

**Which multicenter randomized controlled trials in critical care medicine have shown
reduced mortality? A systematic review**

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Online Supplement

Table S1. Randomized controlled trials in which decreased mortality was reported

First author, year (ref)	Number of centers	Study population	Intervention		Outcome	Outcome rate		P value
			Study group (n)	Control group (n)		Study group (%)	Control group (%)	
Amendola et al 2018 (8)	4	AKI	Goal-directed therapy (n=48)	Standard practice (n=51)	Hospital mortality ^a	31%	51%	0.048
Annane 2018 (9)	34	Sepsis	Hydrocortisone + fludrocortisone (n=614)	Placebo (n=627)	90-day mortality ^b	43.0%	49.1%	0.03
de Jong 2016 (10)	15	ICU	Procalcitonin-guided therapy (n=761)	Standard practice (n=785)	28-day mortality ^c	20%	25%	0.001
Guerin 2013 (11)	27	ARDS	Prone position (n=229)	Supine position (n=237)	28-day mortality	16%	32.8%	<0.001
Guntupalli 2013 (12)	24	Sepsis	Talactoferrin (n=97)	Placebo (n=93)	6-month mortality ^d	21.1%	35.6%	0.03
Nava 2011 (13)	3	AHRF	NIV (n=41)	Standard practice (n=41)	6-month mortality	11.7%	50%	0.014
Papazian 2010 (14)	20	ARDS	Cisatracurium besylate (n=178)	Placebo (n=162)	90-day hospital mortality ^e	30.8%	44.6%	0.04
Ferrer 2009 (15)	3	AHRF	NIV (54)	Conventional oxygen (n=52)	90-day mortality ^f	11%	31%	0.02
de Smet et al 2009 (16)	13	ICU	SDD (n =2045) SOD (n =1904)	Standard practice (n=1990)	28-day mortality	SDD: 26.9%; SOD 26.6%	27.5%	0.22 0.045
Ferrer et al 2006 (17)	2	ICU	NIV (n=79)	Conventional oxygen (n=83)	ICU-mortality	3%	14%	0.015
Villar et al 2006 (18)	8	ARDS	Pflex/low VT (n=50)	Standard practice (n=45)	ICU mortality	32%	53.3%	0.04
Panacek 2004 (19)	157	Sepsis	Afelimomab (n=488)	Placebo (n=510)	28-day mortality	43.60%	47.60%	0.041
Ferrer 2003 (20)	2	ICU	NIV (n=21)	Conventional weaning (n=22)	ICU survival	90%	59%	0.04
Ferrer 2003 (21)	3	Acute hypoxemic respiratory failure	NIV (n=51)	High-concentration oxygen therapy (n=54)	ICU mortality	18%	39%	0.028
Annane 2002 (22)	19	Sepsis	Hydrocortisone + fludrocortisone (n=114)	Placebo (n=115)	28-day survival ^g	53%	63%	0.02

Bernard 2001 (23)	164	Sepsis	rh-APC (n=850)	Placebo (n=840)	28-day mortality	24.70%	30.8%	0.005
Brower 2000 (24)	10	ARDS	VT 6 ml/kg PBW (n=432)	VT 12 ml/kg PBW (n=429)	Hospital mortality	31%	39.8%	0.007
Esteban 2000 (25)	12	ARDS	PCV (n=37)	VCV (n=42)	Hospital mortality	51%	78%	0.02
Fagon 2000 (26)	31	Pneumonia	Invasive management in VAP (n=204)	Clinical management (n=209)	14-day mortality	16.2%	25.8%	0.022
Nava 1998 (27)	3	AHRF	Non-invasive pressure support ventilation (n=25)	Invasive pressure support ventilation (n=25)	60-day survival	92%	72%	0.009
Amato 1998 (28)	2	ARDS	Protective ventilation (n=29)	Conventional ventilation (n=24)	28-day mortality	38%	71%	<0.001
Baudo 1998 (29)	3	Sepsis	Antithrombin III (n=60)	Placebo (n=60)	30-day survival	30%	13%	0.03
Brochard 1995 (30)	5	AHRF	NIV (n=42)	Standard practice (n=42)	In-hospital mortality	9%	29%	0.02
Fisher 1994 (31)	12	Sepsis	IL-1ra 17 mg/h: n=25; 67 mg/h: n=24; 133 mg/h: n=25	Placebo (n=25)	28-day mortality	17 mg/h, group: 32% 67 mg/h, group: 25% 133 mg/h group: 16%	44%	0.015
Gutierrez 1992 (32)	9	ICU	Gastric intramucosal pH (n=135)	Standard practice (n=125)	Hospital survival	58%	42%	< 0.01
Dominioni 1991 (33)	4	Sepsis	High dose IgG (n=29)	Placebo (n=33)	ICU mortality	38%	67%	<0.05
Ziegler 1991 (34)	24	Sepsis and Gram-negative bacteremia	HA-1A (n=105)	Placebo (n=95)	28-day mortality	30%	49%	0.014

AKI: acute kidney injury; AHRF: acute hypercapnic respiratory failure; ECMO: extracorporeal membrane oxygenation; NIV: non-invasive ventilation; SDD: selective digestive decontamination; SOD: selective oral decontamination; rh-APC: recombinant human activated protein C; VT: tidal volume; PCV: pressure control ventilation; VCV: volume control ventilation; VAP: ventilator-associated pneumonia; IL-1ra : interleukin-1 receptor antagonist; IgG: immunoglobulin G; PBW: predicted body weight; HA-1A: human monoclonal IgM antibody; ARDS: acute respiratory distress syndrome; ICU: intensive care unit.

a ICU mortality 39.4% vs 20.8%, p=0.326

b Mortality at ICU discharge (35.4% vs. 41%, P = 0.04); hospital discharge (39.0% vs. 45.3%, P = 0.02), and day 180 (46.6% vs. 52.5%, P = 0.04);

c Intention to treat group; per protocol 20% vs 27%, p=0.01;

d 28-day and 3-month mortality were not significant ($p=0.052$; $p=0.08$, respectively)

e In patients with $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FIO}_2$ ratio < 120 .

f ICU mortality 6% vs 8%, $p=0.71$; Hospital mortality 11% vs 22%, $p=0.25$.

g In non-responders to the corticotropin test;

Table S2. Randomized controlled trials in which increased mortality was reported

First author, year (ref)	Number of centers	Study population	Intervention		Outcome	Outcome rate		P value
			Study group (n)	Control group (n)		Study group (%)	Control group (%)	
Guidet 2017 (35)	24	ICU	Systematic ICU admission (n=1519)	Standard practice (n=1518)	6-month mortality	45% ^a	39%	<0.001
Cavalcanti 2017 (36)	120	ARDS	Recruitment maneuver and PEEP titration (n=501)	Low PEEP (n=509)	28-day mortality	55.3% ^b	49.3%	0.04
Ferguson 2013 (37)	39	ARDS	HFOV (n=275)	PCV (n=273)	In-hospital mortality	47%	35%	0.005
Heyland 2013 (38)	40	ICU	Glutamine (n=301), antioxidants (n=307) or both (n=310)	Placebo (n=300)	28-day mortality	32.4%	27.2%	0.05
Mourvillier 2013 (39)	49	Sepsis	Hypothermia (n=49)	Standard practice (n=49)	3-month mortality	51%	34%	0.05
Perner 2012 (40)	26	Sepsis	6% HES 130/0.42 ^c (n=398)	Ringer's acetate (n=400)	90-day mortality	51%	43%	0.03
Gao Smith 2012 (41)	46	ARDS	IV salbutamol (n=162)	Placebo (n=164)	28-day mortality	34%	23%	0.033
Elseviers 2010 (42)	9	AKI	RRT (n=650)	Conservative management (n=653)	Hospital mortality	50.3%	63.7%	<0.001
Lopez 2004 (43)	124	Sepsis	Nitric oxide synthase inhibitor 546C88 (n=439)	Placebo (n=358)	28-day survival	59%	49%	0.001
Esteban 2004 (44)	37	ARF	NIPPV (n=114)	Standard practice (n=107)	ICU mortality	25%	14%	0.048
Mehta 2001 (45)	4	ICU	CRRT (n=84)	IHD (n=82)	ICU mortality	59.5%	41.5%	<0.02
Esteban 2000 (25)	12	ARDS	VCV (n=42)	PCV (n=37)	Hospital mortality	78%	51%	0.02
Sloan 1999 (46)	18	Hemorrhagic shock	DCLHb (n=52)	Placebo (n=46)	28-day mortality	46%	17%	0.003
Takala	18 (n=6 in	ICU	Growth hormone	Placebo	In-hospital	39%	20% ^d	<0.001

