Table 3: Baseline characteristics and management of septic shock patients: significant differences between the 2003-2004 and 2005–2007 periods. COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, SAPS: simplify acute physiology score, SOFA: sepsis-related organ failure assessment score, ICU: intensive care unit, RRT: renal replacement therapy, prothrombin ratio (PR).

	2003-2004	2005-2007	P
Comorbidities n(%)			
Chronic cardiac failure	37(27.8)	20(10.8)	.001
Diabete mellitus	34(25.6)	35(19)	.16
COPD	39(29.3)	41(22.3)	.1544
Chronic liver failure	19(14.3)	16(8.7)	.1171
Chronic alcoolism	(24.8)	(28.3)	.4939
Chronic renal failure	8(6)	8(4.3)	.5034
Non hematologic malignancy	8(6)	28(15.2)	.8367
Hematologic malignancy	18(13.5)	14(7.6)	.084
Immunosuppression	18(13.5)	31(16.8)	.4205
Clinical presentation			
Male sex $n(\%)$	82(61.2)	121(65)	.4794
Age (years) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$63.9 \pm 15.2$	$66.5 \pm 15.3$	.1374
Lactate (meq/l) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$4.6 \pm 4.1$	$3.7 \pm 2.9$	.0993
Platelet count (1000/mm <sup>3</sup> ) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$180\pm1410$	$215 \pm 144$	.0345
Creatinine (mg/l) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$22.4 \pm 14.6$	$22.1 \pm 13.3$	.8113
Bilirubine (mg/l) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$20.8 \pm 21.1$	$15.4 \pm 22.4$	.0425
PR (%) (mean ± SD)	$52.1 \pm 21.5$	$55.1 \pm 20.1$	.2117
$pH (mean \pm SD)$	$7.29 \pm 0.14$	$7.29 \pm 0.13$	.7409
$PaO_2/FiO_2$ (mean $\pm$ SD)	$161.1 \pm 96.4$	$177.9 \pm 107.9$	.1649
SAPS II (mean $\pm$ SD)	$60.8 \pm 20.1$	$63.4 \pm 20.1$	.259
SOFA score (mean $\pm$ SD)	$10.9 \pm 3.2$	$11.6 \pm 3.2$	.0338
Management			
Mechanical ventilation $n(\%)$	(85.1)	(90.8)	.1143
Norepinephrine $n(\%)$	79(59)	158(85.4)	<.0001
Dobutamine <i>n</i> (%)	51(38.1)	32(17.4)	<.0001
Dopamine n(%)	91(67.9)	43(23.4)	<.001
Intensive insulin therapy $n(\%)$	17(12.7)	163(87.6)	<.0001
Γime from sepsis to adapted antibiotic treatment (hours) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$13.9\pm18.7$	$7.2 \pm 18.3$	.0037
Cristalloid volume expansion at 6 hours of sepsis (mean $\pm$ SD)	$816\pm1038$	$1323 \pm 1155$	.0001
Cristalloid volume expansion at 24 hours of sepsis (mean $\pm$ SD)	$1773 \pm 1674$	$2479\pm1696$	.0005
Time from shock to initiation of hydrocortisone (hours) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$11.3\pm14$	$5.6 \pm 9.8$	.0001
Time from shock to intubation (hours) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$4.6 \pm 11.9$	$1.9 \pm 5.2$	.0105
Time from shock to RRT (hours) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$43.6 \pm 42$	$20.8 \pm 28.1$	.002
Time from shock to initiation of nutrition (days) (mean $\pm$ SD)	$2.7 \pm 1.4$	$2.3 \pm 1.1$	.0389

Table 4: Prognosis of septic shock patients: comparison between the 2003-2004 and 2005–2007 periods. ICU: intensive care unit, RRT: renal replacement therapy.

	2003-2004	2005-2007	P
Septic shock complications $n(\%)$	60(46.5)	29(15.6)	<.0001
Number of days alive free from mechanical ventilation on day 28 (mean $\pm$ SD)	$3.9 \pm 6.9$	$6.2 \pm 9.1$	.0207
Number of days alive free from vasopressors on day 28 (mean $\pm$ SD)	$8 \pm 9.6$	$11.6 \pm 10.9$	.0021
Number of days alive free from RRT on day 28 (mean $\pm$ SD)	$8.6 \pm 12.1$	$9.2 \pm 10.7$	.76
Patients discharged from ICU on day 28 n(%)	46(34.6)	69(37.1)	.6452
ICU death n(%)	74(55.2)	100(53.8)	.7958