

Explanatory Notes

All cases (locked and unlocked) admitted to hospital between 01 February 2026 and 30 April 2026 have been included. Only cases where the necessary data are available have been included in the denominator for each individual analysis.

At hospital level, runcharts are compared to hospitals within the same ICB.

The results for process measures for which fewer than 10 cases have available data will not be reported. Instead the value will be marked as 'Insufficient data'.

Mortality

This section defines three key mortality measures for the monthly report. In all cases we include only patients whose surgery-to-discharge interval (Q4.1 - Q7.8) is ≤ 30 days, and we exclude any with missing discharge status (Q7.7) or missing dates (Q4.1/Q7.8).

1. 30-Day Observed (Crude) Mortality Rate

Let

- d = number of patients who **died** within 30 days of surgery,
- N = total number of patients with known discharge status (alive, died, or still in hospital at 60 days).

Then the crude 30-day mortality rate (as a percentage) is

$$\text{Crude 30-day Mortality Rate} = \frac{d}{N} \times 100.$$

2. Standardised Mortality Ratio (SMR)

Let

- $O = d$ = observed deaths within 30 days,
- $E = \sum_i \text{RiskScore}_i$ = sum of individual parsimonious NELA mortality risk scores for all N patients.

The SMR is

$$\text{SMR} = \frac{O}{E}.$$

3. Risk-Adjusted Mortality

Combines the SMR with the **National** 30-day mortality rate for the examined three month period:

$$\text{Risk-Adjusted Mortality} = \text{SMR} \times (\text{National 30-day mortality}) \times 100.$$

For better insight to how these standards have been structured, please refer to the **NELA standards document**.

Quarterly mean performance



Overall performance

RAG rating boundaries



Hospital performance

Number of patients included 38
Data completeness 81.6%
National mean 65%

RAG rated standard and date range

Risk-adjusted mortality

Rating boundaries are lower and upper 99.8% and 95% confidence limits



Non-risk-adjusted measures

Rating boundaries are lower and upper national quartiles

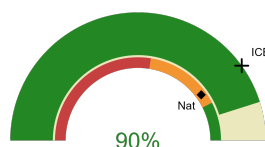


Ulster hospital

2026-27 Reporting Period 1: 01 February 2026 - 30 April 2026

These plots represent patients having an emergency laparotomy during Year 2026-27 Reporting Period 1 of NELA data collection. This version will be made publicly available via the NELA website. Feedback from participating hospitals is welcome.

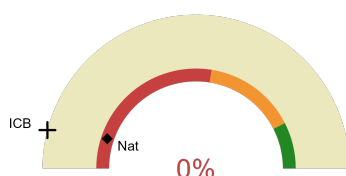
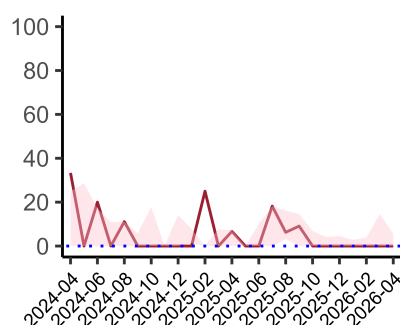
NELA process and outcome measures



Estimated case ascertainment
01 February 2026 - 30 April 2026

Estimated case ascertainment (Based on HES/PEDW Data)

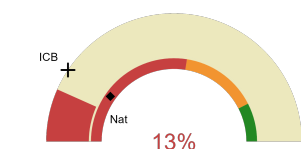
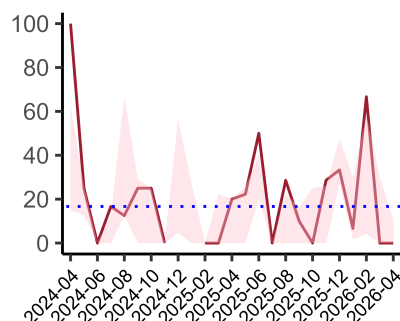
Expected number of cases 41
Total cases entered 37
Cases locked 37
Cases unlocked 0



Proportion of patients who had a CT scan that
was reported by a senior radiologist (ST3+)
and communicated with the team
in the correct time scale before surgery
01 February 2026 - 30 April 2026

CT reported by a senior radiologist (ST3+) and communicated with the team in the correct time scale before surgery.

