



***EmLap*** in Dudley:  
5 years and still travelling

NENC AHSN ELC Meeting

10<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dr Julian Sonksen

On behalf of the ***EmLap*** Group and NELA departmental leads



# Maintaining momentum in a challenging environment

- Be alert,
- Look out for changes in national policy, new
- Think of the following
  - ‘A source of inspiration’
  - Latch on to
  - Speed of
- Also be ready to
  - Acknowledge
  - Celebrate
  - Refresh



national

*‘we want to go’*



## Evidence for the ELC programme

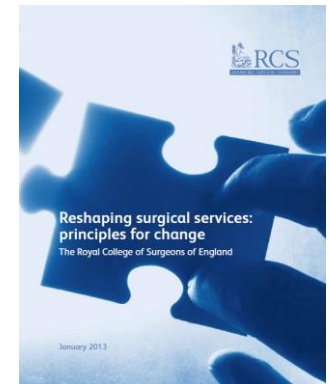
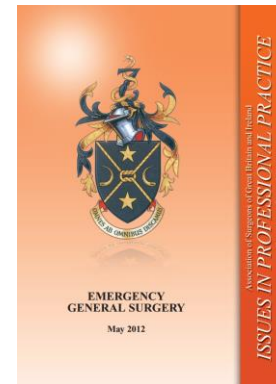
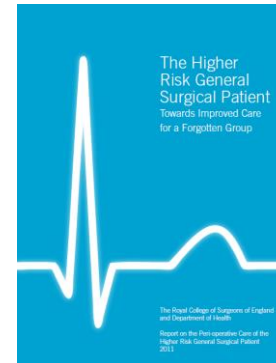
- **‘WHY DON’T MERCEDES BENZ PUBLISH RANDOMIZED TRIALS?’**
  - Timothy O’Brien, Richard Viney\*, Alan Doherty\* and Kay Thomas
  - ***2010 British Journal of Urology International***

*‘The new Mercedes E class has just been released and buyers can be confident that the new version will be better than the old; safer, quicker, more comfortable, more reliable, and technologically more advanced than the previous version. In short, the quality of the product will be better. The consumer, even a urologist, can be confident of this without needing to access The European Journal of Automotive Engineering to read the results of a randomized controlled trial (RCT) of the old version against the new, replete with p-values, CIs and statistical significance’*

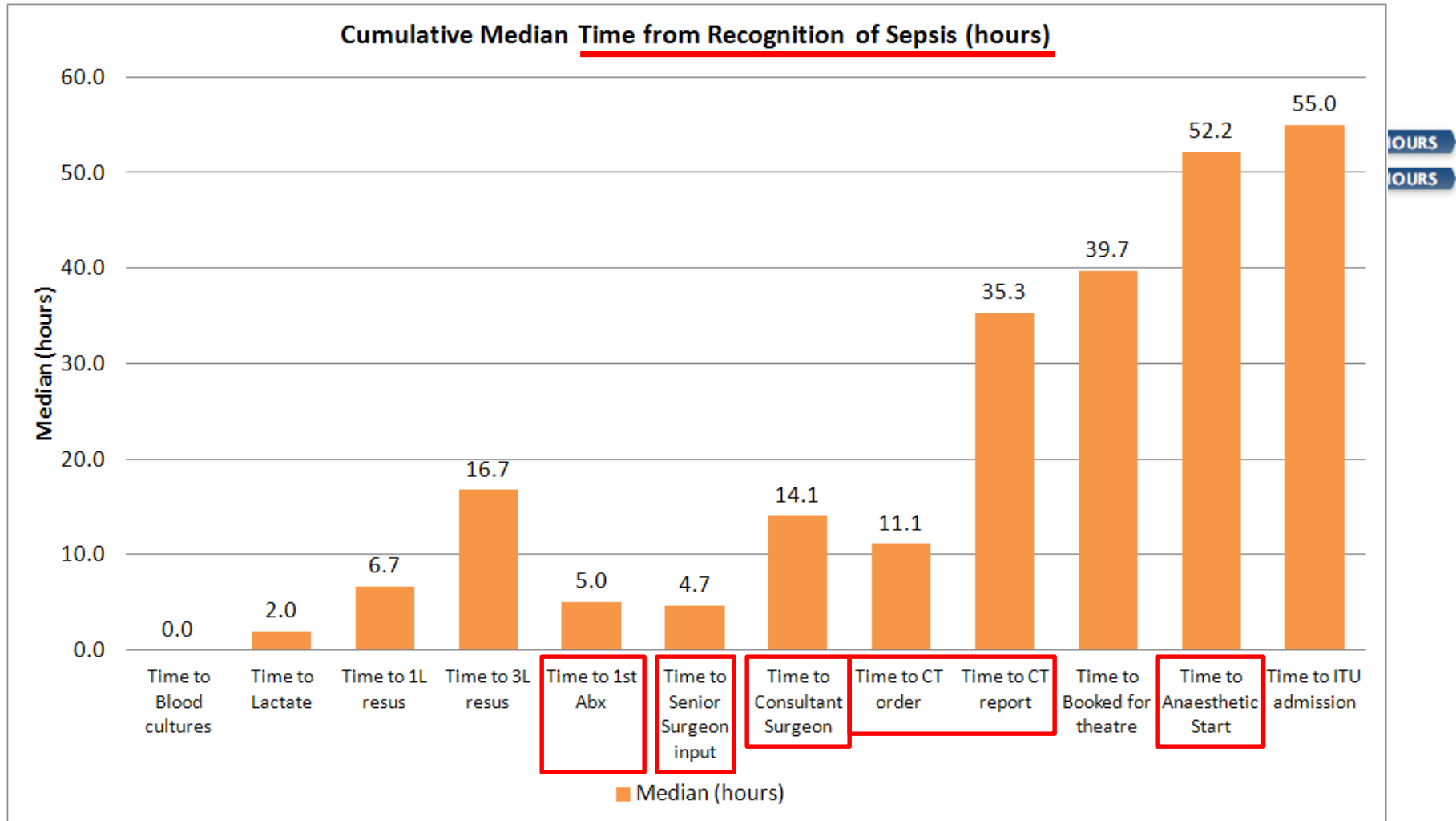


# Nov 2013: Lean Action Days

- Feb 2011
- Nov 2013
- Context at the time
  - National awareness
  - Patient Stories
  - Clinician Concerns, RCA
  - Local Audit



# Patient Stories and Audit



# Outcome 1: This is 'index condition'

- The Acute Abdomen is often a time critical emergency...
  - Should be treated as such
    - Resources
    - Pathways
    - Target treatment times
- Delay...
  - Physiological deterioration
  - Loss of functional reserve and onset multi-organ impairment
  - Increase complications and mortality<sup>1</sup>
  - 'Delay costs lives'

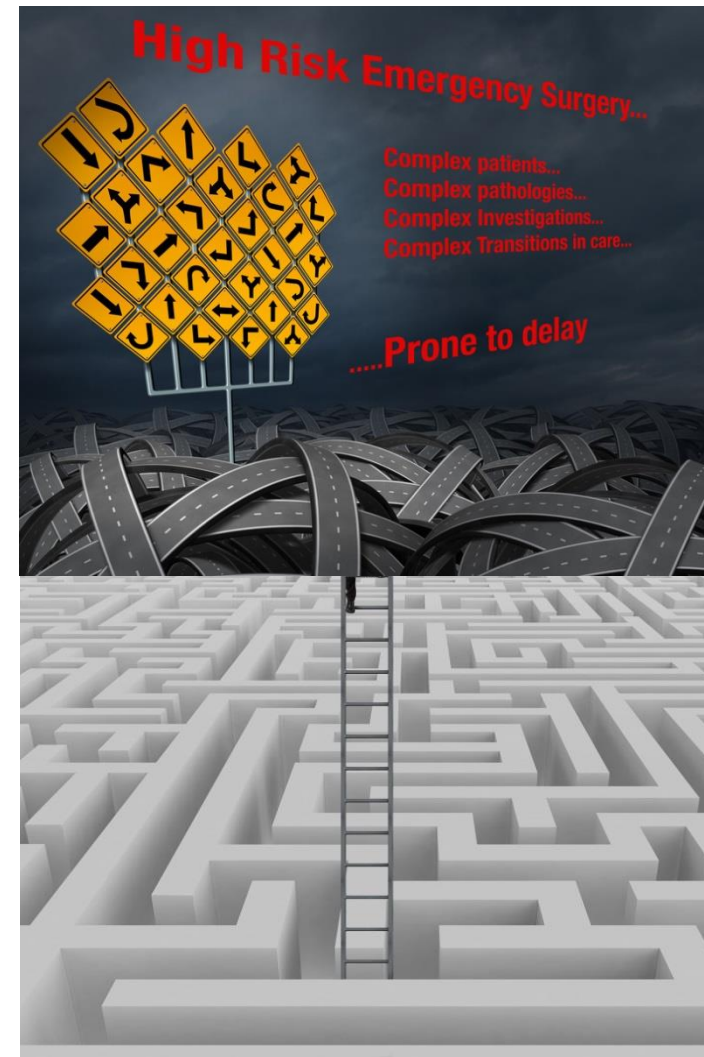


# Outcome 2: understanding our service

- Service usually good
- Change will require a whole systems approach

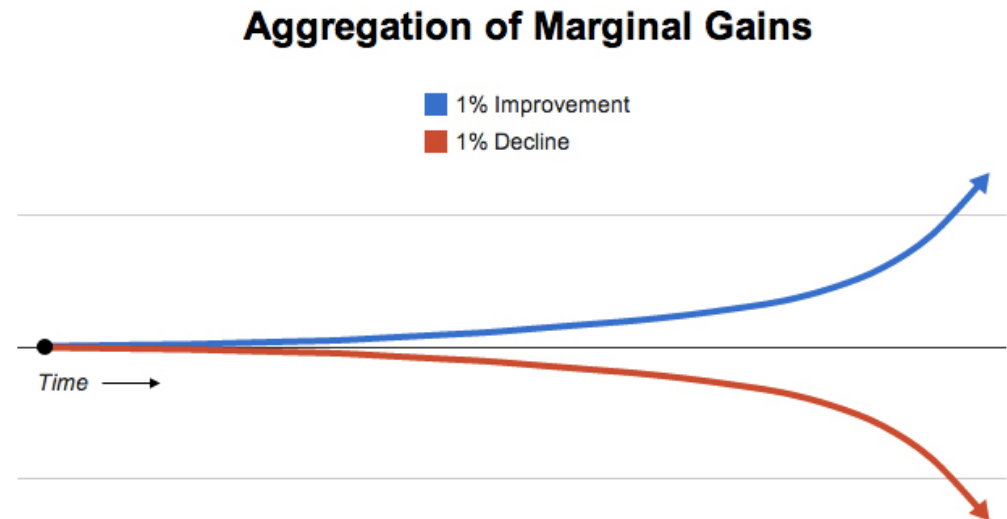
*“As a complex organisation we are bound by invisible fabrics of interrelated actions... since we are part of that lacework ourselves, it is doubly hard to see the whole pattern.*

*Instead we tend to focus on snapshots of isolated parts of the system and wonder why our deepest problems never get solved... The essence of **mastering systems thinking** lies in **seeing patterns where others see only events and forces to react to**”*



# Outcome 3: Change is achievable

- No silver bullets
  - Faith in service and ourselves
  - Realistic change possible..



