

# Temporal trends in clinical outcomes after percutaneous coronary intervention: a systematic review of 66,327 patients from 25 all-comers trials

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## KEYWORDS

- ACS/NSTE-ACS
- drug-eluting stent
- stable angina

## Abstract

**Background:** With the improvements of percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) technology and post-PCI patient management, several registry studies reported temporal trends in post-PCI clinical outcomes. However, their results are inconclusive, potentially reflecting region-specific trends, based on site-reported events without external validity.

**Aims:** This study aimed to investigate temporal trends in post-PCI clinical outcomes in all-comers randomised controlled trials (RCTs) involving coronary stents.

**Methods:** We performed a systematic review identifying RCTs comparing a clinical outcome as a primary endpoint among different coronary stents with an all-comers design and independent clinical event adjudication, extracting the study start year, patient baseline characteristics, and one- and five-year clinical outcomes. Temporal trends in clinical outcomes (cardiac death, myocardial infarction [MI], target lesion revascularisation [TLR], stent thrombosis [ST]) were assessed using random-effects meta-regression analyses, estimating the relationship between clinical outcomes and study start year.

**Results:** Overall, 25 all-comers trials (51 device arms, 66,327 patients) conducted between 2003 and 2018 fulfilled the eligibility criteria. Random-effects meta-regression analysis revealed significant decreasing trends in one- and five-year cardiac death, one-year TLR, and five-year ST incidences (relative risk per 10-year increase: 0.69 [0.51-0.92], 0.66 [0.44-0.98], 0.60 [0.41-0.88], and 0.18 [0.07-0.44], respectively). There was no significant trend in myocardial infarction incidences.

**Conclusions:** This is the first attempt to clarify and quantify the temporal trends of post-PCI outcome incidence. The 15-year improvements in PCI therapy and post-therapeutic patient management are associated with reduced incidences of cardiac death and PCI-related adverse events.

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## Abbreviations

<b>CEC</b>	clinical events committee
<b>DES</b>	drug-eluting stents
<b>MI</b>	myocardial infarction
<b>NSTE-ACS</b>	acute coronary syndrome without ST-segment elevation
<b>PCI</b>	percutaneous coronary intervention
<b>RCT</b>	randomised controlled trial
<b>RR</b>	relative risk
<b>ST</b>	stent thrombosis
<b>STEMI</b>	ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction
<b>TLR</b>	target lesion revascularisation

## Introduction

Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) technology has advanced since the first human coronary balloon angioplasty in 1977, with coronary stents (including drug-eluting stents [DES]) ensuring better safety and efficacy after PCI<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, patient management strategies for acute coronary syndrome (ACS) and adjunct pharmacological therapy (e.g., antiplatelet and lipid-lowering therapy) have improved. Considering this combination of developments, the degree of improvement in post-PCI clinical outcomes is of paramount interest. While several registries have reported temporal trends in post-PCI clinical outcomes, their generalisability is limited because the majority of the included patients are from a particular region or institution. Nationwide registries have also reported temporal trends in post-PCI clinical outcomes. However, they did not sufficiently measure the impact of therapeutic developments *per se*, as they reported only crude outcomes such as all-cause mortality, including deaths from non-cardiac causes<sup>2</sup>. Furthermore, these studies were limited by a relatively low patient follow-up rate and lack of objective adjudication of site-reported clinical outcomes. Recent prospective randomised controlled trials (RCTs) have commonly applied an independent clinical events committee (CEC) for objective event adjudication. Considering the limitations of registry reports, the current study aimed to clarify and quantify the temporal trends in post-PCI clinical outcomes using historical data from all-comers RCTs evaluating the efficacy and safety of coronary stents, with independent clinical event adjudication based on a comprehensive systematic review and meta-analytic approach.

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## Methods

### SEARCH STRATEGY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Eligible studies for the systematic review and current meta-analysis were RCTs comparing different coronary stents with an all-comers design based on minimal patient exclusion criteria, presumably reflecting routine clinical practices. Eligible studies included RCTs (1) investigating the safety and efficacy of a DES compared to other stent(s), designed with clinical outcomes as primary endpoints rather than being surrogate markers (e.g., angiographic parameters); (2) with the studied coronary stents being approved by CE marking; (3) with clinical event adjudication by

independent CECs; and (4) with an all-comers design. An all-comers trial was defined as a trial without the major exclusion criteria listed in the **Supplementary Table 1**. As there is no clear definition of an all-comers trial in the literature, our selection was based on consensus among the authors. In the current analysis, trials investigating bifurcation-dedicated, covered, self-expandable stents or bioresorbable scaffolds were excluded for consistency, although we imposed no language, publication date, or publication status restrictions. We searched for relevant trials through Medline, Embase, the Cochrane database, and abstracts and presentations from major cardiovascular meetings, using the keywords “randomized controlled trial”, “coronary artery disease”, and “stent” (**Supplementary Table 2**). The systematic review was conducted in accordance with PRISMA guidelines<sup>3</sup>. Two independent investigator teams (M. Ono/A. Saito and T. Kanie/Y. Takaoka) reviewed the titles, abstracts, and texts for trial eligibility. Disagreements were resolved by consulting another investigator (T. Asano). To identify all-comers trials, we first restricted the target RCTs to those conducted in non-specific populations by excluding specific population trials with particular patient characteristics, clinical settings, or anatomical conditions (e.g., diabetes, high bleeding risk, ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction [STEMI], chronic total occlusion, or left main disease). We then assessed the inclusion and exclusion criteria of these trials and determined their eligibility. Study quality was assessed using the Cochrane Collaboration’s tool for assessing bias risk. The current systematic review was registered and published in PROSPERO (CRD42020108188).

### ENDPOINTS AND DEFINITIONS

The investigated clinical outcomes included cardiac death, myocardial infarction (MI), target lesion revascularisation (TLR), and stent thrombosis (ST) one year after the index procedure. In the included trials, the relevant outcomes at five years were also collected, if applicable. The clinical outcomes were defined as applied in each trial. To reduce bias, we included only TLR incidences reported as repeat revascularisation with objective clinical indication, such as clinically indicated TLR defined by the Academic Research Consortium (ARC)<sup>4</sup>. Clinically indicated TLR was defined as a reintervention for clinically significant stenosis, confirmed by quantitative coronary angiography, with functional or clinical factors justifying the indication of the reintervention. ST was defined as definite ST according to the ARC definition or relevant definitions in trials before the ARC definition was published<sup>4</sup>. The initial iterations of DES (i.e., CYPHER<sup>®</sup> sirolimus-eluting stent [Cordis, Santa Clara, CA, USA] and TAXUS<sup>™</sup> paclitaxel-eluting stent [Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA, USA]) and later iterations of DES were categorised as early and new DES, respectively.

### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Inclusion and exclusion criteria, study start year, participating countries, patient demographics, comorbidities, and incidences of the clinical outcomes in each study arm were extracted from

the publications. Temporal trends in post-PCI clinical outcomes were examined using random-effects meta-regression analysis with a restricted maximum likelihood (REML) estimation method and time (i.e., study start year) as a moderator. Log-transformed incidences were applied in each meta-regression model. Relative risk (RR) per 10 years was calculated based on an exponentiated beta coefficient in the regression model. Results were exponentiated for interpretation and visualisation in figures. The pooled incidence rates were calculated for clinical outcomes, along with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) using the random effects model with REML. The pooled values were also calculated for subgroups stratified by every five years of the first patient enrolment and were presented in forest plots.

The pooled patient follow-up rates in the included trials (i.e., the rate of patients with available clinical status at the one- and five-year follow-ups) were calculated. The homogeneity assumption between treatment effects in different trials was tested using the Q test and further quantified using the  $\tau^2$  and  $I^2$  statistics. The amount of heterogeneity accounted for by the moderator was given under the  $R^2$  statistic. For the sensitivity analysis, we repeated the analyses in a more consistent population by including only trials conducted in European countries. Incidences were calculated based on an intention-to-treat analysis and  $p < 0.05$  was considered statistically significant. All statistical analyses were conducted using R version 3.62 (R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria). The meta-regression model fitting and pooled outcome measure calculations were performed using the metafor package, and the results were visualised with the ggplot2 package.

## Results

Of 10,139 citations identified by the initial database search performed in September 2020, there were 49 eligible RCTs (95 device arms, 97,465 non-specific patients). After assessing the inclusion and exclusion criteria, we identified 25 all-comers trials (51 device arms) enrolling 66,327 patients from 2003-2018 (publication year: 2005-2020) (**Supplementary Figure 1**). The included trials were conducted in Europe, North and South America, East Asia and the Middle East, and Oceania. Twenty trials with 44,943 patients were conducted in European countries alone. The included trials (**Table 1**) had 9 study arms with 12,510 patients receiving early DES and 42 study arms with 53,817 patients receiving new DES. The inclusion and exclusion criteria of the included trials, along with the 49 eligible trials enrolling non-specific patients, are presented in the **Supplementary Table 3**. All 25 all-comers trials reported one-year clinical outcomes at nine or 12 months, whereas 13 with 34,463 patients reported five-year clinical outcome incidences. The pooled patient follow-up rates of the included trials were 99.0% (95% CI: 98.6-99.3) at one year and 98.4% (95% CI: 97.6-99.2) at five years. Detailed information regarding the included trials with the applied definitions for clinical outcomes and the results of the bias assessment are reported in **Supplementary Table 4-Supplementary Table 7**.

Among the one-year clinical outcomes, we observed a decreasing trend over time in cardiac death (RR per 10 years: 0.69 [95% CI: 0.51-0.92];  $R^2=0.23$ ,  $p=0.01$ ) and TLR (RR per 10 years: 0.60 [0.41-0.88];  $R^2=0.15$ ,  $p=0.01$ ), whereas we observed no significant trend in MI incidence (RR per 10 years: 1.15 [0.76-1.74];  $R^2=0.00$ ,  $p=0.50$ ) (**Figure 1**). Our analysis also revealed a decreasing trend in five-year cardiac death incidence (RR per 10 years: 0.66 [0.44-0.98];  $R^2=0.15$ ,  $p=0.04$ ) but not in five-year MI or TLR incidence (**Figure 2**). The forest plots in **Figure 1** and **Figure 2** summarise the pooled incidences of one- and five-year clinical outcomes stratified by each period (study start year: 2003-2007, 2008-2012, and 2013-2016). The pooled incidence of one-year cardiac death was 1.63% (95% CI: 1.27-1.99) in 2003-2007, subsequently decreasing to 1.09% (95% CI: 0.85-1.34) in 2013-2016. The five-year incidence of cardiac death also decreased from 5.27% (95% CI: 4.39-6.15) to 4.64% (95% CI: 4.20-5.09) over 10 years. The incidence of one-year TLR decreased from 4.32% (95% CI: 2.57-6.08) to 2.55% (95% CI: 2.05-3.04) between 2003-2007 and 2013-2016.