1999 (47)	Finnish branch; n=12 in European branch)		(n=258: n=119 in Finnish branch; n=139 in European branch)	(n=264: n=123 in Finnish branch; n=141 in European branch)	mortality	44%	18% ^e	<0.001
Fisher 1996 (48)	15	Sepsis	TNFR:Fc (n=108; n=30 low dose 0.15 mg/kg, n=29 middle dose 0.45 mg/kg, n=49 high dose 1.5 mg/kg)	Placebo (n=33)	28-day mortality	53% ^f	30%	0.02
Hayes 1994 (49)	2	ICU	High DO ₂ and VO ₂ (n=50)	Standard DO ₂ and VO ₂ (n=50)	In-hospital mortality	54%	34%	0.04

ARDS: acute respiratory distress syndrome; HFOV: high frequency oscillatory ventilation; PCV: pressure control ventilation; HES: hydroxyethyl starch; NIPPV: non-invasive positive pressure ventilation; (C)RRT: (continuous) renal replacement therapy; IHD: intermittent hemodialysis; DCLHb: diaspirin cross linked hemoglobin; TNFR:Fc: tumor necrosis factor receptor and Fc portion of IgG1; DO₂: oxygen delivery; VO₂: oxygen consumption; ICU: intensive care unit; AKI: acute kidney injury; ARF: acute respiratory failure; PEEP: positive-end-expiratory pressure; VCV: volume controlled ventilation.

a No difference in mortality when adjusted for baseline characteristics (p=NS). In-hospital mortality significantly higher in intervention group (30% vs. 21%; absolute risk difference p<0.001; adjusted absolute risk difference p=0.03);

b 6-month mortality (65.3%vs 59.9%; HR, 1.18; 95%CI, 1.01 to 1.38; P = .04), no difference in ICU mortality or hospital mortality;

c HES dose of up to 33 ml/kg of ideal body weight.

d in the Finnish study;

e in the European study;

f in high dose group; in all groups combined P=NS.

Table S3. Randomized controlled trials in which no change in mortality was reported

Authors, year (ref)	Number of centers	Study population	Intervention		Outcome	Outcome rate		P value
			Study group (n)	Control group (n)		Study group (%)	Control group (%)	
Hernandez et al 2019 (50)	28	Sepsis	Peripheral perfusion-targeted resuscitation (n=212)	Lactate level-targeted resuscitation (n = 212)	28-day mortality	34.9	43.4	0.06
Mahmoodpoor et al 2019 (51)	2	ICU	Probiotics (n=48)	Placebo (n=54)	ICU-mortality	10.4%	11.1%	0.58
Arabi et al 2019 (52)	20	ICU	Intermittent pneumatic compression (n=991)	Control group (n=1012)	90-day mortality	26.1%	26.7%	NR
Jones et al 2018 (53)	16	Sepsis	Low-dose levocarnitine, 6 g (n=35); medium-dose levocarnitine, 12 g (n=34); high-dose levocarnitine, 18 g (n=106)	Placebo (n=75)	28-day mortality	Levocarnitine 18 g: 43.3%	49.5%	0.4
Krag et al 2018 (54)	33	ICU (risk of GI bleeding)	Pantoprazole (n=1642)	Placebo (n=1640)	90-day mortality	31.1%	30.4%	0.76
Wittekamp et al 2018 (55)	13	ICU	CHX (n=2107), SOD (n=2224), SSD (n=2082)	Standard practice (n=2251)	ICU-mortality	CHX: 31.5%; SOD:30.8%; SSD:31%	30.7	NR
Pickkers et al 2018 (56)	53	AKI	Recombinant alkaline phosphatase 0.4 mg/kg (n=31); 0.8 mg/kg (n=32); 1.6 mg/kg (n=111).	Placebo group (n=116)	28-day mortality	0.4 mg/kg: 25.8% 0.8 mg/kg: 12.5% 1.6 mg/kg: 14.4%	26.7	NR
Perkins et al 2018 (57)	41	ICU	Invasive weaning (n=182)	Non-invasive weaning (n=182)	30-day survival	86.3%	86.8%	0.83
Azoulay et al 2018 (58)	32	AHRF	High-flow oxygen therapy (n=388)	Standard oxygen therapy (n = 388)	28-day mortality	35.6%	36.1%	0.94
Nardi et al 2018 (59)	5	Sepsis	Target StO ₂ >80% (n=54)	Control (n=49)	7-day mortality	33.3%	28.6%	0.67
Itenov et al 2018 (60)	10	Sepsis	Hypothermia (n=217)	Standard practice (n=215)	30-day mortality	44.2%	35.8%	0.07

Girard et al 2018 (61)	16	ICU	Haloperidol (n=192); Ziprasidone (n=190)	Placebo (N = 184)	30-day mortality	Haloperidol: 26% Ziprasidone: 28%	27%	NR
Target Investigators 2018 (62)	46	ICU	Daily nutrition 1.5-kcal (n=1971)	Daily nutrition 1.0-kcal (N = 1985)	90-day mortality	26.8%	25.7%	NR
Prevent Investigators 2018 (63)	6	ICU	Low tidal volume (n=477)	Intermediate tidal volume (n = 484)	28-day mortality	34.9%	32.1%	0.3
Pinder et al 2018 (64)	5	Sepsis	GM-CSF (n=17)	Placebo (n=21)	30-day mortality	7.7%	30%	NR
Dellinger et al 2018 (65)	55	Sepsis	Polymyxin B hemoperfusion (n=224)	Sham hemoperfusion (n=226)	28-day mortality	37.7%^	34.5%	0.49
Barbar et al 2018 (66)	29	AKI	Early renal-replacement (n=246)	Delayed renal-replacement (n=242)	90-day mortality	58% ^c	54%	0.39
van Meenen et al 2018 (67)	7	ICU	On-demand nebulization (n=455)	Routine nebulization (n=467)	28-day mortality	31.0%\$	31.9%	0.78
Reignier et al 2018 (68)	44	ICU	Parenteral (n=1202)	Enteral (n=1208)	28-day mortality	37% [@]	35%	0.33
Combes et al 2018 (69)	64	ARDS	ECMO (n=124)	Conventional treatment (n=125)	60-day mortality	35%	46%	0.09
van den Boogaard et al 2018 (70)	21	ICU	Haloperidol 1 mg (n=350) Haloperidol 2 mg (n=732)	Placebo (n=707)	28-day survival	Haloperidol 1 mg: 81.7% haloperidol 2 mg: 83.3% ^{&}	82.7%	NR
Venkatesh et al 2018 (71)	69	Sepsis	Hydrocortisone continuous infusion (n=1853)	Placebo (n=1860)	90-day mortality	27.9% [*]	28.8%	0.5
Khanna et al 2017 (72)	75	Vasodilatory shock (80% sepsis)	Angiotensin II (n=163)	Placebo (n=158)	28-day mortality	46% ^a	54%	0.22
Cooper et al 2017 (73)	59	ICU	Freshest blood available (n=2457)	Oldest blood available (n=2462)	90-day mortality	24.8% ^b	24.1%	0.57
Futier et al 2017 (74)	9	Major surgery	IV norepinephrine to targeted systolic blood pressure to 10% of reference value (n=147)	IV ephedrine if SBP<80 mmHg or 40% lower than reference value (n=145)	30-day mortality	6.1	5.5	0.82
Landoni et al 2017 (75)	14	Post-cardiac surgery on ICU	Levosimendan (n=248)	Placebo (n=258)	30-day mortality	12.9%	12.8%	0.9

