

DATA FROM 1997/98 ANAESTHETIC QUESTIONNAIRES – THE ELDERLY

This data supplement should be read in conjunction with the 1999 NCEPOD Report, “Extremes of Age”.

The question numbers in the supplement correspond to those in the anaesthetic or surgical questionnaire from which the data was derived.

Where a question is omitted from the supplement it is because the data was not statistically analysed; in most instances these were free text questions which were reviewed by the Advisors but could not be analysed on our database.

DATA FROM 1997/98 ANAESTHETIC QUESTIONNAIRES – THE ELDERLY

1. If you were not involved in any way with this anaesthetic and have filled out this questionnaire on behalf of someone else, please indicate your position:

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Chairman of division | 23 |
| College tutor | 46 |
| Duty consultant | 181 |
| Other consultant | 103 |
| Other | 16 |
| Not applicable | 575 |
| Total | 944 |

2. Which special care areas exist in the hospital in which the operation took place? 944 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|---|-----|
| Recovery area or room equipped and staffed for this purpose | 917 |
| High dependency unit | 431 |
| Intensive care unit | 905 |
| Other | 64 |
| None of the above | 4 |
| Not answered | 7 |

3. Does the hospital have scheduled daytime “emergency” lists for urgent general surgical cases?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 730 |
| No | 208 |
| Not answered | 6 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, who provides the anaesthetic cover for these lists most of the time?

| | |
|---|------------|
| Consultant | 284 |
| Trainee | 282 |
| Associate specialist | 13 |
| Staff grade | 28 |
| Where answers multiple – some Consultant sessions | 79 |
| Where answers multiple – no Consultant sessions | 34 |
| Other | 4 |
| Not answered | 6 |
| Total | 730 |

4. Does the hospital have scheduled daytime “emergency” lists for urgent trauma or orthopaedic cases?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 882 |
| No | 54 |
| Not answered | 8 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, who provides the anaesthetic over for these lists most of the time?

| | |
|---|------------|
| Consultant | 477 |
| Trainee | 148 |
| Associate specialist | 30 |
| Staff grade | 77 |
| Where answers multiple – some Consultant sessions | 103 |
| Where answers multiple – no Consultant sessions | 36 |
| Other | 5 |
| Not answered | 6 |
| Total | 882 |

5. Age of patient (years) at time of final operation:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| 89* | 7 |
| 90 | 181 |
| 91 | 173 |
| 92 | 133 |
| 93 | 129 |
| 94 | 82 |
| 95 | 78 |
| 96 | 62 |
| 97 | 38 |
| 98 | 22 |
| 99 | 11 |
| 100 | 10 |
| 101 | 9 |
| 102 | 3 |
| 103 | 3 |
| 104 | 1 |
| 105 | 1 |
| 107 | 1 |
| Total | 944 |

* Although these patients were aged 89 at the time of the operation, at the time of death they were aged 90 and thus form part of the sample.

6. Day of admission:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Monday | 162 |
| Tuesday | 155 |
| Wednesday | 153 |
| Thursday | 132 |
| Friday | 138 |
| Saturday | 105 |
| Sunday | 98 |
| Not answered | 1 |
| Total | 944 |

Number of days from admission to operation:

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Same day | 114 |
| Next day | 340 |
| 2 days | 139 |
| 3 days | 68 |
| 4 days | 41 |
| 5 days to 9 days | 98 |
| 10 days to 19 days | 92 |
| 20 days to 29 days | 19 |
| 30 days or more | 32 |
| Not answered | 1 |
| Total | 944 |

9. Coexisting medical diagnoses at the time of the final operation: 944 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|--------------|----|
| None | 44 |
| Not answered | 5 |

Respiratory

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| COAD | 131 |
| Asthma | 26 |
| Chest infection | 137 |
| Other respiratory | 54 |

