Anesth Pain Med 2020;15:233-240 https://doi.org/10.17085/apm.2020.15.2.233 pISSN 1975-5171 • eISSN 2383-7977

Clinical Research

Risk factors of emergency reoperations

Tae Kwan Kim, Jun Rho Yoon, Yu Na Choi, Ui Jin Park, Kyoung Rim Kim, and Taehee Kim

Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bucheon St. Mary's Hospital, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea, Bucheon, Korea

Received August 7, 2019 Revised October 10, 2019 Accepted October 10, 2019

Background: Emergency reoperation is considered to be a quality indicator in surgery. We analyzed the risk factors for emergency reoperations.

Methods: Patients who underwent emergency operations from January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017, at our hospital were reviewed in this retrospective study. Multivariate logistic regression was performed for the perioperative risk factors for emergency reoperation.

Results: A total of 1,481 patients underwent emergency operations during the study period. Among them, 79 patients received emergency reoperations. The variables related to emergency reoperation included surgeries involving intracranial and intraoral lesions, highest mean arterial pressure \geq 110 mmHg, highest heart rate \geq 100 beats/min, anemia, duration of operation > 120 min, and arrival from the intensive care unit (ICU).

Conclusions: The type of surgery, hemodynamics, hemoglobin values, the duration of surgery, and arrival from ICU were associated with emergency reoperations.

Keywords: Anesthesia; Emergency operation; Emergency reoperation; Risk factors.

Corresponding author

Jun Rho Yoon, M.D.
Department of Anesthesiology and
Pain Medicine, Bucheon St. Mary's
Hospital, College of Medicine, The
Catholic University of Korea, 327
Sosa-ro, Wonmi-gu, Bucheon 14647,
Korea

Tel: 82-32-340-7075 Fax: 82-32-340-2255 E-mail: pauly@catholic.ac.kr

INTRODUCTION

Complications after surgical procedures are frequently associated with poor outcomes and high costs [1]. Thus, it is imperative to do everything possible to minimize the chance of complications. However, in the case of fatal complications, the prompt diagnosis of complications and emergency intervention via reoperation may prevent the increased risk and even save lives [2]. Therefore, emergency reoperations following complicated surgeries are known as "final-choice operations" [2,3]. In spite of early diagnoses and therapeutic progress, the mortality rates following emergency reoperation are still high [2,4].

Emergency reoperation is an important index of quality indicators in healthcare institutions [3,5].

However, reports of emergency reoperations tend to be infrequent, brief, and fragmented [3] because they are sometimes considered to be a failure of the primary opera-

tion and there is a tendency to refrain from reporting such cases [6]. Furthermore, previous studies have focused on emergency reoperations carried out by individual surgical specialties. Few reoperations have been studied extensively from an anesthesiologist's perspective. The general physical condition of the patient is not as good as anticipated during the recovery period from the previous operation [1] and the intraoperative characteristics would also be different from the other operation. Therefore, we analyzed the risk factors of emergency reoperation from an anesthesiologist's perspective in this study.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

After receiving Institutional Review Board approval (no. HIRB-2019-0717-070), we retrospectively analyzed all consecutive patients aged \geq 16 years who underwent emergency operations from January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017 (Fig. 1).

Emergency reoperation was defined as any unscheduled surgery after the initial operation within the postoperative 60 days [3,6]. Interventional radiology procedures conducted in collaboration with anesthesiologists, such as coiling and stenting, were also included. The following data were collected from the electronic medical record database; sex; age; American Society of Anesthesiology classification; medical specialties; the operative lesion; the complexity of the surgery, categorized as minor, moderate, major, and major + blood loss of ≤ 100 , 101–500, 501–999, or 1,000 ml [7–9]; hemodynamic values; hemoglobin (Hgb) and hematocrit values; the anesthetic method and main anesthetic agents; the duration of anesthesia; the net fluid balance; blood transfusions; the use of inotropics; patient-controlled analgesia (PCA); the time the operation commenced, and hospital places of origin and destination. We excluded operations due to unrelated pathology that occurred during the period of recovery from the first operation.

