

Does peri-operative nutritional support improve the outcome in GI cancer patients?

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Disclosures

- B. Braun and Nutricia

Slide withheld at speaker's request

Malnutrition

“A state of nutrition in which a deficiency or excess (or imbalance) of energy, protein and other nutrients causes measurable adverse effects on tissue/body structure and function and clinical outcome.”

Causes of Undernutrition

↓ Consciousness
Depression
Anorexia

Disease burden

Liver processing
Jaundice

Effects of treatment



Poor diet – age, poverty,
alcohol, drugs

Dysphagia

Obstruction
Vomiting

Pancreatic insufficiency

Malabsorption

Increased metabolic demands (e.g. inflammation, infection, injury)

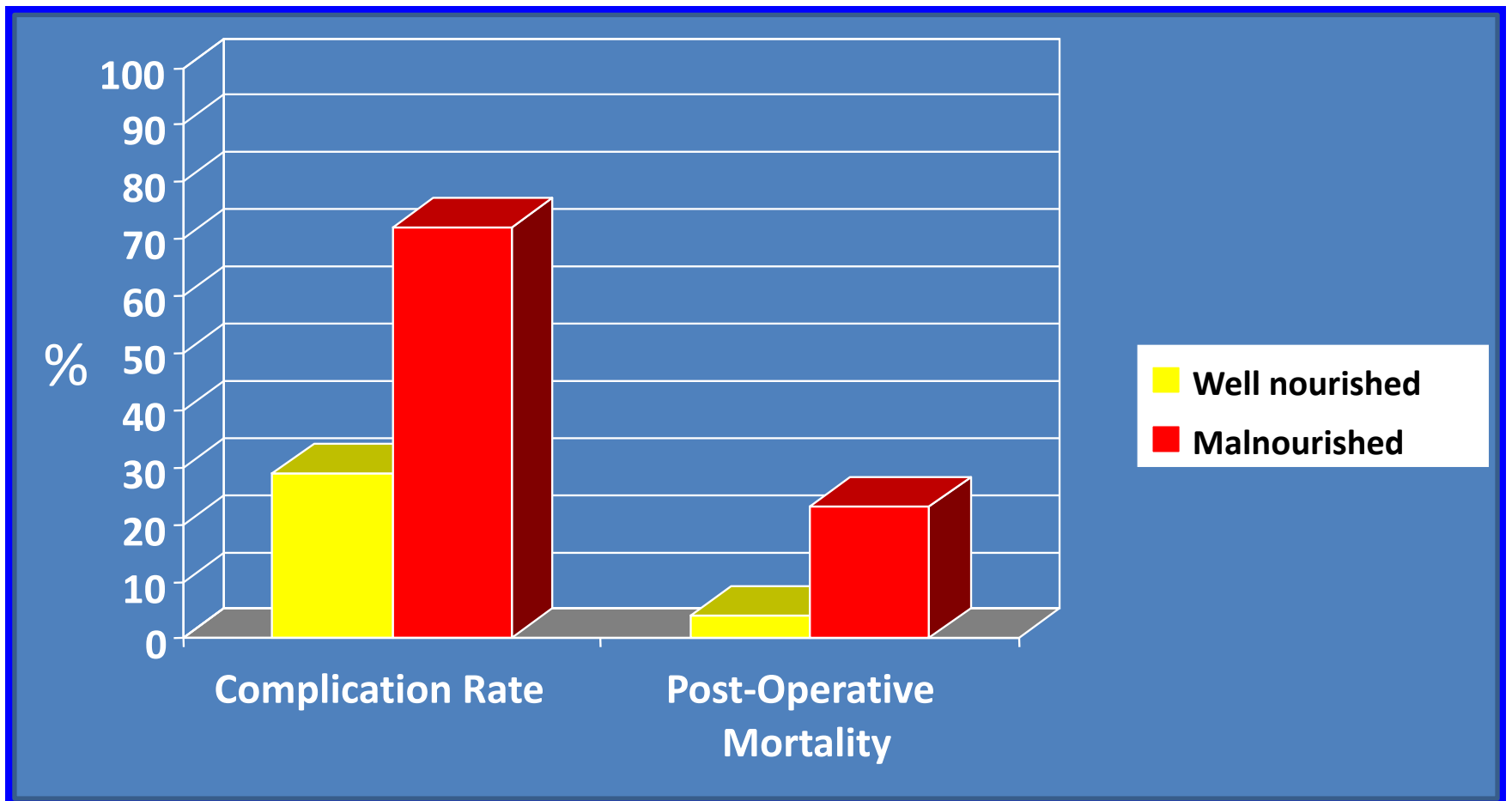
Effects of Malnutrition on Surgical Outcome

PERCENTAGE OF WEIGHT LOSS

A BASIC INDICATOR OF SURGICAL RISK
IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC
PEPTIC ULCER

HIRAM O. STUDLEY, M.D.
CLEVELAND

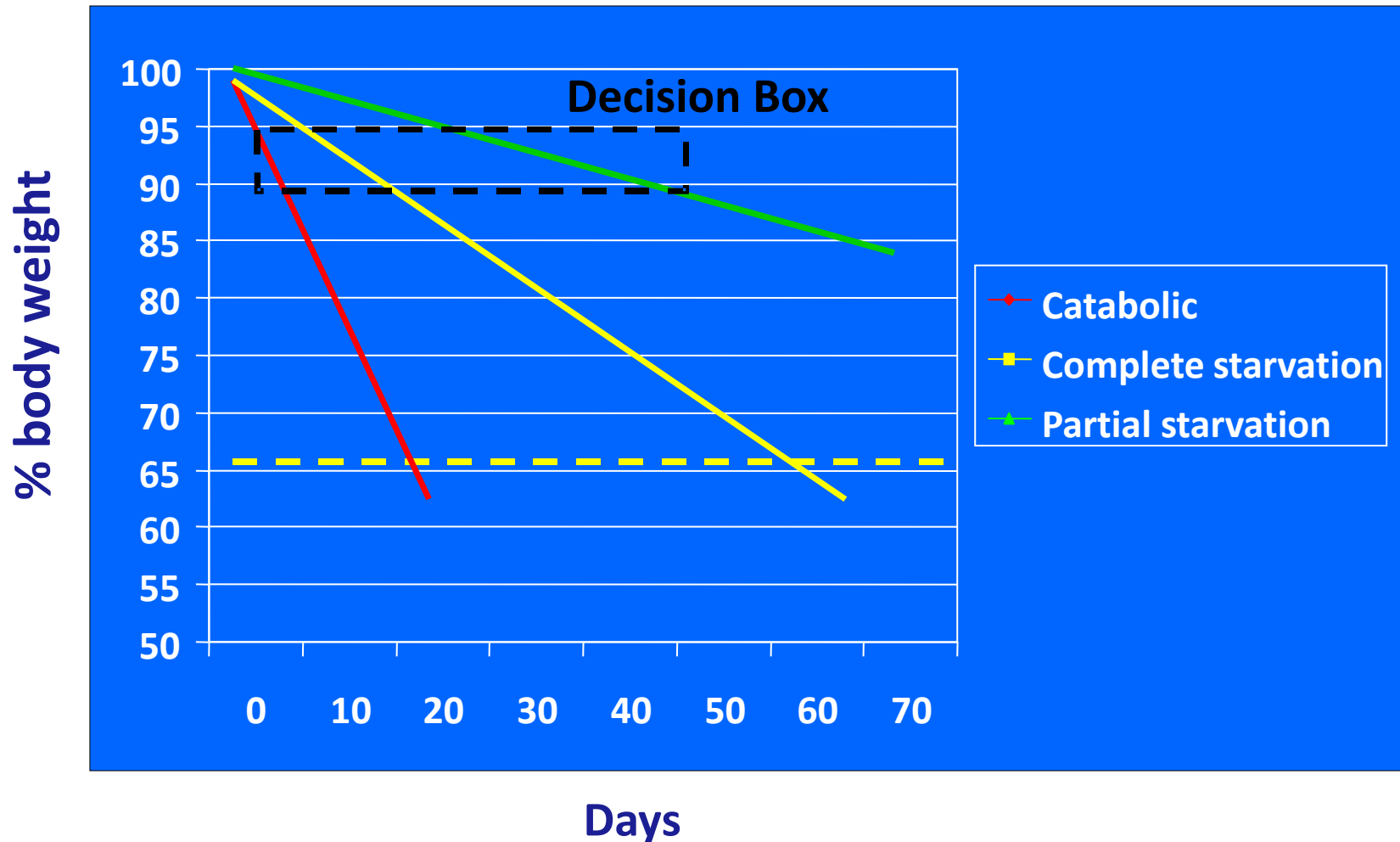
Preop. weight loss	Postop. mortality
<20%	3.5%
>20%	33%



