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**Mortality and parenteral nutrition weaning in patients with chronic intestinal failure on home parenteral nutrition: a 30-year retrospective cohort study**

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## 1 **Abstract**

2 **Background:** Home parenteral nutrition (HPN) is the standard treatment for patients with chronic  
3 intestinal failure (CIF). Mortality and weaning rates of these patients widely differ among cohorts;  
4 however, these outcomes were often considered as independent -rather than competing- events,  
5 leading to an upward bias of the retrieved estimates.

6 **Objective:** This retrospective cohort study evaluated through a competing risk analysis the rates  
7 and predictors of mortality and weaning in CIF patients from an Italian referral center.

8 **Methods:** All adult patients with CIF receiving >3 months HPN from 1985 until 2016 were  
9 enrolled. Clinical information was collected from the database of the Intestinal Failure Unit of  
10 Torino. Patients were stratified according to the presence or not of a short bowel syndrome (SBS).

11 **Results:** The cumulative incidences of death/weaning were 27.3%/32.3% and 39.0%/33.7% at 5  
12 and 10 years from HPN starting, respectively. At multivariable competing risk analyses, mortality  
13 was predicted by age (SHR=1.65 per 10-year increase; 95%CI 1.35-2.01), type 3 SBS (SHR=0.38;  
14 0.15-0.94), small bowel length  $\geq 100$  cm (SHR=0.42; 0.22-0.83), and reconstructive surgery  
15 (SHR=0.11; 0.02-0.64) in SBS patients, and by age (SHR=1.38 per 10-year increase; 1.16-1.64)  
16 and presence of stoma (SHR=0.30; 0.12-0.78) in non-SBS patients. In the same model, weaning  
17 was predicted by type 3 SBS (SHR=6.86; 3.10-15.16), small bowel length  $\geq 100$  cm (SHR=3.54;  
18 1.99-6.30) and reconstructive surgery (SHR=2.86; 1.44-5.71) in SBS patients, and by age  
19 (SHR=0.79 per 10-year increase; 0.66-0.94) and presence of stoma (SHR=2.64; 1.38-5.07) in non-  
20 SBS patients.

21 **Conclusions:** Surgical procedures strongly affected mortality and weaning risk in CIF patients.

22

23 **Key words:** chronic intestinal failure; competing risk analysis; home parenteral nutrition;  
24 mortality rate; short bowel syndrome; weaning rate.

25

26

## 27 **Background**

28 Chronic Intestinal Failure (CIF) is a disabling condition occurring when the gut function is  
29 chronically reduced below the minimum necessary for the absorption of macronutrients and/or  
30 water and electrolytes and requiring intravenous fluid and/or nutritional supplementation to  
31 maintain health and/or growth [1]. Short bowel syndrome (SBS) is the most common cause of CIF;  
32 other causes are pseudo-obstructions due to impairment of intestinal motility, mucosal  
33 malfunctions, mechanical obstructions, and intestinal fistulas [1]. Home parenteral nutrition  
34 (HPN) has dramatically improved the prognosis of these patients [2-4], but it is associated with  
35 several complications, including catheter-related infections and thrombosis, and metabolic  
36 complications (such as CIF-associated liver disease, metabolic bone disease and impaired renal  
37 function [5]. Consequently, increased risks for hospitalization, poor quality of life, and, above all,  
38 reduced survival were reported in CIF patients on chronic HPN [4,6-14]. In particular, in  
39 nonmalignant CIF patients, survival rates range from 60% to 83% at 5-years [9,15]. An increased  
40 mortality risk has been associated with age [4,16-21], presence of stoma [16], absence of colon  
41 [20], causes other than SBS [4,20], and underlying diseases other than Crohn's disease [10,16-  
42 18,20,22].

43 HPN dependence has been widely studied in these patients and ranges from 45% to 90% at 5-years  
44 [4,8,10,16,18,23-25]. Conditions and procedures associated with HPN weaning were stoma  
45 closure and surgical reconstruction of the alimentary tract [14], presence of intestinal fistulas [18],

46 autologous gastrointestinal reconstruction, and, more recently, intestinal transplantation [8,17,26-  
47 27], while pseudo-obstruction [18] reduces weaning rate.

48 Indeed, in most cases, the employed statistics did not consider the competing risks existing  
49 between death and HPN dependency, leading to overestimation of mortality and weaning rates, as  
50 recently proven [28].

51 The present retrospective cohort study aimed to evaluate the rates and predictors of mortality and  
52 weaning in a cohort of patients with CIF from an Italian reference center for the care of intestinal  
53 failure over a 30-year period of follow-up through a competing risk analysis.

