Assessed for eligibility (n=260)

- Excluded (n=132)
  - Not meeting inclusion criteria (n=120)
  - Declined to participate (n=8)
  - Other reasons (n=4)

Randomized (n=128)

Allocated to intervention (n=75)
- Did not receive allocated intervention (residual gastric volume greater than 500 ml/24 h) (n=21: abdominal surgery =11, neurosurgery =2, trauma =8)

Allocated to control group (n=53)
- Received allocated intervention (n=53)

Follow-Up

Lost to follow-up (ICU stay < 48 hours) (n=5)
- Discontinued intervention (n=0)

Lost to follow-up (ICU stay < 48 hours) (n=3)
- Discontinued intervention (n=0)

Analysis

Analysed (n=49)
- Excluded from analysis (n=0)

Analysed (n=50)
- Excluded from analysis (n=0)