***“Success is a few simple disciplines, practiced every day; while failure may be tiny errors/omissions, repeated every day.”***

- Urgent care ≠ hurried care...

***“Urgency means paying the details the attention they deserve, with the respect they deserve, without delay.”***



# Outcomes 4: Our way forward

- Local priorities for intervention
  - 1. Access to Senior Review
  - 2. Access to CT scanning
  - 3. Access to theatre
    - Make these things easier for staff to achieve, and more reliable... for patients to receive
  - 4. Awareness, status and priority of patients with acute abdomen
- Name... *EmLap*
- Team...



# Burning Ambition: *EmLap* Team



Jenny Wright	NELA lead
Peter Waterland	Surgical SpR
Peter Doyle	ED Consultant
Lynn Badger	ED Sister
Daniel Peters	GM
Liz Brookes	SAU
Stephen Garratt	Em Surgery Coordinator

Tim Usher	Senior Radiographer
Louisa Adams	Theatres
Tina Sheldon	Switchboard Manager
Paul Bytheway	Executive lead
Jane Taylor	Medical Illustration
Chris McAvoy	Data Analyst
Kustav Mukerjee	Data Analyst



# The next 15 months!

- How to achieve local priorities
  - Escalation/priority processes
- How would we know if they were happening or not?
- How could we ensure ‘priority processes’ not abused?
- How will we feedback progress to staff?
- Write the paper pathway!
- Pilot

# Process redesign

- **1. Early Senior Review** : **2222 EmLap referral**
- **2. Prompt CT scanning** : **CTabdoEmLap**
- **3. Prioritised theatre booking** : **EmLap priority Th booking**

- Set standards...
- Negotiate escalation policies
- Audit progress...

- Embed 'e-tags'
- KPI's
  - DtT time
  - CT times
  - NELA/EPOCH (later)

**EmLap**

**Start the clock**

**Emergency Surgery**

**First Hour Care Checklist**

Phone switchboard 2222 and ask to put out fast bleep to surgical registrar bleep 7954 for 'EmLap referral'. You will need to give your extension number, location and patient identifier.

**Request for CT Abdomen EmLap**

**EmLap** TARGET - CT Scan completed within 2 hours of referral. Report available within 1 hour of scan

The MRCS or Consultant Surgeon must discuss the case directly with a Consultant Radiologist

Monday to Friday 09:00 - 17:00

1. Contact the CT Team Leader on extension 2943 and notify them that a CT EmLap request is being made.
2. Ask the CT Team Leader to put you through to the Radiologist supervising the list.
3. Inform the Radiologist that you are making a CT EmLap request, discuss the potential diagnosis and agree the scan required (ensure you obtain their name to complete the request form).

**Out of hours and weekends**

1. Contact the On-Call Consultant Radiologist via switchboard to discuss the case.
2. The Radiologist will make contact with the on-site radiographer to authorise the investigation.

**New emergency booking**

1.1 Unit number

4. Risks & requirements

4.1 Old notes available

4.2 ITU/HDU booked

4.3 CPD

4.4 Fasted from

4.5 Weight/BMI

4.6 Anticoagulant

7. Emergency laparotomy

# Language of EmLap

- These are a complex patient group
  - Urgent need for senior surgical opinion at the bed-side
- Time critical emergency...
- Early intervention saves lives





**Acute Abdomen?**

**Time-critical emergency**

**Requires urgent senior surgical review**

**2222 EmLap**





# Language of EmLap

# EmLap

# EmLap

The Dudley Group NHS  
NHS Foundation Trust


**High Risk Emergency Laparotomy Pathway**

**Acute abdominal pain?**  
**High risk features?**  
**Think EmLap**

**Start the clock**

- Start the pathway immediately
- Call 2222 and request an 'EmLap referral' fast bleep to surgical registrar
- Have your extension number, location and patient name ready

**Time is critical**



Patients with acute abdominal pain and high risk features may need an emergency laparotomy

Find the pathway document on the Hub under Documents/Clinical Forms **EmLap**

Surgery, Urology and Vascular Specialists January 2015

**Think EmLap**  
'Timely, detailed care'

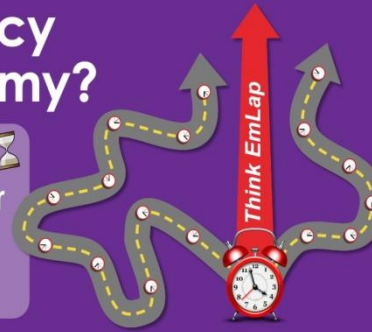
**epoch**  
better care for surgical patients

**epoch**  
better care for surgical patients  
Enhanced Peri-Operative Care for High-risk patients

**Emergency Laparotomy?**

**Time matters** ⌚  
**Details matter**

- Pre-op bundle ✓
- Intra-op bundle ✓
- Post-op bundle ✓



Enhanced Peri-Operative Care for High-risk patients

**EPOCH live @ The Dudley Group**  
July, August and September 2015

**Emergency Laparotomy?**

**Time matters** ⌚  
**Details matter**

- Pre-op bundle ✓
- Intra-op bundle ✓
- Post-op bundle ✓

**Think EmLap**  
'Timely, detailed care'



**'Door to theatre time'**



**'Think EmLap'**  
**'Timely detailed care'**

# Launch: Feb 2015

- Go Big
  - Ward to Board
  - Comms
  - Events
  - Depart meetings
  - EPOCH..

- Feedback..

**Subject:** EmLap Report Nov 2015

Enhanced Patient Operative Care for High-risk patients

Dear All,

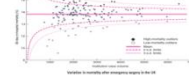
Apologies for the delay between this and the last EmLap report update. We were keen to wait for data in the NELA (National Emergency Laparotomy Audit) database to be updated with clinical cases so we could look at the impact of the 12 week path activation period. We are very grateful to all the surgeons and anaesthetists who have meticulously entered data at the time of surgery and for Dr James Wright (Trust NELA Lead) and her team for clearing up and completing data entry.

Some new surgical registries opened the Trust during October, and it seems timely to acknowledge the pivotal role they, their colleagues and professional play in the pathway to ensure timely and detailed care for these high-risk patients.

Mr Patel and Dr McKee have also presented to the Great Board and at the Medical Governance and Audit meetings to highlight the pathway and the impact it is having on outcomes, and we have therefore included colleagues from Medicine in the update. Indeed for every one of you we'd be the first to report you have been seen in. Likewise we would have had everybody in aware of the EmLap pathway as well as when and how to activate it. An electronic copy of the pathway is attached, but paper copies should be available in all clinical areas. Further copies can be obtained by contacting Anne Biles in the surgical clinical office (date 2007) or via email [anne.biles@nhs.uk](mailto:anne.biles@nhs.uk)

As a reminder to everybody the EmLap pathway is a locally agreed clinical pathway designed to reduce the variation in care across sites and across hospitals in the UK, to improve safety and standardise care. That can occur as these complex and often critical 12 patients come through through decision making processes and across different specialties. The urgent team is at the heart of this, but without the commitment of medical and nursing colleagues from many disciplines (including ID, Pharmacy, Medicine, Radiology, Anaesthetics and Critical care) between or delays to care can do arise.

The chart below is taken from an article in the BMJ highlighting not only the high mortality associated with emergency surgical procedures, but also the wide variation in practice.



We are all familiar with the national pathways in place to guide management of patients with other time critical pathologies, such as acute MI and stroke/cerebral aneurysm.



These medical pathways are in place to ensure every Trust and contribute to reducing mortality from these conditions, and are very influential in ensuring consistency of care, irrespective of where or when a patient presents to hospital. Other works also published in BMJ demonstrate how focused emergency laparotomy pathways can reduce mortality in a similar way. These surgical gains across the south of England achieved a reduction in mortality from a pre intervention rate of over 15% to under 10% following the adoption of this sort of pathway.

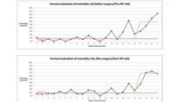


**How are we doing in Dudley?**

We launched the EmLap pathway in January 2015. In July 2015 our Trust (along with 6 other West Midlands Trusts) took part in a Quality Improvement program for the EPOCH trial (Enhanced Outcomes for High-risk patients) to refine the pathway and make the elements within it routine and universally applied. NELA has collected data from January 2015, and we are able to produce EPOCH data from the database to compare across how outcomes at the pathway have been achieved. We are grateful to Dr. Adam Jennings (Nephrologist for EmLap) for producing these.

The launch of EmLap pathway occurred on about month 13 to the north and the EPOCH activation process occurred on about month 19. The red line in the chart represents the median for the EPOCH baseline and the green line the Dudley group EPOCH baseline.

It is very clear from the graph below the progress we have made.

