

Supplemental Table 1: Descriptive analysis of ACTH, cortisol and protein levels.

		All	Ctrl.	SPI	PPI	NoL
ACTH [ng·L ⁻¹]	Baseline	n=47 23.6 ± 15.3 19 (13 - 28)	n=11 31.1 ± 19.1 24 (17 - 47)	n=12 17.3 ± 9.8 17 (7.25 - 26.25)	n=12 28.2 ± 17.9 24.5 (13.75 - 32)	n=12 18.6 ± 9.2 16 (11 - 25.5)
	Skin closure	n=46 123.6 ± 215.9 47.5 (11 - 135.25)	n=11 167.7 ± 352.04 51 (15 - 136)	n=12 19 ± 30.3 10 (6 - 20.75)	n=11 260.1 ± 192.6 173 (120 - 411)	n=12 62.7 ± 82.6 33.5 (13.75 - 66.75)
	After extubation	n=46 217.9 ± 220 153.5 (73.25 - 257)	n=11 287 ± 277.7 230 (74 - 359)	n=12 126.3 ± 96.97 105.5 (51 - 183)	n=11 360.4 ± 274.1 338 (99 - 470)	n=12 115.7 ± 67.2 116.5 (52.75 - 165.5)
	End of PACU	n=46 86.9 ± 11.5 38.5 (22 - 97.75)	n=11 98.7 ± 92.4 45 (27 - 194)	n=12 112.4 ± 157.8 44 (33 - 87.25)	n=11 98.2 ± 137.9 37 (22 - 115)	n=12 42.9 ± 39.8 23 (16.75 - 75.25)
Cortisol [μg·L ⁻¹]	Baseline	n=47 134.1 ± 47.1 137 (105 - 164)	n=11 162.5 ± 55.3 156 (114 - 215)	n=12 116 ± 35.2 110 (89.25 - 149.75)	n=12 134.8 ± 47.2 140 (112.3 - 162.5)	n=12 125.5 ± 42.3 125 (80.75 - 162.5)
	Skin closure	n=46 210.1 ± 127.7 221 (95.25 - 311.5)	n=11 218.9 ± 131.7 226 (96 - 362)	n=12 97.4 ± 90 97.5 (30 - 126.75)	n=11 330.7 ± 73.2 309 (290 - 404)	n=12 207.5 ± 101.1 222.5 (89.75 - 289.75)
	After extubation	n=46 245.5 ± 114 228.5 (153.75 - 359)	n=11 258.1 ± 111.95 226 (163 - 389)	n=12 144.6 ± 69.2 131.5 (105.25 - 172.25)	n=11 351.8 ± 77.1 357 (310 - 406)	n=12 237.3 ± 94.6 243.5 (160.75 - 331)
	End of PACU	n=46 260.1 ± 95.2 252 (179.75 - 314.25)	n=11 289.5 ± 113.2 258 (201 - 401)	n=12 232.2 ± 61 238.5 (179.75 - 285.5)	n=11 274.5 ± 117.5 278 (146 - 382)	n=12 250.75 ± 84.5 245 (173.25 - 298.5)
Protein [g·L ⁻¹]	Baseline	n=47 68.1 ± 12.6 70.7 (65.4 - 73.3)	n=11 69.5 ± 5.9 71 (63.6 - 73.9)	n=12 63.3 ± 23.4 70.8 (65.1 - 73)	n=12 69.4 ± 4 70.4 (65.8 - 72)	n=12 70.25 ± 5.5 70.7 (66.7 - 72.3)
	Skin closure	n=46 51.4 ± 6.6 53 (47.28 - 56.08)	n=11 50.6 ± 5.9 52.6 (44.9 - 55.9)	n=12 51.2 ± 5.9 51.5 (48.7 - 56)	n=11 51.1 ± 9.1 54.6 (41.7 - 57.2)	n=12 52.4 ± 5.9 53.5 (48.6 - 58)
	After extubation	n=46 53.9 ± 6.3 55 (48.43 - 57.8)	n=11 52 ± 6.6 52.4 (46.8 - 56.5)	n=12 55 ± 4.4 54.3 (53.1 - 56.8)	n=11 55.7 ± 7.7 57.8 (54.9 - 60.9)	n=12 52.8 ± 6.3 53.6 (47.8 - 57.1)
	End of PACU	n=46 52.5 ± 7.2 52.2 (47.28 - 56.08)	n=11 51.3 ± 8.1 50.2 (43.6 - 58.3)	n=12 53.1 ± 3.7 54 (49.3 - 55.6)	n=11 55 ± 9.6 55.4 (47.2 - 61.6)	n=12 48.7 ± 6.2 51.6 (42.6 - 55.8)

Data presented are n, mean ±SD, median (quartiles) for the four study groups with opioid administration guided by SPI, PPI, NoL or by clinical signs in the Control group at four different time points during the day of surgery (“Baseline” before induction of general anaesthesia, “Skin closure” at the end of surgery, “After extubation” on arrival at the postanaesthesia care unit, “End of PACU” before discharge to the ward).

Abbreviations: ACTH, adrenocorticotropic hormone; Ctrl., control group; NoL, Nociception Level; PACU, postanaesthesia care unit; PPI, Pupillary Pain Index, SPI, Surgical Pleth Index.