The cases were divided into Group O (emergency operations without a previous operation) and Group R (emer-

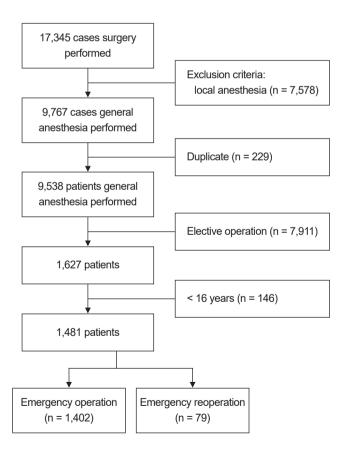


Fig. 1. Flow diagram of patient selection process for this study. Any patient who has received multiple operations is counted as one patient and his or her last operation is selected.

gency reoperations following a previous operation within 60 days). Age was categorized as patients older or younger than 65 years. The medical specialties included general surgery, orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery, and others. The operative lesions were grouped into intracranial, intraoral, cervical, intrathoracic, intra-abdominal, and other categories. Abnormal pre-induction blood pressure and heart rate were categorized as pre-induction systolic blood pressure (SBP) ≥ 180 mmHg, pre-induction mean arterial pressure (MAP) ≥ 110 mmHg, and pre-induction heart rate (HR) < 40 or ≥ 100 beats/min. Based on abnormality in the highest SBP, MAP, and HR during the operation, the patients were categorized as follows: SBP ≥ 180 mmHg, MAP \geq 110 mmHg, and HR \geq 100 beats/min. Based on abnormality in the lowest SBP, MAP, and HR values during surgery, the following categories were created: SBP ≤ 80 mmHg, MAP \leq 60 mmHg, and HR \leq 40 beats/min. Anemia was defined by Hgb levels < 13 g/dl and < 40% in males and < 12 g/dl and < 36%, respectively, in females according to our laboratory guidelines. The duration of anesthesia was categorized as ≤ 120 min or longer. Based on the time surgery commenced, the surgeries were categorized as regular working time (from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm) on weekdays or non-holidays and outside of working time. Postoperative mortality was defined as death within 30 days postoperatively [9].

The data are expressed as frequencies (%) and median (range), as appropriate for comparison between the groups. The chi-squared test or Fisher's exact test was used for categorical variables and the Wilcoxon rank-sum test was applied for continuous variables. Univariate and multivariate logistic regression analysis was used to identify the independent predictors of emergency reoperation. A multivariate logistic regression model was constructed using stepwise selection with entry criteria of P < 0.1 and significant criteria of P < 0.05. We applied Firth's penalized maximum likelihood estimation to reduce bias in the parameter estimates in the multivariate analyses with few events, leading to non-estimable coefficients or 95% confidence intervals. A P value of < 0.05 was statistically considered significant. All statistical analyses were performed using SAS software ver. 9.4 (SAS Institute Inc., USA).

RESULTS

During the study period, 1,481 emergency operations were performed with anesthesiologist involvement (Fig. 1). Comparisons of the baseline demographic characteristics between Group O and Group R are summarized in Table 1.