**Figure 3** presents temporal trends in one- and five-year ST incidences. There was a significant declining tendency in five-year ST incidence (RR per 10 years: 0.18 [0.07-0.44];  $R^2=0.50$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), while there were no significant trends in one-year ST incidence (RR per 10 years: 0.66 [0.39-1.11];  $R^2=0.07$ ,  $p=0.12$ ). The pooled five-year ST incidence in 2003-2007 was 2.80% (95% CI: 1.89-3.72), decreasing to 1.20% (95% CI: 0.92-1.47) in 2008-2012.

The sensitivity analysis of the 20 Europe-only trials conducted between 2003 and 2018 revealed similar trends in clinical outcomes. **Supplementary Figure 2** includes the detailed results of the sensitivity analysis.

## Discussion

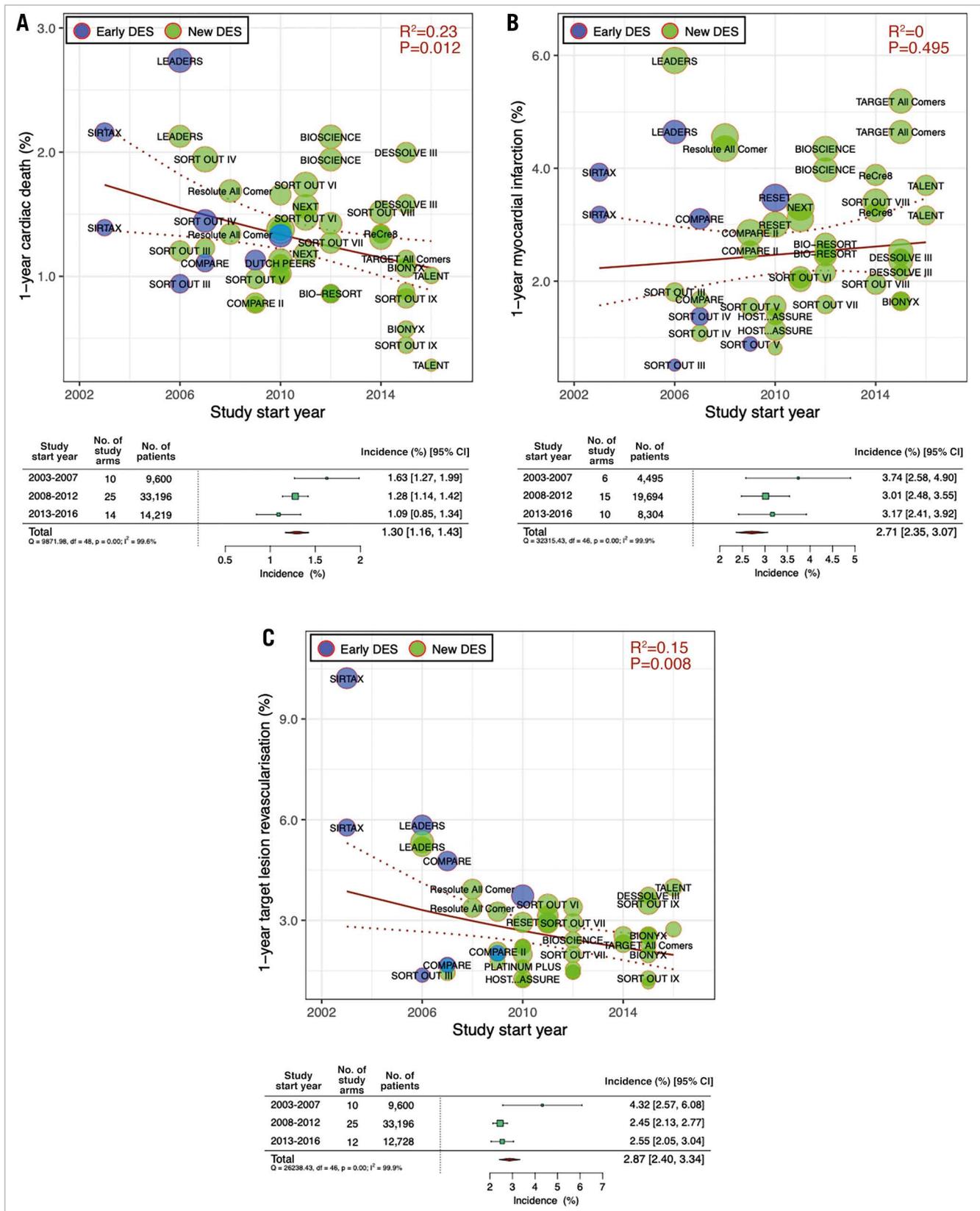
In the current analysis, we aimed to clarify and quantify the temporal trends in the incidence of post-PCI clinical outcomes. Our analysis revealed significant decreasing trends in the incidences of one- and five-year cardiac death (31% and 34% decrease per 10 years, respectively) and TLR (40% decrease per 10 years) and five-year ST (82% decrease per 10 years) over time. However, we observed no significant trends in the MI incidence (**Central illustration**).

To our knowledge, this is the first analysis to investigate temporal trends in clinical outcomes after PCI quantitatively using data from all-comers RCTs (presumably reflecting routine practice) with a substantial patient follow-up rate and objective event adjudication. Indeed, there are considerable discrepancies between objective event adjudication and site reports on which registry studies are generally based. A discordance between investigator-reported and CEC-adjudicated events was reported in a prospective substudy (GLASSY: GLOBAL LEADERS Adjudication Sub-Study) of the GLOBAL LEADERS trial for the detection of clinical events—especially MI, target vessel revascularisation, and major bleeding—which investigated the safety and efficacy of ticagrelor monotherapy one month after DES implantation<sup>5</sup>.

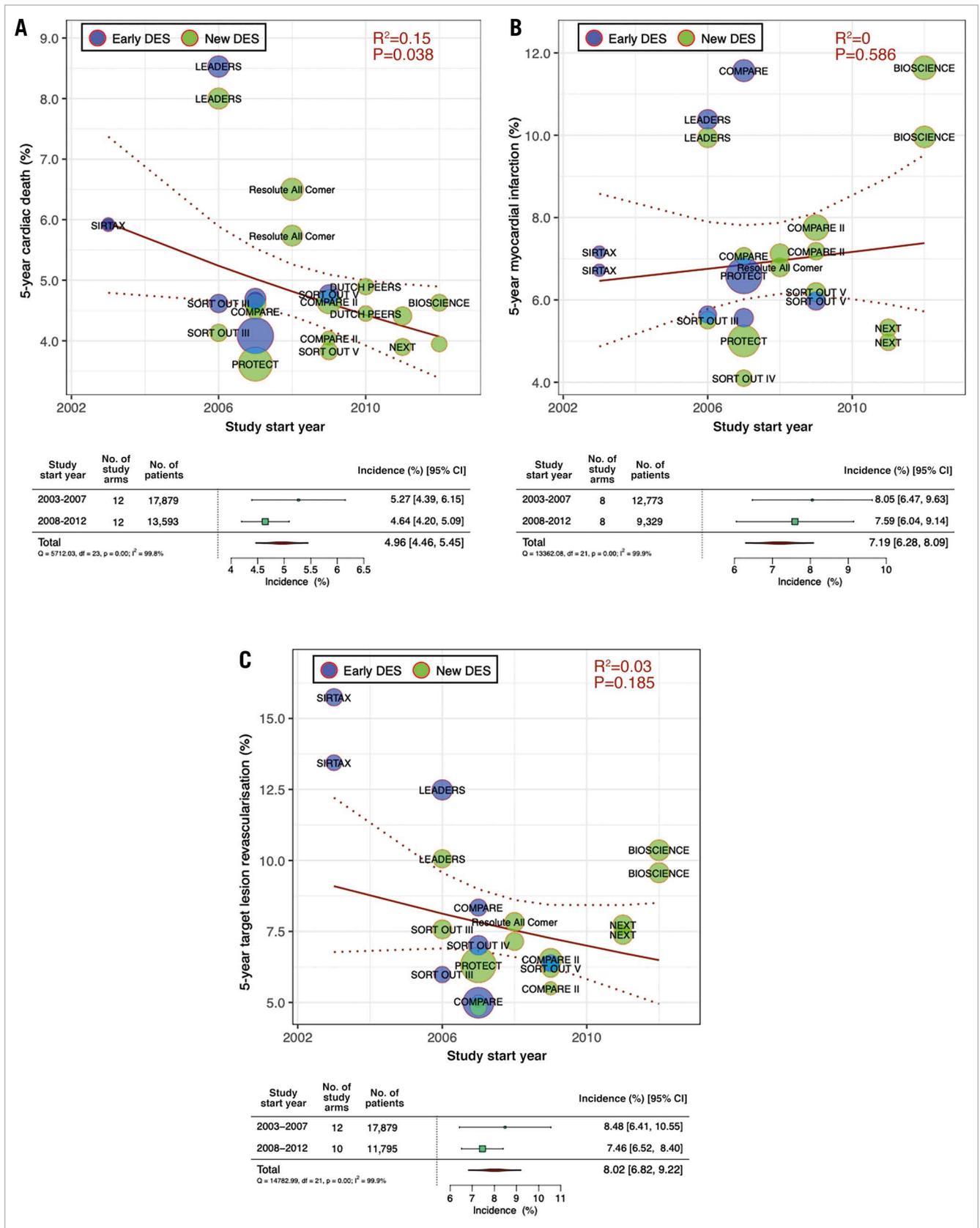
**Table 1. Summary table of the included studies.**

