

Quick summary for those in a hurry

NTASM Report 2010 to 2017

The Northern Territory Audit of Surgical Mortality (NTASM) Report summary is presented below and includes comparison with national data from the Australian and New Zealand Audits of Surgical Mortality (ANZASM).

(Data sourced NTASM and ANZASM databases.)

SURGEONS

- All surgeons in the NT participated in the NTASM.
- **98.0%** (450/459) of the NTASM surgical case forms were returned.

COMORBIDITIES

- Of the NTASM patients, **80.5%** (318/395) had serious comorbidities.
- Hepatic disease was present in **23.0%** (73/318) of NTASM patients compared with **8.2%** (2,347/28,701) of ANZASM patients.
- Diabetes mellitus was present in **31.8%** (101/318) of NTASM patients compared with **19.4%** (5,557/28,701) of ANZASM patients.
- The presence of cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease and age were lower in NTASM patients than in ANZASM patients.

CLINICAL INCIDENTS

- Of the NTASM patients, **74.7%** (296/396) had no clinical incidents.
- An area of concern or adverse event occurred in **10.1%** (40/396) of NTASM patients compared with **11.0%** (3,655/33,356) of ANZASM patients.

INFECTIONS

- NTASM patients with infections (**60.7%**; 71/117) were statistically more likely to have acquired their infection **prior to admission** compared with ANZASM patients with infections (**41.8%**; 2,128/5,093).

TRAUMA

- Trauma has a similar prevalence in NTASM and ANZASM, with **28.8%** (99/344) of NTASM patients and **27.4%** (3,192/11,659) of ANZASM patients presenting with trauma.
- Of the NTASM trauma patients, **24.2%** (24/99) were associated with road traffic accidents.

POSTOPERATIVE COMPLICATIONS

- In NTASM patients, a postoperative complication occurred in **22.3%** (67/300) of patients.
- In ANZASM patients, a postoperative complication occurred in **33.9%** (8,675/25,596) of patients.
- The incidence of postoperative complications is **significantly lower** in NTASM patients.

USE OF INTENSIVE CARE UNIT (ICU)

- In NTASM patients, postoperative admissions to an ICU occurred in **70.1%** (209/298) of patients.
- In NTASM patients, postoperative unplanned admissions to an ICU occurred in **18.2%** (52/285) of patients.