

# Mortality predictive performance of SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III in adult patients admitted to the ICU of the Aga Khan Hospital, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania

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Background Illness predictive scoring systems are significant and meaningful adjuncts of patient management in the intensive care unit. They assist into predicting patient outcomes, improve clinical decision making and provide insight into the effectiveness of care and management while optimizing the use of hospital resources. We evaluated mortality predictive performance of Simplified acute physiology score (SAPS 3) and Mortality probability models (MPM<sub>0</sub>-III) and compared their accuracy in predicting outcome, as well as identifying disease pattern and factors associated with increased mortality. Methods This was a retrospective cohort study of adult patients admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Aga Khan Hospital, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania between August 2018 and April 2020. Demographics, clinical characteristics, outcomes, source of admission, primary admission category, length of stay and the support provided with worst physiological data within the first hour after admission were extracted. SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III scores were calculated using an online web-based calculator. The performance of each model was assessed by discrimination and calibration. Discrimination between survivals and non - survivors was assessed by the area under the receiver operator characteristic curve (ROC) and calibration was estimated using the Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test. Results A total of 331 patients were enrolled in the study with a median age of 58 years (IQR 43-71), most of whom were males (62.8%), of African origin (53.8%) and admitted from the emergency department (92.4%). In- intensive care unit mortality was 16.1%. Discrimination was very good for all models, the area under the receiver-operating characteristic (ROC) curve for SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III was 0.89 (95%CI: 0.844-0.935) and 0.90 (95%CI: 0.864-0.944) respectively. Calibration as calculated by Hosmer-Lemeshow

goodness-of-fit test showed good calibration for both SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III with Chi-square values of 4.61 and 5.08 respectively and P - Value ( $>0.05$ ). Conclusion Both SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III performed well in our cohort of patients admitted to the intensive care unit of a private tertiary hospital. The overall ICU mortality was lower compared to reported mortality from studies done in other intensive care units in tertiary referral hospitals within Tanzania.

1           **MORTALITY PREDICTIVE PERFORMANCE OF SAPS 3 AND MPM<sub>0</sub>-III**  
2           **IN ADULT PATIENTS ADMITTED IN ICU OF THE AGA KHAN HOSPITAL, DAR-**  
3           **ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA**

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5           **A SINGLE CENTER RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY**

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## 38 ABSTRACT

### 39 Background

40 Illness predictive scoring systems are significant and meaningful adjuncts of patient management in the  
41 intensive care unit. They assist into predicting patient outcomes, improve clinical decision making and  
42 provide insight into the effectiveness of care and management while optimizing the use of hospital  
43 resources. We evaluated mortality predictive performance of Simplified acute physiology score (SAPS 3)  
44 and Mortality probability models (MPM<sub>0</sub>-III) and compared their accuracy in predicting outcome, as well  
45 as identifying disease pattern and factors associated with increased mortality.

46

### 47 Methods

48 This was a retrospective cohort study of adult patients admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the  
49 Aga Khan Hospital, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania between August 2018 and April 2020. Demographics,  
50 clinical characteristics, outcomes, source of admission, primary admission category, length of stay and the  
51 support provided with worst physiological data within the first hour after admission were extracted. SAPS  
52 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III scores were calculated using an online web-based calculator. The performance of each  
53 model was assessed by discrimination and calibration. Discrimination between survivals and non –  
54 survivors was assessed by the area under the receiver operator characteristic curve (ROC) and calibration  
55 was estimated using the Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test.

### 56 Results

57 A total of 331 patients were enrolled in the study with a median age of 58 years (IQR 43-71), most of  
58 whom were males (62.8%), of African origin (53.8%) and admitted from the emergency department  
59 (92.4%). In- intensive care unit mortality was 16.1%. Discrimination was very good for all models, the  
60 area under the receiver-operating characteristic (ROC) curve for SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III was 0.89 (95%CI:  
61 0.844-0.935) and 0.90 (95%CI: 0.864-0.944) respectively. Calibration as calculated by Hosmer-  
62 Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test showed good calibration for both SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III with Chi- square  
63 values of 4.61 and 5.08 respectively and P – Value (>0.05).

### 64 Conclusion

65 Both SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III performed well in our cohort of patients admitted to the intensive care unit of  
66 a private tertiary hospital. The overall ICU mortality was lower compared to reported mortality from  
67 studies done in other intensive care units in tertiary referral hospitals within Tanzania.

