e-Appendix 2: Variables considered in logistic regression and variables included in final model

Age and sex were related to the probability of an adverse event ($p = 0.012$ for age, with the probability increasing with increasing age; and $p = 0.058$ for sex, with males having a lower probability than females). The age∗sex interaction was not significant ($p = 0.74$) and was not included in subsequent analyses

After adjustment for age and sex, a few of the comorbidities were significantly related to the probability of having an adverse event. The significant comorbidities ($p = 0.10$ level, by univariate analyses) were congestive heart failure, deep vein thrombosis, valvular heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, liver disease, cirrhosis, any gastrointestinal disease, acute confusional state, renal failure, dialysis, any renal disease, and blindness

The adjusted rate of adverse events was calculated using a logistic regression model, with the intercept estimating the outcome for the baseline patient and the standard error of the intercept determining the confidence interval. The intercept and confidence intervals were transformed in order to obtain a rate. The transformation is: probability of an adverse event = e /(1+ e), where is the intercept. Age centred so that the baseline patient was a 65-year-old woman with no comorbidities. Each hospital type was used in turn as the baseline to determine their confidence interval rate of adverse events.