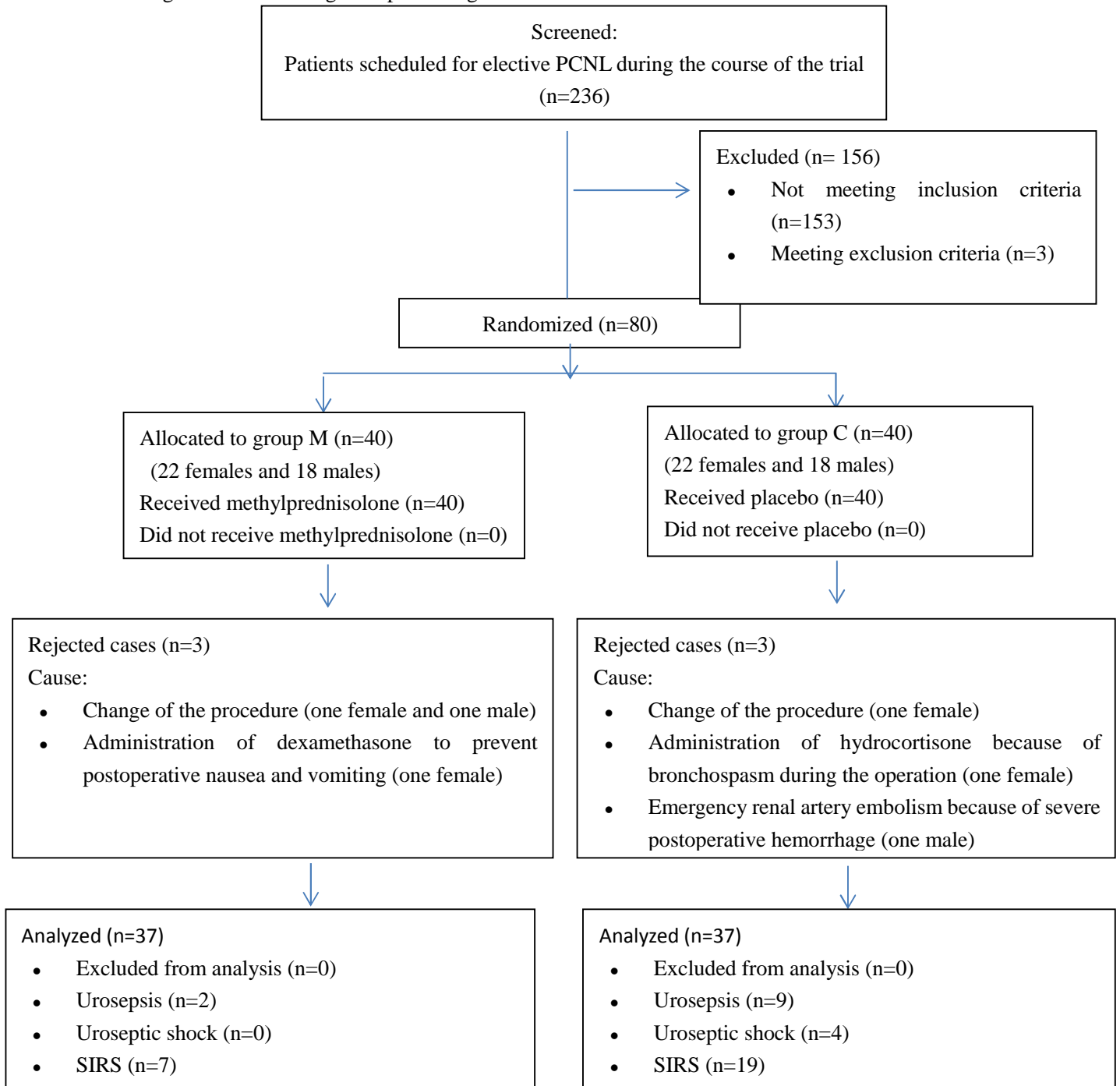


Participant Flow

Fig. 1. CONSORT figure representing enrolment data.



Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	Group M (n=37)	Group C (n=37)
Age/year, $\bar{x} \pm s$	54.3 \pm 14.4	52.8 \pm 13.1
Female, <i>n</i> (%)	20 (54.1)	20 (54.1)
BMI/(kg·m ⁻²), $\bar{x} \pm s$	23.8 \pm 4.3	24.1 \pm 3.1
ASA, <i>n</i> (%)		
I	4 (10.8)	3 (8.1)
II	30 (81.1)	30 (81.1)
III	3 (8.1)	4 (10.8)
Comorbidity, <i>n</i> (%)		
Hypertension	11 (29.7)	18 (48.6)
Diabetes mellitus	7 (18.9)	5 (13.5)
Hydronephrosis, <i>n</i> (%)	21 (56.8)	25 (67.6)
Preoperative risk factor, <i>n</i> (%)		
History of calculous pyelonephritis	27 (73.0)	22 (59.5)
Positive MSU culture ^b	15 (40.5)	12 (32.4)
Leucocyte count \geq 500/ μ L	18 (48.6)	19 (51.4)
Number of risk factor, <i>n</i> (%)		
1	21 (56.8)	22 (59.5)
2	9 (24.3)	14 (37.8)
3	7 (18.9)	1 (2.7)
Type of preoperative decompression, <i>n</i> (%)	22/7/4/4	27/6/2/2
None	22 (59.5)	27 (73.0)
Ureteral double-J tube	7 (18.9)	6 (16.2)
Percutaneous nephrostomy	4 (10.8)	2 (5.4)
Both ^a	4 (10.8)	2 (5.4)
Cumulative stone diameter/mm, <i>M (IQR)</i>	47 (27-29)	40 (23-68)
Operating time/min, $\bar{x} \pm s$	92.5 \pm 35.9	100.1 \pm 28.6
Residual stone, <i>n</i> (%)	6 (16.2)	4 (10.8)

a: Ureteral double-J tube and percutaneous nephrostomy. METH: Methylprednisolone; BMI: Body mass index; ASA:

American Society of Anesthesiologists; MSU: Mid-stream urine; M (IQR): Median (quartile range).

Outcome Measures

	Group M (n=37)	Group C (n=37)
Urosepsis (%)	2 (5.4)	9 (24.3)
females	2	7
Uroseptic shock (%)	0	4 (10.8)
females	0	4
SIRS (%)	7 (18.9)	19 (51.4)
females	5	12

Adverse Events

There were no adverse events associated with this trial.