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69 Key words: SAPS 3, MPM<sub>0</sub>-III, Mortality, performance

## 70 BACKGROUND

71 The burden of critical care and ICU mortality is greatest in countries with low global national income (1).  
72 The reported ICU mortality widely varies from one setting to the other, with higher rates reported in low  
73 and middle-income countries (LMICs) (1-3). As of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020, the World Bank upgraded Tanzania's  
74 economic status from a low to lower- middle income country due to its strong economic performance  
75 over the past decade. However, availability of Intensive Care Units is very limited; none of seven district  
76 hospitals surveyed in 2009 had an ICU. The four national referral hospitals had a total of only 38 ICU  
77 beds serving a population of 57 million (4). This is in contrast to high income countries (HICs) which  
78 generally have between 5 to 30 ICU beds per 100 000 people(5). Thus availability and improvement of  
79 quality of critical illness in LMICs is necessary to reduce this burden and even more significant in the  
80 coming years as the population ages and prevalence of comorbidities increases (6).

81 Despite the use of high cost and sophisticated devices, ICU mortality rates remain high. The burden of  
82 diseases compounded by a severe lack of resources, specialists, and data on outcomes, makes prediction  
83 of ICU outcomes in terms of morbidity and mortality a crucial component of care across the continent. In  
84 high-income settings mortality prediction models are not only used to predict outcome but also used as  
85 tools for quality enhancement and analytical decision making.

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87 These predictive scoring systems were developed more than 25 years ago using patient characteristics.  
88 They help quantify the severity of illness, estimate the gravity of the disease, help predict outcome and  
89 facilitate quality care as well as help manage resource allocation (7, 8). The three major predictive scoring  
90 systems used to predict mortality in general ICU patients are the Acute Physiologic and Chronic Health  
91 Evaluation (APACHE) scoring system, the Simplified Acute Physiologic Score (SAPS), and the  
92 Mortality Prediction Model (MPM<sub>0</sub>) (9). APACHE-IV, SAPS 3, and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III are the latest versions of  
93 the afore mentioned scoring systems (10-12). When selecting a predictive scoring system for use in a  
94 given ICU, it is essential to use a model that is well proven, established and validated contextually.  
95 APACHE-IV has long been considered more precise for predicting mortality than the other scoring  
96 systems, but is perceived as burdensome and more costly especially in resource limited settings (13). The  
97 MPM<sub>0</sub>-III is beneficial in resource limited setting since as it has lowest extraction burden among the three  
98 models and is available without cost on various medical information sites. This Model was considered to  
99 have fair discrimination and was well calibrated in a study done at a parent hospital in Nairobi, Kenya  
100 (14). However, it was considered to have a modest ability in predicting mortality in a cohort of Rwandan  
101 ICU patients admitted to two public hospitals (15). External validation in other ICU populations reported

102 that SAPS 3 had good discrimination, but poorer calibration, when compared with APACHE-IV and  
103 MPM<sub>0</sub>-III (16-18). However, it may have greater potential for international use since the score was  
104 derived from data in more than one country (11). No study to date has assessed the performance of SAPS  
105 3 in LMICs, especially in sub-Saharan Africa.

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107 These afore mentioned predictive scoring systems have been compared in different studies and have  
108 produced variable results. The existence of large number of scoring systems with contrasting performance  
109 suggests the best fit model is ICU specific. Thus, each particular ICU needs to determine which scoring  
110 system performs best in their setup; hence there was a great need to carry out a comparative study in our  
111 cohort of patients to identify the best performing model. The study had two main objectives 1.) To  
112 compare performance of MPM<sub>0</sub>-III and SAPS III in order to identify which model best fits in the ICU of  
113 the Aga Khan Hospital, Dar-es-Salaam and to identify disease pattern and risk factors associated with  
114 higher rates of in – ICU mortality.

## 115 METHODS

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117 This was a single centre retrospective cohort study, conducted at the ICU of the Aga Khan Hospital, Dar-  
118 es-salaam, Tanzania. The study protocol was approved by the Ethical Research committee (ERC) of the  
119 Aga Khan University (AKU/2020/051/fb) and individual consent of each study participant was not  
120 required. The Aga Khan Hospital is the largest Private Hospital and the only Joint Commission  
121 International Accredited (JCIA) accredited hospital in Tanzania. The Intensive care unit (ICU) of the Aga  
122 Khan Hospital is 15 bed modern and well-equipped unit which provides level III services to all kind of  
123 critically ill patients. The unit is divided in 3 sections – 7 adult ICU beds (having 2 Isolation rooms), 4  
124 reserved for cardiac patients and 4 beds set aside for paediatrics. The ICU provides both invasive and  
125 non-invasive mechanical ventilation, invasive hemodynamic monitoring, inotropic support and basic  
126 neuro-critical care. Patients requiring haemodialysis are transported to the dialysis Unit within the  
127 hospital premises. The ICU is run by a multidisciplinary team, comprising of the primary care physician,  
128 physiotherapist and dietician led by full time critical care specialist. The nurse-to-patient ratio ranges  
129 between 1:1 and 1:2. All adult patients aged 18 and above admitted to the ICU were eligible for the study.  
130 Patients admitted for observation, having incomplete data and those whose duration of stay in the unit  
131 was less than an hour as well as those diagnosed with COVID – 19 were excluded from the study.  
132 Admissions to the ICU are only limited to those meeting a strict admitting criteria set by the hospital. A  
133 total of 747 adults patients were admitted to the ICU from August 2018 to April 2020. A sample size of  
134 331 patients was determined to be sufficient to give the study a 80% power and 95% confidence for

