Supplementary Online Content

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This supplementary material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

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Section 1. International Classification of Diseases-9-Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) Diagnosis Codes, ICD-9-CM Procedure Codes and Diagnosis-Related Group Codes used in the present study

A. ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for hip fracture: 820.00-09, 820.01-19, 820.21-2, 820.31-2, 820.8-9

B. ICD-9-CM procedure codes for open reduction, internal fixation, total arthroplasty or hemiarthroplasty: 00.70-7, 79.15, 79.25, 79.35, 81.40, 81.51-3

C. ICD-9-CM procedure codes for abdominal, cardiac, thoracic, vascular, and neurosurgical procedures, grouped by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project Clinical Classification Software (CCS) category¹

CCS 1 Incision and excision of central nervous system 0101 0109 0121 0122 0123 0124 0125 0126 0127 0128 0131 0132 0139 0141 0142 0151 0152 0153 0159

CCS2 Insertion; replacement; or removal of extracranial ventricular shunt 0231 0232 0233 0234 0235 0239 0242 0243

CCS 3 Laminectomy; excision intervertebral disc 0302 0309 805 8050 8051 8059 8459 8460 8461 8462 8463 8464 8465 8466 8467 8468 8469 8480 8481 8482 8483 8484 8485

CCS 9 Other operating room therapeutic nervous system procedures 016 0201 0202 0203 0204 0205 0206 0207 0211 0212 0213 0214 022 0291 0292 0293 0294 0296 0299 0301 031 0329 034 0351 0352 0353 0359 036 0371 0372 0379 0397 0398 0399 0401 0402 0403 0404 0405 0406 0407 042 043 0441 0442 045 046 0471 0472 0473 0474 0475 0476 0479 0491 0492 0493 0499 050 0521 0522 0523 0524 0525 0529 0581 0589 059 1761 8053 8054 8458 8694 8695 8696 8697 8698

CCS 36 Lobectomy or pneumonectomy 3220 3221 3222 3223 3224 3225 3226 3229 323 3230 3239 324 3241 3249 325 3250 3259

CCS 42 Other operating room therapeutic procedures on respiratory system and mediastinum 3001 3009 301 3021 3022 3029 303 304 313 315 3161 3162 3163 3164 3169 3171 3172 3173 3174 3175 3179 3191 3192 3198 3199 320 3209 321 326 329 330 331 3334 3339 3341 3342 3343 3348 3349 3392 3393 3398 3399 3401 3403 3405 341 343 344 3451 3452 3459 346 3473 3474 3479 3481 3482 3483 3484 3485 3489 3493 3499

CCS 43 Heart valve procedures 3500 3501 3502 3503 3504 3510 3511 3512 3513 3514 3520 3521 3522 3523 3524 3525 3526 3527 3528 3596 3599

CCS 44 Coronary artery bypass graft 3610 3611 3612 3613 3614 3615 3616 3617 3619 362 363 3631 3632 3633 3634 3639

¹ HCUP CCS-Services and Procedures. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2013. (Accessed June

^{26, 2013,} at http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/toolssoftware/ccs_svcsproc/ccssvcproc.jsp.)

CCS 49 Other operating room heart procedures

3531 3532 3533 3534 3535 3539 3541 3542 3550 3551 3552 3553 3554 3555 3560 3561 3562 3563 3570 3571 3572 3573 3581 3582 3583 3584 3591 3592 3593 3594 3595 3598 3600 3603 3609 3691 3699 3710 3711 3712 3731 3732 3733 3734 3735 3736 374 3741 3749 3752 3753 3754 3755 3760 3761 3762 3763 3764 3765 3766 3767 3768 3790 3791 3799

CCS 50 Extracorporeal circulation auxiliary to open heart procedures 3961 3962 3963 3964 3965 3966

CCS 51 Endarterectomy; vessel of head and neck 3811 3812

CCS 52 Aortic resection; replacement or anastomosis 3834 3844 3864 3971 3973

CCS 55 Peripheral vascular bypass 3925 3929

CCS 56 Other vascular bypass and shunt; not heart 390 391 3921 3922 3923 3924 3926 3928

CCS 59 Other operating room procedures on vessels of head and neck 0061 0062 0063 0064 0065 3801 3802 3831 3832 3841 3842 3851 3852 3861 3862 3881 3882 3972 3974 3975 3976

CCS 61 Other operating room procedures on vessels other than head and neck 0040 0041 0042 0043 0044 0045 0046 0047 0048 0055 3800 3803 3804 3805 3806 3807 3809 3810 3813 3814 3815 3816 3830 3833 3835 3836 3837 3838 3839 3840 3843 3845 3846 3847 3848 3849 3850 3853 3855 3857 3860 3863 3865 3866 3867 3868 3869 387 3880 3883 3884 3885 3886 3887 3888 3889 3930 3931 3932 3941 3949 3950 3951 3952 3953 3954 3955 3956 3957 3958 3959 397 3979 398 3990 3991 3992 3994 3998 3999

CCS 74 Gastrectomy; partial and total 435 436 437 4381 4389 4391 4399

CCS 75 Small bowel resection 4561 4562 4563

CCS 78 Colorectal resection 1731 1732 1733 1734 1735 1736 1739 4571 4572 4573 4574 4575 4576 4579 458 4581 4582 4583 4840 4841 4842 4843 4849 485 4850 4851 4852 4859 4861 4862 4863 4864 4865 4866 4869

CCS 79 Local excision of large intestine lesion (not endoscopic) 4541

CCS 80 Appendectomy 470 4701 4709 471 4711 4719

CCS 84 Cholecystectomy and common duct exploration 5121 5122 5123 5124 5141 5142 5143 5149 5151 5159

CCS 85 Inguinal and femoral hernia repair 1711 1712 1713 1721 1722 1723 1724 5300 5301 5302 5303 5304 5305 5310 5311 5312 5313 5314 5315 5316 5317 5321 5329 5331 5339

