

Appendix 7 (as supplied by the authors): Assessment of differential outcome ascertainment in the subsample of patients with serial postoperative serum creatinine assessment (N = 4824)

	Methylprednisolone n = 2405	Placebo n = 2419	<i>p</i> value ^a
Preoperative serum creatinine value available	2405 (100%)	2419 (100%)	
Died within 24 hours of surgery	14 (0.6%)	16 (0.7%)	0.8
Died within 48 hours of surgery	31 (1.3%)	27 (1.1%)	0.6
No postoperative serum creatinine value recorded within 7 days following surgery	49 (2.0%)	42 (1.7%)	0.4
Serum creatinine value recorded within 24 hours following surgery	2277 (94.7%)	2314 (95.7%)	0.1
Patient was alive and in hospital the morning of postoperative day 2 ^a	2374 (98.7%)	2392 (98.9%)	0.6
Serum creatinine value recorded on postoperative day 2	2143 (89.1%)	2176 (90.0%)	0.3
Serum creatinine value recorded on postoperative day 2 among patients who were alive and in hospital day 2	2143 of 2374 (90.3%)	2176 of 2392 (91.0%)	0.4
Patient was alive and in hospital the morning of postoperative day 3	2358 (98.0%)	2380 (98.4%)	0.4
Serum creatinine value recorded postoperative day 3	1918 of 2405 (79.8%)	1905 of 2419 (78.8%)	0.4
Serum creatinine value recorded postoperative day 3 among patients who were alive and in hospital the morning of postoperative day 3	1918 of 2358 (81.3%)	1905 of 2380 (80.0%)	0.3
No. of postoperative serum creatinine measurements recorded in the 7 days following surgery, median (interquartile range)	5 (3 to 6)	5 (3 to 6)	0.09
No. of postoperative serum creatinine measurements recorded in the hospital stay following surgery, median (interquartile range)	5 (3 to 6)	5 (3 to 6)	0.07

^a Chi square tests and independent samples t tests were used to test whether the proportions or means were equal across groups.

^b There is the date of surgery, the next morning (postoperative day 1), the following morning (postoperative day 2), etc. A patient who was discharged postoperative day 2 (i.e. late morning, early evening) is counted as alive in hospital the morning of postoperative day 2.