NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

Measure Evaluation 4.1
December 2009

This form contains the measure information submitted by stewards. Blank fields indicate no information was provided. Attachments also may have been submitted and are provided to reviewers. The subcriteria and most of the footnotes from the evaluation criteria are provided in Word comments within the form and will appear if your cursor is over the highlighted area. Hyperlinks to the evaluation criteria and ratings are provided in each section.

TAP/Workgroup (if utilized)**:** Complete all yellow highlighted areas of the form. Evaluate the extent to which each subcriterion is met. Based on your evaluation, summarize the strengths and weaknesses in each section.

Note: *If there is no TAP or workgroup, the SC also evaluates the subcriteria (yellow highlighted areas).*

Steering Committee: Complete all pink highlighted areas of the form. Review the workgroup/TAP assessment of the subcriteria, noting any areas of disagreement; then evaluate the extent to which each major criterion is met; and finally, indicate your recommendation for the endorsement. Provide the rationale for your ratings.

Evaluation ratings of the extent to which the criteria are met
C = Completely (unquestionably demonstrated to meet the criterion)
P = Partially (demonstrated to partially meet the criterion)
M = Minimally (addressed BUT demonstrated to only minimally meet the criterion)
N = Not at all (NOT addressed; OR incorrectly addressed; OR demonstrated to NOT meet the criterion)
NA = Not applicable (only an option for a few subcriteria as indicated)

(for NQF staff use) **NQF Review #:** 0122 **NQF Project:** Surgery Endorsement Maintenance 2010
MEASURE DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION
De.1 **Measure Title:** Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality MV Replacement + CABG Surgery
De.2 **Brief description of measure:** Percent of patients aged 18 years and older undergoing combined MV Replacement and CABG who die, including both 1) all deaths occurring during the hospitalization in which the procedure was performed, even if after 30 days, and 2) those deaths occurring after discharge from the hospital, but within 30 days of the procedure
1.1-2 **Type of Measure:** Outcome De.3 **If included in a composite or paired with another measure, please identify composite or paired measure**
De.4 **National Priority Partners Priority Area:** Safety De.5 **IOM Quality Domain**: Safety De.6 **Consumer Care Need:** Getting better

CONDITIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY NQF	
Four conditions must be met before proposed measures may be considered and evaluated for suitability as voluntary consensus standards:	**NQF Staff**
A. The measure is in the public domain or an intellectual property (measure steward agreement) is signed. *Public domain only applies to governmental organizations. All non-government organizations must sign a measure steward agreement even if measures are made publicly and freely available.* A.1 **Do you attest that the measure steward holds intellectual property rights to the measure and the right to use aspects of the measure owned by another entity (e.g., risk model, code set)?** Yes A.2 **Indicate if Proprietary Measure** (*as defined in measure steward agreement*)**:** A.3 **Measure Steward Agreement:** Agreement will be signed and submitted prior to or at the time of measure submission A.4 **Measure Steward Agreement attached:** STS Measure Steward Agreement. Fully Executed-634281980937555930.pdf	**A** Y☐ N☐

B. The measure owner/steward verifies there is an identified responsible entity and process to maintain and update the measure on a schedule that is commensurate with the rate of clinical innovation, but at least every 3 years. Yes, information provided in contact section	**B** Y☐ N☐
C. The intended use of the measure includes both public reporting and quality improvement. ►**Purpose:** Public Reporting, Quality Improvement (Internal to the specific organization), Quality Improvement with Benchmarking (external benchmarking to multiple organizations)	**C** Y☐ N☐
D. The requested measure submission information is complete. Generally, measures should be fully developed and tested so that all the evaluation criteria have been addressed and information needed to evaluate the measure is provided. Measures that have not been tested are only potentially eligible for a time-limited endorsement and in that case, measure owners must verify that testing will be completed within 12 months of endorsement. D.1**Testing:** Yes, fully developed and tested D.2 **Have NQF-endorsed measures been reviewed to identify if there are similar or related measures?** Yes	**D** Y☐ N☐
(for NQF staff use) **Have all conditions for consideration been met?** **Staff Notes to Steward** (*if submission returned*)**:**	**Met** Y☐ N☐
Staff Notes to Reviewers (*issues or questions regarding any criteria*)**:**	
Staff Reviewer Name(s):	

TAP/Workgroup Reviewer Name:	
Steering Committee Reviewer Name:	
1. IMPORTANCE TO MEASURE AND REPORT	
Extent to which the specific measure focus is important to making significant gains in health care quality (safety, timeliness, effectiveness, efficiency, equity, patient-centeredness) and improving health outcomes for a specific high impact aspect of healthcare where there is variation in or overall poor performance. ***Measures must be judged to be important to measure and report*** *in order to be evaluated against the remaining criteria.* (evaluation criteria) **1a. High Impact**	**Eval Rating**
(for NQF staff use) **Specific NPP goal**:	
1a.1 **Demonstrated High Impact Aspect of Healthcare:** Affects large numbers, Frequently performed procedure, Leading cause of morbidity/mortality, High resource use, Severity of illness, Patient/societal consequences of poor quality 1a.2 1a.3 **Summary of Evidence of High Impact:** The incidence of mitral valve incompetence as a result of or coexistent with coronary artery disease is increasing as a result of a progressively older population of patients coming to medical attention and recommendations for earlier surgical intervention among other factors. Patients undergoing combined coronary bypass and mitral valve replacement (CABG/MVR), in addition, increasingly have a larger number and severity of co-morbid risk factors. As a result, these patients have among one of the highest mortality rates for all surgical procedures. As a direct outcome measure, surgical mortality following CABG/MVR is a time-tested and well-accepted gold standard for the quality of this procedure. Given the demographics of heart disease as well as the increasing scientific evidence for earlier intervention, the impact of this measure is expected to increase considerably. 1a.4 **Citations for Evidence of High Impact:** - Birkmeyer NJ, Marrin CA, et al. Decreasing mortality for aortic and mitral valve surgery in Northern New England. Northern New England Cardiovascular Disease Study Group. Ann Thorac Surg. 2000;70(2):432-437. - Edwards FH, Peterson ED, et al. Prediction of operative mortality following valve replacement surgery. JACC. 37:3:885-892.	**1a** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐

- Goodney PP, O'Connor GT, et al. Do hospitals with low mortality rates in coronary artery bypass also perform well in valve replacement? Ann Thorac Surg. 2003;76:1131-1137.
- Mehta RH, Eagle KA, et al. Influence of age on outcomes in patients undergoing mitral valve replacement. Ann Thorac Surg. 2002;74:1459-1467.
- Shahian DM, O´Brien SM, Filardo G, Ferraris VA, Haan CK, Rich JB, Normand SL, DeLong ER, Shewan CM, Dokholyan RS, Peterson ED, Edwards FH, Anderson RP. The Society of Thoracic Surgeons 2008 cardiac surgery risk models: part 3--valve plus coronary artery bypass grafting surgery. Ann Thorac Surg. 2009 Jul; 88(1 Suppl):S43-62.
- Miyata H, Motomura N, Tsukihara H, Takamoto S; Japan Cardiovascular Surgery Database. Risk models including high-risk cardiovascular procedures: clinical predictors of mortality and morbidity. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg. 2010 Nov 1
- Vassileva CM, Boley T, Markwell S, Hazelrigg S. Meta-analysis of short-term and long-term survival following repair versus replacement for ischemic mitral regurgitation. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg. 2010 Aug 18.
- Daneshmand MA, Milano CA, Rankin JS, Honeycutt EF, Shaw LK, Davis RD, Wolfe WG, Glower DD, Smith PK. Influence of patient age on procedural selection in mitral valve surgery. Ann Thorac Surg. 2010 Nov; 90(5):1479-85

1b. Opportunity for Improvement

1b.1 **Benefits (improvements in quality) envisioned by use of this measure:** The reporting of this measure, particularly in a risk-adjusted format, continues to be increasingly beneficial to individual providers and their affiliated healthcare organizations as they assess and compare their own results with those of similar organizations and with best practices nation-wide. Through public reporting of such a measure, the process of quality improvement becomes more transparent in order to reduce the existing variability and improve overall outcomes across all hospitals offering this procedure. In addition, this measure will anchor current outcomes as new technologies and treatment therapies are developed in the future. This includes such devices as endovascular valve procedures as well as newer, non-invasive treatments currently under development.

1b.2 **Summary of data demonstrating performance gap (variation or overall poor performance) across providers:**
Please see attachment

1b.3 **Citations for data on performance gap:**
Dates: January 1, 2005-December 31, 2009

Analysis includes 33 STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database Participants who had at least 50 eligible cases for the measure and reported data (not restricted to this measure) to STS for at least 36 months in 2005-2009.

1b.4 **Summary of Data on disparities by population group:**
please see attachment

1b.5 **Citations for data on Disparities:**
Analysis includes STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database Participants that had more than 50 eligible cases in 2005-2009 and reported data for at least 36 months.

447 Patients from 7 Participants were included in the Gender = Male sub-group.
113 Patients from 2 Participants were included in the Gender = Female sub-group.
1421 Patients from 20 Participants were included in the Race = White sub-group.
2060 Patients from 28 Participants were included in the Ethnicity = Non-Hispanic sub-group.

1b
C ☐
P ☐
M ☐
N ☐

1c. Outcome or Evidence to Support Measure Focus

1c.1 **Relationship to Outcomes** (*For non-outcome measures, briefly describe the relationship to desired outcome. For outcomes, describe why it is relevant to the target population*)**:** Mortality following surgery is a direct outcome measure. Risk-adjustment methodology makes this measure more impactful from a quality improvement perspective.

1c.2-3. **Type of Evidence:** Observational study, Expert opinion, Systematic synthesis of research, Other

1c
C ☐
P ☐
M ☐
N ☐

Clinical results from approximately 90% of cardiac surgery centers in the US

1c.4 Summary of Evidence (*as described in the criteria; for outcomes, summarize any evidence that healthcare services/care processes influence the outcome*)**:**
Surgery for ischemic heart disease and for mitral valvar insufficiency have evolved over the last several decades and currently represents the best form of treatment for these conditions depending on the stage of progression. Initial outcomes, including mortality, have substantially been reduced over this time period through a number of technical innovations, refined selection criteria, and improved preoperative management. While risk-adjusted mortality with CABG/MVR is currently low and declining, ongoing modifications in technique and improved patient selection are necessary. Furthermore, persistent variability in outcomes between providers, even when risk-adjusted, indicates the presence of considerable opportunity for improvement.

1c.5 Rating of strength/quality of evidence (*also provide narrative description of the rating and by whom***):**

1c.6 Method for rating evidence:

1c.7 Summary of Controversy/Contradictory Evidence:

1c.8 Citations for Evidence (*other than guidelines***):** - Birkmeyer NJ, Marrin CA, et al. Decreasing mortality for aortic and mitral valve surgery in Northern New England. Northern New England Cardiovascular Disease Study Group. Ann Thorac Surg. 2000;70(2):432-437.
- Edwards FH, Peterson ED, et al. Prediction of operative mortality following valve replacement surgery. JACC. 37:3:885-892.
- Goodney PP, O'Connor GT, et al. Do hospitals with low mortality rates in coronary artery bypass also perform well in valve replacement? Ann Thorac Surg. 2003;76:1131-1137.
- Mehta RH, Eagle KA, et al. Influence of age on outcomes in patients undergoing mitral valve replacement. Ann Thorac Surg. 2002;74:1459-1467.
- Vassileva CM, Boley T, Markwell S, Hazelrigg S. Meta-analysis of short-term and long-term survival following repair versus replacement for ischemic mitral regurgitation. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg. 2010 Aug 18.
- Daneshmand MA, Milano CA, Rankin JS, Honeycutt EF, Shaw LK, Davis RD, Wolfe WG, Glower DD, Smith PK. Influence of patient age on procedural selection in mitral valve surgery. Ann Thorac Surg. 2010 Nov; 90(5):1479-85
- Miyata H, Motomura N, Tsukihara H, Takamoto S; Japan Cardiovascular Surgery Database. Risk models including high-risk cardiovascular procedures: clinical predictors of mortality and morbidity. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg. 2010 Nov 1.
- Murphy MO, Rao C, Punjabi PP, Athanasiou T. In patients undergoing mitral surgery for ischaemic mitral regurgitation is it preferable to repair or replace the mitral valve? Interact Cardiovasc Thorac Surg. 2010 Nov 18.
- Bouma W, van der Horst IC, Wijdh-den Hamer IJ, Erasmus ME, Zijlstra F, Mariani MA, Ebels T. Chronic ischaemic mitral regurgitation. Current treatment results and new mechanism-based surgical approaches. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg. 2010 Jan; 37(1):170-85.
- Shahian DM, O´Brien SM, Filardo G, Ferraris VA, Haan CK, Rich JB, Normand SL, DeLong ER, Shewan CM, Dokholyan RS, Peterson ED, Edwards FH, Anderson RP. The Society of Thoracic Surgeons 2008 cardiac surgery risk models: part 3--valve plus coronary artery bypass grafting surgery. Ann Thorac Surg. 2009 Jul; 88(1 Suppl):S43-62.
- Sajja LR, Mannam G, Dandu BR, Pathuri S, Sompalli S, Anjaneyulu A. Outcomes of mitral valve repair for chronic ischemic mitral regurgitation. Asian Cardiovasc Thorac Ann. 2009 Jan; 17(1):29-34.

1c.9 Quote the Specific guideline recommendation (*including guideline number and/or page number***):**
N/A

1c.10 Clinical Practice Guideline Citation:
1c.11 National Guideline Clearinghouse or other URL:

1c.12 Rating of strength of recommendation (*also provide narrative description of the rating and by*

whom): 1c.13 **Method for rating strength of recommendation** (*If different from USPSTF system, also describe rating and how it relates to USPSTF)*: 1c.14 **Rationale for using this guideline over others:**	
TAP/Workgroup: What are the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the subcriteria for *Importance to Measure and Report?*	**1**
Steering Committee: Was the threshold criterion, *Importance to Measure and Report*, met? **Rationale:**	**1** **Y☐** **N☐**
2. SCIENTIFIC ACCEPTABILITY OF MEASURE PROPERTIES	
Extent to which the measure, as specified, produces consistent (reliable) and credible (valid) results about the quality of care when implemented. (evaluation criteria)	**Eval Rating**
2a. MEASURE SPECIFICATIONS	
S.1 **Do you have a web page where current detailed measure specifications can be obtained?** S.2 **If yes, provide web page URL:** **2a. Precisely Specified**	
2a.1 **Numerator Statement** (*Brief, text description of the numerator - what is being measured about the target population, e.g. target condition, event, or outcome*): Number of patients undergoing combined MV Replacement and CABG who die, including both 1) all deaths occurring during the hospitalization in which the operation was performed, even if after 30 days, and 2) those deaths occurring after discharge from the hospital, but within 30 days of the procedure 2a.2 **Numerator Time Window** (*The time period in which cases are eligible for inclusion in the numerator*): During hospitalization regardless of length of stay or within 30 days of surgery if discharged 2a.3 **Numerator Details** (*All information required to collect/calculate the numerator, including all codes, logic, and definitions*): Number of MV Replacement + CABG procedures with an operative mortality; Number of MV Replacement + CABG procedures in which Mortality [Mortalty (STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database Version 2.73)] and Mortality Operative Death (MtOpD) are marked "yes." Operative mortality is further verified by the following variables: Mortality Status at 30 days (Mt30Stat), Mortality Date (MtDate), Mortality Discharge Status (MtDCStat)	
2a.4 **Denominator Statement** (*Brief, text description of the denominator - target population being measured*): All patients aged 18 years and older undergoing combined MV Replacement + CABG 2a.5 **Target population gender:** Female, Male 2a.6 **Target population age range:** 18 and older 2a.7 **Denominator Time Window** (*The time period in which cases are eligible for inclusion in the denominator*): 60 months 2a.8 **Denominator Details** (*All information required to collect/calculate the denominator - the target population being measured - including all codes, logic, and definitions*):	**2a-specs** **C☐** **P☐** **M☐** **N☐**

Number of MV Replacement + CABG procedures;

MV Replacement + CABG is determined as a procedure for which all of the following apply:
- OpCAB is marked as "Yes"
- OpValve is marked "Yes"
- VSMV is marked "Yes"
- VSMVPr is marked "Replacement"
- (VADProc is marked "No" or "Missing") or (VADProc is marked "Yes, Implanted" and UnplVAD is marked "yes")
- OCarASDTy is marked "PFO" or "missing"
- OCarAFibAProc is marked "primarily epicardial" or "missing" and
- VSAV, VSAVPr, ResectSubA, OpTricus, OpPulm, OpONCard, OCarLVA, OCarVSD, OCarSVR, OCarCong, OCarTrma, OCarCrTx, OCAoProcType, EndoProc, OCTumor, OCPulThromDis, OCarOthr are all marked "no" or "missing"

2a.9 Denominator Exclusions (*Brief text description of exclusions from the target population***):**

2a.10 Denominator Exclusion Details (*All information required to collect exclusions to the denominator, including all codes, logic, and definitions***):**

2a.11 Stratification Details/Variables (*All information required to stratify the measure including the stratification variables, all codes, logic, and definitions***):**

2a.12-13 Risk Adjustment Type: Case-mix adjustment

2a.14 Risk Adjustment Methodology/Variables (*List risk adjustment variables and describe conceptual models, statistical models, or other aspects of model or method***):**
Please see attachment

2a.15-17 Detailed risk model available Web page URL or attachment: Attachment 2a.15 Detailed Risk Model-634281986749363998.pdf

2a.18-19 Type of Score: Rate/proportion
2a.20 Interpretation of Score: Better quality = Lower score
2a.21 Calculation Algorithm (*Describe the calculation of the measure as a flowchart or series of steps***):**

2a.22 Describe the method for discriminating performance *(e.g., significance testing)*:
Participant specific OR and their 95% CI were estimated in the hierarchical model. These model-based estimates were used to control variation due to random statistical fluctuations while estimating true signal variation. A 95% CI excluding zero indicates the participant's performance is significantly lower or higher than an "average" STS participant.

2a.23 Sampling (Survey) Methodology *If measure is based on a sample (or survey), provide instructions for obtaining the sample, conducting the survey and guidance on minimum sample size (response rate)*:

2a.24 Data Source (*Check the source(s) for which the measure is specified and tested***)**
Electronic Clinical Data : Registry

2a.25 Data source/data collection instrument (*Identify the specific data source/data collection instrument, e.g. name of database, clinical registry, collection instrument, etc.***):**
STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database – Version 2.73

2a.26-28 Data source/data collection instrument reference web page URL or attachment: URL Data Collection Form (an updated version will be made available on the STS Website in mid-January 2011)--- http://www.sts.org/documents/pdf/ndb2010/STSAdultCVDataCollectionForm2_7_Annotated_20101021.pdf

2a.29-31 Data dictionary/code table web page URL or attachment: URL http://www.sts.org/documents/pdf/ndb2010/STSAdultCVDataSpecificationsV2_7_20101021.pdf -- an

updated version will be made available on the STS Website in mid-January 2011

2a.32-35 **Level of Measurement/Analysis** (*Check the level(s) for which the measure is specified and tested)*
Clinician : Group/Practice, Clinician : Team, Facility, Population : County or City, Population : National, Population : Regional, Population : State

2a.36-37 **Care Settings (***Check the setting(s) for which the measure is specified and tested)*
Hospital/Acute Care Facility

2a.38-41 **Clinical Services** (*Healthcare services being measured, check all that apply*)
Clinicians: Physicians (MD/DO)

TESTING/ANALYSIS

2b. Reliability testing

2b.1 **Data/sample** *(description of data/sample and size)*: STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database - Compared results between two proximate time periods with one-year overlap: January 2005-December 2007 and January 2007-December 2009.

