Table 2. Duration of the different ICU periods by mechanical ventilation needs, and duration of post-ICU ward stay. The data are expressed as mean (standard deviation [SD]) and median (interquartile range [IQR]) number of days (24 hr periods) by treatment group. Time at ward was calculated until discharge or death, up to the end of the follow-up period of 45 days. Possible readmission is not included, missing discharge dates for reasons other than death were imputed to day 45.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean (SD)</th>
<th>Median (IQR)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>dexmedetomidine</td>
<td>pooled standard care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days in ICU on invasive MV</td>
<td>6.9 (9.1)</td>
<td>8.1 (9.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days in ICU on NIV</td>
<td>1.1 (4.4)</td>
<td>0.8 (3.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days in ICU off MV</td>
<td>3.3 (5.7)</td>
<td>3.5 (5.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days at ward</td>
<td>11.1 (11.7)</td>
<td>10.9 (10.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>dexmedetomidine</td>
<td>midazolam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days in ICU on invasive MV</td>
<td>7.7 (9.4)</td>
<td>9.0 (9.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days in ICU on NIV</td>
<td>0.6 (3.3)</td>
<td>0.7 (3.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days in ICU off MV</td>
<td>3.4 (5.9)</td>
<td>3.6 (5.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days at ward</td>
<td>10.7 (12.0)</td>
<td>10.4 (10.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>dexmedetomidine</td>
<td>propofol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Days in ICU on invasive MV</td>
<td>6.2 (8.8)</td>
<td>7.3 (8.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days in ICU on NIV</td>
<td>1.6 (4.9)</td>
<td>0.8 (2.4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Days in ICU off MV</td>
<td>3.1 (5.5)</td>
<td>3.3 (5.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days at ward</td>
<td>11.5 (11.3)</td>
<td>11.5 (11.1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>