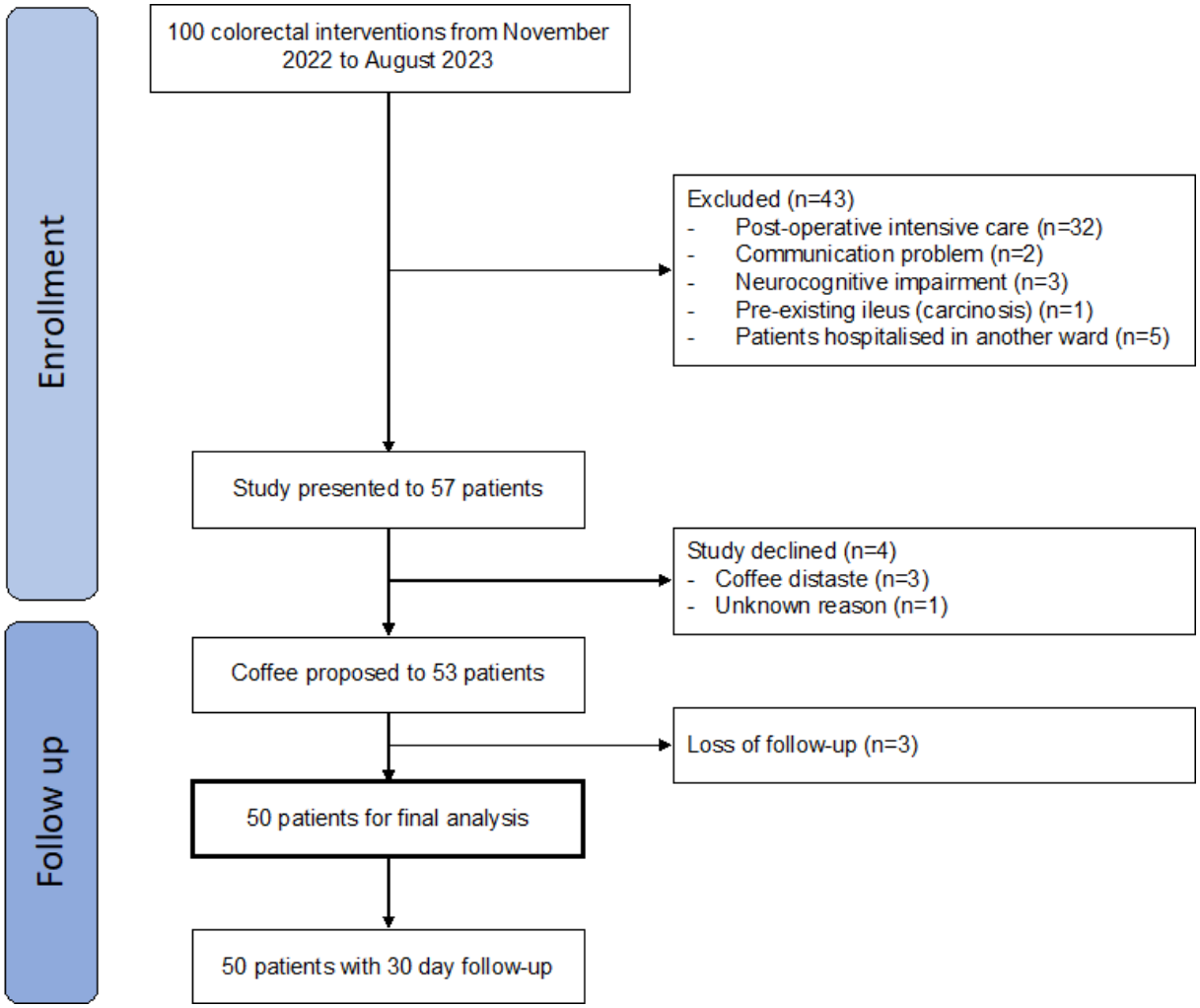
## Participant Flow

### Figure 1: flow diagram



## Baseline characteristics

**Table 1:** Demographic and surgical characteristics of all patients (n=50)

| | |
|---|---|
| **Demographics** | |
| Age, median (IQR) | 61 (44-66) |
| Male gender (%) | 29 (58) |
| **Habitus** | |
| Smoker (%) | 14 (28) |
| Smoke habits | |
| None | 36 |
| <10 | 2 (4) |
| 10-20 | 7 (14) |
| 21-30 | 3 (6) |
| 31-40 | 2 (4) |
| Daily regular coffee consumer (%) | 47 (94) |
| Pre-operative coffee intake (cup(s) per day) | |
| None (%) | 3 (6) |
| 1-2 cups (%) | 17 (34) |
| 3-4 cups (%) | 26 (52) |
| ≥5 cups (%) | 4 (8) |
| Alcohol overconsumer (%) | 5 (10) |
| **Comorbidities** | |
| Diabetes | 5 (10) |
| Cardiovascular disease (%) | 19 (3) |
| Respiratory disease (%) | 4 (8) |
| BMI ($kg/m^2$, mean +/- SD) | 26.3 ±4.8 |
| ASA class ≥3 (%) | 13 (26) |
| **Indication for surgery** | |
| Colonic cancer (%) | 14 (28) |
