

Table S1 Definitions of variables

Variables	Definitions
Sex	Male or female
Age	In years
Weight	Most recent value measured before the surgery
ASA status	1-5 recorded in the database
CCI score	Calculated based on the CCI scoring system
Comorbidities	
Hypertension	History of hypertension requiring anti-hypertensive medication
Diabetes	A diagnosis of diabetes requiring oral medication or insulin
Coronary heart disease	Documented in the patient's chart and confirmed by preoperative ultrasonic cardiogram, electrocardiogram and myocardial enzyme
Stroke	History of stroke recorded in the database
COPD	A diagnosis of COPD based on the preoperative pulmonary function test
Others	Included chronic kidney disease and liver disease
Tumor size	Recorded in the database
Tumor location	Categorized into upper, middle, lower and diffuse stomach recorded the database
cTNM stage	Clinical TNM stage was based on the images of enhanced scan of Multi-detector computed tomography.
Type of gastrectomy	Categorized into total gastrectomy or subtotal gastrectomy according to procedure name recorded in the database
Total gastrectomy	Defined as total gastric resection with gastrointestinal reconstruction
Subtotal gastrectomy	Included distal gastrectomy and proximal gastrectomy, and excluded wedge non-anatomic gastric resection
LN dissection	Categorized into D1/D1+ or D2/D2+ according to the procedure name recorded in the database
Approach method	Documented in the database
Extragastric organ resection	Performed due to tumor invasion into adjacent structures or simultaneous resection of other organs because of benign disease. Included splenectomy, cholecystectomy, partial pancreatectomy, partial colectomy
Preoperative haemoglobin (g/L)	Most recent value measured before surgery
Preoperative INR	Most recent value measured before surgery
Preoperative platelet ($\times 10^9/L$)	Most recent value measured before surgery
Preoperative albumin (g/L)	Documented in the database
Estimated blood loss	The sum of crystalloid and colloid infused during surgery
Total fluid (mL)	
Total crystalloid	Documented in the database
Total colloid	Documented in the database
Intraoperative infusion rate (ml/kg/h)	The volume of fluid infusion per kilogram of body weight per hour.
Operation time (min)	From skin incision to skin closure
ICU admission	Postoperatively admitted to ICU
Unnecessary ICU admission	Those who were admitted to ICU immediately postoperatively only for surveillance purpose and subsequently transferred to the general ward the day after surgery
Necessary ICU admission	Those admitted to ICU immediately postoperatively and met the requirement of mandatory ICU admission
Unplanned ICU admission group	Those who admitted to general ward immediately postoperatively and transferred to ICU following the presence of emergent situations, such as sepsis shock and cardiac arrest, requiring intensive care
Mandatory ICU admission group	Included the necessary ICU admission group and the unplanned ICU admission group
Postoperative length of stay (days)	From the surgery to discharge from the hospital
Complications	Documented in the database and included medical complications and surgical complications
Medical complications	Included pulmonary, renal, urinary, cardiac and neurologic problems
Surgical complications	Included wound infection, stenosis, abscess, ileus, anastomotic leakage, intestinal obstruction, pancreatitis and intraabdominal bleeding
Clavien-Dindo severity classification of complications	Based on the Clavien–Dindo severity classification of complications. Grade 1 complications were not included for further analysis due to their litter clinical relevance, whereas grade 2 or greater complications requiring medical or surgical interventions were included.
In hospital mortality	Death during the hospital stay for the surgery