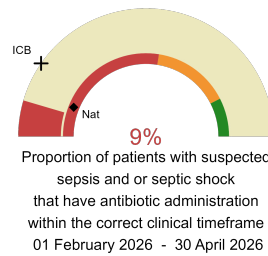
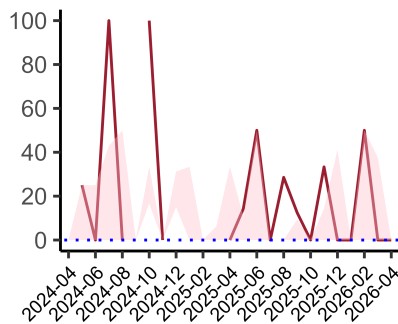
National mean 10%
ICB mean 8%
Number of patients included 33
Data completeness 89%



Proportion of patients with suspected
sepsis or infection that have antibiotic
administration within the correct clinical
timeframe
01 February 2026 - 30 April 2026

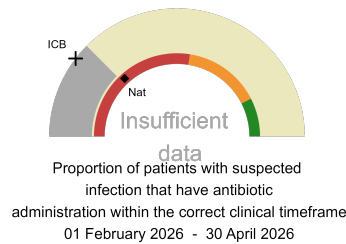
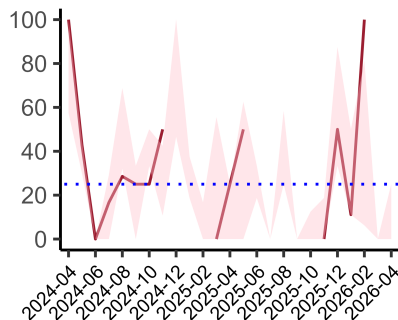
Combined Infection management standard - antibiotic administration within the correct clinical timeframe

National mean 20%
ICB mean 19%
Number of patients included 15
Data completeness 100%



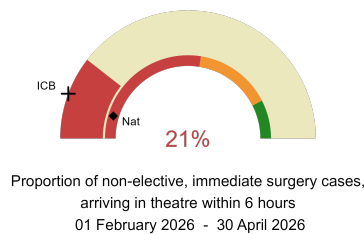
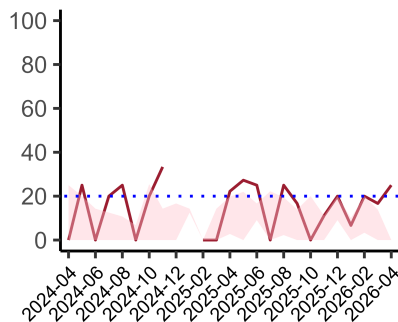
Sepsis/septic shock - antibiotic administration within the correct clinical timeframe

National mean 12%
ICB mean 19%
Number of patients included 11
Data completeness 100%



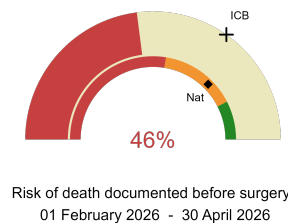
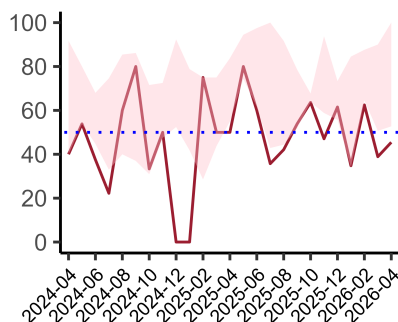
Infection - antibiotic administration within the correct clinical timeframe

National mean 27%
ICB mean 21%
Number of patients included 4
Data completeness 27%



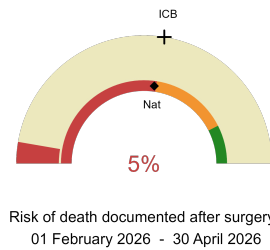
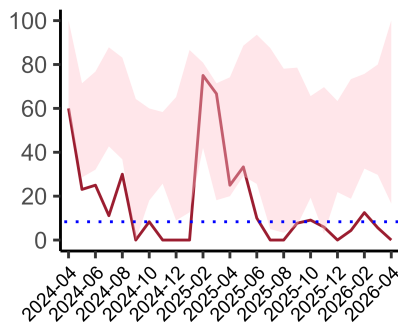
Non-elective, immediate surgery cases, arriving in theatre within 6 hours.

National mean 9%
ICB mean 11%
Number of patients included 19
Data completeness 100%



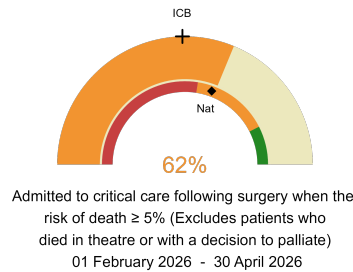
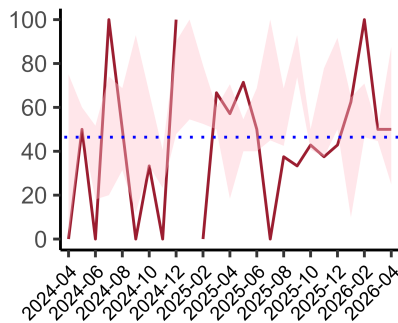
Risk documented before surgery

National mean 75%
ICB mean 69%
Number of patients included 37
Data completeness 100%



