

**Appendix 3:** Characteristics of randomized controlled trials comparing intensive insulin therapy with usual care that were included in the meta-analysis

Study	Country of origin	Total no. patients	Type of ICU	Age, yr, mean	Female, %	APACHE II score	Length of stay in ICU, d	Admission diagnosis (% of patients)	Intention-to-treat analysis	Jadad score
Arabi 2008 <sup>10</sup>	Saudi Arabia	523	Mixed	52.4	25	22.8	10.2	Sepsis (23), traumatic brain injury (18), surgical (16.8)	Yes	3
Azevedo* 2007 <sup>22</sup>	Brazil	337	Mixed	56.2†	46†	NR	NR	NR	Yes	2
Bilotta 2007 <sup>24</sup>	Italy	78	Surgical	52.5	69	NR	NR	Postsurgical for SAH (100)	Yes	3
Bilotta 2008 <sup>23</sup>	Italy	97	Surgical	52.6	45	60.8‡	8.9	Traumatic brain injury (100)	Yes	3
Bland 2005 <sup>25</sup>	United States	10	Mixed	56.7	30	NR	32.1	Respiratory failure (70), sepsis (10)	Yes	2
Brunkhorst 2008 <sup>11</sup>	Germany	537	Mixed	64.6	40	20.2	14.9	Sepsis (100); medical (47), surgical (53)	Yes	3
Bruno 2008 <sup>26</sup>	United States	46	Medical	59.1	43	9.3§	NR	Cerebral infarction (100)	Yes	3
De La Rosa 2008 <sup>12</sup>	Columbia	504	Mixed	46.6	40	15.7	6	Medical (49), trauma (35), surgical (16)	Yes	3
Devos* 2007 <sup>13</sup>	Belgium	1101	Mixed	65	37	16.5	6¶	Medical 41%, Surgical 59%	Yes	2
Farah 2007 <sup>27</sup>	Israel	89**	Medical	73.1	48	22.1	7.5	NR	No**	2
Grey 2004 <sup>28</sup>	United States	61	Surgical	55.6	30	15.3	29.5	General surgery 100%	Yes	2
He, W 2007 <sup>29</sup>	China	188	Surgical	65.5	33	17.2	4.2	Surgical 100%	Yes	2
He, Z 2008 <sup>30</sup>	China	122	Mixed	54.9	38	16.9	12.3	Medical 46%, Surgical 54%	Yes	2
Henderson* 2005 <sup>31</sup>	Canada	68	Mixed	56.5	31	20.8	9.5	Medical 46%, Surgical 54%	Yes	3
Iapichino 2008 <sup>32</sup>	Italy	90††	Mixed	62.3	35	41.8‡	14.5	Medical 64%, Surgical 36%	No††	3
Mackenzie 2008 <sup>33</sup>	England	240	Mixed	64.5	48	21.9	6.9	Medical 54%, Surgical 38%, Trauma 8%	Yes	3
McMullin 2007 <sup>34</sup>	Canada	20	Mixed	68.8	55	31.7	11.0	Medical 100%	Yes	3
Mitchell 2006 <sup>35</sup>	Australia	70	Mixed	65.5	40	20.5	4.5	Medical 61%, Surgical 39%	Yes	3
NICE-SUGAR 2009 <sup>18</sup>	Australia and New Zealand – Canada	6104	Mixed	60.2	37	21.1	6.0	Surgical 37%, Non-surgical 63%	Yes	3
Oksanen 2007 <sup>36</sup>	Finland	90	Medical	63.7	23	24.9	NR	Out of hospital cardiac arrest 100%	Yes	3
Van den Berghe 2001 <sup>8</sup>	Belgium	1548	Surgical	62.8	29	9.0	3	Cardiac surgery 63%	Yes	3
Van den Berghe 2006 <sup>9</sup>	Belgium	1200	Medical	63.5	39	23.0	9¶	NR	Yes	3
Walters 2006 <sup>37</sup>	Scotland	25	Medical	75.0	60	8.0§	NR	Cerebral infarction 100%	Yes	3
Wang, L 2006 <sup>38</sup>	China	116	Mixed	66.2	32	15.5	11.0	NR	Yes	2
Yu 2005 <sup>39</sup>	China	55	Mixed	46.0	44	10.5	NR	Sepsis 100%	Yes	2
Zhang 2008 <sup>40</sup>	China	338	Mixed	60.9	36	10.0	3.9	Surgical 67%	Yes	2

Note: ICU = intensive care unit, NR = not reported in manuscript, TBI = traumatic brain injury.

\*Published abstract. †Data obtained from Wiener meta-analysis. ‡Simplified Acute Physiology Score (SAPS) II score reported.

§National Institute of Health Stroke Score (NIHSS) reported. ¶Personal communication.

\*\*Excluded patients after randomization who did not survive ≥ 3 days. ††Excluded 9 patients per group after randomization who did not survive ≥ 3 days (total patients in published study 72). Author contacted and outcomes obtained for those patients for total no. of patients included in this analysis is 90.