CCS 86 Other hernia repair

5341 5342 5343 5349 5351 5359 5361 5362 5363 5369 537 5371 5372 5375 5380 5381 5382 5383 5384 539

CCS 87 Laparoscopy (gastrointestinal only) 5421

CCS 89 Exploratory laparotomy 5411

CCS 90 Excision; lysis peritoneal adhesions 545 5451 5459

CCS 94 Other operating room upper gastrointestinal therapeutic procedures 4201 4209 4210 4211 4212 4219 4231 4232 4239 4240 4241 4242 4251 4252 4253 4254 4255 4256 4258 4259 4261 4262 4263 4264 4265 4266 4268 4269 427 4282 4283 4284 4285 4286 4287 4289 4299 430 433 4342 4349 4400 4401 4402 4403 442 4421 4429 4431 4438 4439 4440 4441 4442 445 4461 4463 4464 4465 4466 4467 4468 4469 4491 4492 4495 4496 4497 4498 4499

CCS 96 Other operating room lower gastrointestinal therapeutic procedures 4500 4501 4502 4503 4531 4532 4533 4534 4549 4550 4551 4552 4590 4591 4592 4593 4594 4595 4601 4602 4603 4604 4640 4641 4642 4643 4650 4651 4652 4660 4661 4662 4663 4664 4671 4672 4673 4674 4675 4676 4679 4680 4681 4682 4691 4692 4693 4694 4699 472 4791 4792 4799 480 481 4835 4871 4872 4873 4874 4875 4876 4879 4881 4882 4891 4892 4893 4899 4901 4902 4904 4911 4912 493 4939 4951 4952 4959 496 4971 4972 4973 4974 4975 4976 4979 4991 4992 4993 4994 4995 4999

CCS 99 Other operating room gastrointestinal therapeutic procedures 1763 500 5021 5022 5023 5024 5025 5026 5029 503 504 5061 5069 5102 5103 5104 5131 5132 5133 5134 5135 5136 5137 5139 5161 5162 5163 5169 5171 5172 5179 5181 5182 5183 5189 5191 5192 5193 5194 5195 5199 5201 5209 522 5222 523 524 5251 5252 5253 5259 526 527 5292 5295 5296 5299 540 5412 5419 543 544 5461 5462 5463 5464 5471 5472 5473 5474 5475 5492 5493 5494 5495

D. Diagnosis-related group codes indicating major trauma

For patients with admission dates occurring between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2007: 280, 418, 444, 445, 484, 485, 486, 487, 506, 508, 510

For patients with admission dates occurring between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2011: 604, 862, 863, 913, 914, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 963, 964, 965, 928, 934, 935

Section 2. Characteristics of regional anesthesia-specialized, general anesthesia-specialized, and non-reporting hospitals

eTable 1: Characteristics of regional anesthesia-specialized, general anesthesia-									
specialized, and non-repor	ting hospitals includ	ed in this study							
	Regional anesthesia- specialized ^a (N=63)	General anesthesia- specialized ^a (N=96)	No anesthesia data reported (N=36)						
Mean percentage of hip fracture cases receiving regional anesthesia (SD)	61.94 (17.77)	11.56 (9.65)	Not reported						
Median bed count (Interquartile Range))	177 (143,267)	340 (209.5, 622)	306 (190, 455)						
Teaching hospital (%)	10 (15.87)	30 (31.25)	12 (33.33)						
Level 1 trauma center (%)	5 (7.94)	16 (16.67)	5 (13.89)						
Mean nurse skill mix (SD) ^b	0.88 (0.09)	0.89 (0.10)	0.90 (0.08)						
Mean nurse-to-bed ratio (SD) ^c	1.36 (0.55)	1.44 (0.57)	1.40 (0.53)						
(SD) ¹ Notes: a. Regional anesthesia-specialized hospitals included all facilities that used regional anesthesia in at least 33% of all hip fracture cases performed over the study period; general anesthesia-specialized hospitals included all facilities that used regional anesthesia in less than 33% of all hip fracture cases performed over the period. b. Nurse skill mix calculated as total number of full-time-employee registered nurses and licensed practical nurses divided by total									

employee nurses divided by total number of hospital beds.

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Section 3. Glossary of matching terms

1. *Exact matching:* Matching cases to controls requiring the same value of a nominal covariate.¹

2. *Optimal matching:* Matching cases and controls such that the total distance of all covariates between matched pairs is minimized.¹

3. *Optimal Subset matching:* A matching technique that solves an optimization problem to pick the most similar individuals from treated and control groups, omitting treated subjects without similar control and controls without similar treated subjects.²

4. *Fine balance:* Fine balance is a constraint on an optimal matching that forces a nominal variable to have the same distribution in matched treated and control groups. In other words, it constrains a match to be balanced on a given nominal variable, without restricting matching on the variable within pairs.^{1, 3}

5. *Near-fine balance:* Near-fine balance follows the same logic as fine balance, but is employed when fine balance is not feasible. If fine balance is not possible, near fine balance comes as close as possible to fine balance. 1,4

6. *Mahalanobis distance:* A multivariate measure of covariate distance between individuals in a sample;^{5, 6} the Mahalanobis distance is the difference in covariate values for treated patients and matched controls, divided by the covariate's standard deviation, this quantity squared, summed over the various covariates, with an allowance for correlation among the covariates. The distance is zero if two people have the same value for all covariates, and it increases as they become more dissimilar.

