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Manuscript Title:

The timing of surgical operation for patients with intra-abdominal infection: a systematic review and meta-analysis

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Abstract:

AIM

This study aimed to assess the efficacy of early versus delayed surgical exploration in the treatment of intra-abdominal infection in terms of overall mortality.

METHODS

A systematic literature search was performed using PubMed, Embase, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, via Ovid, and ScienceDirect. The systematic review was conducted using the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses method. Based on the timing of the surgical operation, we divided the literature into two groups: early surgery and delayed surgery. For the early and delayed surgery groups, the intervention was performed within and after 12 h of the initial surgical intervention, respectively. The main outcome measure was the mortality rate. The literature search was performed from May 5 to 20, 2021. We also searched the World Health Organization International ...

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