Wischmeyer et al 2017 (76)	11	ICU	SPN + EN (n=73)	EN (n=52)	ICU mortality	13.5%	17.8%	0.71
Valette et al 2017 (77)	3	ICU	Sodium bicarbonate (n=151)	Sodium saline 0.9% (n=156)	ICU mortality	15.9%	16%	>0.99
Van der Geest et al 2017 (78)	2	ICU	Procalcitonin-guided therapy (n=276)	Control group (n=276)	28-day mortality	29% ^c	32%	0.36
Qiu et al 2017 (79)	7	ICU	Fat-modified enteral formula (n=71)	Standard enteral formula (n=73)	In-hospital mortality	24.1%	28.2%	0.71
Keh et al 2016 (80)	34	Sepsis	Hydrocortisone (n=190)	Placebo (n=190)	28-day mortality	8.8%	8.2%	0.86
Park et al 2016 (81)	2	AKI	High dose CVVHDF (n=105)	Conventional dose CVVHDF (n=107)	28-day mortality	65.7%	64.5%	0.5
Bloos et al 2016 (82)	33	Sepsis	Sodium selenite (n=543)	Placebo (n=546)	28-day mortality	28.3%	25.5%	0.3
Donnino et al 2016 (83)	3	Post-cardiac arrest	Hydrocortisone (n=25)	Placebo (n=25)	Survival to hospital discharge	50%	0%	0.46
Faisy et al 2016 (84)	15	Acute respiratory failure (COPD)	Acetazolamide (n=147)	Placebo (n=194)	ICU mortality	11.7%	13.4%	0.61
Legriel et al 2016 (85)	16	Convulsive status epilepticus	Hypothermia (n=138)	Standard practice (n=130)	90-day mortality	13% ^d	15%	0.67
Wiberg et al 2016 (86)	2	Post-cardiac arrest refractory shock	Exenatide (glucagon-like peptide-1 analog) (n=60)	Placebo (n=58)	30-day mortality	25%	36%	0.19
Kacmarek et al 2016 (87)	20	ARDS	Open lung approach (n=28)	Standard ventilation (n=34)	60-day mortality	29% ^e	33%	0.18
Ziegler et al 2016 (88)	5	Surgical ICU	Glutamine supplemented TPN (n=75)	Standard TPN (n=75)	6-month mortality	31.4% ^f	29.7%	0.88
Cavalcanti et al 2016 (89)	118	ICU	Quality improvement interventions (n=59)	Standard practice (n=59)	60-day in-hospital mortality	32.9%	34.8%	0.88
Gaudry et al 2016 (90)	31	ICU	Early renal replacement strategy (n=311)	Delayed renal replacement strategy (n=308)	60-day survival	48.5%	49.7%	0.79
Torres et al 2015 (91)	3	Severe CAP	Methylprednisolone (n=61)	Placebo (n=59)	In-hospital mortality	10% ^g	15%	0.37
Payen et al 2015 (92)	18	Sepsis	PMX (n=119)	Standard (n=113)	28-day mortality	27.7%	19.5%	0.14
Deye et al 2015 (93)	18	Cardiac Arrest	Endovascular cooling method	External cooling method	28-day survival	41.9%	38.1%	0.07

			(n=203)	(n=197)				
Lacroix et al 2015 (94)	64	ICU	Fresh blood (n=1207)	Standard blood (n=1206)	90-day mortality	37.0% ⁿ	35.3%	NR
Combes et al 2015 (95)	4	Post-cardiac surgery shock	Early HVHF (n=112)	CVVHDF (n=112)	30-day mortality	36% ⁱ	36%	1
Lemiale et al 2015 (96)	28	Acute hypoxemic respiratory failure	NIV (n=191)	Oxygen alone (n=183)	28-day mortality	24.1%	27.3%	0.47
Vincent et al 2015 (97)	77	Sepsis	Talactoferrin (n=153)	Placebo (n=152)	28-day mortality	24.8%	17.8%	0.11
Mouncey et al 2015 (98)	56	Sepsis	EGDT (n=630)	Standard practice (n=630)	90-day mortality	29.5%	29.2%	0.9
Peake et al 2014 (99)	51	Sepsis	EGDT (n=796)	Standard practice (n=804)	90-day mortality	18.6%	18.8%	0.9
Yealy et al 2014 (100)	31	Sepsis	EGDT (n=439)	Standard practice (N=456)	60-day in-hospital mortality	21%	Usual care:18.9%; protocol-based standard-therapy group:18.2%	0.83; 0.31
Van Zanten et al 2014 (101)	14	ICU	IMHP (n=152)	HP (n=149)	28-day mortality	20%	17%	0.42
Abroug F et al 2014 (102)	2	AHRF (COPD)	Prednisone (n=111)	Placebo (n=106)	ICU mortality	15.3%	14.2%	0.81
Giamarellos-Bourboulis et al 2014 (103)	3	Sepsis	Clarithromycin (n=302)	Placebo (n=298)	28-day mortality	18.5%	17.1%	0.67
Asfar et al 2014 (104)	29	Sepsis	High blood pressure target group (n=388)	Low blood pressure target group (n=388)	28-day mortality	36.6%	34%	0.57
Caironi et al 2014 (105)	100	Sepsis	20% albumin and crystalloid solution (n=903)	crystalloid solution alone (n=907)	28 day mortality	31.8%	32%	0.94
Leaf et al 2014 (106)	44	ARDS	Rosuvastatin (n=379)	Placebo (n=366)	Hospital mortality	28.5%	24.9%	0.21
Holst et al 2014 (107)	32	Sepsis	Higher Hb level (n=496)	Lower Hb level (n=502)	90-day mortality	45%	43%	0.44
Harvey et al 2014 (108)	33	ICU	Parenteral group (n=1191)	Enteral group (n=1197)	30-day mortality	33,1%	34.2%	0.57
Young et al 2013 (109)	72	Prolonged mechanical ventilation	Early tracheostomy (n=455)	Late tracheostomy (n=454)	30-day mortality	30.8%	31.5%	0.81
Opal et al 2013 (110)	197	Sepsis	TLR4 antagonist (n=1304)	Placebo (n=657)	28-day mortality	28.1%	26.9%	0.59
Papazian et	26	VAP	Simvastatin	Placebo	28-day mortality	21%	15%	0.1

al 2013 (111)			(n=146)	(n=138)				
Annane et al 2013 (112)	24	Sepsis	Drotrecogin alfa (activated) (n=208)	Placebo (n=203)	90-day mortality	47.6%	46.3%	0.79
Young et al 2013 (113)	29	ARDS	HFOV (n=398)	Conventional ventilation (n=397)	30-day mortality	41.7%	41.1%	0.85
Hung et al 2013 (114)	5	Severe H1A1 influenza	High dose IVIgG (n=17)	Normal IVIgG (n=17)	Mortality	29.4%	23.5%	NR
Vincent et al 2013 (115)	33	Sepsis + DIC	ART-123 (n=370)	Placebo (n=371)	28-day mortality	17.8%	21.6%	0.27
Annane et al 2013 (116)	57	Hypovolemic shock	Colloids (n=1414)	Crystalloids (n=1443)	28-day mortality	25.4%	27%	0.26
Doig et al 2013 (117)	31	ICU	Early parenteral nutrition (n=681)	Standard practice (n=682)	60-day mortality	21.5%	22.8%	0.6
Durante-Mangoni et al 2013 (118)	5	Drug-resistant <i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>	Colistin + rifampicin (n=104)	Colistin (n=105)	30-day mortality	43.3%	42.9%	0.95
Vignon et al 2013 (119)	9	High risk of bleeding	IPC+graduated compression stockings (n=204)	graduated compression stockings (n=202)	30-day mortality	29.9%	28.7%	NR
Myburgh et al 2012 (120)	32	ICU	Voluven (HES 130/0.4) (n=3358)	0.9% saline (n=3384)	90-day mortality	18%	17%	0.26
Ranieri et al 2012 (121)	208	Sepsis	Drotrecogin alfa (activated) (n=846)	Placebo (n=834)	28-day mortality	26.4% ^j	24.2%	0.31
Thiele et al 2012 (122)	37	Cardiogenic shock	IABP (n=301)	Standard practice (n=299)	30-day mortality	39.7%	41.3%	0.69
Jensen et al 2011 (123)	9	ICU	Procalcitonin-guided interventions (n=604)	Standard practice (n=596)	28-day mortality	31.5%	32%	0.83
Wunderink et al 2011 (124)	188	Severe CAP	rTFP inhibitor (n=946)	Placebo (n=918)	28-day mortality	18%	17.9%	0.61
Spragg et al 2010 (125)	161	ALI	Protein C-based surfactant (n=419)	Standard practice (n=424)	28-day survival	77.3%	76.2%	0.26
Jansen et al 2010 (126)	348	ICU	Lactate guided treatment (n=171)	Standard therapy (n=177)	Hospital mortality	33.9% ^k	43.5%	0.067
Peek et al 2010 (127)	148	ARDS	ECMO (n=90)	Conventional management (n=90)	6-month mortality	33%	53%	NR
Jones et al	3	Sepsis	ScvO ₂	Lactate clearance	In-hospital	23% ^l	17%	NR