Meguid M, et al, Am J Surg 1988

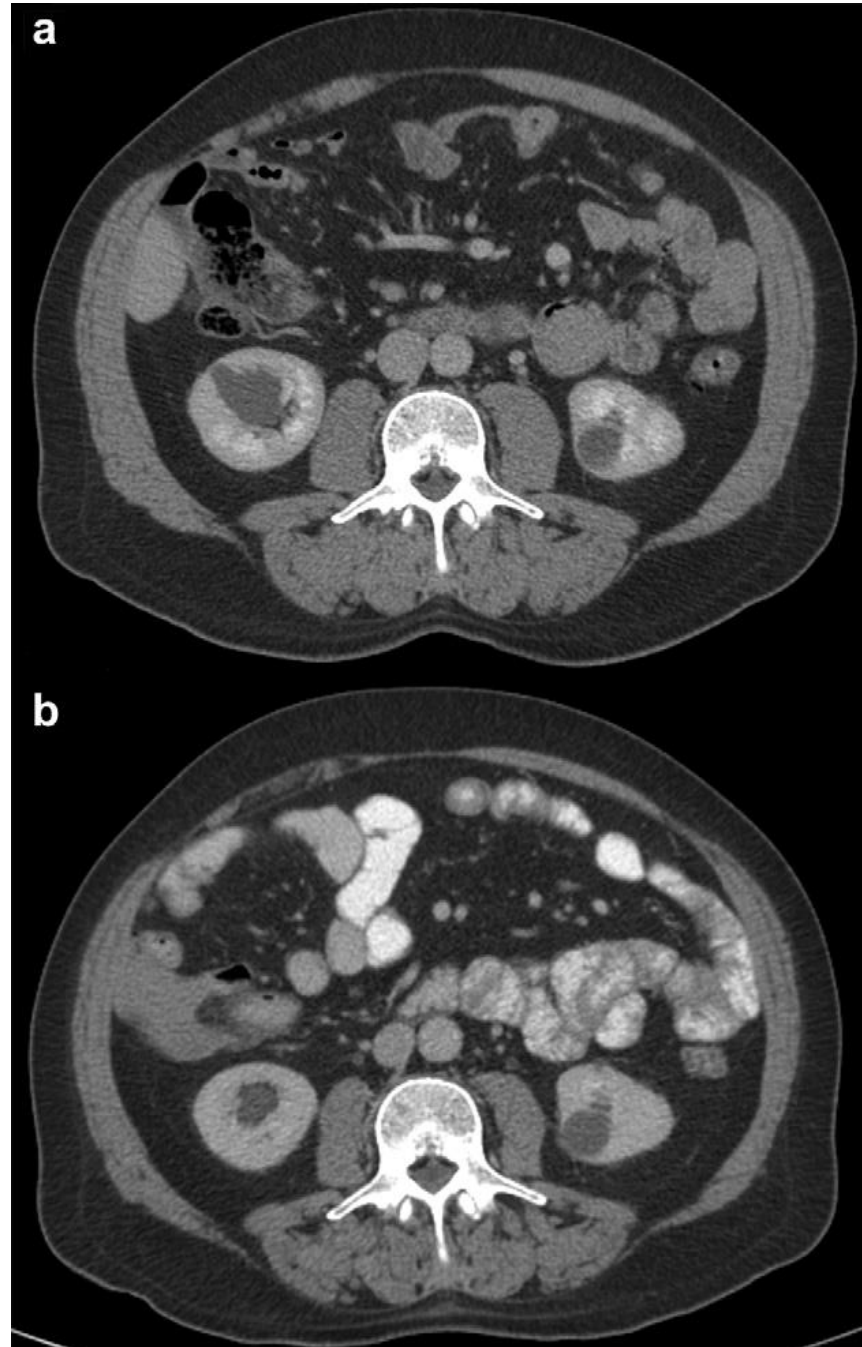
Starvation & Weight loss

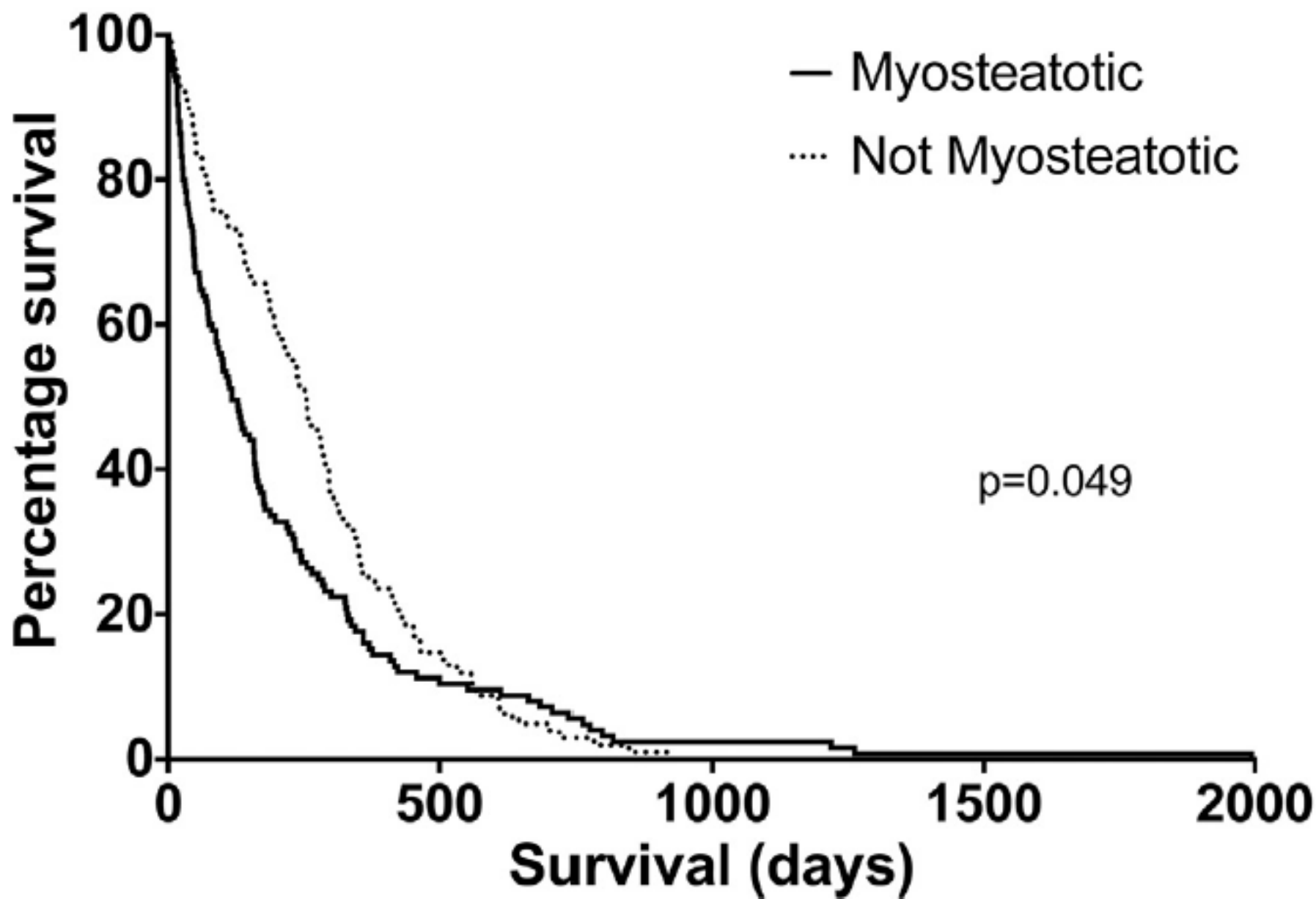
(After Allison)



Sarcopenia

- Reduced quantity of skeletal muscle
- Absolute muscle mass >2 SD below that typical of healthy adults
- Muscle loss may be masked by weight stability
- Muscle loss with fat gain – sarcopenic obesity

