



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 1044

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Change in institutional protocol reduces mortality of ruptured AAA

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Keywords:

Ruptured AAA
Protocol

Introduction

Ruptured AAA (abdominal aortic aneurysm) is associated with a very high mortality of more than 50%. Queen Elizabeth Hospital is a tertiary referral vascular centre receiving the largest number of patients with ruptured AAA per year. This study is to investigate if the change in institutional protocol reduces mortality.

Objectives

This study is to investigate if the change in institutional protocol reduces mortality.

Methodology

All consecutive patients who had ruptured AAA with operation done between 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2015 were included in the study. Demographic data, risk factors and outcome of the patients were retrieved from computerized medical record system and hospital notes. The primary outcome is the 30-day mortality.

Result

Results: Since the introduction of the ruptured AAA protocol in 1 July 2014 in Queen Elizabeth Hospital, the 30-day mortality was reduced to 13.0% ($p < 0.01$), which was the lowest among all centres in Hong Kong (mean 28%, range 13% to 100%).

Conclusion: The change in institutional protocol of management of patients with ruptured AAA reduces mortality. This is the result of good collaboration between different departments significantly reducing the door-to-operation time.