

## Supporting Table 1 Patient characteristics in Year 9

	Number	Proportion (%)
<b>Total patients analysed</b>	<b>27,863</b>	
<b>Age group</b>		
18–29	1,138	4.1
30–39	1,712	6.1
40–49	2,574	9.2
50–59	4,456	16.0
60–69	5,654	20.3
70–79	7,485	26.9
80–89	4,364	15.7
90+	480	1.7
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	13,604	48.8
Female	14,259	51.2
<b>Ethnicity in England<sup>1</sup></b>		
White	20,853	84.35
Asian	720	2.91
Black	523	2.12
Other	328	1.33
Mixed/Multi Ethnic	161	0.65
Unknown	2,137	8.64
<b>Admitting specialty</b>		
General surgery	22,805	81.8
General medicine	2,379	8.5
Other	847	3
Gastroenterology	711	2.6
Gynaecology (including Gynae-Oncology)	297	1.1
Elderly Care	70	0.3
Missing/Unknown	754	2.7
<b>Emergency laparotomy following elective surgery</b>	<b>1,538</b>	<b>5.5</b>
<b>Preoperative risk score<sup>2</sup></b>		
High-risk (≥5%)	13,368	48.0
Low-risk (<5%)	14,495	52.0

<b>Clinical Frailty Scale (CFS) of 5 or greater (if ≥65 years of age)</b>	<b>5,165</b>	<b>39.7%</b>
<b>Recorded surgical urgency<sup>3</sup></b>		
Immediate (<2 hours)	3,076	11.0
Urgent (2–6 hours)	11,079	39.8
Urgent (6–18 hours)	9,269	33.3
Expedited (>18 hours)	4,430	15.9
<b>Sepsis on arrival<sup>4</sup></b>		
Yes	5,330	20.2
No	19,367	73.6
Missing/Unknown	1,628	6.2
<b>Sepsis at decision to operate<sup>5</sup></b>		
Yes	7,131	25.6
No	19,076	68.5
Missing/Unknown	1,656	5.9
<b>Operation performed (5 most common)</b>		
Adhesiolysis	4,843	17.4
Small bowel resection	4,242	15.2
Colectomy: right	3,780	13.6
Hartmann's procedure	3,437	12.3
Colectomy: subtotal	1,466	5.3
<b>Findings at surgery (5 most common)</b>		
Adhesions	8,118	29.1
Perforation – small bowel/colonic	5,319	19.1
Intestinal ischaemia	3,355	12.0
Abscess	2,794	10.0
Colorectal cancer	2,613	9.4
<b>Surgical approach</b>		
Open	21,593	77.5
Laparoscopic	3,195	11.5
Laparoscopic assisted	457	1.6
Laparoscopic converted to open	2,618	9.4
<b>Stoma formation</b>		
Yes	10,320	37.0
No	17,543	63.0

Direct admission to critical care postoperatively		
All	15,036	54.0
≥5% risk group	10,700	80.3
≥10% risk group	6214	86.3

<sup>1</sup> No data available for Wales. There are 1,019 patients who did not have an associated record in the Hospital Episode Statistics.

<sup>2</sup> High-risk includes those denoted as high-risk on the NELA risk calculator, or by clinical judgement, or when risk has not been documented [4]

<sup>3</sup> Urgency recorded at the time of booking of case (Question 3.22); excludes 9 patients with missing data

<sup>4</sup> Sepsis on arrival is defined as a 'yes' response to Question 2.11a 'Was sepsis, with a National Early Warning Score 2 (NEWS2) ≥5 or ≥3 in any one variable or another diagnosis requiring urgent antibiotics, eg peritonitis/perforation, suspected on admission?'; **excludes elective admissions**

<sup>5</sup> Sepsis at decision to operate is defined as a 'yes' response to Question 2.11b 'Was sepsis with a NEWS2 ≥5 or ≥3 in any one variable and/or another diagnosis requiring urgent antibiotics, eg peritonitis/perforation, suspected at the time the decision for surgery was made?' **Analysis includes both elective and non-elective patients.**