135 detection of 10% difference in performance between SAPS-III and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III. The ICU admission register  
136 was used to identify patients admitted and patient confidential files were retrieved from the medical  
137 records. The medical file numbers were entered into a computer and computer generated random  
138 sampling was performed until the desired sample size was achieved. Patient demographics and Clinical  
139 data were extracted using patient records and were entered into a spreadsheet Microsoft Office 1 Excel  
140 2010 (Redmond, WA, USA). Data was extracted by experienced junior doctors who have had working  
141 experience in the ICU and was independently verified by the primary author for accuracy and  
142 completeness. The reasons for admission were grouped into 11 categories: Surgery, Gastroenterology,  
143 Neurology, endocrinology, Respiratory, cardiovascular, Nephrology, sepsis, oncology, hematology,  
144 Obstetrics and Gynecology. When multiple diagnoses were present, the leading one, with the worst  
145 prognosis was selected as the main reason for admission

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148 SAPS 3 and MPM-III were calculated using an online scoring calculator, available on  
149 [www.uptodate.com](http://www.uptodate.com). Descriptive analysis of demographic characteristics was done and presented as  
150 percentages while the categorical and continuous outcome variables were analysed and presented as  
151 means and medians with interquartile ranges respectively. All statistical analysis was done using STAT  
152 version 15. The area under the Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve was used to evaluate the  
153 discrimination of the models. A ROC curve with an area of 0.7–0.8 was considered fair, 0.8–0.9 good and  
154 > 0.9 excellent. The area under the ROC curves was compared using non-parametric Wilcoxon statistics.  
155 A Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test was used to assess the calibration of the models with a p-value  
156 of > 0.05 considered statistically significant. However, all other statistical tests with a p-value of < 0.05  
157 were considered statistically significant.

## 158 RESULTS

### 159 General characteristic of the participants

160 A total of 331 patients were included in the study. Out of the 331 patients 278(83.9%) survived and  
161 53(16.1%) died. Table 1 below shows general and clinical characteristic of the cohort and provides a  
162 comparison of survivors to non-survivors. The median age of the cohort was 58 years (IQR 43-71) with  
163 more than half of the admitted patients being male (62.8%). Most of the patients were admitted to the ICU  
164 from the emergency department (92.5%), who were at home prior (96.1%), aged between 45-64 years  
165 (34.4%) and were of the African origin (53.8%). Among the patients majority of them were suffering  
166 from Neurological disease (19%), sepsis (18.1%), respiratory (10.9%) and cardiovascular (10.9%) related  
167 conditions. Median ICU and hospital LOS were 4 (2-6) and 6 (4-10) days respectively.

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169 When survivors and non survivors were compared, there was statically significant difference (P value  
170 <0.05) in age, length of ICU stay, admitting category and code status. Higher mortality rates were noted  
171 in elderly 70 years (IQR 55-78) and those who stayed longer in the unit 6 days (IQR 2-11) with a greater  
172 proportion of non-survivors being admitted due to sepsis (24.5%) and Neurological diseases (18.9%).  
173 Higher mortality rate was also noted in do- not- resuscitate (DNR) patients (50.9%) compared to those  
174 without limitations of care. There was no statistically significant difference between survivors and non  
175 survivors by sex, ethnicity and prior location before ICU admission.

176

177 The overall SAPS-III scores for all the patients was 42 (IQR: 32-51) of which non-survivors had a higher  
178 score 60 (IQR: 51-68) than the survivors 39 (IQR: 31-48) with p-value (< 0.0001). Similarly, the median  
179 MPM<sub>0</sub>-III scores in non-survivors was 5(IQR: 4-6) was higher than survivors 3(IQR: 2-4) with p-value  
180 (<0.0001).

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183 Table 2 below, illustrates the type of support patients received in the first 24 hours of ICU admission. Of  
184 the 331 Patients admitted to the ICU, 123 (37.2%) patients received support in the first hour of ICU  
185 admission that included: mechanical ventilation, inotropes and hemodialysis. When single support was  
186 used, higher proportions of survivors were kept on either inotropes (10.4%) or mechanical ventilation  
187 (6.1%). However, of the non-survivors, most of them were kept on the mechanical ventilation (17.0%).  
188 There was a significant difference between the two groups (survivors and non-survivors) for patients kept  
189 on mechanical ventilation (p-value=0.007), inotropes and mechanical ventilation (p-value < 0.001) as  
190 well as those kept on all the three support (p- value 0.0001).