54

55

## 56 **Patients and Methods**

57 This was a retrospective observational study. All the adult patients with CIF who were on HPN  
58 and were followed-up at the Intestinal Failure Unit of the “Città della Salute e della Scienza”  
59 Hospital of Torino (a tertiary referral center for CIF support) from the 1st January 1985 to the 31st  
60 December 2016 were enrolled. The observation was stopped at the end of 2016 to avoid the  
61 inclusion of patients treated with glucagon-like peptide (GLP) agonists which might have  
62 influenced the results of the present study.

63 The inclusion criteria were age  $\geq 18$  years and a minimum HPN duration of 3 months. Exclusion  
64 criteria were active neoplastic disease and/or being under antineoplastic treatment within the  
65 previous 5 years, inability to give informed consent, HPN duration less than 3 months, critically  
66 ill patients with a <6-month life expectancy.

67

68 *Ethical aspects*

69 At the time of HPN starting, patients gave their informed consent to the processing of their data.  
70 The study was approved by the local Ethics Committee (protocol number CS2/740/2018), and all  
71 the procedures were in accordance with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.

## 72 ***Outcomes***

73 The primary outcome was the assessment of the mortality and weaning rates of CIF patients on  
74 HPN by a competing risk model. The secondary outcome was the assessment of the associations  
75 between clinical variables and mortality and weaning rates.

## 76 ***Data collection***

77 The Intestinal Failure Unit database contains information about all patients with CIF since 1985.  
78 Patients were followed-up from their first discharge with HPN until weaning or death. All the  
79 complications (including death) occurring during this follow-up period were properly recorded.  
80 Demographic and clinical data were extracted from the database.

81 Patients received personalized nutritional support according to their needs. Usually, HPN was  
82 administered by an intermittent schedule, at night for, on average, 10–16 h a day and, in most  
83 cases, oral nutrition was not forbidden.

84 Nutritional care, handling of central venous catheters and HPN complications, periodic follow-up  
85 and centralized laboratory and radiological exams were performed according to guidelines [1].  
86 Specialized nurses ensured home care through domiciliary visits monthly (or more frequently if  
87 necessary).

## 88 ***Definitions***

89 Causes of CIF were classified as SBS, chronic motility disorders, intestinal fistula, and extensive  
90 small bowel mucosal disease, according to guidelines [1]. This classification was performed by

91 two independent researchers (CDE and UA); if the patient could have been classified under more  
92 than one pathophysiological category, the most relevant category was chosen.

93 All patients underwent a barium or Gastrografin follow-through examination performed by the  
94 same trained radiologist to estimate the residual intestinal length. If the colon was in continuity,  
95 colon length was described according to the method of Cummings [29]. SBS was considered with  
96 a remnant small bowel length  $\leq 200$  cm [1]. Anatomical types of SBS were defined as: type 1 (end-  
97 jejunostomy), type 2 (jejunocolonic anastomosis), type 3 (jejunoileal anastomosis).

98 Reconstructive surgery consisted in procedures of stoma closure and restoration of intestinal  
99 continuity; **no patient underwent intestinal transplantation**. All surgical procedures were performed  
100 by the same team of highly skilled intestinal surgeons.

101 Patients were divided into three groups based on the decade of HPN initiation ( $\leq 2000$ , 2001-2010,  
102  $\geq 2011$ ). Weaning from HPN was defined as the complete discontinuation of the treatment with the  
103 maintenance of the patient clinical stability, i.e., the maintenance of an adequate urine output,  
104 stable body weight, and within range serum and urinary electrolyte values for at least 6 months.

### 105 *Statistical analyses*

106 Data about mortality during HPN and weaning from HPN were analyzed through cumulative  
107 incidence functions, obtained using an Aalen-Johansen estimator [30] considering these two  
108 outcomes as competing risks; the analysis was stratified according to the pathophysiological  
109 mechanism leading to intestinal failure and tested for differences according to the log-rank test  
110 [31]. The association between prognostic factors and the outcomes of interest was separately  
111 assessed in patients with SBS and non-SBS patients; this stratification was due to the peculiar  
112 clinical characteristics of SBS, the availability of a specific classification in anatomical subtypes  
113 (which does not apply to non-SBS patients), and the high prevalence of SBS among patients with

