Figure 1. Consort diagram

Assessed for eligibility (n = 194)

Did not meet inclusion criteria (n = 48)
  - Met exclusion criteria (n = 89)
  - Declined participation (n = 16)
  - Unable to locate family (n = 7)

Randomized (n = 41)

Allocated to intervention (n = 20)
  - One excluded due to treating physician refusal
  - TTE study not available in one patient (died within 24 h)

Lost to follow-up (n = 0)
  - Analyzed (n = 19)

Allocated to control group (n = 21)
  - TTE study not available in two patients (one died within 24 h, one discharged out of ICU before 48h)

Lost to follow-up (n = 0)
  - Analyzed (n = 21)