Comparison of Transcatheter Mitral-Valve Repair and Surgical Mitral-Valve Repair in Elderly Patients with Mitral Regurgitation

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: To summarize comparative studies of MitraClip versus surgical repair in typical, real-world elderly patients with severe mitral regurgitation (MR) and analyze the safety and effectiveness of these therapeutic options.

Methods: PubMed, Medline, Embase, and Cochrane Controlled Register of Trials (CENTRAL) were searched for comparative studies of transcatheter mitral-valve repair (TMVR) versus surgical mitral-valve repair (SMVR) in elderly patients with severe MR from January 2000 to June 2020. Statistical pooling for incidence estimates was performed according to a random-effects model with generic inverse-variance weighting, computing risk estimates with 95% confidence intervals (CIs), using RevMan 5.3.

Results: A total of 14 reports comparing MitraClip with SMVR, enrolling 3355 patients with severe MR, were included in this study. Mean age, Logistic EuroSCORE, and incidence of diabetes mellitus (DM) were significantly higher in the MitraClip group, except the rate of patients with New York Heart Association (NYHA) class of >II and mean value of ejection fraction (EF). The arithmetic mean of freedom from acute mobility was similar. The 2 groups had equal all-cause mortality at 30 days, but different at 1 year (14% versus 9%) and 3 years in 7 studies (37% versus 25%). The freedom from recurrent MR \geq 3+ was 88% and 97.3% at 30 days, 76.0% and 90.0% at 1 year, and 79% and 95% at 3 years in the MitraClip and surgical repair group, respectively.

Conclusion: Although MitraClip is safe and effective in selected high-risk patients, the surgery may be the only gold standard for "gray" patients. Further studies are needed to determine whether MitraClip should be recommended.

INTRODUCTION

Received October 27, 2020; received in revised form November 13, 2020; accepted December 1, 2020.

Correspondence: Can Huang, Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, Second Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, 139 Renmin Road, Changsba, Hunan 410011, P.R. China; 86 73185292133; fax: 86 73185292133 (e-mail: huangcan413@csu.edu.cn). Mitral regurgitation (MR) due to left ventricular dilatation and ischemic or degenerative changes is the most common valvular lesion, occurring in >6% of people older than 65 years [Niikura 2020]. Surgical mitral valve repair or replacement (SMVR), associated with high rates of MR relief (>95%) and lower mortality (1%~3%), has been recommended as the gold standard of treatment for patients with symptomatic, severe MR [David 2013]. However, reasons such as old age (>80 years), relevant comorbidities, and severely reduced (<30%) left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) may result in approximately 50% of patients with severe MR not being referred for surgery [Goel 2014]. Thus, most patients with heart failure and severe MR are treated conservatively, and this high-risk group has few therapeutic alternatives [Stone 2018].

Since 2013, transcatheter mitral valve repair (TMVR) with the MitraClip device (Abbott, Abbott Park, IL) has been used. The multicenter registry, retrospective and prospective studies designed to compare transcatheter edge-to-edge mitral valve (MV) repair with optimal medical therapy proved that TMVR with the MitraClip is safe and results in durable MR reduction. Additionally, its use is associated with significant clinical and echocardiographic improvement. TMVR with MitraClip is thus an alternative for treating high-risk and inoperable patients with severe MR [De Rosa 2018]. Because of the excellent results of TMVR in terms of safety and effectiveness in elderly patients with high risk over the last decade, its use has been extended to elderly patients who do not actually have specific high-risk features, but rather fall into the low to intermediate risk category. Because of the strict inclusion/exclusion criteria and severe enrolling difficulties, however, only a few randomized controlled trials (the EVEREST II [Glower 2012] and HiRiDe trials), which were specifically designed to randomize elderly patients and retrospective unbalanced data, have been conducted on this topic.

Whether the access to the MitraClip should be opened to these "gray" patients and as the first-line option needs to be addressed, and there are several key issues that require further attention before this procedure becomes accepted on a large scale [Takagi 2017]. Our meta-analysis aimed to summarize comparative studies of the MitraClip versus surgical repair in typical, real-world elderly patients with severe MR and analyze the safety and effectiveness of these therapeutic options.

METHODS

Search Strategy and Registration

This study was conducted according to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses guidelines (PRISMA). This study was approved by the institutional review board of the Second Xiangya Hospital, Central South University.

Based on the PRISMA statement, PubMed, Medline, Embase, and Cochrane Controlled Register of Trials (CEN-TRAL) were searched for comparative studies of TMVR versus SMVR in the treatment of elderly patients with severe MR. The following search terms were used: "MitraClip," "transcatheter or percutaneous mitral valve repair," and "surgery mitral valve repair." Only English-language articles published in peer-reviewed journals from January 2000 to June 2020 were selected, and analyses were conducted by 2 independent reviewers.

Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion criteria for the meta-analysis were (1) observational or randomized original clinical studies comparing TMVR with SMVR for the treatment of elderly patients with severe MR, with the mean age of patients >60 years; (2) studies that reported data on patient baseline characteristics, inhospital outcomes, follow-up duration, mortality, and morbidity; (3) studies in which the mean follow-up time was >6 months; and (4) full-text articles. Exclusion criteria for the meta-analysis were (1) duplicate of the sample size and reports evaluated by 2 independent reviewers; (2) case reports/series; or (3) studies involving data from the national database. All the authors agreed on the final number of studies included.

Data Extraction and Outcome Measurement

Two authors (H.Y. and T.W.) systematically screened the titles and abstracts of publications retrieved using the search strategy to select studies that met the inclusion criteria outlined above. Any disagreement between them over the eligibility of particular studies was resolved through discussion and involvement of a third author (Z.W.), when necessary. First, baseline characteristics, including the name of the first author, year of publication, study design, number of patients, mean age of subjects, and mean time of follow-up, were gathered from each included article. In addition, the European Score, ejection fraction, grade of New York Heart Association (NYHA) classification and MR, history of previous cardiac surgery, and complications were collected for the evaluation of procedure risk. Acute complications, including stroke, acute kidney injury, and LOCOS, all-cause mortality, and recurrent MR grade >3, were used as the primary outcomes to evaluate the safety and efficiency of TMVR and SMVR.

Data Analysis and Synthesis

Continuous variables are reported as mean \pm standard deviation (SD), and categorical variables are expressed as n (%). Statistical pooling for incidence estimates was performed according to a random-effects model with generic inverse-variance weighting, computing risk estimates with 95%

confidence intervals (CIs), using RevMan 5.3 (The Cochrane Collaboration, The NordicCochrane Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark). Hypothesis testing for superiority was set at the 2-tailed .05 level. Hypothesis testing for statistical homogeneity was set at the 2-tailed .10 level and based on the Cochran Q test, with I2 values of 25%, 50%, and 75% representing mild, moderate, and severe heterogeneity, respectively.

RESULTS

Search Results

A total of 1742 articles were identified through the literature search, all written in the English language. After an initial screening, 14 reports [Niikura 2020; Alozie 2017; Kortlandt 2018; Feldman 2015; Paranskaya 2013; Anwer 2019; Swaans 2014; Taramasso 2012; De Bonis 2015; Buzzatti 2015; Gyoten 2020; Ondrus 2016; Buzzatti 2019; Ostovar 2018] comparing MitraClip with surgical MV repair, enrolling a total of 3355 patients with severe MR, were identified and included in qualitative and quantitative analyses. Only 1 study, the Endovascular Valve Edge-to-Edge Repair Study (EVEREST) II10, was a randomized controlled trial, whereas the others were observational comparative studies (Table 1) [Niikura 2020; Alozie 2017; Kortlandt 2018; Paranskaya 2013; Anwer 2019; Swaans 2014; Taramasso 2012; De Bonis 2015; Buzzatti 2015; Gyoten 2020; Ondrus 2016; Buzzatti 2019; Ostovar 2018]. The late follow-up duration was from 180 days [Ostovar 2018] to 5 years [Feldman 2015] (Tables 1 and 2).

Patient Characteristics

In all but 1 study [Ondrus 2016], the mean age in the MitraClip group was equal to or significantly higher than that in the surgical repair group, which was confirmed by the pooled analysis (pooled mean difference [MD] 5.27 years; 95% CI 2.20 to 8.34 years; P < .0001). Logistic EuroSCORE was employed to predict mortality and indicated significantly higher mortality in the MitraClip group (pooled MD 8.79; 95% CI 5.80 to 11.77; P < .0001) (Figure 1). NYHA functional class and ejection fraction (EF) were used to evaluate left ventricular function. The pooled analysis demonstrated no significant differences in the rate of patients with NYHA class >II (pooled odds ratio [OR] 2.04, 95% CI 0.94 to 4.40) and the mean value of EF (pooled MD -0.61%; 95% CI -3.74% to 2.51%) between the 2 groups. A pooled analysis demonstrated that the rate of patients with diabetes mellitus (DM) (pooled OR 1.29, 95% CI 1.05 to 1.59), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) (pooled OR 1.81, 95% CI 1.13 to 2.9), atrial fibrillation (AF) (pooled OR 2.11, 95% CI 1.79 to 2.49), and previous cardiovascular surgery, including percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) (pooled OR 2.44, 95% CI 1.62 to 3.68) and coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) (pooled OR 4.77, 95% CI 2.68 to 8.49), was much higher in the MitraClip group than in the surgical mitral valve repair group (Figure 1).