114 CIF. First, a univariate competing risk Cox-regression was performed, with the estimation of sub-  
115 distribution hazards (SHRs) [32]; all parameters related to intestinal anatomy were considered as  
116 time-dependent variables, due to the possibility of modifications by subsequent surgical  
117 interventions. For SBS patients, the cumulative hazards of weaning according to SBS type and  
118 small bowel length  $<$  or  $\geq 100$  cm have been also reported graphically [33]. Afterwards, predictors  
119 were assessed for inclusion in a multivariable model using a stepwise backward selection, using  
120  $p < 0.05$  as the stopping rule [34]. For SBS patients, only the following summary parameters (SBS  
121 type, small bowel length  $<$  or  $\geq 100$  cm, and reconstructive surgery after HPN initiation) have been  
122 considered eligible for inclusion in the multivariable regression model, in order to avoid redundant  
123 information. Indeed, the anatomical classification of SBS types is based on the presence/absence  
124 of stoma, ileocecal valve, and colon; therefore, including these variables in the multivariable model  
125 would have led to overlapping information.

126

## 127 **Results**

### 128 ***Patient characteristics***

129 Out of 409, after exclusion of 78 patients not meeting the inclusion criteria and 7 patients with  
130 incomplete data, 324 patients with CIF were included. The flow of the study was reported in  
131 Supplementary Figure 1. The median follow-up was 2.8 years (range 0.3-31.1, IQR 1.3-6.2), with  
132 a total observation time of 1524.0 person-years.

133 The baseline characteristics of the patients are shown in Table 1. The majority were women; SBS  
134 was the most frequent mechanism leading to CIF and mesenteric ischemia the most common  
135 underlying disease.

### 136 ***Mortality during HPN***



137 While receiving HPN, 121 (37.3%) patients died. The cumulative incidence of death was 6.4%,  
138 12.7%, 17.4%, 27.3%, 39.0%, and 52.9% at 1, 2, 3, 5, 10 and 20 years from the beginning of HPN  
139 (Figure 1). Cumulative incidence of mortality during HPN was not associated with the  
140 pathophysiological mechanism leading to CIF (Supplementary Figure 2).

#### 141 *Mortality in SBS patients*

142 In all analyses, the variables related to intestinal anatomy were considered as time-dependent  
143 variables, thus considering the possible modifications by subsequent surgical interventions. In a  
144 univariate competing risk Cox-regression, older age at HPN initiation, and mesenteric ischemia  
145 conferred a significantly higher risk of death in SBS patients; on the other hand, type 3 SBS, a  
146 greater small bowel length (both if considered as a continuous or dichotomous variable), and  
147 reconstructive surgery were associated with a reduced mortality risk (Table 2). In the multivariable  
148 model, younger age, type 3 SBS, a higher small bowel length, and reconstructive surgery remained  
149 significantly associated with lower mortality risk in these patients (Table 2).

#### 150 *Mortality in non SBS patients*

151 In non SBS patients, age at the baseline, other underlying diseases, colon length, were associated  
152 with increased risk of mortality, and presence of a stoma with reduced risk at univariate analyses  
153 (Table 3). In the multivariable model, older age, and presence of a stoma, respectively, increased  
154 and reduced the risk of mortality (Table 3).

#### 155 *Weaning from HPN*

156 One hundred and four (32.1%) patients were weaned from HPN. The cumulative incidence of  
157 weaning was 14.2% at 1 year, 22.9% at 2 years, 28.9% at 3 years, 32.3% at 5 years, and 33.7%  
158 both at 10 and 20 years from the beginning of HPN (Fig. 1).

159 Pathophysiological mechanisms leading to CIF were not significantly associated with weaning  
160 from HPN (Supplementary Figure 3).

#### 161 *Weaning in SBS patients*

162 In SBS patients, type 3 SBS, a greater small bowel and colon length, and reconstructive surgery  
163 were positively associated with the probability of weaning from HPN, while the presence of a  
164 stoma reduced this probability at univariate analyses (Table 4). In the multivariable analysis, type  
165 3 SBS, a small bowel length  $\geq 100$  cm and reconstructive surgery significantly predicted the  
166 probability of weaning (Table 4). The probability of weaning by SBS types and small bowel length  
167 is represented in Supplementary Figure 4.

#### 168 *Weaning in non-SBS patients*

169 Older age was associated with a lower probability to be weaned off from HPN both at univariate  
170 and multivariable analyses in non-SBS patients (Table 5). On the other hand, the presence of stoma  
171 was associated with a higher probability of weaning in both analyses (Table 5).