Genera

Table 1. Patient Characteristics

Variable	Overall (n = $1,481$)	Group 0 (n = $1,402$)	Group R (n = 79)	P value
Sex				0.582
Male	668 (45.1)	630 (44.9)	38 (48.1)	
Female	813 (54.9)	772 (55.1)	41 (51.9)	
Age (yr)	51.0 ± 19.2	51.0 ± 19.0	57.0 ± 19.0	0.004
< 65	1,069 (72.2)	1,026 (73.2)	43 (54.4)	< 0.001
≥ 65	412 (27.8)	376 (26.8)	36 (45.6)	
ASA	(- /	(/	(/	< 0.001
1-2	1,100 (74.3)	1,068 (76.2)	32 (40.5)	
3-6	381 (25.7)	334 (23.8)	47 (59.5)	
Operator	001 (20)	00 . (20.0)	(55.5)	< 0.001
General surgery	612 (41.3)	599 (42.7)	13 (16.5)	0.001
Orthopedic surgery	283 (19.1)	276 (19.7)	7 (8.9)	
Neurosurgery	224 (15.1)	188 (13.4)	36 (45.6)	
Others	362 (24.4)	339 (24.2)	23 (29.1)	
Lesion	302 (27.4)	503 (Z 1 .Z)	20 (20.1)	< 0.001
Intracranial	221(1/1 0)	186 (12 3)	35 (44 3)	· 0.001
Intraoral	221(14.9) 10 (0.7)	186 (13.3) 4 (0.3)	35 (44.3) 6 (7.6)	
Cervical Intrathoracic	22 (1.5)	15 (1.1)	7 (8.9)	
	31 (2.1)	31 (2.2)	0 (0.0)	
Intra-abdominal	793 (53.5)	779 (55.6)	14 (17.7)	
Other regions	404 (27.3)	387 (27.6)	17 (21.5)	. 0.001
Surgical complexity*	050 (47.4)	040 (45.4)	07 (40 0)	< 0.001
Minor	253 (17.1)	216 (15.4)	37 (46.8)	
Moderate	989 (66.8)	962 (68.6)	27 (34.2)	
Major	231 (15.6)	216 (15.4)	15 (19.0)	
Major +	8 (0.5)	8 (0.6)	0 (0.0)	
Type of anesthesia				0.123
General anesthesia	1,429 (96.5)	1,352 (96.4)	77 (97.5)	
Regional anesthesia	37 (2.5)	35 (2.5)	2 (2.5)	
MAC	15 (1.0)	15 (1.1)	0 (0.0)	
Main anesthetic agent in general anesthesia				< 0.001
Desflurane	780 (52.7)	758 (54.1)	22 (27.8)	
Sevoflurane	598 (40.4)	547 (39.0)	51 (64.6)	
Propofol	51 (3.4)	47 (3.4)	4 (5.1)	
Duration (min)	116.0 ± 96.0	114.0 ± 95.0	148.0 ± 95.0	< 0.001
≤ 120	1,042 (70.4)	1,001 (71.4)	41 (51.9)	< 0.001
> 120	439 (29.6)	401 (28.6)	38 (48.1)	
Net fluid balance (ml/min)	6.0 ± 55.8	6.1 ± 57.3	4.3 ± 5.0	0.712
Transfusion				< 0.001
No	1,370 (92.5)	1,309 (93.4)	61 (77.2)	
Yes	111 (7.5)	93 (6.6)	18 (22.8)	
Inotropics				< 0.001
No	1,176 (79.4)	1,134 (80.9)	42 (53.2)	
Yes	305 (20.6)	268 (19.1)	37 (46.8)	
PCA	/	· - /	/	0.005
No	863 (58.3)	805 (57.4)	58 (73.4)	
Yes	618 (41.7)	597 (42.6)	21 (26.6)	
Commencement of operation	010 (1111)	33. (1210)	(_ 0.0)	0.751
Working time	818 (55.2)	773 (55.1)	45 (57.0)	0.701
Other	663 (44.8)	629 (44.9)	34 (43.0)	

(Continued to the next page)

Table 1. Continued

	Variable	Overall (n = 1,481)	Group 0 (n = 1,402)	Group R (n = 79)	P value
	variable	Overall (II – 1,401)	aroup 0 (11 = 1,402)	Gloup IV (II – 13)	
Origin					< 0.001
ER		603 (40.7)	588 (41.9)	15 (19.0)	
ICU		117 (7.9)	85 (6.1)	32 (40.5)	
Ward		761 (51.4)	729 (52.0)	32 (40.5)	
Destination					< 0.001
ICU		383 (25.9)	335 (23.9)	48 (60.8)	
Ward		1,098 (74.1)	1,067 (76.1)	31 (39.2)	

Values are presented as number (%) or mean \pm SD. Group O: patients who underwent emergency operations without a previous operation, Group R: patients who underwent emergency reoperations following a previous operation within 60 days. ASA: American Society of Anesthesiologists, MAC: monitoring anesthesia care, PCA: patient-controlled analgesia, ER: emergency room, ICU: intensive care unit. *Surgical complexity: minor, moderate, major, and major. + blood loss \leq 100, 101–500, 501–999, and 1,000 ml. P values for differences were determined by using the chi-squares, Fisher's exact test, *t*-test, or the Wilcoxon rank-sum test.

Table 2. Top 10 Primary Diagnoses in Emergency Operations and Reoperations

NI-	Group $O*(n = 1,402)$		Group R^{\dagger} (n = 79)		
No.	Diagnosis	Number (%)	Diagnosis	Number (%)	
1	Appendicitis	249 (17.8)	SAH	10 (12.7)	
2	Cholecystitis	219 (15.6)	ICH	9 (11.4)	
3	Fracture	212 (15.1)	SDH	7 (8.9)	
4	Pregnancy	119 (8.5)	EDH	5 (6.3)	
5	SDH	79 (5.6)	Tonsillitis	5 (6.3)	
6	Ovary cyst torsion	42 (3.0)	Deep neck infection	3 (3.8)	
7	ICH	41 (2.9)	Pyogenic arthritis	3 (3.8)	
8	SAH	29 (2.1)	Uterine cancer	3 (3.8)	
9	Cerebral infarct	28 (2.0)	Thyroid cancer	2 (2.5)	
10	Pneumothorax	24 (1.7)	Ectopic pregnancy	2 (2.5)	

SDH: subdural hematoma, ICH: intracerebral hemorrhage, SAH: subarachnoidal hemorrhage, EDH: epidural hematoma. *Patients who underwent emergency operations without a previous operation, [†]Patients who underwent emergency reoperations following a previous operation within 60 days.