2b.2 **Analytic Method** *(type of reliability & rationale, method for testing)*:
Compared results between two proximate time periods with one-year overlap: January 2005-December 2007 and January 2007-December 2009. Excluded from analysis are participants that did not submit results for both time periods. Because database participants can change their underlying care processes at any time, we would not expect perfect correlation between two sets of results from even proximate time periods.

2b.3 **Testing Results** *(reliability statistics, assessment of adequacy in the context of norms for the test conducted)*:
Please see attachment

2b
C☐
P☐
M☐
N☐

2c. Validity testing

2c.1 **Data/sample** *(description of data/sample and size)*: STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database

Audits conducted in 2010, all cases performed in 2009; N = 40 randomly selected sites participating in the STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database

2c.2 **Analytic Method** *(type of validity & rationale, method for testing)*:
Participating sites are randomly selected for participation in STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database Audit, which is designed to evaluate the accuracy, consistency, and comprehensiveness of data collection and ultimately validate the integrity of the data contained in the database. The Iowa Foundation for Medical Care (IFMC), the quality improvement organization for Iowa and Illinois, has conducted audits on behalf of STS since 2006.

Each year, the IFMC conducts audits at randomly selected sites throughout the country and tracks the individual agreement rates by variable and by year. More specifically, for each site, agreement rates are calculated for 73 individual elements. In addition, aggregate agreement rates for each element, variable category (e.g., pre-operative risk factors, previous interventions, etc), and overall for all categories are calculated for all sites. While this is not region specific, it is data point specific and comparison agreement rates confirm the improvement over time as well as the consistency.

2c.3 **Testing Results** *(statistical results, assessment of adequacy in the context of norms for the test conducted)*:
Mortality Operative Death: 100.0% agreement rate

2c
C☐
P☐
M☐
N☐

2d. Exclusions Justified

2d.1 **Summary of Evidence supporting exclusion(s):**
n/a

2d
C☐
P☐
M☐

2d.2 Citations for Evidence: **2d.3 Data/sample** *(description of data/sample and size)*: **2d.4 Analytic Method** *(type analysis & rationale)*: **2d.5 Testing Results** *(e.g., frequency, variability, sensitivity analyses)*:	N☐ NA☐
2e. Risk Adjustment for Outcomes/ Resource Use Measures **2e.1 Data/sample** *(description of data/sample and size)*: Please see Risk Adjustment Type section above **2e.2 Analytic Method** *(type of risk adjustment, analysis, & rationale)*: Detailed information regarding the risk adjustment model can be found in the attachment: Shahian DM, O´Brien SM, Filardo G, Ferraris VA, Haan CK, Rich JB, Normand SL, DeLong ER, Shewan CM, Dokholyan RS, Peterson ED, Edwards FH, Anderson RP. The Society of Thoracic Surgeons 2008 cardiac surgery risk models: part 3--valve plus coronary artery bypass grafting surgery. Ann Thorac Surg 2009 Jul;88(1 Suppl):S43-62. **2e.3 Testing Results** *(risk model performance metrics)*: **2e.4 If outcome or resource use measure is not risk adjusted, provide rationale:**	**2e** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐ NA☐
2f. Identification of Meaningful Differences in Performance **2f.1 Data/sample from Testing or Current Use** *(description of data/sample and size)*: 33 STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database Participants who had at least 50 eligible cases for the measure and reported data to STS for at least 36 months in 2005-2009; January 1, 2005-December 31, 2009 **2f.2 Methods to identify statistically significant and practically/meaningfully differences in performance** *(type of analysis & rationale)*: We calculated the risk adjusted event rate with the participant's Odds Ratio (OR) estimate and the overall STS event rate. Therefore, the risk adjusted rate is closely related to OR estimate. If OR > 1, then the participant's risk adjusted rate will be greater than the overall STS event rate; if OR < 1, then the participant's risk adjusted rate will be smaller than the overall STS event rate. The statistical significance is defined by the 95% confidence interval (CI) or the OR estimate. If the 95% CI for a participant's OR includes the null value 1.0, then we cannot distinguish this participant's performance from the STS average – either the participant's performance was close to average or else the participant's sample size was too small to make a reliable inference. Otherwise, if the 95% CI falls to the right of 1.0, then the participant's performance is considered significantly lower than the average STS results; if the 95% CI falls to the left of 1.0, then the participant's performance is considered significantly higher than the average STS results. **2f.3 Provide Measure Scores from Testing or Current Use** *(description of scores, e.g., distribution by quartile, mean, median, SD, etc.; identification of statistically significant and meaningfully differences in performance)*: Please see attachment	**2f** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐
2g. Comparability of Multiple Data Sources/Methods **2g.1 Data/sample** *(description of data/sample and size)*: **2g.2 Analytic Method** *(type of analysis & rationale)*:	**2g** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐ NA☐

2g.3 Testing Results *(e.g., correlation statistics, comparison of rankings)*:	
2h. Disparities in Care **2h.1 If measure is stratified, provide stratified results** *(scores by stratified categories/cohorts)*: **2h.2 If disparities have been reported/identified, but measure is not specified to detect disparities, provide follow-up plans:**	**2h** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐ NA☐
TAP/Workgroup: What are the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the subcriteria for *Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties?*	**2**
Steering Committee: Overall, to what extent was the criterion, *Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties*, met? **Rationale:**	***2*** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐
3. USABILITY	
Extent to which intended audiences (e.g., consumers, purchasers, providers, policy makers) can understand the results of the measure and are likely to find them useful for decision making. (evaluation criteria)	**Eval Rating**
3a. Meaningful, Understandable, and Useful Information **3a.1 Current Use:** In use **3a.2 Use in a public reporting initiative (disclosure of performance results to the public at large)** (*If used in a public reporting initiative, provide name of initiative(s), locations, Web page URL(s). If not publicly reported, state the plans to achieve public reporting within 3 years*): Currently being considered for NQF endorsement, the STS CABG Composite Score is a multidimensional performance measure comprised of four domains consisting of 11 individual NQF-endorsed cardiac surgery metrics: (1) Operative Care--use of the internal mammary artery; (2) Perioperative Medical Care (use of preoperative beta blockade; discharge beta blockade, antiplatelet agents, and lipid-lowering agents—an "all-or-none" measure); (3) Risk-adjusted Operative Mortality; and (4) Risk-Adjusted Postoperative Morbidity (occurrence of postoperative stroke, renal failure, prolonged ventilation, re-exploration, or deep sternal wound infection--an "any-or-none" measure). Composite star ratings are presented in the health section of the Consumers Union website, www.ConsumerReportsHealth.org STS will begin developing composite measures to be used for public reporting for AVR, AVR+CABG, MV Repair, MV Repair + CABG, MV Replacement, and MV Replacement + CABG surgeries. STS's plan is to develop one composite per year beginning with AVR (and continuing in the order listed). **3a.3 If used in other programs/initiatives (***If used in quality improvement or other programs/initiatives, name of initiative(s), locations, Web page URL(s). If not used for QI, state the plans to achieve use for QI within 3 years***):** **Testing of Interpretability** (*Testing that demonstrates the results are understood by the potential users for public reporting and quality improvement*) **3a.4 Data/sample** *(description of data/sample and size)*: See 3a.6 below **3a.5 Methods** *(e.g., focus group, survey, QI project)*: **3a.6 Results** *(qualitative and/or quantitative results and conclusions)*: Please see attachment	**3a** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐
3b/3c. Relation to other NQF-endorsed measures **3b.1 NQF # and Title of similar or related measures:**	

(for NQF staff use) **Notes on similar/related endorsed or submitted measures:**	
3b. Harmonization If this measure is related to measure(s) already endorsed by NQF (e.g., same topic, but different target population/setting/data source or different topic but same target population): **3b.2 Are the measure specifications harmonized? If not, why?** N/A; however, data definitions and key elements have been established by a multi-societal writing committee called the "ACCF/AHA Writing Committee to Develop Acute Coronary Syndromes and Coronary Artery Disease Clinical Data Standards" with representatives from each of the following organizations: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality American College of Cardiology American College of Chest Physicians American College of Emergency Physicians American College of Physicians American College of Preventative Medicine American Heart Association American Medical Association Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Nurses Association Food and Drug Administration Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians National Association of EMS Physicians National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Society of Chest Pain Centers and Providers Society of General Internal Medicine Society of Thoracic Surgeons	**3b** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐ NA☐
3c. Distinctive or Additive Value **3c.1 Describe the distinctive, improved, or additive value this measure provides to existing NQF-endorsed measures:** **5.1 If this measure is similar to measure(s) already endorsed by NQF (i.e., on the same topic and the same target population), Describe why it is a more valid or efficient way to measure quality:**	**3c** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐ NA☐
TAP/Workgroup: What are the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the subcriteria for *Usability?*	**3**
Steering Committee: Overall, to what extent was the criterion, *Usability*, met? **Rationale:**	**3** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐
4. FEASIBILITY	
Extent to which the required data are readily available, retrievable without undue burden, and can be implemented for performance measurement. (evaluation criteria)	Eval Rating
4a. Data Generated as a Byproduct of Care Processes **4a.1-2 How are the data elements that are needed to compute measure scores generated?** Data generated as byproduct of care processes during care delivery (Data are generated and used by healthcare personnel during the provision of care, e.g., blood pressure, lab value, medical condition), Coding/abstraction performed by someone other than person obtaining original information (E.g., DRG, ICD-	**4a** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐

9 codes on claims, chart abstraction for quality measure or registry)	
4b. Electronic Sources **4b.1 Are all the data elements available electronically?** (*elements that are needed to compute measure scores are in defined, computer-readable fields, e.g., electronic health record, electronic claims*) Yes **4b.2 If not, specify the near-term path to achieve electronic capture by most providers.**	**4b** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐
4c. Exclusions **4c.1 Do the specified exclusions require additional data sources beyond what is required for the numerator and denominator specifications?** No **4c.2 If yes, provide justification.**	**4c** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐ NA☐
4d. Susceptibility to Inaccuracies, Errors, or Unintended Consequences **4d.1 Identify susceptibility to inaccuracies, errors, or unintended consequences of the measure and describe how these potential problems could be audited. If audited, provide results.** This measure may be susceptible to human error (i.e., recording the measure inaccurately or not at all). When data collection on this measure is done through participation in the STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database, an auditing strategy is in place. Both STS and the Duke Clinical Research Institute have a list of database participants making participation in the STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database easy to track. Each participant is responsible for the quality and accuracy of the data they submit to the database. The participant agrees to the following quality control measures in the participation agreement: i) Participant hereby warrants that all data submitted for inclusion in the STS National Database will be accurate and complete, and acknowledges that such data may be subject to independent audit. Participant will use its best efforts to address any data or related deficiencies identified by the independent data warehouse service provider and agrees to cooperate with and assist STS and its designees in connection with the performance of any independent audit. ii) Participant warrants that it will take all reasonable steps to avoid the submission of duplicative data for inclusion in the STS National Database, including but not limited to apprising the Director of the STS National Database and the independent data warehouse service provider about any other Participation Agreements in which an individual cardiothoracic surgeon named above or on Schedule A attached hereto (as amended from time to time) is also named. STS audited for these potential problems during testing. Please see IFMC audit results.	**4d** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐
4e. Data Collection Strategy/Implementation **4e.1 Describe what you have learned/modified as a result of testing and/or operational use of the measure regarding data collection, availability of data/missing data, timing/frequency of data collection, patient confidentiality, time/cost of data collection, other feasibility/ implementation issues:** **4e.2 Costs to implement the measure** (*costs of data collection, fees associated with proprietary measures*)**:** Data Collection: There are no direct costs to collect the data for this measure. Costs to develop the measure included	**4e** C☐ P☐ M☐ N☐

volunteer cardiothoracic time, STS staff time, and DCRI statistician and project management time. Other fees: STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database participants (single cardiothoracic surgeons or a group of surgeons) pay annual participant fees of $2,950 or $3,700, depending on whether participants are STS members (or whether the majority of surgeons in a group are STS members). As a benefit of STS membership, STS members are charged the lesser of the two fees. 4e.3 **Evidence for costs:** 4e.4 **Business case documentation:**	
TAP/Workgroup: What are the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the subcriteria for *Feasibility?*	**4**
Steering Committee: Overall, to what extent was the criterion, *Feasibility*, met? **Rationale:**	**4** **C☐** **P☐** **M☐** **N☐**
RECOMMENDATION	
(for NQF staff use) **Check if measure is untested and only eligible for time-limited endorsement.**	**Time-limited ☐**
Steering Committee: Do you recommend for endorsement? **Comments:**	**Y☐** **N☐** **A☐**
CONTACT INFORMATION	
Co.1 **Measure Steward (Intellectual Property Owner)** Co.1 **Organization** Society of Thoracic Surgeons, 633 North Saint Clair Street, Suite 2320, Chicago, Illinois, 60611 Co.2 **Point of Contact** Jane, Han, MSW, jhan@sts.org, 312-202-5856-	
Measure Developer If different from Measure Steward Co.3 **Organization** Society of Thoracic Surgeons, 633 North Saint Clair Street, Suite 2320, Chicago, Illinois, 60611 Co.4 **Point of Contact** Jane, Han, MSW, jhan@sts.org, 312-202-5856-	
Co.5 **Submitter If different from Measure Steward POC** Jane, Han, MSW, jhan@sts.org, 312-202-5856-, Society of Thoracic Surgeons	
Co.6 **Additional organizations that sponsored/participated in measure development**	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Workgroup/Expert Panel involved in measure development Ad.1 **Provide a list of sponsoring organizations and workgroup/panel members' names and organizations. Describe the members' role in measure development.** Members of the STS Task Force on Quality Initiatives provide clinical expertise as needed. The STS Workforce on National Databases meets at the STS Annual Meeting and reviews the measures on a yearly basis. Changes or updates to the measure will be at the recommendation of the Workforce.	
Ad.2 **If adapted, provide name of original measure:**	

Ad.3-5 If adapted, provide original specifications URL or attachment
Measure Developer/Steward Updates and Ongoing Maintenance **Ad.6 Year the measure was first released:** 2004 **Ad.7 Month and Year of most recent revision:** 12, 2010 **Ad.8 What is your frequency for review/update of this measure?** annually **Ad.9 When is the next scheduled review/update for this measure?** 2011
Ad.10 Copyright statement/disclaimers:
Ad.11 -13 Additional Information web page URL or attachment: Attachment 0122 Sections 2a.14, 1b.2, 1b.4, 2b.3, 2f.3, 3a.6.pdf
Date of Submission (*MM/DD/YY*)**:** 10/28/2010

2a.14. Risk Adjustment Methodology/Variables *(List risk adjustment variables and describe conceptual models, statistical models, or other aspects of model or method)*

The risk adjusted model is a hierarchical logistic regression model with participant level intercept.

$$\text{logit(outcome)} \sim X\beta + (\gamma | \text{participant})$$

where X is the patient's risk factors, β is the regression coefficients of patient-level risk factors and γ is the participant level regression coefficient.

Inclusion Criteria

The patient level risk adjusted model was developed using a population of patients undergoing isolated valve procedure in the time period January 2002 – December 2006. For this measurement we re-fit the patient-level model using the latest four and a half years of data (January 2006 – June 2010) from The STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database.

Variable Definitions and Selection

All variables for consideration are listed in the table below.

Definition of Variables Appearing in STS 2008 Valve plus CABG Models

Variable	Definition
Intercept	= 1 for all patients
Preoperative AFib	= 1 if patient has history of preoperative atrial fibrillation, = 0 otherwise
Age function 1	= max (age – 50, 0)
Age function 3	= max (age – 75, 0)
Age by reop function	= Age function 1 if surgery is a reoperation, = 0 otherwise
Age by status function	= Age function 1 if status is emergent or salvage, = 0 otherwise
Age by MVR function	= Age function 1 if operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Age by MVRepair function	= Age function 1 if operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
BSA function 1	= max (1.4, min [2.6, BSA]) – 1.8
BSA function 2	= (BSA function 1)^2
CHF but not NYHA IV	=1 if patient has CHF and is not NYHA class IV, = 0 otherwise
CHF and NYHA IV	=1 if patient has CHF and is NYHA class IV, = 0 otherwise
CHF by MVR function	= 1 if patient has CHF and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
CHF by MVRepair function	= 1 if patient has CHF and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
CLD function	= 0 if no CLD, = 1 if mild CLD, = 2 if moderate CLD, = 3 if severe CLD
CLD by MVR function	= CLD function if operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
CLD by MVRepair function	= CLD function if operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Creatinine function 1	= max (0.5, min [creatinine, 5.0]) if patient is not on dialysis, = 0 otherwise
Creatinine by MVR function	= Creatinine function 1 if valve operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Creatinine by MVRepair function	= Creatinine function 1 if valve operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
CVD without prior CVA	= 1 if patient has history of CVD and no prior CVA, = 0 otherwise
CVD and prior CVA	= 1 if patient has history of CVD and a prior CVA, = 0 otherwise
Diabetes, noninsulin	= 1 if patient has diabetes not treated with insulin, = 0 otherwise
Diabetes, insulin	= 1 if patient has diabetes treated with insulin, = 0 otherwise
Dialysis	= 1 if patient requires dialysis preoperatively, = 0 otherwise
Dialysis by MVR function	= 1 if patient has history of dialysis and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Dialysis by MVRepair function	= 1 if patient has history of dialysis and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Ejection fraction function	= max (50 – ejection fraction, 0)
EF by MVR function	= Ejection fraction function if valve operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise

EF by MVRepair function	= Ejection fraction function if valve operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Endocarditis, active	= 1 if patient has active endocarditis, = 0 otherwise
Endocarditis by MVR function	= 1 if patient has active endocarditis and valve operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Endocarditis by MVRepair function	= 1 if patient has active endocarditis and valve operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Female	= 1 if patient is female, = 0 otherwise
Female by MVR function	= 1 if female and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Female by MVRepair function	= 1 if female and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Female by BSA function 1	= BSA function 1 if female, = 0 otherwise
Female by BSA function 2	= BSA function 2 if female, = 0 otherwise
Hypertension	= 1 if patient has hypertension, = 0 otherwise
IABP or inotropes	= 1 if patient requires IABP or inotropes preoperatively, = 0 otherwise
IABP by MVR function	= 1 if patient requires preop IABP or inotropes and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
IABP by MVRepair function	= 1 if patient requires preop IABP or inotropes and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Immunosuppressive treatment	= 1 if patient has received immunosuppressive therapy within 30 days, = 0 otherwise
Insufficiency, mitral	= 1 if patient has at least moderate mitral insufficiency, = 0 otherwise
Insufficiency, tricuspid	= 1 if patient has at least moderate tricuspid insufficiency, = 0 otherwise
Left main disease	= 1 if patient has left main disease, = 0 otherwise
MI 1–21 days	= 1 if history of MI 1 to 21 days prior to surgery, = 0 otherwise
MI ≤ 21 days [a]	= 1 if patient has history of MI within 21 days prior to surgery, = 0 otherwise (for CVA and PLOS; coded as < 24 hours and 1–21 days for others)
MI < 24 hours	= 1 if history of MI < 24 hours prior to surgery, = 0 otherwise
MVR	= 1 if valve operation is mitral valve replacement, = 0 otherwise
MVRepair	= 1 if valve operation is mitral valve repair, = 0 otherwise
No. diseased coronary vessel function	= 2 if triple-vessel disease, = 1 if double-vessel disease, = 0 otherwise
Peripheral vascular disease	= 1 if patient has peripheral vascular disease, = 0 otherwise
Race black	= 1 if patient is black, = 0 otherwise
Race Hispanic	= 1 if patient is nonblack Hispanic, = 0 otherwise
Reop, 1 previous operation	= 1 if patient has had exactly 1 previous CV surgery, = 0 otherwise
Reop, ≥ 2 previous operations	= 1 if patient has had 2 or more previous CV surgeries, = 0 otherwise
Reop by MVR function	= 1 if surgery is a reoperation and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Reop by MVRepair function	= 1 if surgery is a reoperation and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Shock	= 1 if patient was in shock at time of procedure, = 0 otherwise
Shock by MVR function	= 1 if shock and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Shock by MVRepair function	= 1 if shock and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Status urgent	= 1 if status is urgent, = 0 otherwise
Status emergent	= 1 if status is emergent (but not rescuscitation), = 0 otherwise
Status salvage	= 1 if status is salvage (or emergent plus resuscitation), = 0 otherwise
Status by MVR function	= 1 if status is emergent or salvage and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Status by MVRepair function	= 1 if status is emergent or salvage and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Stenosis, mitral	= 1 if patient has mitral stenosis, = 0 otherwise
Unstable angina	= 1 if patient has unstable angina and no MI within 7 days of surgery, = 0 otherwise

[a] **MI coded as < 24 hours and 1 to 21 days.**

BSA = body surface area; CABG = coronary artery bypass graft surgery; CHF = congestive heart failure; CLD = chronic lung disease; Comp = composite adverse event (any); CVA = cerebrovascular accident (stroke); CVD = cerebrovascular disease; DSWI = deep sternal wound infection; EF = ejection fraction; IABP = intra-aortic balloon pump; MI = myocardial infarction; Mort = mortality; MVR = mitral valve replacement; MVRepair = mitral valve repair; NYHA = New York Heart Association; PLOS = prolonged length of stay; PVD = peripheral vascular disease;

The final patient-level model was built by step-wise selection method with several variables decided by surgeon panel forced into the model. For the final patient-level model, please see the attachment.

1b.2. Summary of Measure Results Demonstrating Performance Gap *(Descriptive statistics for performance results for this measure - distribution of scores for measured entities by quartile/decile, mean, median, SD, min, max, etc.)*

The summary statistic provided is the Participant's Estimated Odds Ratio (OR) based on a hierarchical logistic regression analysis. The OR measures the impact that a participant's performance level has on a patient's probability of experiencing an adverse outcome. An OR greater than 1.0 implies that the participant increases a patient's risk of experiencing the outcome, relative to an "average" STS participant. An OR less than 1.0 implies that the participant decreases a patient's risk of experiencing the outcome, relative to an "average" STS participant. A high OR is undesirable and we define the percentiles with decreasing OR. For example, 90% of STS participants have an OR greater than the value indicated by the "90th percentile" below.

Measurement	*Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG Surgery*
N	33
Mean	1.0
1st	1.6
5th	1.5
10th	1.3
25th	1.1
Median	1.0
75th	0.8
90th	0.7
95th	0.6
99th	0.6
Outlier	0 (0.0)
High	0
Low	0

Also provided is the distribution of the risk adjusted event rate (see below). The risk adjusted rate is an estimate of the participant's event rate if, hypothetically, the case-mix of the patients treated by the participants is the same as the overall STS case-mix. It is calculated by the OR of the participant, other patient level parameter estimates from the hierarchical logistic model, and the overall STS event rate, by:

STS event rate * (Participant's Expected Event Rate) / (Participant's Expected Event Rate Assuming Its Performance = STS Average Performance)

In the above equation, "Participant's Expected Event Rate" is calculated with the participant's actual OR, and "Participant's Expected Event Rate Assuming Its Performance = STS Average Performance" is calculated by assuming the participant's OR = 1 (i.e. no difference in performance from the STS average).

Risk Adjusted Rate:

Measurement	*Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG Surgery*
N	33

Measurement	*Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG Surgery*
Mean	10.3
1st	6.5
5th	7.0
10th	7.8
25th	8.6
Median	10.4
75th	11.3
90th	13.0
95th	15.0
99th	15.2
Outlier	0 (0.0)
High	0
Low	0

1b.4. Summary of Measure Results on Disparities by Population Group *(Descriptive statistics for performance results for this measure by population group)*

Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG - Risk Adjusted Rate		
	Population Group	
	Men	*Women*
Measurement		
N	7*	2*
Mean	9.1	11.1
1st	7.8	10.7
5th	7.8	10.7
10th	7.8	10.7
25th	8.5	10.7
Median	9.0	11.1
75th	10.1	11.5
90th	10.6	11.5
95th	10.6	11.5
99th	10.6	11.5
Outlier	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
High	0	0
Low	0	0

**All Participant Measurements when Participants included in the subgroup analysis are 15 or fewer*

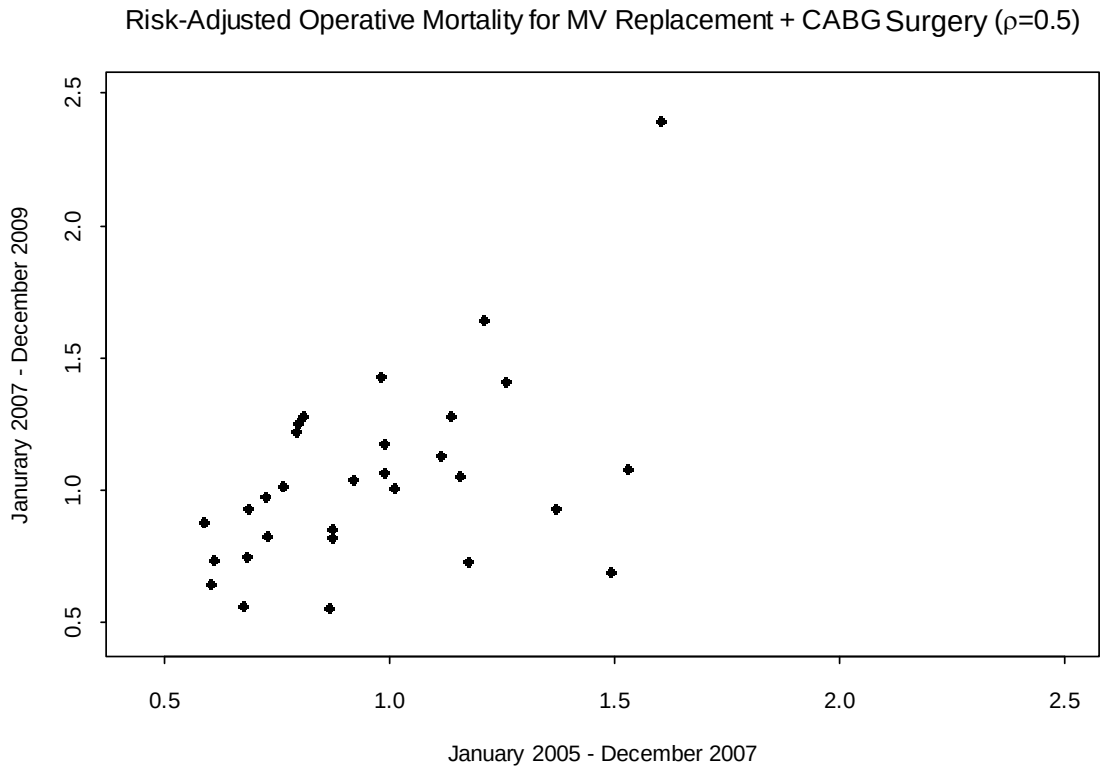
Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG - Risk Adjusted Rate		
	Population Group	
	Men	*Women*
Participant		
1	7.8	10.7
2	8.5	11.5
3	8.8	.
4	9.0	.
5	9.2	.
6	10.1	.
7	10.6	.

Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG - Risk Adjusted Rate	
	Population Group
	White
Measurement	
N	20
Mean	10.6
1st	8.5
5th	8.6
10th	8.9
25th	9.5
Median	10.3
75th	11.9
90th	12.2
95th	12.6
99th	13.1
Outlier	0 (0.0%)
High	0
Low	0

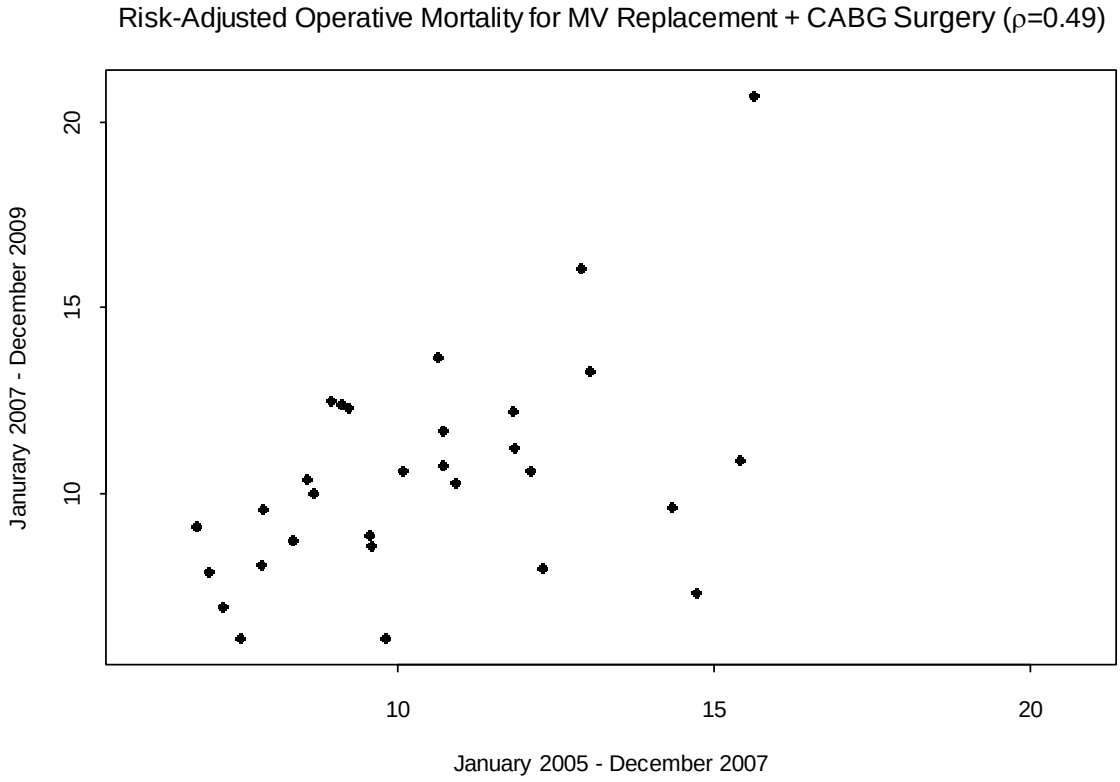
Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG - Risk Adjusted Rate	
	Population Group
	Non-Hispanic
Measurement	
N	28
Mean	10.4
1st	8.0
5th	8.3
10th	8.8
25th	9.3
Median	10.3
75th	11.0
90th	12.9
95th	13.1
99th	13.2
Outlier	0 (0.0%)
High	0
Low	0

2b.3. Testing Results *(Reliability statistics, assessment of adequacy in the context of norms for the test conducted)*

Testing results: $\rho = 0.50$



Risk adjusted Rate:
Testing results: $\rho = 0.49$



2f.3. Measure Scores from Testing or Current Use *(Description of scores, e.g., distribution by quartile, mean, median, SD, etc.; identification of statistically significant and meaningfully differences in performance)*

Results below are from January 1, 2005-December 31, 2009. Sample contains 33 STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database Participants who had at least 50 eligible cases for the measure and reported data to STS for at least 36 months in 2005-2009.

Measurement	*Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG Surgery*
N	33
Mean	1.0
1st	1.6
5th	1.5
10th	1.3
25th	1.1
Median	1.0
75th	0.8
90th	0.7
95th	0.6
99th	0.6
Outlier†	0 (0.0)
High	0
Low	0

Risk Adjusted Rate:

Measurement	*Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG Surgery*
N	33
Mean	10.3
1st	6.5
5th	7.0
10th	7.8
25th	8.6
Median	10.4
75th	11.3
90th	13.0
95th	15.0
99th	15.2
Outlier†	0 (0.0)
High	0

Measurement	*Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for MV Replacement + CABG Surgery*
Low	0

†Represents the number of participants that are outliers according to two-sided 95% confidence interval of odds ratio.

3a.6. Results *(Qualitative or quantitative results and conclusions)*

Although formal testing of interpretability has not been performed, this measure has been used and reported for STS Adult Cardiac Surgery database participants since 2007. Current report presentation and interpretation manuals are presented below. These materials are updated as needed based upon feedback from database participants.

1) Report Overview and Interpretation Manual:

The NQF Measures Report

a. Organization

This report section is separated into three areas corresponding to: 1) NQF volume measures, 2) NQF process measures, and 3) NQF outcomes measures, in that order. The header at the top of each page references the report section for that page. Each NQF measure is presented on a single row in the section. Tabular data are on the left-hand side of each page and a standard graphic representation is shown on the right-hand side.

b. Statistical Calculation and Details – NQF Measures

Time period: This report section contains information on the individual STS participant and overall STS performance for the most recent 12 months for volume, process and CABG outcomes measures and the most recent 60 months for Valve and Valve + CABG outcomes. The 5 years (60 months) of performance for outcomes involving Valve procedures is necessary due to smaller sample sizes.

Volume Measures: The NQF report provides average annual case volumes data for three surgery categories: i) Isolated CABG, ii) Valve without CABG, and iii) combined CABG + Valve. Definitions of the three surgery categories are provided in Table 2 of this NQF Report Overview. For each type of surgery, the participant's annualized volume is calculated as:

$$\text{Participant Annualized Volume} = 12 \times (\#\text{ of surgeries}) / (\#\text{ of months})$$

where (# of surgeries) denotes the number of surgeries of the specified type performed by the participant during the specified time period, and (# of months) is the number of months during the specified time period for which the participant submitted at least one cardiac surgery of any type. The intent of calculating "annualized" volumes is to adjust for participants who participated in the database for fewer months than the time period specified. For participants who participated in the database and submitted cases every month during 2006, the annualized volume for 2006 is simply the total number of cases.

The STS Average Annualized Volume is the average value of all of the participant annualized volumes across the entire population of STS participants. The Participant Percentile indicates the percent of STS participants whose annualized volumes are less than, or equal to, your own. Higher percentiles indicate higher volumes in relation to other STS participant sites. The Distribution of Participant Values shows the range and percentiles of the distribution of participant annualized volumes across all database participants. For example, 90% of participants have annualized volumes less than or equal to the value marked "90th percentile." Confidence intervals are not provided for volume measures, as volume is known with certainty and is not estimated.

Process Measures: The NQF process measures provide data on the frequency of usage of five therapies among subsets of Isolated CABG patients. The therapies are: i) preoperative beta blockade therapy, ii) use of IMA, iii) discharge anti-platelet medication, iv) discharge beta blockade therapy, and v) discharge anti-lipid medication. The patient population for each measure differs, in accordance with the NQF specifications (see Table 2 of this NQF Report Overview for details). The number of Eligible

Procedures is the number of cases performed by the participant during the specified time period who meet the eligibility requirements to be included in the calculations when summarizing the participant's data. ***Beginning with the 2008 Harvest 3 report (covering the procedure time period through 6/30/2008), STS implementation of NQF medication process measures using data version 2.61 excludes records for which the medication was contraindicated/not indicated from the eligible population.*** The main summary statistic, Participant Usage, is the percent of eligible Isolated CABG cases during the specified time period for which the patient received the specified therapy. The Overall STS Usage is the percent of all eligible patients in the entire STS population during the specified time period who received the specified therapy. ***In calculating these percentages, missing data are treated as a "No", emphasizing the importance of having complete data in these fields***.

The Participant Percentile indicates the percent of STS participants who applied the therapy in their respective populations less frequently than or as frequently as did your institution. The Distribution of Participant Values shows the range and percentiles of the distribution of participant usage across all participants in the database. For example, 90% of participants use the therapy less frequently than the amount indicated by the "90th percentile". A bar identified as "Participant" indicates the point estimate and limits of a 95% Confidence Interval (CI) for the participant's usage of therapy. The underlying parameter being estimated is the long-run usage rate that would be observed in a large sample of patients. The 95% CI indicates the range of usage rates that are consistent with the data in light of sampling variability.

Outcomes Measures: The NQF outcomes data provide risk-adjusted analyses of mortality and morbidity for Isolated CABG surgery as well as risk-adjusted operative mortality for Isolated AVR, Isolated MVR, AVR+CABG, and MVR+CABG. The main summary statistic provided is the Participant's Estimated Odds Ratio (OR) based on a hierarchical logistic regression analysis. The OR measures the impact that a participant's performance level has on a patient's probability of experiencing an adverse outcome. The interpretation is similar to that of an O/E ratio (see the Risk-Adjusted Results: Overview portion of the General Report Overview for details on STS risk adjustment). An OR greater than 1.0 implies that the participant increases a patient's risk of experiencing the outcome, relative to an "average" STS participant. An OR less than 1.0 implies that the participant decreases a patient's risk of experiencing the outcome, relative to an "average" STS participant. Each measure is calculated among patients undergoing surgery of the type specified during the time period specified who additionally meet certain eligibility requirements. The column labeled Eligible Procedures indicates the number of patients who met the inclusion criteria to be included in the analysis for the indicated measure. The Participant Percentile is the percent of STS participants who have an estimated OR that is greater than or equal to your estimated OR. Note that this is different than performance percentiles for process measures, where the percentile indicates the percentage of STS participants with performance that is *less than* the specified number. This simply reflects the fact that high process compliance is desirable, whereas a high OR is undesirable.

The Observed Participant Rate is the percent of eligible patients who experienced the specified outcome. Unlike the participant estimated OR, the observed participant rate is not risk-adjusted. The estimated OR is the main summary statistic for summarizing the NQF measure in this report.