172 **The morbidity rates linked to reconstructive surgery were low: overall, 10.3%; mortality due to**  
173 **surgery 0%; re-surgery due to complications (such as intestinal obstruction) within and after 30-**  
174 **days from the reconstructive surgery 2.6% and 7.7%, respectively.**

175

## 176 **Discussion**

177 In a period of around 30-y observation, 37% of patients with CIF deceased during HPN, while  
178 32% of them were weaned from HPN. Intriguingly, surgical procedures significantly affected these  
179 outcomes both in patients with and without SBS.

#### 180 *Mortality during HPN*

181 At 5-years and 10-years from the beginning of HPN, we found a cumulative incidence of death of  
182 27% and 39% respectively. These results were very similar to the findings of the previous study  
183 employing the competing risk analysis in a cohort of nonmalignant SBS, being the corresponding  
184 figures 26% and 35% [28]. In other studies, the reported survival rate ranged from 60% to 83% at  
185 5 years [9,15] and from 52% to 75% at 10 years [4,8,16,20-21,23-24]; however, comparisons with  
186 them were difficult, since survival estimates were reported by Kaplan-Meier method, which suffers  
187 from potential bias when competing risks are present [35-36], as in the case of the present analysis.  
188 In this setting, in fact, the statistical assumptions of Kaplan-Meier method are violated, and its  
189 inappropriate use has been shown to lead to an overestimation of both mortality and weaning rates  
190 [28].

191 We have considered patients with SBS separately from those without SBS, because patients with  
192 other diseases leading to CIF, such as chronic motility disorders, intestinal fistula, and extensive  
193 small bowel mucosal disease, represent a distinct group of individuals with a poorer health status  
194 and the possible coexistence of other systemic diseases [37-39].

195 As expected, younger age was a protective factor against mortality both in SBS and non-SBS  
196 patients, in line with literature [3-4,8-10,16,18,20-21,24,28,40]. In SBS patients, a higher small  
197 bowel length was inversely associated with the cumulative incidence of death during HPN, in  
198 accordance with previous studies [9-10,21,40], suggesting the importance of an intestinal anatomy  
199 close to normal for health. Reconstructive surgery during HPN initiation reduced mortality by  
200 90%, a quite impressive result. It is the first time that the role of reconstructive surgery on the  
201 survival of these patients has been analyzed and the lack of consideration towards this prognostic  
202 factor is rather unexpected, considering these important results. Stoma closure and restoration of  
203 intestinal continuity may prevent death by the reduction of most of HPN-related complications,

204 such as catheter-related infections and thrombosis, and metabolic complications. However, HPN-  
205 related complications were reported to be relatively frequent, but not the most common causes of  
206 death in CIF patients [4,18,8,10,15,23,41-44]. It can be hypothesized that the recovery of the "gut"  
207 in itself leads to a survival advantage, reducing the complications that can occur as a consequence  
208 of the intestinal failure. Furthermore, our surgical team is highly specialized and has a long  
209 experience in the surgical treatment of patients with CIF, so that our results might not be  
210 generalizable. Finally, a selection bias due to the referral of less serious and more performing  
211 patients to the surgeon cannot be excluded. Further studies are needed both to confirm these results  
212 in other clinical settings and to disentangle the effects due to HPN weaning from those due to  
213 reconstructive surgery alone.

214  
215 In non-SBS patients, presence of a stoma reduced the cumulative incidence of death during HPN  
216 by 70%, another result not previously reported in literature. In these patients, creating an intestinal  
217 stoma usually occurred after the resection of a pathological tract, such as an intestinal tract with  
218 impaired motility, thus leading to many potential benefits, e.g., resolving constipation, reducing  
219 bacterial overgrowth and translocation, lowering the risk of systemic infections, increasing food  
220 tolerance, and improving the nutritional status [45-47]. Contrary to our results, the presence of a  
221 stoma was previously reported to predict a poor survival [16]. However, the authors did not  
222 separate their cohort according to the mechanisms of CIF and analyzed together both patients with  
223 SBS and non-SBS, for whom we have found that the presence of a stoma play an opposite role.  
224 Our results suggest the importance of considering separately CIF patients according to the  
225 underlying disease. The strong survival benefit of the surgical creation of a stoma in non-SBS  
226 patients was a further finding supporting the relevant role of surgery in patients with CIF. This

227 result has never been reported previously and is worthy to be confirmed in larger cohorts for its  
228 practical implications.