Cardiac

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Previous MI | 140 |
| Angina | 176 |
| CCF | 295 |
| Valvular heart disease | 85 |
| Pulmonary oedema | 44 |
| Atrial fibrillation | 248 |
| Other cardiac | 240 |

| | |
|--------|----|
| Sepsis | 47 |
|--------|----|

Neurological

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Dementia | 257 |
| CVA | 115 |
| Parkinson's disease | 20 |
| Other neurological | 178 |

Endocrine

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Diabetes | 69 |
| Hypothyroidism | 48 |
| Other endocrine | 18 |

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Alimentary | 152 |
| Renal | 133 |
| Hepatic | 10 |
| Musculoskeletal | 105 |
| Haematological | 91 |
| Other | 118 |

10. ASA status:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| ASA 1 | 9 |
| ASA 2 | 156 |
| ASA 3 | 478 |
| ASA 4 | 266 |
| ASA 5 | 32 |
| Not answered | 3 |
| Total | 944 |

11. If the patient had diabetes mellitus, what type?

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Diet controlled | 33 |
| Drug dependent | 26 |
| Insulin dependent | 9 |
| Not answered | 1 |
| Total | 69 |

13. Was the blood sugar measured / estimated during surgery (e.g. BM stix)?

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Yes | 20 |
| No | 48 |
| Not known | 1 |
| Total | 69 |

14. Was insulin given during surgery?

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Yes | 15 |
| No | 53 |
| Not known | 1 |
| Total | 69 |

15. Was insulin prescribed postoperatively?

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Yes | 32 |
| No | 37 |
| Total | 69 |

a. If yes, how was it given in the first 48 hours? 32 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|---|----|
| Subcutaneously fixed dose | 3 |
| Subcutaneously sliding scale | 3 |
| Glucose, potassium and insulin infusion | 4 |
| Intravenously sliding scale | 24 |
| Other | 1 |

16. Who principally supervised the diabetic management postoperatively?

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Anaesthetist | 12 |
| Surgeon | 43 |
| Physician with an interest in care of the elderly | 5 |
| Physician with a general interest | 1 |
| Other | 3 |
| Not answered | 4 |
| Not known | 1 |
| Total | 69 |

a. What grade was this person:

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Consultant | 14 |
| Trainee | 41 |
| Other grade | 4 |
| Not answered | 8 |
| Not known | 2 |
| Total | 69 |

17. Was a record of the patient's weight available?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 163 |
| No | 770 |
| Not answered | 11 |
| Total | 944 |

19. Did the patient receive intravenous fluid therapy in the 12 hours before induction?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 693 |
| No | 222 |
| Not answered | 24 |
| Not known | 5 |
| Total | 944 |

Patients who received intravenous fluid therapy in the 12 hours before induction by classification of operation:

| | Yes | No | Not ans. / Not known | Total |
|----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Emergency | 30 | 5 | 0 | 35 |
| Urgent | 547 | 105 | 15 | 667 |
| Scheduled | 97 | 85 | 12 | 194 |
| Elective | 3 | 25 | 2 | 30 |
| Not ans. / Not known | 16 | 2 | 0 | 18 |
| Total | 693 | 222 | 29 | 944 |

20. Was it necessary to delay the anaesthetic to improve the patient's state before operation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 232 |
| No | 703 |
| Not answered | 7 |
| Not known | 2 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, which system(s) needed attention: 232 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Cardiac | 102 |
| Respiratory | 59 |
| Metabolic | 74 |
| Haematological | 76 |
| Not answered | 15 |
| Not known | 1 |

21. Was surgery delayed for other reasons?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 175 |
| No | 732 |
| Not answered | 31 |
| Not known | 6 |
| Total | 944 |

22. Were premedication drugs prescribed?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 76 |
| No | 863 |
| Not answered | 5 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, how was the premedication given? 76 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Orally | 41 |
| IM | 9 |
| Other | 29 |
| Prescribed but not given | 1 |
| Not answered | 1 |
| Not known | 1 |

