

HELPSTAT



Building **healthier** lives

Pathway For All Surgical Acute Abdominal Admissions

Heart of England 
NHS Foundation Trust

1. Immediate assessment

- Initial ED assessment/triage with MEWS scoring within 15 minutes of arrival
- ED clinician assessment on arrival if in Resus
- Review by Senior Surgical Team member within 30 minutes (if in Resus) to 60 minutes of referral
- Don't forget to consider: Sepsis/AAA/Pancreatitis/Bowel Obstruction/Mesenteric Ischaemia

2. Identify SEPSIS early

Use Trust "Sepsis & Deteriorating Patient Pathway" and administer Sepsis 6 within 1 hour of recognition:

- Oxygen
- Take blood cultures
- Intravenous antibiotics: Guidelines under "A" on Trust Intranet
- IV fluid resuscitation
- Check lactate: if >4 mmol/l consider Critical Care discussion
- Fluid/balance monitoring, consider urinary catheter

3. Rapid diagnosis and surgical plan

- Rapid CT scan - within 2 hours of surgical assessment where urgent
- Verbal report communicated to senior surgical team within 1 hour of scan

4. Risk prediction

Preoperative prediction of risk of death calculated by NELA mobile app or:
<http://www.riskprediction.org.uk/pp-index>

5. Intraoperative standards and theatre provision

- Ensure laparotomy is undertaken in a timely fashion with the following maximum time guidelines:
- Major bleeding or septic shock: within 2 hours
- Actual or impending organ dysfunction within 6 hours
- No organ compromise: within 18 hours
- No SIRS or sepsis: can allow over 18 hours
- Both consultant surgeon and anaesthetist should directly supervise patient care during surgery for all individuals whose predicted risk of death exceeds 10% and both consultants should provide active input into the care of all patients whose predicted risk of death is between 5-10%.

6. Postoperative Critical Care

- Postoperative prediction of risk of death to be calculated upon completion of surgery
- Critical Care admission for all patients with postoperative mortality prediction $\geq 10\%$
- Consider Critical Care if mortality prediction 5-10%