The mean age of the study subjects was 51.0 ± 19.2 years and 668 (45.1%) were male. Age, American Society of Anesthesiology classification, operator, lesion, surgical complexity, the main anesthetic agent in general anesthesia, the duration of anesthesia, transfusions, inotropics, PCA, origin, and destination were significantly different between Group O and Group R (Table 1).

The diagnoses in Group O were appendicitis (249 [17.8%]), followed by cholecystitis (219 [15.6%]), fracture (212 [15.1%]), and pregnancy (119 [8.5%]) (Table 2). The most common disease categories in Group R were subarachnoidal hemorrhage (10 [12.7%]), followed by intracerebral hemorrhage (9 [11.4%]), and subdural hematoma (7 [8.9%]) (Table 2). The most common surgeries performed in Group O were appendectomy (251 [17.9%]), followed by cholecystectomy (222 [15.8%]), open reduction and internal fixation (130 [9.3%]), and Cesarean section (119 [8.5%]) (Table 3). The previous surgeries in Group R were extraventricular drainage (14 [17.7%]), craniec-

tomy (11 [13.9%]), tonsillectomy (6 [7.6%]), and craniotomy (4 [5.1%]) (Table 3).

The most common cause of emergency reoperation was hemorrhage in 42 (53.2%) cases, followed by infection or sepsis in 11 (13.9%) cases, wound dehiscence in seven (8.8%), and increased intracranial pressure in four (5.1%) patients. Sixty-four (4.3%) of the 1,481 patients died within 30 days postoperatively. Mortality was observed in 16.5% (13/79) in Group R. Death occurred in 11 patients after neurosurgery and in two patients after general surgery in Group R. The fatality rate associated with each cause of reoperation ranged from 0% to 36.4% (Table 4).

Multivariate analysis revealed that intracranial (odds ratio [OR] = 6.32, P < 0.001) and intraoral (OR = 28.37, P < 0.001) lesions were significantly associated with emergency reoperation. The highest MAP ≥ 110 mmHg was significantly correlated with emergency reoperation compared to MAP < 110 mmHg (OR = 1.76, P = 0.040). The highest HR

Table 3. Surgical Procedures in Group O and Previous Operations in Group R

No.	Group O* (n = 1,402)		Group R^{\dagger} (n = 79)		
	Surgery	Number (%)	Surgery	Number (%)	
1	Appendectomy	251 (17.9)	EVD	14 (17.7)	
2	Cholecystectomy	222 (15.8)	Craniectomy	11 (13.9)	
3	OR&IF	130 (9.3)	Tonsillectomy	6 (7.6)	
4	Cesarean section	119 (8.5)	Craniotomy	4 (5.1)	
5	CR&IF	59 (4.2)	Debridement	4 (5.1)	
6	Ovary cystectomy	45 (3.2)	OR&IF	2 (2.5)	
7	Burr hole trephination	42 (3.0)	Burr hole trephination	2 (2.5)	
8	EVD	41 (2.9)	Navigation guided removal of intracranial hematoma	2 (2.5)	
9	Craniectomy	40 (2.9)	Oophorectomy	2 (2.5)	
10	Tenorrhaphy	32 (2.3)	Salpingectomy	2 (2.5)	

OR&IF: open reduction and internal fixation, CR&IF: closed reduction and internal fixation, EVD: extraventricular drainage. *Patients who underwent emergency operations without a previous operation, [†]Patients who underwent emergency reoperations following a previous operation within 60 days.

