Appendix A

Variables tested as potential risk factors for 30 day and late mortality after surgery for acute type A aortic dissection.

Patient age (continuous variable expressed in years), gender, prior cardiac surgery, prior aortic surgery, hypertension, COPD (using medication or FEV₁ <70% than predicted, diabetes mellitus (insulin dependent or non-insulin dependent), prior CVA, dissection type (DeBakey type 1 or 2), aetiology (idiopathic or connective tissue disease), main presenting symptom (acute pain, collapse/stroke, dyspnoea, other), additional symptoms (central neurological deficit, peripheral vascular dysfunction, grade of aortic insufficiency (none, grade 1/2, grade 3/4), preoperative cardiac ischemia, malperfusion syndrome, preoperative ventilation support, preoperative shock (systolic blood pressure <90mmHg), preoperative tamponade, preoperative resuscitation, preoperative pericardial drainage, preoperative renal function (creatinin, continuous variable expressed in μmol/L), systolic left ventricular function (good versus impaired/moderate/bad), urgency of the procedure (within 24 hours or within 14 days after onset of complaints), date of operation before 1990, cardiopulmonary bypass time (continuous variable expressed in minutes), aortic cross-clamp time (continuous variable expressed in minutes), use of circulatory arrest, cerebral perfusion (none, retrograde, antegrade), circulatory arrest time (continuous variable expressed in minutes), type of aortic valve treatment (native valve preservation, allograft root replacement, composite graft root replacement, valve replacement), aortic arch replacement (none, open distal anastomosis/hemi-arch, complete arch), use of biological glue, post-operative myocardial infarction, post-operative CVA, post-operative renal dialysis.