2010 (128)			(n=150)	(n=150)	mortality			
Rice et al 2010 (129)	93	Sepsis	TAK-242 (n=183)	Placebo (n=91)	28-day mortality	22% low dose group 17% high dose group	24%	0.26
Annane et al 2010 (130)	11	Sepsis	Intensive insulin (n=255)	Conventional glucose control (n=254)	90-day mortality	45.9%	42.9%	0.5
			Hydrocortisone+fludrocortisone (n=245)	Hydrocortisone (n=264)		42.9%	45.8%	0.5
Bouadma et al 2010 (131)	8	ICU	Procalcitonin (n=311)	Control (n=319)	28-day mortality	21.2%	20.4%	NR
Tidswell et al 2010 (132)	99	Sepsis	IV eritoran tetrasodium (45 mg, n=103; 105 mg, n=94)	Placebo (n=96)	28-day mortality	105 mg: 26.6%; 45 mg: 32%	33.3%	0.335
Hauser et al 2010 (133)	150	Refractory traumatic hemorrhage	rFVIIa (n=221)	Placebo (n=247)	30-day mortality	11% ⁿ	10.7%	0.93
Taccone et al 2009 (134)	25	ARDS	Prone position (n=168)	Supine position (n=174)	28-day mortality	31% ^o	32.8%	0.74
Palizas et al 2009 (135)	6	Sepsis	pHi (n=64)	Cardiac index (n=66)	28-day mortality	28.1%	30.3%	0.98
Bellomo et al 2009 (136)	35	ICU	High intensity CVVHDF (n=722)	Low intensity CVVHDF (n=743)	90-day mortality	44.7% ^p	44.7%	0.99
Dellinger et al 2009 (137)	235	Gram-negative sepsis	GR270773 lipid emulsion (n=780)	Placebo (n=599)	28-day mortality	Low dose group: 25.8% High dose: 31.3%	26.9%	Low dose vs placebo: p=0.329 High dose vs placebo: p=0.879
Kesecioglu et al 2009 (138)	67	ARDS	Exogenous natural surfactant (n=208)	Standard practice (n=210)	28-day mortality	28.8%	24.5%	0.22
Lins et al 2009 (139)	9	AKI	CRRT (n=172)	IRRT (n=144)	Hospital mortality	58.1%	62.5%	0.43
Preiser et al 2009 (140)	21	ICU	Tight glucose control (n=536)	Standard glucose control (n=542)	ICU mortality	17.2% ^q	15.3%	0.41
Schuetz et al 2009 (141)	6	LRTI	Procalcitonin algorithm (n=103)	Standard therapy (n=130)	30-day mortality	5.1% ^r	4.8%	NR
Doig et al 2008 (142)	27	ICU	Evidence-based feeding guideline	Standard feeding (n=557)	Hospital mortality	28.9%	27.4%	0.75

			(n=561)					
Blot et al 2008 (143)	25	Mechanical ventilation	Early tracheostomy (n=61)	Prolonged intubation (n=62)	28-day mortality	20%	24%	NR
Palevsky et al 2008 (144)	27	AKI	Intensive renal replacement therapy (n=563)	Less intensive renal replacement therapy (n=561)	60-day mortality	53.6%	51.5%	0.47
Russell et al 2008 (145)	27	Sepsis	Vasopressin (n=396)	Norepinephrine (n=382)	28-day mortality	35.4% ^s	39.3%	0.26
Mercat et al 2008 (146)	37	ARDS	Increased recruitment strategy (n=385)	Minimal distension strategy (n=382)	28-day mortality	27.8%	31.2%	0.31
Meade et al 2008 (147)	30	ARDS	Open-lung ventilation (n=475)	Control ventilation (508)	Hospital mortality	36.4% ^t	40.4%	0.19
Brunkhorst et al 2008 (148)	18	Sepsis	Intensive insulin (n=247)	Conventional Insulin (n=290) therapy	28-day mortality	24.7% ^u	26%	0.74
			10% pentastarch (HES 200/0.5) (n=262)	Ringer's lactate (n=275)		26.7%	24.1%	0.48
Sprung et al 2008 (149)	52	Sepsis	Hydrocortisone (n=251)	Placebo (n=248)	28-day mortality	Not responsive to corticotropin: 39.2% Responsive to corticotropin: 28.8%	Not responsive to corticotropin: 36.1% Responsive to corticotropin: 28.7%	Not responsive p=0.69 Responsive p=1.00
Giamarellos et al 2008 (150)	3	Sepsis and VAP	Clarithromycin (n=100)	Placebo (n=100)	28-day mortality	23.3% ^x	25.5%	0.86
Tumlin et al 2008 (151)	12	AKI	CVVH + RAD (n=40)	CRRT (n=18)	28-day mortality	33.3%	61.1%	0.08
Fernandez et al 2008 (152)	17	ARDS	Prone position (n=21)	Supine position (n=19)	60-day mortality	38%	53%	0.3
Heyland et al 2008 (153)	28	VAP	Meropenem and ciprofloxacin (n=369)	Meropenem (n=370)	28-day mortality	25.6%	29.4%	0.74
Kinasewitz et al 2008 (154)	15	Distributive shock (94% sepsis)	Pyridoxalated hemoglobin polyoxyethylene (n=33)	Placebo (n=29)	28-day mortality	57.6%	58.6%	NR
Werdan et al 2008 (155)	11	Cardiac surgery	IV IgG (n=110)	Placebo (n=108)	28-day mortality	39.1%	31.5%	NR
Manzano et	3	Mechanical	PEEP 5-8 cm H ₂ O	No PEEP	Hospital mortality	29.7%	25.4%	0.58

al 2008 (156)		ventilation	(n=66)	(n=65)				
Werdan et al 2007 (157)	23	Sepsis	IVIgG (n=321)	Placebo (n=303)	28-day mortality	39.3%	37.3%	0.66
Moritz et al 2007 (158)	3	Cardiogenic pulmonary edema	Bilevel PAP (n=50)	B-CPAP (n=59)	Hospital mortality	8%	14%	NR
Annane et al 2007 (159)	19	Sepsis	Norepinephrine + dobutamine (n=169)	Epinephrine (n=161)	28-day mortality	34%	40%	0.31
Levi et al 2007 (160)	224	Sepsis	DrotAA + low molecular weight/unfractionated heparin (n=976)	DrotAA + placebo (n=959)	28-day mortality	28.3%	31.9%	0.08
Stoutenbeek et al 2007 (161)	17	Multiple trauma	SDD (n=201)	Control (n=200)	Late mortality	13.4%	17.2%	0.35
Angstwurm et al 2007 (162)	11	Sepsis	Sodium-selenite (n=92)	Placebo (n=97)	28-day mortality	39.7%	50%	0.109
van Ruler et al 2007 (163)	7	Severe peritonitis	On-demand re-laparotomy (n=114)	Planned re-laparotomy (n=115)	12-month mortality	36%	29%	0.22
Hentrich et al 2006 (1645)	6	Sepsis	ivIGMA (n=103)	Control (n=103)	28-day mortality	26.2%	28.2%	0.93
Heyland et al 2006 (165)	28	VAP	BAL (n=365)	Endotracheal aspiration (n=374)	28-day mortality	18.9%	18.4%	0.94
Radrizani et al 2006 (166)	33	Sepsis	Early parenteral nutrition (n=145)	Enteral immunonutrition (n=142)	28-day mortality	15.1%	15.6%	0.89
Wheeler et al 2006 (167)	20	ARDS	PAC (n=513)	Central venous catheter (n=487)	60-day mortality	27.4%	26.3%	0.69
Wiedemann et al 2006 (168)	20	ARDS	Conservative fluid strategy (n=503)	Liberal fluid strategy (n=497)	60-day mortality	25.5%	28.4%	0.3
Steinberg et al 2006 (169)	25	ARDS	Methylprednisolone (n=89)	Placebo (n=91)	60-day mortality	29.2%	28.6%	1.0
Mancebo et al 2006 (170)	13	ARDS	Prone position (n=76)	Supine position (n=60)	ICU mortality	43%	58%	0.12
Vinsonneau et al 2006 (171)	21	AKI	CVVHF (n=175)	IHD (n=184)	60-day survival	33%	32%	0.98
Rodriguez et al 2005 (172)	5	Sepsis	High-dose IV immunoglobulin (n=29)	Placebo (n=27)	30-day mortality	27.5%	48.1%	0.06
Harvey et al	65	ICU	PAC	No PAC	Hospital mortality	68%	66%	0.39

