

### PICO strategy

P: Patients with the following characteristics:

- $\geq 18$  years of age.
- Admitted to the Intensive Care Unit
- Septic shock according to the Sepsis-3 criteria
- Sequential Organ Failure Assessment (SOFA) score  $\geq 4$ .
- Monitored with a transpulmonary thermodilution monitor.
- Hypotension requiring vasopressor (norepinephrine exclusively) support to maintain a MAP  $\geq 65$  mmHg.
- Vasopressor support duration  $\geq 4$  hours.
- Mechanical ventilation requirement.

I: The experimental intervention is vasopressor support weaning based on dynamic arterial elastance.

C: The comparison intervention is vasopressor support weaning based on mean arterial pressure.

O: Main outcome: Duration of vasopressor support administration

Secondary outcomes:

- The cumulative dose of norepinephrine.
- The cumulative fluid dose administered during vasopressor weaning.
- The arterial lactate concentrations before and after weaning.
- The incidence of acute renal failure.
- The length of hospital stay.
- The length of ICU stay.

- Mortality.
- The need for renal replacement therapy.
- The incidence of adverse events.