

Characteristic	No. (%)	
	Intervention group (n = 32)	Non-intervention group (n = 31)
Age, median (IQR), years	69.5 (64.8, 74.5)	75.0 (66.5, 80.0)
<b>Sex</b>		
Female	19 (59%)	15 (48%)
Male	13 (41%)	16 (52%)
BMI, median (IQR)	25.8 (24.3-29.3)	25.2 (22.6-28.2)
<b>ASA group</b>		
ASA I-2	28 (88%)	21 (68%)
ASA 3-4	4 (13%)	10 (32%)
<b>Performance status</b>		
PS 0	27 (84%)	20 (65%)
PS 1-3	5 (16%)	11 (35%)
<b>Smoking status</b>		
Active smoker	3 (9%)	1 (3%)
Previous smoker <sup>1</sup>	15 (47%)	17 (55%)
Never smoked	14 (44%)	13 (42%)
<b>Weekly alcohol</b>		
<10 units weekly	25 (78%)	25 (81%)
≥10 units weekly	7 (22%)	6 (19%)
<b>Tumour stage (UICC-stage)</b>		
I/II	20 (62.5%)	21 (67.7%)
III	12 (37.5%)	8 (25.8%)
IV	0 (0%)	2 (6.5%)
Days until surgery, median (IQR)	14.0 (13-16)	18.0 (15-20)
<b>Surgery and follow-up</b>		
	Intervention group (n = 32)	Non-intervention group (n = 31)
<b>Type of surgery</b>		
Hemicolectomy dxt.	22 (68.8 %)	23 (74.2%)
Hemicolectomy sin. or sigmoidectomy	10 (31.2 %)	8 (25.8 %)
<b>Surgical technique</b>		
Laparoscopic	27 (84%)	29 (94%)
Primary laparoscopic converted to open	5 (16%)	2 (6.5%)
<b>Primary anastomosis or stoma</b>		
Primary anastomosis	30 (94%)	30 (97%)
Stoma	2 (6%)	1 (3%)
Length of stay (LOS), days, median (IQR)	3.5 (3.0-8.3)	4.0 (3.0-5.0)
Length of stay (LOS), days, mean (range)	6.2 (3.0-19.0)	5.6 (2.0-23.0)

**Table 3** – Baseline, surgery and follow-up characteristics.

<sup>1</sup> No smoking in the previous 8 weeks