Table 4. Causes of Emergency Reoperation and Mortality Rates

Causes	Emergency reoperation (n = 79)	Mortality rate*
Hemorrhage	42 (53.2)	6 (14.3)
Infection or Sepsis	11 (13.9)	1 (9.1)
Wound dehiscence	7 (8.8)	1 (14.3)
Increased intracranial pressure	4 (5.1)	1 (25.0)
Thrombotic artery occlusion	2 (2.5)	0 (0)
lleus	2 (2.5)	0 (0)
Others [†]	11 (14.0)	4 (36.4)

Values are presented as number (%) of categorical variables. *The parentheses include the mortality percentage calculated from each cause of emergency reoperation, [†]Others include airway obstruction, cerebellar infarction, cerebrospinal fluid leakage, hardware loosening, hygroma, intestinal anastomosis leakage, nerve injury, nonunion, pharyngocutaneous fistula, tracheostoma, and ureteral injury. Among the other causes, airway obstruction, cerebellar infarction, cerebrospinal fluid leakage, and intestinal anastomosis leakage resulted in death.

 \geq 100 beats/min was significantly correlated with emergency reoperation compared to HR < 100 beats/min (OR = 2.87, P < 0.001). Hemoglobin levels < 13 g/dl in males and < 12 g/dl in females were significantly correlated with reoperation (OR = 2.47, P = 0.001). Duration of surgery over two hours was significantly related to reoperation (OR = 1.94, P = 0.025). The number of patients treated in the intensive care unit (ICU) (OR = 2.89, P = 0.007) remained statistically significant (Table 5).

DISCUSSION

Emergency reoperation has been reported to have distinguishing features and risks. Therefore, we investigated the

clinical features, as well as anesthetic considerations, of emergency reoperation compared to ordinary emergency operations. In the present study, the factors related to emergency reoperation were intracranial and intraoral lesions, MAP \geq 110 mmHg and HR \geq 100 beats/min before surgery, anemia, duration of operation > 2 h, and ICU stay before the operation

Emergency reoperation was defined as surgery performed due to a primary surgical condition [10]. The term "reoperation" refers to operations performed within two months of the primary operation and related to the initial surgery [2], although most commonly they were conducted much earlier [6]. In a previous study, reoperations were conducted from postoperative day 1 to day 24 [6]. In contrast, in our investigation, the reoperation period ranged from 0 to 29 days.

Published data related to the incidence of reoperation vary between different populations, with reported rates ranging from 2% to 21% according to the definition used, institutional bias, the departments, pathology and operation type, and the presence of coexisting problems [1,3,11-13]. The incidence of emergency reoperations in this study (0.83%) was lower than previous reports because our study included a variety of operations with low potential for reoperation. Lee et al. [14] reported that 2% of all emergency operations required emergency reoperation within a week, similar to the present report. The reoperation rate in vascular surgery was reported to be 12% [11]. The incidence of complications requiring emergency re-laparotomy was reported at 1-4.4% in patients who underwent abdominal surgeries [2,4,5,15]. Significant associations between emergency reoperations and male sex have been established

Table 5. Multivariate Logistic Regression Analyses of Factors Associated with Reoperations (n = 1,481)

Variable	Crude odds ratios (95% CI)	P value	Adjusted odds ratios (95% CI)	P value
Lesion				
Intracranial	4.22 (2.31-7.68)	< 0.001	6.32 (2.41-16.58)	< 0.001
Intraoral	31.98 (8.30-123.20)	< 0.001	28.37 (6.26-128.62)	< 0.001
Cervical	10.71 (3.89-29.48)	< 0.001	2.07 (0.62-6.93)	0.238
Intrathoracic	0.35 (0.02-6.25)	0.477	1.06 (0.05-22.83)	0.920
Intra-abdominal	0.41 (0.20-0.84)	0.014	1.50 (0.64-3.56)	0.354
Others	Reference		Reference	
Surgical complexity				
Minor	2.95 (0.14-61.87)	0.487	17.23 (0.72-413.69)	0.079
Moderate	0.49 (0.02-10.24)	0.643	2.71 (0.12-61.46)	0.531
Major	1.22 (0.06-26.19)	0.900	1.57 (0.07-36.91)	0.779
Major +	Reference		Reference	
Highest MAP				
< 110	Reference		Reference	
≥ 110	3.19 (2.01-5.04)	< 0.001	1.76 (1.03-3.03)	0.040
Highest HR				
< 100	Reference		Reference	
≥ 100	6.21 (3.91-9.87)	< 0.001	2.87 (1.64-5.02)	< 0.001
Hgb (g/dl)				
Male < 13, female < 12	3.18 (1.99-5.07)	< 0.001	Reference	
Male ≥ 13, female ≥ 12	Reference		2.47 (1.44-4.27)	0.001
Duration (min)				
≤ 120	Reference		Reference	
> 120	2.31 (1.47-3.64)	< 0.001	1.94 (1.09-3.46)	0.025
Origin				
ER	0.59 (0.32-1.09)	0.094	0.48 (0.23-1.01)	0.052
ICU	8.53 (4.99-14.59)	< 0.001	2.89 (1.34-6.23)	0.007
Ward	Reference		Reference	