Trial name	Author	Study period	Publication year	Device	No. of enrolled patients	DES generation	Primary endpoint	Country	1-year clinical outcome					5-year clinical outcome				
									Follow-up rate (%)	Cardiac death (%)	MI (%)	TLR (%)	ST (%)	Follow-up rate (%)	Cardiac death (%)	MI (%)	TLR (%)	ST (%)
SIRIAX <sup>17</sup>	Winderker	2003-2004	2005	CYPHER	503	Early	Cardiac death, MI, ischaemia-driven TLR	Switzerland	100	1.4	3.2	5.8	2.0	97.6	5.9	6.7	13.4	4.7
				TAXUS Express	509	Early			100	2.2	3.9	10.2	1.6	96.1	5.9	7.2	15.7	4.3
LEADERS <sup>18</sup>	Winderker	2006-2007	2008	BioMatrix	857	New	Cardiac death, MI, ischaemia-driven TVR	European countries	98.7	2.1	5.9	5.2	2.0	96.3	8.0	9.9	10.1	2.7
				CYPHER	850	Early			98.8	2.7	4.6	5.8	2.0	95.2	8.5	10.4	12.5	4.4
SORT OUT III <sup>19</sup>	Rasmussen	2006-2007	2014	Endeavor	1,162	New	Cardiac death, MI, TVR	Denmark	100	1.2	1.8	5.3	1.1	99.7	4.1	5.5	7.6	1.2
				CYPHER	1,170	Early			100	0.9	0.5	1.4	0.3	99.7	4.6	5.6	6.0	2.1
COMPARE <sup>20</sup>	Kedhi	2007-2008	2010	XIENCE	897	New	All death, MI, TVR	the Netherlands	99.8	1.2	1.7	1.7	0.4	99.4	4.5	7.1	5.0	2.2
				TAXUS Liberté	903	Early			99.9	1.1	3.1	4.8	2.0	99.6	4.7	11.6	8.3	4.0
PROTECT <sup>21</sup>	Gamenzind	2007-2008	2012	Endeavor	4,357	New	Definite or probable stent thrombosis	Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, the Middle East, and North and South America	99.3				0.6	95.9	3.6	5.0	6.3	
				CYPHER	4,352	Early			99.0				0.5	96.3	4.1	6.6	5.0	
SORT OUT IV <sup>22</sup>	Jensen	2007-2009	2012	XIENCE/PROMIUS	1,390	New	Cardiac death, MI, ST, ischaemia-driven TVR	Denmark	100	1.9	1.1	1.4	0.1	99.9	4.6	4.1	4.8	0.4
				CYPHER	1,384	Early			99.9	1.4	1.4	1.7	0.7	99.9	4.7	5.6	7.0	2.0
Resolve All-Comers <sup>23</sup>	Serruys	2008-2008	2010	Resolve	1,140	New	Cardiac death, target vessel MI, ischaemia-driven TLR	European countries	98.2	1.3	4.6	3.9	1.3	98.5	6.5	7.1	7.8	1.6
				XIENCE	1,152	New			97.7	1.7	4.4	3.4	0.4	98.4	5.7	6.8	7.1	0.8
COMPARE II <sup>24</sup>	Smits	2009-2011	2013	Nobori	1,795	New	Cardiac death, MI, ischaemia-driven TVR	the Netherlands	99.4	0.8	2.9	2.1	0.7	98.4	4.6	7.8	6.5	1.5
				XIENCE	912	New			99.1	0.8	2.5	1.8	0.4	97.7	4.0	7.2	5.5	0.9
SORT OUT V <sup>25</sup>	Christiansen	2009-2011	2013	Nobori	1,229	New	Cardiac death, MI, ST, ischaemia-driven TVR	Denmark	99.9	1.0	1.5	3.3	0.7	99.9	3.8	6.2	6.2	1.9
				CYPHER	1,239	Early			100	1.1	0.9	2.0	0.2	99.9	4.8	6.0	6.4	1.5
RESET <sup>26</sup>	Kimura	2010-2010	2012	XIENCE	1,597	New	TLR	Japan	98.0	1.0	3.0	2.9	0.3					
				CYPHER	1,600	Early			98.8	1.3	3.5	3.7	0.4					
DUTCH PEERS <sup>27</sup>	von Birgelen	2010-2012	2014	Resolve	906	New	Cardiac death, target vessel MI, ischaemia-driven TVR	the Netherlands	99.9	1.7		2.2	0.3	99.2	4.4			1.1
				XIENCE	905	New			100	1.1		2.2	0.7	99.3	4.9			1.1
HOST-ASSURE <sup>28</sup>	Park	2010-2011	2014	PROMIUS	2,503	New	Cardiac death, target vessel MI, ischaemia-driven TLR	South Korea	98.7	1.4	1.1	1.3	0.2					
				Resolve	1,252	New			98.7	1.4	1.4	1.2	0.2					
PLATINUM PLUS <sup>29</sup>	Fajadet	2010-2012	2017	PROMIUS	1,952	New	Cardiac death, target vessel MI, ischaemia-driven TVR	European countries	95.4	1.1	1.6	2.0	0.3					
				XIENCE	1,028	New			96.0	1.0	0.8	1.6	0.3					
NEXT <sup>30</sup>	Matsunami	2011-2011	2013	Nobori	1,617	New	TLR	Japan	99.0	1.6	3.3	2.9	0.2	74.3	4.4	5.3	7.7	0.5
				XIENCE/PROMIUS	1,618	New			99.4	1.2	3.1	2.9	0.1	74.5	3.9	5.0	7.4	0.3

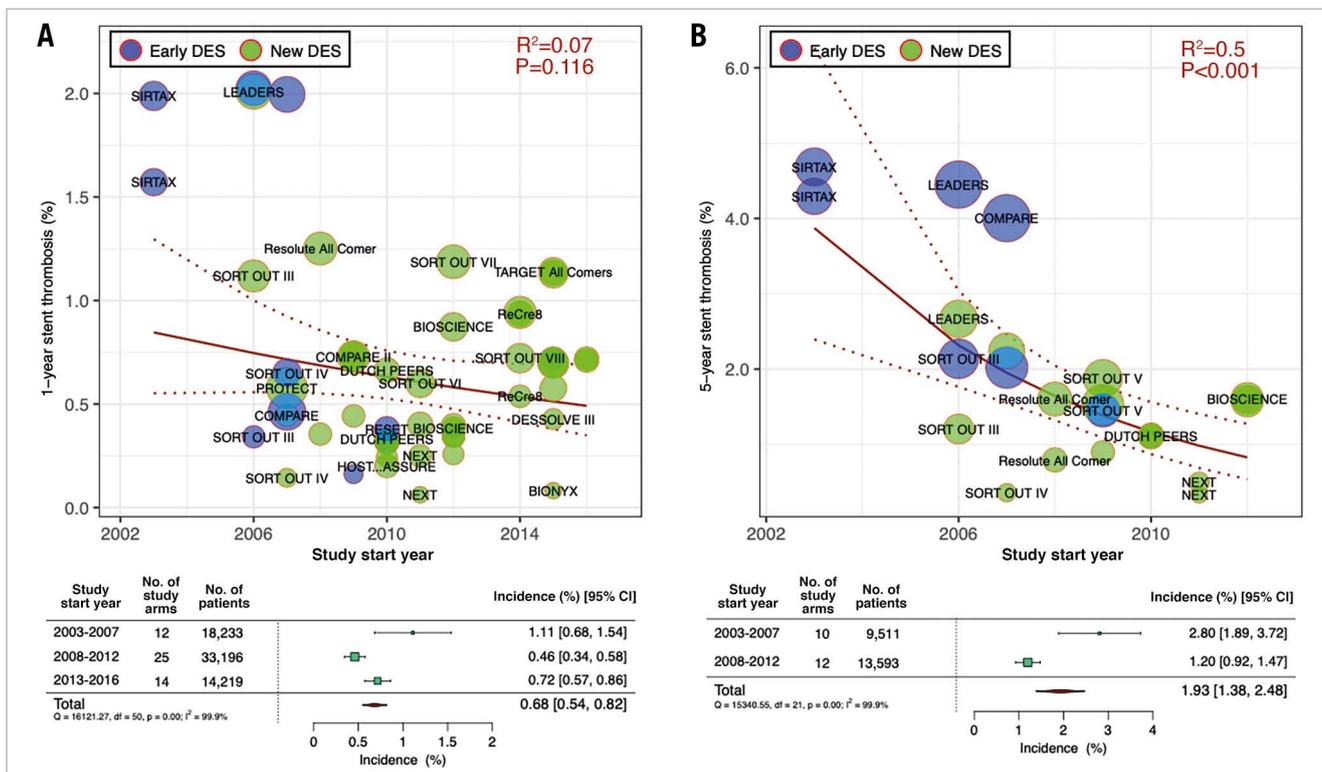




**Figure 1.** Meta-regression analysis for temporal trends trends at one year: One-year incidences of A) cardiac death, B) myocardial infarction and C) target lesion revascularisation. Bubbles are plotted in accordance with the study start year and incidences of clinical outcomes for each study (device) arm. The size of each bubble is correlated with a weight in the analysis. Forest plots summarise the pooled estimated incidences of each clinical outcome divided into three periods (2003-2007, 2008-2012, and 2013-2016). CI: confidence interval; DES: drug-eluting stents; No.: number



**Figure 2.** Meta-regression analysis for temporal trends at five years. Five-year incidences of A) cardiac death, B) myocardial infarction and C) target lesion revascularisation. Bubbles are plotted in accordance with the study start year and incidences of clinical outcomes for each study (device) arm. The size of bubble is correlated with a weight in the analysis. Forest plots summarise the pooled estimated incidences of each clinical outcome divided into two periods (2003-2007 and 2008-2012). CI: confidence interval; DES: drug-eluting stents; No.: number

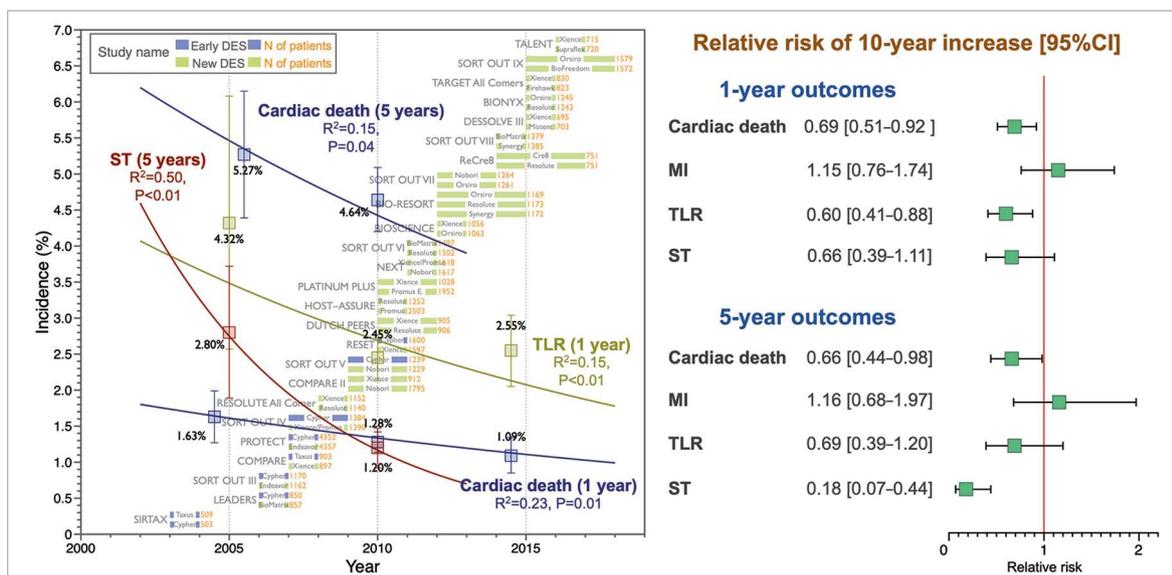


**Figure 3.** Meta-regression analysis for temporal at one and five years. Incidence of A) one-year and B) five-year stent thrombosis. Bubbles are plotted in accordance with the study start year and incidences of clinical outcomes for each study (device) arm. The size of each bubble is correlated with a weight in the analysis. Forest plots summarise the pooled estimated incidences of each clinical outcome divided into three periods (2003-2007, 2008-2012, and 2013-2016). CI: confidence interval; DES: drug-eluting stents; No.: number

**TEMPORAL TRENDS IN CARDIAC DEATH AFTER PCI**

In a recent study investigating the temporal trend of mortality after PCI using British Cardiovascular Intervention Society

PCI Registry data collected between 2007 and 2014, the mean age of patients receiving PCI increased from 63.8 to 65.1 years, with more recent years being associated with higher mortality<sup>2</sup>.