Section 4. Definition of standardized differences used to evaluate matching quality

When evaluating the quality of matching, for each matching variable, we report the "Standardized Difference" for group comparisons before and after matching, which represents the difference in means as a fraction of the pooled standard deviation before matching. Example: if the treated-minus-control difference in mean ages was 1 year and the standard deviation of age was 10 years, the standardized difference would be 1/10.⁷⁻⁹ In detail, the Standardized Difference for age would be calculated as follows, where $\mu_{age, nearGA}$ and $\mu_{age, nearGA}$ are the mean ages of the patients residing near to a regional anesthesia-specialized hospital and matched patients residing near to a general anesthesia-specialized hospital; $s^2_{age, near}_{age, all nearGA}$ are the variances of the near-regional anesthesia patients and all near-general patients available for matching. The Standardized Difference is then ($\mu_{age, nearGA} - \mu_{age, nearGA}$) divided by the square root of $[(s^2_{age, nearGA} + s^2_{age, all nearGA})/2]$. The Normal distribution deposits approximately 95% of its probability on an interval whose length is 4 standard deviations, and a standardized Difference of 0.2 is 1/20 of the length of that interval. A usual rule of thumb is to try to achieve Standardized Differences below 0.2, or a fifth of a standard deviation.^{1, 7-9} In our analyses, we used a benchmark of 0.10 as a maximum acceptable Standardized Difference.

Section 5. Description of matching procedures for "near-far," "within-hospital" and "across-hospital" matches

A. "Near-far" (instrumental variable) match. For the near-far match, we used the R mipmatch package¹⁰ to form matched pairs, pairing each patient who lived relatively closer to a regional anesthesiaspecialized hospital to a similar patient who lived relatively closer to a general-anesthesia specialized hospital. We matched pairs exactly for gender, fracture type, procedure type, procedure year, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. We used fine balance³ (a method of constraining two groups to be balanced on a particular variable without restricting matching on the variable within individual pairs) for all comorbidities, race, Medicaid eligibility, nursing home residence, and hospital trauma center and teaching status. The match minimized a Mahalanobis distance⁶ (a standard multivariate measure of differences between individuals) that incorporated all study variables and a propensity score that we estimated with logit regression using all patient-, hospital-, and are-level variables to predict the likelihood of living closer to a regional anesthesia-specialized hospital than to a general anesthesia-specialized hospital. We used optimal subset matching² to avoid individually poor matches. To ensure that paired individuals differed meaningfully in terms of their relative proximity to one or another type of hospital,^{11, 12} we set the minimum within-pair difference in the instrumental variable at 15 miles and excluded all patients who resided in densely populated urban ZIP codes where the absolute value of the instrumental variable was under two miles.

B."Within-hospital" match: For the within-hospital match, we used the R *mipmatch* package.¹⁰ This software package matched each patient who received regional anesthesia to a similar patient who received general anesthesia via an optimal matching algorithm anesthesia with exact matching for hospital. In other words, each patient who received regional anesthesia was paired to a patient who received general anesthesia within the same hospital. This match minimized the total Mahalanobis distance within pairs on patient covariates subject to calipers on a propensity score that we estimated with logit regression using all patient-level covariates to predict the likelihood of receiving regional anesthesia. Within individual hospitals, we used near-fine balance to improve matching on covariates. Due to differences in the available sample sizes within specific hospital, the degree of fine balance achieved varied across hospitals.

C. "Across-hospital" match: For the across-hospital match, we used the SAS PROC ASSIGN function. This software package matched each patient who received regional anesthesia to a similar patient who received general anesthesia via an optimal matching algorithm. This match minimized the total Mahalanobis distance within pairs on patient, hospital-, and area-level covariates subject to calipers on a propensity score that we estimated with logit regression using all patient-, hospital- and area-level covariates to predict the likelihood of receiving regional anesthesia; patients were matched exactly for gender.

Section 6: Comparison of patients with and without missing data on anesthesia type

Table 2: Characteristics of patients with and without missing data on										
anesthesia type	I –	Γ	1 1							
	Patients with available data on anesthesia type (N=56,729)	Patients with missing data on anesthesia type (N=28,275)	Absolute standardized difference ^a	Ρ						
Patient characteristics										
Age in years, mean (SD)	81.4 (9.9)	81.6 (9.8)	0.02	0.143						
Male sex (%)	14,745 (26.0)	7,478 (26.5)	0.01	0.157						
Race: white (%)	50,180 (88.5)	23,430 (82.9)	0.16	<0.001						
Race: black (%)	1,832 (3.2)	1,846 (6.5)	0.15	< 0.001						
Race: other (%)	4,717 (8.3)	2,999 (10.6)	0.08	< 0.001						
Dementia (%)	14,471 (25.5)	6,893 (24.4)	0.03	<0.001						
Prior stroke (%)	4,105 (7.2)	2,033 (7.2)	< 0.01	0.811						
Congestive heart failure (%)	9,316 (16.4)	4,360 (15.4)	0.03	< 0.001						
Myocardial infarction (%)	3,267 (5.8)	1,545 (5.5)	0.01	0.080						
Past cardiac arrhythmia (%)	12,629 (22.3)	5,757 (20.4)	0.05	<0.001						
Unstable angina (%)	229 (0.4)	120 (0.4)	< 0.01	0.649						
Cardiac valvular disease (%)	7,197 (12.7)	2,839 (10.04)	0.08	< 0.001						
Hypertension (%)	38,021 (67.0)	17,926 (63.4)	0.08	<0.001						
Chronic lung disease (%)	9,649 (17.0)	4,083 (14.4)	0.07	< 0.001						
Renal failure (%)	4,442 (7.8)	2,066 (7.3)	0.02	0.007						
Renal parenchymal disease (%)	612 (1.1)	214 (0.8)	0.03	<0.001						
Liver failure	849 (1.5)	428 (1.5)	<0.01	0.858						
Diabetes mellitus (%)	12,028 (21.2)	5,927 (21.0)	0.06	0.422						
Electrolyte abnormality (%)	10,069 (17.8)	4,381 (15.5)	0.06	<0.001						
Paraplegia (%)	1,252 (2.2)	642 (2.3)	< 0.01	0.554						
Thrombocytopenia (%)	1,779 (3.1)	711 (2.5)	0.04	< 0.001						
Cancer (%)	7,149 (12.6)	3,238 (11.5)	0.04	< 0.001						
Abdominal malignancy (%)	130 (0.2)	50 (0.2)	0.01	0.132						
Medicaid eligible (%)	9,436 (16.6)	6,346 (22.4)	0.15	< 0.001						
Nursing home resident (%)	2,134 (3.8)	711 (2.5)	0.07	< 0.001						

