

Common General Surgical Never Events: Analysis of NHS England Never Events Data

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Background:

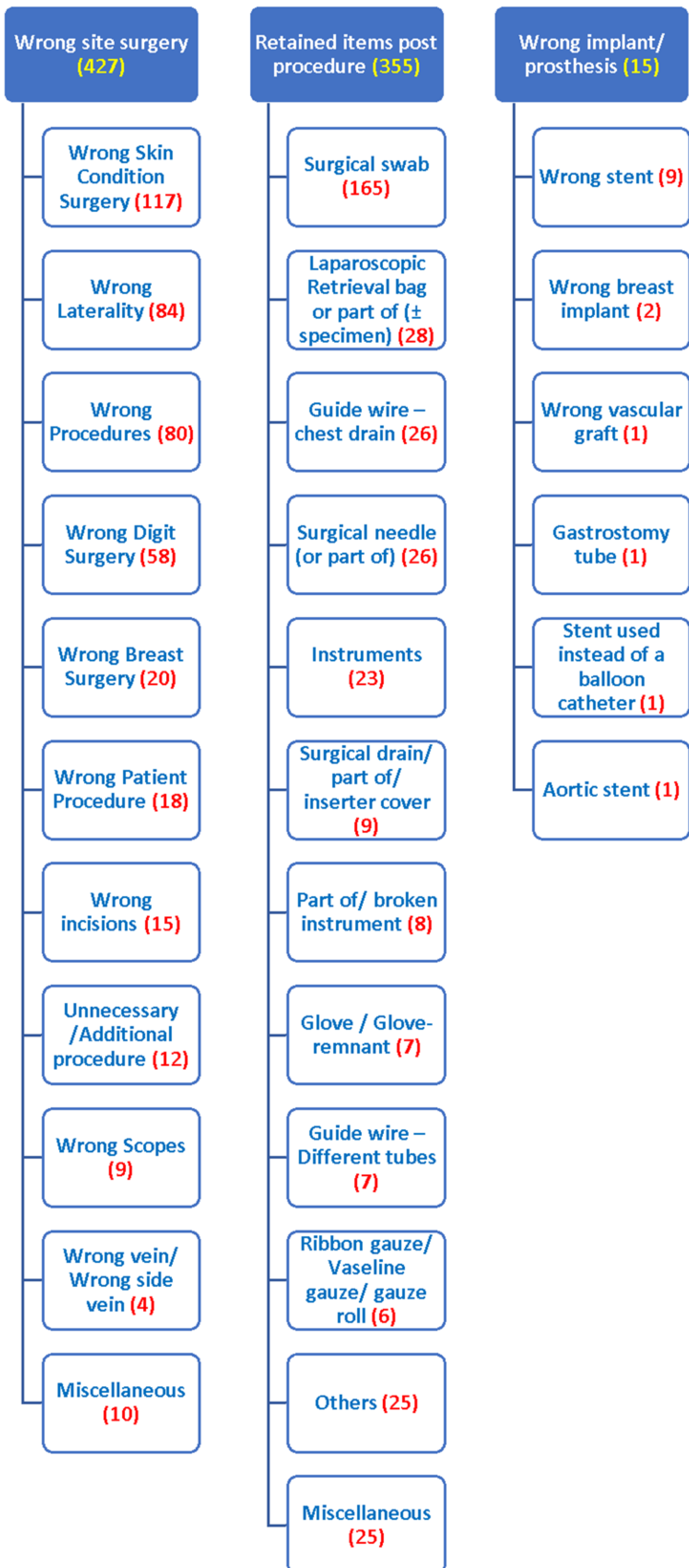
There is little available data on common general surgical Never Events (NE). Lack of this information may have affected our attempts to reduce the incidence of these potentially serious clinical incidents. The purpose of this study was to identify common general surgical NE from the data held by the National Health Service (NHS) England.

