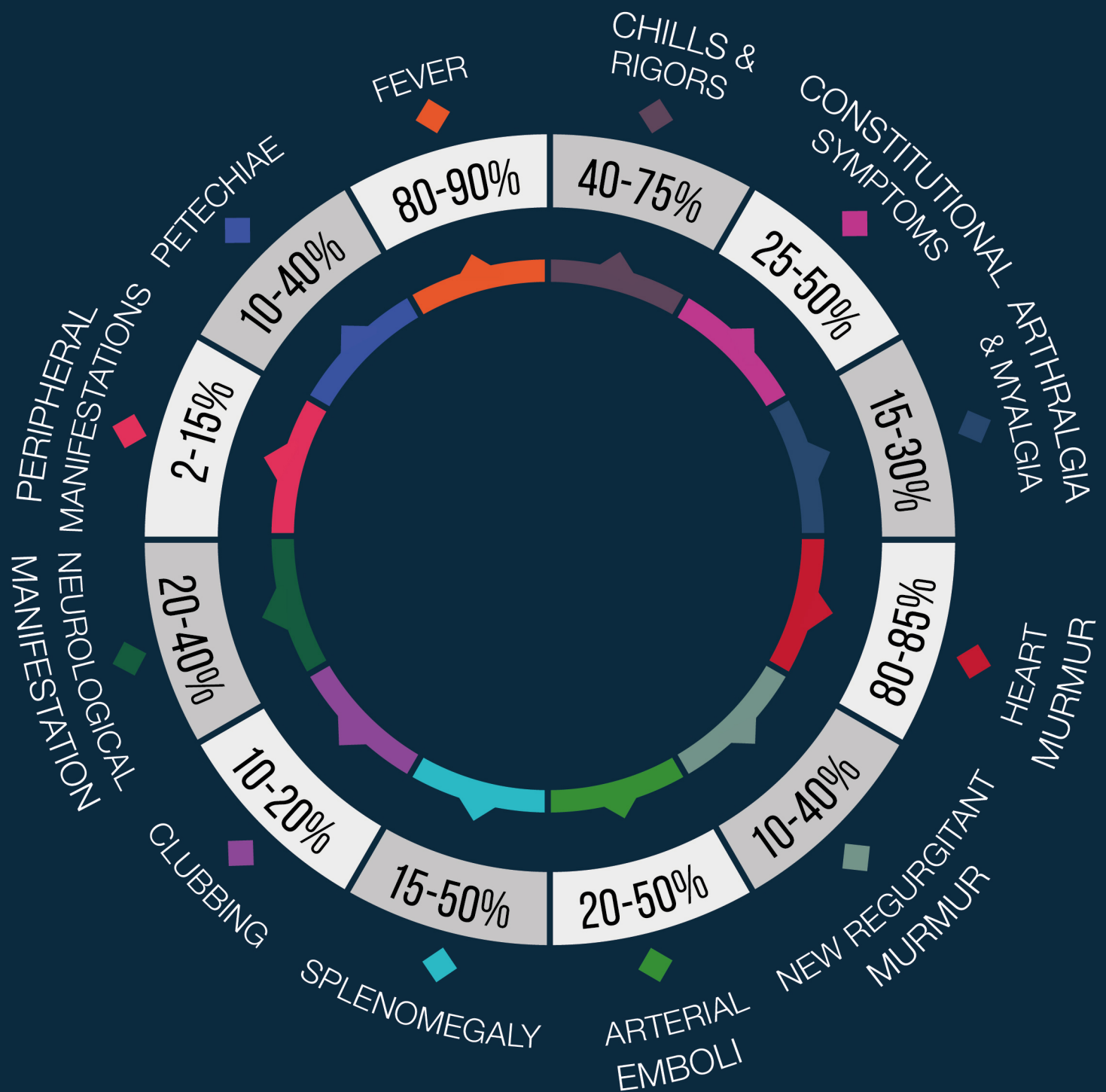


# INCIDENCE OF CLINICAL FEATURES IN INFECTIVE ENDOCARDITIS

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Symptoms and signs span the continuum between the indolent presentations of sub-acute infection to the catastrophic presentation of acute endocarditis. Fever is present in nearly 90% of cases and is the most consistent feature of the disease. Cardiac murmurs will be detected in nearly the same proportion but only one third of patients may have these at initial presentation. Of note is that cardiac murmurs may be very difficult to appreciate in right-sided disease, such as is prevalent in injectable drug use, due to their soft nature and absence of quiet examining areas in most emergency departments.