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192

193 Table 3 below highlights, comorbid amongst the critical ill patients admitted to the ICU. More than one  
194 comorbid condition per critically ill patient was recorded when present. The most common comorbid  
195 condition amongst our cohort was Hypertension (52.6%) and diabetes mellitus (32.3%). When comorbid  
196 were compared between Survivors and non Survivors, there were statically significant difference among  
197 those suffering with chronic Kidney Disease (p-value=0.0030) and liver cirrhosis (p-value=0.0022).

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200 Calibration of each scoring system exhibited good performance. The goodness of fit Hosmer-Lemeshow  
201 test and p value of each scoring system is shown in Table 4 below.

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204 The receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve results of SAPS-III and MPM-III in prediction of  
205 mortality are shown below in Figure 1 below. The area under the ROC was calculated to evaluate the  
206 predictive value of the scoring systems. The Area under the ROC curve for the SAPS-III scores system  
207 showed statistically significant predictive marker of mortality (AUC: 0.8892; 95%CI: 0.844-0.935). The  
208 cut-off value for SAPS-III was 54 with the sensitivity of 72% and specificity of 90%. The MPM-III  
209 scoring system also showed a statistically significant predictive marker for the outcome of interest (AUC:  
210 0.904; 95%CI: 0.864-0.944). The cut-off value for MPM-III was 4, with sensitivity of 74% and  
211 specificity of 87%. There was no significant difference between the ROC curves between the two models  
212 (P-value=0.2418) (Table 5).

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215 The overall estimated median (IQR) predicted mortality among the 331 ICU patients was 6 % ( 2%-20%)  
216 on SAP-III model and 11.5 % ( 3.8%-27.9%) based on MPM<sub>0</sub>-III model. The stratified analysis by  
217 survivors and non-survivors are shown in Figure 2 below. The median predicted mortality risk for  
218 survivors are lower than those of Non-survivors. In the SAPS-III model, the estimated median for  
219 survivors was 5 % ( IQR: 1%-11%) while for the non-survivors this was 50% (IQR: 34%-69%) Based on  
220 the MPM-III model the median predicted mortality was 9.1% (3.1%-1.7%), and 68.5% (IQR: 42.7%-  
221 84.0%) for survivors and non-survivors respectively.

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224 Multiple Clinical factors were associated with increased adjusted odds of mortality. These included length  
225 of ICU stay (adjusted odds ratio [aOR], 1.462;  $P=0.001$ ) and those transferred from the ward (aOR,  
226 5.341;  $P<0.022$ ). However, it was protective to stay longer in the hospital as the odds of mortality  
227 decreased as the length of hospitalization increased (aOR, 0.717;  $P=0.002$ ) (Table 6).

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## 231 DISCUSSION

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To our knowledge, this is the first study to report on performance of predictive scoring models in  
Tanzania and more so in a private setting. Accurate discrimination and calibration are two key  
characteristics that should be met by all predictive scoring systems. Both SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III,  
performed well in our cohort. According to our results, SAPS 3 score of higher than 54 can predict

237 mortality with sensitivity of 72% and specificity of 90%. A MPM<sub>0</sub>-III score of greater than 4 can predict  
238 mortality with sensitivity of 74% and specificity of 87%.

239

240 Discrimination describes the accuracy of a given prediction. In our cohort, the discriminatory capability  
241 of both SAPS 3 (20 variables) AND MPM<sub>0</sub>-III (16 variables) was good. There was no statistically  
242 significance difference when both these models were compared, suggesting that the model with more  
243 variables was not associated with better discriminatory performance. MPM<sub>0</sub>-III has been externally  
244 validated in various ICU in North America (12, 13, 19) and has shown to have good discrimination which  
245 was similar to our study finding. However, a study done at Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi,  
246 Kenya (14) and two public ICU in Rwanda(15) showed MPM<sub>0</sub>-III to have fair discrimination amongst  
247 their cohort. This observed difference in discrimination maybe due to the effect of case mix between the  
248 study settings. Similarly SAPS 3 has been externally validated in various ICUs, in Italy (16), Brazil (17),  
249 Austria (18) and found to have good discriminatory capability amongst their cohort. Despite SAPS 3  
250 having greater prospective for international generalizability there has been no published studies  
251 evaluating its performance in Sub- Saharan African ICUs. This is the first study that reports its potential  
252 for application in LMICs.

