difference in the success rates comparing the use of salbutamol and terbutaline.



Discussion:

Overall, the success rate of ECV's is largely in line with the rates stated in the SA PPGS. 67% of multiparous women and 38% of the primiparous women had successful ECVs. There is further scope for a longer term audit of ECV's success rates comparing the use of tocolysis.

REFERENCES:

SA Maternal, Neonatal & Gynaecology Community of Practice, South Australian Perinatal Practice Guidelines – Breech Presentation Clinical Guideline [internet], South Australia, July 2018, [cited 29 April 2019], Available from: https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/2277f4804ee1e4adae3aafd150ce4f37/Breech+Presentation_PPG_v4_1.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-2277f4804ee1e4adae3aafd150ce4f37-mMyWiwX