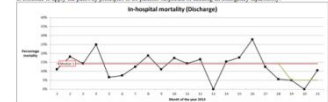


The numbers above are impressive, and it is highly likely that for time critical pathology the 'time to theatre' is the process element which most directly influences survival. The process measures for patients with time critical pathology: the sooner the operative time for the systems response to the demand to progress and the more 'normal' their physiological conditions will be, allowing the procedure and recovery to be carried out as planned. Once the patient has progressed significantly the greater the systemic illness and the less physiological reserve the patient will have. When the disease and systemic effects are advanced, either surgery will be performed, and care has to be focused on palliation. Sometimes patients present to hospital only at the advanced stage however in many instances they present earlier and for these patients there is a better chance of survival. However not all emergency patients have pathology that is time critical to the same extent. These points highlight the complexity of emergency surgical care and re-emphasise the absolute importance of rapid response systems being implemented and the impact of such systems to respond. A pathway can only extend the reach on time consistently and in a timely manner. Whatever the size of the Trust the help across the sector surgical team have the information they need, available in time to help decide on management. Thus the pathway can help ensure each time a patient presents to the surgical services of Dudley Group NELA with an activation demand and a decision is made to operate the patient will have an normal physiology as possible and the best chance of a good recovery. The pathway can also provide the surgical colleagues with either their own evidence that information they need will be comprehensive and available in a timely manner (as being 'closed' cultures have done), antibiotic given, Fluids given, a GABAA antagonist have been booked, performed and reported, a formal risk assessment undertaken, Cause checked? etc.

So how does the pathway influence clinical outcomes?

This is a question we are asked frequently. We have avoided looking at this because the numbers for any one Trust are low and it will take a large case study (the EPOCH) and annual aggregated reports from NELA to help answer these questions. Nonetheless we have access to the speech tool chart for mortality for our Trust, which is copied below. This shows a median

mortality from Jan 2014 to 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015 of just under 15%, following our speech activation the current median is less than 10%, of course 1 or 2 months of higher mortality could change this rapidly, but at the very least it provides encouragement to continue to apply the pathway principles to all patients regardless of heading or emergency laparotomy.



The EmLap group would like to welcome our new trustee members: Mr Peter Wainwright (General Surgeon) and Dr Paul Lead (Clinical Research Fellow) and Chris Foster (Anaesthetist/ICU), who have taken over from Mr. Ian Long (Surgery) and Dr. Kate Cooke (Anaesthetics).

We would also like to thank all colleagues across many departments who continue to support the pathway and care for the high risk group of patients. The support of our colleagues in radiology has been crucial during the development and introduction of this pathway and the sites for CT scanning for pathway patients are truly remarkable. We will report these in a later report.

If any department would like a more detailed presentation to themselves, please contact either Mr Raj Patel (Surgical Lead EmLap), Dr Adam Jennings (Anaesthetics Lead EmLap) or Dr James Wright (EPOCH Lead and EmLap Coordinator).

- Please forward to other colleagues in your departments
- Best wishes
- The EmLap/EPOCH team
- Mr Raj Patel
  - Dr Adam Jennings
  - Dr David Stanley
  - Dr James Wright
  - Dr Julian Sedham
  - Mr Stephen Knight
  - Dr Julie Cook
  - Mr Dave Povey
  - Simon G. Bennett
  - Sister Lynn Badger
  - Sister Louise Adams

# EmLap post launch time-line

- 2015 Feb: Launch Event  
*EmLap* added to Th DB
- 2015 July: EPOCH Launch
- 2015–present: NELA/*EmLap* Analyst support
- 2015 Oct: Medicine Governance meeting  
Hospital Grand Round
- 2015 12: Th DB alert Th 4 staff of booking
- 2016-present: FY 1 and FY 2 teaching **annual**
- 2016 April: HSJ Value award 'Highly commended'
- 2016-present: Quarterly NELA newsletter



# Awareness / Feedback Work

**EmLap/NELA Checklist**  
Watch out for the new checklist which has recently been launched in Theatre 4 and will be used by the Lead Theatre Practitioners to prompt people when dealing with these patients.

**NELA Risk Calculator**  
NELA have produced a new risk assessment tool based on audited data which should provide a more accurate assessment compared to existing tools.  
The tool is available on the website and as an 'app'.

**Trainee Prize!**  
For the most cases initiated in a month:  
• September 2017 – Dr Kapil Saviani.  
• October 2017 - No winner due to minimal patients  
• November 2017 – Watch this space...

**New Trainee Leads**  
New NELA trainee leads are:  
Dr Nadim Kozman. (Anaesthetics)  
Dr Nusrat Iqbal (Surgery)

**The HOT Topic**  
**The Third Patient Report**  
The Third Patient Report has now been published including data collected from December 2015 – November 2016.  
More info at the joint anaesthetic/surgical audit meeting in January 2018!

**Nationally**  
• 30 day mortality rate has fallen from 11.8 to 10.6 since 2013  
• That represents around **300 lives saved each year.**

**IN OTHER NEWS**  
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**And the Winner is**

**EmLap/NELA Newsletter**  
Russells Hall Hospital NELA Newsletter  
November Edition

# EmLap post launch time-line

Theatres

The Dudley Group **NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Database

[Home](#) ▶ [Emergency bookings](#) ▶ [View booking](#) ▶ Confirmation

Logged in as: dgh\ajen00

Emergency booking confirmation

This patient should be on the **EmLap** pathway. The P-POSSUM calculated mortality risk is:

14.8%

The patient requires the following management:

Blood cultures taken; Give first dose of tazocin 4.5g and metronidazole 500mg.

**If Penicillin allergic:** vancomycin, ciprofloxacin 400mg IV, metronidazole 500mg IV.

Check serum lactate.

Notify the **Consultant** Surgeon that they should be present during surgery as they are high risk.

Notify the junior anaesthetist that the **Consultant** Anaesthetist should be present during surgery.

Book a SHDU bed (x2620).

Ensure all other preoperative tests are ready (G&S, ECG, bloods, consent, etc.).

Discuss this risk score with the patient.

I have read and acknowledge these instructions

# Awareness / Feedback Work

EmLap MRCS Review		The Dudley Group	
Date	:	Time 2222 EmLap call	:
To occur within 30 minutes of EmLap 2222 trigger call			
Blood cultures taken; Give first dose of tazodin 4.5g and metronidazole 500mg if Penicillin allergic; vancomycin (see guidelines) ciprofloxacin 400mg IV, metronidazole 500mg IV.	Yes		
	No		
Serum lactate result		mmol/L	
Calculate estimated P-POSSUM score ( <a href="http://www.riskprediction.org.uk">http://www.riskprediction.org.uk</a> )	Mortality	%	
Responsible Consultant Surgeon informed		Time	
Name:		:	
Outcome		Choose one	
Immediate laparotomy (target <1 hour)	→ Book theatre		
CT abdo EmLap	→ Book CT abdo EmLap		
Stand-down/Suspend	→ Consider regular Abx		
MRCS Stamp (or GMC Number)		Time MRCS review completed	
		:	

CT GUIDE: Book 'CT abdo EmLap' on Soarian.  
Verbally alert Radiologist/radiographer (10 pm - 8 am via off-site provider).  
Target - CT scan within 2 hours, report within 1 hour.

V1.0 EmLap 2.0 sticker Jan 2017. Review date: Oct 2019.

The E

The EmLap path  
identification of  
bring senior sur  
surgical team to  
fa



Alternatively they may decide there is not an acute surgical problem (at least at that time) and deescalate the patient from the pathway; in which case the patient may remain under the referring team's care. *Even if this is the case, it is possible that the patient will transpire to have a surgical problem, or even subsequently clearly develop one. If you suspect this has happened you should reactivate the pathway by dialing 2222 and requesting an 'EmLap bleep' to the surgical registrar.*

There are agreed processes for the surgical and anaesthetic teams to book ultra-urgent CT scans, gain access to emergency theatres and post-operative critical care beds. The surgical team will coordinate these.

#### References

S. Huddart, C.J. Peden, M. Swart, B. McCormick, M. Dickinson, M. A. Mohammed et al. Use of a pathway quality improvement care bundle to reduce mortality after emergency laparotomy. *BJS* 2015; 102: 57-66.

The Second Patient Report of the National Emergency Laparotomy Audit (NELA): <http://www.nela.org.uk/reports>

*If you have any queries regarding the Em-Lap pathway please contact anyone of:*

Mr R Patel; Consultant Colorectal Surgeon

Dr A Jenning; Consultant Anaesthetist

Dr J Sonksen; Consultant: Anaesthesia and ICM, or

Ms Charlie Heaton; Directorate Support Manager Surgery, Urology & Vascular

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The Dudley Group  
NHS Foundation Trust



## WHO sign out: *EmLap*

### WHO Surgical Safety Checklist

(adapted for England and Wales)

NHS  
National Patient Safety Agency  
National Reporting and Learning Service

**SIGN IN** (To be read out loud)  
Before induction of anaesthesia

Has the patient confirmed his/her identity, site, procedure and consent?  
 Yes

Is the surgical site marked?  
 Yes/not applicable

Is the anaesthesia machine and medication check complete?  
 Yes

Does the patient have a:  
Known allergy?  
 No  
 Yes

Difficult airway/aspiration risk?  
 No  
 Yes, and equipment/assistance available

Risk of >500ml blood loss (7ml/kg in children)?  
 No  
 Yes, and adequate IV access/fluids planned

**PATIENT DETAILS**

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
NHS Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Procedure: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If the NHS Number is not immediately available, a temporary number should be used until it is.

**TIME OUT** (To be read out loud)  
Before for exam

Have all  
 Yes

Surgeon verbally  
 Wh:  
 Wh:

Anticipate Surgeon  
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 Are wan

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Nurse/O  
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• Gl

Has VTE  
 Yes/  
 No

Is essen  
 Yes/  
 No

**SIGN OUT** (To be read out loud)

**EmLap Sign out - before any member of the team leaves the operating room**

**Registered practitioner verbally confirms with the team:**

- Has estimated blood loss been calculated?
- What was the degree of peritoneal soiling?  
(None / serous fluid / localised pus or blood)
- Has the end of surgery lactate been checked?
- Has an end of surgery P-POSSUM been calculated?
- Is team aware of patient's mortality risk?

