

# Perioperative Medicine at York Hospital

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# Periop Medicine – Why bother?

Increasingly complex surgical procedures and population

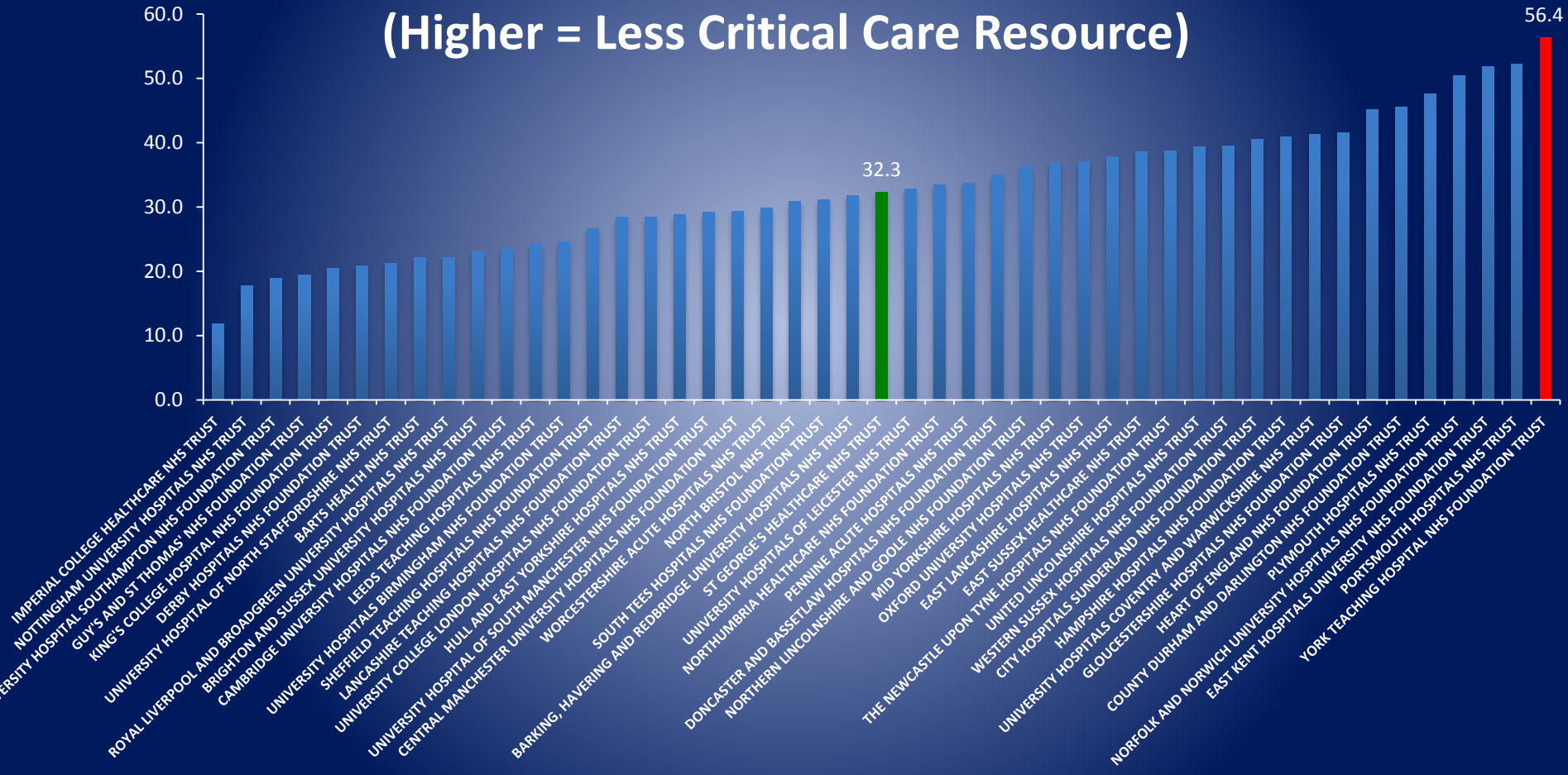
Critical Care capacity/Cancellations

Variation in postoperative management

‘Failure to rescue’

Complications and prolonged hospital stay

# Acute Hospital Beds Per Adult General Critical Care Bed (Higher = Less Critical Care Resource)



# Aims of a Perioperative Medicine Service

- Reduce complication rates
- Improve resource utilisation
- Ensure co-ordinated care throughout surgical journey
  - Reduce variation in practice...