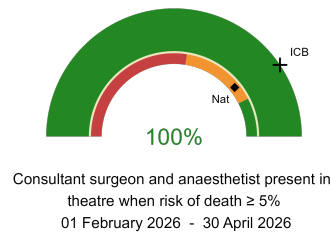
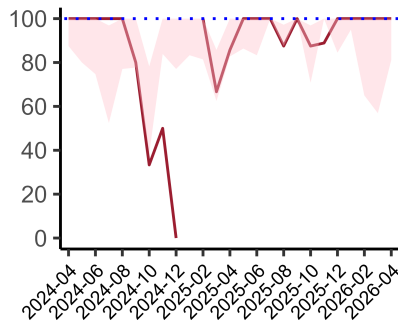
Risk documented after surgery

National mean 54%
ICB mean 55%
Number of patients included 37
Data completeness 100%



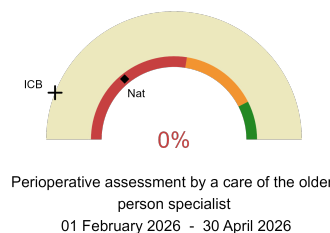
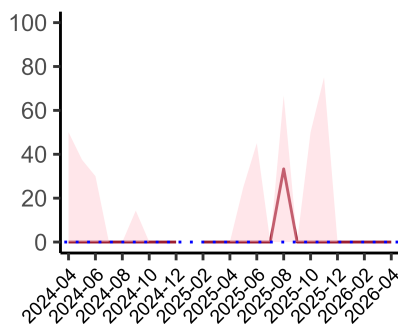
Admitted to Critical Care (risk of death $\geq 5\%$)

National mean 61%
ICB mean 49%
Number of patients included 16
Data completeness 100%



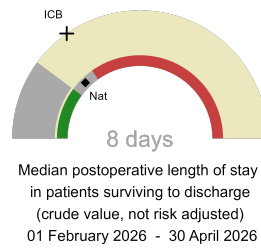
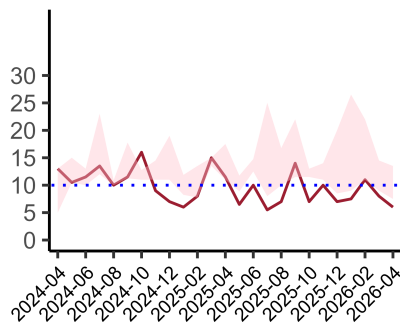
Consultant Anaesthetist & Consultant Surgeon in theatre (risk of death $\geq 5\%$)

National mean 78%
ICB mean 81%
Number of patients included 19
Data completeness 66%



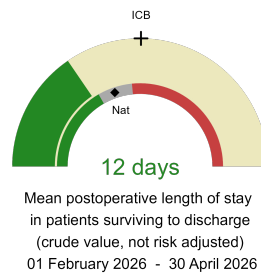
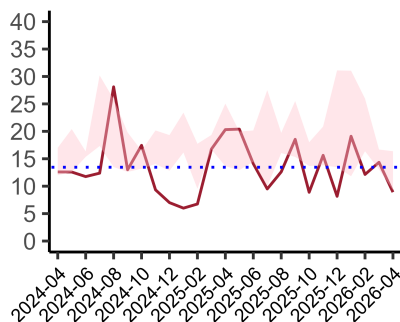
Perioperative Assessment by a member of the geriatrician- led multidisciplinary team for patient aged 65 or over and frail (CFS ≥ 5) or 80+

National mean 28%
ICB mean 12%
Number of patients included 11
Data completeness 100%



Median postoperative length of stay

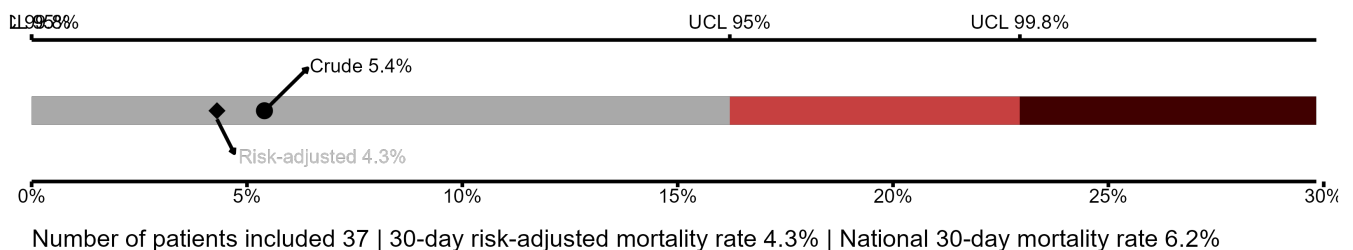
National median 10 days
ICB median 12 days
Number of patients included 35
Data completeness 100%



Mean postoperative length of stay

National mean 14 days
ICB mean 18 days
Number of patients included 35
Data completeness 100%

Risk-Adjusted Mortality



Integrated Care Board

Ulster hospital is part of the Northern Ireland ICB. This comprises Antrim Area Hospital, Altnagelvin Hospital, Causeway Hospital, Craigavon Area Hospital, Ulster hospital, Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast City Hospital.