# EmLap post launch time-line

- 2018 7: COTE service starts
- 2019 2: Auto-email. FLO-ELA and COTE
- 2019 3: Replaced P-POSSUM with NELA scoring
- 2019 5: *EmLap-CT* times updated



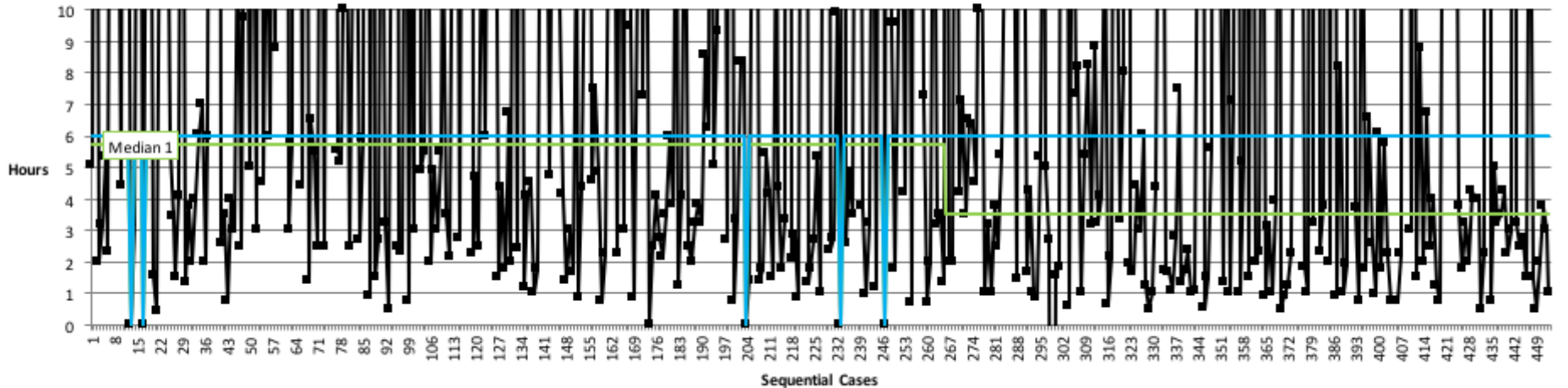
# Measuring and auditing change

- Internally collected data
  - E-tags
  - Switchboard
  - EPR
  - Th DB (bespoke)
- NELA
  - EPOCH
  - NELA reports / Dashboard
  - ELC Run Chart Tool

## Yr 1 *EmLap* KPI's.... Timeliness



Surgery within 6 hours of decision to operate (Time to OT)



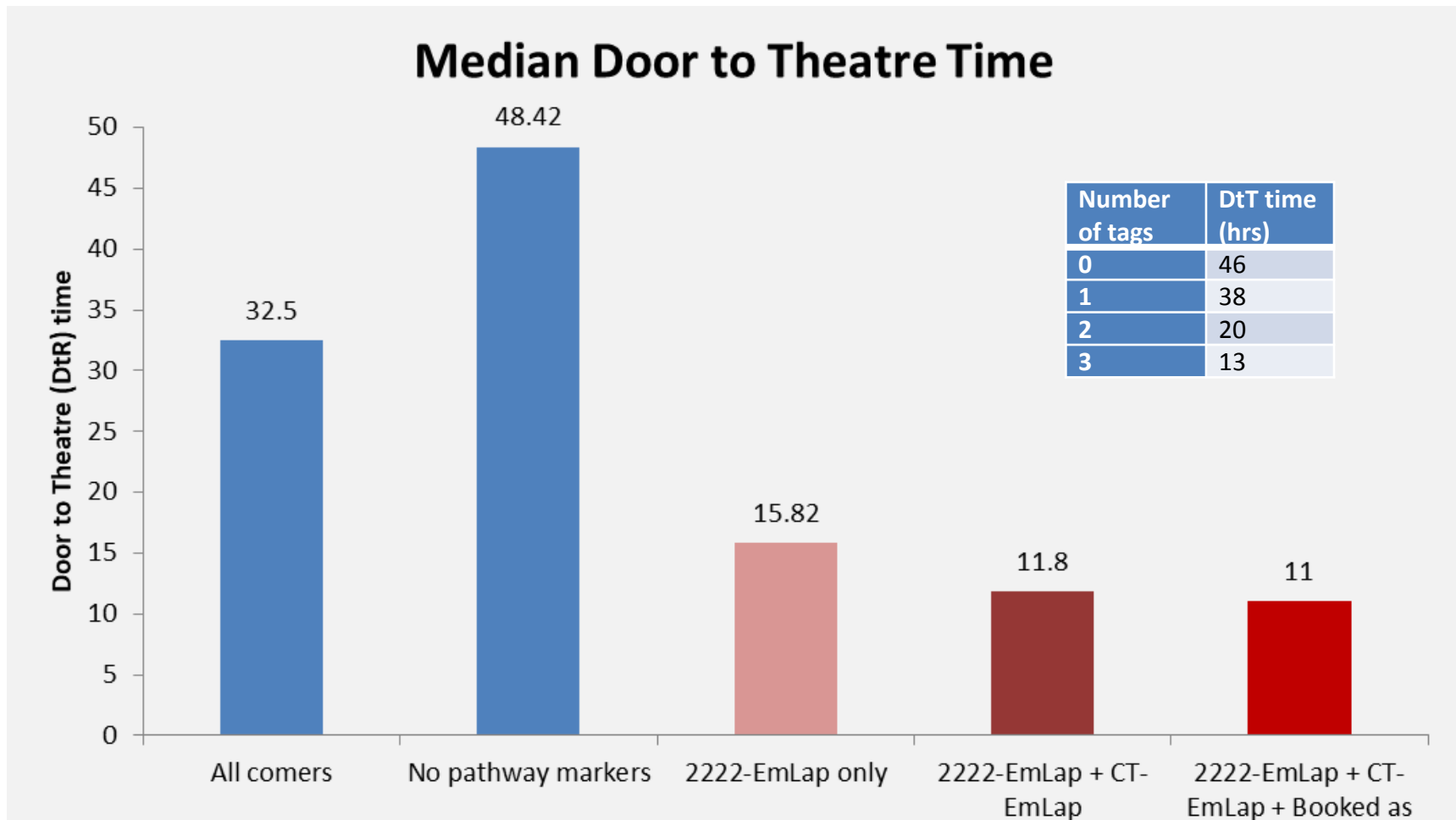
Door to the theatre and time report and times pathway

## Update audit of 'door to theatre' time

- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 733 cases on our DB and NELA
- 716 cases with 'Arrive ED and 'Start anaesthetic'
- Compare (5 cohorts)
  - 'All comers' (716 cases)
  - No e-tags = no evidence ever on pathway (285 cases)
  - 2222-EmLap e-tag (154 cases)
  - 2222-EmLap + CT-EmLap (81 cases)
  - 2222-EmLap + CT-EmLap + EmLap Th Booking (64 cases)

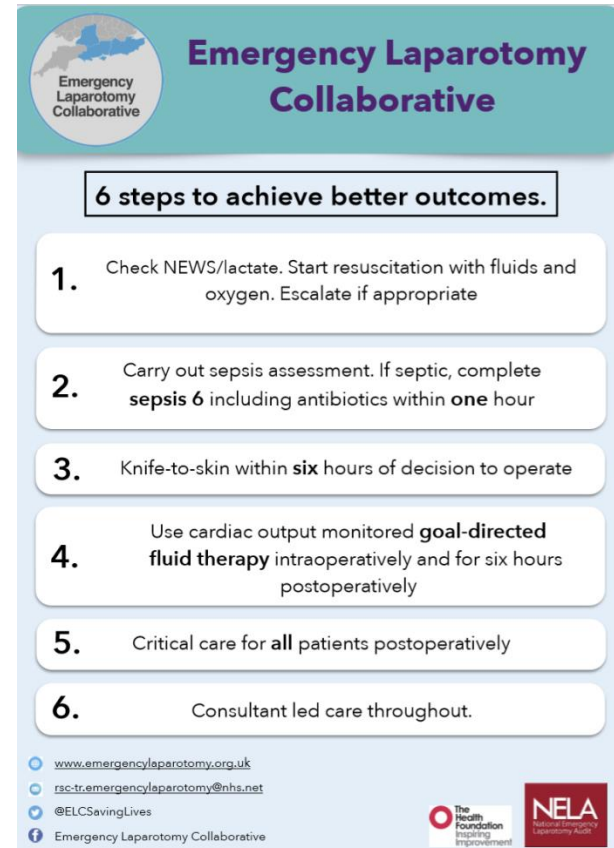


## 'Door to Theatre time'



## ELC process measures: the 6 Step Pathway

- Time epochs
  - $T_0$  = Start NELA (EmLap run in (Dec 2013)
  - $T_1$  = EmLap Launch (Feb 2015)
  - $T_2$  = 2 years of 'embedding' (Feb 2017)



**Emergency Laparotomy Collaborative**

6 steps to achieve better outcomes.

1. Check NEWS/lactate. Start resuscitation with fluids and oxygen. Escalate if appropriate
2. Carry out sepsis assessment. If septic, complete **sepsis 6** including antibiotics within **one hour**
3. Knife-to-skin within **six hours** of decision to operate
4. Use cardiac output monitored **goal-directed fluid therapy** intraoperatively and for six hours postoperatively
5. Critical care for **all** patients postoperatively
6. Consultant led care throughout.