Mortality at 30 Days, 1 Year, and >3 Years

The 2 groups had equal all-cause mortality rates at 30 days,

Author	Study Design	Pati	ents	Age	e (y)	Europea	an Score	NYH	HA III	NYH	IA IV
		TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR
Niikura 2020	Retrospective study	249	626	82 ± 7.8	64.3 ± 12.4						
Alozie 2017	Retrospective study	42	42	81.7 ± 1.35	81.7 ± 1.35	11.3 ± 5.63	12.1 ± 10.6	30 (67.9)	27 (64.3)	11 (21.4)	11 (21.4)
Kortlandt 2018	Retrospective study	568	173	73.96 ± 10.45	69.05 ± 9.84	8.03 ± 7.23	4.36 ± 3.84	402 (70.8)	82 (47.4)	88 (15.5)	36 (20.8)
Feldman 2015	Randomized trial	178	80	67 ± 12.7	64.7 ± 12.6			78 (43.8)	36 (45.0)	11 (6.2)	4 (5.0)
Paranskaya 2013	Retrospective study	24	26	80 ± 5	63 ± 12	12.3 ± 3.7	3.9 ± 3.7				
Anwer 2019	Retrospective study	56	75	75.7 ± 8.6	68.6 ± 13.1						
Swaans 2014	Retrospective study	139	53	74.9 ± 9.4	70.2 ± 9.5	$\textbf{23.9} \pm \textbf{16}$	14.2 ± 8.9	91 (65.5)	38 (71.7)	32 (23.0)	9 (17.0)
Taramasso 2012	Retrospective study	91	52	68.4 ± 9.2	64.9 ± 9.8	21.9 ± 4.8	10.2 ± 7.4	47 (51.6)	35 (63.3)	14 (15.4)	9 (17.3)
De Bonis 2015	Retrospective study	55	65	68.3 ± 9.17	63.2 ± 10.05	18.8 (10.8 to 28.2)	11 (9 to 13)	35 (63.6)	40 (61.5)	10 (18.2)	16 (24.6)
Buzzatti 2015	Retrospective study	25	35	84.5 ± 3.2	81.9 ± 2.0	19.4 (11.1 to 29.0)	8.4 (7.0 to 10.1)	17 (68.0)	13 (37)		
Gyoten 2020	Retrospective study	85	47	72 ± 8.5	68 ± 9.6	33.5 ± 20	25.0 ± 22	62 (73.0)	35 (74.0)	22 (26.0)	11 (23.0)
Ondrus 2016	Retrospective study	24	48	75 ± 9	76 ± 4	18 ± 14	14 ± 11				
Buzzatti 2019	Retrospective study	100	206	78.8 ± 3.13	82.9 ± 3.5			66 (66.0)	81 (39.0)		
Ostovar 2018	Retrospective study	23	23	70.35 ± 13.08	70.35 ± 13.05	22.47 ± 16.30	22.34 ± 16.23				

Table 1. Baseline Characteristics of the Patient	Table 1.	Baseline	Characteristics	of the	Patients
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Data are n, mean \pm SD, median (range), or n (%).

and a pooled analysis indicated no statistically significant difference in early mortality (30 days) between the MitraClip and the surgical repair groups (pooled OR 0.88, 95% CI 0.53 to 1.47). Of the 11 studies that published 1-year all-cause mortality rates, the TMVR and SMVR groups showed different mean mortalities (14% versus 9%, respectively), which is similar to the 3-year all-cause mortality rates in 7 studies, with mean mortalities of 37% versus 25%, respectively. Pooled analysis indicated a statistically significant difference in the 1-year (pooled OR 1.79, 95% CI 1.4 to 2.28) and >3-year (pooled OR 2.26, 95% CI 1.04 to 4.92) all-cause mortality between the MitraClip and surgical repair groups (Figure 2).

Acute Mobility and Recurrent MR Grade >2 at 30 Days, 1 Year, and 3 Years

The arithmetic mean of freedom rates from acute mobility including stroke, acute kidney injury, and LOCOS was similar in the MitraClip and surgical repair groups. These rates from recurrent MR \geq 3+ were 88% and 97.3% at 30 days, 76.0% and 90.0% at 1 year, and 79% and 95% at 3 years in the MitraClip and surgical repair group, respectively. Pooled analysis indicated a significantly higher incidence of recurrent MR in the MitraClip group than in the surgical repair group at 30 days (pooled OR 9.51; 95% CI 5.38 to 16.83; *P* < .00001), 1 year (pooled OR 3.14; 95% CI 1.20 to 8.25; *P* < .00001), and 3 years (pooled OR 8.47; 95% CI 4.76 to 15.10; *P* < .00001) (Figure 3).

