

Grade	Definition
Grade I	<p>Any deviation from the normal postoperative course without the need for pharmacological treatment or surgical, endoscopic, and radiological interventions</p> <p>Allowed therapeutic regimens are: drugs as antiemetics, antipyretics, analgetics, diuretics, electrolytes, and physiotherapy. This grade also includes wound infections opened at the bedside</p>
Grade II	<p>Requiring pharmacological treatment with drugs other than such allowed for grade I complications</p> <p>Blood transfusions and total parenteral nutrition are also included</p>
Grade III	<p>Requiring surgical, endoscopic or radiological intervention</p>
Grade IIIa	<p>Intervention not under general anesthesia</p>
Grade IIIb	<p>Intervention under general anesthesia</p>
Grade IV	<p>Life-threatening complication (including CNS complications)* requiring IC/ICU management</p>
Grade IVa	<p>Single organ dysfunction (including dialysis)</p>
Grade IVb	<p>Multiorgan dysfunction</p>
Grade V	<p>Death of a patient</p>
Suffix “d”	<p>If the patient suffers from a complication at the time of discharge (see examples in Table 2), the suffix “d” (for “disability”) is added to the respective grade of complication. This label indicates the need for a follow-up to fully evaluate the complication.</p>

*Brain hemorrhage, ischemic stroke, subarachnoidal bleeding, but excluding transient ischemic attacks.
 CNS, central nervous system; IC, intermediate care; ICU, intensive care unit.