**Central illustration.** Temporal trends in the incidence of post-PCI clinical outcomes. In the meta-regression analysis including 25 all-comers RCTs, there were significant decreasing trends in the incidence of one- and five-year cardiac death, one-year TLR, and five-year ST whereas there were no trends in MI incidences. CI: confidence interval; DES: drug-eluting stent; MI: myocardial infarction; RCT: randomised controlled trial; RR: relative risk; ST: stent thrombosis; TLR: target lesion revascularisation

Mortality was also affected by other comorbidities such as cancer, even after age and sex adjustment. Similarly, in the current analysis, the mean age of the patients gradually increased over time (2.30 years per 10 years [95% CI: 0.82-3.77],  $p < 0.001$  for trend). However, the cardiac death incidence following PCI tended to decrease, whereas all-cause death did not have decreasing trends at one and five years (RR per 10 years: 0.97 [0.78-1.22] at one year and 1.08 [0.76-1.54] at five years) (**Supplementary Figure 3**). Interestingly, the incidences of non-cardiac death had increasing tendencies (RR per 10 years: 1.53 [1.08-2.17] at one year and 1.63 [0.94-2.85] at five years) (**Supplementary Figure 3**). In a more aged population, all-cause death may counterbalance the incidence with other increased comorbidities due to ageing.

Improving the prognosis of coronary artery disease is one of the major goals of PCI therapy. To date, a great deal of effort has been made in various approaches for achieving this goal. Patient management for acute coronary syndrome (ACS) (timing and completeness of revascularisation, mechanical circulatory support device, and acute cardiac care after PCI), general cardiovascular risk control (medical treatment and lifestyle modification), PCI device (DES, intravascular imaging, and guidewire), invasive functional assessment, and antiplatelet therapy after PCI have improved over the years. The observed decreasing trend in the incidence of cardiac death may be attributed to the integration of these developments, suggesting that measures taken thus far have been in the proper direction.

Major contributing factors to the observed decreasing trend in cardiac death incidence might be the improvement of the patient management including cardiovascular risk control and medical treatment rather than improvements in PCI technology and technique. This is because no major trials have demonstrated a significant benefit of revascularisation in mortality for patients with chronic coronary syndrome, who were mainly enrolled in the included trials<sup>6</sup>. However, it is likely that additional technological and technical improvements in PCI will lead to further decreases in the incidence of TLR and ST, which may in turn improve prognosis among affected patients. In a large patient-level meta-analysis including 32,524 patients, TLR after PCI was an independent predictor of long-term mortality (hazard ratio: 1.23 [1.04-1.45])<sup>7</sup>. In a recent report from a large registry in the USA, functional fractional flow reserve (FFR) prior to PCI gradually increased from 44% to 75% between 2009 and 2017, and FFR-guided PCI was associated with a lower risk of one-year mortality than angiography-guided PCI<sup>8</sup>.

### TEMPORAL TRENDS IN PCI-RELATED OUTCOMES

The observed improvement in the incidence of PCI-related outcomes (i.e., TLR and ST) was potentially associated with improvements in PCI technologies and techniques, and medical therapies represented by P2Y<sub>12</sub> inhibitors and lipid-lowering therapy. The SYNTAX II trial investigated the impact of the integration of new developments in PCI practice (usage of a contemporary DES, intravascular ultrasound, and pressure wire for the physiological assessment) on clinical outcomes in patients with multivessel

disease. The results were compared with those of the SYNTAX I trial conducted nine years earlier<sup>9</sup>. The SYNTAX II study revealed significant decreases in the incidence of repeat revascularisation and ST, in accordance with our findings.

Second-generation DES with modified drug elution, thinner struts, and biocompatible polymers have been associated with improved efficacy and reduced incidence of repeat revascularisation when compared with first-generation DES<sup>1</sup>. However, no additional positive impact of the thinner strut of the contemporary DES on TLR incidence has been reported<sup>10</sup>. The results of the current analysis are consistent with those of these previous findings. The pooled one-year incidence of TLR decreased from the first to the second period (2003-2007, 2008-2012, respectively), while the incidences were comparable between the second and latest periods (2008-2012, 2013-2016, respectively) (**Figure 1**). Furthermore, the significant trend in TLR incidence observed at one year became non-significant at five years (adjusted RR: 0.65 [0.38-1.12]). This suggests that the impact of difference in DES generations on long-term TLR incidence became less obvious at five years. Several RCTs reported their extended results beyond five years (7-10 years), in which differences in clinical outcomes (TLR and ST) between different DES became less significant in the very long term<sup>11</sup>.

Potential technical factors influencing TLR incidence include the utilisation of intravascular imaging during PCI<sup>12</sup>. Nevertheless, the penetration rate of intravascular imaging is still low at 5-15% in the USA and European countries, in which the majority of the included trials were conducted<sup>13</sup>. Although the included trials rarely reported the prevalence of intravascular imaging-guided PCI, the BIONYX trial conducted in European countries and Israel between 2015 and 2016 reported a 1.2% utilisation rate of intracoronary imaging<sup>14</sup>.

In the current analysis, the five-year ST incidence decreased significantly over time (RR per 10 years: 0.18 [0.07-0.44],  $p < 0.01$ ). This is potentially attributed to the development of coronary stents with thinner struts and biocompatible polymers with or without biodegradation, the advent of potent P2Y<sub>12</sub> inhibitors, and improvement in lipid lowering therapy presumably inhibiting the progression of neoatherosclerosis<sup>15</sup>.

### IMPLICATIONS OF THE CURRENT RESULTS AND STUDY LIMITATIONS

The current analysis observed several significant trends in clinical outcomes after PCI in the all-comers RCTs. The observed trends were ascribed to the composite of miscellaneous factors mainly associated with time course, which included developments in PCI technologies and techniques, invasive functional assessment, medical therapies (P2Y<sub>12</sub> inhibitors, lipid-lowering therapy, etc.), and cardiovascular prevention measures. The current analysis has a limitation in discriminating specific factors attributed to each endpoint because of the lack of individual data especially for medical treatment including antiplatelet therapy. Furthermore, in the across-study comparison, between-study heterogeneity is hardly

eliminated, even if multiple-covariate adjustment is applied. The results should be interpreted with caution considering the potential existence of spurious or collinear effects. Other limitations to the current analysis are as follows. First, the included population was not necessarily representative of the real-world population, although they were selected from all-comers trials with minimal exclusion criteria. In their study, de Boer et al reported that applying the all-comers design did not result in the inclusion of all consecutive patients in the *post hoc* analysis of the LEADERS and RESOLUTE all-comers trials<sup>16</sup>. The current analysis may have included selected populations with undetected biases. Second, the definitions of clinical outcomes, especially MI, varied as shown in **Supplementary Table 5** and **Supplementary Table 6**. This may have precluded an unbiased assessment of temporal trends in clinical outcomes. Recent MI definitions include an assessment using sensitive cardiac markers (i.e., cardiac troponins). Consequently, the events which were adjudicated as unstable angina according to the old definitions were adjudicated as MI with the recent definitions, potentially resulting in underestimation of improvements in terms of MI prevention. Third, the performance of TLR is susceptible to the bias of investigators. The early trials tended to include a subgroup with scheduled angiographic follow-up (**Supplementary Table 8**). It should be noted that in the SIRTAX trial which reported a high TLR incidence, nearly 50% of the patients underwent follow-up angiography at both one and five years. In those trials, the oculostenotic reflex potentially triggered the performance of TLR, although we applied only clinically indicated TLR adjudicated by an independent CEC based on the objective definition. Fourth, our study lacked investigation regarding bleeding events after PCI. PCI therapy has been developed by balancing thrombotic events with bleeding events besides the development of antiplatelet therapy including modification of the duration of dual antiplatelet therapy. Novel P2Y<sub>12</sub> inhibitors potentially reduce thrombotic events represented by MI and ST, whereas more potent antiplatelet therapy might introduce an increased incidence of bleeding events. A small number of the included trials (six out of 25 trials) reported the bleeding event incidence with various definitions across the trials. This imposed a limitation on demonstrating the temporal trend of the bleeding event rate. We tabulated the summary of the reported bleeding event incidences and antiplatelet regimen of the included trials in **Supplementary Table 9**. Fifth, the current analysis was conducted by splitting each trial into individual arms to clarify the impact of the device difference. However, this methodology eventually debanded a within-trial integrity based on the randomisation.

## Conclusions

Our meta-regression analysis, which included all-comers RCTs for DES use between 2003 and 2018, revealed significant decreasing trends in one-year cardiac death (31% decrease per 10 years) and TLR (40% decrease per 10 years) incidences, and five-year cardiac death (34% decrease per 10 years) and ST (82% decrease per 10 years) incidences but no significant trends in the MI incidence

over time. Our analysis indicated that 15-year developments in PCI therapy and post-therapeutic patient care were associated with decreased incidence. PCI procedures and meticulous patient management such as post-PCI MI prevention strategies may be critical for ensuring better clinical outcomes.

## Impact on daily practice

Our analysis revealed a decreasing trend in one- and five-year cardiac death, one-year TLR, and five-year ST incidences after PCI in all-comers stent trials conducted over the last 15 years; however, no such trends for MI incidence were observed. The integration of miscellaneous therapeutic developments might have contributed to these decreases. Further improvements in PCI-related outcomes, post-PCI MI prevention strategies, and therapeutic approaches may clarify the effects of PCI on patient prognosis.