2005 (173)			(n=506)	(n=507)				
Abraham et al 2005 (174)	516	Sepsis	DrotAA (n=1316)	Placebo (n=1297)	28-day mortality	18.5%	17%	0.34
Tumlin et al 2005 (175)	3	AKI	Fenoldopam mesylate (n=80)	Placebo (n=75)	21-day mortality	13.8%	25.3%	0.06
Zeihner et al 2005 (176)	75	Sepsis	LY315920Na/S-5920 (n=188)	Placebo (n=185)	28-day mortality	39.4%	31.9%	0.09
Guerin et al 2004 (177)	21	Acute hypoxemic respiratory failure	Prone position (n=413)	Supine position (n=378)	28-day mortality	32.4%	31.5%	0.77
Spragg et al 2004 (178)	109	ARDS	Protein C-based surfactant (n=224)	Control (n=224)	28-day survival	68%	64%	0.54
Brower et al 2004 (179)	23	ARDS	Higher PEEP (n=276)	Lower PEEP (n=273)	Hospital mortality	27.5%	24.9%	0.48
Albrecht et al 2004 (180)	13	Sepsis	BN 52021 (ginkgolide B) (n=44)	Placebo (n=44)	28-day mortality	42%	51%	0.17
Finfer et al 2004 (181)	16	ICU	4% albumin (n=3473)	Saline (n=3460)	28-day mortality	20.9%	21.1%	0.87
Opal et al 2004 (182)	146	Sepsis	rPAF-AH (n=460)	Placebo (n=457)	28-day mortality	25%	24%	0.8
Abraham et al 2003 (183)	72	Sepsis	High-dose LY315920Na/S-5920 (n=194) Low dose LY315920Na/S-5920 (n=196)	Placebo (n=196)	28-day mortality	High dose group: 36.1% Low-dose group: 37.2%	33.2%	0.525
Abraham et al 2003 (184)	245	Sepsis	Tifacogin (n=880)	Placebo (n=874)	28-day mortality	34.2%	33.9%	0.88
Albertson et al 2003 (185)	33	Gram-negative sepsis	MAB-T88 (n=411)	Placebo (n=415)	28-day mortality	37%	34%	0.36
Chastre et al 2003 (186)	51	VAP	8-day antibiotic regimen for VAP (n=197)	15-day antibiotic regimen for VAP (n=204)	28-day mortality	18.8%	17.2%	NR
Richard et al 2003 (187)	36	Shock or ARDS	PAC (n=335)	No PAC (n=341)	28-day mortality	59.4%	61%	0.67
Root et al 2003 (188)	96	Pneumonia + severe sepsis	Filgrastim (n=348)	Placebo (n=353)	29-day mortality	29%	25.5%	0.383
Sandham et al 2003 (189)	19	High risk surgical	PAC (n=997)	No PAC (n=997)	In-hospital mortality	7.7%	7.8%	0.93
Bouman et al 2002 (190)	2	AKI	Early high-volume hemofiltration (n=35)	Late low-volume hemofiltration (n=36)	28-day survival	Early high-volume group:	Late low-volume: 75%	0.8

			Early low-volume hemofiltration (n=35)			74.3% Early low-volume: 68.8%		
Reinhart et al 2001 (191)	84	Sepsis	Afelimomab (n=224)	Placebo (n=222)	28-day mortality	54%	57.7%	0.36
Abraham et al 2001 (192)	108	Sepsis	Lenercept (n=662)	Placebo (n=680)	28-day mortality	27%	28%	0.141
Gattinoni et al 2001 (193)	30	ARDS	Prone position (n=152)	Supine position (n=152)	10-day mortality	21.1%	25%	NR
Vincent et al 2001 (194)	31	ARDS	Liposomal PGE1 (TLC C-53) (n=70)	Placebo (n=32)	28-day mortality	30%	28%	0.78
Warren et al 2001 (195)	211	Sepsis	High-dose antithrombin III (n=1157)	Placebo (n=1157)	Over-all 28-day mortality	38.9%	38.7%	0.94
Angus et al 2000 (196)	136	Gram-negative sepsis	Murine monoclonal antibody E5 (n=550)	Placebo (n=552)	14-day mortality	29.7%	31.1%	0.67
ARDS network 2000 (197)	24	ARDS	Ketoconazole (n=117)	Placebo (n=117)	In-hospital mortality	35.2%	34.1%	0.85
Poeze et al 2000 (198)	9	Sepsis	PAF-antagonist TCV-309 (n=49)	Placebo (n=48)	56-day mortality	51%	41.7%	0.47
Takala et al 2000 (199)	13	Major abdominal surgery	Dopexamine (n=272)	Placebo (n=140)	28-day mortality	Dopexamine 0.5 mcg/kg/min: 7% Dopexamine 2 mcg/kg/min: 15%	13%	0.13
Demetriades et al 1999 (200)	19	Acute hemorrhagic trauma	rBPI21 (n=202)	Placebo (n=199)	15-day mortality	6%	5%	NR
Hebert et al 1999 (201)	25	ICU	Restrictive transfusion strategy (n=418)	Liberal transfusion strategy (n=420)	30-day mortality	18.7%	23.3%	0.11
Abraham et al 1998 (202)	105	Sepsis	TNF-alpha Mab (n=949)	Placebo (n=930)	28-day mortality	40.3%	42.8%	0.27
Brochard et al 1998 (203)	25	ARDS	Plateau pressure limitation (n= 58)	Standard practice (n=58)	60-day mortality	46.6%	37.9%	0.38
Dhainaut et al 1998 (204)	59	Gram-negative sepsis	PAFra BN52021 (n=300)	Placebo (n=308)	28-day mortality	47%	49%	0.5
Wasserman	23	Severe burns	Interferon-gamma	Placebo	90-day mortality	20.1%	21.4%	0.675

et al 1998 (205)			(n=109)	(n=107)				
Opal et al 1997 (206)	91	Sepsis	rhIL-1ra (n=350)	Placebo (n=346)	28-day mortality	33.6%	35.7%	0.49
Anzueto et al 1996 (207)	63	ARDS	Aerosolized surfactant (n=364)	Placebo (n=361)	30-day mortality	40%	40%	NR
Cohen et al 1996 (208)	40	Sepsis	BAY x 1351 (n=287)	Placebo (n=133)	28-day mortality	3 mg/kg group: 31.5% 15 mg/kg group: 42.4%	39.5%	NR
Abraham et al 1995 (209)	31	Sepsis	TNF-alpha MAb (n=664)	Placebo (n=330)	28-day mortality	7.5 mg/kg group: 29.5% 15 mg/kg group: 31.3%	33.1%	7.5 mg/kg group: 0.33 15 mg/kg group: 0.61
Bone et al 1995 (210)	53	Sepsis	E5 (n=264)	Placebo (n=266)	30-day mortality	30%	26%	0.21
Gattinoni et al 1995 (211)	56	ICU	Goal-directed therapy (n=510)	Control (n=252)	ICU-mortality	Cardiac index group: 48.6% Oxygen index group: 52.1%	48.4%	0.638
Fisher et al 1994 (212)	63	Sepsis	IL-1ra (n=591)	Placebo (n=302)	28-day mortality	1 mg/kg/h group: 31% 2 mg/kg/h group: 29%	34%	0.22
McCloskey et al 1994 (213)	513	Sepsis	HA-1A (n=1228)	Placebo (n=1199)	14-day mortality	33%	32%	0.864
Suter et al 1994 (214)	4	Acute lung injury	NAC (n=32)	Placebo (n=29)	1-month mortality	22%	35%	NR
Gastinne et al 1992 (215)	15	ICU	Prophylactic non-absorbable antibioticsz5 (n=220)	Placebo (n=225)	ICU mortality	34%	30%	0.37
Bone et al 1989 (216)	13	ARDS	Prostaglandin E1 (n=100)	Placebo (n=50)	30-day mortality	60%	48%	NR
Calandra et al 1988 (217)	10	Sepsis	Human IgG antibody to <i>Escherichia coli</i> J5 (n=100)	Standard IgG (n=100)	14-day mortality	50%	49%	NR
Bone et al 1987 (218)	19	Sepsis	High-dose methylprednisolone (n=191)	Placebo (n=191)	14-day mortality	34%	25%	0.06
Veterans	10	Sepsis	High dose	Placebo	14-day mortality	21%	22%	0.97