# Avoiding common problems associated with intravenous fluid therapy

Andrew K Hilton, Vincent A Pellegrino and Carlos D Scheinkestel

MJA 2008; 189: 509–513



## Waterlogged in hospital

**TO THE EDITOR:** I am an 81-year-old retired medical practitioner; in 2006, I underwent resection of the sigmoid colon. At the time of surgery, before I used the bowel flushing preparation, my weight on my bathroom scales was 72.5 kg. After I used the flushing preparation, on the morning of the operation, my weight on the same scales was 70.5 kg and, on my return home on Day 8 after the operation, it was 81 kg.

About Day 4 of my hospital stay, my legs, scrotum and chest became oedematous. From my weight at home on Day 8, the extent of this oedema was about 10 kg, equivalent to about 10 L. While in hospital, I received a continuous saline infusion. When I asked for an explanation of my waterlogged condition, I was told that the drip interacted with the body's fluid balance, so that a balance should have been maintained.

I am comparatively well, but I am concerned that when the oedema first appeared my medical attendants accepted it as a usual occurrence. Despite it causing considerable discomfort and mild breathlessness, they saw no need to investigate further. A recently graduated surgeon confirmed that, in the hospital where he worked, he has seen similar oedema, which he maintains was necessary to sustain blood pressure and life.

Does my case represent a current clinical problem that is yet to be aired?

Retired Medical Practitioner  
(name and address supplied)



- Improve preassessment
- (Standardise intra-operative care)
- Protocolise blood pressure and fluid management in the immediate post-op period
  - Nurse delivered algorithms
- Perioperative nurse specialist
- Daily anaesthetic-led ward rounds on pre-existing Surgical Level 1 Unit