A multivariate logistic regression model was constructed using stepwise selection (with entry criteria of P < 0.1 and significant criteria of P < 0.05). Cl: confidence interval, MAP: mean arterial pressure, HR: heart rate, Hgb: hemoglobin, ER: emergency room, ICU: intensive care unit.

[3,12]. The relative paucity of males in our study differs from other studies and suggests the inherent effects of the hospital and region.

One of the most important factors affecting mortality rates in emergency reoperations is the cause, lesion, and organ involved in the reoperation [2]. The 30-day mortality rate for emergency abdominal reoperations was reported to range from 5.5% to 48% [1,3,6]. Hemorrhage and infection, as well as leakage from intestinal repair sites, were associated with low, mid, and high mortality risks in intra-abdominal operations, respectively [2]. The overall mortality rate in patients undergoing vascular surgery was 16% [11]. In contrast, in our study, the mortality among re-operated patients was 16.5% (13/79). A comparison of the incidence with previous reports was difficult because of the different methodologies used to calculate the incidence and variation in the populations included. Reoperation is riskier, even though patients are likely to respond positively to perioperative

medical treatment [2]. Other risk factors for mortality reported in a previous study included hypoproteinemia, a delay in diagnosis, and intestinal obstruction [1].

Causes of urgent abdominal re-explorations were known to involve leakage from the intestinal repair site, hemorrhage, intestinal perforation, intra-abdominal infection or sepsis, mechanical obstruction, intestinal necrosis, enteral anastomosis failure, stomal complications, surgical wound dehiscence, fistulas, and ileus [1,2]. Intracranial lesions show an increased tendency for emergency reoperation [7], consistent with our findings. The fact that six patients died from intracranial hemorrhage also suggests the importance of brain lesions in the increased risk of reoperation. Neurosurgical reoperations tend to be performed frequently following the initial operation [2,10]. Surgical complexity was reportedly associated with emergency reoperations [3], which was not shown in our findings.

In our study, the highest MAP ≥ 110 mmHg and the

highest $HR \ge 100$ beats/min were related to emergency reoperations, which indirectly reflected high hemodynamic instability. Hypertension may be due to Cushing reflex in intracranial problems, the use of inotropics, and psychological stress. Shock and hemorrhage requiring blood transfusion increase patients' susceptibility to postoperative mortality in emergency surgeries [9]. Tachycardia is common in these patients and suggests unstable intravascular volume [1,6]. These patients are usually anemic [1]. A lower hemoglobin concentration is associated with a higher risk of reoperation [10], consistent with our findings, indirectly suggesting coagulation deficiency and poor nutrition. If hemorrhage is associated with severe anemia or severe hypotension, the mortality rate increases proportionately [16].

The possibility of effectively lowering the mortality rate depends on the success of the first operation [1,2]. Therefore, a number of these problems can be avoided by taking all precautions possible at the time of the initial operation to minimize the occurrence of complications [1]. For example, a majority of the hemorrhages were caused by technical errors, such as inadequate hemostasis during the first operation [2]. Surgical challenges include inappropriate judgment, poorly developed skills, and incorrect handling of surgical devices [16]. Half of the reoperations were minor surgeries in the present study, suggesting possible technical errors during the initial operation. In our study, patients undergoing emergency reoperations were mostly transferred from the ICU. This reflects the urgency of most reoperation cases and the grave physical status of these patients.

This study had several limitations. First, our research was limited by the size of the study groups. This study was based on data obtained from a single institution and surgeries of short duration (70.0% were less than two hours) and involved minor-to-moderate types of surgery (83.9%). Therefore, the results may differ from those involving larger populations and multiple institutions, such as regional emergency trauma centers. Our institution is a university-affiliated community hospital. Institutional factors may limit generalizability. Second, the variables in our investigation may be too diverse to perform a comprehensive analysis and exclude the role of unmeasured variables. The variety of diseases and operations included did not allow a clear distinction between the effects of reoperation on patient outcomes. The results should be based on analyses according to individual departments and procedures in the

future. The selection of abnormal variables, including vital signs, was defined arbitrarily and these aspects may have affected our results. Third, we could not analyze the anesthetic implications for postoperative mortality as an endpoint due to the small number of mortalities. Lastly, variations in surgical procedures due to the surgeon's experience, operative devices, and methods could not be analyzed in a meaningful way and were beyond the scope of the study.