| Rectal cancer (%) | 12 (24) |
| Diverticular disease (%) | 7 (14) |
| Inflammatory bowel disease (%) | 3 (6) |
| Other (%) | 14 (28) |
| **Procedure** | |
| Sigmoidectomy and left colectomy (%) | 18 (36) |
| Low anterior rectal resection and abdomino-perineal amputation (%) | 11 (22) |
| Ostomy closure (ileostomy, colostomy and Hartmann reversal) (%) | 11 (22) |
| Right colectomy (%) | 9 (18) |
| Other (%) | 1 (2) |
| **Operative characeteristics** | |

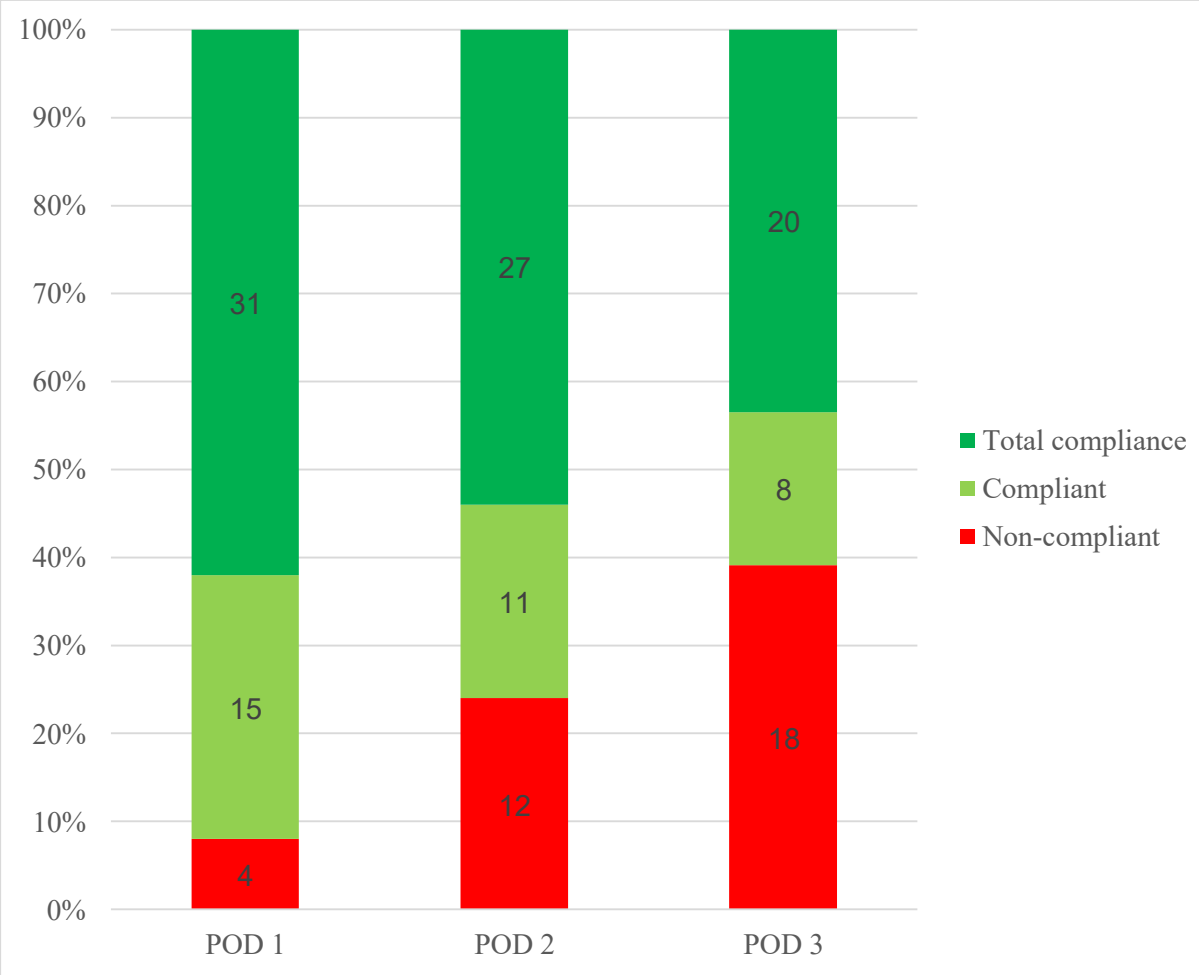
| | |
|---|---|
| Laparoscopic (%) | 22 (44) |
| Robotic (%) | 15 (30) |
| Open | 4 (8) |
| Direct approach (ostomy) | 9 (18) |
| Operative time (min, mean ±SD) | 180±84 |

Continuous variables are presented as median ± interquartile range (IQR) or mean ± standard deviation. Nominal variables are presented as absolute number and percent. Alcohol overconsumption was defined as ≥14U/week. BMI, Body Mass Index; ASA, American Society of Anesthesiologists; min, minutes.

