## Supplementary Table 2. Definition of M2 for each included study

Study	Definition of M2
Altenbernd et al. <sup>20</sup>	NR
ASTER trial	NR
Coutinho et al. <sup>22</sup>	Vertical MCA branches in the Sylvian fissure originating at the genu and extending to the next genu at the level of the operculum
Dorn et al. <sup>8</sup>	NR
Flores et al. <sup>23</sup>	NR
Kim et al. <sup>9</sup>	Part of the MCA extending from the genu to the top of the Sylvian fissure and the circular sulcus
Mokin et al. <sup>24</sup>	Vertical MCA branches in the Sylvian fissure originating at the genus and extending to the next genu at the level of the operculum
Park and Kwak <sup>25</sup>	NR
Protto et al. <sup>26</sup>	NR
Salahuddin et al. <sup>27</sup>	Segment of MCA beyond the bifurcation of the M1 artery and extending to the apex of the circular sulcus
Sarraj et al. <sup>28</sup>	Vertical segment lying within the mesial margin of the Sylvian fissure
Vargas et al. <sup>30</sup>	NR

NR, not reported; ASTER, the Contact Aspiration Versus Stent Retriever for Successful Revascularization; MCA, middle cerebral artery.