Fracture type: femoral neck (%)	26,804		0.02	0.024						
	(47.3)	13,142 (46.5)	0.02	0.034						
Fracture type: intertrochanteric (%)	26,231 (46.2)	13,474 (47.7)	0.03	<0.001						
Fracture type: subtrochanteric (%)	2,528 (4.5)	1,182 (4.2)	0.01	0.064						
Fracture type: two or more (%)	1,166 (2.1)	477 (1.7)	0.03	<0.001						
Procedure: total hip arthroplasty (%)	2,294 (4.0)	767 (2.7)	0.07	<0.001						
Procedure: hemiarthroplasty (%)	18,578 (32.8)	9,018 (31.9)	0.02	0.012						
Procedure: internal fixation (%)	35,857 (63.2)	18,490 (65.4)	0.05	<0.001						
Residential ZIP code area characteristics										
Median income in dollars, mean (SD)	51,602.61 (20,620.96)	51,559.07 (21,583.23)	<0.01	0.268						
Table 2 (continued): Characteristics of patients with and without missing										
data on anesthesia type										
	Patients with available data on anesthesia type (N=56,729)	Patients with missing data on anesthesia type (N=28,275)	Absolute standardized difference ^a	Ρ						
Percent below poverty, mean (SD)	11.1 (8.4)	13.0 (9.6)	0.20	<0.001						
Percent completing college, mean (SD)	28.8 (15.5)	30.1 (15.7)	0.10	<0.001						
Percent completing high school, mean (SD)	82.6 (9.4)	80.3 (10.7)	0.23	<0.001						
Hospital characteristics	1	1								
Number of beds, mean (SD)	483.6 (415.1)	452.5 (331.3)	0.08	<0.001						
Nurse skill mix, mean (SD) ^a	0.91 (0.07)	0.92 (0.07)	0.04	<0.001						
Nurse to bed ratio, mean (SD) ^b	1.55 (0.48)	1.48 (0.52)	0.15	<0.001						
Teaching hospital (%)	17,659 (0.31)	9,738 (0.34)	0.07	<0.001						
Trauma center (%)	9,503 (0.17)	6,847 (0.24)	0.19	<0.001						
Notes: a. The standardized differe in each matched group as a fraction skill mix calculated as total number nurses divided by total number of ful total number of full-time employees	Irauma center (%)9,503 (0.17)6,847 (0.24)0.19<0.001Notes:a. The standardized difference for each variable is the mean difference between patientsin each matched group as a fraction of the pooled standard deviation before matching; b. Nurseskill mix calculated as total number of full-time-employee registered nurses and licensed practicalnurses divided by total number of full-time employee nurses; c. Nurse to bed ratio calculated as									

total number of full-time employee nurses divided by total number of hospital beds.

Section 7. Full matching results: "near-far," "within-hospital," and "across-hospital" matches

eTable 3: Detailed results for the "near-far" match. This table compares patient-, hospital-, and area-level characteristics before and after matching for patients residing closer to a hospital specializing in regional anesthesia (RA) than to a hospital specializing in general anesthesia (GA) versus those residing closer to a hospital specializing in GA than to one specializing in RA. In the table, patients residing relatively closer to an RA-specialized hospital are denoted as "Near RA;" patients residing relatively closer to a GA-specialized hospital are denoted as "Near RA;" patients residing relatively closer to a GA-specialized hospital are denoted as "Near RA;" patients residing relatively closer to a GA-specialized differences, see Section 4 of this appendix. P-values are two-sample tests for balance, using the Wilcoxon rank sum test for continuous variables, and Fisher's exact test for categorical variables.

	Near RA, all	Near RA,	Near GA,	Near GA, all	Standardize	P-value	Standardized	P-value
	available	matched	matched	available	d difference	before	difference	after
	patients	patients	patients	patients	before	matching	after	matching
	(N=13,842)	(N=10,757)	(N=10,757)	(N=27,082)	matching		matching	
Differential distance: miles to nearest GA-	-12.3122	-12.3168	15.5443	14.1899	-2.4390	0.0000	-2.5641	0.0000
specialized hospital minus miles to nearest								
RA-specialized hospital, mean								
Propensity to be closer to an RA-specialized	0.4967	0.4511	0.4422	0.2572	1.3113	0.0000	0.0487	0.0000
hospital, mean								
Patient characteristics								
Race: white, percent	94.45	93.96	93.96	91.52	0.1149	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000
Race: black, percent	1.64	1.61	1.61	2.09	-0.0333	0.0016	0.0000	1.0000
Race: other, percent	3.91	4.43	4.43	6.39	-0.1124	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000
Age, mean	81.15	81.35	81.19	81.48	-0.0329	0.0053	0.0158	0.0978
Male sex, percent	26.87	26.62	26.62	25.95	0.0210	0.0448	0.0000	1.0000

