

Supplementary Table 4. GRADE guidelines about each outcome

Certainty assessment							Summary of findings				
No. of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Publication bias	No. of patients		Effect		Certainty
							Intensive	Standard	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)	
Functional independence (mRS≤2)											
4	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	337/748 (45.1%)	432/782 (55.2%)	OR 0.68 (0.51–0.91)	96 Fewer per 1,000 (from 166 fewer to 23 fewer)	⊕⊕⊕○ Moderate
Minimally or no disability (mRS≤1)											
4	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	263/748 (35.2%)	312/782 (39.9%)	OR 0.82 (0.63–1.06)	47 Fewer per 1,000 (from 104 fewer to 14 more)	⊕⊕⊕○ Moderate
Walking without assistance (mRS≤3)											
4	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	427/748 (57.1%)	522/782 (66.8%)	OR 0.65 (0.53–0.81)	101 Fewer per 1,000 (from 152 fewer to 48 fewer)	⊕⊕⊕○ Moderate
NIHSS change at 24 hours after EVT											
3	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Very serious <sup>†</sup>	None	347	460		MD 0.43 higher (0.01 lower to 0.87 higher)	⊕⊕○○ Low
Severe disability or death (mRS 5 or 6)											
4	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	215/748 (28.7%)	182/782 (23.3%)	OR 1.34 (1.06–1.70)	56 More per 1,000 (from 11 more to 107 more)	⊕⊕⊕○ Moderate
All-cause mortality											
4	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Very serious <sup>†</sup>	None	117/750 (15.6%)	113/784 (14.4%)	OR 1.18 (0.88–1.58)	22 More per 1,000 (from 15 fewer to 66 more)	⊕⊕○○ Low
Any ICH											
4	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	274/755 (36.3%)	272/793 (34.3%)	OR 1.09 (0.88–1.35)	20 More per 1,000 (from 28 fewer to 40 more)	⊕⊕⊕○ Moderate
Symptomatic ICH											
4	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Very serious <sup>†</sup>	None	57/755 (7.5%)	50/792 (6.3%)	OR 1.14 (0.77–1.68)	8 More per 1,000 (from 14 fewer to 39 more)	⊕⊕○○ Low
PH2											
3	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Very serious <sup>†</sup>	None	33/346 (9.5%)	35/379 (9.2%)	OR 1.00 (0.66–1.66)	0 Fewer per 1,000 (from 35 fewer to 52 more)	⊕⊕○○ Low
Stroke recurrence											
2	RCTs	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Very serious <sup>†</sup>	None	25/565 (4.4%)	21/569 (3.7%)	OR 1.20 (0.67–2.17)	7 More per 1,000 (from 12 fewer to 40 more)	⊕⊕○○ Low

GRADE, Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation; CI, confidence interval; mRS, modified Rankin Scale; RCTs, randomized controlled trials; OR, odds ratio; MD, mean difference; NIHSS, National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale; EVT, endovascular thrombectomy; ICH, intracerebral hemorrhage; PH2, parenchymal hematoma type 2.

\*The confidence interval does not rule out the possibility of significant harm or benefit; <sup>†</sup>The confidence interval does not rule out the possibility of significant harm or benefit and the number of events is less than 300.