## Conflict of interest statement

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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## Supplementary data

**Supplementary Table 1.** Definition of an all-comers trial.

**Supplementary Table 2.** Search strategy.

**Supplementary Table 3.** Inclusion and exclusion criteria of the eligible and included trials.

**Supplementary Table 4.** Patient baseline characteristics and medication of the included trials.

**Supplementary Table 5.** Definitions of myocardial infarction in the included trials.

**Supplementary Table 6.** Definitions of cardiac death and clinically indicated target lesion revascularisation.

**Supplementary Table 7.** Bias assessment of the included trials.

**Supplementary Table 8.** Performance of routine angiographic follow-up in the included trials.

**Supplementary Table 9.** List of antiplatelet therapy regimens and bleeding event rates in the included trials.

**Supplementary Figure 1.** Study selection process.

**Supplementary Figure 2.** The results of sensitivity analysis.

**Supplementary Figure 3.** Temporal trends of all-cause death and non-cardiac death.

The supplementary data are published online at:  
<https://eurointervention.pconline.com/doi/10.4244/EIJ-D-21-00192>



## Supplementary data

### Supplementary Table 1. Definition of an all-comers trial.

An all-comers trial was defined as one enrolling patients without the major exclusion criteria listed below.

- a Stenting for multiple lesions or vessels (>3 lesions or stents)
- b Low ejection fraction of left ventricular (<30 or 35%)
- c Haemodialysis
- d ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction
- e Non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndrome
- f Severely calcified lesion
- g Thrombotic lesion
- h Chronic total occlusion
- i In-stent restenosis
- j Saphenous vein graft
- k Arterial graft
- l Unprotected left main coronary artery
- m Bifurcated lesion with side branch (>2 mm) or requiring two stents
- n Aorto-ostial lesion
- o Long lesion with length over 30 mm

## Supplementary Table 2. Search strategy.

		N of publications
<b>PubMed</b>		
#1	"Coronary Artery Disease"[Mesh]	64,648
#2	coronary[TIAB]	401,835
#3	#1 OR #2	412,330
#4	"Stents"[Mesh]	80,154
#5	stent*[TIAB]	103,181
#6	#4 OR #5	118,029
#7	#3 AND #6	34,902
#8	"randomized controlled trial"[Publication Type]	526,106
#9	"randomized controlled trials as topic"[MeSH Terms]	144,239
#10	#8 OR #9	662,528
#11	#7 AND #10	4,499
<b>Embase</b>		
#1	'coronary artery disease'/exp	339,681
#2	coronary	737,700
#3	#1 OR #2	739,876
#4	'stent'/exp	175,261
#5	stent*	212,905
#6	#4 OR #5	215,209
#7	#3 AND #6	40,842
#8	#7 AND ('controlled clinical trial'/de OR 'randomized controlled trial'/de OR 'randomized controlled trial topic'/de)	3,948
<b>Cochrane Library</b>		
#1	MeSH descriptor: [Coronary Artery Disease] explode all trees	6,525
#2	coronary:ti,ab,kw	56,852
#3	#1 or #2	56,852
#4	MeSH descriptor: [Stents] explode all trees	4,232
#5	stent*:ti,ab,kw	15,567
#6	#4 or #5	15,617
#7	#3 and #6	8,533
#8	#7 in Trials	8,509
#9	#8 not pubmed:an	4,204
#10	#9 not embase:an	1,692



<b>DUTCH PEERS</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>HOST--ASSURE</b>	YES	1	Included	Included	Not reported	Included	Included	Not reported	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>BASKET-PROVE II</b>	NO	5	Included	Not reported	Not reported	Included	Included	Not reported	Included	Included	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Included	Not reported	Included
<b>PLATINUM PLUS</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Not reported	Included
<b>NEXT</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>PROMISE</b>	NO	7	Included	Not reported	Excluded	Excluded	Included	Not reported	Included	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Not reported	Excluded	Excluded	Not reported	Included
<b>SORT OUT VI</b>	YES	0	Included	Not reported	Not reported	Included	Included	Not reported	Included	Included	Included	Included	Not reported	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>BIOSCIENCE</b>	YES	0	Included	Not reported	Not reported	Included	Included	Not reported	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>CENTURY II</b>	NO	3	Included	Excluded	Excluded	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>EVOLVE II</b>	NO	6	Included	Not reported	Not reported	Excluded	Included	Not reported	Not reported	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Not Reported	Not reported	Included
<b>BIO-RESORT</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Not reported	Included
<b>SORT OUT VII</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Not reported	Included
<b>BIOFLOW-IV</b>	NO	15	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Included	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded
<b>BIONICS</b>	NO	7	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Included	Included	Not reported	Included	Included	Included	Included	Not reported	Excluded	Not reported	Excluded
<b>HARMONEE</b>	NO	10	Included	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Included	Included	Included	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Not reported	Excluded
<b>ReCre8</b>	YES	1	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>SORT OUT VIII</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>BIOFLOW V</b>	NO	10	Included	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Included	Included	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Not reported	Included
<b>DESSOLVE III</b>	YES	1	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Not reported	Included
<b>BIONYX</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>SORT OUT IX</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>TARGET All Comers</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>TALENT</b>	YES	0	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included

All the eligible 49 trials enrolling non-specific population are listed. The included all-comers trials are highlighted in red.

CTO: chronic total occlusion; EF: ejection fraction; ISR: in-stent restenosis; N: number; NSTE-ACS: non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndrome; STEMI: ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; SVG: saphenous vein graft

**Supplementary Table 4. Patient baseline characteristics and medication of the included trials.**

Trial name	Device	N of patients	N of lesions	Mean age	Male (%)	Hypertension (%)	Diabetes (%)	Dyslipidaemia (%)	STEMI (%)	NSTE-ACS (%)	Prior MI (%)	Renal insufficiency (%)	N of lesions treated	Beta-blocker (%)	Statin (%)	ACEI/ARB (%)	DAPT at one year (%)
<b>SIRTAX</b>	CYPHER	503	693	62	75.9	60	21.5	60.6	23.3	27.8	28.8		1.4				
	TAXUS Express	509	708	62	78.4	62.3	18.3	57	21.6	30.1	29.7		1.4				
<b>LEADERS</b>	BioMatrix	857	1,257	64.6	75	73.5	26	65.3	15.8	39.1	32.2		1.5				
	CYPHER	850	1,215	64.5	74.6	72.7	22.5	68.2	16.5	39.2	32.6		1.4				
<b>SORT OUT III</b>	Endeavor	1,162	1,619	64.3	73.3	54	15	70	6	37.5	25						
	CYPHER	1,170	1,611	64.3	73.7	51	14	68	8.5	38.1	26						
<b>COMPARE</b>	XIENCE	897	1,286	62.9	69	46.5	17.1	49.8	26.8	33.6	15	3	1.4				70
	TAXUS Liberté	903	1,294	63.6	72.4	49.5	19	49.9	23.5	35.7	18	3	1.4				70
<b>PROTECT</b>	Endeavor	4,357	6,151	62.3	76.7	64.6	26.9	61.8	8.2	17.6	20		1.4				87
	CYPHER	4,352	6,140	62.1	76	63.4	28.4	62.8	8.8	17.1	21		1.39				88
<b>SORT OUT IV</b>	XIENCE/PROMUS	1,390	1,805	64.2	75.9	56.7	14	71.1	8.8	32.9	21.5		1.3				
	CYPHER	1,384	1,779	64	75.2	53.8	14.2	71.1	10.5	32.7	20.6		1.3				
<b>Resolute All Comer</b>	Resolute	1,140	1,661	64.4	76.7	71.1	23.5	63.9	34.5	19.4	28.9		1.46				
	XIENCE	1,152	1,705	64.2	77.2	71.3	23.4	67.7	33.7	18.9	30.4		1.48				
<b>COMPARE II</b>	Nobori	1,795	2,638	63	74.4	54.8	21.8		20.7	37.2	20.3	4.3	1.5				66.6
	XIENCE	912	1,387	62.7	74.3	56.3	21.6		21.6	36.2	18.8	4.4	1.5				65.9
<b>SORT OUT V</b>	Nobori	1,229	1,532	65	74.6	55.5	15.1	57.8	18.3	30.3	17.7		1.25				
	CYPHER	1,239	1,555	65.2	75.1	52.7	15.3	58.9	18.3	31	17.3		1.26				
<b>RESET</b>	XIENCE	1,597	1,967	68.9	77.5	79.5	45.5	74.5	6.5	11.3	29	2.1	1.23	36.8	77.4	61.8	11.1

	CYPHER	1,600	1,960	69.3	76.1	80.6	44.6	75.3	5.2	13.3	31	2.4	1.23	37.7	77.4	60.9	10.4
<b>DUTCH PEERS</b>	Resolute	906	1,205	64	73.4	55.2	18.4	46.1	19.3	39.6	23	4					
	XIENCE	905	1,166	65	72.6	53	17.3	47.5	21.5	36.8	21	3					
<b>HOST-ASSURE</b>	PROMUS	2,503	3,426	63.1	69.8	68.2	31.8	64	11.3	18.1	4.6	2.4		68.3	84.8	65.4	91.1
	Resolute	1,252	1,661	63.5	65.6	68.1	32	65.7	10.9	16.7	3.9	2.9		67.5	85.9	66.2	92.6
<b>PLATINUM PLUS</b>	PROMUS	1,952	3,289	65.7	77.7	68	29.1	63.4	8.7	28.1	21.7		1.6				59.4
	XIENCE	1,028	1,711	66.1	78.4	68.6	27.2	62.2	9.3	27.6	24.3		1.6				61.2
<b>NEXT</b>	Nobori	1,617	1,985	69.1	77	81.4	46.1	78.2	5.1	11.6	28	2.5	1.27				86.7
	XIENCE/PROMUS	1,618	1,947	69.3	77.4	81.8	45.7	78.1	4.4	11.1	28	2.6	1.24				87.5
<b>SORT OUT VI</b>	Resolute	1,502	1,883	65.7	76.2	59.7	17.6	59.3	19.6	31	18.7		1.3				
	BioMatrix	1,497	1,791	65.8	75.8	58.1	18	59.1	16.9	33.9	19.7		1.3				
<b>BIOSCIENCE</b>	Orsiro	1,063	1,594	66.1	77	68.5	24.2	67	19.8	34.4	21		1.5	47.3	53.6	25.9	83.4
	XIENCE	1,056	1,545	65.9	77.3	66.9	21.7	67.8	18.6	33.9	19.3		1.46	45.4	54.2	26.6	82.1
<b>BIO-RESORT</b>	SYNERGY	1,172	1,532	64	72.1	44.4	17.3	36	32.2	37.5	16	3					85.5
	Resolute	1,173	1,580	63.6	72.3	47.2	17.9	38.4	27.8	41.7	21	3					86.3
	Orsiro	1,169	1,551	64.2	73.1	47	18	39.6	31.7	38.3	18	4					85.1
<b>SORT OUT VII</b>	Orsiro	1,261	1,590	66.1	74.9	58.1	18.7	57.6	21.3	30.8	17.4		1.3				
	Nobori	1,264	1,588	64.8	75.2	56.4	18.6	56.7	20.7	32.6	17.8		1.3				
<b>ReCre8</b>	Resolute	744	1,024	65.1	77.6	55.2	20	45.7	22.4	25	21.2						40.1
	Cre8	747	1,087	64.7	75.6	55.2	20.7	43.5	24.2	22.6	18.6						39.4
<b>SORT OUT VIII</b>	SYNERGY	1,385	1,725	66	76.5	56.1	18.1	54			18						
	BioMatrix	1,379	1,670	66	76.6	57.7	19	52.5			17						
<b>DESSOLVE III</b>	MiStent	703	1,037	66.4	70.3	72	26.6	60.8	14.7	44.2	27	7	1.49				