[www.emergencylaparotomy.org.uk](http://www.emergencylaparotomy.org.uk)  
[rs-c-tr.emergencylaparotomy@nhs.net](mailto:rs-c-tr.emergencylaparotomy@nhs.net)  
@ELCSavingLives  
Emergency Laparotomy Collaborative

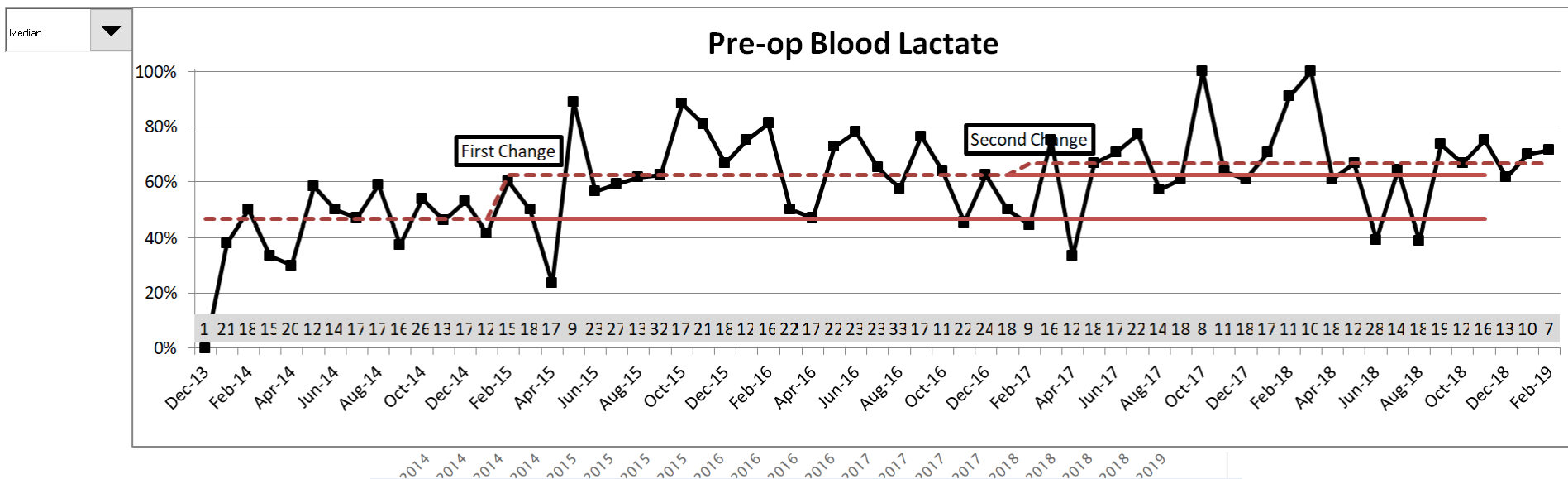
The Health Foundation Inspiring Improvement  
NELA National Emergency Laparotomy Audit

# ELC-1: Check lactate / document risk

## Documentation of risk

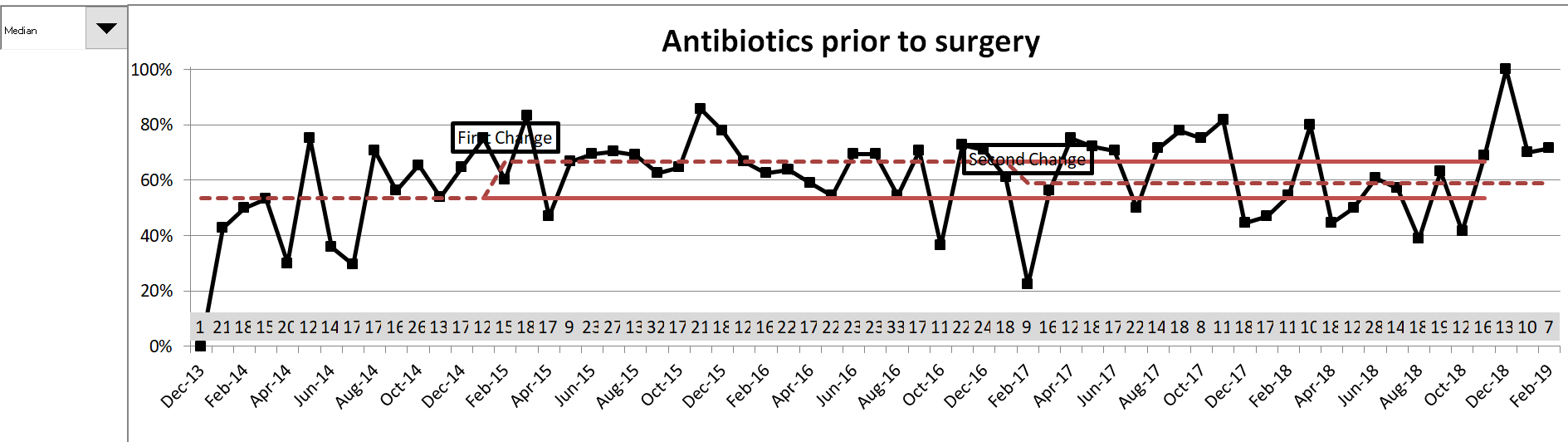
Click and drag in the plot area to zoom in  
Click on legend items to hide/show data

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1. Check NEWS/lactate. Start resuscitation with fluids and oxygen. Escalate if appropriate

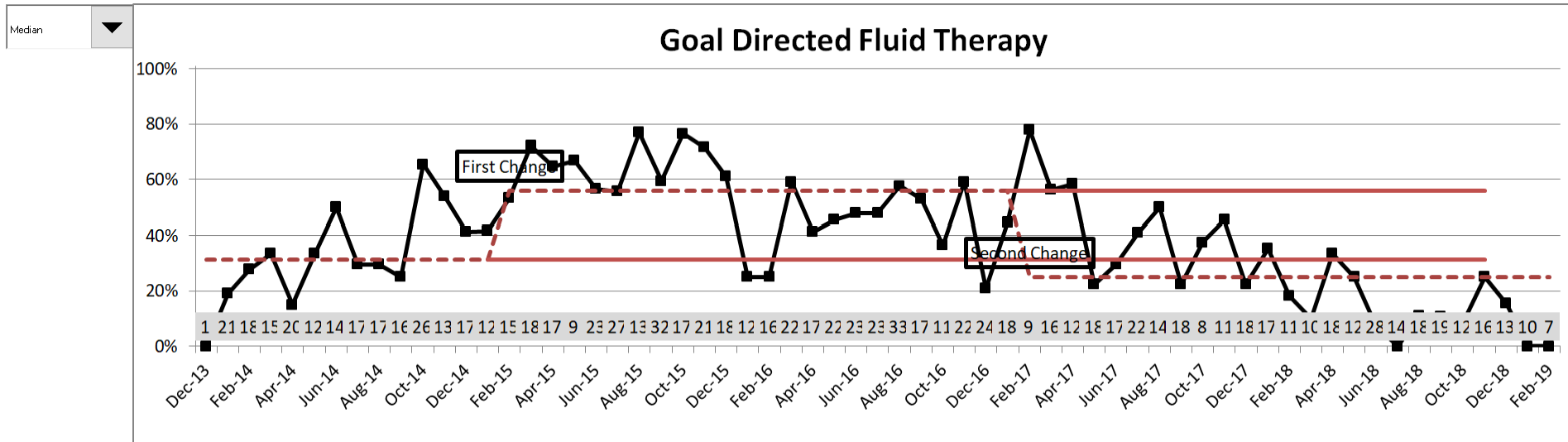
## ELC-2: Sepsis / antibiotics pre-op



2.

Carry out sepsis assessment. If septic, complete sepsis 6 including antibiotics within one hour