DISCUSSION

Since the percutaneous mitral valve repair with the Mitra-Clip device was first used in Europe in 2013, it has always been compared to medical therapy, including beta-blockers

Author	D	М	A	\F	CC)PD	CA	٩D	C	RF	Р	CI	CA	BG
	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR	TMVR	SMVR
Niikura 2020	56 (22.5)	97 (15.5)	167 (67.1)	181 (28.9)	70 (28.1)	71 (11.3)	120 (48.2)	195 (31.2)			61 (24.5)	68 (10.9)	62 (24.9)	29 (4.6)
Alozie 2017	18 (42.9)	14 (33.3)	29 (69.0)	23 (54.8)	14 (33.3)	10 (23.8)	26 (61.9)	31 (73.8)	32 (76.2)	26 (61.9)	7 (16.7)			16 (38.0)
Kortlandt 2018	131 (23.1)	42 (24.3)	316 (55.6)	77 (44.5)	113 (19.9)	40 (23.1)	325 (57.2)	69 (39.9)	213 (38.4)	24 (16.3)	167 (29.5)	19 (11.0)	172 (30.3)	19 (11.0)
Feldman 2015	14 (7.9)	1 (8.8)	56 (32.9)	29 (38.7)	27 (15.3)	11 (13.8)	83 (46.9)	35 (43.8)			42 (23.7)	13 (16.3)	37 (20.8)	13 (16.3)
Paranskaya 2013	12 (15)	2 (7.7)	15 (62.5)	14 (53.8)	5 (20.8)	2 (7.7)	14 (58.3)	6 (23.1)						
Anwer 2019	43 (76.8)	9 (12.0	40 (71.4)	61 (81.3)	32 (57.1)	8 (10.6)							51 (78.5)	38 (50.7)
Swaans 2014	32(23.0)	10(18.9)	74(53.2)	27(50.9)	31(22.3)	15(28.3)	89(64.0)	28(52.8)	55(39.6)	9(17.0)	41(29.5)	5(9.4)	59(42.4)	9(17.0)
Taramasso 2012 De Bonis 2015	14 (26.9)	9 (9.9)	37 (17.3) 19 (34.5)	29 (32.0) 14 (21.5)	11 (21.2)	3 (3.3)	44 (48.3)	37 (71.2)	30 (57.7)	16 (17.6)	12 (23.1)	9 (9.9)		
Buzzatti 2015			(34.3) 10 (40.0)	(21.3) 7 (20.0)	6 (24.0)	3 (9.0)	7 (28.0)	7 (20.0)	19 (76.0)	20 (57.0)			3 (12.0)	2 (6.0)
Gyoten 2020	37 (44.0)	14 (30.0)	51 (60.0)	26 (55.0)	15 (18.0)	7 (15.0)			36 (42.0)	12 (26.0)	36 (42.0)	9 (19.0)		
Ondrus 2016			18 (75.0)	33 (69.0)			15 (63.0)							
Buzzatti 2019			33 (33.0)	25 (12.0)	19 (19.0)	14 (6.8)	28 (28.0)	41 (20.0)						
Ostovar 2018														

Table 2. Baseline Characteristics of the Patients

Data are n (%).

CAD indicates coronary artery disease; CRF, chronic renal failure.

and angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors or angiotensin II receptor blockers and has been confirmed to be safe and efficient, especially for the high-risk patient with functional MR [Mendirichaga 2017]. Recently, new techniques have been developed, and the use of the MitraClip has increased liberally to treat the intermediate-risk patient with either functional or degenerative MR who still qualifies for surgery. In this meta-analysis, we compared percutaneous mitral valve repair with MitraClip and surgical mitral valve repair in elderly patients to present the available evidence regarding the use of MitraClip.

Because of the strict enrollment standards, little data could be extracted from the randomized controlled trial studies. In this analysis, only 1 publication [Feldman 2015] was of this nature, spanning the period 2011 (1-year follow up) to 2015 (>5-year follow up). Although the potential biases are greater for nonrandomized studies, patients enrolled in retrospective studies might be representative of patients typically seen in real-world clinical practice. Patient numbers in 4 publications included in our analysis were >100 each, which may also increase the heterogeneity [Niikura 2020; Kortlandt 2018; Feldman 2015; Buzzatti 2019]. We must view our analysis in the context of its limitations, and results should be always interpreted with caution when nonrandomized studies are included in meta-analysis.

It is important to note the distinct clinical characteristics of the transcatheter patients, who were considerably older and more commonly affected with significant comorbidities such as DM, COPD, and AF in comparison with those who had surgical repair. EuroSCORE, NYHA functional class, EF, and previous cardiac surgery, including PCI and CABG, were used to evaluate risk, as well as left ventricular function.