	XIENCE	695	993	66.3	73.8	75	27.1	60	15.7	43	28	7	1.44
<b>SORT OUT IX</b>	BioFreedom	1,572	1,966	66.4	77.5	56.8	16.7	52.8	23.3	32	14.7		1.3
	Orsiro	1,579	1,985	66.1	77.3	53.8	16.6	49.2	25.1	32	15.2		1.3
<b>BIONYX</b>	Resolute Onyx	1,243	1,646	64.1	76.1	51.5	20.9	45.4	22.7	48.1	16.1	6.7	83.9
	Orsiro	1,245	1,593	63.9	76.1	53.2	20.1	46.4	27.2	43.9	15.6	6.7	82.2
<b>TARGET All Comers</b>	FIREHAWK	823	1,221	64.9	78.1	59.9	24	53	8.4	35.4	21.7	5.5	1.5
	XIENCE	830	1,179	65.3	76.4	62.5	23	51.2	8.9	35.4	24.8	7	1.4
<b>TALENT</b>	Supraflex	720	1,046	66	75.8	65.3	21.8	61.8	16.5	43.1	18.9	2.8	1.45
	XIENCE	715	1,030	65	76	66	24.9	60.2	16.4	40.3	17.9	2	1.44

ACEI/ARB: angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors/angiotensin II receptor blocker; AHA/ACC: American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology; DAPT: dual antiplatelet therapy; LVEF: left ventricular ejection fraction; N: number; NSTEMI: non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndrome; STEMI: ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction

**Supplementary Table 5. Definitions of myocardial infarction in the included trials.**

<b>Trial name</b>	<b>Study start year</b>	<b>Definition of spontaneous MI</b>
<b>SIRTAX</b>	2003	Q or CKMB/cTn>2ULN
<b>LEADERS</b>	2006	ECG or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN)
<b>SORT OUT III</b>	2006	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition] <sup>70</sup>
<b>COMPARE</b>	2007	Clinical/ECG + CKMB/cTn>1ULN
<b>PROTECT</b>	2007	ECG or (clinical + CKMB/cTn>1ULN)
<b>SORT OUT IV</b>	2007	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>Resolute All Comer</b>	2008	(Clinical + Q + cTn/CK>1ULN) or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or CKMB/cTn>3ULN [Extended historical] <sup>71</sup>
<b>COMPARE II</b>	2009	Clinical/ECG + CKMB/cTn>1ULN
<b>SORT OUT V</b>	2009	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>DUTCH PEERS</b>	2010	(Clinical + Q + cTn/CK>1ULN) or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or CKMB/cTn>3ULN [Extended historical]
<b>HOST-ASSURE</b>	2010	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>PLATINUM PLUS</b>	2010	(Q + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or (ECG/clinical + CKMB/cTn>2ULN)
<b>RESET</b>	2010	CKMB/cTn>1ULN [ARC]
<b>NEXT</b>	2011	CKMB/cTn>1ULN [ARC]
<b>SORT OUT VI</b>	2011	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>BIO-RESORT</b>	2012	(Clinical + Q + cTn/CK>1ULN) or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or CKMB/cTn>3ULN [Extended historical]
<b>BIOSCIENCE</b>	2012	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>SORT OUT VII</b>	2012	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>ReCre8</b>	2014	CKMB/cTn>1ULN [ARC]
<b>SORT OUT VIII</b>	2014	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>BIONYX</b>	2015	(Clinical + Q + cTn/CK>1ULN) or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or CKMB/cTn>3ULN [Extended historical]
<b>DESSOLVE III</b>	2015	(Clinical + Q + cTn/CK>1ULN) or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or CKMB/cTn>3ULN [Extended historical]
<b>SORT OUT IX</b>	2015	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>TARGET All Comers</b>	2015	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]
<b>TALENT</b>	2016	Clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [Universal definition]

ARC: Academic Research Consortium; CKMB: creatine kinase myocardial band; Clinical: clinical findings related to myocardial infarction; cTn: cardiac troponin; ECG: ischaemic change in electrocardiograph; MI: myocardial infarction; Q: Q-wave detected on electrocardiograph; SCAI: Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions; ULN: upper limit of normal

## Summary Table for the definition of spontaneous myocardial infarction

	N of trials
<b>2003 -2007</b>	
clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [ <b>Universal definition</b> ] <sup>70</sup>	2
ECG or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN)	1
Q or CKMB/cTn>2ULN	1
Clinical/ECG + CKMB/cTn>1ULN	1
ECG or (clinical + CKMB/cTn>1ULN)	1
<b>2008 - 2012</b>	
clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [ <b>Universal definition</b> ] <sup>70</sup>	5
(clinical + Q + cTn/CK>1ULN) or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or CKMB/cTn>3ULN [ <b>Extended historical</b> ] <sup>71</sup>	3
CKMB/cTn>1ULN [ <b>ARC</b> ] <sup>72</sup>	2
(Q + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or (ECG/clinical + CKMB/cTn>2ULN)	1
<b>2013 - 2016</b>	
clinical/ECG + cTn>1ULN [ <b>Universal definition</b> ] <sup>70</sup>	4
(clinical + Q + cTn/CK>1ULN) or (CK>2ULN + CKMB/cTn>1ULN) or CKMB/cTn>3ULN [ <b>Extended historical</b> ] <sup>71</sup>	2
CKMB/cTn>1ULN [ <b>ARC</b> ] <sup>72</sup>	1

ARC: Academic Research Consortium; CKMB: creatine kinase myocardial band; Clinical: clinical findings related to myocardial infarction; cTn: cardiac troponin; ECG: ischaemic change on electrocardiograph; N: number; Q: Q-wave detected on electrocardiograph; SCAI: Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions; ULN: upper limit of normal

**Supplementary Table 6. Definitions of cardiac death and clinically indicated target lesion revascularisation.**

<b>Trial name</b>	<b>Definition for cardiac death</b>	<b>Definition for clinically indicated TLR</b>
<b>SIRTAX</b>	Definition not reported	ARC
<b>LEADERS</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>SORT OUT III</b>	ARC	N/A <sup>#</sup>
<b>COMPARE</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>PROTECT</b>	ARC	N/A <sup>#</sup>
<b>SORT OUT IV</b>	ARC	Clinically driven
<b>Resolute All Comer</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>COMPARE II</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>SORT OUT V</b>	ARC	Clinically driven
<b>DUTCH PEERS</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>HOST-ASSURE</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>PLATINUM PLUS</b>	Death due to MI; arrhythmia or conduction disturbance; deaths related to the procedure; stroke prior to hospital discharge; and death of unknown cause	ARC*
<b>RESET</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>NEXT</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>SORT OUT VI</b>	ARC	Clinically driven
<b>BIO-RESORT</b>	ARC	ARC*
<b>BIOSCIENCE</b>	ARC	ARC*
<b>SORT OUT VII</b>	ARC	Clinically driven
<b>ReCre8</b>	ARC	N/A <sup>#</sup>
<b>SORT OUT VIII</b>	ARC	Clinically driven
<b>BIONYX</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>DESSOLVE III</b>	ARC	ARC
<b>SORT OUT IX</b>	ARC	Clinical-driven
<b>TARGET All Comers</b>	Definition not reported	Definition not reported (ischaemia-driven)
<b>TALENT</b>	ARC	ARC

<sup>#</sup> Trial did not report the incidence of clinically indicated TLR. \* The ARC definition was applied but quantitative coronary angiography was not performed at an independent angiographic core laboratory.

ARC: Academic Research Consortium; MI: myocardial infarction; TLR: target lesion revascularisation

**Supplementary Table 7. Bias assessment of the included trials.**

Trial name	RANDOM SEQUENCE GENERATION	ALLOCATION CONCEALMENT	BLINDING OF PARTICIPANTS AND PERSONNEL*	BLINDING OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENT	INCOMPLETE OUTCOME DATA	SELECTIVE REPORTING	OTHER BIAS
SIRTAX	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
LEADERS	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
SORT OUT III	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
COMPARE	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
PROTECT	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
SORT OUT IV	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Resolute All Comer	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
COMPARE II	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
SORT OUT V	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
RESET	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
DUTCH PEERS	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
HOST-ASSURE	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
PLATINUM PLUS	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
NEXT	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
SORT OUT VI	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
BIOSCIENCE	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
BIO-RESORT	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
SORT OUT VII	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
ReCre8	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
SORT OUT VIII	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
DESSOLVE III	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
BIONYX	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
SORT OUT IX	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
TARGET All Comers	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
TALENT	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low

\* In all trials, the operator was not blinded while the assessors (clinical events committee, core laboratory, and statistician) were blinded. Awareness of the allocated stent possibly introduces a bias in the operator's procedure (e.g., lesion preparation, post-dilatation, etc.).