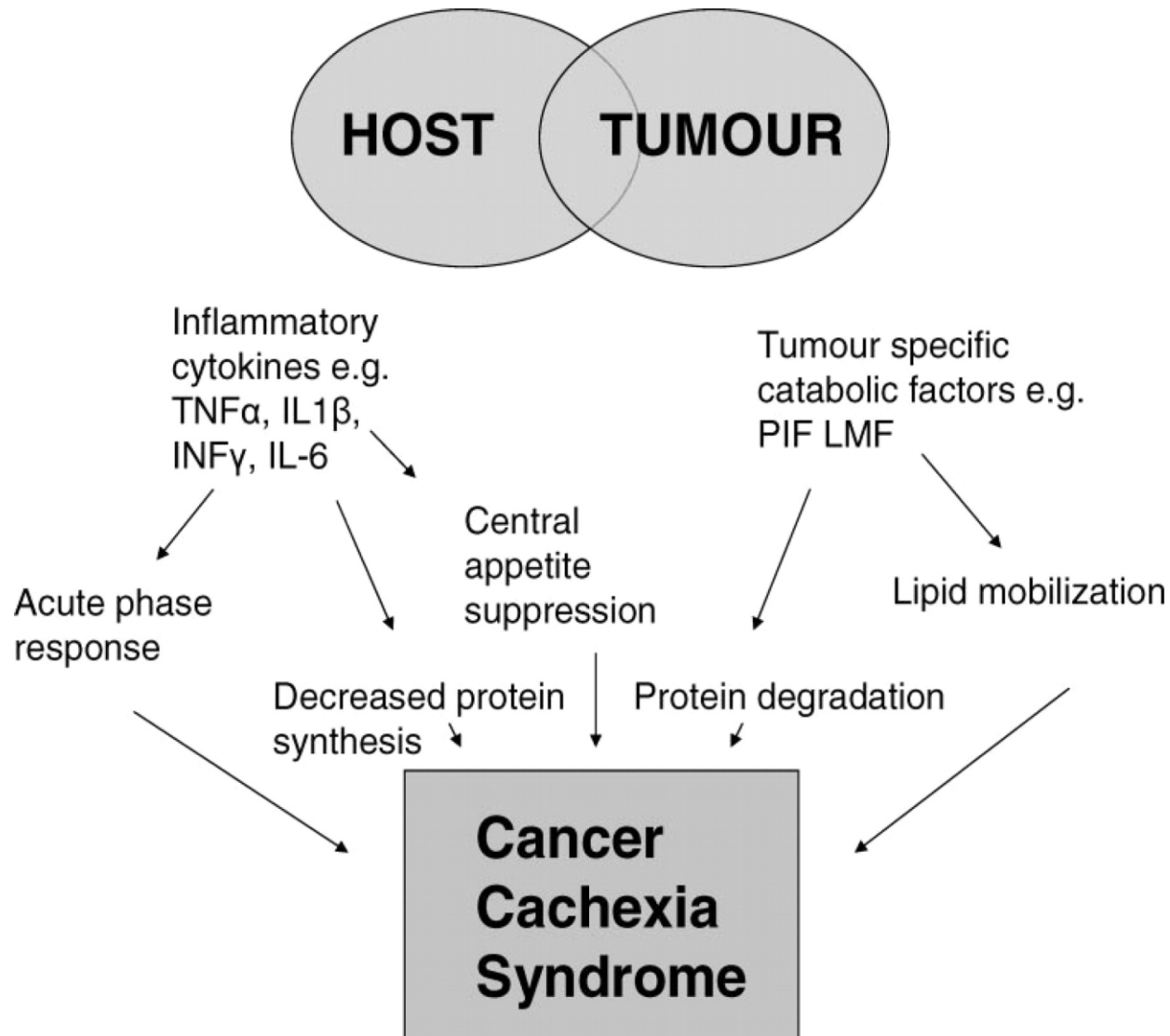




Cachexia

- Complex metabolic syndrome associated with underlying illness characterised by
 - Loss of muscle with or without loss of fat mass
 - Anorexia
 - Inflammation
 - Insulin resistance
 - Increased muscle protein breakdown

Cancer Cachexia



Prevalence of Cachexia

Malignancy	Patients with cachexia
Oesophagogastric cancer	85%
Pancreatic cancer	83%
Non-small cell lung cancer	61%
Small cell lung cancer	57%
Prostate cancer	56%
Colon cancer	54%
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (unfavourable)	48%
Sarcoma	40%
Acute non-lymphocytic lymphoma	39%
Breast cancer	36%
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (favourable)	31%

Undernutrition and the Cancer Patient

- More intensive treatment
- High dependency nursing
- Increased hospital stay
- Higher cost of care
- Increased morbidity and mortality
- Reduced quality of life

Outcome

- Malnutrition impairs outcome
- But, does nutritional support improve it??
- If so, how should we approach the problem in practice?

Integrated Nutrition 1

- Nutrition cannot be considered in isolation
- It will not compensate for inadequacies in other aspects of management



Integrated Nutrition 2

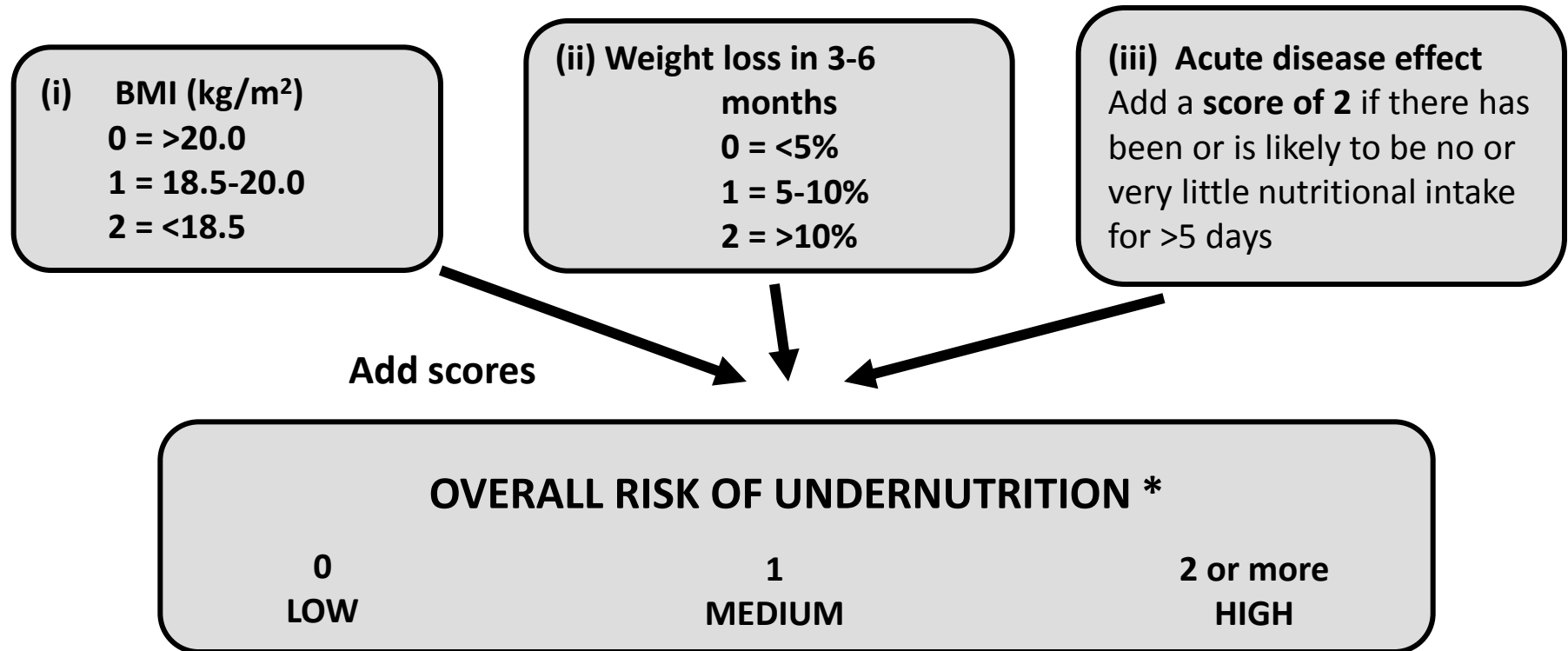
- It interacts with other treatments, e.g. drugs, fluid balance, which influence gastrointestinal function
- It must, therefore, be integrated into an overall protocol of care, e.g. ERAS programme
- It must be delivered by a team trained adequately in nutritional care as well as other aspects of perioperative management