eTable 3 (continued):	Detailed results	for the "near-fa	ar" match.					
	Near RA, all	Near RA,	Near GA,	Near GA, all	Standardized	P-value	Standardized	P-value
	available patients	matched	matched	available patients	difference	before	difference	after
	(N=13,842)	patients	patients	(N=27,082)	before	matching	after	matchin
		(N=10,757)	(N=10,757)		matching		matching	g
Medicaid insurance,	15.39	13.54	13.54	14.75	0.0178	0.0894	0.0000	1.0000
percent								
Pre-fracture nursing home	5.32	4.17	4.17	3.64	0.0813	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000
residence, percent								
Fracture type:	4.50	4.11	4.11	4.54	-0.0020	0.8604	0.0000	1.0000
subtrochanteric, percent								
Fracture type:	44.06	44.72	44.72	45.86	-0.0361	0.0006	0.0000	1.0000
intertrochanteric, percent								
Fracture type: femoral	48.93	49.34	49.34	47.49	0.0289	0.0058	0.0000	1.0000
neck, percent								
Fracture type: two or more,	2.51	1.84	1.84	2.12	0.0260	0.0123	0.0000	1.0000
percent								
Procedure: total hip	3.25	3.66	3.66	4.33	-0.0564	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000
arthroplasty, percent								
Procedure:	35.52	34.59	34.59	33.13	0.0503	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000
hemiarthroplasty, percent								
Procedure: internal	61.23	61.75	61.75	62.54	-0.0270	0.0101	0.0000	1.0000
fixation, percent								
Congestive heart failure,	16.66	15.62	15.62	16.97	-0.0083	0.4346	0.0000	1.0000
percent								
Stroke, percent	7.52	6.88	6.88	7.53	-0.0005	0.9842	0.0000	1.0000
Electrolyte abnormality,	18.55	17.75	17.75	18.44	0.0026	0.8086	0.0000	1.0000
percent								
Myocardial infarction,	6.18	5.72	5.72	6.02	0.0068	0.5260	0.0000	1.0000
percent								

eTable 3 (continu	ed): Detailed res	ults for the "nea	ar-far" match.					
	Near RA, all available patients	Near RA, matched	Near GA, matched	Near GA, all available patients	Standardized difference	P-value before	Standardized difference	P-value after
	(11-10,0+2)	(N=10,757)	(N=10,757)	(11-27,002)	matching	matering	and matering	g
Past cardiac arrhythmia, percent	22.82	21.93	21.93	23.17	-0.0084	0.4273	0.0000	1.0000
Unstable angina, percent	0.36	0.33	0.33	0.44	-0.0124	0.2550	0.0000	1.0000
Hypertension, percent	67.22	67.56	67.56	68.07	-0.0180	0.0851	0.0000	1.0000
Cardiac valvular disease, percent	13.20	12.93	12.93	13.23	-0.0009	0.9385	0.0000	1.0000
Chronic lung disease, percent	20.34	18.63	18.63	17.48	0.0731	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000
Liver disease, percent	1.52	1.27	1.27	1.44	0.0064	0.5430	0.0000	1.0000
Renal dysfunction, percent	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.19	-0.0061	0.5932	0.0000	1.0000
Renal failure, percent	7.12	6.86	6.86	8.20	-0.0404	0.0001	0.0000	1.0000
Diabetes mellitus, percent	21.93	21.08	21.08	21.15	0.0189	0.0706	0.0000	1.0000
Paraplegia, percent	2.41	2.13	2.13	2.09	0.0216	0.0386	0.0000	1.0000
Thrombocytopenia, percent	2.95	2.80	2.80	3.25	-0.0172	0.1060	0.0000	1.0000
Any cancer, percent	12.77	12.80	12.80	12.55	0.0068	0.5190	0.0000	1.0000
Abdominal malignancy, percent	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.22	-0.0075	0.5685	0.0000	1.0000
Dementia, percent	25.72	24.93	24.93	25.98	-0.0060	0.5751	0.0000	1.0000
Residential ZIP code	area characteristics							
Percent below poverty, mean	10.50	10.59	10.71	10.44	0.0092	0.0000	-0.0184	0.0000

eTable 3 (continued)	eTable 3 (continued): Detailed results for the "near-far" match.										
	Near RA, all available patients (N=13,842)	Near RA, matched patients (N=10,757)	Near GA, matched patients (N=10,757)	Near GA, all available patients (N=27,082)	Standardized difference before matching	P-value before matching	Standardized difference after matching	P-value after matchin g			
Percent completing some college, mean	25.19	25.55	25.74	27.98	-0.2139	0.0000	-0.0146	0.0060			
Percent completing high school, mean	83.19	83.55	83.55	83.89	-0.0931	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000			
Median income (US\$), mean	51,245.10	49,522.81	50,263.13	50,318.91	0.0461	0.6956	-0.0368	0.7809			
Hospital characteristics						•	·				
Nurse to bed ratio, mean	1.4465	1.4940	1.4903	1.5527	-0.2188	0.0000	0.0076	0.0889			
Nurse skill mix, mean	0.8871	0.8896	0.8918	0.9141	-0.3592	0.0000	-0.0293	0.0000			
Hospital beds, mean	246.67	269.65	269.08	505.05	-0.8769	0.0000	0.0020	0.0000			
Level I trauma center, percent	3.45	4.38	4.38	17.26	-0.4655	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000			
Teaching hospital, percent	6.78	8.60	8.60	33.27	-0.7013	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000			

eTable 4: Detailed results for the "within hospital" match. This table compares patient-, hospital-, and area-level characteristics before and after matching for patients receiving regional anesthesia (RA) and general anesthesia (GA). Within the matched sample, each patient receiving RA is matched to a similar patient within the same hospital who received GA. For details of matching approach, see Section 5 of this appendix. For definitions of standardized differences, see Section 4 of this appendix. P-values are two-sample tests for balance, using the Wilcoxon rank sum test for continuous variables, and Fisher's exact test for categorical variables.