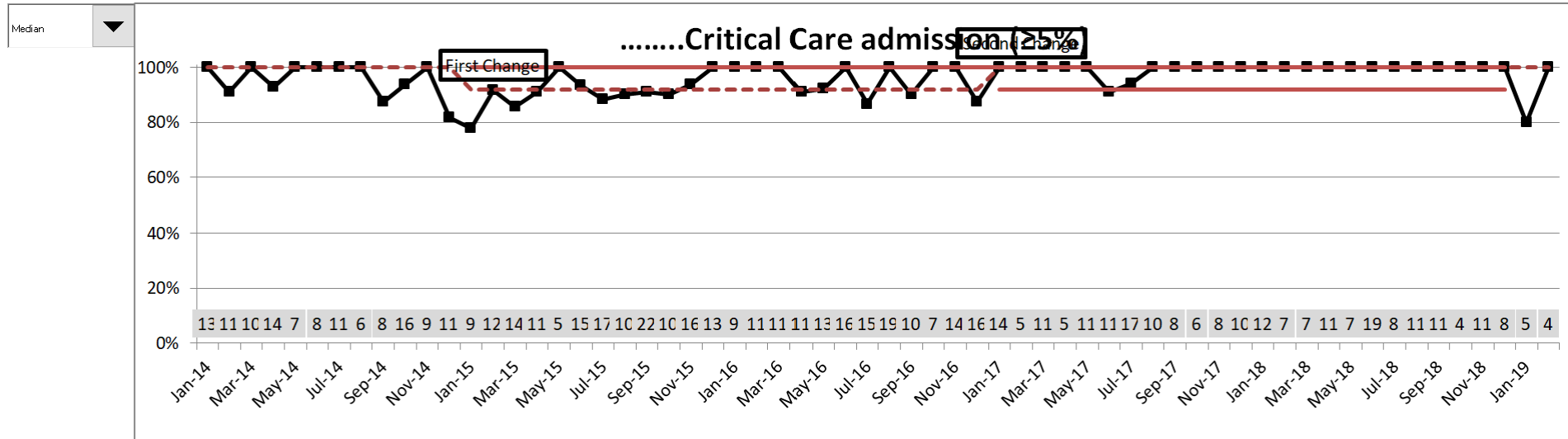
## Use of LiDCO: FLO-ELA



4. Use cardiac output monitored **goal-directed fluid therapy** intraoperatively and for six hours postoperatively



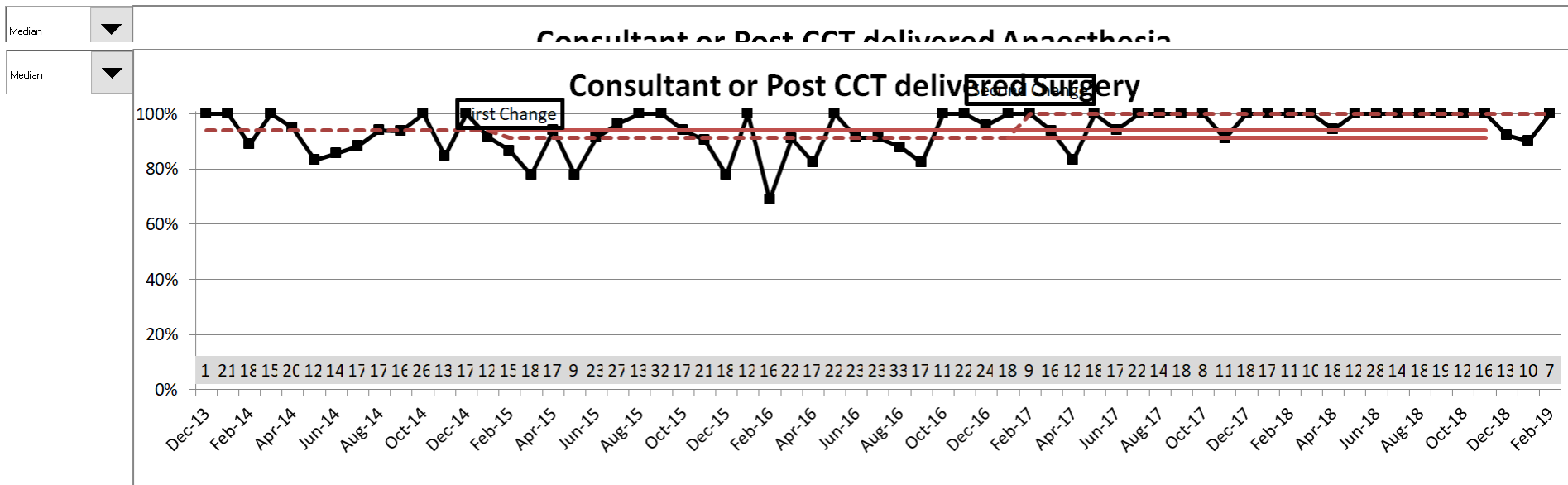
## ELC-5: Post-op Critical Care



**5.** Critical care for all patients postoperatively



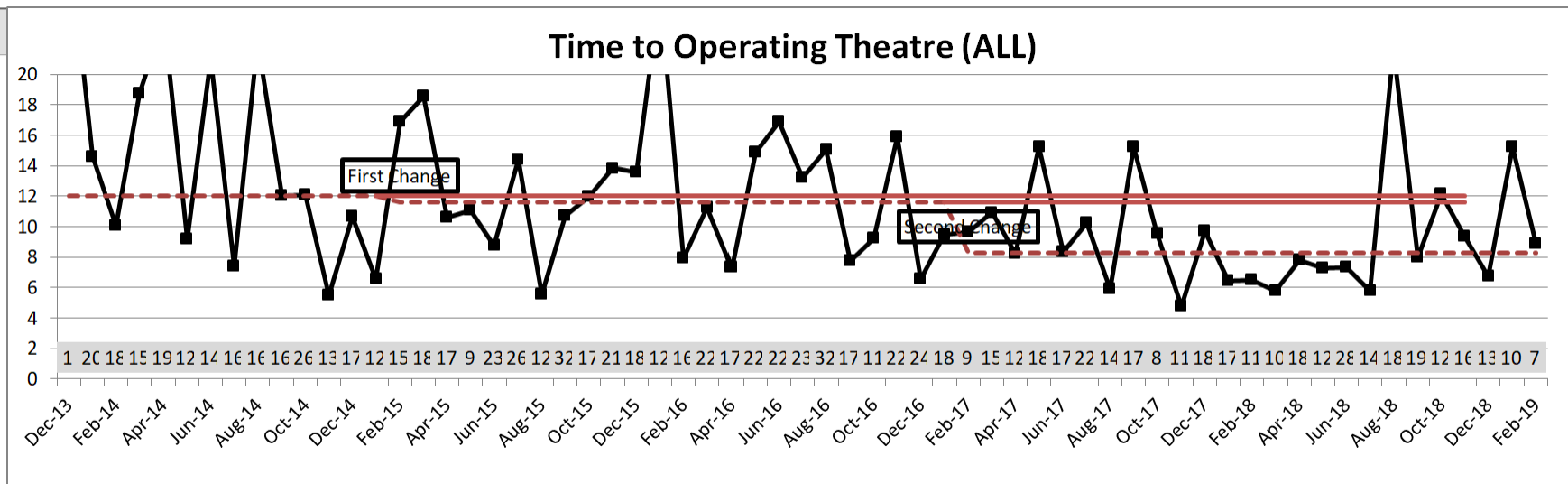
## ELC-6: Consultant led care



**6.** Consultant led care throughout.



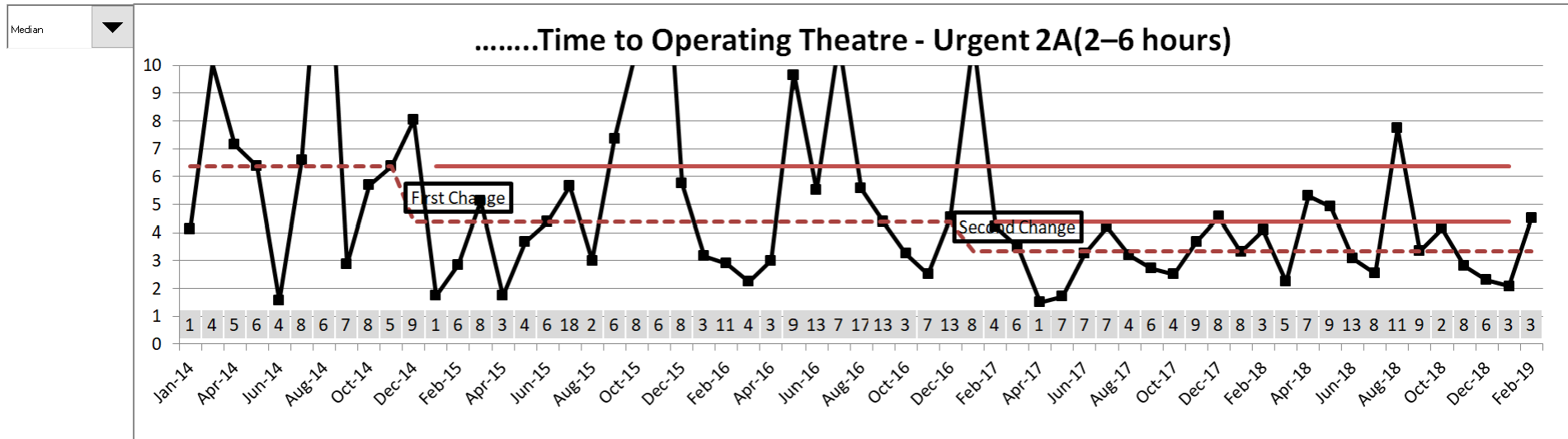
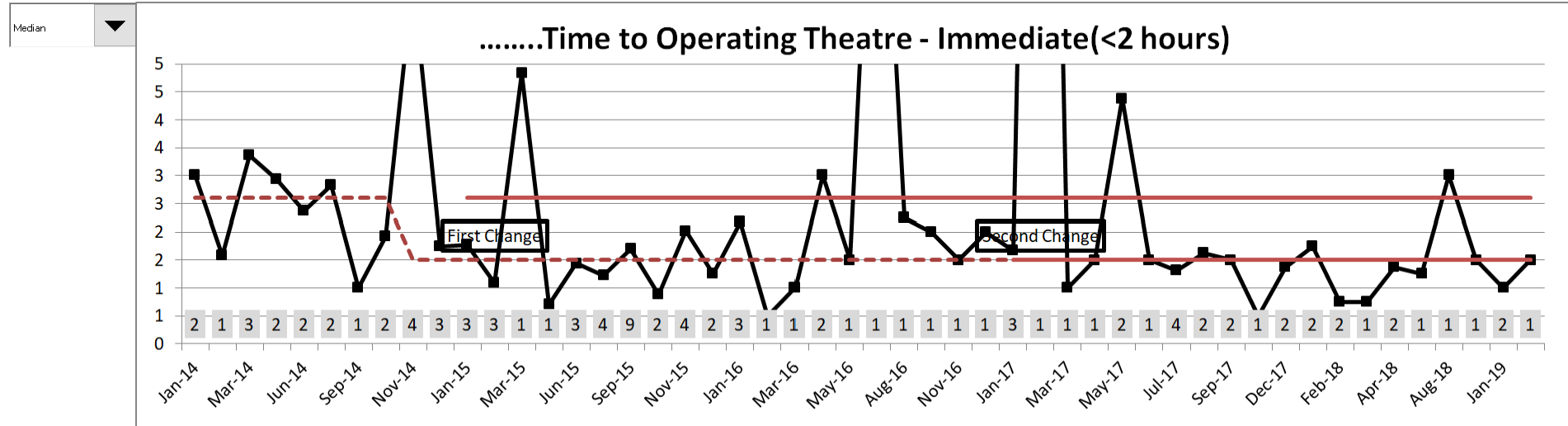
## Time to Theatre (All): *Decision to operate*