23. Which of the following investigations were done before the anaesthetic? (Including tests carried out in a referral hospital and available before the operation.) 944 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|---|------------------|
| None | 4 |
| Haemoglobin | 923 |
| Packed cell volume (haematocrit) | 664 |
| White cell count | 882 |
| Sickle cell test (e.g. Sickledex) | 20 |
| Blood group +/- cross match | 740 |
| Coagulation screen | 227 |
| Plasma electrolytes | Na |
| | K |
| | Cl |
| | HCO ₃ |
| Blood urea | 844 |
| Creatinine | 861 |
| Serum albumin | 349 |
| Bilirubin (total) | 319 |
| Glucose | 492 |
| Amylase | 71 |
| Urinalysis (ward or lab) | 214 |
| Blood gas analysis | pH |
| | pCO ₂ |
| | pO ₂ |
| Chest x-ray | 629 |
| Electrocardiography | 854 |
| Respiratory function tests | 6 |
| Special cardiac investigation (e.g. echocardiography) | 37 |
| CAT scan / ultrasound / MRI / NMR | 28 |
| Special neurological investigation (e.g. imaging) | 1 |
| Special vascular investigation (e.g. angiography) | 16 |
| Other | 46 |
| Not answered | 4 |

24. Day of operation:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Monday | 137 |
| Tuesday | 132 |
| Wednesday | 147 |
| Thursday | 151 |
| Friday | 169 |
| Saturday | 112 |
| Sunday | 96 |
| Total | 944 |

25. Classification of the final operation:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Emergency | 35 |
| Urgent | 667 |
| Scheduled | 194 |
| Elective | 30 |
| Not answered | 16 |
| Not known | 2 |
| Total | 944 |

28. Was an anaesthetist consulted by the surgeon (as distinct from informed) before this operation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 407 |
| No | 489 |
| Not answered | 18 |
| Not known | 30 |
| Total | 944 |

29. Did an anaesthetist visit the patient before the final operation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 917 |
| No | 17 |
| Not answered | 1 |
| Not known | 9 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, where?

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Ward | 896 |
| Accident and Emergency department | 4 |
| ICU / HDU | 5 |
| Other | 4 |
| Not answered | 4 |
| Not known | 4 |
| Total | 917 |

b. If yes, was this anaesthetist present at the start of the final operation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 829 |
| No | 83 |
| Not answered | 2 |
| Not known | 3 |
| Total | 917 |

30. Grade of the most senior anaesthetist present at the start of the anaesthetic?

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Consultant | 405 |
| Associate specialist | 52 |
| Clinical assistant | 7 |
| Staff grade | 90 |
| SpR – Accred / CCST | 11 |
| SpR 4 | 28 |
| SpR 3 | 42 |
| SpR 2 | 25 |
| SpR 1 | 28 |
| SpR – year not stated | 3 |
| SHO >2 yrs | 97 |
| SHO 2 | 72 |
| SHO 1 | 38 |
| Other (trainee) | 15 |
| General practitioner | 2 |
| Hospital practitioner | 4 |
| Other (non-trainee) | 18 |
| Not answered | 7 |
| Total | 944 |

a. Was this anaesthetist a locum appointment?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 70 |
| No | 822 |
| Not answered | 52 |
| Total | 944 |

34. Which higher diploma(s) in anaesthesia were held at the time of the operation? 944 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|--|------------|
| None | 109 |
| Fellowship (Royal College, College or Faculty) | 560 |
| DA (or Part 1 of FRCA) | 257 |
| Part 2 FRCA (physiology / pharmacology) | 118 |
| “New” Part 1 FRCA | 34 |
| Other | 80 |
| Total | 944 |

35. If the most senior anaesthetist at the start of the anaesthetic was not a consultant, where was consultant help available?

| | |
|--|------------|
| A consultant came to the theatre before the end of the anaesthetic | 17 |
| A consultant was available in the operating suite but not directly involved | 222 |
| A consultant was available in the hospital, but was not present in the operating suite | 112 |
| A consultant was available by telephone | 172 |
| Consultant help not available | 4 |
| Not answered | 8 |
| Not known | 4 |
| Total | 539 |