# Protocol Assignment

Patients assigned to  
one of two protocols  
in perioperative  
clinic

Low risk

**Standard Pathway**  
**70% of patients**  
**~1% in-hospital  
mortality**

Highest risk

**Enhanced Pathway**  
**10% of patients**  
**9.1% in-hospital mortality**  
**Critical Care post-op**

Intermediate risk

**Enhanced Pathway**  
**20% of patients**  
**3.1% in-hospital  
mortality**

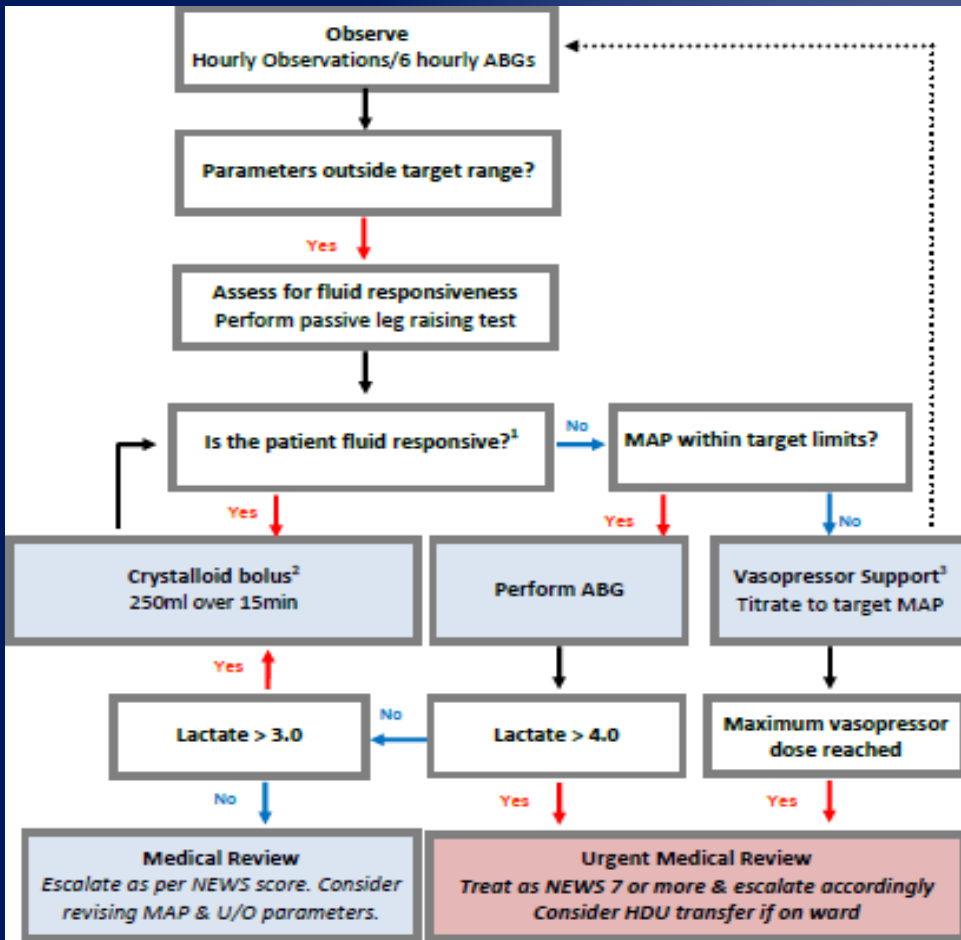




# Protocolised Care



Permissions obtained



Semi-recumbent position



Passive leg raising

# QI Outcomes

The image shows a hand holding a clinical pathway document. The document features a flowchart for ARS management, a table with clinical parameters, and a red callout box with specific instructions.

**Flowchart Summary:**

- Start: ARS on arrival in PAU and a minimum of every 6 hours
- Check: Maintain • MAP > 60 mmHg • SpO<sub>2</sub> > 94% • Temp > 36°C
- Decision: If MAP within target limits, proceed to Metaraminol (200mcg/ml) max 15ml/hr - titrate to target MAP.
- Decision: If Metaraminol requirements > 15ml/hr to maintain MAP, proceed to **TRANSFER TO HDU AND START PROTOCOL A**.
- Decision: If MAP within target limits but other parameters are not met, proceed to 'Repeat ARS 30 min post doses'.
- Decision: If 'More than 4 fluid boluses given', proceed to **TRANSFER TO HDU AND START PROTOCOL A**.

**Table:**

Parameter	Target	Review 1	Review 2
MAP	≥60		
SpO <sub>2</sub>	> 94%		
Temp	> 36°C		
Fluid boluses	< 4		