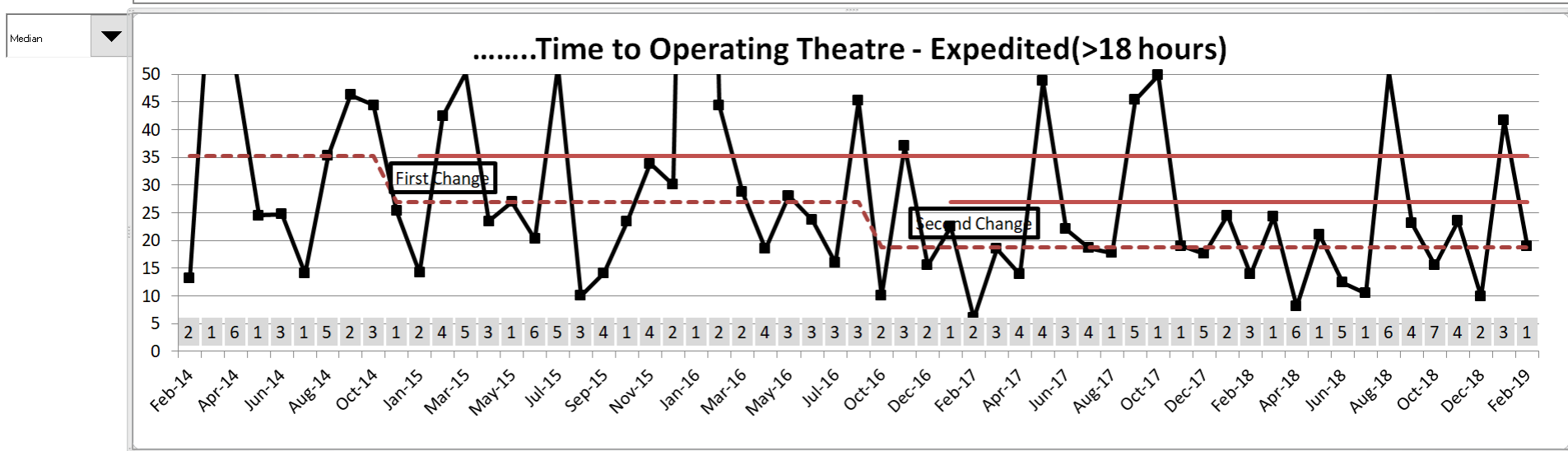
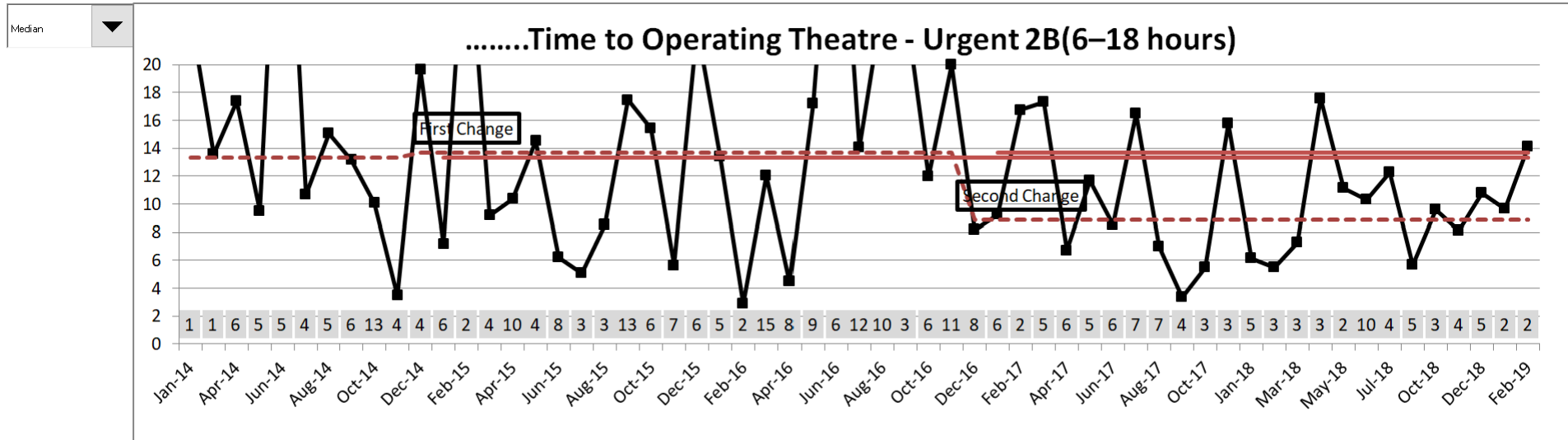
**3.** Knife-to-skin within **six** hours of decision to operate



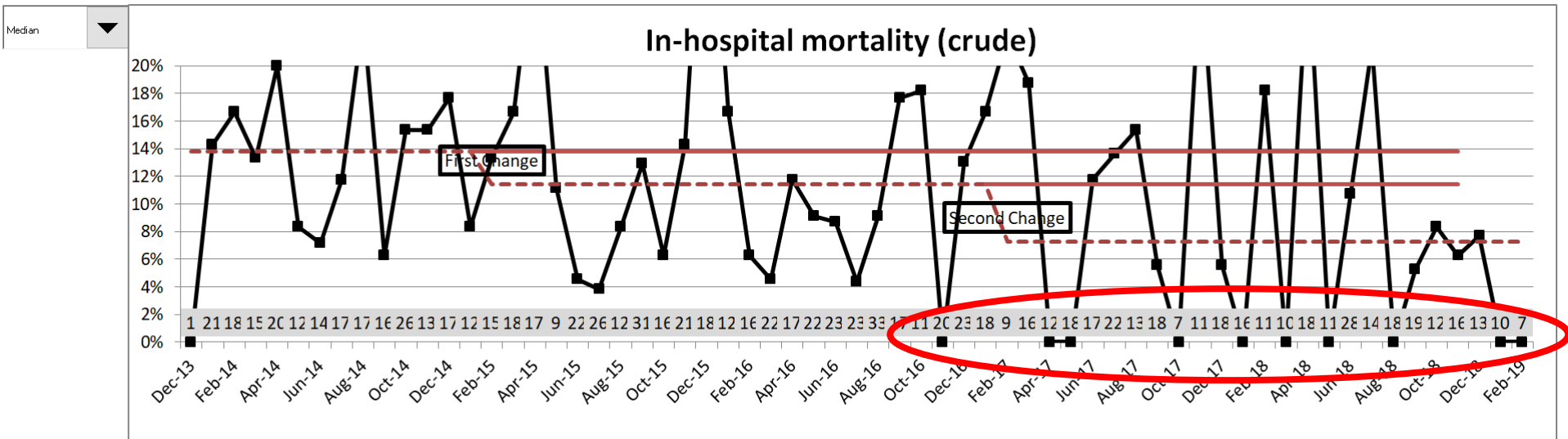
## Immediate (<2hrs) and Urgent 2A (2-6hrs)



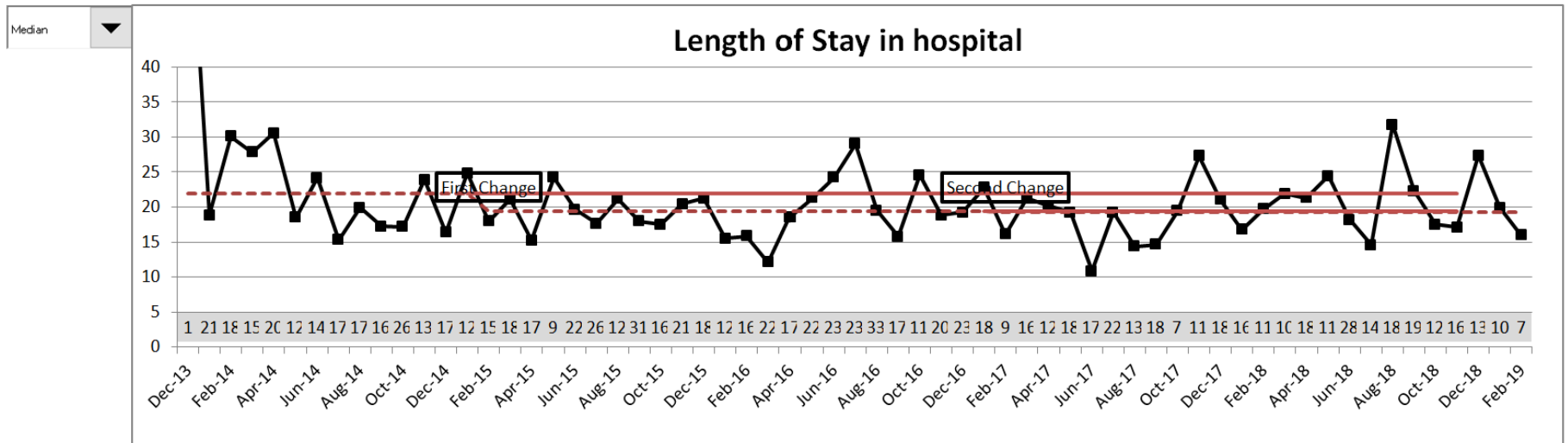
## Urgent 2B (6-18) and Expediated2A (>18h)



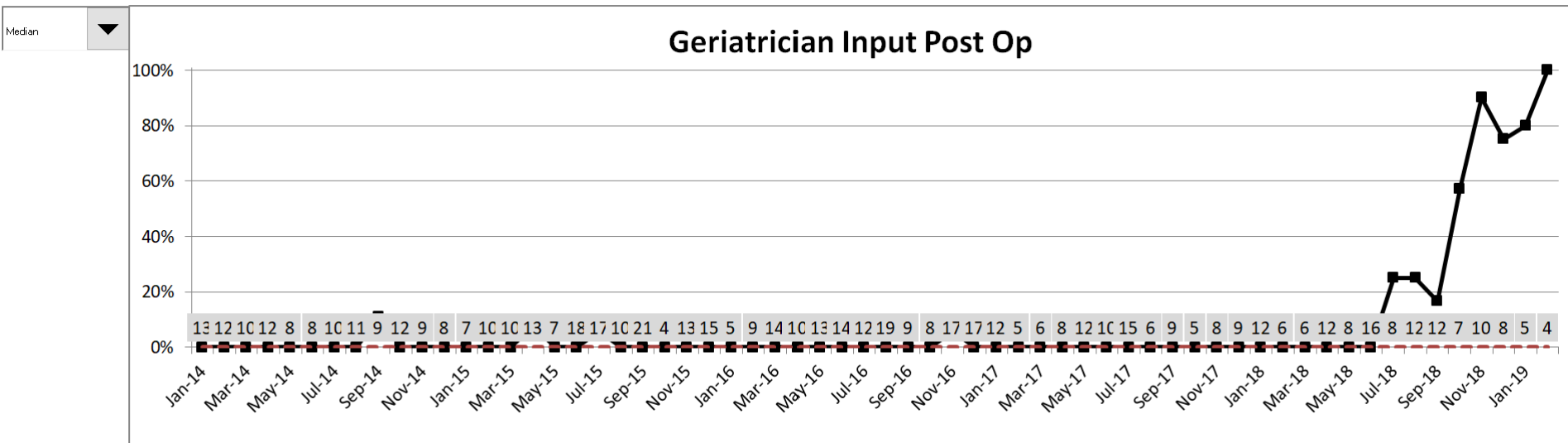
## ELC Outcomes: Crude In Hospital Mortality



# ELC Outcomes: Hospital Length of Stay



## COTE



**Impact LOS over next 2 yrs?**

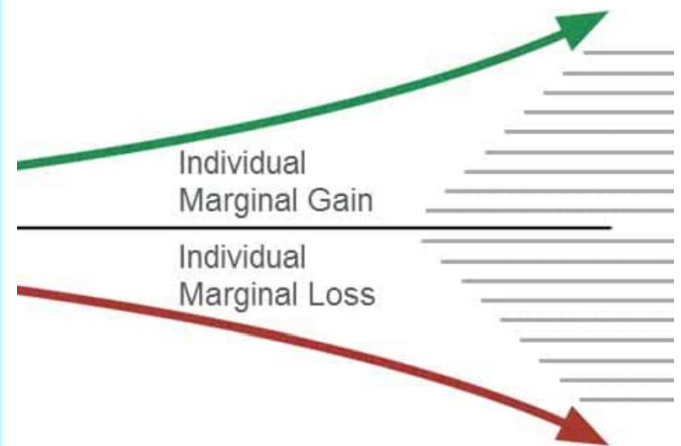
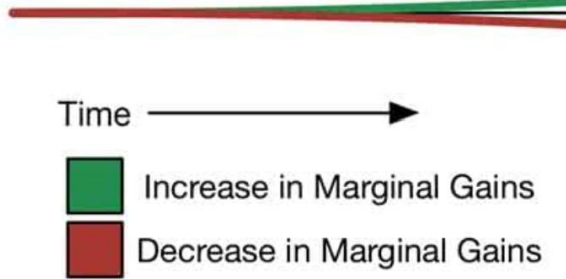