253

254 Calibration describes how the instrument performs over a wide range of predicted mortalities. Calibration  
255 is sensitive to alterations in case-mix and patient care/interventions. Despite its tendency to deteriorate  
256 over time and leading to overestimation of mortality (17), both SAPS 3 AND MPM<sub>0</sub>-III were well  
257 calibrated amongst the critically ill patients admitted at our study setting. Our study findings were  
258 contrary to SAPS 3 validation studies mentioned earlier which reported poor calibration and  
259 overestimation of mortality (16-18). However, external validation studies have reported MPM<sub>0</sub>-III to have  
260 good calibration (12, 13, 19). Earlier studies mentioned that were conducted in Sub Saharan African have  
261 produced contrasting results. The MPM<sub>0</sub>-III was well calibrated amongst the critical ill patients admitted  
262 to the ICU of the Aga Khan University, hospital, Nairobi (14) but showed poor calibration amongst all  
263 adult patients admitted to Rwanda's two public ICUs (15). These findings highlight the similar treatment  
264 protocols and interventions amongst the two sister hospitals located in different geographical regions.

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267 In this retrospective study we also aimed to identify patient demographics, disease patterns, clinical  
268 outcomes as well as factors associated with higher risk of mortality in patients admitted to the ICU of the  
269 Aga Khan Hospital, Dar-es-Salaam. Based on this retrospective observational cohort, the in - ICU  
270 mortality was 16.1%, which is far less than the reported mortality among all other tertiary referral  
271 hospitals of Tanzania 41.4% (20) but slightly exceeds rates reported in western Europe and north

272 America(1). This disparity is not surprising; Since the Intensive care unit at our setting is better-resourced  
273 and comparable in various ways to facilities in HICs.

274

275 The ICU cohort amongst the four tertiary referral hospital in Tanzania was younger (median age 34 years,  
276 IQR 21-53) compared to our study population (median age 58 years, IQR 43–71) this variation could be  
277 due to the exclusion of patients aged less than 18 years in our study. However both the cohorts had male  
278 predominance 57.5% and 62.8 % respectively (20). The bulk of admission was contributed by those  
279 suffering with Neurological disease, sepsis, respiratory and cardiovascular related conditions. Mortality  
280 was highest among those admitted due to sepsis. Our results are in parallel with a large intercontinental  
281 data base that emphasized association of sepsis with high mortality rates in all countries (1).The Median  
282 Length of ICU stay is similar to reports from tertiary hospitals in Sub- Saharan Africa (20, 21).

283

284 Our results highlight the impact of prolonged Length of Stay (LOS) in the ICU which is associated with  
285 higher adjusted odds of in ICU mortality. Prolonged LOS in the ICU may be attributed to development of  
286 multi- systemic complications necessitating continued organ support. Additionally there are no laws and  
287 guidelines in Tanzania with regards to withdrawal or limitations of support hence we hypothesize that  
288 significant fraction of patients with chronically ill conditions and with poor outcomes are admitted for  
289 extended intervals before succumbing to death. Our study findings are comparable to several studies done  
290 in well-equipped ICU's that concluded patients with multiple diseases and having organ dysfunction were  
291 key factors that increased the ICU LOS (22, 23). However contrasting results have also been published  
292 that LOS in ICU was not an independent risk factor for in-hospital mortality, nevertheless it had small  
293 effect on long-term mortality after hospital discharge (24). Contrary to the LOS in the ICU, overall LOS  
294 in the hospital was considered protective in our study as the adjusted odds of mortality decreased as the  
295 length of hospitalization increased.

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297 Those patients transferred from the general ward to the ICU also had higher adjusted odds of mortality;  
298 this is not surprising since it is a mere reflection of deteriorating physiological and clinical condition or  
299 acquisition of a new hospital-acquired illness. Because many life threatening illnesses benefit from early  
300 interventions, few studies have advocated early and immediate transfer to the ICU for treatment to have a  
301 substantial impact on in hospital mortality and LOS (25, 26).

302

303 We identified several Limitations in Our Study. Firstly, this was a single center study and as such the  
304 findings may not be valid across all patient populations in Tanzania. Secondly, since our study was a

305 retrospective design it restricted us on follow up of outcome after ICU discharge and doesn't provide the  
306 same level of evidence as a prospective study design.

## 307 CONCLUSION

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309 In Summary, This is the first and largest study to report on performance of predictive scoring models in  
310 Tanzania. Our study concluded both SAPS 3 and MPM<sub>0</sub>-III to perform well among critically ill patients  
311 admitted to the ICU of the Aga Khan Hospital, Dar-es-salaam, Tanzania. We found our in-ICU mortality  
312 to be much lower compared to other tertiary referral hospitals in Tanzania. Amongst our cohort, patients  
313 with Sepsis had the highest mortality rate. Prolonged ICU stay and those transferred from general wards  
314 to ICU being key factors of mortality. For future Practice, Performance of predictive scoring models tend  
315 to deteriorate over time, termed as worsening of discrimination and calibration resulting in overestimation  
316 of mortality (17). Thus periodic updating is crucial for sustaining accuracy of these predictive models.