36. Was there more than one anaesthetist present during the operation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 362 |
| No | 571 |
| Not answered | 8 |
| Not known | 3 |
| Total | 944 |

If yes, please specify the assisting anaesthetist(s) 362 cases, answers may be multiple

| | Start of anaesthetic | Later in the procedure |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Consultant | 24 | 30 |
| Associate specialist | 5 | 3 |
| Staff grade | 14 | 10 |
| SpR – Accred / CCST | 3 | 5 |
| SpR 4 | 9 | 11 |
| SpR 3 | 9 | 8 |
| SpR 2 | 10 | 9 |
| SpR 1 | 19 | 13 |
| SHO >2 yrs | 61 | 42 |
| SHO – 2 | 71 | 51 |
| SHO – 1 | 151 | 94 |
| Other (trainee) | 5 | 6 |
| Hospital practitioner | 1 | 1 |
| Other (non-trainee) | 1 | 1 |
| Not answered | 21 | 94 |

a. Was any assisting anaesthetist a locum appointment?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 15 |
| No | 299 |
| Not answered | 48 |
| Total | 362 |

37. Was advice sought, at any time, from another anaesthetist who was not present during the anaesthetic?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 156 |
| No | 745 |
| Not answered | 29 |
| Not known | 14 |
| Total | 944 |

If yes, from what grade of anaesthetist was the advice sought?

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Consultant | 105 |
| Staff grade | 1 |
| SpR – Accred / CCST | 1 |
| SpR 4 | 2 |
| SpR 3 | 2 |
| SpR 1 | 1 |
| SpR – year not stated | 3 |
| SHO - >2 | 1 |
| Other | 14 |
| Not answered | 26 |
| Total | 156 |

a. When was this advice sought? 156 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Before the anaesthetic | 135 |
| During the anaesthetic | 21 |
| After the anaesthetic | 21 |
| Not answered | 2 |

41. What was the grade of the most senior surgeon in the operating room?

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Consultant | 314 |
| Specialist registrar | 411 |
| Senior house officer | 39 |
| Other | 167 |
| Not answered | 7 |
| Not known | 6 |
| Total | 944 |

42. Is there a preoperative assessment and anaesthetic record for this operation in the patient's notes?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 898 |
| No | 33 |
| Not answered | 12 |
| Not known | 1 |
| Total | 944 |

43. Did the patient receive intravenous fluids during the operation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 884 |
| No | 45 |
| Not answered | 9 |
| Not known | 6 |
| Total | 944 |

If yes, which: 884 cases, answers may be multiple

a. Crystalloid

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Dextrose 5% | 21 |
| Dextrose 4% saline 0.18% | 68 |
| Dextrose 10% | 2 |
| Saline 0.9% | 227 |
| Hartmann's (compound sodium lactate) | 601 |
| NaHCO ₃ | 7 |
| Other | 11 |

b. Colloid

| | |
|--|-----|
| Modified gelatin (Gelofusine, Haemaccel) | 397 |
| Human albumin solution | 10 |
| Starch (HES) | 34 |
| Dextran | 6 |
| Mannitol | 6 |
| Other | 1 |

c. Blood

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Blood | 127 |
| Platelets | 7 |
| Fresh frozen plasma | 12 |
| Other component | 1 |

46. Was the anaesthetic room used for the induction of anaesthesia?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 815 |
| No | 104 |
| Not answered | 11 |
| Not known | 14 |
| Total | 944 |

