

‘Increased postoperative surveillance’ bedside guide

This is a ‘high-risk’ surgical patient

This patient requires ‘increased postoperative surveillance’ and is most likely to experience one of these complications postoperatively

‘High-risk’ patients most commonly experience the following complications.

Most common complications	Consider the following management
Cardiac arrest	Ensure staff know where the emergency drugs and defibrillator are stored
Surgical site infections	Swab wound for microbiology, and consider antibiotics
Bloodstream infections	Consider early blood cultures, and consider antibiotics
Pneumonia	Physiotherapy, mobilise early, sputum & blood cultures, & consider antibiotics
Acute kidney injury	Ensure adequate hydration, monitor the serum creatinine
Postoperative bleed	Look for signs of hypotension, and decreasing haemoglobin

**If for any reason you are concerned about the patient’s condition postoperatively,
then please look for these complications**