1. Mean age of the patients

		TMVR			SMVR			Mean Difference	Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% Cl	IV, Random, 95% CI
Anthony Alozie 2017	81.7	1.35	42	81.7	1.35	42	7.6%	0.00 [-0.58, 0.58]	
Friso Kortlandt 2018	73.96	10.45	586	73.96	9.84	173	7.5%	0.00 [-1.69, 1.69]	+
Hiroki Niikura,2020	82	7.8	249	64.3	12.4	628	7.5%	17.70 [16.33, 19.07]	+
Laura Mauri 2015	67	12.7	178	64.7	12.6	80	7.0%	2.30 [-1.03, 5.63]	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Lenard Conradi 2012	72.4	8.1	95	64.5	11.4	76	7.1%	7.90 [4.86, 10.94]	
Liliya Paranskaya 2012	80	5	24	63	12	26	6.3%	17.00 [11.97, 22.03]	
Lucman A. Anwer2019	75.7	8.6	56	68.6	13.1	75	6.9%	7.10 [3.38, 10.82]	
Martin J. Swaans 2014	74.9	9.4	139	70.2	9.5	53	7.1%	4.70 [1.70, 7.70]	
Maurizio Taramasso 2012	68.4	9.2	52	64.9	9.8	91	7.0%	3.50 [0.29, 6.71]	
Michele De Bonis 2016	68.3	9.17	55	63.2	10.05	65	7.0%	5.10 [1.66, 8.54]	
Nicola Buzzatti 2015	84.5	3.2	25	81.9	2	35	7.5%	2.60 [1.18, 4.02]	-
Nicola Buzzatti 2019	82.9	3.5	100	78.8	3.13	206	7.6%	4.10 [3.29, 4.91]	-
Takayuki Gyoten 2020	72	8.5	47	68	9	85	7.1%	4.00 [0.91, 7.09]	
Tomas Ondrus 2016	75	9	24	76	4	48	6.8%	-1.00 [-4.77, 2.77]	-
Total (95% CI)			1672			1683	100.0%	5.27 [2.20, 8.34]	•
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 32.19	9: Chi ² =	616.64.	df = 13	B (P < 0.	00001)	: 1 ² = 98	1%		- <u>t t t t</u>
Test for overall effect: Z = 3									-20 -10 0 10 20 TMVR SMVR

2. Euroscore of the patients

	European S	core for the	TMVR	European S	core for the	SMVR		Mean Difference		Me	an Differen	ice	
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI Year		IV. F	tandom, 9	5% CI	
Lenard Conradi 2012	33.7	18.7	95	10.1	8.7	76	9.5%	23.60 [19.36, 27.84] 2012					
Maurizio Taramasso 2012	21.9	4.8	91	10.2	7.4	52	11.0%	11.70 [9.46, 13.94] 2012					
Martin J. Swaans 2014	23.9	16	139	14.2	8.9	53	10.0%	9.70 [6.12, 13.28] 2014	2		1		
Nicola Buzzatti 2015	19.725	4.475	25	8.48	0.935	35	11.2%	11.25 [9.46, 13.03] 2015	ê.		-		
Tomas Ondrus 2016	18	14	24	14	11	48	7.6%	4.00 [-2.41, 10.41] 2016	č.		-		
Michele De Bonis 2016	18.8	4.35	55	11	1.15	65	11.5%	7.80 [6.62, 8.98] 2016					
Anthony Alozie 2017	11.3	5.63	42	12.1	10.6	42	10.0%	-0.80 [-4.43, 2.83] 2017			-		
Friso Kortlandt 2018	8.03	7.23	568	4.36	3.84	173	11.6%	3.67 [2.84, 4.50] 2018					
Liliya Paranskaya 2012	12.3	3.7	24	3.9	3.7	26	11.1%	8.40 [6.35, 10.45] 2020	6				
Takayuki Gyoten 2020	33.5	20	85	25	22	47	6.7%	8.50 [0.91, 16.09] 2020			-		
Total (95% CI)			1148			617	100.0%	8.79 [5.80, 11.77]			+		
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 19.83	; Chi ² = 182.88	df = 9 (P < 1	0.00001); (P = 95%						+	-	1	
Test for overall effect: Z = 5.	77 (P < 0.0000	1)	82						-50	-25 T	WVR SMV	25 'R	50

3. previous PCI before therapy

	Previous PCI befo	re TMVR	Previous PCI befo	re SMVR		Odds Ratio		Odd	Is Ratio	
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl		M-H, Ran	idom, 95% Cl	
Anthony Alozie 2017	7	42	0	42	1.9%	17.96 [0.99, 325.45]			14.1	+
Friso Kortlandt 2018	167	568	19	173	20.9%	3.38 [2.03, 5.62]				
Hiroki Niikura,2020	61	249	68	626	24.3%	2.66 [1.82, 3.91]				
Laura Mauri 2015	42	178	13	80	16.6%	1.59 [0.80, 3.17]				
Martin J. Swaans 2014	41	139	5	53	11.1%	4.02 [1.49, 10.81]				
Maurizio Taramasso 2012	12	91	9	52	11.8%	0.73 [0.28, 1.86]				
Takayuki Gyoten 2020	36	85	9	47	13.4%	3.10 [1.33, 7.22]			14 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
Total (95% CI)		1352		1073	100.0%	2.44 [1.62, 3.68]			+	
Total events	366		123							
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.14;	Chi ² = 12.70, df = 6 (l	P = 0.05); P	² = 53%					1	1 10	
Test for overall effect: Z = 4	.25 (P < 0.0001)						0.01	0.1 Previous PCI before TMVF	R Previous PCI before 5	100 SMVR