### 229 *Weaning from HPN*

230 Cumulative incidences of weaning were 32% at 5 years, and 34% both at 10 and 20 years from  
231 HPN starting. Other studies employing the competing risk model found similar results: 34%, and  
232 38% at 5, and 10 years in a cohort of patients with SBS and intestinal fistula [48], and 42% and  
233 44% in nonmalignant SBS patients [28]. Minimal differences between studies may be due to the  
234 different characteristics of the analyzed cohort. In analogy with mortality analyses, weaning from  
235 HPN was assessed separately in SBS and non-SBS patients, both for the different course of the  
236 disease and the specific eligibility for distinct therapeutic options. Most of HPN weaning in our  
237 patients occurred within the first 2 years due to the intestinal adaptation usually occurring in the  
238 first years after the intestinal circuit modification [10,15,18,25]. Younger age (in individuals  
239 without SBS) and increased bowel length (in SBS individuals) were significantly associated with  
240 the likelihood of being weaned from HPN in our patients, consistent with the literature  
241 [3,8,10,20,24]. However, we have considered intestinal anatomy as a time-dependent datum,  
242 allowing a more precise correlation between gut circuit and weaning probability. Type 3 SBS  
243 patients had the highest probability of being weaned from HPN, i.e., around 7-fold higher. This  
244 finding is not surprising because of their greater absorbing surface, the presence of both the  
245 ileocecal valve, which is responsible for the ileal brake slowing the intestinal transit, and the colon  
246 in continuity, which is responsible for fluid absorption [49].

247 Consistent with our mortality results, reconstructive surgery after HPN starting, and presence of a  
248 stoma were strong predictors of weaning respectively in SBS, and non-SBS patients. Only one

249 study has assessed the role of surgical reconstruction on HPN autonomy, reporting weaning in  
250 92% of patients [16].

251 Much less expected is the fact that the presence of the stoma greatly increased the likelihood of  
252 weaning from HPN in non-SBS individuals, suggesting that in the presence of a non-functioning  
253 tract, the best option might be its removal. The exclusion of a nonfunctioning tract, by reducing  
254 the risk of constipation and inflammations, might increase appetite and food tolerance which, in  
255 turn, potentially decrease the need for HPN.

### 256 *Clinical implications*

257 Identifying the patients at higher risk of mortality and at lower risk of weaning might allow to  
258 personalize the follow-up schedule and the treatment approach. For example, a patient at increased  
259 risk of HPN-dependence could be earlier referred to drug treatments with an agonist of glucagon-  
260 like-peptide-2 for its hypertrophic effect on bowel mucosa and/or to small bowel lengthening or  
261 intestinal transplantation [50-52]. Furthermore, an appropriate surgical approach, when performed  
262 in a highly experienced center in collaboration with a specialized multidisciplinary team, can  
263 change the prognosis of these patients. **It is worth noting the very low incidence of complications**  
264 **after reconstructive surgery in our center which was in line with what reported in other major**  
265 **reference surgical centers [53].** This underlines the importance of these patients being managed in  
266 centers with specific expertise.

### 267 *Limitations and strengths*

268 The observational nature of the study did not allow to draw definitive conclusions about causality.  
269 We did not analyze the causes of death which might have been an interesting information because  
270 it would add data about the potential risks of HPN. Indeed, this investigation was beyond the aims  
271 of the present study. We analyzed data from a single center of care; nevertheless, this is the regional

272 referral center and collects patients from the entire Piedmont region. Data relative to volume and  
273 type of the intravenous supplementations were lacking; however, these data have been reported as  
274 indicators of the severity of intestinal failure rather than as predictors of survival [52].

275 The strengths of the present study were the long follow-up, the large cohort studied, the high  
276 completeness of the data, the centralization of the laboratory analyses, the use of appropriate  
277 statistical tools to deal with competing risks and time-dependent variables, in a setting in which  
278 traditional survival models have been shown to lead to inaccurate estimations of weaning and  
279 mortality over time [28], and the standardization of the measurements (such as bowel length) and  
280 practice (such as CIF treatment) by a multidisciplinary team with a long-lasting expertise in the  
281 management of these patients.

## 282 ***Conclusions***

283 Home parenteral nutrition is a life-saving treatment in subjects with CIF. Intrinsic individual  
284 characteristics predicted their mortality and the possibility of weaning from HPN. However, proper  
285 surgical management of these patients significantly contributed to more favorable health  
286 outcomes. Different prognostic factors characterized individuals with and without SBS, thus  
287 underlining the importance of separately analyzing CIF patient data based on the  
288 pathophysiological mechanism leading to intestinal failure. **GLP-agonists may change the**  
289 **indication for surgery in the very near future, since the SBS patients currently not considered for**  
290 **surgery for the small length of non-in-transit bowel could receive benefits from reconstructive**  
291 **surgery combined with the subsequent use of these intestinal growth factors.**

292

## 293 **Legend to Figure**

294 **Figure 1.** Cumulative incidence functions of mortality during HPN and weaning from HPN,  
295 considering mortality and weaning as competing risks.