The Distribution of Participant Values shows the range and percentiles of the distribution of estimated Odds Ratios across all STS participants. For example, 90% of STS participants have an OR greater than the value indicated by the "90th percentile." The line that extends to the left and right of the Participant Value indicates the lower and upper limits of a 95% Confidence Interval (CI) surrounding the participant's estimated OR.

c. Technical Notes

Calculation of Percentiles for the Distribution of Participant Values: The graph provided for each measure contains information about the distribution of the value of the measure across all STS

participants, namely the minimum, maximum, 10th percentile, 50th percentile, and 90th percentile. The "X^{th}" percentile, denoted P_x, is loosely defined as the number having the property that X% of the participant values are less than P_x, and (100 – X)% of the participant values are greater than P_x. **For process measures, participants with greater than 5% missing data were excluded when calculating percentiles of the STS distribution and do not have a calculated participant percentile**. For participants having less than 5% missing data on a process measure, the missing values on the process measure were converted to "No" before calculating percentiles. For outcomes measures, all participants submitting at least one eligible case were included when calculating percentiles of the STS distribution. Missing data on outcomes variables were treated as "No."

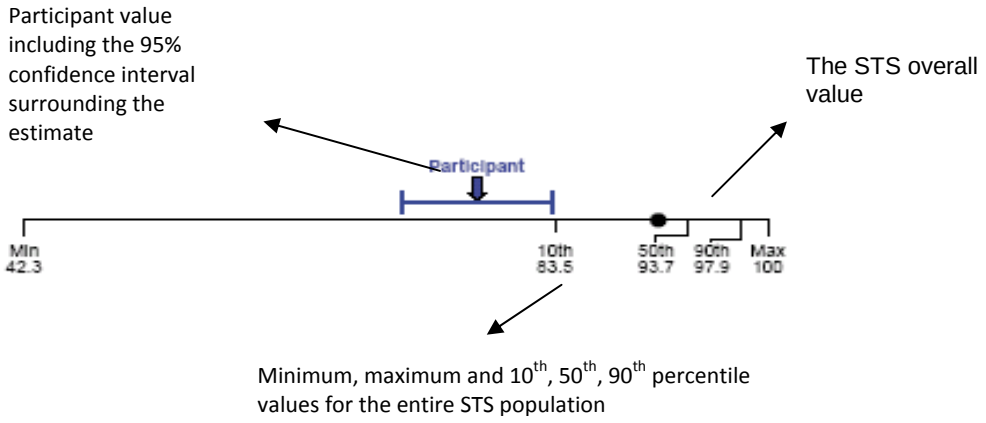
NQF/STS Results Comparison: Participants may see some differences between summaries of their data provided in the NQF section of the report and summaries of their data reported elsewhere in the STS report. These differences are due to subtle variations in variable definitions, patient inclusion and exclusion criteria, and rules for handling missing data in the NQF section versus the rest of the report. Definitions used in the NQF report were designed to match current NQF specifications as closely as possible. It is expected that these differences will eventually disappear as the NQF measures are refined. Some important differences are:

Case Volumes – The NQF report section presents "annualized" volumes. These are case volumes that have been adjusted for the number of months that a participant was an active contributor to the database. Elsewhere in the STS report, total case volumes are presented without adjustment for the length of participation.

Eligible Cases - The NQF report also presents the number of "eligible cases" for each measure. Separate inclusion criteria are applied to each measure, and these inclusion criteria do not always match the definitions used elsewhere in the STS report. Please refer to the footnotes in each section for specific details.

Interpretation Manual

In addition to the statistics provided for each of the STS Composite Quality Domains and NQF measures, a figure representing the distribution of values for the entire STS population is provided.



The figure allows participants to quickly judge their performance relative to the overall STS. The scale of the figure is set up such that the right side of the distribution represents the most favorable performance and the left side represents the least favorable performance (Note that in some cases smaller numbers will be on the left; in other instances, smaller numbers will be on the right. For example, for the Pre-operative Beta Blockade Therapy measure, the far left side of the distribution will contain the *lowest* percentage Beta Blockade Therapy for an STS participant – this corresponds to least

favorable performance. Alternatively, for the Operative Mortality Measure, the far left side of the distribution will contain the *highest* Estimated Odds Ratio – this also corresponds to least favorable performance). If a participant's value for a given measure is to the left of the STS overall value, the participant is performing worse on that measure than the overall STS. Conversely, if the participant's value for a given measure is located to the right of the overall STS value, the participant is performing better than the overall STS.

NOTE! Care should be given to reading these figures. In some instances, the various percentiles presented cluster very close together in the data. In such cases, the label for the percentile is not necessarily located immediately at the point on the distribution where the percentile occurs. An example of this is apparent in the figure above: The 50th percentile corresponds to a value of 93.7 and looks to align fairly closely with the STS overall value as represented by the large black dot. However, the expandable figure marking actually points to a place somewhere to the right of the STS overall value for the 50th percentile marking. So the STS overall value would be some amount less than 93.7.

Also, please note that in some cases, small sample sizes preclude valid comparisons between the participant and the STS overall. Such instances are clearly noted in the report output.

a. NQF Measures Interpretation Example

Sample CABG Operative Mortality results – tabular and figure representation.

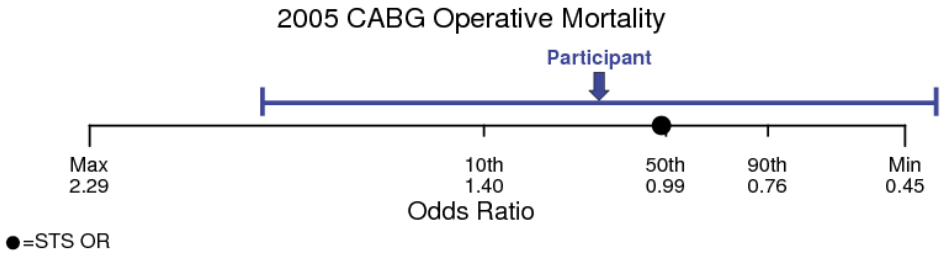
NQF Measure	Eligible Procedures	Participant Estimated OR	Participant Percentile	Participant Observed Rate
2005 CABG Operative Mortality	74	1.14	26.3	5.4%

Eligible Procedures: 74 patients met the inclusion criteria for the indicated measure.

Participant Estimated OR (Odds Ratio): The main summary statistic measuring the impact that a participant's performance has on a patient's probability of experiencing an adverse outcome has a value of 1.14 indicating worse than expected performance.

Participant Percentile: 26.3% of STS participants had an estimated OR greater than or equal to your estimated OR. In other words, 26.3% had the same or worse performance.

Participant Observed Rate: 5.4% of the 74 eligible patients experienced the specified outcome.



The highest OR among all STS participants = 2.29
The lowest OR among all STS participants = 0.45
The STS average OR is 1.00

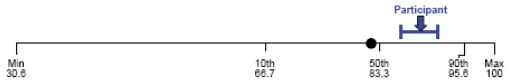
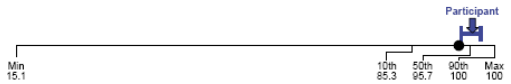
The 95% confidence interval for the participant's OR spans from <0.45 to ~1.90

2) Sample page from section of the report that contains NQF measure results:

NQF Measures
Process Measures

Participant 99999
STS Period Ending 12/31/2008

Duke Clinical Research Institute
DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

NQF Measure	Eligible Procedures	Participant Usage (95% CI)	Participant Percentile	Overall STS Usage	Distribution of Participant Values ● = Overall STS Usage
Jan 2008 - Dec 2008 Preoperative Beta Blockade Therapy[1]	541	89.3% (86.4 , 91.8)	69.9	82.1%	
Jan 2008 - Dec 2008 Use of IMA[2]	536	96.5% (94.5 , 97.9)	63.3	94.2%	
Jan 2008 - Dec 2008 Discharge Anti-Platelet Medication[3]	536	98.7% (97.3 , 99.5)	68.7	96.1%	
Jan 2008 - Dec 2008 Discharge Beta Blockade Therapy[4]	538	96.1% (94.1 , 97.6)	53.4	93.7%	
Jan 2008 - Dec 2008 Discharge Anti-Lipid Treatment[4]	535	91.8% (89.1 , 94.0)	40.7	91.4%	

[1]Excludes v2.61 contranindicated / not indicated records.
[2]Excludes patients with prior CABG surgery
[3]Anti-platelet use includes Aspirin and ADP Inhibitors, and excludes in-hospital mortalities. Excludes v2.61 contranindicated / not indicated records.
[4]Excludes in-hospital mortalities. Excludes v2.61 contranindicated / not indicated records.

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons 2008 Cardiac Surgery Risk Models: Part 3—Valve Plus Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting Surgery

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Background. Since 1999, The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) has published two risk models that can be used to adjust the results of valve surgery combined with coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG). The most recent was developed from data for patients who had surgery between 1994 and 1997 using operative mortality as the only endpoint. Furthermore, this model did not specifically consider mitral valve repair plus CABG, an increasingly common procedure. Consistent with STS policy of periodically updating and improving its risk models, new models for valve surgery combined with CABG have been developed. These models specifically address both perioperative morbidity and mitral valve repair, and they are based on contemporary data.

Methods. The final study population consisted of 101,661 procedures, including aortic valve replacement (AVR) plus CABG, mitral valve replacement (MVR) plus CABG, or mitral valve repair (MVRepair) plus CABG between January 1, 2002, and December 31, 2006. Model outcomes included operative mortality, stroke, deep sternal wound infection, reoperation, prolonged ventilation, renal failure, composite major morbidity or mortality, prolonged postoperative length of stay, and short postoperative length of stay. Candidate variables were screened for frequency of missing data, and imputation techniques were used where appropriate. Stepwise variable selection was employed, supplemented by advice from an expert panel of cardiac surgeons and biostatisticians. Several variables were forced into models to insure face validity (eg, atrial fibrillation for the permanent stroke model, sex for all models). Based on preliminary analyses of the data, a single model was employed for valve plus CABG, with indicator variables for the specific type of procedure. Interaction terms were included to allow for differential impact of predictor variables depending on procedure type. After validating the model in the 40% validation sample, the development and validation samples were then combined, and the final model coefficients were estimated using the overall 100% combined sample. The final logistic regression model was estimated using generalized estimating equations to account for clustering of patients within institutions.

Results. The c-index for mortality prediction for the overall valve plus CABG population was 0.75. Morbidity model c-indices for specific complications (permanent stroke, renal failure, prolonged ventilation > 24 hours, deep sternal wound infection, reoperation for any reason, major morbidity or mortality composite, and prolonged postoperative length of stay) for the overall group of valve plus CABG procedures ranged from 0.622 to 0.724, and calibration was excellent.

Conclusions. New STS risk models have been developed for heart valve surgery combined with CABG. These are the first valve plus CABG models that also include risk prediction for individual major morbidities, composite major morbidity or mortality, and short and prolonged length of stay.

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Risk models for cardiac surgery were first developed almost 2 decades ago, and most of these early models focused on isolated coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG) [1–4]. The results of this frequently performed surgical procedure have often been used as the sole marker to assess the quality of care delivered by cardiac surgical programs. Risk-adjusted results for CABG have been used

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AVR	= aortic valve replacement
CABG	= coronary artery bypass graft surgery
MI	= myocardial infarction
MVR	= mitral valve replacement
MVRepair	= mitral valve repair
NCD	= National Adult Cardiac Surgery Database
QMTF	= Quality Measurement Task Force
STS	= The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

for hospital and regional quality improvement initiatives, public reporting, pay for performance reimbursement programs, decision support, patient counseling, and clinical research. Earlier models focused primarily on mortality prediction, but subsequent models have been developed for both risk-adjusted morbidity and length of stay [5].

The other commonly performed category of cardiac surgery consists of operations on the heart valves, either alone or in combination with CABG. Relative to isolated CABG procedures, which are declining in frequency, the proportion of valve cases is steadily increasing. To better assess the overall performance of cardiac surgery programs, to discern the factors that are most significantly related to patient outcomes, and to aid in physician and patient decision-making, risk models have now also been developed for heart valve surgery [6–18].

Unlike risk models for isolated CABG, a relatively standardized procedure, valve surgery encompasses a much more diverse group of operations. There are four cardiac valves, and they may malfunction in a number of quite different ways (eg, stenosis, regurgitation, infection, and so forth). The valves may be repaired or replaced with a wide range of techniques and prosthetics. In some cases, procedures may be performed on multiple valves, or the valve procedure may be combined with CABG.

Given the heterogeneity of heart valve surgery, it is not surprising that a variety of risk-modeling techniques has been applied. At one extreme, the European System for Cardiac Operative Risk Evaluation (EuroSCORE) algorithm, developed by a European consortium, groups all cardiac operations together in a single risk model with indicator variables included to account for valve procedures [14, 18]. Although this approach is simple and easy to apply, recent studies by van Gameren and associates [19] have suggested that a dedicated valve risk model may have better discrimination and calibration than the EuroSCORE algorithm when applied to valve surgery patients. Combined models for aortic and mitral valve procedures with or without CABG have been developed by Jin and colleagues [12] and by Ambler and associates [13]. The 2001 valve models developed by The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) [6] consisted of one model for all isolated valve procedures and one model for valve procedures combined with CABG, and a 2007 risk model derived from the New York Cardiac Surgery Reporting System used a similar stratification [8].

Unified valve models reflect the fact that many risk factors are common to both aortic and mitral valve surgery. They offer simplicity, and they also permit larger sample sizes for development and validation [12]. However, there are significant differences between aortic and mitral valvular disease in both pathophysiology and outcomes, and both also differ substantially from isolated CABG [11]. Some investigators advocate separate aortic and mitral valve models to have more homogeneous patient populations. Examples include models developed by STS, the New York Cardiac Surgery Reporting System, and the Northern New England Cardiovascular Disease Study Group [7, 9, 10]. Some of these models have been developed solely for isolated valve replacement, some have included CABG as a separate predictor variable in the isolated valve model, and some models have focused specifically on valve plus CABG. All these decisions involve a tradeoff—the more homogeneous the study group, the fewer patients are available for model development and validation [12].

Because of the large number of valve surgery patients available for analysis in the STS National Adult Cardiac Surgery Database (NCD), our approach has favored separate models for valve plus CABG versus isolated valve surgery. The STS Quality Measurement Task Force (QMTF) presumes that when adequate numbers of patients are available for study, relatively homogeneous operative categories result in more accurate risk prediction. Furthermore, recent studies by van Gameren and colleagues [19] suggest that the valve plus CABG group may be the most difficult to model accurately, thus meriting its own algorithm.

Several new features were added to the 2008 valve plus CABG models described in this report. First, recognizing that mitral valve repair is often different in both etiology and outcomes than replacement, the QMTF has included interactions between surgery type and several key predictor variables. Fitting a single model with several such interactions is useful. It allows for pooling information across related groups of valve procedures without making an a priori assumption that the effect of key risk factors is constant across these groups. Finally, new models have been developed for specific major complications of each valve plus CABG procedure, as well as for composite morbidity, mortality, and for both short and prolonged postoperative length of stay.

The authors of this report are members of the STS QMTF who were involved in this risk model development project.

Study Population and Endpoints

Our general approaches to variable selection and risk model development have been described in the companion articles on isolated CABG (Part 1) and isolated valve surgery (Part 2). Details specific to the valve plus CABG models are included in this report.

Study Population

The study population for this analysis consisted of single aortic or mitral valve surgical procedures combined with

CABG performed on adult patients between January 1, 2002, and December 31, 2006. Only the following procedures were included: (1) isolated aortic valve replacement (AVR) plus CABG; (2) isolated mitral valve replacement (MVR) plus CABG; and (3) isolated mitral valve repair (MVRepair) plus CABG.

Because of the relatively small number of pulmonic, tricuspid, multiple valve procedures, and aortic repairs, these cases were not included in the current models. Patients undergoing isolated valve surgery without CABG were excluded from the current analysis, but these cases are the focus of a separate model described in Part 2 of this three-part series. Patients with missing sex data (n = 17) were excluded because these patients are not allowed in the analysis dataset used for creating STS database participant feedback reports. Patients on dialysis preoperatively (n = 2,443) were excluded when developing the risk model for prediction of postoperative renal failure. The final study population comprised 101,661 patient operations (66,074 AVR plus CABG; 13,663 MVR plus CABG; and 21,924 MVRepair plus CABG) from 814 STS NCD participating groups.

Characteristics of the study population are summarized in Table 1.

Training and Validation Samples

The study population was randomly divided into a 60% training (development) sample and a 40% test (validation) sample. The development sample was used to identify predictor variables and estimate model coefficients. Data from the validation sample were used to assess model fit, discrimination, and calibration. After choosing variables and assessing model fit, the development and validation samples were subsequently combined, and the final model coefficients were estimated using the combined (development plus validation) data.

Endpoints

In developing the valve plus CABG risk models, we used the same nine endpoints that were analyzed in the STS isolated CABG (Part 1) and the STS isolated valve (Part 2) models. Morbidities in all three models are recorded only in-hospital, in contrast to the operative mortality endpoint defined below (although beginning with version 2.61, sternal infection will be recorded at 30 days): (1) operative mortality: death during the same hospitalization as surgery, regardless of timing or within 30 days of surgery regardless of venue; (2) permanent stroke (CVA): a central neurologic deficit persisting longer than 72 hours; (3) renal failure: a new requirement for dialysis or an increase of the serum creatinine to more than 2.0 mg/dL and double the most recent preoperative creatinine level; (4) prolonged ventilation (> 24 hours); (5) deep sternal wound infection; (6) reoperation for any reason; (7) major morbidity or mortality, a composite defined as the occurrence of any of the above endpoints; (8) prolonged postoperative length of stay (PLOS): length of stay (LOS) more than 14 days (alive or dead); and (4) short postoperative length of stay (SLOS): LOS less than 6 days and patient alive at discharge.

Endpoint frequencies in the study population are presented in Table 2.

Separate Versus Combined Models

Given the variety of approaches used in previous models by STS and other developers, we investigated the option of developing separate models for the AVR plus CABG and MVR plus CABG populations, and we also studied how best to subdivide the mitral plus CABG population into repair versus replacement. Although we had a large study population available, many of the individual outcomes were relatively rare. We were concerned that the number of events would be too small to permit reliable estimation of the model coefficients in separate models for each valve. Thus, in theory, the development of separate custom models for each valve type could be inferior to a single combined model because the custom models would have a smaller sample size and hence larger variance.

As described in detail in Part 2 of this series (isolated valve surgery), we performed preliminary empirical analyses to compare two alternative strategies (separate versus combined AVR plus CABG and MVR/Repair plus CABG) for developing these risk models. We first developed separate models for the three subpopulations (AVR plus CABG, MVR plus CABG, and MVRepair plus CABG), then modeled all three subpopulations together in a single model. In the latter approach, we included several interaction terms to allow the effect of certain risk factors to differ across the specific valve subpopulations. These strategies were used to develop risk models for operative mortality and permanent stroke, using a 60% development sample and a separate 40% validation sample. The performance of the combined model was then assessed separately within each subpopulation and compared to the model that was developed specifically for that subpopulation. In the case of mortality, the combined model had better discrimination (larger c-index) than the corresponding custom model in each of the three subpopulations (AVR plus CABG, MVR plus CABG, MVRepair plus CABG). For stroke, the combined model had better discrimination in two of the three populations (all except AVR plus CABG). Finally, when explained variation was quantified by the generalized R^2 index of Nagelkerke [20], the combined model had greater explained variation than the custom model in each subpopulation for each endpoint. These results provide empirical support for the use of a single model with several interactions, which allows pooling of information across valve groups without assuming that the effect of risk factors is constant.