4. previous CABG before therapy

	Previous CABG bef	ore TMVR	Previous CABG befo	ore SMVR		Odds Ratio		0	dds Ratio		
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% C	E.	M-H. B	andom, 95%	CI	
Anthony Alozie 2017	17	42	0	42	3.4%	58.33 [3.36, 1012.17]				24	
Friso Kortlandt 2018	172	568	19	172	17.0%	3.50 [2.10, 5.82]			-	÷	
Hiroki Niikura,2020	62	249	29	626	17.4%	6.83 [4.26, 10.93]			-	-	
Laura Mauri 2015	37	178	13	80	15.3%	1.35 [0.67, 2.71]					
Lucman A. Anwer2019	51	56	38	75	12.1%	9.93 [3.57, 27.65]			-	-	-
Martin J. Swaans 2014	59	139	9	139	14.7%	10.65 [5.01, 22.66]			-	-	
Nicola Buzzatti 2015	3	25	2	35	6.4%	2.25 [0.35, 14.58]		-		100	
Takayuki Gyoten 2020	36	85	9	47	13.8%	3.10 [1.33, 7.22]			-	-	
Total (95% CI)		1342		1216	100.0%	4.77 [2.68, 8.49]			-	•	
Total events	437		119								
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.4	44; Chi ² = 27.13, df = 7	P = 0.0003)	; l ² = 74%				-	1	<u> </u>	10	
Test for overall effect: Z	= 5.32 (P < 0.00001)						0.01	0.1 TM	IVR SMVR	10	100

Figure 1. Baseline characteristics of elderly patients with severe MR.

1. mortality at 30-day

	30 days mortality aft	er TMVR	30 days mortality a	fter SMVR		Odds Ratio		Ode	is Ratio		
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H. Fixed, 95% C	É.	M-H, Fi	xed. 95%	CI	
Anthony Alozie 2017	2	42	3	42	8.9%	0.65 [0.10, 4.10]		1.1			
Hiroki Niikura,2020	10	249	14	626	23.9%	1.83 [0.80, 4.17]					
Lenard Conradi 2012	4	95	2	76	6.6%	1.63 [0.29, 9.13]			-		
Liliya Paranskaya 2012	2	24	0	26	1.4%	5.89 [0.27, 129.15]			+		
Lucman A. Anwer2019	2	56	2	75	5.2%	1.35 [0.18, 9.90]			1.00	1	
Maurizio Taramasso 2012	0	52	6	91	14.7%	0.13 [0.01, 2.27]	+				
Michele De Bonis 2016	0	55	2	65	7.1%	0.23 [0.01, 4.87]	5		1 5		
Nicola Buzzatti 2015	0	25	0	35		Not estimable					
Nicola Buzzatti 2019	2	206	2	100	8.3%	0.48 [0.07, 3.46]			1 12		
Takayuki Gyoten 2020	1	85	3	47	11.9%	0.17 [0.02, 1.73]	-		+-		
Tomas Ondrus 2016	1	24	6	48	12.0%	0.30 [0.03, 2.68]	1		-		
Total (95% CI)		913		1231	100.0%	0.88 [0.53, 1.47]		-	•		
Total events	24		40								
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 10.90), df = 9 (P = 0.28); l ² = 1	7%							+	10	
Test for overall effect: Z = 0).47 (P = 0.64)						0.01	0.1 TMV	R SMVR	10	100

2. mortality at 1 year

	1 year mortality after	er TMVR	1 year mortality aft	er SMVR		Odds Ratio		Odds	Ratio		
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Fixed, 95% Cl		M-H, Fixe	ed, 95% CI		
Anthony Alozie 2017	9	42	4	42	3.3%	2.59 [0.73, 9.20]		-	-	_	
Friso Kortlandt 2018	28	173	69	568	28.4%	1.40 [0.87, 2.25]			-		
Hiroki Niikura,2020	47	249	37	626	18.0%	3.70 [2.34, 5.86]					
Laura Mauri 2015	11	178	6	80	8.2%	0.81 [0.29, 2.28]					
Liliya Paranskaya 2012	2	24	0	26	0.5%	5.89 [0.27, 129.15]					
Lucman A. Anwer2019	13	56	13	75	9.0%	1.44 [0.61, 3.41]		_	-		
Martin J. Swaans 2014	20	139	8	53	10.4%	0.95 [0.39, 2.30]					
Maurizio Taramasso 2012	9	52	9	91	5.7%	1.91 [0.71, 5.16]					
Nicola Buzzatti 2019	3	100	9	206	6.0%	0.68 [0.18, 2.56]					
Takayuki Gyoten 2020	14	85	5	47	5.7%	1.66 [0.56, 4.93]					
Tomas Ondrus 2016	7	24	10	48	5.0%	1.56 [0.51, 4.81]		1			
Total (95% CI)		1122		1862	100.0%	1.79 [1.40, 2.28]			•		
Total events	163		170								
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 18.19), df = 10 (P = 0.05); l ² :	= 45%								1	
Test for overall effect: Z = 4	.70 (P < 0.00001)						0.01	0.1 TMVR	SMVR	10	100

