

NCEPOD Acute Sigmoid Volvulus (ASV) Study – Frequently Asked Questions

Which organisations should be participating in the study?

All hospitals in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Jersey, which admit and treat patients with acute sigmoid volvulus.

What is the study period for this study?

1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

What is the patient sample?

Patients aged 18 and over who were admitted to hospital between 1st January 2025 and 31st December 2025 with acute sigmoid volvulus.

How are patients identified for this study?

We will identify a sample of patients who were admitted to hospital with acute sigmoid volvulus. ICD10 and OPCS coding will be used to identify patients.

A maximum of 8 patients will be selected at each hospital to be in the study.

Which columns of the patient identifier spreadsheet should be completed?

We have indicated with '[Key Field]' where the column must be completed for us to proceed with case selection. However, we would appreciate it if all columns for which data is available / accessible could be completed.

Which ICD10 and OPCS Codes are relevant to this study?

Patients will be identified with the ICD10 code K56.2 – sigmoid volvulus.

The following OPCS codes will be used to identify relevant procedures:

H10 Excision of sigmoid colon

H10.2 Sigmoid colectomy and anastomosis of colon to rectum

H10.3 Sigmoid colectomy and anastomosis not elsewhere classified

H10.4 Sigmoid colectomy and ileostomy, however further qualified

H10.5 Sigmoid colectomy and exteriorisation of bowel, NEC*

H15 Other exteriorisation of colon (Secondary codes normally in conjunction with H32)

- H15.1 Loop colostomy
- H15.2 End colostomy
- H15.7 Percutaneous endoscopic sigmoid colostomy
- H15.8 Other specified
- H15.9 Unspecified
- H15.1 Loop colostomy

H17 Intra-abdominal manipulation of colon

- H17.3 Open reduction of volvulus of sigmoid colon
- H17.4 Open reduction of volvulus of colon NEC
- H17.5 Open relief of strangulation of colon
- H17.6 Open relief of obstruction of colon NEC
- H17.8 Other specified
- H17.9 Unspecified

H19 Other open operations on colon

- H19.2 Fixation of colon

H21 Other therapeutic endoscopic operations on colon during colonoscopy

- H21.5 Fiberoptic endoscopic decompression of colon during colonoscopy

H24 Other therapeutic endoscopic operations on lower bowel during flexible sigmoidoscopy

- H24.5 Endoscopic decompression of lower bowel during flexible sigmoidoscopy
Includes: Endoscopic decompression of lower bowel during flexible sigmoidoscopy with or without insertion of flatus tube
- H24.8 Other specified
- H24.9 Unspecified

H25 Diagnostic endoscopic examination of lower bowel during flexible sigmoidoscopy

- H25.1 Diagnostic endoscopic examination of lower bowel and biopsy of lesion of lower bowel during flexible sigmoidoscopy
Includes: Diagnostic endoscopic examination of lower bowel and biopsy of lower bowel during flexible sigmoidoscopy
Endoscopic biopsy of lower bowel during flexible sigmoidoscopy
Diagnostic endoscopic examination of lower bowel and sampling for bacterial overgrowth during flexible sigmoidoscopy
- H25.2 Includes: Sampling for bacterial overgrowth of lower bowel during flexible sigmoidoscopy NEC
- H25.8 Other specified
- H25.9 Unspecified
Includes: Flexible sigmoidoscopy NEC
Fibrosigmoidoscopy NEC

H27 Other therapeutic endoscopic operations on sigmoid colon during rigid sigmoidoscopy

- H27.5 Endoscopic decompression of sigmoid colon during rigid sigmoidoscopy

Includes: Endoscopic decompression of sigmoid colon during rigid sigmoidoscopy with or without insertion of flatus tube

H27.8 Other specified

H27.9 Unspecified

H29 Subtotal excision of colon

H29.5 Subtotal excision of colon and anastomosis of ileum to colon

H29.6 Subtotal excision of colon and ileostomy HFQ

Note: Use a secondary code for creation of mucous fistula (H32.2)

H29.8 Other specified

H29.9 Unspecified

H33 Excision of rectum

H33.5 Open excision of sigmoid colon and closure of rectal stump/

Rectosigmoidectomy and closure of rectal stump and exteriorisation of bowel

Note: Use a secondary code for type of exteriorisation of bowel (G74, H14-H15)

What is the deadline for returning the data collection spreadsheet?

The deadline for returning the data collection spreadsheet is **30/09/2026**. If there are any issues or queries regarding the deadline, please contact the NCEPOD office as soon as possible.

How do I return spreadsheets to NCEPOD?

Please return the completed data collection spreadsheet to ncepod@nhs.net with password protection. You can also share the spreadsheet with NCEPOD@NHS.NET via MS Sharepoint. Please do not include the passwords in an email – instead, call the NCEPOD office on 0207 251 9060 where someone will take the password for you.

What will happen once we have submitted our data collection spreadsheet?

NCEPOD will import the information you have provided into our study database. We will then randomly select up to 8 cases per hospital for in-depth review. For each of these selected cases there will be a corresponding clinician questionnaire uploaded to the online system. We will also request the case notes relating to the patient's admission to be sent to us for peer review.

For any other queries about the study, please contact the NCEPOD office on 0207 251 9060 or by email at asv@ncepod.org.uk.