Selection of Candidate Predictor Variables

The candidate variables for the STS valve plus CABG models were identical to those in the STS isolated valve models, described in Part 2 of this series. They differed from the isolated CABG model variables in the following specific areas: (1) Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) occurring 6 hours or less before surgery was present in only 315 patients (0.3%) in the valve plus CABG study population, and was not included as a candidate variable. (2) Infectious endocarditis was not included in the isolated CABG model but was considered for the valve plus CABG model. Although this risk factor was rarely present (0.8% active

Table 1. Distribution of Risk Factors in Overall Study Population 2002 to 2006

	Overall Valve + CABG (n = 101,661)		AVR + CABG (n = 66,074)		MVR + CABG (n = 13,663)		MVRepair + CABG (n = 21,924)	
Variable	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Demographics								
Age, years								
< 55	6,693	6.6	2,983	4.51	1,309	9.58	2,401	10.95
55–64	17,188	16.9	9,132	13.82	2,790	20.42	5,266	24.02
65–74	33,628	33.1	21,313	32.26	4,667	34.16	7,648	34.88
≥ 75	44,152	43.4	32,646	49.41	4,897	35.84	6,609	30.15
Sex								
Male	65,588	64.5	44,619	67.53	7,348	53.78	13,621	62.13
Female	36,073	35.5	21,455	32.47	6,315	46.22	8,303	37.87
Race								
Caucasian	90,572	89.1	60,121	90.99	11,765	86.11	18,686	85.23
Black	4,534	4.5	2,094	3.17	914	6.69	1,526	6.96
Hispanic	2,487	2.4	1,487	2.25	354	2.59	646	2.95
Asian	1,083	1.1	542	0.82	191	1.40	350	1.60
Other	2,295	2.3	1,402	2.12	331	2.42	562	2.56
Missing	690	0.7	428	0.65	108	0.79	154	0.70
Risk factors								
Body surface area, m^2								
< 1.50	3,340	3.3	1,985	3.00	638	4.67	717	3.27
1.50–1.74	20,779	20.4	12,580	19.04	3,500	25.62	4,699	21.43
1.75–1.99	40,017	39.4	25,814	39.07	5,440	39.82	8,763	39.97
≥ 2.00	36,956	36.4	25,361	38.38	3,996	29.25	7,599	34.66
Missing	569	0.6	334	0.51	89	0.65	146	0.67
Body mass index, kg/m^2								
< 25	29,353	28.9	17,712	26.81	4,787	35.04	6,854	31.26
25–29	39,345	38.7	25,692	38.88	4,951	36.24	8,702	39.69
30–34	21,063	20.7	14,447	21.86	2,507	18.35	4,109	18.74
≥ 35	11,165	11.0	7,785	11.78	1,299	9.51	2,081	9.49
Missing	735	0.7	438	0.66	119	0.87	178	0.81
Diabetes mellitus								
No diabetes	68,112	67.0	44,489	67.33	9,517	69.66	14,106	64.34
Diabetes, noninsulin	23,383	23.0	15,705	23.77	2,642	19.34	5,036	22.97
Diabetes, insulin	9,848	9.7	5,677	8.59	1,463	10.71	2,708	12.35
Diabetes, missing treatment	167	0.2	105	0.16	20	0.15	42	0.19
Missing	151	0.1	98	0.15	21	0.15	32	0.15
Hypertension								
No	22,709	22.3	13,944	21.10	3,482	25.48	5,283	24.10
Yes	78,823	77.5	52,050	78.78	10,163	74.38	16,610	75.76
Missing	129	0.1	80	0.12	18	0.13	31	0.14
Hypercholesterolemia								
No	33,759	33.2	21,248	32.16	5,324	38.97	7,187	32.78
Yes	67,613	66.5	44,649	67.57	8,280	60.60	14,684	66.98
Missing	289	0.3	177	0.27	59	0.43	53	0.24
Past or present smoker								
No	43,687	43.0	29,123	44.08	5,835	42.71	8,729	39.81
Yes	57,813	56.9	36,849	55.77	7,797	57.07	13,167	60.06
Missing	161	0.2	102	0.15	31	0.23	28	0.13
Chronic lung disease								
None	76,803	75.5	50,632	76.63	9,756	71.40	16,415	74.87
Mild	12,157	12.0	7,658	11.59	1,853	13.56	2,646	12.07
Moderate	7,797	7.7	4,720	7.14	1,269	9.29	1,808	8.25
Severe	4,005	3.9	2,463	3.73	658	4.82	884	4.03
Missing	899	0.9	601	0.91	127	0.93	171	0.78

Table 1. Continued

Variable	Overall Valve + CABG (n = 101,661)		AVR + CABG (n = 66,074)		MVR + CABG (n = 13,663)		MVRepair + CABG (n = 21,924)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Peripheral vascular disease								
No	84,183	82.8	54,658	82.72	11,373	83.24	18,152	82.80
Yes	17,294	17.0	11,296	17.10	2,267	16.59	3,731	17.02
Missing	184	0.2	120	0.18	23	0.17	41	0.19
Cerebrovascular disease								
No	83,284	81.9	53,509	80.98	11,304	82.73	18,471	84.25
Yes	18,202	17.9	12,449	18.84	2,335	17.09	3,418	15.59
Missing	175	0.2	116	0.18	24	0.18	35	0.16
CVA								
No CVA	92,527	91.0	60,141	91.02	12,283	89.90	20,103	91.69
Remote CVA (> 2 weeks)	8,461	8.3	5,545	8.39	1,240	9.08	1,676	7.64
Recent CVA (≤ 2 weeks)	348	0.3	184	0.28	88	0.64	76	0.35
CVA, missing timing	114	0.1	62	0.09	23	0.17	29	0.13
Missing	211	0.2	142	0.21	29	0.21	40	0.18
Endocarditis								
No endocarditis	99,517	97.9	65,023	98.41	12,914	94.52	21,580	98.43
Treated endocarditis	1,091	1.1	525	0.79	356	2.61	210	0.96
Active endocarditis	827	0.8	387	0.59	356	2.61	84	0.38
Endocarditis, missing type	24	0.0	11	0.02	8	0.06	5	0.02
Missing	202	0.2	128	0.19	29	0.21	45	0.21
Renal failure								
No	92,592	91.1	60,880	92.14	12,037	88.10	19,675	89.74
Yes	8,888	8.7	5,072	7.68	1,605	11.75	2,211	10.08
Missing	181	0.2	122	0.18	21	0.15	38	0.17
Renal function								
Creatinine < 1.0 mg/dL	30,178	29.7	20,297	30.72	3,672	26.88	6,209	28.32
Creatinine 1.00–1.49 mg/dL	52,008	51.2	34,054	51.54	6,758	49.46	11,196	51.07
Creatinine 1.50–1.99 mg/dL	11,469	11.3	7,151	10.82	1,732	12.68	2,586	11.80
Creatinine 2.00–2.49 mg/dL	2,711	2.7	1,554	2.35	498	3.64	659	3.01
Creatinine ≥ 2.5 mg/dL	1,602	1.6	844	1.28	319	2.33	439	2.00
Dialysis	2,443	2.4	1,364	2.06	482	3.53	597	2.72
Missing	1,250	1.2	810	1.23	202	1.48	238	1.09
Immunosuppressive treatment								
No	98,421	96.8	63,984	96.84	13,211	96.69	21,226	96.82
Yes	2,975	2.9	1,904	2.88	427	3.13	644	2.94
Missing	265	0.3	186	0.28	25	0.18	54	0.25
Previous CV interventions								
Previous CABG surgery								
No	91,657	90.2	59,583	90.18	12,057	88.25	20,017	91.30
Yes	9,615	9.5	6,257	9.47	1,540	11.27	1,818	8.29
Missing	389	0.4	234	0.35	66	0.48	89	0.41
Previous valve surgery								
No	98,737	97.1	64,265	97.26	12,794	93.64	21,678	98.88
Yes	2,540	2.5	1,567	2.37	813	5.95	160	0.73
Missing	384	0.4	242	0.37	56	0.41	86	0.39
Previous other cardiac surgery								
No	98,538	96.9	64,166	97.11	13,181	96.47	21,191	96.66
Yes	2,683	2.6	1,634	2.47	407	2.98	642	2.93
Missing	440	0.4	274	0.41	75	0.55	91	0.42
Number of previous CV surgeries								
No previous CV surgery	89,419	88.0	58,161	88.02	11,530	84.39	19,728	89.98
1 prior CV surgery	10,453	10.3	6,796	10.29	1,799	13.17	1,858	8.47
≥ 2 prior CV surgeries	1,200	1.2	766	1.16	231	1.69	203	0.93
Missing	589	0.6	351	0.53	103	0.75	135	0.62

Table 1. Continued

Variable	Overall Valve + CABG (n = 101,661)		AVR + CABG (n = 66,074)		MVR + CABG (n = 13,663)		MVRepair + CABG (n = 21,924)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Prior PCI								
No PCI	84,553	83.2	55,581	84.12	11,152	81.62	17,820	81.28
PCI ≤ 6 hours	315	0.3	151	0.23	89	0.65	75	0.34
PCI > 6 hours	16,158	15.9	9,946	15.05	2,321	16.99	3,891	17.75
PCI, missing timing	234	0.2	145	0.22	45	0.33	44	0.20
Missing	401	0.4	251	0.38	56	0.41	94	0.43
Preoperative cardiac status								
Acuity status								
Elective	62,298	61.3	43,682	66.11	7,277	53.26	11,339	51.72
Urgent	36,454	35.9	21,414	32.41	5,315	38.90	9,725	44.36
Emergent	2,479	2.4	763	1.15	945	6.92	771	3.52
Emergent salvage	258	0.3	97	0.15	104	0.76	57	0.26
Missing	172	0.2	118	0.18	22	0.16	32	0.15
MI								
No prior MI	68,332	67.2	49,673	75.18	8,056	58.96	10,603	48.36
MI ≤ 21 days	16,934	16.7	9,308	14.09	2,621	19.18	5,005	22.83
MI 8–21 days	3,751	3.7	1,725	2.61	624	4.57	1,402	6.39
MI 1–7 days	10,458	10.3	4,514	6.83	1,741	12.74	4,203	19.17
MI > 6 and < 24 hours	1,113	1.1	367	0.56	341	2.50	405	1.85
MI ≤ 6 hours	531	0.5	178	0.27	192	1.41	161	0.73
MI, missing timing	355	0.3	184	0.28	59	0.43	112	0.51
Missing	187	0.2	125	0.19	29	0.21	33	0.15
Angina								
No	42,542	41.8	28,032	42.43	6,248	45.73	8,262	37.68
Yes	58,967	58.0	37,945	57.43	7,394	54.12	13,628	62.16
Missing	152	0.1	97	0.15	21	0.15	34	0.16
Cardiogenic shock								
No	98,743	97.1	65,219	98.71	12,590	92.15	20,934	95.48
Yes	2,719	2.7	720	1.09	1,055	7.72	944	4.31
Missing	199	0.2	135	0.20	18	0.13	46	0.21
Resuscitation								
No	100,474	98.8	65,522	99.16	13,359	97.78	21,593	98.49
Yes	971	1.0	405	0.61	281	2.06	285	1.30
Missing	216	0.2	147	0.22	23	0.17	46	0.21
Arrhythmia								
No arrhythmia	83,856	82.5	56,040	84.81	9,992	73.13	17,824	81.30
AFib/flutter	13,386	13.2	7,533	11.40	2,940	21.52	2,913	13.29
Heart block	1,975	1.9	1,311	1.98	289	2.12	375	1.71
Sustained VT/VF	1,513	1.5	614	0.93	299	2.19	600	2.74
Arrhythmia, other	483	0.5	305	0.46	63	0.46	115	0.52
Arrhythmia, missing type	242	0.2	135	0.20	59	0.43	48	0.22
Missing	206	0.2	136	0.21	21	0.15	49	0.22
Preoperative IABP								
No	96,136	94.6	64,597	97.76	11,957	87.51	19,582	89.32
Yes	5,205	5.1	1,275	1.93	1,655	12.11	2,275	10.38
Missing	320	0.3	202	0.31	51	0.37	67	0.31
NYHA class								
I	9,839	9.7	6,934	10.49	1,103	8.07	1,802	8.22
II	24,830	24.4	17,808	26.95	2,524	18.47	4,498	20.52
III	42,593	41.9	28,079	42.50	5,458	39.95	9,056	41.31
IV	20,571	20.2	10,808	16.36	3,882	28.41	5,881	26.82
Missing	3,828	3.8	2,445	3.70	696	5.09	687	3.13

Table 1. Continued

	Overall Valve + CABG (n = 101,661)		AVR + CABG (n = 66,074)		MVR + CABG (n = 13,663)		MVRepair + CABG (n = 21,924)	
Variable	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Congestive heart failure								
No	58,086	57.1	41,984	63.54	5,797	42.43	10,305	47.00
Yes	43,377	42.7	23,953	36.25	7,845	57.42	11,579	52.81
Missing	198	0.2	137	0.21	21	0.15	40	0.18
Number of diseased coronary vessels								
None	2,362	2.3	1,786	2.70	281	2.06	295	1.35
One	22,718	22.3	16,934	25.63	3,040	22.25	2,744	12.52
Two	27,144	26.7	19,014	28.78	3,655	26.75	4,475	20.41
Three	49,060	48.3	28,107	42.54	6,623	48.47	14,330	65.36
Missing	377	0.4	233	0.35	64	0.47	80	0.36
Left main disease ≥ 50%								
No	84,025	82.7	55,292	83.68	11,503	84.19	17,230	78.59
Yes	17,175	16.9	10,512	15.91	2,072	15.17	4,591	20.94
Missing	461	0.5	270	0.41	88	0.64	103	0.47
Ejection fraction, %								
< 25	5,805	5.7	2,199	3.33	640	4.68	2,966	13.53
25–34	10,988	10.8	4,877	7.38	1,566	11.46	4,545	20.73
35–44	14,928	14.7	8,064	12.20	2,487	18.20	4,377	19.96
45–54	20,398	20.1	13,424	20.32	3,048	22.31	3,926	17.91
≥ 55	43,556	42.8	32,973	49.90	5,209	38.12	5,374	24.51
Missing	5,986	5.9	4,537	6.87	713	5.22	736	3.36
Aortic stenosis								
No	42,831	42.1	8,527	12.91	12,974	94.96	21,330	97.29
Yes	58,317	57.4	57,319	86.75	535	3.92	463	2.11
Missing	513	0.5	228	0.35	154	1.13	131	0.60
Mitral stenosis								
No	95,696	94.1	63,862	96.65	11,166	81.72	20,668	94.27
Yes	4,993	4.9	1,542	2.33	2,366	17.32	1,085	4.95
Missing	972	1.0	670	1.01	131	0.96	171	0.78
Tricuspid stenosis								
No	100,093	98.5	65,060	98.47	13,402	98.09	21,631	98.66
Yes	275	0.3	154	0.23	57	0.42	64	0.29
Missing	1,293	1.3	860	1.30	204	1.49	229	1.04
Pulmonic stenosis								
No	99,484	97.9	64,693	97.91	13,348	97.69	21,443	97.81
Yes	122	0.1	85	0.13	14	0.10	23	0.10
Missing	2,055	2.0	1,296	1.96	301	2.20	458	2.09
Aortic insufficiency								
None	57,561	56.6	28,972	43.85	10,821	79.20	17,768	81.04
Trivial	9,243	9.1	6,573	9.95	1,023	7.49	1,647	7.51
Mild	13,828	13.6	11,082	16.77	1,156	8.46	1,590	7.25
Moderate	10,195	10.0	9,581	14.50	232	1.70	382	1.74
Severe	8,686	8.5	8,580	12.99	49	0.36	57	0.26
Missing	2,148	2.1	1,286	1.95	382	2.80	480	2.19
Mitral insufficiency								
None	41,756	41.1	38,790	58.71	1,297	9.49	1,669	7.61
Trivial	7,467	7.3	7,139	10.80	147	1.08	181	0.83
Mild	15,407	15.2	13,485	20.41	584	4.27	1,338	6.10
Moderate	14,987	14.7	4,842	7.33	2,790	20.42	7,355	33.55
Severe	20,516	20.2	527	0.80	8,743	63.99	11,246	51.30
Missing	1,528	1.5	1,291	1.95	102	0.75	135	0.62

Table 1. Continued

Variable	Overall Valve + CABG (n = 101,661)		AVR + CABG (n = 66,074)		MVR + CABG (n = 13,663)		MVRepair + CABG (n = 21,924)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Tricuspid insufficiency								
None	74,774	73.6	49,614	75.09	9,758	71.42	15,402	70.25
Trivial	7,972	7.8	5,454	8.25	839	6.14	1,679	7.66
Mild	11,505	11.3	7,060	10.68	1,631	11.94	2,814	12.84
Moderate	4,119	4.1	1,919	2.90	874	6.40	1,326	6.05
Severe	636	0.6	237	0.36	186	1.36	213	0.97
Missing	2,655	2.6	1,790	2.71	375	2.74	490	2.23
Pulmonic insufficiency								
None	91,715	90.2	59,891	90.64	12,275	89.84	19,549	89.17
Trivial	3,411	3.4	2,122	3.21	442	3.24	847	3.86
Mild	2,065	2.0	1,215	1.84	306	2.24	544	2.48
Moderate	326	0.3	165	0.25	70	0.51	91	0.42
Severe	49	0.0	25	0.04	11	0.08	13	0.06
Missing	4,095	4.0	2,656	4.02	559	4.09	880	4.01

AFib = atrial fibrillation; AVR = aortic valve replacement; CABG = coronary artery bypass graft; CV = cardiovascular; CVA = cerebrovascular accident (stroke); IABP = intra-aortic balloon pump; MI = myocardial infarction; MVR = mitral valve replacement; MVRepair = mitral valve repair; NYHA = New York Heart Association; PCI = percutaneous coronary intervention; VF = ventricular fibrillation; VT = ventricular tachycardia.

endocarditis) in the overall valve plus CABG population, it was included for consistency with the isolated valve model. Active endocarditis was present in 2.6% of patients undergoing mitral replacement plus CABG. (3) Mitral stenosis was rarely present among isolated CABG patients (0.35%). However, it was not uncommon (4.9%) among patients undergoing valve plus CABG surgery and was included as a candidate variable. It was present in 17.3% of mitral replacements and 5.0% of mitral repairs.

An indicator for valve procedure (AVR, MVR, MVRepair) was included in the combined valve plus CABG model, as previously noted.