Goals of Nutritional Therapy

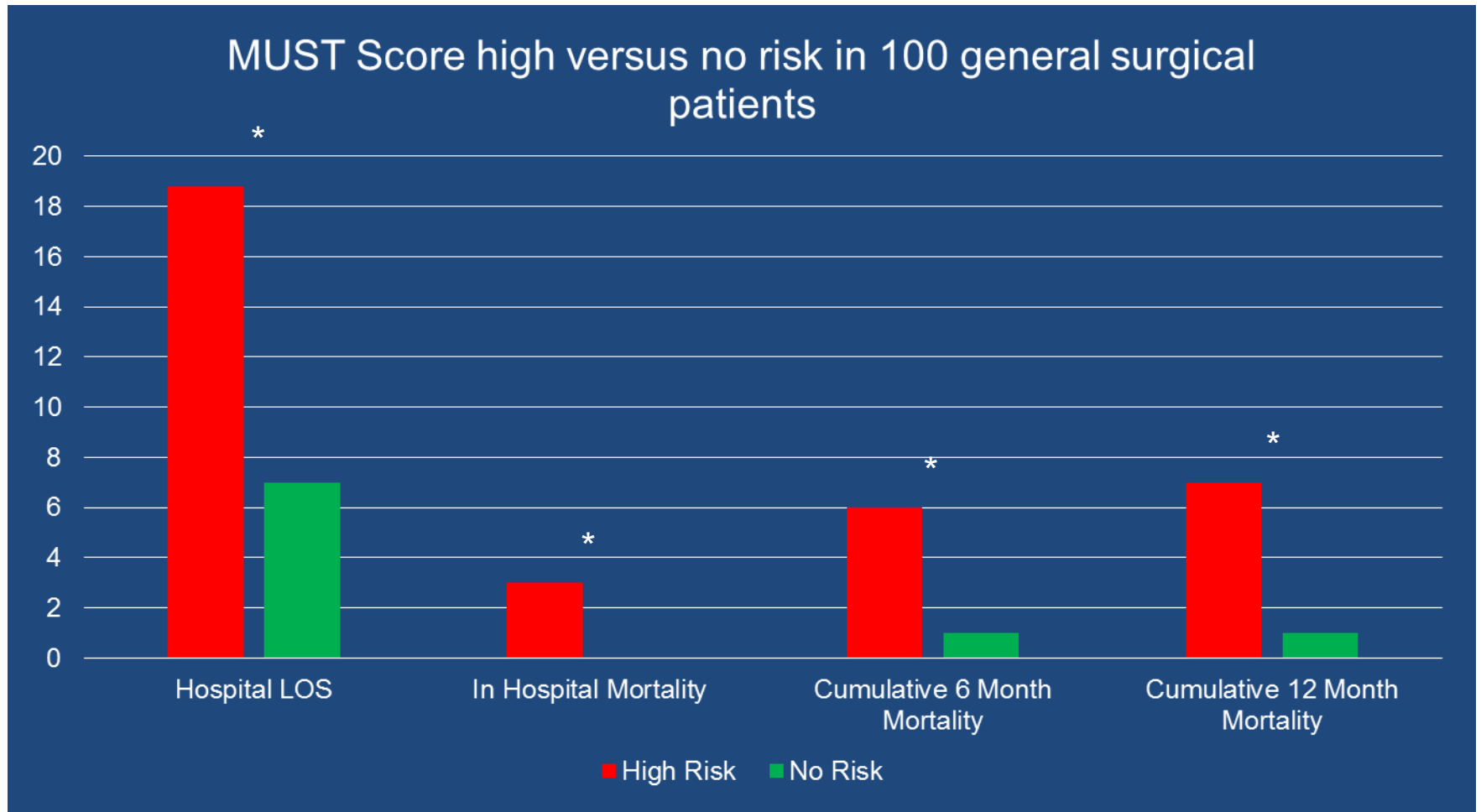
- Acute/Short-term
 - Recognise risk of malnutrition
 - Preserve function
 - Minimise complications
 - Avoid nutrient overload
 - Correct mineral, micronutrient and electrolyte balance
- Medium to Long-term
 - Restore function
 - Improve quality of life

Nutrition Screening:

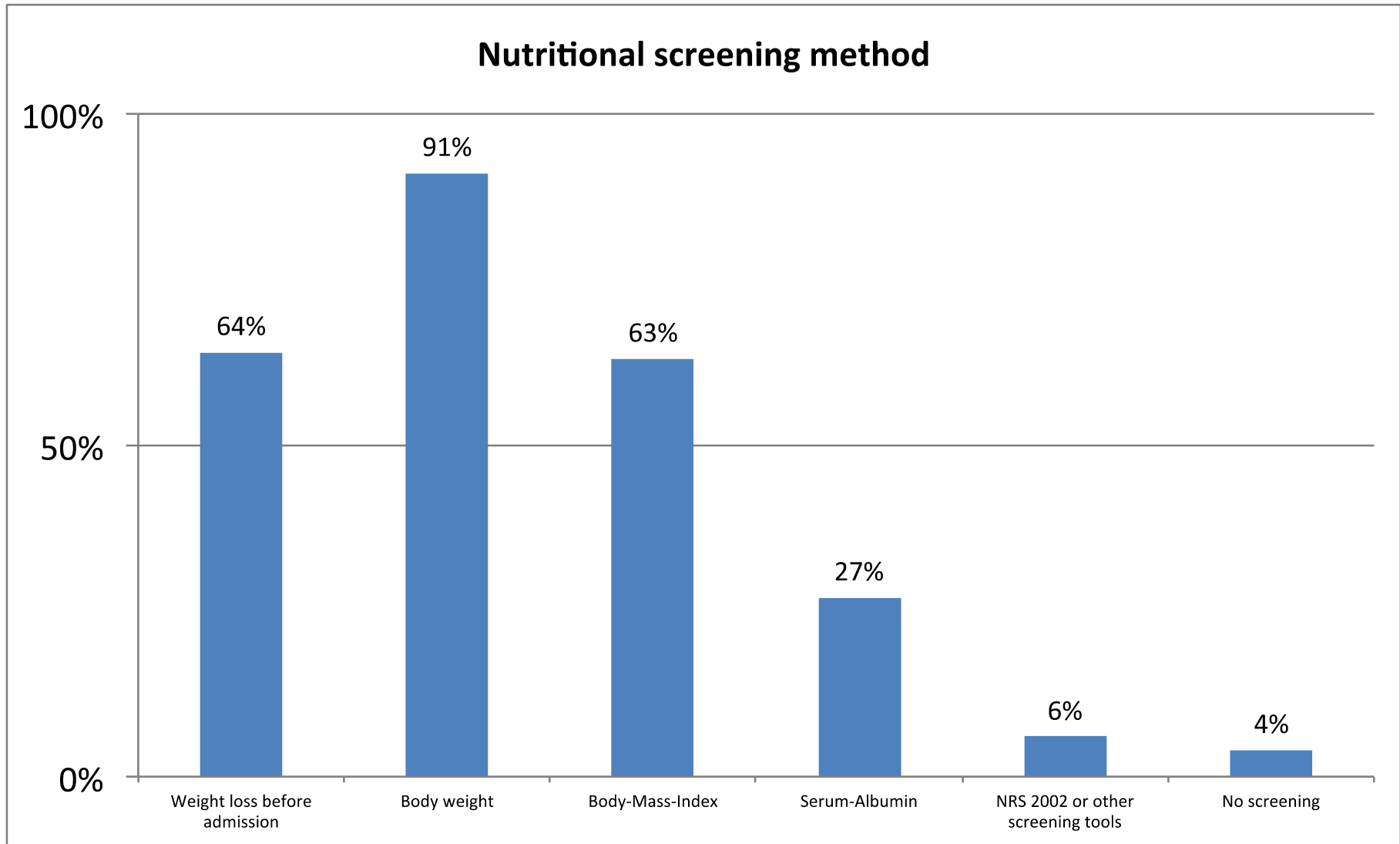
The Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool



MUST Score and Clinical Outcomes



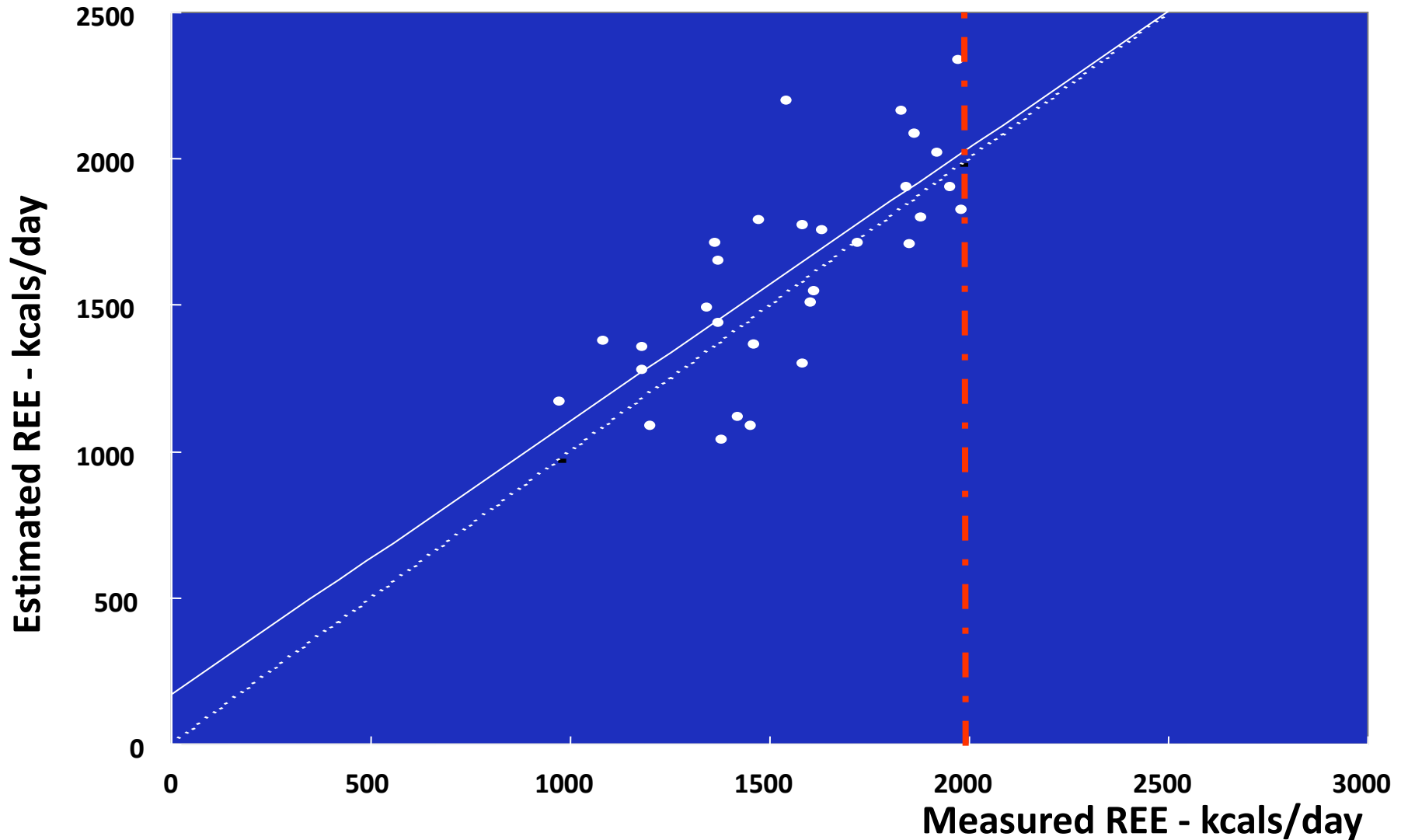
The Real World



How Much is Needed?

- Give $1.0 - 1.3 \times \text{RMR}$
 - Most patients need 30-35 Cal/kg/day
 - 50% non-protein energy requirement from fat and 50% from carbohydrate.
 - Protein requirements range from 1.2-1.5 g/kg/day.
- Permissive underfeeding?
 - 20 Cal with 1 g protein/kg/day.

Energy Expenditure in Patients



Enteral Nutrition

- Pro
 - Gut regulation of absorption
 - Liver activation
 - Protection of gut integrity & immunity
 - Decreased cytokine and acute phase responses
 - Relatively simple and cheap
- Con
 - Access – insertion, misplacement, "fall out"
 - Aspiration
 - Poor absorption
 - Diarrhoea
 - Metabolic upset

Parenteral Nutrition

- Pro
 - Intestinal failure
 - Severe acute pancreatitis
 - Guaranteed delivery
- Con
 - Access related complications
 - Line occlusion, misplacement, displacement
 - Infections
 - Metabolic complications
 - Expense

EN vs. PN

- If the gut works use it
- If intakes are inadequate or GI tolerance in doubt, supplement with PN
- PN and EN are not mutually exclusive, they are complementary

Perioperative Management – Aims

- Improved function
- Improved survival and outcome
- Reduced complications
- Enhanced rate of recovery
- Reduced hospital stay and costs
- Early return to normal life

Perioperative Nutrition

- 2-3 weeks: Preoperative assessment
- 7-14 days: Preoperative nutrition
- 12 h preoperatively: Prolonged starvation not necessary
- During operation and immediate recovery
- Postoperatively until discharge from hospital
- Post discharge

What to Give?

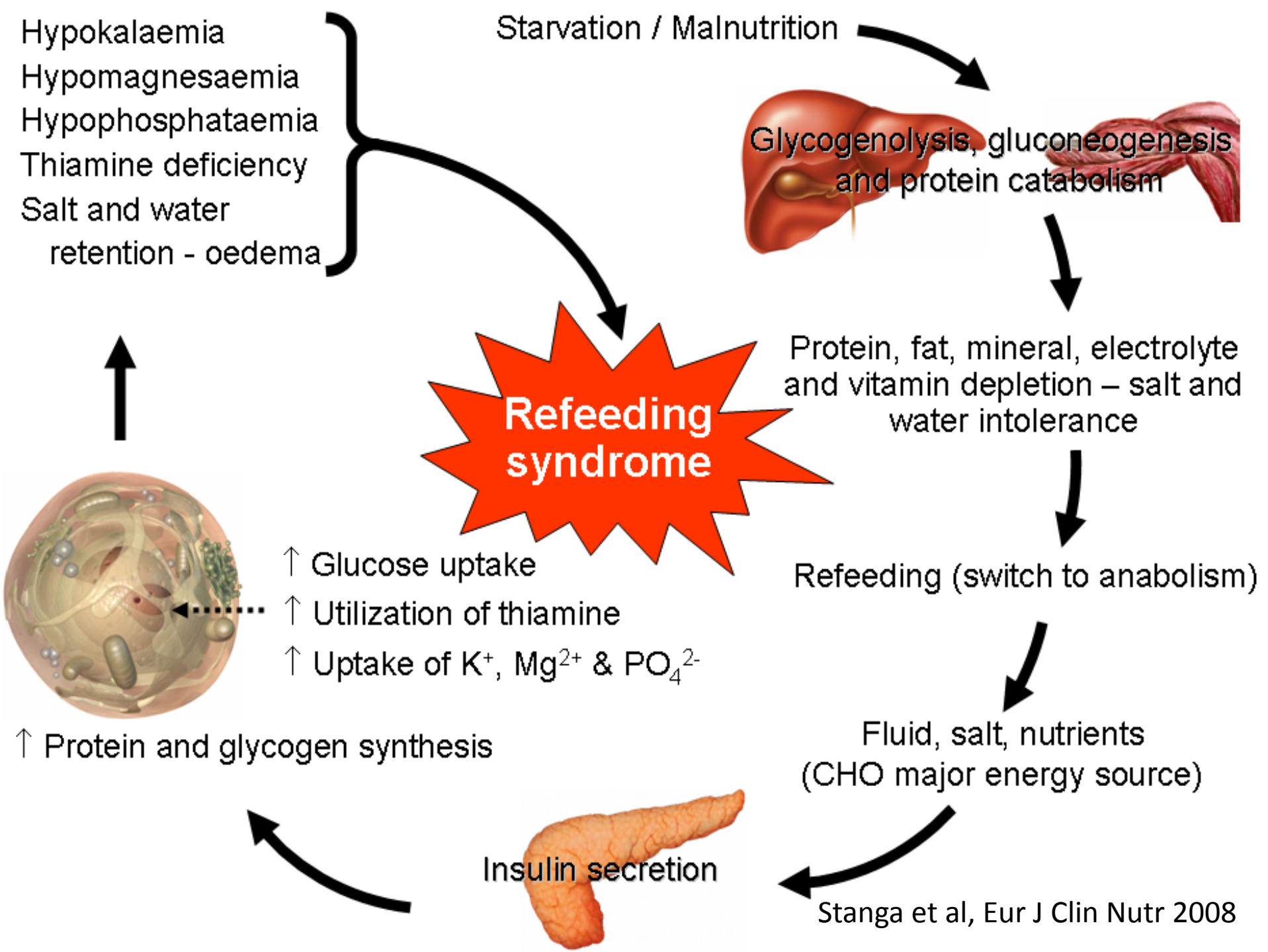
- Macronutrients
 - Protein, CHO, Fat
- Micronutrients
 - Fat soluble vitamins: A, D, E & K
 - Water soluble vitamins: B group, C, etc.
- Electrolytes
 - Na, K, Ca, Mg, PO_4
- Elements
 - Fe, Zn, Cu, Se, Mn