317  
318 Our findings conclude that sepsis remains to be a lethal problem amongst our study population thus  
319 clinical research targeting infection prevention efforts and early implementation of targeted interventions  
320 would be key to improved outcomes. The study also highlighted increased mortality rates among patients  
321 transferred from the ward to the ICU, thus vigilant and cautious monitoring would be key in identifying  
322 high risk patients admitted to the general wards.

## 323 ABBREVIATIONS

- 324 • APACHE: Acute physiology and chronic health evaluation
- 325 • SAPS: Simplified acute physiology score
- 326 • MPM: Mortality probability models
- 327 • LOS : Length of Stay
- 328 • ICU :- Intensive care Unit

## 329 DECLARATION

### 330 Ethics approval and consent to participate

331 The Study was approved by the Aga Khan University Ethical research committee (AKU- ERC, EA). The  
332 National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) mandates the AKU – ERC to approve health research  
333 conducted by Tanzanian staff and students under the Act of Parliament No. 23 of 1979 and its  
334 amendments in 1997.

### 335 Consent for publication

336 Not Applicable

### 337 [Availability of Data and materials](#)

338 The datasets used and/or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on  
339 reasonable request

### 340 [Funding](#)

341 The Aga Khan University (AKU) provided funding towards data collection and covered for cost of  
342 undertaking the research.

### 343 [Authors' contributions](#)

344 NK conceptualized and designed the study, NK and OA carried out data collection and drafted the  
345 manuscript. EA, SS and SS were the content supervisor of the project. JO was the methodology  
346 supervisor and carried out the data analysis as well as initial interpretation of the project. NK, EA, SS,  
347 OA, JO, SS reviewed and revised the analyzed data and manuscript. All authors read and approved the  
348 final manuscript.

### 349 [Acknowledgements](#)

350 Special thanks to Dr. Joseph Misanda and Dr. Eva Bubelwa, for their assistance in Data Collection.  
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## 377 REFERENCE

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**Table 1** (on next page)

General and clinical characteristics of patients (N=331)

**Table 1: General and clinical characteristics of patients (N=331)**

Characteristics	All( N=331)	Survivors (n=278)	Non-survivors (n=53)	p-value	
	N (%)	n (%)	n (%)		
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	208(62.8)	174(62.6)	34(64.2)	0.829	
Female	123(37.2)	104(37.4)	19(35.8)		
<b>Age group in years</b>					
< 45	87(26.3)	79(28.4)	8(15.1)	0.015	
45-64	114(34.4)	99(35.6)	15(28.3)		
65-74	61(18.4)	51(18.4)	10(18.9)		
75-84	51(15.4)	36(12.9)	15(28.3)		
> 84	18(5.4)	13(4.7)	5(9.4)		
<b>Ethnicity</b>					
African	178(53.8)	152(54.7)	26(49.1)	0.589	
Asian	136(41.1)	111(39.9)	25(47.2)		
Other	17(5.1)	15(5.4)	2(3.8)		
<b>Admitted from</b>					
Emergency	306(92.5)	257(92.5)	49(92.5)	0.800	
Wards	15(4.5)	12(4.3)	3(5.7)		
Clinic	10(3.0)	9(3.2)	1(1.9)		
<b>Location before ICU admission</b>					
Home	318(96.1)	267(96.0)	51(96.2)	0.950	
Hospital	13(3.9)	11(4.0)	2(3.8)		
<b>Admitting Category</b>					
Surgery	38(11.5)	36(12.9)	2(3.8)	0.014	
Gastroenterology	31(9.4)	25(9.0)	6(11.3)		
Neurology	63(19.0)	53(19.1)	10(18.9)		
Endocrinology	18(5.4)	17(6.1)	1(1.9)		
Respiratory	36(10.9)	35(12.6)	1(1.9)		
Cardiovascular	36(10.9)	30(10.8)	6(11.3)		
Nephrology	16(4.8)	12(4.3)	4(7.6)		
Sepsis	60(18.1)	47(16.9)	13(24.5)		
Obstetrics and Gynecology	10(2.0)	9(3.2)	1(1.9)		
Hematology	7(2.1)	5(1.4)	2(3.8)		
Oncology	16(4.8)	9(3.2)	7(13.2)		
<b>Code Status on Admission</b>					
DNR	40(12.1)	13(4.7)	27(50.9)		< 0.001
Full Code	291(87.9)	265(95.3)	26(49.1)		
<b>Age in years</b>	<b>58(43-71) †</b>	<b>55.5(41-70) †</b>	<b>70(55-78) †</b>	<b>0.0003 ‡</b>	
<b>SAPS 3 scores</b>	<b>42(32-51) †</b>	<b>39(31-48) †</b>	<b>60(51-68) †</b>	<b>&lt; 0.0001 ‡</b>	
<b>MPM<sub>0</sub>III scores</b>	<b>3(2-4) †</b>	<b>3(2-4) †</b>	<b>5(4-6) †</b>	<b>&lt; 0.0001 ‡</b>	
<b>LOS ICU (days)</b>	<b>4(2-6) †</b>	<b>4(2-6) †</b>	<b>6(2-11) †</b>	<b>0.0029 ‡</b>	
<b>LOS Hospital (days)</b>	<b>6(4-10) †</b>	<b>6(4-10) †</b>	<b>8(3-13) †</b>	<b>0.3248 ‡</b>	