## Outcome Measures

### Primary outcome:

**Figure 2:** Compliance




The figure displays compliance to the suggested coffee schedule (3x/day). Compliance was calculated as actual intake compared to the maximal possible dose (= total compliance). Patients who consumed two or more doses (>66%) were considered as compliant (green columns). Absolute number of patients displayed within columns. POD, Post-operative day.

**Table 2:** Reasons for non-compliance for each missed coffee dose (n, %)

| | |
|---|---|
| Nausea | 28 (24) |
| Ileus with gastric tube | 21 (18) |
| Patient not in the mood | 13 (11) |
| Unknown reason | 13 (11) |
| Two coffees are enough | 11 (9) |
| Coffee not proposed by nurse | 8 (7) |
| Disgused | 6 (5) |
| Pain | 5 (4) |
| Too late for coffee | 5 (4) |
| One coffee is enough | 5 (4) |
| Too much nursing | 1 (1) |
| Fatigue | 1 (1) |
| Problem with machine | 1 (1) |
| Other reason | 1 (1) |
| Total | 119 |

The table shows reasons for non-compliance among all patients (n=50) provided by patients in the diary after each missed dose. They are expressed in absolute number and percentage (total of 119 missed doses)

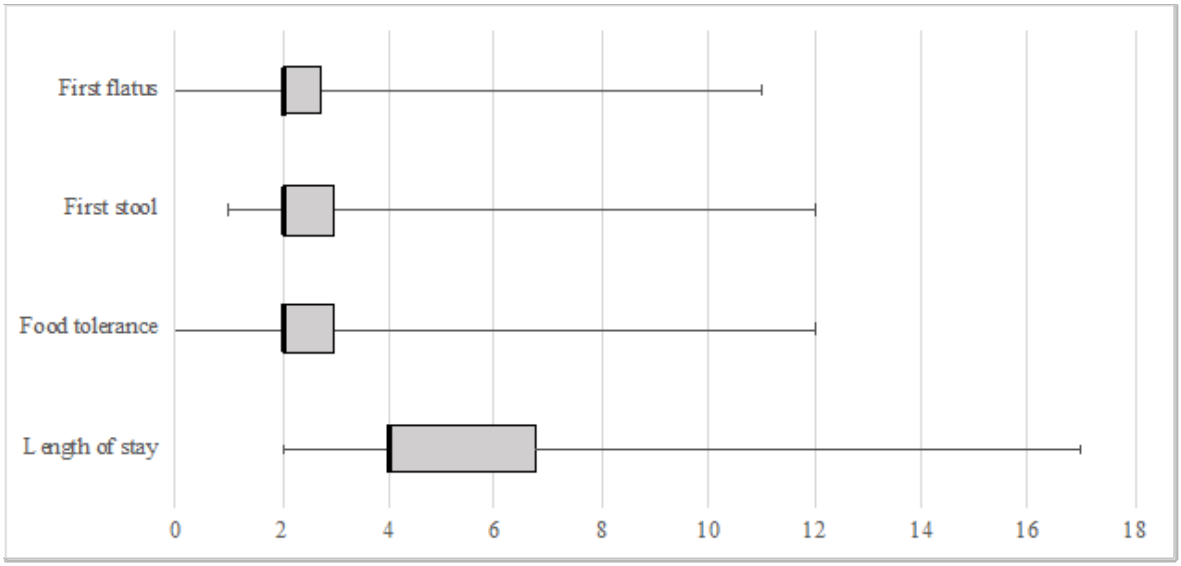
**Secondary outcome:**

**Table 3:** Secondary Outcomes (n, %)

| | |
|---|---|
| **Morbidity at 30 days** | |
| Any complication | 23 (46) |
| Patient with at least one complication | 15 (30) |
| Minor complication (<III) (%) | 19 |
| Major complication (≥III) (%) | 4 |
| I (%) | 2 (4) |
| II (%) | 17 (34) |
| IIIA (%) | 3 (6) |
| IIIB (%) | 1 (2) |
| IV (%) | 0 (0) |
| Reinsertion of nasogastric tube (=POI) | 9 (18) |
| Median time of gastric drainage in days (IQR) | 3 (2-3) |
| **Mortality at 30 days (%)** | 0 (0) |
| **Readmission (%)** | 1 (2) |