Problems of Overfeeding Energy

- Ventilatory demands - O_2 and CO_2
- Lipid
 - Liver dysfunction
 - Immunosuppression
- Carbohydrate
 - Re-feeding syndrome
 - Wernicke Korsakoff
 - Hyperglycaemia

What is the Refeeding Syndrome?

- A potentially lethal condition characterised by severe fluid and electrolyte shifts associated with metabolic abnormalities in malnourished patients undergoing oral, enteral or parenteral refeeding.



Interventions for Cachexia

Drug	Mode of action	Effect	Side-effects
Steroids Megesterol acetate Medroxyprogesterone	Anabolic effects Appetite stimulants	Total weight gain due to increased fat mass and fluid retention. No increase in lean body mass. Increased sense of well-being	Diabetes Osteoporosis Mood swings Thromboembolism
NSAIDs	Inhibits prostaglandin production. Reduces REE and acute phase response	Total weight gain, reduced need for alternative analgesics, improved quality of life. No increase in lean body mass. Prolonged survival in one study	GI upset/haemorrhage
Cannabinoids	Appetite stimulant	Ineffective	Nausea/vomiting
Eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) Fish oils	Inhibits NFκB Inhibits PIF Reduces pro-inflammatory cytokines	Increased lean body mass in pilot studies. Overall ineffective at increasing weight in large RCTs—possibly due to inability of patients to achieve target dose	Nausea, fishy taste/odour, GI upset
Pentoxifylline	Inhibits TNFα	Ineffective	
Thalidomide	Inhibits TNFα, Effect Th1 to Th2 shift. Inhibit NFκB	Weight stabilization. Attenuated loss of lean body mass. Trend towards prolonged survival	Rash, peripheral neuropathy, daytime somnolence, constipation

Multidisciplinary Approach

Multidimensional Assessment

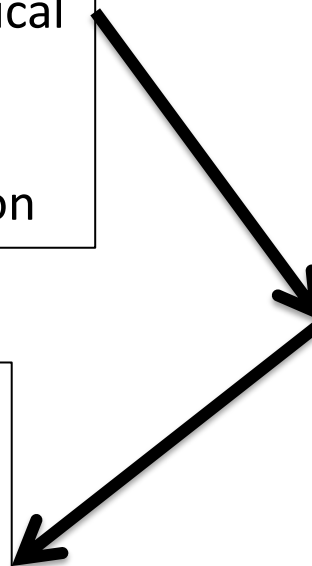
- Medical & treatment history
- Nutritional history
- Symptoms: physical & psychological
- Physical examination
- Laboratory tests
- Anthropometry/body composition

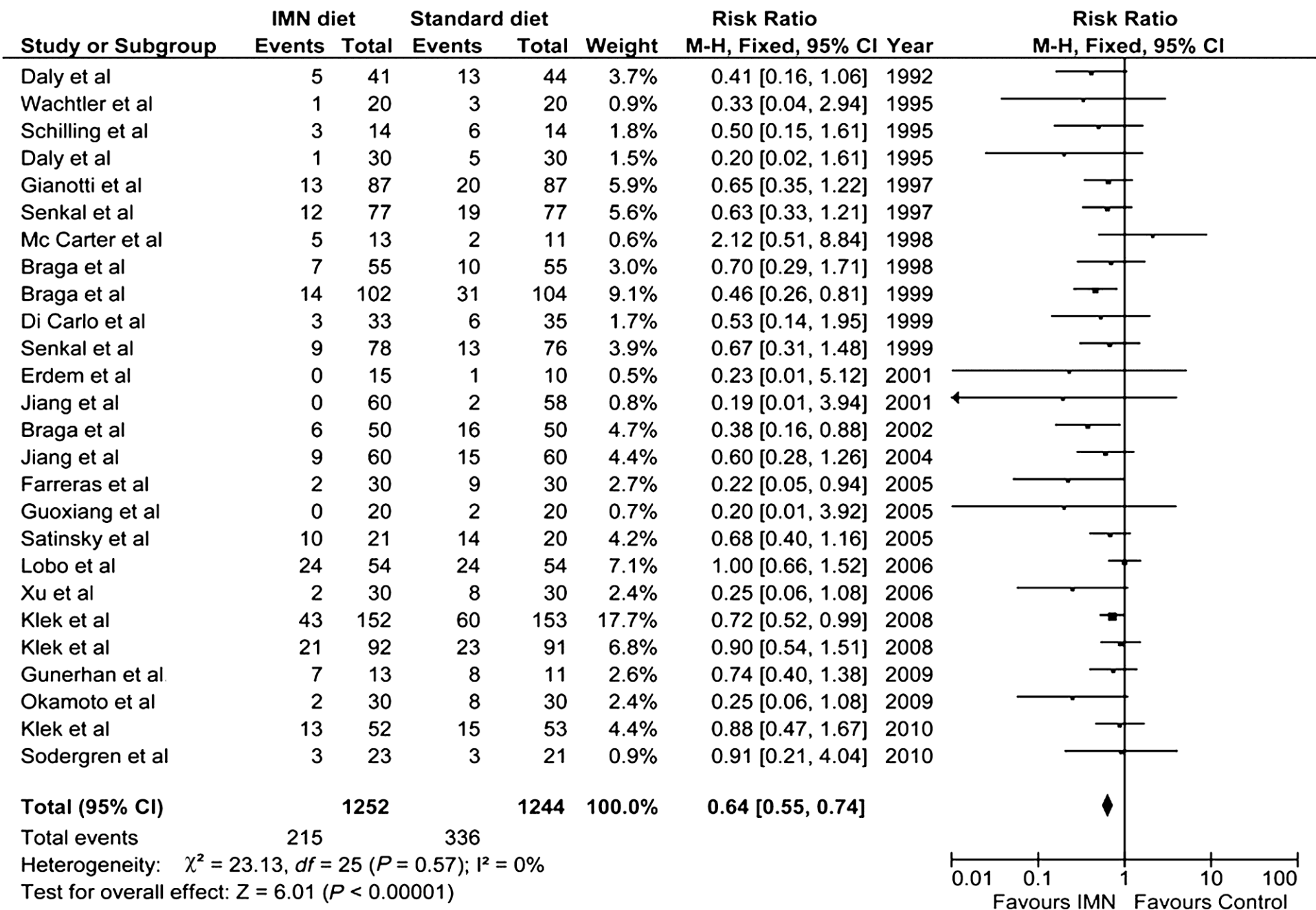
Individualised Treatment Plan

- Manage treatable causes
- Nutritional counselling
- Artificial nutrition if appropriate
- Pharmacological support
- Physical therapy/exercise

