**AAST Multi-institutional Stapled vs. Handsewn Anastomosis in Emergency General Surgery Study**

**Exclusion Criteria**
1. Proximal diverting ostomy
2. Duodenal resection/anastomosis
3. Elective operation (e.g., scheduled resection of malignancy)
4. Prisoners
5. Pregnancy

**Inclusion Criteria:**
1. Non-trauma patients
2. Small or large bowel resections and an anastomosis

**Emergent / urgent* resection of small bowel or colon with anastomosis (non-trauma)**

**Anastomosis Type**

**Stapled**
- Variables Measured
  1. Anastomotic dehiscence / leak
  2. Intra-abdominal abscess
  3. Secondary outcomes
     - Fistula formation
     - Operating time
     - EBL
     - SSI
     - Fascial complications
     - Mortality
     - LOS

**Handsewn**
- Variables Measured
  1. Anastomotic dehiscence / leak
  2. Intra-abdominal abscess
  3. Secondary outcomes
     - Fistula formation
     - Operating time
     - EBL
     - SSI
     - Fascial complications
     - Mortality
     - LOS

*non-elective* operation performed within 24-hours of consultation or within 24-hours after the decision was made to pursue operative intervention
Non-trauma open abdomen/damage control surgery with bowel resection and anastomosis

**Exclusion Criteria**
1. Proximal diverting ostomy
2. Duodenal resection/anastomosis
3. Elective operation (e.g., scheduled resection of malignancy)
4. Prisoners
5. Pregnancy

**Inclusion Criteria:**
1. Non-trauma patients
2. Small or large bowel resections and an anastomosis
3. Managed with open abdomen

**Anastomosis Type**

**Stapled Variables Measured**
1. Anastomotic dehiscence / leak
2. Intra-abdominal abscess
3. Timing of anastomosis
   - Initial operation
   - Delayed
4. Secondary outcomes
   - Fistula formation
   - Operating time
   - EBL
   - SSI
   - Fascial complications
   - Mortality
   - LOS

**Handsewn Variables Measured**
1. Anastomotic dehiscence / leak
2. Intra-abdominal abscess
3. Timing of anastomosis
   - Initial operation
   - Delayed
4. Secondary outcomes
   - Fistula formation
   - Operating time
   - EBL
   - SSI
   - Fascial complications
   - Mortality
   - LOS