Making the most out of your time as a CASCADE collaborator

CASCADE Launch Event

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Steering Committee | Imperial College London

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Making the most out of your time as a collaborator

1. Communication is key
2. Do not overcommit & share the workload
3. Establish a strategy to identify patients
4. Know the data dictionary
5. Complete the e-Modules
6. Handover to the next mini-team
7. Ensure data completeness
8. Enjoy the process!
1. Communication

• **Arrange to meet** with the other members of your mini-team

• Maintain communication over your 2-week period

• In your mini-team, **agree in advance who will be responsible** for each stage of the project

• **Contact your regional lead or hospital lead** in case of any problems!
2. Don’t overcommit

• Only sign-up for periods you can dedicate time to!

• Make sure to split the workload with others

• Work with the junior doctors on the wards

• If you are struggling, communicate with your mini-team
3. Strategy to identify patients

- Identification of **consecutive patients is key**
- Junior doctors and consultants can be of great help
- **Strategies to identify consecutive eligible patients** include:
  - Review of elective theatre lists
  - Review of handover sheets
  - Review of theatre logbooks
4. Data dictionary

• Get acquainted with the Case Report From and the Data Dictionary

• If in doubt consult with the the doctors on the wards

• Consider doing a ‘mock’ data collection day before your period starts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-operative Data Fields</th>
<th>Suggested source(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Patient age</td>
<td>Clinical letters / notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Patient sex</td>
<td>Clinical letters / notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Patient body mass index (BMI)</td>
<td>Drug charts, Clinical letters / notes</td>
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<td>4. Patient ASA grade</td>
<td>Anesthetic notes</td>
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<td>5. Smoking status</td>
<td>Admissions clerking, Clinical notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Clinical Frailty scale</td>
<td>Admissions clerking, Clinical notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. History of cardiovascular disease</td>
<td>Admission clerking, Anaesthetic notes, Outpatient letters</td>
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<td>8. History of respiratory disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. History of COPD</td>
<td>Anaesthetic notes, Outpatient letters</td>
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<td>10. History of chronic kidney disease</td>
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<td>11. History of liver cirrhosis</td>
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<td>12. History of diabetes mellitus</td>
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<td>13. Active cancer and/or cancer treatment</td>
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<td>14. Inflammatory bowel disease</td>
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<td>15. Previous history of VTE</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Management of iron-deficiency anaemia</td>
<td>Anaesthetic notes, Outpatient letters</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Preoperative treatment</td>
<td>Clinical letters / notes PACS software</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Preoperative therapeutic anticoagulation</td>
<td>Clinical letters / notes PACS software</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Pre-admission blood tests</td>
<td>Pathology systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Admission blood tests</td>
<td>Pathology systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Complete e-Modules

• The e-Modules will contain the key information about CASCADE

• Familiarise yourself with the protocol before attempting the e-Modules

• The e-modules can be accessed: https://incept.ac.uk
6. Handover

- Meet with the preceding mini-team at your centre
- Arrange for a period of shadowing
- Try to do the same for the next incoming mini-team

S - Situation
B - Background
A - Assessment
R - Recommendation
7. Data Completeness

• Regularly follow-up for information on complications over the 30-day post-operative period.

• Strategies for identifying complications in the follow-up period include:
  • Reviewing patient notes to identify in-hospital complications.
  • Reviewing clinic notes and clinic letters
  • Checking electronic systems for re-admissions.
  • Checking for A&E re-attendances.

• Ensure all data has been uploaded to the REDCap system by the data collection deadline, avoiding missing data points.
8. Enjoy the process!

• Get to know people you’re working with

• Work collaboratively with others to ensure smooth running of the process

• Remember to learn from this project and use it to build academic skills

• Enjoy taking part in collaborative research!
Thank you!

CArdiovaSCuLAr outcomes after major abDominal surgEry

A student-led observational prospective audit of postoperative cardiovascular complication after major abdominal surgery