**Supplementary Table 8. Performance of routine angiographic follow-up in the included trials.**

Study name	Device	N of patients	Month at angio FU	N of patients undergoing angio FU	Patients with angio FU (%)	Month at 1Y TLR	1Y TLR (%)	Angio FU performed before 1Y result
SIRTAX	CYPHER	503	8	267	53.1%	12	5.8%	YES
	TAXUS Express	509		273	53.6%		10.2%	
LEADERS	BioMatrix	857	9	168	19.6%	12	5.2%	YES
	CYPHER	850		167	19.6%		5.8%	
SORT OUT III	Endeavor	1,162	No angio FU			12	5.3%	
	CYPHER	1,170					1.4%	
COMPARE	XIENCE	897	No angio FU			12	1.7%	
	TAXUS Liberté	903					4.8%	
PROTECT	Endeavor	4357	No angio FU			12		
	CYPHER	4,352						
SORT OUT IV	XIENCE/PROMUS	1,390	No angio FU			9	1.4%	
	CYPHER	1,384					1.7%	
Resolute All Comer	Resolute	1,140	13	142	12.5%	12	3.9%	NO
	XIENCE	1,152		130	11.3%		3.4%	
COMPARE II	Nobori	1,795	No angio FU			12	2.1%	
	XIENCE	912					1.8%	
SORT OUT V	Nobori	1,229	No angio FU			12	3.3%	
	CYPHER	1,239					2.0%	
DUTCH PEERS	Resolute	906	No angio FU			12	2.2%	
	XIENCE	905					2.2%	
HOST-ASSURE	PROMUS	2,503	No angio FU			12	1.3%	
	Resolute	1,252					1.2%	
PLATINUM PLUS	PROMUS Element	1,952	No angio FU			12	2.0%	
	XIENCE	1,028					1.6%	
RESET	XIENCE	1,597	8	235	14.7%	12	2.9%	YES
	CYPHER	1,600		247	15.4%		3.7%	
NEXT	Nobori	1,617	8	227	14.0%	12	2.9%	YES
	XIENCE/PROMUS	1,618		230	14.2%		2.9%	
SORT OUT VI	Resolute	1,502	No angio FU			12	3.5%	
	BioMatrix	1,497					3.1%	
BIO-RESORT	SYNERGY	1,172	No angio FU			12	1.5%	
	Resolute	1,173					1.5%	
	Orsiro	1,169					1.5%	
BIOSCIENCE	Orsiro	1,063	No angio FU			12	3.4%	
	XIENCE	1,056					2.4%	
SORT OUT VII	Orsiro	1,261	No angio FU			12	2.0%	
	Nobori	1,264					2.9%	
ReCre8	Resolute	751	No angio FU			12		
	Cre8	751						
SORT OUT VIII	SYNERGY	1,385	No angio FU			12	2.3%	
	BioMatrix	1,379					2.5%	
BIONYX	Resolute Onyx	1,243	No angio FU			12	2.5%	
	Orsiro	1,245					2.0%	

DESSOLVE III	MiStent	703	No angio FU			12	2.6%	
	XIENCE	695					3.7%	
SORT OUT IX	BioFreedom	1,572	No angio FU			12	3.5%	
	Orsiro	1,579					1.3%	
TARGET All Comers	FIREHAWK	823	13	71	8.6%	12	1.1%	NO
	XIENCE	830		66	8.0%		2.3%	
TALENT	Supraflex	720	No angio FU			12	2.7%	
	XIENCE	715					4.0%	

angio: angiography; FU: follow-up; N: number; TLR: target lesion revascularisation; Y: year

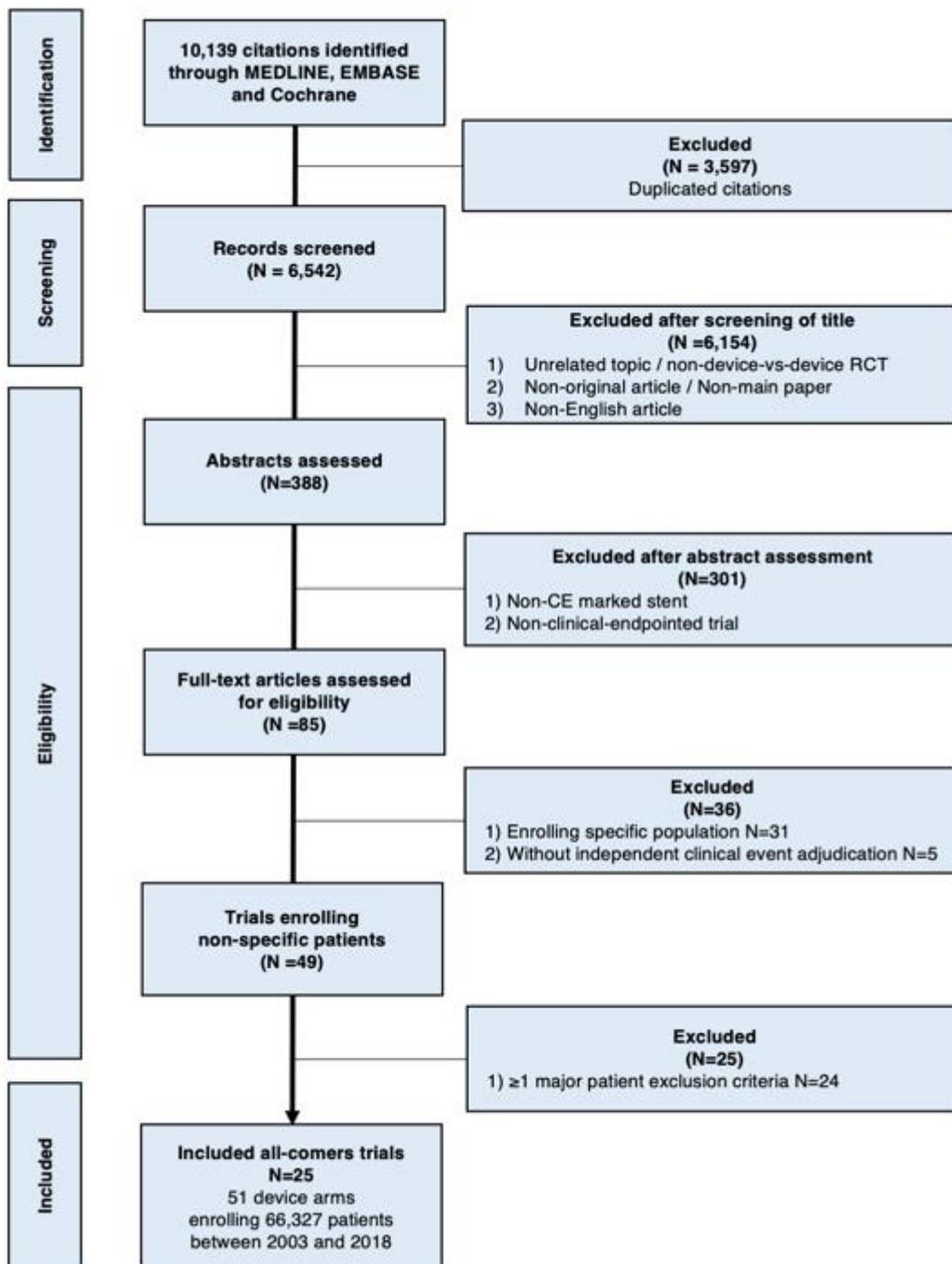
**Supplementary Table 9. List of antiplatelet therapy regimens and bleeding event rates in the included trials.**

Study name	Study start year	Device	N of patients	Recommended DAPT duration (months)	Recommended P2Y <sub>12</sub> inhibitor	Percent of patients on DAPT at 1 year	Percent of patients with major bleeding at 1 year	Definition for bleeding event
SIRTAX	2003	CYPHER	503	12	Clopidogrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA
		TAXUS Express	509			Not reported	Not reported	NA
LEADERS	2006	BioMatrix	857	12	Clopidogrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA
		CYPHER	850			Not reported	Not reported	NA
SORT OUT III	2006	Endavor	1,162	12	Clopidogrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA
		CYPHER	1,170			Not reported	Not reported	NA
COMPARE	2007	XIENCE	897	12	Clopidogrel	70.0	Not reported	NA
		TAXUS Liberté	903			70.0	Not reported	NA
PROTECT	2007	Endavor	4,357	3 to 12	Ticlopidine or clopidogrel	87.0	Not reported (only 2-year incidence reported)	TIMI
		CYPHER	4,352			88.0	Not reported (only 2-year incidence reported)	TIMI
SORT OUT IV	2007	XIENCE / PROMUS	1,390	12	Clopidogrel or prasugrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA
		CYPHER	1,384			Not reported	Not reported	NA
Resolute All Comer	2008	Resolute	1,140	At least 6	Clopidogrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA
		XIENCE	1,152			Not reported	Not reported	NA
COMPARE II	2009	Nobori	1,795	12	Clopidogrel	67.0	Not reported	NA
		XIENCE	912			66.6	Not reported	NA
SORT OUT V	2009	Nobori	1,229	12	Clopidogrel or prasugrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA
		CYPHER	1,239			Not reported	Not reported	NA
DUTCH PEERS	2010	Resolute	906	12	Clopidogrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA
		XIENCE	905			Not reported	Not reported	NA
HOST-ASSURE	2010	PROMUS	2,503	Not reported	Double dose of clopidogrel or normal dose of clopidogrel plus cilostazol	91.1	1.1	PLATO
		Resolute	1,252			92.6	1.3	PLATO
PLATINUM PLUS	2010	PROMUS Element	1,952	At least 6	Clopidogrel or prasugrel	59.4	Not reported	NA
		XIENCE	1,028			61.2	Not reported	NA
RESET	2010	XIENCE	1,597	At least 3	Ticlopidine or clopidogrel	89.0	1.0	TIMI
		CYPHER	1,600			90.0	1.3	TIMI
NEXT	2011	Nobori	1,617	At least 3	Ticlopidine or clopidogrel	86.7	1.1	TIMI
		XIENCE / PROMUS	1,618			87.5	0.9	TIMI
SORT OUT VI	2011	Resolute	1,502	12	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA
		BioMatrix	1,497			Not reported	Not reported	NA
BIO-RESORT	2012	SYNERGY	1,172	6 to 12	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	85.5	Not reported	NA
		Resolute	1,173			86.3	Not reported	NA
		Orsiro	1,169			85.1	Not reported	NA
BIOSCIENCE	2012	Orsiro	1,063	12	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	83.4	2.9	BARC 3-5
		XIENCE	1,056			82.1	2.6	BARC3-5
SORT OUT VII	2012	Orsiro	1,261	12	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	Not reported	Not reported	NA

		Nobori	1,264			Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
<b>ReCre8</b>	2014	Resolute	751	1 for Tn negative / 12 Tn positive	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	40.1	<b>1.7</b>	BARC 3-5
		Cre8	751			39.4	<b>1.6</b>	BARC 3-5
<b>SORT OUT VIII</b>	2014	SYNER Y	1,385	12	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
		BioMatri x	1,379			Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
<b>BIONYX</b>	2015	Resolute Onyx	1,243	At least 6 for stable coronary disease / 12 for ACS	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	83.9	<b>2.5</b>	BARC 3 or 5 or any TIMI
		Orsiro	1,245			82.2	<b>2.7</b>	BARC 3 or 5 or any TIMI
<b>DESSOLVE III</b>	2015	MiStent	703	At least 6	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
		XIENCE	695			Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
<b>SORT OUT IX</b>	2015	BioFree dm	1,572	6 for stable coronary disease / 12 for ACS	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
		Orsiro	1,579			Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
<b>TARGET All Comers</b>	2015	FIREHA WK	823	At least 6 for stable coronary disease / 12 for ACS	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
		XIENCE	830			Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
<b>TALENT</b>	2016	Suprafle x	720	At least 6 for stable coronary disease / 12 for ACS	Clopidogrel, ticagrelor or prasugrel	Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA
		XIENCE	715			Not reported	<b>Not reported</b>	NA

