

TABLE 1E. Organizational Characteristics of participating centers

	HOSPITAL 1	HOSPITAL 2	HOSPITAL 3	HOSPITAL 4	HOSPITAL 5	HOSPITAL 6	HOSPITAL 7	HOSPITAL 8	HOSPITAL 9	HOSPITAL 10	HOSPITAL 11
Hospital Level	4	5	5	3	4	3	3	4	2	3	4
University hospital	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Neurosurgery	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Transplants	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Donors	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Number of critical / semi-critical beds	24	18	31	18	17	11	12	12	8	8	18
Protocol for limiting life support	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Staff physician with > 10 years experience,	30.8%	66.7%	54.2%	52.9%	33.3%	87.5%	75%	36.4%	62.5%	75%	61.5%

Table 2E. Comparison of patients with limitations on life support who survived versus those who died.

	Non-survivors n= 247	Survivors n= 79	p value
Age, years, median (p25-p75)	74 (64-79)	77 (67-82)	0.083
Men, n (%)	150 (60.7)	57 (72.2)	0.072
Modified Rankin scale, median (p25-p75)	2 (0-3)	2 (2-3)	0.125
ICU length of stay, days, median (p25-p75)	4 (1-11)	6 (3-12)	0.065
Comorbidities,			
- Smoking, n (%)	46 (18.6)	8 (10.1)	0.07
- Alcohol, n (%)	31 (12.6)	5 (6.3)	0.12
- Hypertension, n (%)	147 (59.5)	49 (62)	0.69
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, n (%)	76 (30.8)	37 (46.8)	0.009
- Diabetes mellitus, n (%)	69 (27.9)	30 (38.0)	0.09
- Chronic kidney disease, n (%)	36 (14.6)	13 (16.5)	0.68
- Liver disease, n (%)	32 (13.0)	8 (10.1)	0.505
- Cardiovascular disease, n (%)	92 (37.2)	31 (39.2)	0.75
- Active cancer, n (%)	48 (19.4)	18 (22.8)	0.52
- Cancer in complete remission, n (%)	18 (7.3)	4 (5.1)	0.49
Type of Disease,			
- Acute disease, n (%)	189 (76.5)	53 (67.1)	0.095
- Acute-on-chronic disease, n (%)	58 (23.5)	26 (32.9)	0.09
Patient type			
- Medical, n (%)	176 (71.3)	58 (73.4)	0.71
- Trauma, n (%)	13 (5.3)	2 (2.5)	0.31
- Emergency surgery, n (%)	42 (17.0)	12 (15.2)	0.71
- Scheduled surgery, n (%)	16 (6.5)	7 (8.9)	0.47
Diagnostic category			
- Cardiovascular, n (%)	30 (12.1)	17 (21.5)	0.39
- Pulmonary, n (%)	33 (13.4)	14 (17.7)	0.34
- Infectious, n (%)	54 (21.9)	9 (11.4)	0.04
- Metabolic, n (%)	3 (1.2)	2 (2.5)	0.41
- Gastrointestinal, n (%)	28 (11.3)	13 (16.5)	0.23
- Neurological, n (%)	53 (21.5)	17 (21.5)	0.99
- Cardiorespiratory arrest, n (%)	38 (15.4)	2 (2.5)	0.002
Life support measures limited			
- Vasoactive drugs, n (%)	128 (51.8)	18 (22.8)	0.001
- Invasive Mechanical ventilation, n (%)	206 (83.4)	44 (55.7)	0.01
- Noninvasive mechanical ventilation, n (%)	69 (27.9)	21 (26.6)	0.04
- Continuous renal replacement techniques, n (%)	28 (11.3)	3 (3.8)	0.032
Reasons for Life support treatment Limitation			
- Age n (%)	55 (22.3)	25 (31.6)	0.14
- Degree of functional disability, n (%)	44 (17.8)	22 (27.8)	0.08
- Comorbidities, n (%)	104 (42.1)	48 (60.8)	0.010
- Reason for admission, n (%)	147 (59.5)	36 (45.6)	0.021
- Therapeutic futility, n (%)	175 (70.9)	27 (34.2)	0.001
- Multiorgan failure, n (%)	87 (35.2)	3 (3.8)	0.001

- Others, n (%)			
Type of life support treatment limitation			
- Withholding	116 (47.0)	75 (94.9%)	0.001
- Withdrawal	134 (53.0)	0	