administratio n 1987 (219)			glucocorticoid (n=112)	(n=111)				
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ARDS: acute respiratory distress syndrome; CAP: community acquired pneumonia. COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; ECMO: extracorporeal membrane oxygenation; EGDT: early goal-directed therapy; ICU: intensive care unit; TPN: total parenteral nutrition; MODS: multiple organ dysfunction syndrome; PMX: polymyxin hemoperfusion; Hb: hemoglobin; SPN: supplemental parenteral nutrition; EN: enteral nutrition; HVHF: high volume hemofiltration; IMHP: r high-protein enteral nutrition enriched with immune-modulating nutrients; NIV: non-invasive ventilation; TTM: targeted temperature management; TLR4: Toll-like receptor 4; HES: Hydroxyethyl starch; HFOV: high frequency oscillatory ventilation; H-IVIG: high dose immunoglobulin G; (ART-123) recombinant thrombomodulin; Peep: positive end-expiratory pressure; PAP: positive airway pressure; IPC: intermittent pneumatic compression; DrotAA: Drotecogin alfa activated; IABP: intra-aortic balloon pump; NIPSV: non-invasive pressure support ventilation; CPAP: continuous positive airway ventilation; rTFP: recombinant tissue factor pathway inhibitor; ScvO2: central venous oxygen saturation; rFVIIa: recombinant tissue factor VIIa; TAK-242: Toll like receptor-4 inhibitor; pHi: intra-mucosal pH; CVVHDF: continuous veno-venous hemofiltration; CRRT: continuous renal replacement therapy; IRRT: intermittent renal replacement therapy; CVVH: continuous venovenous hemofiltration; PEEP: positive end expiratory pressure; SDD: selective digestive decontamination; BAL: bronchoalveolar lavage; rPAF-AH: recombinant human platelet-activating factor; VAP: ventilator associated pneumonia; PAC: pulmonary artery catheter; PGE1: prostaglandin E1; rhIL-1ra: recombinant human interleukin-1 receptor antagonist; HA-1A: human monoclonal IgM antibody; TNF-alpha: tumor necrosis factor alpha; NAC: N-acetylcysteine; AKI: acute kidney injury.; AHRF: acute hypercapnic respiratory failure; SBP: systolic blood pressure; GM-CSF: granulocyte-macrophage colony stimulating factor; HVHF: high-volume hemofiltration; RAD: renal assist device

^ MODS >9: all participants: 44.5% vs. 43.9%, p=0.94; Per protocol all participants: 28.9% vs. 29.2%, p=0.94; Per protocol MODS >9: 33% vs 36.4%, p=0.58.

Ç 28-day mortality: 45% vs 42%, p=0.48; 180-day mortality: 61% vs 57%, p=0.37.

\$ 90-day mortality: 45% vs 43%, p= 0.28; ICU mortality: 33% vs 31%, p=0.17; hospital mortality: 36% vs 34%, p=0.25.

@ ICU mortality: 29.7% vs. 29.3%, p=0.94; 90-day mortality: 38.5% vs.36.7%, p=0.94; hospital mortality: 38.7% vs. 37.7%, p=0.78.

& 90-day mortality haloperidol 1 mg: 78.6%, haloperidol 2 mg: 79.1% vs control 79.1%, p= NS

*28-day mortality 22.3% vs 24.3%; p=0.13

a 7-day mortality 28.8% vs 34.8%; p=0.22.

b No difference in 28-day (p=0.61) or 180-day mortality (p=0.75); in the subgroup analysis (APACHE score >21.5%, 90 day mortality significantly greater in the short-term storage group (37.7% vs 34%, OR 1.18 (95% CI, 1.00-1.39, p = 0.05)

c 90-day mortality rates 38% vs 40%, p=0.53

d ICU mortality 9% vs 12%, p=0.64; hospital mortality (including ICU) 12% vs 15%, p=0.55;

e Main outcome measures were 60-day and ICU mortality and ventilator free days, ICU mortality was 25% in the OLA group vs 30% ARDS network protocol; p=0,53),

f Total hospital mortality was 13/75 (17.3%) with STD-PN compared with 11/75 (14,7%) with GLN-PN (p=0.66); Mortality at 28 days after entry was STD-PN, 12/75 (16.0%) vs GLN-PN, 11/75 (14.7%); p=0.82.

g; 5% in the methylprednisolone vs 12% in the placebo group (p=0.21) (PP population).

h ICU mortality: 26.7% vs, 24.2%, p=NS; In hospital mortality 33.3% vs 31.9%, p=NS; 28-day mortality 30.6% vs 28.8%, p=NS.

i 60-day mortality: 43% vs 38%, p=0.82; 90-day mortality 46% vs 38%, p=0.28; ICU mortality: 44% vs 39%, p=0.5; In-hospital mortality 45% vs 39%,p=0.42. l 90-day mortality 30.7% vs 34.2%, p=0.03.

j 90-day mortality was DrotAA 34.1% vs placebo 32.7%, p=0.56.

k In the sub-group analysis adjusted for predictive risk factors, hospital mortality was lower in the lactate-guided group (p=0.006).

l Per protocol 17% vs 22%, p=NS, respectively.

n For penetrating trauma rFVIIa 18.2% vs placebo 13.2%, p=0.4).

o For patients with moderate hypoxemia (n=192) 25.5% vs 22.5%, p=0.62; severe hypoxemia (n=150) 37.8% vs 46.1%, p=0.31; ICU mortality for the entire population 38.1% vs 42%, p=0.47; moderate hypoxemia 31.9% vs 31.6%, p= 0.97; severe hypoxemia 45.9% vs 55.3%, p=0.25); 6-month mortality for the entire population 47% vs 52.3%, p=0.33; moderate hypoxemia 42.6% vs 43.9%, p= 0.33; severe hypoxemia 52.7% vs 63.2%, p= 0.19).

p 28-day mortality high intensity group 38.5% vs low intensity group 36.9%, p= 0.52.

q Hospital mortality 23.3% vs 19.4%, p=0.11; 28-day mortality: 18.7% vs 15.3%, p=0.51.

r In the per protocol population 4.6% vs 4.8%, p=NS.

s 90-day outcome 43.9% vs 49.6%, p=0.11;

t ICU mortality 30.5% vs 35%, p=0.13; Death during mechanical ventilation 28.6% vs 33.1%, p=0.13; 28-day mortality 28.4% vs 32.3%, p=0.13.

u 90-day mortality insulin therapy: 39.7% vs 35.4%, p=0.31; fluid resuscitation 41% vs 33.9%, p=0.09.

x Crude mortality 31/100 vs 28/100, p=0.76; 7-day mortality 6/100 vs 8/100, p=0.78

Table S4. Quality of reporting and methodological quality of multicenter randomized controlled trials showing decreased mortality

First Author	Allocation concealment	Stopped early/adequacy for stopping	Type of analysis	Sample size calculated	% reduction wanted	% mortality assumed in controlled group	α
Amendola et al 2018 (8)	Yes	No	NR	96	NR	NR	0.05
Annane et al 2018 (9)	Yes	No	ITT	1280	10%	45%	0.05
de Jong et al 2016 (10)	Yes	No	MITT	1262	15%	28%	0.02
Guerin et al 2013 (11)	Yes	No	ITT	456	15%	60%	0.05
Guntupalli et al 2013 (12)	Yes	No	MITT	190	13%	30%	<0.2
Nava et al (13)	Yes	No	ITT	80	25%	NR	0.05
Papazian et al 2010 (14)	Yes	No	ITT	340	15%	50%	0.05
Ferrer et al 2009 (15)	Yes	No	ITT	106	41%	NR	0.05
de Smet et al 2009 (16)	Yes	No	ITT	2300	4%	20%	0.05
Ferrer et al 2006 (17)	Yes	No	ITT	162	35%	NR	0.05
Villar et al 2006 (18)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	148	20%	50%	0.05
Panacek et al 2004 (19)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	1000	10%	NR	0.04
Ferrer et al (2003) (20)	No	No	PP	84	NR	NR	0.05
Ferrer et al (2003) (21)	No	No	PP	102	NR	NR	0.05
Annane et al 2002 (22)	Yes	No	ITT	270	20%	95% (non-responders)	0.05
Bernard et al 2001 (23)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	2280	NR	NR	0.05
Brower et al 2000 (24)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	1000	10%	50%	0.05
Esteban et al 2000 (25)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	0.05
Fagon et al 2000 (26)	Yes	No	ITT	400	10%	30%	0.05
Nava et al (27)	Yes	No	NR	NR	NR	NR	0.05

Amato et al 1998 (28)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	58	x 2.4	NR	0.05
Baudo et al 1998 (29)	Yes	No	ITT	120	50%	60%	0.05
Brouhard et al 1995 (30)	Yes	No	NR	NR	NR	NR	0.05
Fisher et al 1994 (31)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	NR
Gutierrez et al 1992 (32)	Yes	No	ITT	260	NR	NR	0.02
Dominioni et al 1991 (33)	Yes	No	ITT	60	30%	50%	0.05
Ziegler et al 1991 (34)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	15%	30%	0.05

Abbreviations: ITT: intention to treat; MITT: modified intention to treat; NR: not reported

Table S5. Quality of reporting and methodologic quality of multicenter randomized controlled trials showing increased mortality

