Supplementary Methods

Criteria for inclusion

Patients who met the following criteria were eligible for the study: (1) no contraindications to intravenous therapy (IVT); (2) age 18 years or older with an established diagnosis of ischemic stroke; (3) brain magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showing diffusion weighted imaging (DWI)-fluid attenuation inversion recovery (FLAIR) mismatch, defined as high signal intensity on MRI-FLAIR in the relevant area; (4) patients hospitalized within 9 hours after the onset of clinical symptoms; (5) National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale score 0–20; (6) no history of severe cardiac disease (such as myocardial infarction) or atrial fibrillation (excluded by electrocardiogram on admission); and (7) all participants (or their family members, if necessary) signed informed consent forms.

Criteria for exclusion

The following criteria excluded patients from the study: (1) acute occlusion of the internal carotid artery, M1 segment of the middle cerebral artery, or the basil artery; (2) presence of arteriovenous malformation or aortic arch dissection; (3) undergoing mechanical thrombectomy after IVT; (4) history of stroke or severe head trauma in the past three months, or significant surgical procedure in the past two weeks; (5) active visceral bleeding; (6) diastolic blood pressure ≥100 mm Hg or systolic blood pressure ≥180 mm Hg after admission, or blood pressure unmanaged to the acceptable range before IVT; (7) blood glucose <2.8 mmol/L or >22 mmol/L; (8) platelet count $<100\times10^9$/L or other acute bleeding tendencies; (9) renal insufficiency with creatinine clearance rate <30 mL/min; (10) hepatic dysfunction, including serum aspartate transaminase or alanine transaminase exceeding twice the upper limit of the normal value; (11) prior administration of oral anticoagulants with an international normalized ratio >1.7, or prothrombin time >15 seconds; and (12) contraindications to tirofiban.