Methods:

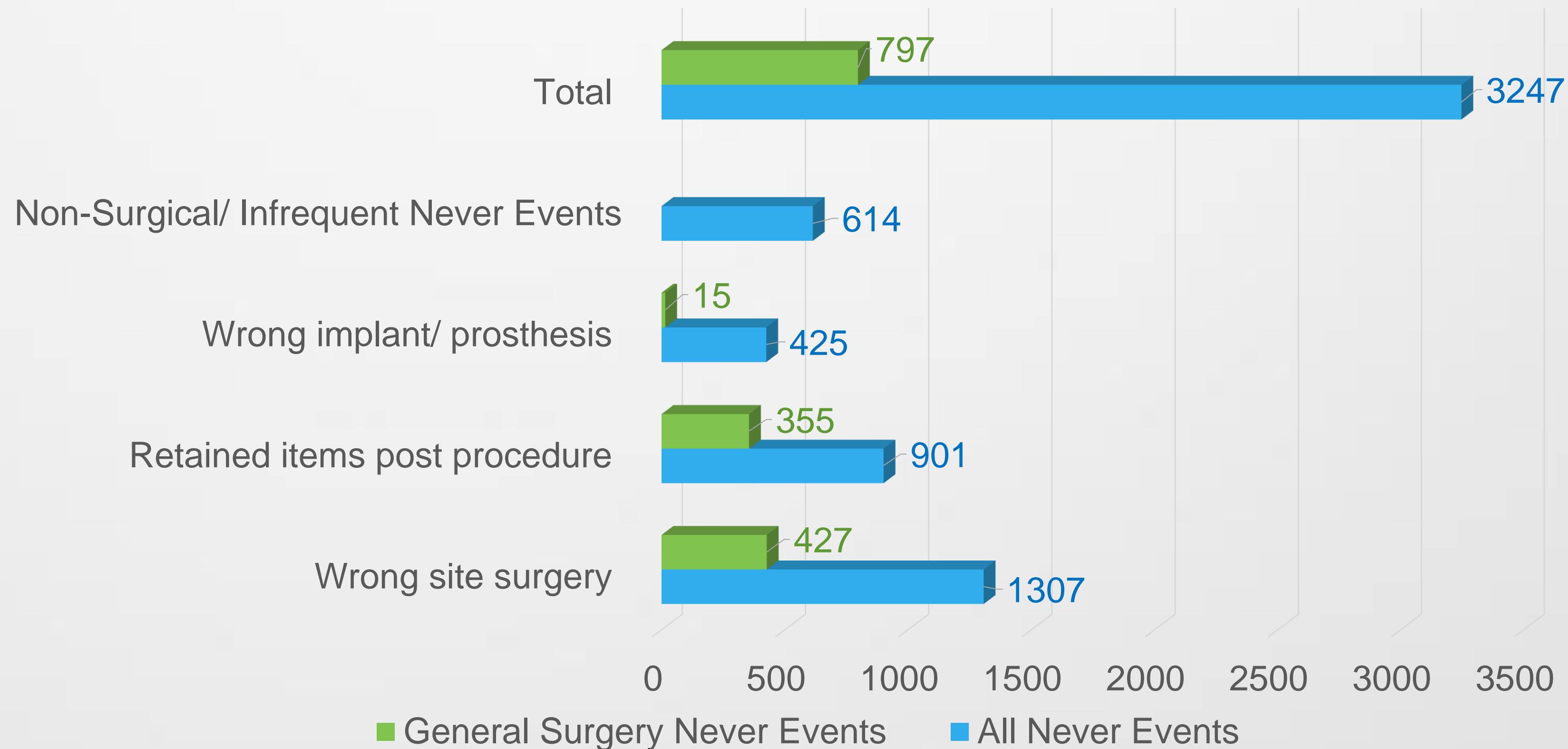
We analysed NHS England NE data from April 2012 to February 2020 to identify common general surgical NE. Data were tabulated in three main categories and then we attempted to identify common themes in each of these categories. Our themes development process took into account many factors such as the anatomical considerations, the nature of the procedure, setting of the incidents, and the equipment or instruments involved if any.



General Surgery Never Events (797)



Proportion of General Surgical Never Events



Conclusions:

- This is the first analysis of Never Events with a general surgical perspective. We identified 56 common themes.
- Enhanced awareness of this information could alert busy clinicians on the ground and may allow for further focused work for the prevention and adoption of specific safeguards.