Missing Data

Missing data are uncommon in the STS NCD, with a frequency of less than 1% missing for most variables. Model variables with more than 1% missing were ejection fraction

Table 2. Frequency of Endpoints in Overall Study Population 2002 to 2006

	Mort	CVA	RF	Vent	DSWI	Reop	Comp	PLOS	SLOS
Overall (AVR + CABG, MVR + CABG, MVRepair + CABG)									
N	101,661	101,661	99,218	101,661	101,661	101,661	101,661	101,661	101,661
Events	6,919	2,935	9,097	21,561	684	12,117	30,580	15,594	22,534
%	6.8	2.9	9.0	21.2	0.7	11.9	30.1	15.3	22.2
AVR + CABG									
N	66,074	66,074	64,710	66,074	66,074	66,074	66,074	66,074	66,074
Events	3,718	1,751	5,032	11,608	394	7,090	17,343	8,412	16,961
%	5.6	2.7	7.6	17.6	0.6	10.7	26.3	12.7	25.7
MVR + CABG									
N	13,663	13,663	13,181	13,663	13,663	13,663	13,663	13,663	13,663
Events	1,590	499	1,829	4,469	114	2,274	5,897	3,277	1,512
%	11.6	3.7	13.6	32.7	0.8	16.6	43.2	24.0	11.1
MVRepair + CABG									
N	21,924	21,924	21,327	21,924	21,924	21,924	21,924	21,924	21,924
Events	1,611	685	2,236	5,484	176	2,753	7,340	3,905	4,061
%	7.4	3.1	10.3	25.0	0.8	12.6	33.5	17.8	18.5

AVR = aortic valve replacement; CABG = coronary artery bypass graft surgery; Comp = composite adverse event (any); CVA = cerebrovascular accident (stroke); DSWI = deep sternal wound infection; Mort = mortality; MVR = mitral valve replacement; MVRepair = mitral valve repair; PLOS = prolonged length of stay; Reop = reoperation; RF = renal failure; SLOS = short length of stay; Vent = prolonged ventilation.

Table 3. List of Candidate Variables and Their Coding for STS Valve Plus CABG Models

Candidate Variables	Coding
Continuous variables	
Age[a]	Linear spline truncated from below at 50 with knot at 75.
Ejection fraction	Linear; values > 50 mapped to 50
Body surface area[a]	Quadratic polynomial modeled separately for males and females. *Note: BSA < 1.4 and > 2.6 were mapped to those values, respectively.*
Creatinine	Linear (only for patients not on dialysis). *Note: Creatinine < 0.5 and > 5.0 mapped to those values, respectively.*
Time trend[a]	Ordinal categorical variable with separate category for each 6-month harvest interval. Modeled as linear across the categories.
Binary variables	
Active infectious endocarditis	Yes/no
Dialysis	Yes/no
Preoperative atrial fibrillation	Yes/no
Shock	Yes/no
Female[a]	Yes/no
Hypertension	Yes/no
Immunosuppressive treatment	Yes/no
Preop IABP or inotropes	Yes/no
Peripheral vascular disease	Yes/no
Unstable angina (no MI < 7 days)	Yes/no
Left main disease	Yes/no
Aortic stenosis	Yes/no
Mitral stenosis	Yes/no
Aortic insufficiency	Defined as at least moderate (yes/no)
Mitral insufficiency	Defined as at least moderate (yes/no)
Tricuspid insufficiency	Defined as at least moderate (yes/no)
Categorical variables	
Surgery type	3 groups: AVR + CABG, MVR + CABG, MVRepair + CABG
Chronic lung disease	Modeled as linear across categories (none, mild, moderate, severe)
CVD/CVA	3 groups: no CVD, CVD no CVA, CVD + CVA
Diabetes mellitus	3 groups: insulin diabetes, noninsulin diabetes, other or no diabetes
No. diseased coronary vessels	3 groups: < 2-vessel disease; 2-vessel disease; 3-vessel disease. Modeled as linear across the categories
MI	3 groups: < 24 hours, 1–21 days, > 21 days or no MI. *Note: groups 1 and 2 were subsequently collapsed for some models.*
Race	3 groups: black, Hispanic, other including Caucasian
Status	4 groups: elective, urgent, emergent no resuscitation, salvage or emergent with resuscitation
Previous cardiovascular operations	3 groups: 0 previous, 1 previous, ≥ 2 previous
CHF and NYHA class	3 groups: no CHF, CHF not NYHA IV, CHF and NYHA IV
Interaction terms	
Age by reoperation[a]	
Age by emergent status[a]	
Surgery type by each of the following:	Age, diabetes, dialysis, creatinine, reoperation, endocarditis, emergent status, CLD, CHF, EF, sex, shock, IABP/inotropes, mitral insufficiency, aortic insufficiency, mitral stenosis, aortic stenosis.

[a] These variables were forced into each model.

AVR = aortic valve replacement; CHF = congestive heart failure; CLD = chronic lung disease; CVA = cerebrovascular accident (stroke); CVD = cardiovascular disease; EF = ejection fraction; IABP = intra-aortic balloon pump; MI = myocardial infarction; MVR = mitral valve replacement; MVRepair = mitral valve repair; NYHA = New York Heart Association.

(5.9%), New York Heart Association functional class (3.8%), tricuspid insufficiency (2.6%), aortic insufficiency (2.1%), mitral insufficiency (1.5%), and creatinine/dialysis (1.2%).

To make full use of the available data, binary risk factors were modeled as yes versus no or missing. Thus, missing values were analyzed as if the endpoint did not occur. Missing data on categorical variables were imputed to the lowest risk value, which, in most instances, was the mode. Missing data on continuous variables were imputed to the conditional median. For ejection fraction, we conditioned

on congestive heart failure and sex. For body surface area, we conditioned on sex. For serum creatinine, we conditioned on renal failure.

Although multiple imputation is generally preferred on statistical grounds [21], we chose single imputation for this analysis based largely on practical considerations, including computational intensity. Furthermore, the fraction of missing data was small, and single and multiple imputation would give similar results. Finally, multiple imputation is primarily used for calculating appropriate standard error estimates, but an adjustment to the standard errors would not impact our study results or the published risk algorithms. In a separate sensitivity analysis, we compared predicted risk estimates from our final models to risk estimates that were derived from analogous models using multiple instead of single imputation. For each endpoint, the relative difference in predicted risk was less than 6% (eg, an absolute difference of 5.0% versus 5.3%) for all patients in the development and validation samples, and it was less than 2% (eg, an absolute difference of 5.0% versus 5.1%) for 99% of patients. A summary of these analyses including regression coefficients and covariance matrices is available at www.sts.org/riskmodels.

Final Variable Selection Procedure

Variables were initially selected using an automated stepwise model selection algorithm. The stepwise procedure began with a model that included all of the candidate variables except for interaction terms. Age, body surface area, and month of surgery were forced into each model. As in the isolated CABG and isolated valve models described in Parts 1 and 2 of this series, month of surgery was used only to adjust for time trends in the frequency of adverse outcomes over the 5-year study period. We adjusted for this to reduce potential confounding by time trends when estimating regression coefficients for the variables that are of primary interest (ie, patient preoperative risk factors—see example in Part 1). Surgery date was categorized into 6-month intervals and modeled as a linear trend across the ordinal categories. Surgery date is not included in the final risk prediction algorithm, and a patient's predicted risk does not depend on it. The published intercept parameter has been adjusted to incorporate the time trend, and this adjusted intercept reflects the baseline risk for a reference period of July to December 2006.

Other variables were selected in a stepwise fashion using a significance criterion of 0.05 for entry and removal. Ordinal categorical variables were initially coded such that removing an indicator variable caused a category to be combined with the lowest risk category (the reference group). In the case of myocardial infarction (MI), there were two outcomes (permanent stroke, prolonged length of stay) in which "MI 1 to 21 days" was retained but "MI less than 24 hours" was removed. For these two cases, the two MI categories were replaced by the single category "MI 21 days or less." The stepwise procedure was performed separately for each endpoint. Multiple interaction terms consisting of predictor variable and surgery type were also evaluated, and two additional interaction terms (age by reoperation and age by emergent status) were forced into the models (see Tables 3 and 5).

The results of this initial selection process were then reviewed by surgeon members of the QMTF for face validity and consistency with previous STS or other valve models: (1) preoperative atrial fibrillation was forced into the model for permanent stroke; (2) an indicator variable for dialysis was forced into any model that included creatinine (this did not apply to the renal failure model, as patients with preoperative dialysis were excluded); (3) sex was forced into all models; and (4) each variable that interacted with surgery group was also included as a main effect.

After validating the model in the 40% validation sample, the development and validation samples were then rejoined, and the final model coefficients were estimated using the overall 100% combined sample. The final logistic regression model was estimated using generalized estimating equations with empirical (sandwich) standard error estimates to account for clustering of patients within institutions [22]. An independence working correlation matrix was used to apply the generalized estimating equations. With this approach, the estimated regression coefficients were identical to those obtained using ordinary logistic regression, but the standard errors were adjusted to account for the clustered data structure.

Results

Risk Factors, Outcomes, and Predictor Variables

Table 1 presents the distribution of risk factors and endpoints in the overall 2002 to 2006 study population. Because there are three valve plus CABG categories, space limitations prevent display of the bivariate relationships for each predictor variable, endpoint, and valve plus CABG group. These are available upon request from STS.

Table 2 summarizes the overall frequency of adverse outcomes as well as the outcomes for the three major valve groups. Table 3 lists the candidate predictor variables and their coding schemes.

Assessment of Model Fit and Discrimination

The Hosmer-Lemeshow test was not employed to assess overall calibration. Large sample sizes make a significant p value almost inevitable, as all risk models are only approximations of reality [23]. Rather, we assessed calibration graphically by plotting observed versus predicted event rates within deciles of predicted risk in the development and validation samples (Fig 1). These plots were constructed for the overall sample and for subgroups based on surgery type (AVR plus CABG, MVR plus CABG, MVRepair plus CABG); age ($<$ 60, 60 to 79, $\geq$ 80 years); sex (male, female); diabetes mellitus (yes/no); status (elective, nonelective); and ejection fraction ($\leq$ 40, $>$ 40). Because of space constraints, only the overall sample results in the validation sample are presented. Additional results are available at www.sts.org/riskmodels.

In general, the models were well calibrated in the validation sample. The average absolute difference between observed versus predicted event rates across the decile categories ranged from 0.1% for deep sternal wound infec-

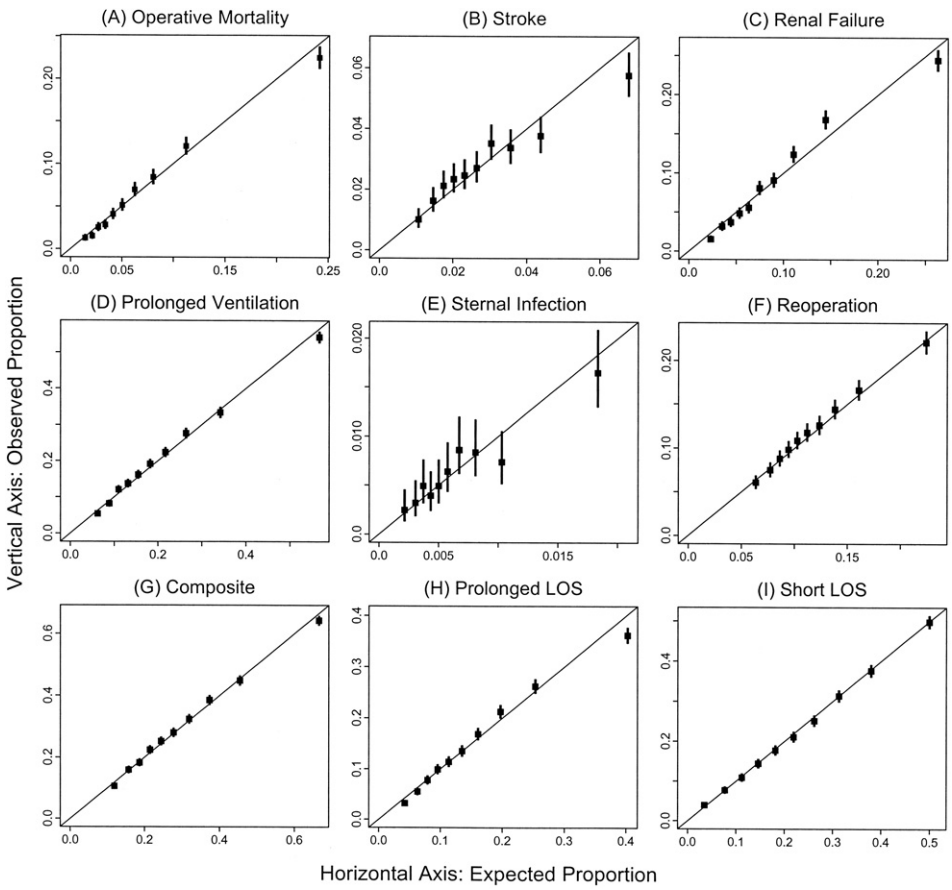

Fig 1. Plots of observed (O) versus expected (E) in validation sample

tion to 0.96% for prolonged length of stay. There was a very slight tendency for the models to overpredict risk in the highest decile. Although perfect prediction would be ideal, a slight overprediction implies that the model will give adequate credit to surgeons who take on patients with several model risk factors.

Discrimination was assessed by determining the c-statistic, also known as the area under the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve. Table 4 presents the discrimination of the various models. In the validation sample, the c-index of the overall valve plus CABG operative mortality model was 0.750, and the c-indices of the morbidity models ranged from 0.617 for reoperation to 0.724 for renal failure and short length of stay.

Table 4. Discrimination of Models (C-Index) in Development and Validation Samples

	Mort	CVA	RF	Vent	DSWI	Reop	Comp	PLOS	SLOS
Overall									
Development sample	0.754	0.656	0.729	0.730	0.670	0.623	0.704	0.719	0.726
Validation sample	0.750	0.622	0.724	0.720	0.646	0.617	0.698	0.710	0.724
AVR + CABG									
Development sample	0.737	0.648	0.720	0.706	0.639	0.607	0.678	0.705	0.700
Validation sample	0.736	0.609	0.718	0.697	0.657	0.604	0.673	0.699	0.698
MVR + CABG									
Development sample	0.764	0.665	0.712	0.746	0.713	0.608	0.725	0.694	0.726
Validation sample	0.739	0.611	0.701	0.733	0.580	0.599	0.714	0.680	0.733
MVRepair + CABG									
Development sample	0.746	0.650	0.727	0.725	0.692	0.624	0.707	0.712	0.738
Validation sample	0.755	0.652	0.715	0.716	0.644	0.623	0.705	0.702	0.733

AVR = aortic valve replacement; CABG = coronary artery bypass graft; Comp = composite adverse event (any); CVA = cerebrovascular accident (stroke); DSWI = deep sternal wound infection; Mort = mortality; MVR = mitral valve replacement; MVRepair = mitral valve repair; PLOS = prolonged length of stay; Reop = reoperation; RF = renal failure; SLOS = short length of stay; Vent = prolonged ventilation.

Table 5. Estimated Odds Ratios for CABG Mortality, Morbidity, and Length of Stay Models

A. Odds ratios for variables that do not interact with surgery group

Variable	Mort	CVA	RF	Vent	DSWI	Reop	Comp	PLOS	SLOS
Preoperative AFib	1.20 (1.12, 1.29)	1.05 (0.94, 1.17)	1.18 (1.11, 1.26)	1.13 (1.07, 1.19)	NA	1.16 (1.10, 1.22)	1.15 (1.10, 1.20)	1.22 (1.15, 1.28)	0.71 (0.67, 0.75)
BSA 1.6 versus 2.0 among females	1.29 (1.19, 1.39)	1.34 (1.18, 1.52)	0.87 (0.81, 0.94)	1.08 (1.02, 1.14)	0.51 (0.39, 0.67)	1.13 (1.07, 1.23)	1.12 (1.07, 1.18)	0.97 (0.92, 1.03)	1.03 (0.96, 1.10)
BSA 1.6 versus 2.0 among males	1.58 (1.41, 1.77)	1.38 (1.17, 1.64)	1.18 (1.07, 1.31)	1.31 (1.21, 1.41)	0.71 (0.49, 1.03)	1.18 (1.12, 1.34)	1.32 (1.24, 1.41)	1.40 (1.29, 1.52)	0.81 (0.75, 0.88)
BSA 1.8 versus 2.0 among females	1.05 (1.00, 1.10)	1.16 (1.06, 1.26)	0.89 (0.85, 0.93)	0.99 (0.95, 1.02)	0.69 (0.61, 0.77)	1.03 (0.98, 1.06)	1.01 (0.98, 1.04)	0.94 (0.90, 0.97)	1.08 (1.04, 1.12)
BSA 1.8 versus 2.0 among males	1.15 (1.10, 1.20)	1.13 (1.07, 1.20)	1.01 (0.97, 1.05)	1.06 (1.03, 1.09)	0.83 (0.72, 0.95)	1.06 (1.04, 1.11)	1.07 (1.05, 1.10)	1.09 (1.06, 1.12)	0.96 (0.94, 0.99)
BSA 2.2 versus 2.0 among females	1.12 (1.02, 1.22)	0.87 (0.74, 1.02)	1.25 (1.15, 1.35)	1.13 (1.06, 1.20)	1.57 (1.32, 1.89)	1.04 (1.00, 1.17)	1.10 (1.04, 1.17)	1.19 (1.11, 1.27)	0.82 (0.76, 0.89)
BSA 2.2 versus 2.0 among males	1.04 (1.00, 1.09)	0.95 (0.90, 1.01)	1.15 (1.11, 1.18)	1.09 (1.06, 1.11)	1.25 (1.14, 1.37)	1.00 (0.95, 1.01)	1.07 (1.04, 1.09)	1.09 (1.06, 1.12)	0.91 (0.89, 0.93)
CVD with CVA	1.22 (1.11, 1.33)	1.72 (1.52, 1.95)	1.12 (1.04, 1.22)	1.27 (1.19, 1.34)	1.22 (0.95, 1.56)	1.12 (1.04, 1.20)	1.26 (1.20, 1.33)	1.26 (1.18, 1.35)	0.75 (0.70, 0.81)
CVD without CVA	NA	1.28 (1.13, 1.45)	1.14 (1.06, 1.23)	1.10 (1.04, 1.16)	NA	NA	1.11 (1.05, 1.17)	1.11 (1.05, 1.18)	0.85 (0.78, 0.92)
Diabetes, insulin	1.31 (1.20, 1.42)	1.16 (1.03, 1.30)	1.62 (1.52, 1.74)	1.32 (1.25, 1.40)	1.98 (1.59, 2.46)	NA	1.34 (1.28, 1.41)	1.49 (1.40, 1.58)	0.67 (0.62, 0.72)
Diabetes, noninsulin	1.12 (1.05, 1.19)	1.16 (1.06, 1.26)	1.28 (1.21, 1.35)	1.11 (1.07, 1.15)	1.30 (1.10, 1.54)	NA	1.12 (1.08, 1.16)	1.17 (1.12, 1.22)	0.84 (0.81, 0.88)
No. diseased coronary vessels (2 versus 1 or 3 versus 2)	1.15 (1.11, 1.19)	1.20 (1.14, 1.26)	1.17 (1.14, 1.21)	1.19 (1.16, 1.22)	1.28 (1.15, 1.42)	1.09 (1.06, 1.11)	1.16 (1.14, 1.18)	1.13 (1.10, 1.16)	0.82 (0.81, 0.84)
Hypertension	NA	1.19 (1.08, 1.31)	1.25 (1.18, 1.33)	1.10 (1.05, 1.15)	1.33 (1.09, 1.63)	NA	1.12 (1.08, 1.16)	1.08 (1.03, 1.13)	0.92 (0.88, 0.96)
Immunosuppressive treatment	1.35 (1.17, 1.54)	NA	1.30 (1.15, 1.47)	1.28 (1.17, 1.40)	NA	1.27 (1.14, 1.42)	1.26 (1.16, 1.37)	1.22 (1.11, 1.34)	0.75 (0.67, 0.84)
Left main disease	1.12 (1.05, 1.20)	NA	NA	1.06 (1.02, 1.11)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mitral insufficiency, moderate/severe	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.07 (1.01, 1.12)	NA	NA
Tricuspid insufficiency, moderate/severe	1.27 (1.15, 1.41)	NA	1.25 (1.13, 1.38)	1.15 (1.06, 1.24)	NA	NA	1.14 (1.07, 1.22)	NA	0.79 (0.69, 0.92)
Peripheral vascular disease	1.29 (1.21, 1.37)	1.15 (1.04, 1.27)	1.16 (1.10, 1.23)	1.18 (1.12, 1.24)	NA	1.15 (1.09, 1.22)	1.20 (1.15, 1.25)	1.16 (1.11, 1.22)	NA
Mitral stenosis	1.10 (0.99, 1.24)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.09 (1.00, 1.18)	NA
MI 1–21 days	1.19 (1.10, 1.28)	NA	1.18 (1.10, 1.26)	1.28 (1.21, 1.35)	NA	NA	1.22 (1.16, 1.28)	NA	NA
MI $\leq$ 21 days[a]	NA	1.22 (1.11, 1.34)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.16 (1.10, 1.22)	NA
MI $<$ 24 hrs	1.65 (1.42, 1.91)	NA	1.30 (1.10, 1.54)	1.41 (1.23, 1.62)	NA	1.15 (1.00, 1.32)	1.49 (1.30, 1.70)	NA	NA
Time trend per 6-month harvest interval	0.98 (0.96, 0.99)	0.98 (0.97, 1.00)	1.01 (1.00, 1.02)	1.01 (1.00, 1.02)	0.96 (0.93, 0.99)	0.99 (0.98, 1.00)	1.00 (0.99, 1.01)	1.01 (1.00, 1.02)	1.00 (0.99, 1.01)
Race black	NA	NA	1.15 (1.03, 1.30)	1.31 (1.19, 1.44)	NA	1.19 (1.06, 1.33)	1.21 (1.11, 1.32)	1.31 (1.19, 1.44)	0.65 (0.58, 0.72)
Race Hispanic	NA	NA	1.20 (1.03, 1.40)	1.17 (1.03, 1.32)	NA	1.08 (0.94, 1.24)	1.15 (1.03, 1.28)	1.13 (0.98, 1.30)	0.85 (0.71, 1.02)
Status, urgent versus elective	1.25 (1.17, 1.34)	NA	1.18 (1.10, 1.26)	1.26 (1.19, 1.33)	NA	1.14 (1.07, 1.21)	1.19 (1.14, 1.25)	1.28 (1.22, 1.35)	0.77 (0.72, 0.81)
Unstable angina	1.11 (1.03, 1.21)	0.89 (0.80, 1.00)	1.12 (1.05, 1.20)	1.06 (0.99, 1.13)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Table 5. Continued