Decision Making Process

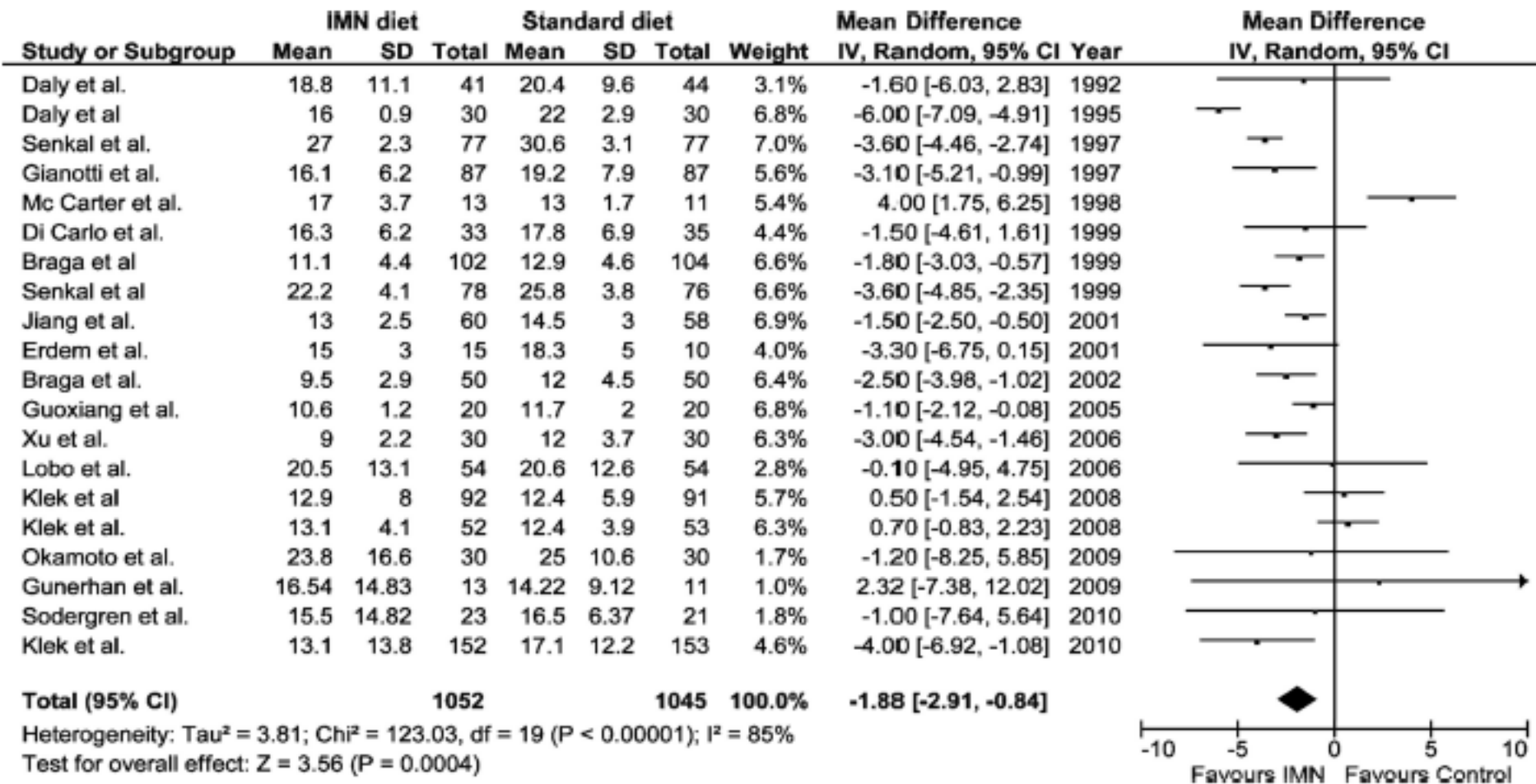
- Individualised goals
- Define realistic outcomes
- Determine prognosis and antineoplastic treatment
- Discuss future challenges
- Consider patient & family attitudes
- Consider costs



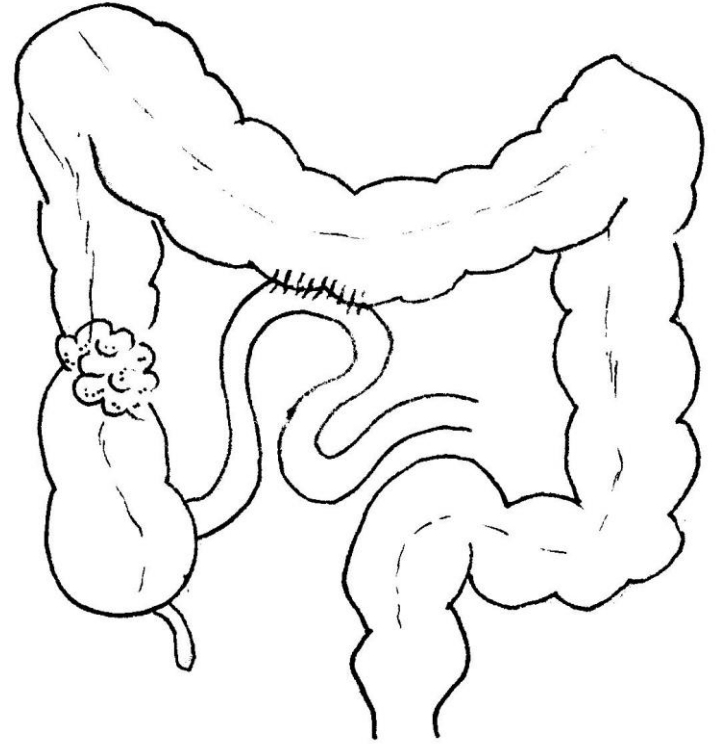
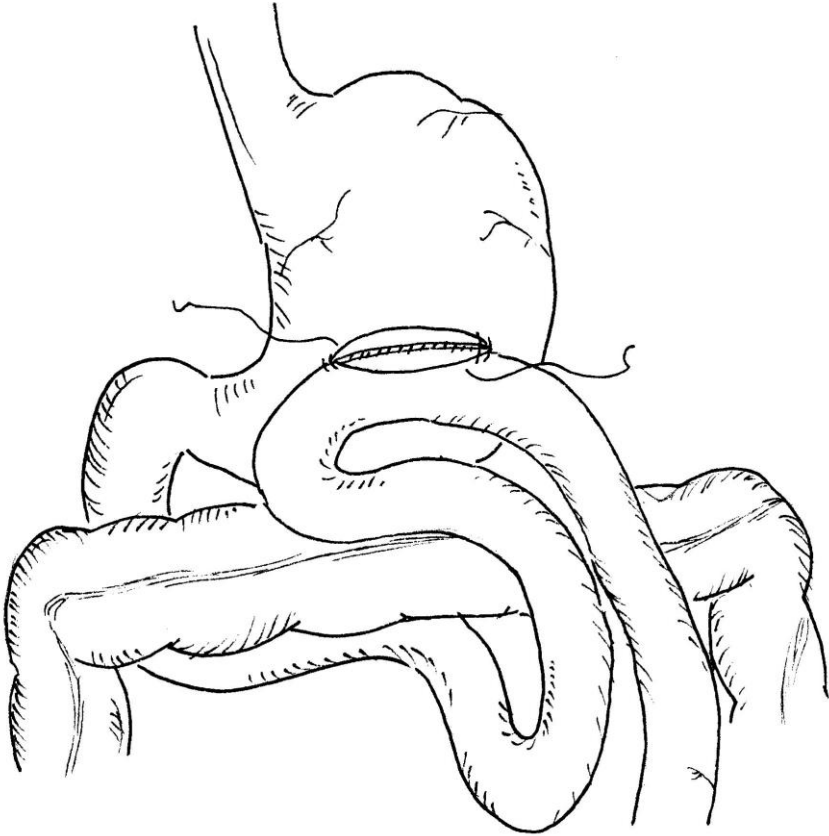