	Received RA, all available patients (N=15,904)	Received RA, matched patients (N=11,741)	Received GA, matched patients (N=11,741)	Received GA, all available patients (N=40,825)	Standardized difference before matching	P-value before matching	Standardized difference after matching	P-value after matching			
Propensity to receive general anesthesia, mean	0.3005	0.2979	0.2909	0.2725	0.3735	<0.0001	0.0932	<0.0001			
Patient characteristics											
Race: white, percent	89.51	88.55	88.00	88.05	0.0462	<0.0001	0.0174	0.1942			
Race: black, percent	2.51	2.86	3.02	3.51	-0.0586	<0.0001	-0.0094	0.4870			
Race: other, percent	7.99	8.59	8.98	8.44	-0.0167	0.0783	-0.0142	0.2995			
Age, mean	82.17	81.95	81.55	81.12	0.1067	<0.0001	0.0408	0.0532			
Male sex, percent	25.52	25.36	25.33	26.18	-0.0149	0.1123	0.0007	0.9761			
Medicaid insurance, perce	nt 15.95	15.89	16.81	16.90	-0.0258	0.0060	-0.0248	0.0590			
Pre-fracture nursing home residence, percent	3.88	3.69	4.13	3.72	0.0086	0.3634	-0.0230	0.0859			
Fracture type: subtrochanteric, percent	3.88	3.97	4.29	4.68	-0.0396	<0.0001	-0.0158	0.2250			
Fracture type: intertrochanteric, percent	45.98	46.55	46.31	46.34	-0.0073	0.4366	0.0048	0.7141			
Fracture type: femoral nec percent	^{k,} 48.08	47.65	47.30	46.92	0.0232	0.0135	0.0070	0.5921			
Fracture type: two or more percent	, 2.06	1.82	2.10	2.05	0.0007	0.9475	-0.0197	0.1322			
Procedure: total hip arthroplasty, percent	3.75	3.46	3.38	4.16	-0.0211	0.0257	0.0041	0.7739			

eTable 4 (continued): Detailed results for the "within hospital" match.										
	Received RA, all available patients (N=15,904)	Received RA, matched patients (N=11,741)	Received GA, matched patients (N=11,741)	Received GA, all available patients (N=40,825)	Standardized difference before matching	P-value before matching	Standardized difference after matching	P-value after matchin g		
Procedure: hemiarthroplasty, percent	33.92	33.27	32.86	32.29	0.0345	0.0002	0.0087	0.5144		
Procedure: internal fixation, percent	62.34	63.27	63.76	63.55	-0.0251	0.0075	-0.0101	0.4478		
Congestive heart failure, percent	16.01	16.28	16.57	16.58	-0.0156	0.0984	-0.0079	0.5611		
Stroke, percent	7.02	6.98	7.11	7.32	-0.0118	0.2133	-0.0050	0.7211		
Electrolyte abnormality, percent	17.42	17.27	17.43	17.88	-0.0119	0.2077	-0.0042	0.7696		
Myocardial infarction, percent	6.02	5.89	5.90	5.66	0.0153	0.1000	-0.0004	1.0000		
Past cardiac arrhythmia, percent	21.33	21.69	22.61	22.63	-0.0313	0.0008	-0.0222	0.0927		
Unstable angina, percent	0.31	0.33	0.29	0.44	-0.0203	0.0388	0.0065	0.6394		
Hypertension, percent	66.02	65.97	65.78	67.41	-0.0295	0.0016	0.0040	0.7726		
Cardiac valvular disease, percent	11.70	12.49	13.31	13.07	-0.0416	<0.0001	-0.0249	0.0644		
Chronic lung disease, percent	20.16	19.42	18.58	15.78	0.1142	<0.0001	0.0219	0.1066		
Liver disease, percent	1.31	1.31	1.55	1.57	-0.0213	0.0255	-0.0201	0.1378		
Renal dysfunction, percent	0.80	0.80	1.00	1.19	-0.0393	<0.0001	-0.0202	0.1280		
Renal failure, percent	6.97	7.35	7.55	8.16	-0.0450	<0.0001	-0.0076	0.5677		
Diabetes mellitus, percent	20.23	20.07	20.50	21.58	-0.0331	0.0004	-0.0106	0.4265		
Paraplegia, percent	1.77	1.82	2.08	2.38	-0.0423	<0.0001	-0.0182	0.1711		
Thrombocytopenia, percent	2.49	2.79	3.18	3.39	-0.0532	<0.0001	-0.0231	0.0841		
Any cancer, percent	13.31	13.20	12.89	12.33	0.0295	0.0016	0.0093	0.4855		

eTable 4 (continue	d): Detailed resul	ts for the "withir	n hospital" matc	h.				
	Received RA, all available patients (N=15,904)	Received RA, matched patients (N=11,741)	Received GA, matched patients (N=11,741)	Received GA, all available patients (N=40,825)	Standardized difference before matching	P-value before matching	Standardized difference after matching	P-value after matchin g
Abdominal malignancy, percent	0.14	0.14	0.17	0.26	-0.0261	0.0081	-0.0067	0.6174
Dementia, percent	25.53	24.78	24.04	25.50	0.0006	0.9487	0.0170	0.1913
Residential ZIP code a	rea characteristics	·			·			
Percent below poverty, mean	10.99	11.21	11.21	11.21	-0.0269	0.0558	0.0000	0.9227
Percent completing some college, mean	29.62	30.68	30.47	28.40	0.0770	0.0096	0.0132	0.2743
Percent completing high school, mean	82.70	82.44	82.31	82.56	0.0151	0.7194	0.0138	0.3104
Median income (US\$), mean	53,802.39	54,182.37	54,312.78	50,745.66	0.1443	<0.0001	-0.0062	0.8796
Hospital characteristic	S							
Nurse to bed ratio, mean	1.5638	1.5541	1.5541	1.548	0.0339	0.0002	0.0000	1.0000
Nurse skill mix, mean	0.9071	0.9190	0.9190	0.9168	-0.1340	<0.0001	0.0000	1.0000
Hospital beds, mean	380.74	441.50	441.50	523.66	-0.3573	<0.0001	0.0000	1.0000
Level I trauma center, percent	14.24	15.98	15.98	17.73	-0.0955	<0.0001	0.0000	1.0000
Teaching hospital, percent	23.39	27.80	27.80	34.14	-0.2392	<0.0001	0.0000	1.0000

eTable 5: Detailed results for the "across hospital" match. This table compares patient-, hospital-, and area-level characteristics before and after matching for patients receiving regional anesthesia (RA) and general anesthesia (GA). This match used all 15,904 available RA patients, matched to an equal number of GA patients. For details of matching approach, see Section 5 of this appendix. For definitions of standardized differences, see Section 4 of this appendix. P-values are two-sample tests for balance, using the Wilcoxon rank sum test for continuous variables, and Fisher's exact test for categorical variables.