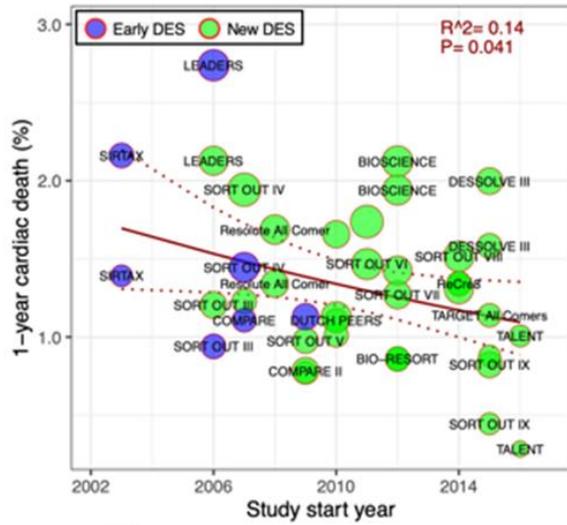
ACS: acute coronary syndrome; DAPT: dual antiplatelet therapy; N: number; NA: not applicable; TIMI: Thrombolysis In Myocardial Infarction; Tn: troponin

BioFreedom™ (Biosensors, Singapore)  
BioMatrix™ (Biosensors, Singapore)  
Cre8™ (Alvimedica, Istanbul, Turkey)  
CYPHER® (Cordis Santa Clara, CA, USA)  
Endeavor® (Medtronic, Minneapolis, MN, USA)  
FIREHAWK® (MicroPort, Shanghai, China)  
MiStent® (Micell Technologies, Durham, NC, USA)  
Nobori® (Terumo Corp., Tokyo, Japan)  
Orsiro (Biotronik, Berlin Germany)  
PROMUST™ (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA, USA)  
Resolute™ (Medtronic, Minneapolis, MN, USA)  
Resolute Onyx™ (Medtronic, Minneapolis, MN, USA)  
Supraflex™ (Sahajanand Medical Technologies, Mumbai, India)  
SYNERGY™ (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA, USA)  
TAXUS Express (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA, USA)  
TAXUS™ Liberté™ (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA, USA)  
XIENCE® (Abbott Laboratories, Abbott Park, IL, USA)



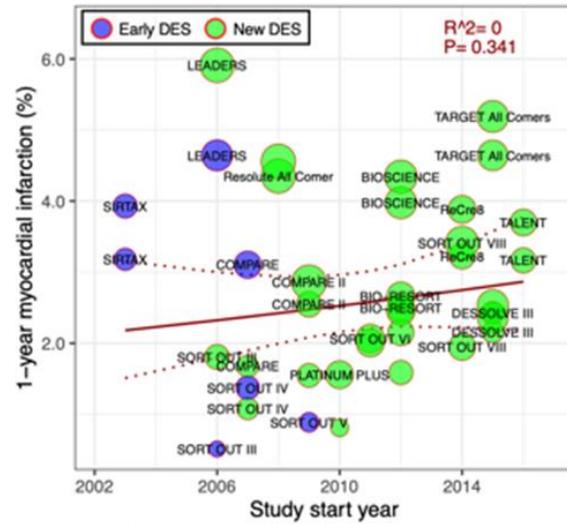
**Supplementary Figure 1.** Study selection process.

N: number; RCT: randomised controlled trial



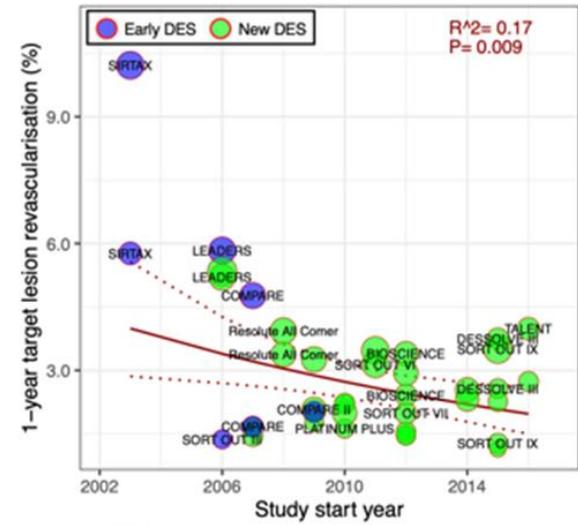
Study start year	N of study arms	N of patients	Incidence (%) [95%CI]
2003-2007	10	9600	1.63 [1.27, 1.99]
2008-2012	19	23135	1.27 [1.09, 1.45]
2013-2016	12	11787	1.14 [0.86, 1.41]
<b>Total</b>			<b>1.32 [1.17, 1.47]</b>

$\chi^2 = 874.58, df = 63, p < 0.001, I^2 = 99.8\%$



Study start year	N of study arms	N of patients	Incidence (%) [95%CI]
2003-2007	6	4495	3.74 [2.58, 4.90]
2008-2012	11	13339	2.94 [2.21, 3.66]
2013-2016	8	5872	3.55 [2.83, 4.26]
<b>Total</b>			<b>3.32 [2.84, 3.81]</b>

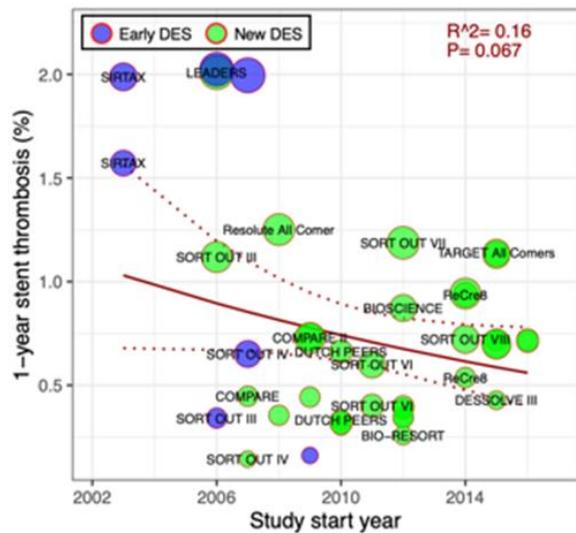
$\chi^2 = 1386.42, df = 34, p < 0.001, I^2 = 99.9\%$



Study start year	N of study arms	N of patients	Incidence (%) [95%CI]
2003-2007	10	9600	4.32 [2.57, 6.08]
2008-2012	19	23135	2.43 [2.08, 2.79]
2013-2016	10	10296	2.60 [2.01, 3.19]
<b>Total</b>			<b>2.96 [2.41, 3.51]</b>

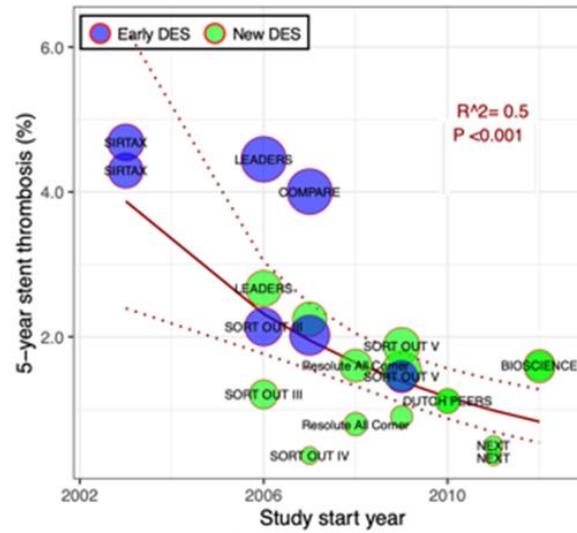
$\chi^2 = 2187.10, df = 38, p < 0.001, I^2 = 99.9\%$





Study start year	N of study arms	N of patients	Incidence (%) [95%CI]
2003-2007	10	9600	1.23 [0.75, 1.71]
2008-2012	19	23135	0.53 [0.39, 0.67]
2013-2016	12	11787	0.78 [0.66, 0.90]
Total			0.77 [0.61, 0.93]

$Q = 10206.90$ ,  $df = 43$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ,  $I^2 = 99.9\%$

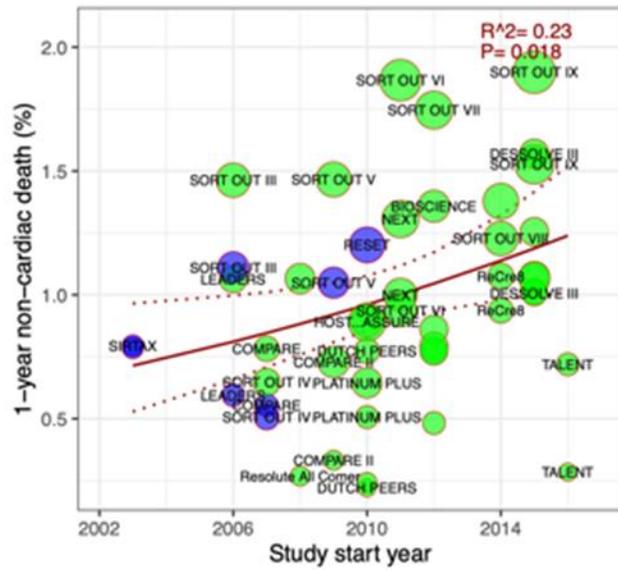


Study start year	N of study arms	N of patients	Incidence (%) [95%CI]
2003-2007	10	9511	2.80 [1.89, 3.72]
2008-2012	10	11185	1.36 [1.14, 1.58]
Total			2.08 [1.52, 2.64]

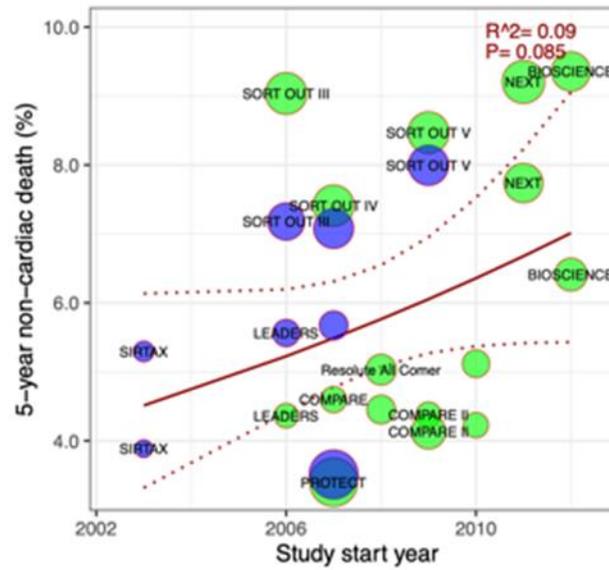
$Q = 11814.05$ ,  $df = 19$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ,  $I^2 = 99.9\%$

Supplementary Figure 2. The results of sensitivity analysis.

**Meta-regression analysis for temporal trend of 1-year non-cardiac death**



**Meta-regression analysis for temporal trend of 5-year non-cardiac death**



**Supplementary Figure 3.** Temporal trends of all-cause death and non-cardiac death.