B. Odds ratios for AVR plus CABG

Variable	Mort	CVA	RF	Vent	DSWI	Reop	Comp	PLOS	SLOS
Age 60 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	1.29 (1.20, 1.39)	1.28 (1.19, 1.38)	1.39 (1.32, 1.45)	1.23 (1.20, 1.27)	1.06 (0.92, 1.21)	1.19 (1.15, 1.23)	1.20 (1.16, 1.24)	1.37 (1.32, 1.42)	0.74 (0.72, 0.77)
Age 70 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	1.67 (1.45, 1.92)	1.64 (1.42, 1.91)	1.92 (1.75, 2.11)	1.52 (1.43, 1.62)	1.11 (0.85, 1.46)	1.41 (1.31, 1.51)	1.44 (1.36, 1.54)	1.86 (1.73, 2.01)	0.55 (0.52, 0.59)
Age 80 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	2.47 (2.08, 2.94)	2.03 (1.71, 2.42)	2.76 (2.47, 3.08)	1.96 (1.82, 2.11)	1.12 (0.82, 1.53)	1.67 (1.54, 1.82)	1.86 (1.73, 2.01)	2.67 (2.46, 2.91)	0.33 (0.30, 0.36)
CHF, not NYHA IV	1.24 (1.14, 1.34)	0.98 (0.88, 1.09)	1.19 (1.11, 1.28)	1.22 (1.16, 1.29)	NA	NA	1.14 (1.08, 1.19)	1.30 (1.23, 1.38)	0.84 (0.79, 0.89)
CHF, NYHA IV	1.48 (1.34, 1.64)	1.15 (1.00, 1.32)	1.35 (1.24, 1.48)	1.47 (1.36, 1.59)	NA	1.16 (1.08, 1.24)	1.36 (1.27, 1.45)	1.49 (1.39, 1.60)	0.73 (0.66, 0.82)
Creatinine per 1 unit	1.57 (1.49, 1.65)	1.27 (1.18, 1.36)	2.26 (2.13, 2.40)	1.46 (1.41, 1.52)	NA	1.28 (1.23, 1.34)	1.67 (1.60, 1.74)	1.51 (1.45, 1.58)	0.62 (0.58, 0.67)
Dialysis vs no dialysis and creatinine = 1.0	3.20 (2.84, 3.61)	1.42 (1.17, 1.73)	NA	2.27 (2.06, 2.51)	NA	1.65 (1.41, 1.92)	2.09 (1.91, 2.30)	2.42 (2.19, 2.67)	0.30 (0.25, 0.37)
EF per 10-unit decrease	1.10 (1.06, 1.15)	NA	1.06 (1.03, 1.08)	1.12 (1.10, 1.14)	NA	1.08 (1.05, 1.10)	1.11 (1.09, 1.13)	1.10 (1.08, 1.13)	0.87 (0.84, 0.89)
Preoperative IABP/ inotropes	1.43 (1.30, 1.58)	NA	1.27 (1.15, 1.39)	2.18 (2.01, 2.36)	NA	1.16 (1.06, 1.27)	1.76 (1.63, 1.90)	1.41 (1.25, 1.58)	0.56 (0.48, 0.65)
Shock	1.68 (1.45, 1.94)	1.19 (0.94, 1.50)	1.17 (0.92, 1.50)	1.93 (1.72, 2.16)	NA	1.24 (1.09, 1.41)	1.79 (1.50, 2.15)	1.45 (1.29, 1.63)	NA
Female versus male (at BSA = 1.8)	1.36 (1.26, 1.47)	1.19 (1.07, 1.32)	1.18 (1.10, 1.26)	1.52 (1.44, 1.61)	1.11 (0.88, 1.40)	0.92 (0.87, 0.97)	1.20 (1.15, 1.26)	1.31 (1.24, 1.38)	0.61 (0.57, 0.64)
Active infectious endocarditis	2.04 (1.66, 2.50)	1.83 (1.37, 2.46)	1.52 (1.21, 1.91)	1.96 (1.69, 2.27)	NA	1.56 (1.28, 1.91)	2.11 (1.83, 2.44)	1.81 (1.41, 2.32)	0.28 (0.20, 0.38)
CLD (moderate vs mild or severe vs moderate)	1.19 (1.16, 1.23)	NA	1.12 (1.09, 1.15)	1.26 (1.22, 1.30)	1.32 (1.22, 1.42)	1.10 (1.07, 1.13)	1.18 (1.15, 1.21)	1.26 (1.22, 1.30)	0.83 (0.80, 0.85)
Reop, 1 previous operation[b]	2.20 (1.81, 2.67)	NA	1.29 (1.08, 1.55)	1.83 (1.58, 2.11)	NA	1.39 (1.16, 1.67)	1.50 (1.32, 1.69)	1.55 (1.33, 1.81)	0.67 (0.58, 0.77)
Reop, ≥ 2 previous operations[b]	2.46 (1.87, 3.24)	NA	1.47 (1.15, 1.89)	2.19 (1.80, 2.65)	NA	1.48 (1.15, 1.92)	1.77 (1.51, 2.06)	1.65 (1.34, 2.03)	0.53 (0.43, 0.65)
Status emergent, no resuscitation[b]	2.14 (1.62, 2.81)	2.21 (1.45, 3.37)	1.77 (1.31, 2.37)	2.71 (2.14, 3.44)	NA	1.41 (1.16, 1.70)	2.17 (1.74, 2.72)	2.72 (2.19, 3.38)	0.33 (0.22, 0.50)
Status emergent, with resuscitation or salvage[b]	4.56 (3.31, 6.29)	2.60 (1.53, 4.43)	1.86 (1.30, 2.65)	2.12 (1.54, 2.92)	NA	NA	3.34 (2.43, 4.61)	1.76 (1.31, 2.37)	0.18 (0.09, 0.34)

Table 5. Continued

C. Odds ratios for MVR plus CABG

Variable	Mort	CVA	RF	Vent	DSWI	Reop	Comp	PLOS	SLOS
Age 60 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	1.51 (1.39, 1.64)	1.28 (1.19, 1.38)	1.39 (1.32, 1.45)	1.23 (1.20, 1.27)	1.06 (0.92, 1.21)	1.19 (1.15, 1.23)	1.27 (1.21, 1.32)	1.37 (1.32, 1.42)	0.68 (0.64, 0.72)
Age 70 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	2.28 (1.94, 2.68)	1.64 (1.42, 1.91)	1.92 (1.75, 2.11)	1.52 (1.43, 1.62)	1.11 (0.85, 1.46)	1.41 (1.31, 1.51)	1.60 (1.47, 1.75)	1.86 (1.73, 2.01)	0.46 (0.41, 0.52)
Age 80 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	3.95 (3.17, 4.93)	2.03 (1.71, 2.42)	2.76 (2.47, 3.08)	1.96 (1.82, 2.11)	1.12 (0.82, 1.53)	1.67 (1.54, 1.82)	2.18 (1.92, 2.48)	2.67 (2.46, 2.91)	0.25 (0.21, 0.30)
CHF, not NYHA IV	0.91 (0.80, 1.03)	0.80 (0.64, 0.99)	0.92 (0.82, 1.03)	1.02 (0.93, 1.11)	NA	NA	0.94 (0.87, 1.02)	1.03 (0.94, 1.12)	0.84 (0.79, 0.89)
CHF, NYHA IV	1.09 (0.95, 1.24)	0.93 (0.75, 1.17)	1.04 (0.92, 1.19)	1.22 (1.10, 1.35)	NA	1.16 (1.08, 1.24)	1.13 (1.03, 1.23)	1.17 (1.06, 1.30)	0.73 (0.66, 0.82)
Creatinine per 1 unit	1.57 (1.49, 1.65)	1.27 (1.18, 1.36)	1.82 (1.66, 2.01)	1.46 (1.41, 1.52)	NA	1.28 (1.23, 1.34)	1.67 (1.60, 1.74)	1.51 (1.45, 1.58)	0.66 (0.57, 0.78)
Dialysis vs no dialysis and creatinine = 1.0	3.20 (2.84, 3.61)	1.42 (1.17, 1.73)	NA	2.27 (2.06, 2.51)	NA	1.21 (0.95, 1.55)	2.09 (1.91, 2.30)	2.42 (2.19, 2.67)	0.30 (0.18, 0.48)
EF per 10-unit decrease	1.23 (1.16, 1.30)	NA	1.06 (1.03, 1.08)	1.12 (1.10, 1.14)	NA	1.08 (1.05, 1.10)	1.11 (1.09, 1.13)	1.10 (1.08, 1.13)	0.89 (0.82, 0.95)
Preoperative IABP/ inotropes	1.43 (1.30, 1.58)	NA	1.27 (1.15, 1.39)	2.18 (2.01, 2.36)	NA	1.16 (1.06, 1.27)	1.76 (1.63, 1.90)	1.29 (1.14, 1.46)	0.51 (0.39, 0.65)
Shock	1.68 (1.45, 1.94)	1.19 (0.94, 1.50)	1.21 (0.97, 1.50)	1.93 (1.72, 2.16)	NA	1.24 (1.09, 1.41)	2.76 (2.22, 3.42)	1.45 (1.29, 1.63)	NA
Female versus male (at BSA = 1.8)	1.36 (1.26, 1.47)	1.19 (1.07, 1.32)	1.18 (1.10, 1.26)	1.17 (1.08, 1.28)	1.11 (0.88, 1.40)	0.92 (0.87, 0.97)	1.20 (1.15, 1.26)	1.31 (1.24, 1.38)	0.66 (0.59, 0.74)
Active infectious endocarditis	2.04 (1.66, 2.50)	1.83 (1.37, 2.46)	1.52 (1.21, 1.91)	1.96 (1.69, 2.27)	NA	1.56 (1.28, 1.91)	2.11 (1.83, 2.44)	2.08 (1.62, 2.67)	0.28 (0.20, 0.38)
CLD (moderate vs mild or severe vs moderate)	1.19 (1.16, 1.23)	NA	1.12 (1.09, 1.15)	1.18 (1.12, 1.24)	1.32 (1.22, 1.42)	1.10 (1.07, 1.13)	1.18 (1.15, 1.21)	1.20 (1.14, 1.26)	0.83 (0.80, 0.85)
Reop, 1 previous operation[b]	2.20 (1.81, 2.67)	NA	1.29 (1.08, 1.55)	1.38 (1.19, 1.61)	NA	1.15 (0.95, 1.38)	1.50 (1.32, 1.69)	1.30 (1.10, 1.53)	0.81 (0.66, 0.99)
Reop, ≥ 2 previous operations[b]	2.46 (1.87, 3.24)	NA	1.47 (1.15, 1.89)	1.66 (1.35, 2.03)	NA	1.22 (0.95, 1.56)	1.77 (1.51, 2.06)	1.38 (1.12, 1.71)	0.64 (0.50, 0.82)
Status emergent, no resuscitation[b]	2.14 (1.62, 2.81)	2.21 (1.45, 3.37)	1.77 (1.31, 2.37)	2.71 (2.14, 3.44)	NA	1.41 (1.16, 1.70)	2.17 (1.74, 2.72)	2.72 (2.19, 3.38)	0.26 (0.16, 0.43)
Status emergent, with resuscitation or salvage[b]	4.56 (3.31, 6.29)	2.60 (1.53, 4.43)	1.86 (1.30, 2.65)	2.12 (1.54, 2.92)	NA	NA	3.34 (2.43, 4.61)	1.76 (1.31, 2.37)	0.14 (0.07, 0.27)

Table 5. Continued

D. Odds ratios for MVRepair plus CABG

Variable	Mort	CVA	RF	Vent	DSWI	Reop	Comp	PLOS	SLOS
Age 60 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	1.46 (1.36, 1.57)	1.28 (1.19, 1.38)	1.39 (1.32, 1.45)	1.23 (1.20, 1.27)	1.06 (0.92, 1.21)	1.19 (1.15, 1.23)	1.28 (1.23, 1.33)	1.37 (1.32, 1.42)	0.66 (0.63, 0.69)
Age 70 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	2.14 (1.86, 2.46)	1.64 (1.42, 1.91)	1.92 (1.75, 2.11)	1.52 (1.43, 1.62)	1.11 (0.85, 1.46)	1.41 (1.31, 1.51)	1.63 (1.51, 1.76)	1.86 (1.73, 2.01)	0.44 (0.40, 0.48)
Age 80 versus 50 (no reop, elective)	3.60 (2.97, 4.33)	2.03 (1.71, 2.42)	2.76 (2.47, 3.08)	1.96 (1.82, 2.11)	1.12 (0.82, 1.53)	1.67 (1.54, 1.82)	2.23 (2.00, 2.49)	2.67 (2.46, 2.91)	0.23 (0.20, 0.27)
CHF, not NYHA IV	0.96 (0.85, 1.09)	1.05 (0.90, 1.23)	0.99 (0.88, 1.10)	1.10 (1.02, 1.19)	NA	NA	1.06 (0.99, 1.14)	1.17 (1.08, 1.26)	0.84 (0.79, 0.89)
CHF, NYHA IV	1.16 (1.02, 1.32)	1.23 (1.04, 1.46)	1.12 (0.99, 1.27)	1.32 (1.21, 1.44)	NA	1.16 (1.08, 1.24)	1.27 (1.17, 1.37)	1.33 (1.22, 1.45)	0.73 (0.66, 0.82)
Creatinine per 1 unit	1.57 (1.49, 1.65)	1.27 (1.18, 1.36)	1.87 (1.72, 2.04)	1.46 (1.41, 1.52)	NA	1.28 (1.23, 1.34)	1.67 (1.60, 1.74)	1.51 (1.45, 1.58)	0.59 (0.53, 0.67)
Dialysis vs no dialysis and creatinine = 1.0	3.20 (2.84, 3.61)	1.42 (1.17, 1.73)	NA	2.27 (2.06, 2.51)	NA	1.88 (1.52, 2.31)	2.09 (1.91, 2.30)	2.42 (2.19, 2.67)	0.35 (0.24, 0.49)
EF per 10-unit decrease	1.09 (1.04, 1.15)	NA	1.06 (1.03, 1.08)	1.12 (1.10, 1.14)	NA	1.08 (1.05, 1.10)	1.11 (1.09, 1.13)	1.10 (1.08, 1.13)	0.84 (0.81, 0.87)
Preoperative IABP/ inotropes	1.43 (1.30, 1.58)	NA	1.27 (1.15, 1.39)	2.18 (2.01, 2.36)	NA	1.16 (1.06, 1.27)	1.76 (1.63, 1.90)	1.56 (1.40, 1.73)	0.52 (0.44, 0.62)
Shock	1.68 (1.45, 1.94)	1.19 (0.94, 1.50)	1.69 (1.41, 2.01)	1.93 (1.72, 2.16)	NA	1.24 (1.09, 1.41)	2.17 (1.81, 2.60)	1.45 (1.29, 1.63)	NA
Female vs male (at BSA = 1.8)	1.36 (1.26, 1.47)	1.19 (1.07, 1.32)	1.18 (1.10, 1.26)	1.25 (1.15, 1.36)	1.11 (0.88, 1.40)	0.92 (0.87, 0.97)	1.20 (1.15, 1.26)	1.31 (1.24, 1.38)	0.60 (0.55, 0.66)
Active infectious Endocarditis	2.04 (1.66, 2.50)	1.83 (1.37, 2.46)	1.52 (1.21, 1.91)	1.96 (1.69, 2.27)	NA	1.56 (1.28, 1.91)	2.11 (1.83, 2.44)	2.98 (1.86, 4.77)	0.28 (0.20, 0.38)
CLD (moderate vs mild or severe vs moderate)	1.19 (1.16, 1.23)	NA	1.12 (1.09, 1.15)	1.21 (1.16, 1.27)	1.32 (1.22, 1.42)	1.10 (1.07, 1.13)	1.18 (1.15, 1.21)	1.16 (1.10, 1.21)	0.83 (0.80, 0.85)
Reop, 1 previous operation[b]	2.20 (1.81, 2.67)	NA	1.29 (1.08, 1.55)	1.55 (1.32, 1.82)	NA	1.49 (1.23, 1.82)	1.50 (1.32, 1.69)	1.32 (1.10, 1.58)	0.80 (0.68, 0.95)
Reop, ≥ 2 previous operations[b]	2.46 (1.87, 3.24)	NA	1.47 (1.15, 1.89)	1.86 (1.53, 2.26)	NA	1.59 (1.20, 2.11)	1.77 (1.51, 2.06)	1.41 (1.11, 1.79)	0.63 (0.51, 0.79)
Status emergent, no resuscitation[b]	2.14 (1.62, 2.81)	2.21 (1.45, 3.37)	1.77 (1.31, 2.37)	2.71 (2.14, 3.44)	NA	1.41 (1.16, 1.70)	2.17 (1.74, 2.72)	2.72 (2.19, 3.38)	0.43 (0.29, 0.66)
Status emergent, with resuscitation or salvage[b]	4.56 (3.31, 6.29)	2.60 (1.53, 4.43)	1.86 (1.30, 2.65)	2.12 (1.54, 2.92)	NA	NA	3.34 (2.43, 4.61)	1.76 (1.31, 2.37)	0.23 (0.12, 0.44)

[a] For CVA and PLOS, MI coded ≤ 21 days; for all other endpoints, MI coded < 24 hrs or 1 to 21 days. [b] Variable interacts with age. Reported odds ratio represents effect of risk factor for patients aged 50 years old.