First Author	Allocation concealment	Stopped early/adequacy for stopping	Type of analysis	Sample size calculated	% reduction wanted	% mortality assumed in controlled group	α
Guidet et al 2017 (35)	No	No	ITT	3000	6%	32%	0.05
Cavalcanti et al 2017 (36)	No	No	ITT	520	NR	25%	0.05
Ferguson et al 2013 (37)	Yes	Yes/No	ITT	1200	20%	45%	0.05
Heyland et al 2013 (38)	Yes	No	ITT	1200	7.5%	30%	0.04
Mourvillier et al 2013 (39)	Yes	Yes	ITT	276	NR	NR	0.05
Perner et al 2012 (40)	Yes	No	MITT	800	10%	45%	0.05
Gao Smith et al 2012 (41)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	1334	8.8%	44%	0.05
Elseviers et al 2010 (42)	No	No	PP	NR	NR	NR	NR
Lopez et al 2004 (43)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	4400	5%	50%	0.05
Esteban et al 2004 (44)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	388	13%	33%	0.05
Mehta et al 2001 (45)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	0.05
Esteban et al 2000 (25)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	0.05
Sloan et al 1999 (46)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	850	10%	40%	0.05
Takala et al 1999 (47)	No	No	PP	360	NR	NR	0.05
Fisher et al 1996 (48)	No	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	0.05
Hayes et al 1994 (49)	Yes	Yes/Yes	PP	260	15%	33%	0.05

Abbreviations: ITT: intention to treat. MITT: modified intention to treat. PP: per protocol. NR: not reported

Table S6. Quality of reporting and methodologic quality of multicenter randomized controlled trials showing no effect on mortality

First Author	Allocation concealment	Stopped early/adequacy for stopping	Type of analysis	Sample size calculated	% reduction wanted	% mortality assumed in control group	α
Hernandez et al 2019 (50)	Yes	No	ITT	420	15%	45%	0.05
Mahmoodpoor et al 2019 (51)	Yes	No	NR	90	NR	NR	0.05
Arabi et al 2019 (52)	Yes	No	MIT	2000	NR	NR	0.05
Jones et al 2018 (53)	Yes	No	MITT/PP	250	NR	NR	0.05
Krag et al 2018 (54)	Yes	No	ITT/PP	3350	5%	25%	0.05
Wittekamp et al 2018 (55)	Yes	No	ITT	10800	10%	27.5%	0.05
Pickkers et al 2018 (56)	Yes	No	ITT	245	NR	NR	0.05
Perkins et al 2018 (57)	Yes	No	ITT	280	NR	NR	0.05
Azoulay et al 2018 (58)	Yes	No	ITT	779	10%	30%	0.05
Nardi et al 2018 (59)	Yes	Yes	ITT	NR	20%	50%	0.05
Itenov et al 2018 (60)	Yes	Yes	MITT	560	21%	48%	0.05
Girard et al 2018 (61)	Yes	No	ITT	561	NR	NR	0.025
Target Investigators 2018 (62)	Yes	No	MITT	3774	5.9%	25%	0.05
Prevent Investigators 2018 (63)	Yes	No	ITT	952	NR	NR	0.05
Pinder et al 2018 (64)	Yes	No	MITT	150	40%	20%	0.05
Dellinger et al 2018 (65)	Yes	No	ITT/PP	360	15%	35%	0.05
Barbar et al 2018 (66)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	864	10%	55%	0.05
van Meenen et al 2018 (67)	Yes	No	ITT	890	NR	NR	0.05

Reignier et al 2018 (68)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	2854	5%	37%	0.049
Combes et al 2018 (69)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	331	20%	60%	0.05
van den Boogaard et al 2018 (70)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	1430	15%	20%	0.05
Venkatesh et al 2018 (71)	Yes	No	ITT	3800	5%	33%	0.05
Khanna et al 2017 (72)	Yes	No	ITT	38	NR	NR	0.05
Cooper et al 2017 (73)	Yes	No	ITT	4664	15%	28%	0.05
Futier et al 2017 (74)	Yes	No	ITT	300	NR	NR	0.05
Landoni et al 2017 (75)	Yes	Yes	ITT	870	8%	12.7%	0.05
Wischmeyer et al 2017 (76)	Yes	No	ITT	120	NR	NR	0.05
Valette et al 2017 (77)	Yes	No	MITT	282	10%	NR	0.05
Van der Geest et al 2017 (78)	Yes	No	ITT	550	10%	20%	0.05
Qiu et al 2017 (79)	Yes	No	ITT	122	NR	NR	0.05
Keh et al 2016 (80)	Yes	No	ITT	338	15%	NR	0.05
Park et al 2016 (81)	Yes	No	ITT	172	20%	60%	0.05
Bloos et al 2016 (82)	Yes	No	ITT	496	10%	48%	0.05
Donnino et al 2016 (83)	NR	No	NR	50	NR	NR	0.05
Faisy et al. 2016 (84)	Yes	No	ITT	380	NR	NR	0.05
Legriel et al 2016 (85)	Yes	No	ITT	270	20%	NR	0.05
Wiberg et al 2016 (86)	Yes	No	ITT	120	NR	NR	0.05
Kacmarek et al 2016 (87)	No	No	ITT	600	12.5%	45%	0.05
Ziegler et al 2016 (88)	Yes	No	ITT	150	25%	22%	0.05
Cavalcanti et al 2016 (89)	Yes	No	ITT	102	5%	0%	0.05
Gaudry et al 2016 (90)	Yes	No	ITT	546	15%	55%	0.05

Torres et al 2015 (91)	Yes	No	ITT and PP	120	NR	NR	0.05
Payen et al 2015 (92)	Yes	No	ITT and PP	240	20%	37%	0.05
Deye et al 2015 (93)	Yes	No	ITT	400	NR	NR	0.05
Lacroix et al 2015 (94)	Yes	No	ITT	2510	5%	25%	0.05
Combes et al 2015 (95)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	360	12%	25%	0.05
Lemiale et al 2015 (96)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	350	11.9%	30%	0.05
Vincent et al 2015 (97)	Yes	No	ITT	1260	20,0%	40%	0.05
Mouncey et al 2015 (98)	Yes	No	ITT	1600	7.6%	28%	0.05
Peake et al 2014 (99)	Yes	No	ITT	1350	6-7%	30-46%	0.05
Yealy et al 2014 (100)	Yes	Yes/No (low recruitment)	ITT	300	12%	22%	0.05
Van Zanten et al 2014 (101)	Yes	No	ITT	300	NR	NR	0.05
Abroug et al 2014 (102)	Yes	No	PP	600	>10%	25%	0.05
Giamarellos-Bourboulis et al 2014 (103)	Yes	No	ITT	800	10%	45%	0.05
Asfar et al 2014 (104)	No	No	ITT	1350	7.5%	45%	0.05
Caironi et al 2014 (105)	Yes	No	ITT	10000	25%	61%	0.05
Leaf et al 2014 (106)	Yes	No	ITT	690	12.5%	50%	0.05
Holst et al 2014 (107)	No	No	ITT	2400	6.4%	32%	0.05
Harvey et al 2014 (108)	Yes	No	MITT	900	11%	55%	0.05
Young et al 2013 (109)	Yes	No	MITT	2000	7.5%	40%	0.05
Opal et al 2013 (110)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	1002	8%	30%	0.025
Papazian et al 2013 (111)	Yes	Yes/No	ITT	1280	10%	45%	0.05
Annane et al 2013 (112)	Yes	No	ITT	1006	9%	45%	0.05

Young et al 2013 (113)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	NR
Hung et al 2013 (114)	Yes	No	ITT	750	11%	32%	0.05
Vincent et al 2013 (115)	Yes	No	ITT	3010	5%	20%	0.05
Annane et al 2013 (116)	Yes	No	ITT	1470	7.7%	29.7%	0.05
Doig et al 2013 (117)	Yes	No	ITT	207	20%	60%	0.05
Durante-Mangoni et al 2013 (118)	Yes	No	ITT	356	60%	15%	0.05
Vignon et al 2013 (119)	Yes	No	ITT	7000	3.5%	26%	0.05
Myburgh et al 2012 (120)	Yes	No	ITT	1500	7%	35%	0.05
Ranieri et al 2012 (121)	Yes	No	ITT	588	12%	56%	0.05
Thiele et al 2012 (122)	Yes	No	ITT	1200	7.5%	31%	0.05
Jensen et al 2011 (123)	Yes	No	ITT	200	15%	30%	0.05
Wunderink et al 2011 (124)	Yes	Yes/Yes	MITT	1200	7.6%	33.4%	0.025
Spragg et al 2010 (125)	Yes	No	ITT	350	15%	42%	0.05
Jansen et al 2010 (126)	Yes	No	ITT and PP	300	10%	25%	0.05
Peek et al 2010 (127)	Yes	No	ITT	240	18%	70%	0.05
Jones et al 2010 (128)	Yes	Yes/Yes (futility)	ITT	1440	6%	40%	0.05
Rice et al 2010 (129)	No	No	ITT	508	12.5%	50%	0.05
Annane et al 2010 (130)	Yes	No	ITT	600	10%	35%	0.05
Bouadma et al 2010 (131)	Yes	No	MITT	300	15%	APACHE-stratified	0.05
Tidswell et al 2010 (132)	Yes	Yes/No	ITT	1276	16.7%	30%	0.05
Hauser et al 2010 (133)	No	No	ITT	340	15%	50%	0.05
Taccone et al 2009 (134)	Yes	No	ITT	128	20%	40%	0.05
Palizas et al 2009 (135)	Yes	No	ITT	1500	8.5%	60%	<0.05