	RA patients (N=15,904)	GA: matched patients (N=15,904)	GA: all available patients (N=40,825)	Standardized difference before matching	P-value before matching	Standardized difference after matching	P-value after matching			
Propensity to receive general anesthesia, mean	0.3248	0.3181	0.2630	0.5762	0.0000	0.0621	0.0000			
Patient characteristics										
Race: white, percent	89.51	89.79	88.05	0.0462	0.0000	-0.0090	0.4180			
Race: black, percent	2.51	2.45	3.51	-0.0586	0.0000	0.0037	0.7455			
Race: other, percent	7.99	7.77	8.44	-0.0167	0.0000	0.0080	0.4791			
Age, mean	82.17	81.99	81.12	0.1067	0.0000	0.0178	0.2586			
Male sex, percent	25.52	25.52	26.18	-0.0149	0.1123	0.0000	1.0000			
Medicaid insurance, percent	15.95	16.19	16.90	-0.0258	0.0060	-0.0066	0.5618			
Pre-fracture nursing home residence, percent	3.88	4.07	3.72	0.0086	0.3634	-0.0099	0.4052			
Fracture type: subtrochanteric, percent	3.88	4.01	4.68	-0.0396	0.0000	-0.0062	0.5841			
Fracture type: intertrochanteric, percent	45.98	45.92	46.34	-0.0073	0.4366	0.0011	0.9283			
Fracture type: femoral neck, percent	2.06	1.88	2.05	0.0007	0.9475	0.0128	0.2587			
Fracture type: two or more, percent	48.08	48.20	46.92	0.0232	0.0135	-0.0023	0.8487			
Procedure: total hip arthroplasty, percent	3.75	3.45	4.16	-0.0211	0.0257	0.0155	0.1570			

eTable 5: Detailed results for the "across hospital" match.											
	RA patients (N=15,90 4)	GA: matched patients (N=15,904)	GA: all available patients (N=40,825)	Standardized difference before matching	P-value before matching	Standardized difference after matching	P-value after matching				
Procedure: hemiarthroplasty, percent	33.92	33.37	32.29	0.0345	0.0002	0.0116	0.3075				
Procedure: internal fixation, percent	62.34	63.19	63.55	-0.0251	0.0075	-0.0176	0.1201				
Congestive heart failure, percent	16.01	16.08	16.58	-0.0156	0.0984	-0.0019	0.8786				
Stroke, percent											
	7.02	7.15	7.32	-0.0118	0.2133	-0.0051	0.6620				
Electrolyte abnormality, percent	17.42	17.30	17.88	-0.0119	0.2077	0.0033	0.7785				
Myocardial infarction, percent	6.02	5.82	5.66	0.0153	0.1000	0.0083	0.4760				
Past cardiac arrhythmia, percent	21.33	21.16	22.63	-0.0313	0.0008	0.0039	0.7318				
Unstable angina, percent	0.31	0.23	0.44	-0.0203	0.0388	0.0133	0.1974				
Hypertension, percent	66.02	66.17	67.41	-0.0295	0.0016	-0.0032	0.7853				
Cardiac valvular disease, percent	11.70	11.95	13.07	-0.0416	0.0000	-0.0074	0.5093				
Chronic lung disease, percent	20.16	19.56	15.78	0.1142	0.0000	0.0156	0.1865				
Liver disease, percent	1.31	1.14	1.57	-0.0213	0.0255	0.0142	0.1858				
Renal dysfunction, percent	0.80	0.96	1.19	-0.0393	0.0000	-0.0165	0.1333				
Renal failure, percent	6.97	6.86	8.16	-0.0450	0.0000	0.0043	0.7072				
Diabetes mellitus, percent	20.23	20.42	21.58	-0.0331	0.0004	-0.0045	0.6964				
Paraplegia, percent	1.77	1.94	2.38	-0.0423	0.0000	-0.0119	0.2803				
Thrombocytopenia, percent	2.49	2.58	3.39	-0.0532	0.0000	-0.0056	0.6177				

eTable 5: Detailed results for the "across hospital" match.										
	RA patients (N=15,90 4)	GA: matched patients (N=15,904)	GA: all available patients (N=40,825)	Standardized difference before matching	P-value before matching	Standardized difference after matching	P-value after matching			
Any cancer, percent	13.31	13.19	12.33	0.0295	0.0016	0.0038	0.7533			
Abdominal malignancy, percent	0.14	0.12	0.26	-0.0261	0.0081	0.0056	0.6437			
Dementia, percent	25.53	25.54	25.50	0.0006	0.9487	-0.0003	0.9897			
Residential ZIP code area characteristics										
Percent below poverty, mean	10.99	10.85	11.21	-0.0269	0.0558	0.0162	0.0997			
Percent completing some college, mean	29.62	29.21	28.40	0.0770	0.0096	0.0258	0.9714			
Percent completing high school, mean	82.70	82.69	82.56	0.0151	0.7194	0.0010	0.9038			
Median income (US\$), mean	53,802. 39	53,115.47	50,745.66	0.1443	0.0000	0.0324	0.0998			
Hospital characteristics										
Nurse to bed ratio, mean	1.5638	1.5697	1.5480	0.0339	0.0000	-0.0128	0.3563			
Nurse skill mix, mean	0.9071	0.9060	0.9168	-0.1340	0.0000	0.0145	0.3878			
Hospital beds, mean	380.74	381.12	523.66	-0.3573	0.0000	-0.0010	0.4491			
Level I trauma center, percent	14.24	14.54	17.73	-0.0955	0.0000	-0.0084	0.4432			
Teaching hospital, percent	23.39	23.52	34.14	-0.2392	0.0000	-0.0028	0.8015			