47. Were monitoring devices used during the management of this anaesthetic?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 933 |
| No | 0 |
| Not answered | 6 |
| Not known | 5 |
| Total | 944 |

| | In place already | Used during induction | Used during operation |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ECG | 52 | 836 | 885 |
| Pulse oximeter | 49 | 894 | 897 |
| Indirect BP | 47 | 801 | 865 |
| Expired CO ₂ analyser | 16 | 364 | 698 |
| O ₂ analyser | 15 | 417 | 705 |
| Inspired anaesthetic vapour analyser | 8 | 182 | 576 |
| Airway pressure gauge | 8 | 176 | 545 |
| Ventilation volume | 6 | 114 | 477 |
| Ventilation disconnect device | 6 | 154 | 505 |
| Peripheral nerve stimulator | 2 | 32 | 136 |
| Temperature | 4 | 9 | 61 |
| Urine output | 43 | 127 | 270 |
| CVP | 11 | 35 | 91 |
| Direct arterial BP (invasive) | 5 | 27 | 58 |
| Pulmonary arterial pressure | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Intracranial pressure | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Other | 0 | 1 | 6 |

48. Did anything hinder full monitoring?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 22 |
| No | 896 |
| Not answered | 21 |
| Not known | 5 |
| Total | 944 |

49. Was there a lack of monitoring equipment?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 30 |
| No | 900 |
| Not answered | 12 |
| Not known | 2 |
| Total | 944 |

50. What type of anaesthetic was used?

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| General alone | 451 |
| Local infiltration alone | 4 |
| Regional alone | 71 |
| General and regional | 208 |
| General and local infiltration | 40 |
| Sedation alone | 4 |
| Sedation and local infiltration | 10 |
| Sedation and regional | 152 |
| Not answered | 4 |
| Total | 944 |

GENERAL ANAESTHESIA (total number of cases = 699)

51. How was the airway established during anaesthesia?

| | |
|---|------------|
| Face mask (with or without oral airway) | 13 |
| Laryngeal mask | 223 |
| Tracheal intubation | 460 |
| Tracheostomy | 1 |
| Other | 2 |
| Total | 699 |

52. Were there any problems with airway maintenance or ventilation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 24 |
| No | 674 |
| Not known | 1 |
| Total | 699 |

53. Was the patient ventilated mechanically during anaesthesia?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 470 |
| No | 227 |
| Not answered | 2 |
| Total | 699 |

REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA (total number of cases = 431)

54. If the anaesthetic included a regional technique, which method was used? 431 cases, answers may be multiple

| | | |
|--|------------|-----|
| Epidural | - caudal | 4 |
| | - lumbar | 41 |
| | - thoracic | 30 |
| Intravenous regional | | 1 |
| Cranial or peripheral nerve blocks | | 29 |
| Plexus block (e.g. brachial, 3-in-1 block) | | 107 |
| Subarachnoid (spinal) | | 233 |
| Not answered | | 1 |
| Not known | | 1 |

55. Which agent was used? 431 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Local | 423 |
| Narcotic | 61 |
| Other | 11 |
| Not answered | 2 |
| Not known | 2 |

SEDATION (total number of cases = 166)

56. Which sedative drugs were given for this procedure (excluding premedication)? 166 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|---|-----|
| Inhalant | 3 |
| Narcotic analgesic | 24 |
| Benzodiazepine | 126 |
| Sub-anaesthetic doses of IV anaesthetic drugs | 56 |
| Other | 20 |

57. Was oxygen given during the operation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 157 |
| No | 6 |
| Not known | 3 |
| Total | 166 |

a. If yes, for what reason?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Routine | 143 |
| Hypoxaemia | 13 |
| Not known | 1 |
| Total | 157 |

58. Where did this patient go on leaving the operating room?

| | |
|---|------------|
| Recovery area or room equipped and staffed for this purpose | 848 |
| High dependency unit | 14 |
| Intensive care unit | 41 |
| Coronary care unit | 1 |
| Specialised nursing area | 1 |
| Ward | 20 |
| Another hospital | 1 |
| Died in theatre | 13 |
| Not answered | 5 |
| Total | 944 |

59. Were you at any time unable to transfer the patient into an ICU, HDU etc?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 35 |
| No | 842 |
| Not answered | 57 |
| Not known | 10 |
| Total | 944 |