Infectious complications

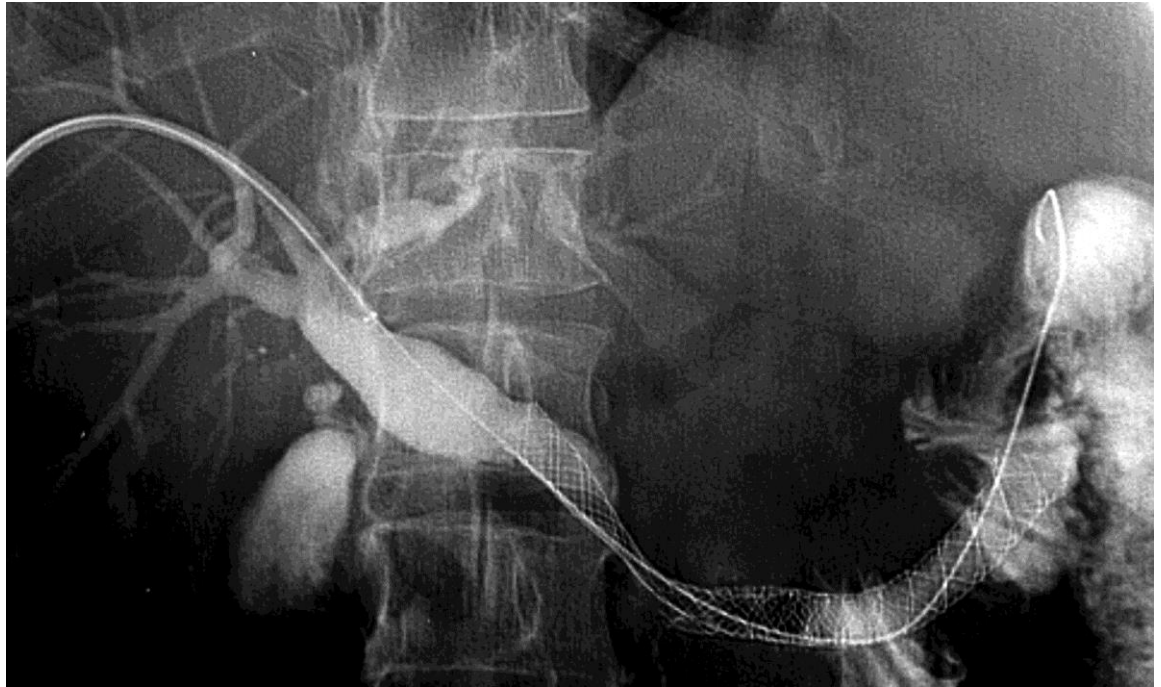
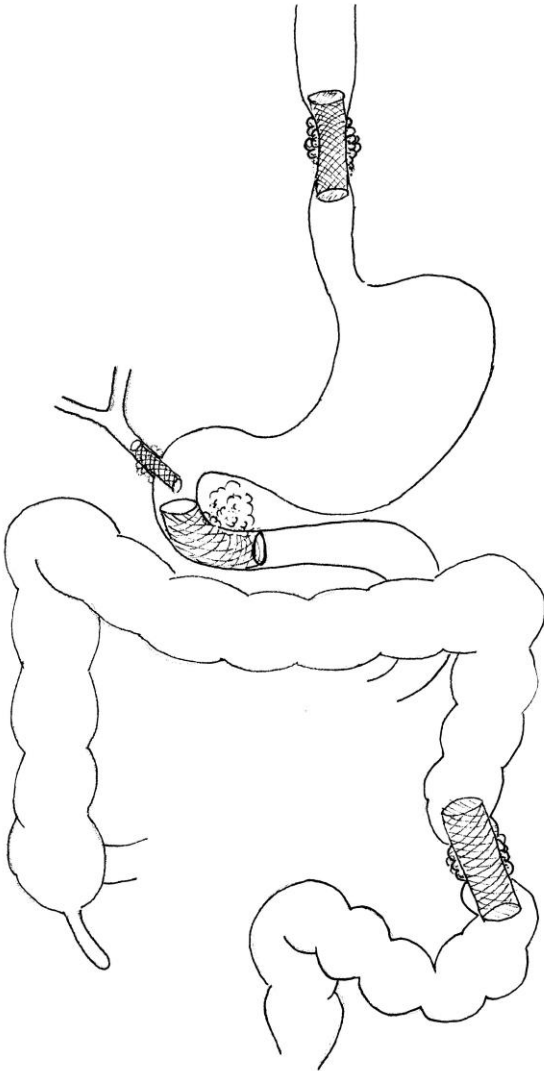
Marimuthu K, et al, Ann Surg 2012



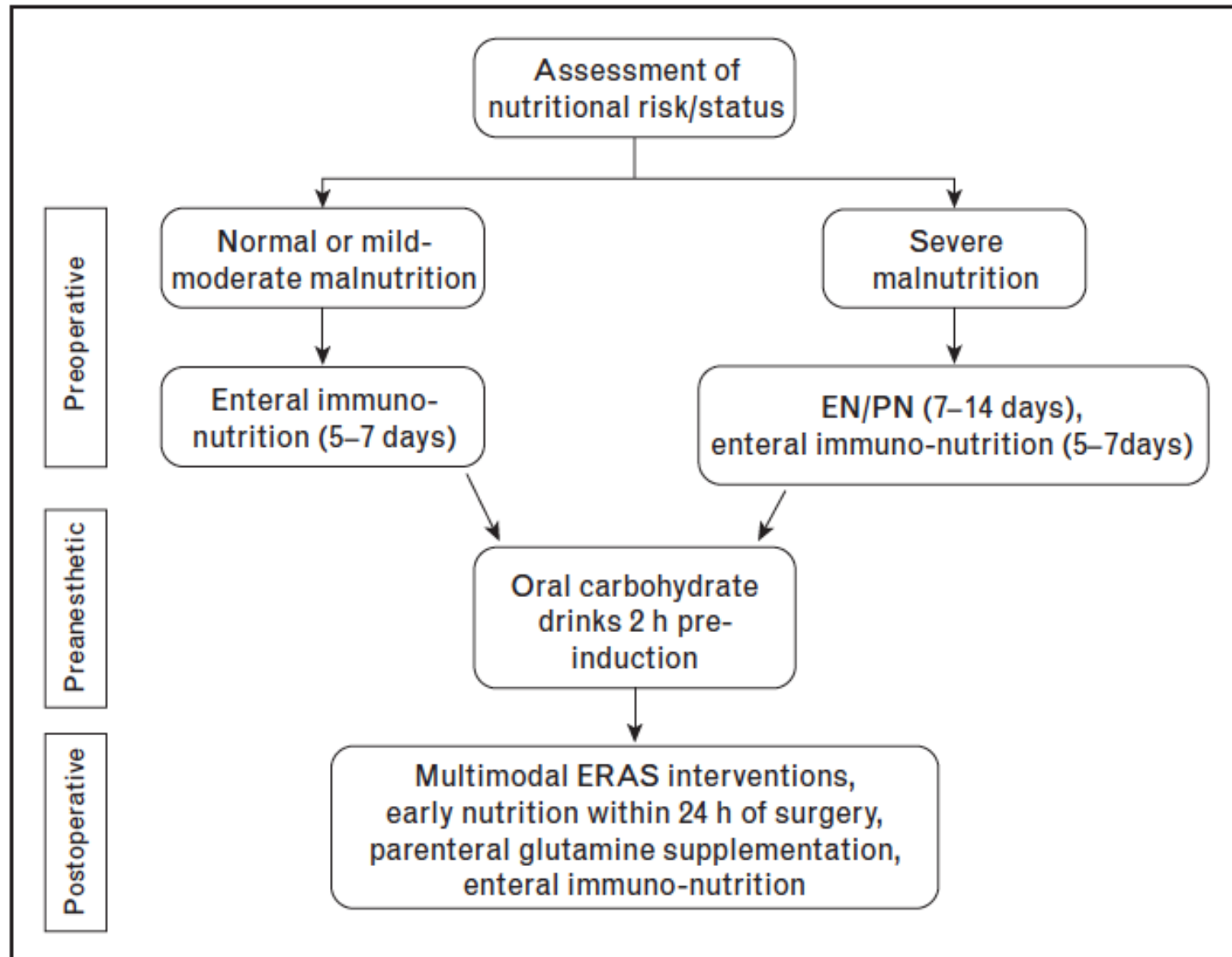
Palliative Measures



Stents



A Suggested Algorithm



Where is the Evidence?

- The quality of evidence is still low and unconvincing
- Many shortcomings in these studies and subsequent meta-analyses
- Systematic review of 15 studies with 3474 patients that there is no evidence to support enteral or parenteral feeding after pancreatoduodenectomy.

Conclusions

- Nutritional status is a prognostic factor
- Nutritional screening is essential in order to identify patients at risk
- Nutritional support is required if a longer period of inadequate oral intake has to be anticipated
- Multimodal therapy is necessary for cancer cachexia