3. mortality over 3 year

	over 1 years motality	of TMVR	over 1 years motality	of SMVR		Odds Ratio			Odds Ra	atio	
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% C	1	M-	H. Random	n, 95% CI	
Friso Kortlandt 2018	341	568	41	173	17.0%	4.84 [3.28, 7.13]					
Laura Mauri 2015	32	178	15	80	15.6%	0.95 [0.48, 1.87]			-	-	
Martin J. Swaans 2014	53	139	17	53	15.7%	1.31 [0.67, 2.55]					
Michele De Bonis 2016	13	55	20	65	14.8%	0.70 [0.31, 1.57]					
Nicola Buzzatti 2015	3	25	1	35	6.9%	4.64 [0.45, 47.45]					-
Nicola Buzzatti 2019	66	100	37	206	16.3%	8.87 [5.14, 15.30]					
Tomas Ondrus 2016	13	24	17	48	13.7%	2.16 [0.79, 5.84]			+	•	
Total (95% CI)		1089		660	100.0%	2.26 [1.04, 4.92]				•	
Total events	521		148								
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.8	89; Chi ² = 50.77, df = 6 (I	< 0.00001); l ² = 88%					1		1	400
Test for overall effect: Z =	= 2.05 (P = 0.04)						0.01	0.1	TMVR SI	10 MVR	100

Figure 2. Mortality at 30 days, 1 year, and 3 years.

Except for the EuroSCORE and previous cardiac surgery, the other factors showed no significant difference between groups.

The present findings should be interpreted with caution because of higher-risk profiles (considerably old, significant comorbidities, lower EuroSCORE, and previous cardiac surgery) in the MitraClip group versus the surgical repair group. Similar survival rates despite higher-risk profiles suggest that at least, the MitraClip procedure may not achieve a worse survival rate than surgical repair at 30 days. However, different mean all-cause mortalities (14% versus 9%, respectively) in 1- and 3-year mortality (37% versus 25%, respectively) were found in our meta-analysis. Potential predictors of cardiac mortality, including age, EuroSCORE, NYHA functional class, EF, and previous cardiac surgery, were evaluated by Cox proportional hazard regression in 4 separate studies

and demonstrated that there was no significant difference between the 2 groups [Niikura 2020; Anwer 2019; De Bonis 2015; Ostovar 2018].

As predicted, the MitraClip was confirmed to be safer than surgery in the short term. Indeed, the arithmetic mean of freedom rates from acute postoperative complications including stroke, acute kidney injury, and LOCOS were similar in the MitraClip and surgical repair groups. These results highlight the point that in end-stage patients who are not suitable for surgery, a less-invasive approach such as MitraClip therapy should be considered to improve clinical outcomes. Despite good results having been reported in the presence of an adverse valve morphology [Franzen 2010], the anatomic eligibility of patients remains an open issue. In contrast, in-hospital mortality in the surgical group was acceptable, confirming that appropriate patient selection is the key to

1.the recurrent 3+ MR at 30-day

	Recurrent MR at discharged a	fter TMVR	Recurrent MR at discharged a	fter SMVR		Odds Ratio		Odds	s Ratio		
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% CI		M-H. Rand	dom. 95%	CI	
Anthony Alozie 2017	1	42	0	42	3.1%	3.07 [0.12, 77.59]					
Lenard Conradi 2012	4	95	1	76	6.7%	3.30 [0.36, 30.13]					-
Liliya Paranskaya 2012	3	25	0	26	3.6%	8.24 [0.40, 168.26]					
Lucman A. Anwer2019	22	56	4	75	25.0%	11.49 [3.67, 35.95]					10/
Maurizio Taramasso 2012	5	52	0	96	3.8%	22.35 [1.21, 412.62]					
Michele De Bonis 2016	5	55	0	65	3.8%	14.27 [0.77, 264.07]					
Nicola Buzzatti 2015	3	25	1	26	6.0%	3.41 [0.33, 35.20]					-
Nicola Buzzatti 2019	27	100	6	206	38.1%	12.33 [4.89, 31.07]			-		-
Takayuki Gyoten 2020	2	30	0	30	3.4%	5.35 [0.25, 116.31]			•		
Tomas Ondrus 2016	4	24	1	47	6.4%	9.20 [0.97, 87.58]			-	1	
Total (95% CI)		504		689	100.0%	9.51 [5.38, 16.83]			-	٠	
Total events	76		13								
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.00;	Chi ² = 3.05, df = 9 (P = 0.96); l ² =	0%						_	1	10	40
Test for overall effect: Z = 7	.74 (P < 0.00001)						0.01 0.1	TMVR	SMVR	10	10