BSA = body surface area; CHF = congestive heart failure; CLD = chronic lung disease; Comp = composite adverse event (any); CVA = cerebrovascular accident (stroke); CVD = cerebrovascular disease; DSWI = deep sternal wound infection; EF = ejection fraction; IABP = intra-aortic balloon pump; Mort = mortality; NA = not applicable; NYHA = New York Heart Association; PLOS = prolonged length of stay; PVD = peripheral vascular disease; Reop = reoperation; RF = renal failure; SLOS = short length of stay; Vent = prolonged ventilation.

Odds Ratios

Table 5 presents the odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals (CI) derived from these models. "Not applicable" indicates that those predictors were not included in a particular risk model.

Odds ratios that do not interact with surgery type are summarized in Part A of Table 5. Several variables interact with surgery type, and the odds ratios for these variables differ for some of the endpoints depending on the specific type of surgery, as summarized in Tables 5B, C, and D (AVR plus CABG, MVR plus CABG, MVRepair plus CABG). For example, in the model for prolonged length of stay, the odds ratio for active endocarditis is 1.81 (95% CI: 1.41 to 2.32) for AVR plus CABG; 2.08 (95% CI: 1.62 to 2.67) for MVR plus CABG; and 2.98 (95% CI: 1.86 to 4.77) for MVRepair plus CABG.

Final Model Intercept and Coefficients

The algorithms for calculating predicted risk values, including the intercepts and regression coefficients, are presented in the Appendix.

Limitations

The limitations of the STS valve plus CABG models are similar to those discussed in Part 1 of this series.

Conclusion

A new STS model has been developed for valve surgery combined with CABG. This model includes specific indicator variables for each major type of valve plus CABG procedure (AVR plus CABG, MVR plus CABG, MVRepair plus CABG). Models have been developed for operative mortality, individual morbidity endpoints, a composite morbidity or mortality endpoint, and short and prolonged postoperative length of stay. Overall model performance is excellent.

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Appendix

Regression Coefficients and Variable Definitions for STS 2008 Valve Plus CABG Models

For each endpoint, the formula for calculating a patient's predicted risk of the endpoint has the form:

$$\text{Predicted Risk} = \frac{e^{(\beta_0+\beta_1x_1+\beta_2x_2+\cdots+\beta_nx_n)}}{1+e^{(\beta_0+\beta_1x_1+\beta_2x_2+\cdots+\beta_nx_n)}}$$

where $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ denote patient preoperative risk factors (eg, quantitative variables such as age, and comorbidities coded as 1=present, 0=absent); and $\beta_0, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_n$ denote regression coefficients (numerical constants). Regression coefficients for each endpoint are presented in Appendix Table 1. The variables $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ are the same for each endpoint and are defined in Appendix Table 2. The regression coefficient for the time trend is not presented. Instead, the intercept has been adjusted to incorporate the time trend. This adjusted intercept reflects the baseline risk for a reference period of July–December 2006.

Appendix Table 1. Regression Coefficients

Variable	Mort	CVA	RF	Vent	DSWI	Reop	Comp	PLOS	SLOS
Intercept	−5.24391	−5.14546	−5.32535	−3.63438	−6.50043	−3.16980	−2.99714	−4.15892	1.18582
Preoperative AFib	0.18430	0.04634	0.16567	0.12059	0.00000	0.14910	0.13766	0.19656	−0.34095
Age function 1	0.02560	0.02487	0.03268	0.02106	0.00545	0.01715	0.01838	0.03115	−0.02970
Age function 3	0.02758	−0.00709	0.00671	0.00791	−0.00985	−0.00021	0.01425	0.00985	−0.04542
Age by reop function	−0.00861	0.00458	0.00077	−0.00673	0.00314	−0.00399	−0.00202	−0.00678	0.00656
Age by status function	−0.00507	−0.01979	−0.00178	−0.00750	0.01627	−0.00029	0.00229	−0.02247	0.00692
Age by MVR function	0.01564	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00527	0.00000	−0.00866
Age by MVRepair function	0.01240	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00599	0.00000	−0.01159
BSA function 1	−1.14176	−0.81169	−0.41848	−0.66843	0.86401	−0.51266	−0.70411	−0.84204	0.51295
BSA function 2	2.25471	0.94689	1.84088	1.80467	0.42453	0.70024	1.70623	2.10402	−1.66758
CHF but not NYHA IV	0.21206	−0.01726	0.17460	0.20063	0.00000	0.00000	0.12880	0.26291	−0.17652
CHF and NYHA IV	0.39457	0.14109	0.30146	0.38383	0.00000	0.14499	0.30567	0.39791	−0.31077
CHF by MVR function	−0.31077	−0.20917	−0.25767	−0.18455	0.00000	0.00000	−0.18635	−0.23729	0.00000
CHF by MVRepair function	−0.24791	0.06897	−0.18667	−0.10484	0.00000	0.00000	−0.06920	−0.10954	0.00000
CLD function	0.17713	0.00000	0.11379	0.23345	0.27571	0.09280	0.16523	0.22999	−0.19234
CLD by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.06780	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.04591	0.00000
CLD by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.04014	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.08501	0.00000
Creatinine function 1	0.44794	0.23545	0.81612	0.38147	0.00000	0.24620	0.51256	0.41472	−0.47658
Creatinine by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	−0.21574	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.06652
Creatinine by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	−0.18787	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.04407
CVD without prior CVA	0.00000	0.24847	0.13299	0.09769	0.00000	0.00000	0.10255	0.10601	−0.16643
CVD and prior CVA	0.19754	0.54344	0.11571	0.23581	0.19686	0.10974	0.23332	0.23319	−0.28560
Diabetes, noninsulin	0.11060	0.14576	0.24490	0.10365	0.26281	0.00000	0.11462	0.15846	−0.17020
Diabetes, insulin	0.26870	0.14582	0.48504	0.27893	0.68330	0.00000	0.29508	0.39583	−0.40448
Dialysis	1.61151	0.58833	0.00000	1.20290	0.61527	0.74332	1.25181	1.29747	−1.67728
Dialysis by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.30339	0.00000	0.00000	0.04745
Dialysis by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.13058	0.00000	0.00000	0.09778
Ejection fraction function	0.00989	0.00000	0.00534	0.01113	0.00000	0.00703	0.01061	0.00995	−0.01440
EF by MVR function	0.01056	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00228
EF by MVRepair function	−0.00117	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.00309
Endocarditis, active	0.71327	0.60657	0.41797	0.67172	0.00000	0.44757	0.74858	0.59333	−1.27854
Endocarditis by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.13795	0.00000
Endocarditis by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.49934	0.00000
Female	0.30852	0.17170	0.16668	0.41874	0.10654	−0.08221	0.18594	0.26947	−0.50044
Female by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.25972	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.08895
Female by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.19373	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.00229
Female by BSA function 1	0.51233	0.07575	0.76032	0.48032	0.80594	0.16701	0.41581	0.91055	−0.59086
Female by BSA function 2	−0.27980	−0.88628	−0.57622	−0.49740	0.58767	0.52524	−0.40427	−0.78096	0.15748
Hypertension	0.00000	0.17080	0.22638	0.09581	0.28851	0.00000	0.11445	0.07602	−0.08668

Appendix Table 1. Continued

Variable	Mort	CVA	RF	Vent	DSWI	Reop	Comp	PLOS	SLOS
IABP or inotropes	0.36025	0.00000	0.23674	0.77918	0.00000	0.15075	0.56477	0.34008	−0.58536
IABP by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.08732	−0.09462
IABP by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.10281	−0.06743
Immunosuppressive treatment	0.29654	0.00000	0.26400	0.24814	0.00000	0.24041	0.23332	0.19750	−0.28819
Insufficiency, mitral	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.06414	0.00000	0.00000
Insufficiency, tricuspid	0.24006	0.00000	0.22040	0.13606	0.00000	0.00000	0.13318	0.00000	−0.23141
Left main disease	0.11450	0.00000	0.00000	0.06181	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
MI 1–21 days	0.17038	0.00000	0.16476	0.24560	0.00000	0.00000	0.19751	0.00000	0.00000
MI ≤ 21 days	0.00000	0.19671	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.14599	0.00000
MI < 24 hours	0.49918	0.00000	0.26240	0.34321	0.00000	0.13716	0.39731	0.00000	0.00000
MVR	0.14888	0.32659	0.90926	0.76504	0.28437	0.41642	0.41322	0.73530	−0.82339
MVRepair	−0.07374	0.06933	0.51275	0.28204	0.19499	0.07390	−0.03949	0.30384	−0.03552
No. diseased coronary vessel function	0.13746	0.18243	0.15791	0.17277	0.24582	0.08187	0.14767	0.12474	−0.19250
Peripheral vascular disease	0.25173	0.13776	0.14995	0.16591	0.00000	0.14312	0.18062	0.14863	0.00000
Race black	0.00000	0.00000	0.14301	0.26900	0.00000	0.17364	0.19182	0.26856	−0.43385
Race Hispanic	0.00000	0.00000	0.18384	0.15363	0.00000	0.08065	0.13561	0.12286	−0.15901
Reop, 1 previous operation	0.78624	0.00000	0.25782	0.60179	0.00000	0.33209	0.40293	0.43757	−0.39723
Reop, ≥ 2 previous operations	0.90015	0.00000	0.38499	0.78263	0.00000	0.39502	0.56875	0.50334	−0.63237
Reop by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.27846	0.00000	−0.19608	0.00000	−0.17836	0.18262
Reop by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.16306	0.00000	0.06985	0.00000	−0.16007	0.17613
Shock	0.51917	0.17321	0.15810	0.65653	0.00000	0.21271	0.58409	0.36987	0.00000
Shock by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	0.02883	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.43045	0.00000	0.00000
Shock by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	0.36429	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.19084	0.00000	0.00000
Status urgent	0.22591	0.00000	0.16451	0.22905	0.00000	0.12800	0.17511	0.24758	−0.26626
Status emergent	0.75852	0.79460	0.56854	0.99818	0.00000	0.34063	0.77631	1.00162	−1.09633
Status salvage	1.51811	0.95665	0.61798	0.75178	0.00000	0.00000	1.20732	0.56482	−1.72252
Status by MVR function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	−0.25083
Status by MVRepair function	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.25943
Stenosis, mitral	0.09879	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.08469	0.00000
Unstable angina	0.10722	−0.11292	0.11597	0.05762	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000

Afib = atrial fibrillation; BSA = body surface area; CHF = congestive heart failure; CLD = chronic lung disease; Comp = composite adverse event (any); CVA = cerebrovascular accident (stroke); CVD = cerebrovascular disease; DSWI = deep sternal wound infection; EF = ejection fraction; IABP = intra-aortic balloon pump; MI = myocardial infarction; Mort = mortality; MVR = mitral valve replacement; MVRepair = mitral valve repair; NYHA = New York Heart Association; PLOS = prolonged length of stay; PVD = peripheral vascular disease; Reop = reoperation; RF = renal failure; SLOS = short length of stay; Vent = prolonged ventilation.

Appendix Table 2. Definition of Variables Appearing in STS 2008 Valve Plus CABG Models

Variable	Definition
Intercept	= 1 for all patients
Preoperative AFib	= 1 if patient has history of preoperative atrial fibrillation, = 0 otherwise
Age function 1	= max (age – 50, 0)
Age function 3	= max (age – 75, 0)
Age by reop function	= Age function 1 if surgery is a reoperation, = 0 otherwise
Age by status function	= Age function 1 if status is emergent or salvage, = 0 otherwise
Age by MVR function	= Age function 1 if operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Age by MVRepair function	= Age function 1 if operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
BSA function 1	= max (1.4, min [2.6, BSA]) – 1.8
BSA function 2	= (BSA function 1)^2
CHF but not NYHA IV	=1 if patient has CHF and is not NYHA class IV, = 0 otherwise
CHF and NYHA IV	=1 if patient has CHF and is NYHA class IV, = 0 otherwise
CHF by MVR function	= 1 if patient has CHF and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
CHF by MVRepair function	= 1 if patient has CHF and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
CLD function	= 0 if no CLD, = 1 if mild CLD, = 2 if moderate CLD, = 3 if severe CLD
CLD by MVR function	= CLD function if operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
CLD by MVRepair function	= CLD function if operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Creatinine function 1	= max (0.5, min [creatinine, 5.0]) if patient is not on dialysis, = 0 otherwise
Creatinine by MVR function	= Creatinine function 1 if valve operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Creatinine by MVRepair function	= Creatinine function 1 if valve operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
CVD without prior CVA	= 1 if patient has history of CVD and no prior CVA, = 0 otherwise
CVD and prior CVA	= 1 if patient has history of CVD and a prior CVA, = 0 otherwise
Diabetes, noninsulin	= 1 if patient has diabetes not treated with insulin, = 0 otherwise
Diabetes, insulin	= 1 if patient has diabetes treated with insulin, = 0 otherwise
Dialysis	= 1 if patient requires dialysis preoperatively, = 0 otherwise
Dialysis by MVR function	= 1 if patient has history of dialysis and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Dialysis by MVRepair function	= 1 if patient has history of dialysis and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Ejection fraction function	= max (50 – ejection fraction, 0)
EF by MVR function	= Ejection fraction function if valve operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
EF by MVRepair function	= Ejection fraction function if valve operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Endocarditis, active	= 1 if patient has active endocarditis, = 0 otherwise
Endocarditis by MVR function	= 1 if patient has active endocarditis and valve operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Endocarditis by MVRepair function	= 1 if patient has active endocarditis and valve operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Female	= 1 if patient is female, = 0 otherwise
Female by MVR function	= 1 if female and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Female by MVRepair function	= 1 if female and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Female by BSA function 1	= BSA function 1 if female, = 0 otherwise
Female by BSA function 2	= BSA function 2 if female, = 0 otherwise
Hypertension	= 1 if patient has hypertension, = 0 otherwise
IABP or inotropes	= 1 if patient requires IABP or inotropes preoperatively, = 0 otherwise
IABP by MVR function	= 1 if patient requires preop IABP or inotropes and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
IABP by MVRepair function	= 1 if patient requires preop IABP or inotropes and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Immunosuppressive treatment	= 1 if patient has received immunosuppressive therapy within 30 days, = 0 otherwise
Insufficiency, mitral	= 1 if patient has at least moderate mitral insufficiency, = 0 otherwise
Insufficiency, tricuspid	= 1 if patient has at least moderate tricuspid insufficiency, = 0 otherwise
Left main disease	= 1 if patient has left main disease, = 0 otherwise
MI 1–21 days	= 1 if history of MI 1 to 21 days prior to surgery, = 0 otherwise
MI ≤ 21 days[a]	= 1 if patient has history of MI within 21 days prior to surgery, = 0 otherwise (for CVA and PLOS; coded as < 24 hours and 1–21 days for others)
MI < 24 hours	= 1 if history of MI < 24 hours prior to surgery, = 0 otherwise
MVR	= 1 if valve operation is mitral valve replacement, = 0 otherwise
MVRepair	= 1 if valve operation is mitral valve repair, = 0 otherwise
No. diseased coronary vessel function	= 2 if triple-vessel disease, = 1 if double-vessel disease, = 0 otherwise

Appendix Table 2. Continued

Variable	Definition
Peripheral vascular disease	= 1 if patient has peripheral vascular disease, = 0 otherwise
Race black	= 1 if patient is black, = 0 otherwise
Race Hispanic	= 1 if patient is nonblack Hispanic, = 0 otherwise
Reop, 1 previous operation	= 1 if patient has had exactly 1 previous CV surgery, = 0 otherwise
Reop, ≥ 2 previous operations	= 1 if patient has had 2 or more previous CV surgeries, = 0 otherwise
Reop by MVR function	= 1 if surgery is a reoperation and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Reop by MVRepair function	= 1 if surgery is a reoperation and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Shock	= 1 if patient was in shock at time of procedure, = 0 otherwise
Shock by MVR function	= 1 if shock and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Shock by MVRepair function	= 1 if shock and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Status urgent	= 1 if status is urgent, = 0 otherwise
Status emergent	= 1 if status is emergent (but not rescuscitation), = 0 otherwise
Status salvage	= 1 if status is salvage (or emergent plus resuscitation), = 0 otherwise
Status by MVR function	= 1 if status is emergent or salvage and operation is MVR, = 0 otherwise
Status by MVRepair function	= 1 if status is emergent or salvage and operation is MVRepair, = 0 otherwise
Stenosis, mitral	= 1 if patient has mitral stenosis, = 0 otherwise
Unstable angina	= 1 if patient has unstable angina and no MI within 7 days of surgery, = 0 otherwise

[a] MI coded ≤ 21 days for CVA and PLOS endpoints; for all other endpoints, coded as < 24 hours and 1 to 21 days.

Note: See www.sts.org for exact definitions of terms used above.

BSA = body surface area; CABG = coronary artery bypass graft surgery; CHF = congestive heart failure; CLD = chronic lung disease; Comp = composite adverse event (any); CVA = cerebrovascular accident (stroke); CVD = cerebrovascular disease; DSWI = deep sternal wound infection; EF = ejection fraction; IABP = intra-aortic balloon pump; MI = myocardial infarction; Mort = mortality; MVR = mitral valve replacement; MVRepair = mitral valve repair; NYHA = New York Heart Association; PLOS = prolonged length of stay; PVD = peripheral vascular disease; Reop = reoperation; RF = renal failure; SLOS = short length of stay; STS = The Society of Thoracic Surgeons; Vent = prolonged ventilation.