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**Manuscript Type:** OPINION REVIEW

**Cost of postoperative complications: How to avoid calculation errors**

De la Plaza Llamas R *et al.* The cost of PC: Avoiding errors

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**Abstract**

Postoperative complications (PC) are a basic health outcome, but no surgery service in the world records and/or audits the PC associated with all the surgical procedures it performs. Most studies that have assessed the cost of PC suffer from poor quality and a lack of transparency and consistency. The payment system in place often rewards the volume of services provided rather than the quality of patients' clinical outcomes. Without a thorough registration of PC, the economic costs involved cannot be determined. An accurate, reliable appraisal would help identify areas for investment in order to reduce the incidence of PC, improve surgical results, and bring down the economic costs. This article describes how to quantify and classify PC using the Clavien-Dindo classification and the comprehensive complication index, discusses the perspectives from which economic evaluations are performed and the minimum postoperative follow-up established, and makes various recommendations. The

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## Simple methods reduce postoperative complications | Nurse ...

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Postoperative infections are among the most expensive medical errors, costing \$14,500 per case on average, according to a 2010 report by the Society of Actuaries and Milliman, Inc. "I don't think anyone goes into this profession expecting to hurt the patient, but it ...

## COST AND MORTALITY ASSOCIATED WITH POSTOPERATIVE ...

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4247993>

Patients with AKI were more likely to have postoperative complications and had longer lengths of stay in the intensive care unit and the hospital. The risk-adjusted average cost of care for patients undergoing surgery was \$42,600 for patients with any AKI compared to \$26,700 for patients without AKI.

**Cited by:** 175

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**Publish Year:** 2015

## Estimating the Costs of Potentially Preventable Hospital ...

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California and Maryland hospital data are used to estimate the incremental cost associated with 64 categories of hospital acquired complications. The reason for admission, severity of illness at



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Extrapolating this amount to all hospital admissions in the United States yields an estimated annual cost of \$37.6 billion for adverse events and **\$17 billion** for medical errors. Postoperative ...

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## COST AND MORTALITY ASSOCIATED WITH POSTOPERATIVE ...

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4247993>

For patients with no AKI the risk-adjusted incremental cost increase for postoperative complications **ranged from \$1,900 for wound complications to \$11,000 for pulmonary complications.**

**Cited by:** 177

**Author:** Charles Hobson, Tezcan Ozrazgat-Bas...

**Publish Year:** 2015

## Estimating the Costs of Potentially Preventable Hospital ...

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4195062>

Methods. While it is important to understand that not all hospital acquired **complications** can reasonably be thought of as being preventable, high **complication** rates at individual facilities, after adjusting for the mix and severity of illness of patient admissions, are indicative of low quality care and system waste (Peng, Kurtz, and Johannes, 2006).

**Cited by:** 131

**Author:** Richard L. Fuller, Elizabeth C. McCullo...

**Publish Year:** 2009

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Postoperative **complications**. Sometimes, **complications** can occur following surgery. The following are the most common **complications**, as defined by the American Medical Association. However, individuals may experience **complications** and discomforts differently. Specific treatment for any post-surgical **complication(s)** will be based on:

### Postoperative Complications - Clinical Guidelines for Nurses

<https://www.ausmed.com/cpd/articles/postoperative-complications> ▾

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