**Red Callout Box:**

ARS on arrival in PAU and a minimum of every 6 hours

- Maintain
- MAP > 60 mmHg
- SpO<sub>2</sub> > 94%
- Temp > 36°C

If a patient requires more than 4 fluid boluses a medical review must be sought

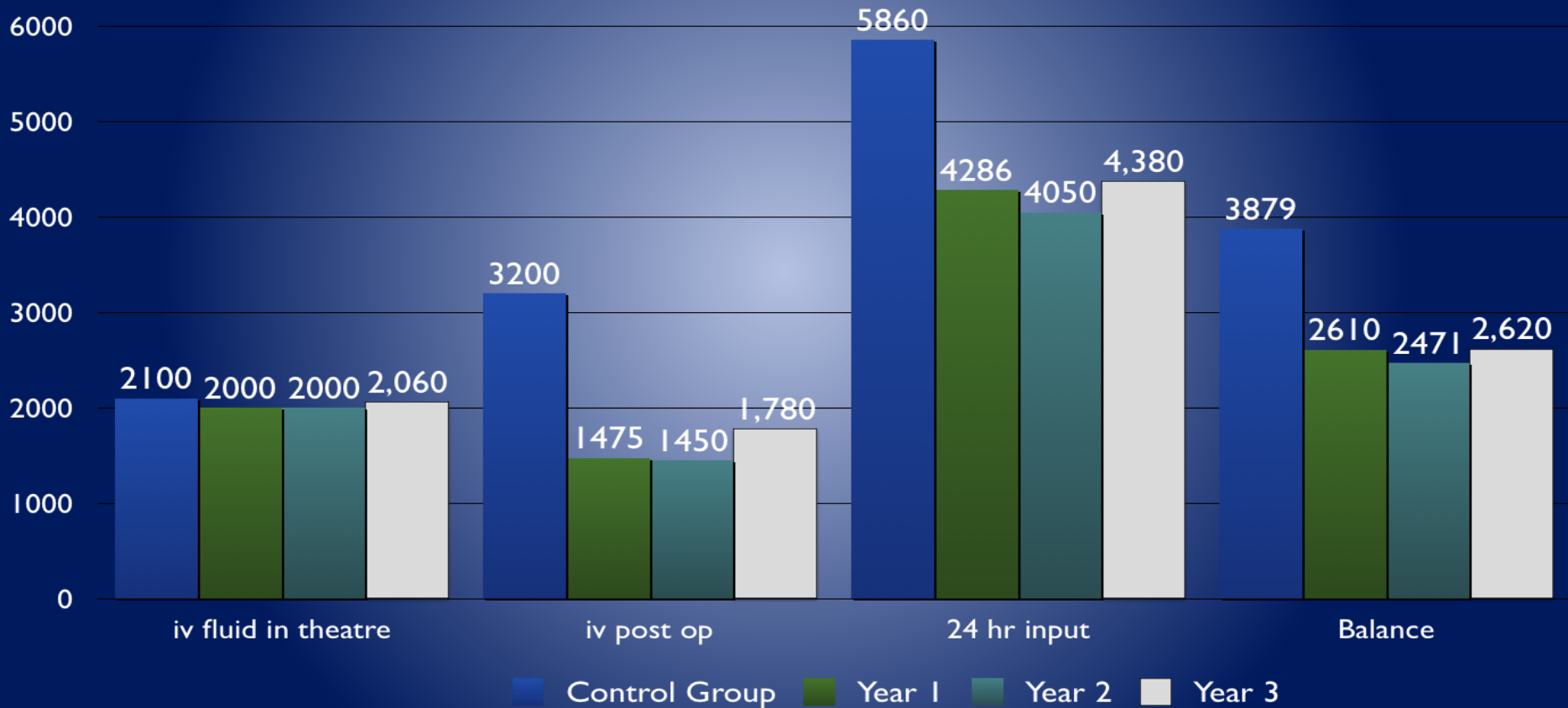
	Control Group n=202	Year 1 (Oct '15-Sept '16) n=107	Year 2 (Oct '16-Sept '17) N=117	Year 3 (Oct '17-Sept '18) n=106
Mean Age (years)	71	71	72	70
Laparoscopic	21%	31%	25%	43%
Mean Anaerobic Threshold (ml/kg/min)	10.8	11.3	10.7	10.8
Mean VE/VCO <sub>2</sub>	33.8	34.8	35.3	34.7
Lee's RCRI				
Class II	75%	74%	76%	74%
III	22%	18%	21%	22%
IV	3%	8%	2%	4%
V	0%	0%	1%	0%

	Control Group n=202	Year 1 (Oct '15-Sept '16) n=107	Year 2 (Oct '16-Sept '17) n=117	Year 3 (Oct '17-Sept '18) n=106
Length of Stay (mean, SD)	12.2 days (±18.6)	9.4 days (±13.6)	9.3 days (±9.2)	7.3 days (±6.7)
Length of Stay (median, IQR)	8 (6–12)	7 (5–8)	7 (5–8.5)	6 (4-8)
Prolonged LoS (>12 days)	(25%)	16%	16%	9%
In-Hospital Deaths	7 (3.5%)	3 (2.8%)	2 (1.8%)	0

# Complications



# Intravenous Fluids



# Lessons Learnt

- High-risk patients can be successfully cared for in the ward environment (rather than Critical Care)
- Ward care is not always of an optimal standard
  - Attention to detail
- ‘Critical Care style’ reviews for all are beneficial
- Perioperative Nurse Specialist key link





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