2.the recurrent 3+ MR at 1-year

	TMV	R	SMV	R		Odds Ratio	Odds Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% C	CI M-H. Random. 95% CI
Anthony Alozie 2017	7	42	0	42	8.2%	17.96 [0.99, 325.45]	
Laura Mauri 2015	37	178	16	80	27.7%	1.05 [0.54, 2.02]	
Liliya Paranskaya 2012	0	24	1	26	6.9%	0.35 [0.01, 8.93]	
Lucman A. Anwer2019	37	56	25	75	26.9%	3.89 [1.87, 8.10]	
Maurizio Taramasso 2012	10	52	5	91	22.1%	4.10 [1.32, 12.74]	
Nicola Buzzatti 2015	8	25	0	35	8.2%	34.49 [1.88, 632.45]	ı
Total (95% CI)		377		349	100.0%	3.14 [1.20, 8.25]	-
Total events	99		47				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.76;	Chi ² = 15.	.26, df =	= 5 (P = 0	.009); 1	² = 67%		
Test for overall effect: Z = 2	32 (P = 0.	.02)					0.01 0.1 1 10 100 TMVR SMVR

3. the recurrent 3+ MR at over 3-years

Study or Subgroup	Experimental		Control		Odds Ratio		Odds Ratio				
	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H. Fixed, 95% Cl		M	H. Fixed, 95	5% CI	
Laura Mauri 2015	19	178	1	80	13.1%	9.44 [1.24, 71.80]					
Michele De Bonis 2016	18	55	5	65	32.7%	5.84 [2.00, 17.06]			-		
Nicola Buzzatti 2019	37	100	8	206	34.9%	14.54 [6.43, 32.84]					-
Tomas Ondrus 2016	2	24	3	48	19.4%	1.36 [0.21, 8.76]		-			
Total (95% CI)		357		399	100.0%	8.47 [4.76, 15.10]				+	
Total events	76		17								
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 5.86, df = 3 (P = 0.12); l ² = 49%							0.04			10	400
Test for overall effect: Z = 7.25 (P < 0.00001)							0.01	0.1	TMVR SMV	10 /R	100

Figure 3. Recurrent MR \geq 3+ at 30 days, 1 year, and >3 years.

achieving good results.

Residual MR after surgical repair is associated with poor survival. Multivariate analysis in 1 study identified failure of acute procedural success, defined as persisting MR grade 3+ or 4+, as a significant independent predictor of medium-term follow-up all-cause mortality. In our analysis, the arithmetic mean of freedom rates from recurrent MR \geq 3+ were 88% and 97.3% at 30 days, 76.0% and 90.0% at 1 year, and 79% and 95% at 3 years in the MitraClip and surgical repair groups, respectively. A pooled analysis indicated a significantly higher incidence of recurrent MR in the MitraClip than in the surgical repair group at 30 days. However, the primary finding of the EVEREST II 5-year follow-up is the durability of MR reduction with MitraClip. Although more severe residual MR was seen in the MitraClip group than in the surgical repair group, long-term survival and left ventricular function after percutaneous repair were similar. Because the majority of patients had degenerative MR in the EVEREST II trial and rate of postoperative MR was lower in the surgical patients, the negative prognostic impact of persisting MR could not be demonstrated in the surgical group. In multiple studies including functional and degenerative MR patients, it was revealed that the residual degree of MR immediately after MitraClip placement was a predictor for the composite endpoint of mortality. Hence, we believe that MitraClip therapy in selected high-risk patients with functional MR is a safe procedure. Larger numbers of patients with degenerative MR and a longer follow-up would be necessary to establish efficacy of the percutaneous approach compared with surgery repair.

In conclusion, this study shows that MitraClip therapy is safe and efficient in selected high-risk patients. Because of the long-term survival rate and high rate of freedom from the recurrence of MR grade >3, the surgery may be the gold standard for "gray" patients. Considering the variable characteristics of patients included in the comparison between the 2 groups and the few randomized controlled trial studies, further studies are needed to determine whether use of the MitraClip should increase.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Dr Zhongshi Wu was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (81771991) and National Key Research and Development Project (2016YFC1101002).

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