†median (IQR); ‡: p-value for Mann-Whitney U test; LOS: Length of Stay, DNR: Do Not resuscitate. Data in median (IQR), and n (%)



**Table 2** (on next page)

Type of support received in the first hour of ICU admission

**Table 2: Type of support received in the first hour of ICU admission**

Type of support	All( N=331)	Survivors (n=278)	Non-survivors (n=53)	p-value
	N (%)	n (%)	n (%)	
None	208(62.8)	196(70.5)	12(22.6)	< 0.001
Hemodialysis	13(3.9)	11(4.0)	2(3.8)	0.9498
Inotropes	33(10.0)	29(10.4)	4(7.6)	0.5206
Mechanical ventilation	26(7.9)	17(6.1)	9(17.0)	0.0070
Inotropes, Hemodialysis	5(1.5)	5(1.8)	0(0.0)	0.3252
Inotropes, mechanical ventilation	36(10.9)	15(5.4)	21(39.6)	< 0.001
Mechanical ventilation, Hemodialysis	3(0.9)	3(1.1)	0(0.0)	0.4474
Inotropes, mechanical ventilation, hemodialysis	7(2.1)	2(0.7)	5(9.4)	0.0001

*Data presented in n (%)*

**Table 3** (on next page)

Comorbid conditions among critically ill patients admitted to the ICU

**Table 3: Comorbid conditions among critically ill patients admitted to the ICU**

Comorbidity	All( N=331)	Survivors (n=278)	Non-survivors (n=53)	p-value
	N (%)	n (%)	n (%)	
Hypertension	174(52.6)	146(52.5)	28(52.8)	0.9553
Diabetes Mellitus	107(32.3)	87(31.3)	20(37.7)	0.3613
Heart Failure	53(16.0)	41(14.7)	12(22.6)	0.1510
Chronic Kidney Disease	45(13.6)	31(11.2)	14(26.4)	0.0030
HIV	21(6.3)	16(5.8)	5(9.4)	0.314
COPD	17(5.1)	15(5.4)	2(3.8)	0.6239
CAD	17(5.1)	15(5.4)	2(3.8)	0.6239
Liver Cirrhosis	16(4.8)	9(3.2)	7(13.2)	0.0022
DM & HTN	87 (26.3)	72 (25.9)	15 (28.3)	0.7157
HTN & CKD	39 (11.8)	27 (9.7)	12 (22.6)	0.0075
DM & HTN & CKD	30 (9.1)	21 (7.6)	9 (17.0)	0.0285

*Data presented in n (%)*

**Table 4**(on next page)

Goodness of fit Hosmer-Lemeshow test and p-value of each scoring model

**Table 4: Goodness of fit Hosmer-Lemeshow test and p-value of each scoring model**

Scoring Model	Chi – Square	P – Value
MPM 0- III Score	5.08	0.2791
SAPS III	4.61	0.7980

**Table 5** (on next page)

Area under curve and 95% confidence Intervals for the models

**Table 5: Area under curve and 95% confidence Intervals for the models**

Variable	Cut-off	AUC	LL	UL	P-value
MPM 0- III Score	4	0.904	0.864	0.944	0.2418
SAPS III	54	0.8892	0.8440	0.935	

*LL: Lower limits; UL: Upper limits; AUC: Area under the ROC curve*

**Table 6** (on next page)

Factors associated with increased odds of mortality among critically ill patients

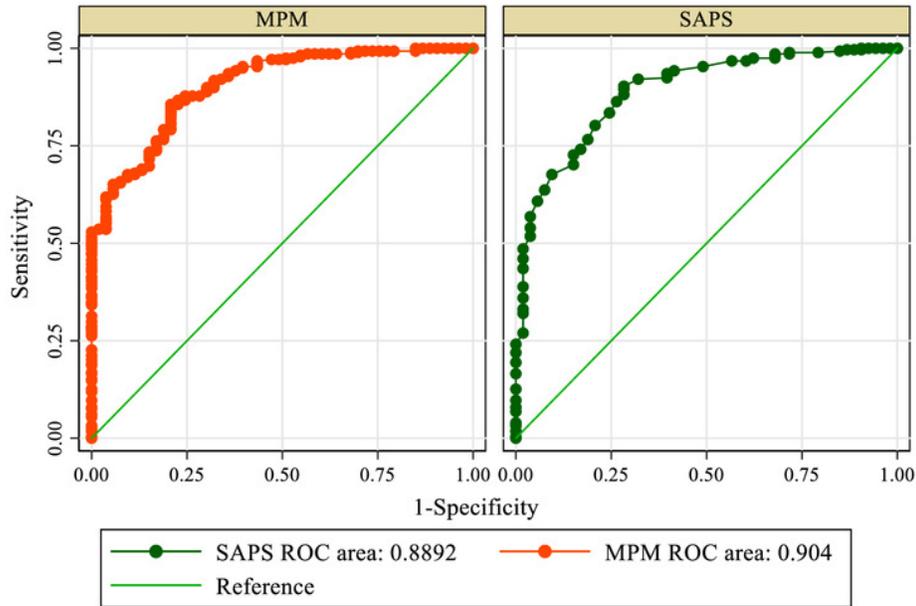
**Table 6: Factors associated with increased odds of mortality among critically ill patients**