60. Were monitoring devices used, or investigations carried out during the management of this patient in the recovery room?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 806 |
| No | 3 |
| Not answered | 37 |
| Not known | 2 |
| Total | 848 |

If yes, which monitors were used? 806 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| ECG | 448 |
| Pulse oximeter | 802 |
| Indirect BP | 786 |
| Expired CO ₂ analyser | 11 |
| O ₂ analyser | 29 |
| Airway pressure gauge | 7 |
| Ventilation volume | 9 |
| Ventilator disconnect device | 8 |
| Peripheral nerve stimulator | 8 |
| Temperature | 185 |
| Urine output | 186 |
| CVP | 35 |
| Direct arterial BP (invasive) | 14 |
| Blood gas analysis | 11 |
| Other | 19 |

62. Where did this patient go next (i.e. after the recovery room)?

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Ward | 767 |
| High dependency unit | 20 |
| Intensive care unit | 11 |
| Coronary care unit | 2 |
| Specialised nursing area | 4 |
| Another hospital | 1 |
| Died in recovery area | 14 |
| Other | 1 |
| Not answered | 28 |
| Total | 848 |

63. Was controlled ventilation used postoperatively?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 50 |
| No | 873 |
| Not answered | 21 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, why? 50 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Routine management | 6 |
| Respiratory inadequacy | 30 |
| Cardiac inadequacy | 13 |
| Part of the management of pain | 5 |
| Poor general condition of patient | 24 |
| To allow recovery of body temperature | 9 |
| Other reasons | 2 |

64. Did any of the following events, which required specific treatment, occur during anaesthesia or immediate recovery (i.e. the first few hours after the end of the operation)?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 298 |
| No | 629 |
| Not answered | 16 |
| Not known | 1 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, please specify: 298 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|---|-----|
| Air embolus | 1 |
| Airway obstruction | 3 |
| Anaphylaxis | 1 |
| Arrhythmia | 35 |
| Bradycardia (to or less than 50% of resting) | 27 |
| Bronchospasm | 7 |
| Cardiac arrest (unintended) | 26 |
| Hyperprexia (greater than 40°C or very rapid increase in temperature) | 1 |
| Hypertension (increase of more than 50% resting systolic) | 8 |
| Hypotension (decrease of more than 50% resting systolic) | 162 |
| Hypoxaemia | 48 |
| Misplaced tracheal tube | 1 |
| Pulmonary aspiration | 8 |
| Pulmonary oedema | 17 |
| Respiratory arrest (unintended) | 6 |
| Tachycardia (increase of 50% or more) | 18 |
| Unintentional delayed recovery of consciousness | 12 |
| Ventilatory inadequacy | 34 |
| Other | 15 |
| Not answered | 4 |

65. Was there any mechanical failure of equipment during anaesthesia or recovery?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 9 |
| No | 927 |
| Not answered | 6 |
| Not known | 2 |
| Total | 944 |

66. What were the complications or events after this operation? 944 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|---|-----|
| Ventilatory problems | 346 |
| Cardiac problems | 334 |
| Hepatic failure | 4 |
| Septicaemia | 61 |
| Renal failure | 144 |
| Central nervous system failure | 101 |
| Progress of surgical condition | 47 |
| Electrolyte imbalance | 81 |
| Haematological disorder / coagulopathy / excessive blood loss | 58 |
| Other | 77 |

67. Were inotropes given in the first 48 hours after the operation?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 77 |
| No | 827 |
| Not answered | 40 |
| Total | 944 |

68. Does the hospital in which the operation took place have an acute pain service?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 763 |
| No | 176 |
| Not answered | 5 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, who is on the pain team? 763 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Anaesthetist consultant(s) | 680 |
| Anaesthetist trainee(s) | 347 |
| Specialised pain nurse(s) | 629 |
| Pharmacist(s) | 105 |
| Other | 39 |

If anaesthetic consultant(s) on the team, how many?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Not answered | 69 |
| One | 416 |
| Two | 97 |
| Three | 53 |
| Four | 19 |
| Five | 18 |
| Six | 3 |
| Seven | 1 |
| Eight | 1 |
| Ten | 1 |
| Fourteen | 2 |
| Total | 680 |

b. When is this service available?