In summary, our results described the clinical features of emergency reoperations. The factors associated with a higher proportion of emergency reoperations were intracranial and intraoral lesions, highest MAP ≥ 110 mmHg and HR ≥ 100 beats/min, anemia, and arrival from the ICU. Emergency anesthesia is an important segment of clinical anesthesiology and advances in anesthetic care affect mortality. Particular attention must be paid to emergency reoperation and more time and resources are required to redefine the clinical features of emergency reoperation.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Conceptualization: Jun Rho Yoon. Data acquisition: Jun Rho Yoon, Kyoung Rim Kim, Taehee Kim. Formal analysis: Tae Kwan Kim. Funding: Ui Jin Park. Supervision: Jun Rho Yoon. Writing—original draft: Jun Rho Yoon. Writing—review & editing: Yu Na Choi, Tae Kwan Kim.

ORCID

Tae Kwan Kim, https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0635-3304
Jun Rho Yoon, https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7457-7433
Yu Na Choi, https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9111-8298
Ui Jin Park, https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2114-0195
Kyoung Rim Kim, https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5442-8705
Taehee Kim, https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0476-3254

REFERENCES

1. Wain MO, Sykes PA. Emergency abdominal re-exploration in a district general hospital. Ann R Coll Surg Engl 1987; 69: 169-74.

- 2. Unalp HR, Kamer E, Kar H, Bal A, Peskersoy M, Ali Onal M. Urgent abdominal re-explorations. World J Emerg Surg 2006; 1: 10.
- **3.** Guevara OA, Rubio-Romero JA, Ruiz-Parra AI. Unplanned reoperations: is emergency surgery a risk factor? A cohort study. J Surg Res 2013; 182: 11-6.
- 4. Tera H, Aberg C. Relaparotomy. A ten-year series. Acta Chir Scand 1975; 141: 637-44.
- O'Leary DP, Hardwick RH, Cosford E, Knox AJ. Does hospital mortality rate reflect quality of care on a surgical unit? Ann R Coll Surg Engl 1997; 79: 46-8.
- **6.** Harbrecht PJ, Garrison RN, Fry DE. Early urgent relaparotomy. Arch Surg 1984; 119: 369-74.
- 7. Copeland GP. The POSSUM system of surgical audit. Arch Surg 2002; 137: 15-9.
- **8.** Donati A, Ruzzi M, Adrario E, Pelaia P, Coluzzi F, Gabbanelli V, et al. A new and feasible model for predicting operative risk. Br J Anaesth 2004; 93: 393-9.
- 9. Matsuyama T, Iranami H, Fujii K, Inoue M, Nakagawa R, Kawashima K. Risk factors for postoperative mortality and morbidities in emergency surgeries. J Anesth 2013; 27: 838-43.
- 10. Kwinta BM, Krzyżewski RM, Kliś KM, Donicz P, Gackowska M,

- Polak J, et al. Emergency reoperations in cranial neurosurgery. World Neurosurg 2017; 105: 749-54.
- Davies AH, Pope I, Collin J, Morris PJ. Early reoperation after major vascular surgery: a four-year prospective analysis. Br J Surg 1992; 79: 76-8.
- 12. Brant JA, Bur AM, Chai R, Hatten K, Nicolli EA, Fischer JP, et al. Reoperation following adult tonsillectomy: review of the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program. Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg 2016; 154: 779-84.
- Ramachandran R, Hegde T. Chronic subdural hematomas--causes of morbidity and mortality. Surg Neurol 2007; 67: 367-72.
- 14. Lee DI, Lee MH, Shin OY, Shin KY. A clinical study of anesthesia for emergency surgery. Korean J Anesthesiol 1979; 12: 252-60.
- Ching SS, Muralikrishnan VP, Whiteley GS. Relaparotomy: a fiveyear review of indications and outcome. Int J Clin Pract 2003; 57: 333-7.
- 16. Irita K. Risk and crisis management in intraoperative hemorrhage: human factors in hemorrhagic critical events. Korean J Anesthesiol 2011; 60: 151-60.