Section 8. Description of sensitivity analyses

The following tables present an analysis of the sensitivity of our statistically significant study results to hypothetical unmeasured confounders of varying magnitude.^{1, 13, 14} The horizontal axis of each table lists a range of potential odds ratios that could characterize the impact of a hypothetical unmeasured factor on the odds of receiving general anesthesia. For example, a value of 1.2 along the horizontal axis would correspond to a factor that increased the odds of receiving general anesthesia by 20%. The vertical axis of each table lists a range of potential odds ratio values that could characterize the impact of a hypothetical unmeasured factor on an adverse outcome of interest. For example, a value of 1.2 on the vertical axis would correspond to a factor that increased the odds of an adverse outcome by 20%. The cells of each table list the maximum possible one-sided p-values that one would obtain for the relevant comparison after accounting for a hypothetical unmeasured confounder whose associations with treatment and outcome correspond to the values listed on the vertical and horizontal axes of the table. The shaded cells indicate the levels of confounding for which the p-value would remain below the nominal threshold for statistical significance of 0.05.

eTables 6, 7, and 8 present the sensitivity analysis for the length of stay comparison results from our near-far match, our within-hospital match, and our across-hospital match, respectively. For each match, the table indicates that our findings regarding differences in length of stay are insensitive to an unmeasured confounder that increases the odds of receiving general anesthesia by 50% and also increases the odds of a longer length of stay by 50%. However, it also indicates that our results could be explained by an unobserved confounder that shows stronger associations with general anesthesia and increased length of stay. In brief, the results are insensitive to very small biases but sensitive to moderate biases.

eTable 9 presents the sensitivity analysis for the mortality comparison for our across-hospital match. This table suggests that our findings regarding mortality from this match could be explained by an unmeasured confounder that increased the odds of receiving general anesthesia by less than 25% while also increasing the odds of mortality by less than 25%. This finding indicates that our finding of a significant difference in mortality in our across-hospital match is far more sensitive to bias than are our findings regarding length of stay, and is consistent with our finding of no significant difference in mortality in the near-far or within-hospital matches, which account for greater degrees of confounding than the across-hospital match.

eTable 6: Sensitivity analysis for length of stay comparison, near-far match												
	Odds ratio for association of a hypothetical unmeasured factor with receipt of general anesthesia											
		1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00		
Odds ratio	1.00	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001		
association	1.25	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0001	0.0006	0.0086	0.0251	0.0618	0.1302	0.2376		
of a hypothetical unmeasured factor with increased length of stay	1.50	<0.0001	0.0001	0.0086	0.2376	0.5387	0.9011	0.9805	0.9977	0.9993		
	1.75	<0.0001	0.0006	0.2376	0.8144	0.9928	0.9998	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	2.00	<0.0001	0.0086	0.5387	0.9928	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	2.25	<0.0001	0.0251	0.9011	0.9998	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	2.50	<0.0001	0.0618	0.9805	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	2.75	<0.0001	0.1302	0.9977	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	3.00	<0.0001	0.2376	0.9993	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		

Section 9: Sensitivity analysis results for all outcomes with $P \leq 0.05$

eTable 7: Sensitivity analysis for length of stay comparison, within-hospital match												
	Odds ratio for association of a hypothetical unmeasured factor with receipt of general anesthesia											
		1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00		
Odds ratio	1.00	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001		
association	1.25	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0001	0.0029	0.0106	0.0318	0.0794	0.1667		
of a hypothetical unmeasured factor with increased length of stay	1.50	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0029	0.1667	0.4619	0.8817	0.9782	0.9977	0.9994		
	1.75	<0.0001	0.0001	0.1667	0.7766	0.9925	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	2.00	<0.0001	0.0029	0.4619	0.9925	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	2.25	<0.0001	0.0106	0.8817	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	2.50	<0.0001	0.0318	0.9782	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	2.75	<0.0001	0.0794	0.9977	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	3.00	<0.0001	0.1667	0.9994	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		

eTable 8: Sensitivity analysis for length of stay comparison, across-hospital match											
	Odds ratio for association of a hypothetical unmeasured factor with receipt of general anesthesia										
		1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	
Odds ratio	1.00	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	
association	1.25	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0002	0.0015	0.0068	0.0247	0.0714	
of a hypothetical unmeasured factor with increased length of stay	1.50	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0002	0.0714	0.3157	0.8333	0.9720	0.9977	0.9995	
	1.75	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0714	0.6876	0.9913	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
	2.00	<0.0001	0.0002	0.3157	0.9913	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
	2.25	<0.0001	0.0015	0.8333	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
	2.50	<0.0001	0.0068	0.9720	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
	2.75	<0.0001	0.0247	0.9977	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
	3.00	<0.0001	0.0714	0.9995	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	

eTable 9: Sensitivity analysis for mortality comparison, across-hospital match											
	Odds ratio for association of a hypothetical unmeasured factor with receipt of general anesthesia										
		1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	
Odds ratio	1.00	0.0187	0.0187	0.0187	0.0187	0.0187	0.0187	0.0187	0.0187	0.0187	
association	1.25	0.0187	0.0688	0.1363	0.1825	0.2984	0.3657	0.4368	0.5093	0.5809	
of a hypothetical unmeasured factor with	1.50	0.0187	0.1363	0.2984	0.5809	0.7125	0.8608	0.9229	0.9608	0.9729	
	1.75	0.0187	0.1825	0.5809	0.8189	0.9445	0.9817	0.9950	0.9988	0.9998	
	2.00	0.0187	0.2984	0.7125	0.9445	0.9921	0.9988	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	
death at 30	2.25	0.0187	0.3657	0.8608	0.9817	0.9988	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
days after	2.50	0.0187	0.4368	0.9229	0.9950	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
admission	2.75	0.0187	0.5093	0.9608	0.9988	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
	3.00	0.0187	0.5809	0.9729	0.9998	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	

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