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 24 hours a day, seven days a week | 362 |
| Limited times | 368 |
| Not answered | 33 |
| Total | 763 |

69. How many ward nursing staff are specially trained in epidural and / or PCA analgesia?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| None | 63 |
| Some | 725 |
| All | 103 |
| Not answered | 46 |
| Not known | 7 |
| Total | 944 |

70. Did this patient have a pain assessment chart?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 235 |
| No | 651 |
| Not answered | 54 |
| Not known | 4 |
| Total | 944 |

71. Were drugs given in the first 48 hours after operation for pain?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 794 |
| No | 127 |
| Not answered | 18 |
| Not known | 5 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, which drug type? 794 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Opiate / opioid | 680 |
| Local analgesic | 59 |
| Non-steroidal analgesic | 110 |
| Paracetamol | 175 |
| Other | 102 |
| Not answered | 6 |

b. Which method / route? 794 cases, answers may be multiple

| | |
|--|-----|
| Intramuscular injection | 467 |
| Oral | 341 |
| Rectal | 30 |
| Continuous intravenous infusion | 52 |
| PCA (patient-controlled analgesia) | 40 |
| Continuous epidural | 56 |
| PCEA (patient-controlled epidural analgesia) | 1 |
| IV bolus | 57 |
| Other | 26 |
| Not answered | 6 |

72. Did complications occur as a result of these analgesic methods?

| | |
|--|------------|
| Yes | 39 |
| No | 748 |
| Not answered | 4 |
| Not known | 3 |
| Not applicable (i.e. no analgesia given) | 150 |
| Total | 944 |

73. Were other sedative / hypnotic or other drugs given?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 145 |
| No | 744 |
| Not answered | 53 |
| Not known | 2 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, which? *145 cases, answers may be multiple*

| | |
|--|----|
| Propofol | 27 |
| Midazolam | 8 |
| Other benzodiazepine | 39 |
| Major tranquilizers (e.g. phenothiazine, butyrophenones. etc.) | 62 |
| Other | 17 |
| Not answered | 1 |

74. Number of calendar days between operation and death:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Same day | 57 |
| Next day | 83 |
| 2 | 80 |
| 3 | 52 |
| 4 | 49 |
| 5 | 57 |
| 6 | 47 |
| 7 | 32 |
| 8 | 33 |
| 9 | 38 |
| 10 | 38 |
| 11-15 | 146 |
| 16-20 | 98 |
| 21-25 | 79 |
| 26-30 | 55 |
| Total | 944 |

76. Place of death:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Theatre | 12 |
| Recovery area | 16 |
| Intensive care unit | 31 |
| High dependency unit | 15 |
| Coronary care unit | 3 |
| Specialised nursing area | 4 |
| Ward | 804 |
| Home | 11 |
| Another hospital | 26 |
| Other | 13 |
| Not answered | 6 |
| Not known | 3 |
| Total | 944 |

78. Do you have departmental guidelines relating to the care of the elderly?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 51 |
| No | 849 |
| Not answered | 39 |
| Not known | 5 |
| Total | 944 |

79. Do you have morbidity / mortality review meetings in your department?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 876 |
| No | 61 |
| Not answered | 7 |
| Total | 944 |

a. If yes, will this case be, or has it been discussed at your departmental meeting?

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Yes | 193 |
| No | 663 |
| Not answered | 16 |
| Not known | 4 |
| Total | 876 |

80. Has a consultant anaesthetist seen and agreed this questionnaire?

| | |
|--|------------|
| Yes | 436 |
| No | 48 |
| Not applicable (completed by consultant) | 426 |
| Not answered | 34 |
| Total | 944 |