296

### 297 **List of abbreviations**

298 CIF = chronic intestinal failure

299 GLP = glucagon-like peptide

300 HPN = Home parenteral nutrition

301 IQR = inter-quartile range

302 SBS = short bowel syndrome

303 SHRs = sub-distribution hazards

### 304 **Acknowledgments**

305 Not applicable

### 306 **Authors' contribution**

307 CDE, FDM, UA contributed to the conception, drafting of the manuscript; FB, ML, SB contributed  
308 to the statistical analyses, MO, ADF, MA, MI, RR, PS contributed to data collection. All authors  
309 contributed to the revision of the manuscript and approved the final version of the manuscript.

### 310 **Ethical aspects**

311 At the time of HPN starting, patients gave their informed consent to the processing of their data.  
312 The study was approved by the local Ethics Committee (protocol number CS2/740/2018), and all  
313 the procedures were in accordance with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.

### 314 **Conflict of Interest**

315 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

### 316 **Statement and Funding sources**



317 Nothing to declare.

318 **Availability of data**

319 The dataset analyzed during the current study is available from the corresponding author on  
320 reasonable request

321 **Consent for publication**

322 Not applicable

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**Table 1.** Baseline characteristics of the cohort, stratified according to the pathophysiological mechanism leading to intestinal failure.

	<b>SBS</b>	<b>Intestinal fistula</b>	<b>Malabsorption</b>	<b>Mechanical obstruction</b>	<b>Pseudo-obstruction</b>	<b>All</b>
N of patients	209	10	49	38	18	324
Age (years)	59.5±15.8	57.8±10.7	54.4±17.0	58.5±14.5	34.2±13.3	57.2±16.6
Females	103 (49.3)	6 (54.5)	27 (55.1)	30 (78.9)	11 (61.1)	177 (54.6)
Year of HPN start						
≤2000	60 (28.7)	3 (30.0)	7 (14.3)	15 (39.5)	4 (22.2)	89 (27.5)
2001-2010	68 (32.5)	3 (30.0)	18 (36.8)	11 (28.9)	4 (22.2)	104 (32.1)
≥2011	81 (38.8)	4 (40.0)	24 (49.0)	12 (31.6)	10 (55.6)	131 (40.4)
Underlying disease						



IBD	37 (17.7)	3 (30.0)	15 (30.6)	1 (2.6)	0 (0)	56 (17.3)
Radiation enteritis	27 (12.9)	3 (30.0)	5 (10.2)	17 (44.7)	0 (0)	52 (16.1)
Surgical complications	38 (18.2)	0 (0)	6 (12.3)	6 (15.8)	0 (0)	50 (15.4)
Mesenteric ischemia	77 (36.8)	1 (10.0)	4 (8.2)	2 (5.3)	0 (0)	84 (25.6)
Fibro adhesive peritonitis	19 (9.1)	2 (20.0)	3 (6.1)	9 (23.7)	0 (0)	33 (10.3)
Pseudo-obstruction	7 (3.4)	0 (0)	1 (2.0)	0 (0)	17 (94.4)	25 (7.8)
Other	4 (1.9)	1 (10.0)	15 (30.6)	3 (7.9)	1 (5.6)	24 (7.5)
Time on HPN (years)	3.3; 5.8	2.85; 3.4	1.8; 2.4	2.3; 4.6	2.8; 3.5	2.8; 4.8
SBS						
Type 1	101 (48.3)	---	---	---	---	---
Type 2	85 (40.7)	---	---	---	---	---
Type 3	20 (9.6)	---	---	---	---	---
Small bowel length						
< 100	130 (62.2)	0	0	2 (5.3)	0	132 (40.7)
≥ 100	77 (36.8)	10 (100.0)	49 (100.0)	36 (94.7)	18 (100.0)	190 (58.7)
Colon length (%)						
<50	111 (53.1)	1 (10.0)	16 (32.6)	4 (10.5)	3 (16.7)	135 (41.7)
≥ 50	98 (46.9)	9 (90.0)	33 (67.4)	34 (89.5)	15 (83.3)	189 (58.3)
Stoma	110 (52.7)	1 (9.0)	13 (26.5)	6 (14.6)	2 (11.1)	132 (40.7)
Ileocecal valve	23 (7.1)	6 (60.0)	27 (55.2)	31 (81.6)	15 (83.3)	102 (31.5)
Reconstructive surgery	34 (16.3)	1 (10.0)	2 (4.0)	1 (2.6)	1 (5.6)	39 (12.0)

Data are presented as: number (percentage), mean±SD, median; interquartile range

**Table 2.** Predictors of mortality during HPN in SBS patients, considering weaning as a competing risk. All variables related to intestinal anatomy were considered as time-dependent variables.