Bellomo et al 2009 (136)	Yes	No	ITT	1260	5%	25%	0.05
Dellinger et al 2009 (137)	No	Yes/Yes	NR	1000	10%	40%	0.05
Kesecioglu et al 2009 (138)	No	Yes/Yes	MITT	1260	5%	25%	≤ 0.05
Lins et al 2009 (139)	Yes	No	ITT	814	10%	50%	0.05
Preiser et al 2009 (140)	Yes	Yes/No (low recruitment)	ITT	1750	4%	16%	0.05
Schuetz et al 2009 (141)	Yes	No	ITT	1002	7.5%	20%	0.05
Doig et al 2008 (142)	Yes	No	ITT	1386	5.2%	28.9%	0.05
Blot et al 2008 (143)	Yes	No	ITT	234	13%	45%	0.05
Palevsky et al 2008 (144)	Yes	No	ITT	1164	10%	55%	0.05
Russell et al 2008 (145)	Yes	No	ITT	776	10%	60%	0.05
Mercat et al 2008 (146)	Yes	No	ITT	800	10%	40%	0.05
Meade et al 2008 (147)	Yes	No	ITT	980	9%	45%	0.05
Brunkhorst et al 2008 (148)	No	Yes/Yes (for the intensive insulin arm)	ITT	600	10%	40%	0.05
Sprung et al 2008 (149)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	800	10%	50%	0.05
Giamarellos et al 2008 (150)	Yes	No	ITT	200	5%	NS	0.05
Tumlin et al 2008 (151)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	NR
Fernandez et al 2008 (152)	Yes	Yes/No	NR	250	15%	60%	0.05
Heyland et al 2008 (153)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	740	10%	40%	0.49
Kinasewitz et al 2008 (154)	Yes	Yes/No	NR	1000	10%	40%	0.05
Werdan et al 2008 (155)	Yes	No	ITT	280	20%	60%	0.05
Manzano et al 2008 (156)	Yes	Yes/No (low recruitment)	ITT	434	15%	42%	0.05
Werdan et al 2007 (157)	Yes	No	PP	800	10%	30%	0.05
Moritz et al	No	No	ITT	120	20%	9% in the CPAP	0.05

2007 (158)						group versus 29% in the bilevel PAP	
Annan et al 2007 (159)	Yes	No	ITT	340	20%	60%	0.05
Levi et al 2007 (160)	No	No	ITT	2000	<2.8%	31%	0.05
Stoutenbeek et al 2007 (161)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	NR	12.5%	25%	0.05
Angstwurm et al 2007 (162)	Yes	No	ITT	196	20%	40%	0.05
van Ruler et al 2007 (163)	Yes	No	ITT	222	10%	44%	0.05
Hentrich et al 2006 (164)	Yes	No	ITT	164	20%	50%	0.05
Heyland et al 2006 (165)	No	No	ITT	740	10%	40%	0.049
Radrizzani et al 2006 (166)	Yes	No	ITT	1500	9%	35%	0.05
Wheeler et al 2006 (168)	Yes	No	ITT	1000	10%	31%	0.05
Wiedemann et al 2006 (168)	No	No	ITT	1000	10%	31%	0.05
Steinberg et al 2006 (169)	No	No	ITT	180	20%	40%	0.05
Mancebo et al, 2006 (170)	Yes	No	ITT	200	20%	50%	0.05
Vinsonneau et al 2006 (171)	Yes	No	ITT	440	15%	45%	0.05
Rodriguez et al 2005 (172)	Yes	No	ITT	90	30%	50%	0.05
Harvey et al 2005 (173)	Yes	No	ITT	1281	10%	69%	0.05
Abraham et al 2005 (174)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	11444	4%	16%	0.05
Tumlin et al 2005 (175)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	NR
Zeihner et al 2005 (176)	Yes	Yes/Yes (futility)	ITT	466	30%	30%	0.1
Guerin et al 2004 (177)	Yes	No	ITT	752	10%	40%	0.05
Spragg et al 2004 (178)	Yes	No	ITT	220	NR	NR	0.05
Brower et al 2004 (179)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	750	10%	28%	0.05
Albrecht et al 2004 (180)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	400	20%	55%	0.05

Finfer et al 2004 (181)	Yes	No	ITT	7000	3%	15%	0.05
Opal et al 2004 (182)	Yes	Yes/Yes (futility)	ITT	2522	4.8%	24%	0.05
Abraham et al 2003 (183)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	750	2.5-5%	30%	0.05
Abraham et al 2003 (184)	Yes	No	ITT	1550	25%	NR	0.05
Albertson et al 2003 (185)	Yes	No	ITT	850	15%	40%	0.05
Chastre et al 2003 (186)	Yes	No	ITT	400	10%	40%	0.1
Richard et al 2003 (187)	Yes	No	ITT	1100	10%	40%	0.05
Root et al 2003 (188)	Yes	No	MITT	700	10%	35%	0.05
Sandham et al 2003 (189)	Yes	No	ITT	2000	5%	15%	0.05
Bouman et al 2002 (190)	No	No	ITT	105	40%	80%	0.05
Reinhart et al 2001 (191)	No	No	ITT	500	12.5%	65%	0.05
Abraham et al 2001 (192)	Yes	No	ITT	1340	30%	30%	0.025
Gattinoni et al 2001 (193)	Yes	Yes/No	ITT and PP	150	20%	95 deaths in prone position group at 10 days	0.05
Vincent et al 2001 (194)	No	Yes/Yes (futility)	ITT	180	NR	NR	NR
Warren et al 2001 (195)	Yes	No	PP	2300	7%	45%	0.05
Angus et al 2000 (196)	Yes	No	ITT	1700	7%	28%	0.045
ARDS network 2000 (197)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	NR	10%	NR	0.05
Poeze et al 2000 (198)	No	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	NR
Takala et al 2000 (199)	Yes	No	ITT	405	10.5%	17.5%	0.05
Demetriades et al 1999 (200)	NR	No	ITT	400	15%	50%	0.05
Hebert et al 1999 (201)	Yes	No	ITT	1620	5.5%	27.5%	0.05
Abraham et al 1998 (202)	Yes	No	ITT	1900	17%	46%	0.048
Brochard et al	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	240	20%	50%	0.05

1998 (203)							
Dhainaut et al 1998 (204)	No	No	ITT	1260	5%	25%	0.05
Wasserman et al 1998 (205)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	20%	40%	0.05
Opal et al 1997 (206)	No	Yes/Yes	NR	1300	NR	NR	0.05
Anzueto et al 1996 (207)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	700	10%	50%	0.05
Cohen et al 1996 (208)	Yes	No	ITT	960	10.4%	26%	0.023
Abraham et al 1995 (209)	Yes	No	ITT	640	40%	26%	0.046
Bone et al 1995 (210)	No	No	PP	640	10%	20%	0.05
Gattinoni et al 1995 (211)	Yes	No	ITT	NR	NR	NR	0.05
Fisher et al 1994 (212)	Yes	No	ITT	900	7.6%	40%	0.05
McCloskey et al 1994 (213)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	1500	9%	49%	0.05
Suter et al 1994 (214)	Yes	No	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Gastinne et al 1992 (215)	Yes	Yes/Yes	ITT	600	10%	40%	0.05
Bone et al 1989 (216)	Yes	No	ITT	160	NR	NR	NR
Calandra et al 1988 (217)	Yes	No	PP	102	50%	70%	0.05
Bone et al 1987 (218)	Yes	No	ITT	400	NR	NR	NR
Veterans administration 1987 (219)	Yes	No	ITT	276	66%	36%	0.05

Abbreviations: ITT: intention to treat. MITT: modified intention to treat. PP: per protocol. NR: not reported