Supplementary Table 3. Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development, and Evaluation
Question: EBL compared to APC in the treatment of gastric antral vascular ectasia: a Systematic Review and Meta-analysis
Bibliography: Endoscopic band ligation versus argon plasma coagulation in the treatment of gastric antral vascular ectasia: a Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

№ of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Incon-sistency	Indi-rectness	Impreci-sion	Other consid-erations	EBL	APC	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)	Certainty	Im-por-tance
Number of sessions												
4	ran-domized trials	not serious	very serious [a]	not serious	not serious	publica-tion bias strongly suspect-ed [b]	102	102	-	MD 1.38 higher (0.35 high-er to 2.42 higher)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	
Mean number of hospitalizations												
2	ran-domized trials	not serious	not serious	serious [c]	not serious	none	40	40	-	MD 0.29 higher (0.19 high-er to 0.39 higher)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODER-ATE	
Recurrence of bleeding												
3	ran-domized trials	not serious	not serious	not serious	not serious	none	22/58 (37.9%)	5/58 (8.6%)	RR 4.40 (1.80 to 10.77)	293 more per 1.000 (from 69 more to 842 more)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ HIGH	
Endoscopic eradication												
3	ran-domized trials	not serious	not serious	not serious	not serious	none	34/58 (58.6%)	51/58 (87.9%)	RR 3.43 (1.61 to 7.30)	1.000 more per 1.000 (from 536 more to 1.000 more)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ HIGH	
Blood transfusion (units)												
3	ran-domized trials	not serious	very serious [a]	not serious	not serious	publica-tion bias strongly suspect-ed [b]	84	84	-	MD 1.49 higher (0.28 high-er to 2.71 higher)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	
Adverse events												
4	ran-domized trials	not serious	very serious [a]	not serious	serious [d]	publica-tion bias strongly suspect-ed [b]	11/102 (10.8%)	26/102 (25.5%)	RR 0.31 (0.04 to 2.38)	176 fewer per 1.000 (from 245 fewer to 352 more)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	

CI, confidence interval; MD, mean difference; RR, risk ratio.

explanations: a. high levels of heterogeneity; b. presence of outliers; c. surrogate endpoint; d. wide confidence interval range.