Variable	Crude effect SHR (95%CI)	p-value	Adjusted effect SHR (95%CI)	p-value
Age at baseline (per 10 years increase)	1.70 (1.38-2.09)	<0.001	1.65 (1.35-2.01)	<0.001
Sex				
Female	1		-----	-----
Male	0.97 (0.62-1.51)	0.884	-----	-----
Year of HPN initiation				
≤2000	1		-----	-----
2001-2010	0.70 (0.43-1.15)	0.156	-----	-----
≥2011	0.61 (0.34-1.08)	0.090	-----	-----

Underlying disease				
IBD	1		-----	-----
Radiation enteritis	2.20 (0.83-5.81)	0.113	-----	-----
Surgical complications	2.07 (0.74-5.83)	0.168	-----	-----
Mesenteric ischemia	3.08 (1.31-7.21)	0.010	-----	-----
Fibro-adhesive peritonitis	1.13 (0.33-3.89)	0.847	-----	-----
Chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction	1.23 (0.31-4.91)	0.774	-----	-----
Pseudo-Other	2.39 (0.50-11.37)	0.272	-----	-----
SBS type				
Type 1	1		1	
Type 2	1.20 (0.73-1.97)	0.466	1.07 (0.62-1.86)	0.811
Type 3	0.27 (0.11-0.67)	0.005	0.38 (0.15-0.94)	0.037
Small bowel length				
< 100 cm	1		1	
≥ 100 cm	0.31 (0.17-0.56)	<0.001	0.42 (0.22-0.83)	0.012
Small bowel length (per 10 cm increase)	0.92 (0.88-0.97)	0.001	-----	-----
Colon length (per 10% increase)	0.98 (0.93-1.03)	0.388	-----	-----
Presence of stoma				
No	1		-----	-----
Yes	1.01 (0.64-1.61)	0.958	-----	-----
Reconstructive surgery after HPN initiation				
No	1		1	
Yes	0.07 (0.01-0.45)	0.006	0.11 (0.02-0.64)	0.014

CI: confidence interval; HPN: home parenteral nutrition; IBD: inflammatory bowel disease; SBS: short bowel syndrome; SHR: sub-distribution hazards.

**Table 3.** Predictors of mortality during HPN in non-SBS patients, considering weaning as a competing risk. All variables related to intestinal anatomy were considered as time-dependent variables.

Variables	Crude effect SHR (95% CI)	p-value	Adjusted effect SHR (95% CI)	p-value
Age at baseline (per 10 years increase)	1.37 (1.16-1.62)	<0.001	1.38 (1.16-1.64)	<0.001
Sex				
Female	1		-----	-----
Male	1.05 (0.59-1.86)	0.875	-----	-----
Year of HPN initiation				

≤2000	1		-----	-----
2001-2010	1.01 (0.51-1.98)	0.986	-----	-----
≥2011	1.00 (0.48-2.05)	0.992	-----	-----
Underlying disease				
IBD	1		-----	-----
Radiation enteritis	1.58 (0.55-4.54)	0.397	-----	-----
Surgical complications	1.45 (0.48-4.36)	0.510	-----	-----
Mesenteric ischemia	3.08 (0.88-10.85)	0.080	-----	-----
Fibro-adhesive peritonitis	2.40 (0.86-6.73)	0.096	-----	-----
Chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction	1.24 (0.38-4.03)	0.718	-----	-----
Other	3.05 (1.09-8.56)	0.034	-----	-----
Pathophysiology				
Intestinal fistula	1		-----	-----
Malabsorption	0.77 (0.32-1.84)	0.551	-----	-----
Mechanical obstruction	1.05 (0.46-2.41)	0.909	-----	-----
Pseudo-obstruction	0.62 (0.20-1.93)	0.410	-----	-----
Small bowel length (per 10 cm increase)	1.02 (0.99-1.05)	0.154	-----	-----
Colon length (per 10% increase)	1.09 (1.00-1.18)	0.044	-----	-----
Presence of stoma				
No	1		1	
Yes	0.30 (0.11-0.81)	0.018	0.30 (0.12-0.78)	0.013

CI: confidence interval; HPN: home parenteral nutrition; IBD: inflammatory bowel disease; SHR: sub-distribution hazards.

