

Appendix: Description of the 10 fictional patients in Table 1.

Patient 1: A 39-year-old man, ASA 2, requires an Achilles tendon repair. The patient recently recovered from COVID-19.

Based on the suggested framework, this patient will receive the following points:

- Age → **1 point** for age 39 (1 point: age ≤ 45 ; 2: $45 < \text{age} \leq 65$; 3: age > 65)
- ASA → **2 points** for ASA 2 (1 point: ASA 1; 2: ASA 2; 3: ASA 3 and 4)
- Surgical urgency → **1 point** for relatively high urgency (1 point: moderate or high urgency; 2 points: mild urgency; 3 points: no urgency)
- OR time → **1 point** for short case (1 point: short case, < 2 hours; 2: medium case; 2-4 hours; 3: long case, > 4 hours)
- OR staffing → **1 point** for low staffing need (1 point: low; 2: medium; 3: high)
- Blood requirement → **1 point** for low likelihood of needing blood in surgery (1 point: low; 2: medium; 3: high)
- PPE Consumption → **3 points** given his recent COVID+ status (1 point: routine PPE; 2: extra PPE requirement; 3: high PPE requirement)
- ICU requirement → **1 point** for low likelihood of requiring ICU postoperatively (1 point: low; 2: medium; 3: high)
- Length of stay → **1 point** for outpatient surgery or extended surgical recovery < 24 hours (1 point: outpatient or extended recovery; 2: medium, 1-2 nights; 3: high, > 2 nights)
- COVID status → **3 points** since he was COVID+ and now recovered (1 point: tested negative and not exposed; 2: tested negative but possibly exposed in the past; 3: tested positive and recovered)
- COVID comorbidities → **1 point** for low comorbidities in this patient (1 point: low comorbidities; 2: some COVID comorbidities; 3: high comorbidities)
- Case COVID transmission risk → **2 points** for medium risks based on case needs (1 point: local or sedation; 2 points: regional/spinal block; 3 points: general anaesthesia)

Patient 2: A 51-year-old woman, ASA 2, who requires cholecystectomy under general anaesthesia and 2-night hospital stay.

Patient 3: A 50-year-old man, ASA 1, who requires tibial osteotomy. The case is performed under spinal anaesthesia.

Patient 4: A 73-year-old woman, ASA 3, with diabetes, hypertension and obesity, who requires colectomy for suspicious colon lesion. The case requires general anaesthesia.

Patient 5: A 54-year-old man who recovered from COVID, ASA 1, and requires Greenfield filter placement. The case is performed under sedation, but no anesthesia.

Patient 6: A 69-year-old woman, ASA 2, who requires cardiac valve replacement. The case is performed under general anesthesia.

Patient 7: A 29-year-old man, ASA 1, who requires endoscopic carpal tunnel release. The case is performed under local analgesia.

Patient 8: A 78-year-old man, ASA 3, hypertension, diabetes, and obesity, who requires radical cystectomy. The case is performed under spinal anesthesia.

Patient 9: A 83-year-old man, ASA 2, COVID-negative, with diabetes and hypertension, who requires total hip replacement. The case is performed under spinal anesthesia.

Patient 10: A 46-year-old woman, ASA 1, who requires lumpectomy. The case is performed under general anesthesia.