Characteristics	Unadjusted Odds ratio			Adjusted Odds ratio		
	OR	95%CI	P-value	OR	95%CI	P-value
<b>Age in years</b>	1.032	1.014-1.051	0.001	1.020	0.997-1.043	0.086
<b>LOS in ICU</b>	1.068	1.021-1.117	< 0.001	1.462	1.179-1.814	0.001
<b>LOS in hospital</b>	1.017	0.994-1.041	0.141	0.717	0.580-0.886	0.002
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	ref					
Female	0.935	0.507-1.723	0.829	0.870	0.399-1.893	0.725
<b>Admitted From</b>						
Emergency	ref					
Wards	1.311	0.357-4.819	0.683	5.341	1.278-22.322	0.022
Clinic	0.583	0.072-4.704	0.612	1.033	0.114-9.347	0.977
<b>Code status</b>						
DNR	ref					
Full code	0.047	0.022-0.102	< 0.001	0.052	0.021-0.129	< 0.001

# Figure 1

Receiver operating curve for predicting the survival outcome according to SAPS III and MPM-0 III models

Figure 1: Receiver operating curve for predicting the survival outcome according to SAPS III and MPM-0 III models



Graphs by group

**Table 7** (on next page)

*Median predicted mortality rates for SAPS-III and MPM-III*

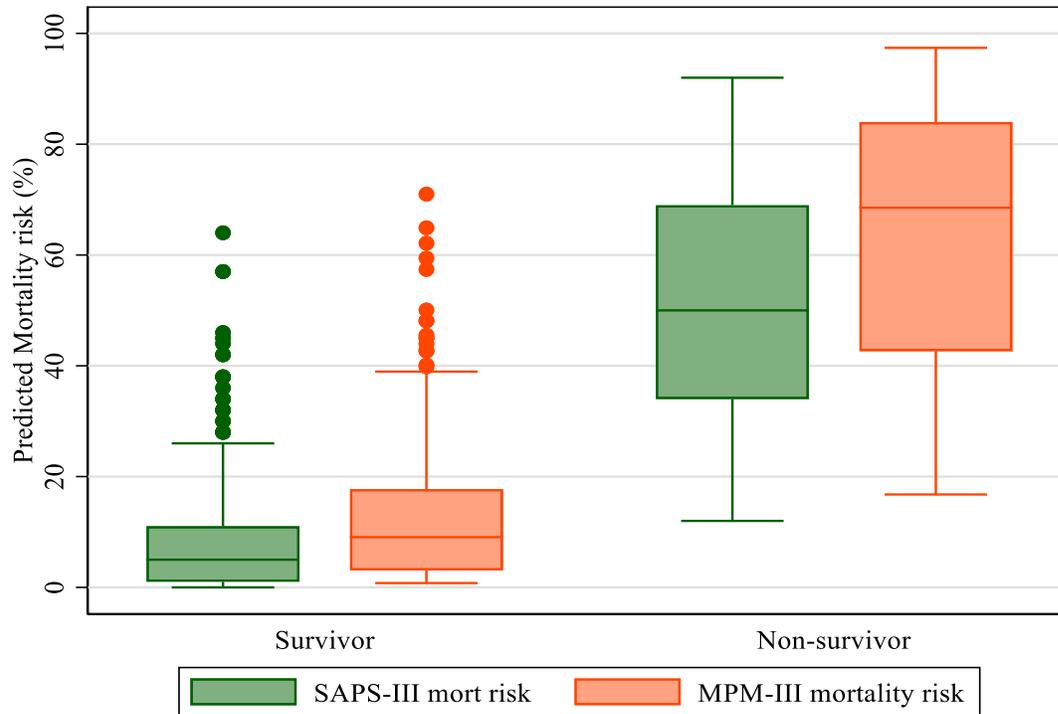


Figure 2: Median predicted mortality rates for SAPS-III and MPM-III