**Table 4.** Predictors of weaning from HPN in SBS patients, considering mortality as a competing risk. All variables related to intestinal anatomy were considered as time-dependent variables.

Variables	Crude effect SHR (95% CI)	p-value	Adjusted effect SHR (95% CI)	p-value
Age at baseline (years)	0.89 (0.77-1.02)	0.097	-----	-----
Sex				
Female	1		-----	-----
Male	1.51 (0.91-2.51)	0.109	-----	-----
Year of HPN initiation				
≤2000	1		-----	-----
2001-2010	1.25 (0.66-2.36)	0.502	-----	-----
≥2011	1.32 (0.71-2.47)	0.375	-----	-----
Underlying disease				

IBD	1		-----	-----
Radiation enteritis	0.89 (0.34-2.36)	0.819	-----	-----
Surgical complications	1.84 (0.82-4.14)	0.138	-----	-----
Mesenteric ischemia	0.73 (0.33-1.61)	0.436	-----	-----
Fibro-adhesive peritonitis	1.82 (0.68-4.86)	0.233	-----	-----
Chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction	0.95 (0.22-4.08)	0.945	-----	-----
Other	No events	-----	-----	-----
SBS type				
Type 1	1		1	
Type 2	1.70 (0.85-3.44)	0.136	1.96 (0.93-4.13)	0.076
Type 3	8.31 (3.97-17.40)	<0.001	6.86 (3.10-15.16)	<0.001
Small bowel length				
< 100 cm	1		1	
≥ 100 cm	3.76 (2.19-6.48)	<0.001	3.54 (1.99-6.30)	<0.001
Small bowel length (per 10 cm increase)	1.10 (1.07-1.14)	<0.001	-----	-----
Colon length (per 10% increase)	1.14 (1.05-1.22)	0.001	-----	-----
Presence of stoma				
No	1		-----	-----
Yes	0.48 (0.27-0.85)	0.012	-----	-----
Reconstructive surgery after HPN initiation				
No	1		1	
Yes	8.00 (4.33-14.80)	<0.001	2.86 (1.44-5.71)	0.003

CI: confidence interval; HPN: home parenteral nutrition; IBD: inflammatory bowel disease; SBS: short bowel disease; SHR: sub-distribution hazards.

**Table 5.** Predictors of weaning from HPN in non-SBS patients, considering mortality as a competing risk. All variables related to intestinal anatomy were considered as time-dependent variables.

Variables	Crude effect SHR (95% CI)	p-value	Adjusted effect SHR (95% CI)	p-value
Age at baseline (years)	0.79 (0.65-0.95)	0.012	0.79 (0.66-0.94)	0.007
Sex				
Female	1		-----	-----
Male	1.13 (0.61-2.09)	0.705	-----	-----
Year of HPN initiation				
≤2000	1		-----	-----
2001-2010	0.72 (0.34-1.54)	0.403	-----	-----
≥2011	0.63 (0.32-1.26)	0.191	-----	-----

Underlying disease				
IBD	1		-----	-----
Radiation enteritis	0.71 (0.29-1.70)	0.439	-----	-----
Surgical complications	0.66 (0.23-1.88)	0.439	-----	-----
Mesenteric ischemia	0.21 (0.03-1.77)	0.151	-----	-----
Fibro-adhesive peritonitis	0.45 (0.13-1.48)	0.188	-----	-----
Chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction	0.47 (0.16-1.41)	0.178	-----	-----
Other	0.61 (0.25-1.47)	0.271	-----	-----
Pathophysiology				
Intestinal fistula	1		-----	-----
Malabsorption	1.78 (0.55-5.70)	0.334	-----	-----
Mechanical obstruction	1.07 (0.31-3.67)	0.918	-----	-----
Pseudo-obstruction	1.02 (0.25-4.21)	0.980	-----	-----
Small bowel length (per 10 cm increase)	0.98 (0.95-1.01)	0.163	-----	-----
Colon length (per 10% increase)	0.94 (0.87-1.00)	0.052	-----	-----
Presence of stoma				
No	1		1	
Yes	2.60 (1.37-4.92)	0.003	2.64 (1.38-5.07)	0.003

CI: confidence interval; HPN: home parenteral nutrition; IBD: inflammatory bowel disease; SHR: sub-distribution hazards.