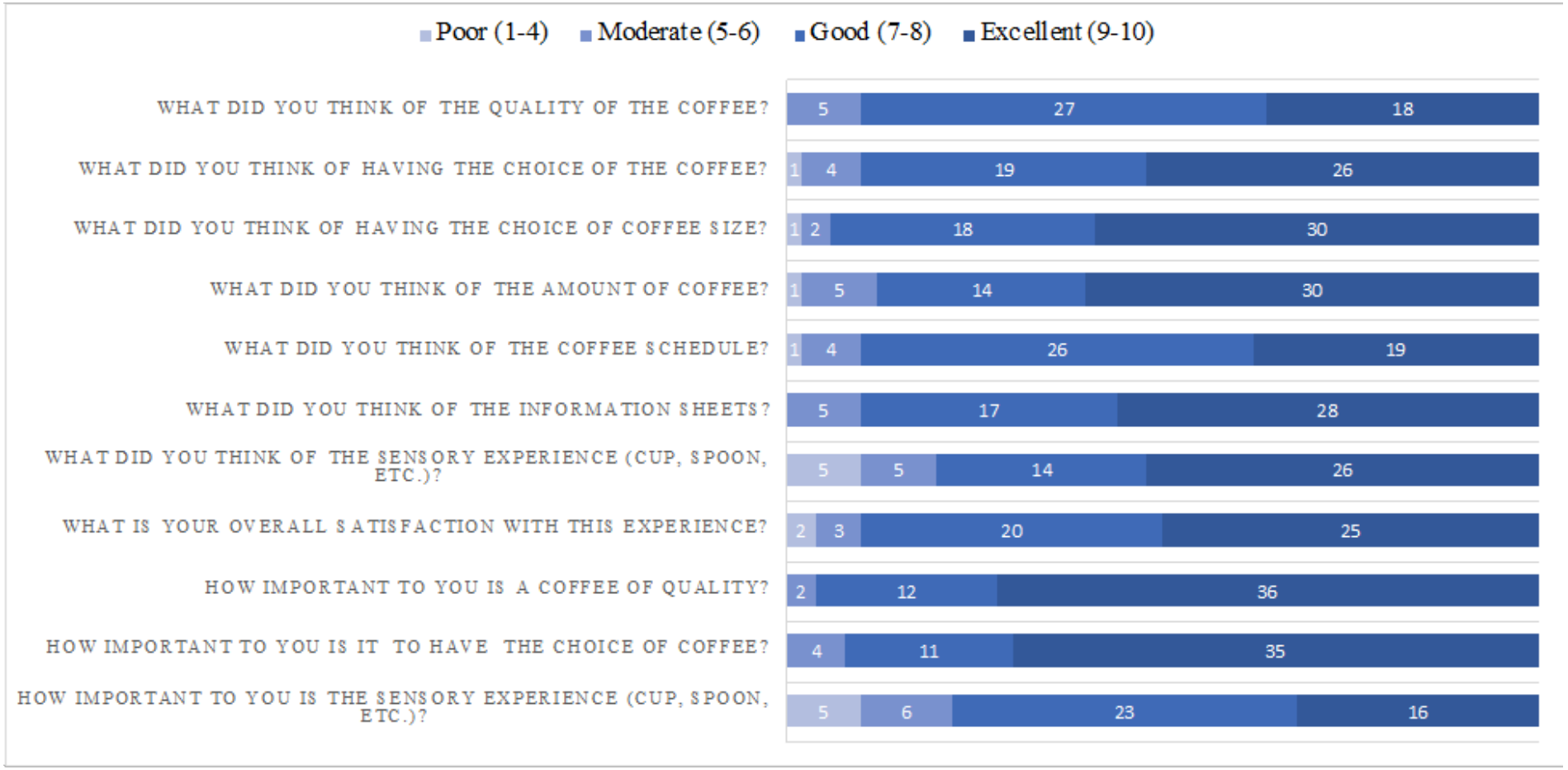
The table shows secondary outcome of the study population (n=50 patients). Complication were graded using the validated Clavien classification. Major complications were defined as grade III to V. Values are presented as absolute number and percentage. POI: postoperative ileus; Values. IQR, Interquartile range.

**Figure 4: Whisker plot representing secondary outcomes**




**Whisker plot with main secondary outcomes on y-axis. X-axis expresses post-operative nights. Median time (bold lines), interquartile range (whisker plots), and range (lines) are displayed.**

**Figure 5: Satisfaction with coffee protocol**




**Patient satisfaction with coffee protocol. Patients were instructed to quote each item from 1 to 10, with a visual analogic scale. Results were then divided in four categories: (I) excellent, (II) good, (III) moderate and poor (IV).**

## Adverse events:

We have no adverse events to report.