# Impact of change takes time

‘The Agg

**"WE ARE ALWAYS STRIVING FOR IMPROVEMENT, FOR THOSE 1% GAINS, IN ABSOLUTELY EVERY SINGLE THING WE DO."**

nal Gains’



The marginal choice  
The 1% improvement  
much larger risk than

mal impact at the start.  
es over time, creating a

Dave Brailsford





***EmLap***







**Emlap Trigger Tool**

Patient Name:  
Date of Birth:  
NHS Number:  
Date:

Patient with acute abdominal pathology that may need an emergency laparotomy and any 1 of the following high risk features:

- Age >65
- Serious clinical concern
- ≥ 2 'amber observations', or HR>systolic BP
- Significant CVS/Respiratory disease
- Long term steroids/immune-suppressed/β-blockade
- Diabetic on Insulin
- Lactate > 2.0
- SIRS > 2 and ≥ 1 organ dysfunction
- Recent Abdominal Surgery

**Emlap High Risk Emlap Pathway triggered**

Start the clock  
Date patient identified  
Time patient identified  
Time 2222 Emlap call

**Emlap – First Hour Care Checklist**

	Completed	N/A
SpO <sub>2</sub> >94%: (High flow oxygen via non-rebreath mask if needed)		
Blood test complete: FBC, U&Es, LFTs, Coagulation, Amylase, Glucose and G&S, β-HCG in all females of reproductive age		
Blood culture(s) sent		
IV Antibiotics prescribed AND 1 <sup>st</sup> dose administered: as per Trust guidelines		
Active Fluid resuscitation: Hartmann's solution 20 ml/kg if systolic BP <90 or lactate >2. If remains hypotensive: give boluses of 250 ml Hartmann's solution with reassessment, up to a maximum of 2 litres		
ABG including lactate		
Analgesia prescribed and administered		
12-lead ECG		
Urinalysis/MSU		
Erect Chest x-ray		
Commence fluid balance		
Phone switchboard 2222 and ask to put out fast bleep to surgical registrar/bleep 7954 for 'Emlap referral'. You will need to give your extension number, location and patient name.		

One Hour Time Check	All appropriate steps complete? (circle)	Yes	No
Name	Signature & Stamp/Registration Number		
Designation	Bleep	Time	Signature & Stamp/Registration Number

Call Critical Care Outreach Team (Bleep 7838) team if appropriate  
**MRCs should review the patient within 30 minutes. Escalate to Consultant if required**  
 DUD338 Dudley Emlap Chart - 10/9/2014 - V1.0 - Emlap Working Group page 14

Emlap High Risk Emergency Laparotomy Pathway

**Emlap MRCS Checklist**

Patient Name:  
Date of Birth:  
NHS Number:  
Date:

High Risk Emlap Pathway – MRCS Duties	Yes	No	N/A
Check all appropriate first hour management steps complete			

Ensure appropriate fluids including maintenance, resuscitation and electrolyte replacement prescribed  
 Correct coagulopathy as required: discuss with anaesthetist/haematologist  
 Maintain normothermia active warming, warmed fluids  
 Active glucose management: VRII if BMT-12  
 Calculate estimated P-POSSUM score: The Hub-More links>Surgical Risk Predictor (P- POSSUM) (<http://www.riskpredictor.org.uk>). Document mortality risk estimate

Trigger ICU review or MET call if appropriate at any time

Outcome of MRCS review (one of the following)	Tick 1
Emlap pathway patient: Immediate laparotomy: target <1 hour to theatre Confirm with Consultant Surgeon and notify all appropriate staff-- go to pre-op ward checklist	
Emlap pathway patient: CT scan required: Consultant Surgeon agreed Always book CT abdo Emlap on Scanlan and verbally alert Radiologist/radiographer (10 pm - 8 am via off-site provider) Target CT scan within 2 hrs, report within 1 hr	
Non-operative/ unlikely to need operation – confirm with Consultant, and then step down from High Risk Emlap pathway Make appropriate action plan (restart Emlap pathway if high risk features develop)	

**MRCS review post CT**  
 Discussed with Consultant Surgeon at  
 Working Diagnosis post CT:

Outcome following discussion with Consultant Surgeon (one of the following)	Tick 1
Laparotomy /Operative intervention required Date and time consultant decision to operate Time Target: operation within 6 hours of decision to operate, go to pre-op ward checklist	
Non-operative: step down from High Risk Emlap pathway, make appropriate management plan. Restart pathway if high risk feature develops.	

MRCS check	All appropriate steps complete? (circle)	Yes	No
Name	Signature & Stamp/Registration Number		
Designation	Bleep	Time	Signature & Stamp/Registration Number

Dudley Emlap Chart - 10/9/2014 - V1.0 - Emlap Working Group page 24

Emlap High Risk Emergency Laparotomy Pathway

**Emlap Operative Checklist**

Patient Name:  
Date of Birth:  
NHS Number:  
Date:

Pre-op in addition to the WHO checklist	Yes	N/A
Theatre team agreed on appropriateness and seniority of all staff		
Discuss options for limiting surgery if instability		
Intra-operative in addition to other trust standards	Yes	N/A
'Suction above the cuff' ETT if ICU ventilation likely		
Fluid therapy guided by cardiac output monitoring (LIDCO)		
Low tidal volume protective ventilation		

End of Surgery Bundle (within the last 30 minutes of surgery)	Yes	N/A	
Arterial blood gases to assess lactate, acid-base status and the P.F ratio			
Post Surgery P-POSSUM (1.5% mortality defines high risk)	Score	%	
Intra-operative fluid requirements documented			
Reverse muscle relaxant			
NELA data recorded			
Post op destination (circle one)	ICU	SHDU	Ward

Anaesthetist Name	All appropriate steps complete? (circle)	Yes	No
Name	Time		
Designation	Bleep	Time	Stamp or signature & Registration Number

**Emlap Post-Operative Checklist**

Surgical post operative management plan written and includes	Yes	N/A
Antibiotics prescribed		
VTE prophylaxis prescription		
Nutrition plan		

Anaesthetic post op management plan written and includes	Yes	No	N/A
CXR ordered with plan to review			
Post-operative fluids prescribed			
Post-operative pain relief prescribed			
Post-operative nausea & vomiting prophylaxis prescribed (see medical notes for details)			
Post op review completed within 24 hours			
If hand over to ICU required systematic hand-over given			

Dudley Emlap Chart - 10/9/2014 - V1.0 - Emlap Working Group page 44

Emlap High Risk Emergency Laparotomy Pathway

**Emlap Pre-Op Ward Checklist**

Patient Name:  
Date of Birth:  
NHS Number:  
Date:

Responsibility of MRCS, (who can delegate tasks) immediately following decision to operate

	Completed	Designation	Initials
Inform on-call anaesthetist (bleep 7018) of patient presence including High Risk status, observations, P-POSSUM score & Lactate			
Inform theatre co-ordinator (bleep 7224)			
Provide patient and relatives with oral and written information about treatment			
Critical Care bed arranged			
Valid G&S available			
Blood products arranged			
Blood results reviewed			
Comments			

Responsibilities for on-call anaesthetist	Yes
Perform prompt anaesthetic assessment; optimize for theatre	
Inform Consultant Anaesthetist of Emlap patient and planned time of surgery	
Listas with theatre co-ordinator to ensure case is appropriately prioritised	
Comments	

Anaesthetist Name	All appropriate steps complete? (circle)	Yes	No
Name	Signature & Stamp/Registration Number		
Designation	Bleep	Time	Signature & Stamp/Registration Number

Dudley Emlap Chart - 10/9/2014 - V1.0 - Emlap Working Group page 34

Emlap High Risk Emergency Laparotomy Pathway





Senior or Junior Review



CT Scan



Theatre Access



EMILAP





EmLap

Common Patient Based Order Sets Search

All Meds Labs

**Favorites**

- Bronchoscopy
- Cardiac Physiology
- Cardiology
- CT Scanning
- Dementia Referral

- CT Abdomen & pelvis
- CT Abdomen & pelvis with contrast
- CT Abdomen & Pelvis with contrast 1hour
- CT Abdomen EmLap
- CT Abdomen with contrast
- CT Adrenal Both
- CT Adrenal with contrast Both
- CT Angio aortic arch & carotid Both
- CT Anninram Aorta

Radiology

[Is this request justified? Please view RCR Guidelines](#)

Priority Routine  Items in Orange MUST be Entered/Confirmed

Appt required as?

Clinical Details

Requested By Julian Sonksen, C Requesting Unit Critical Care - ITU Active

**CT Abdomen EmLap**

**EmLap** TARGET - CT Scan completed within 2 hours of referral. Report available within 1 hour of scan

The MRCS or Consultant Surgeon must discuss the case directly with a Consultant Radiologist

Monday to Friday 09:00 - 17:00

1. Contact the CT Team Leader on extension 2043 and notify them that a CT-EmLap request is being made.
2. Ask the CT Team Leader to put you through to the Radiologist supervising the list.
3. Inform the Radiologist that you are making a CT-EmLap request, discuss the potential diagnosis and agree the scan required (ensure you obtain their name to complete the request form).

**Out of hours and weekends**

1. Contact the On-Call Consultant Radiologist via switchboard to discuss the case.
2. The Radiologist will make contact with the on-site radiographer to authorise the investigation.

Name of Radiologist authorising request

EMR Date

Special Instructions On Pill?  Hysterectomy?

Order & Finish Cancel Help

Allows e-tag, and facilitate audit

New OOH Radiology service:

Contact via switch and they will also arrange with radiographer