Supplementary information to:

Review article:

EFFICACY OF AUTOMATED FASTENERS VERSUS HAND-TIED KNOTS IN CARDIAC SURGERY: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS

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Studies	Baseline charac- teristics	Similar expo- sure status	Exposure measured reliably	Identifica- tion of con- founding factors	Strategies dealing with confounding factors	No out- come at the start	Measure- ment of outcome reliability	Fol- Iow up	Follow up com- plete or not	Strategies for incom- plete fol- low up	Appropri- ate statis- tical meth- ods
Beute et al., 2018	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Loberman et al., 2018	Unclear	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Plestis et al., 2018	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Sabik et al., 2018	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Perin et al., 2019	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unclear	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Grapow et al., 2015	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Unclear	No	No	No	Yes
Ler et al., 2021	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Morgant et al., 2020	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes

Supplementary Table 1: Quality assessment of included studies using JBI critical appraisal checklist for cohort studies

Studies	Randomiza- tion method reported?	Treat- ment group alloca- tion	Base- line	Blind- ing of partici- pants	Treat- ment Deliver- ing Blinding	Outcome Assessers Blinding	Same Treat- ment	Fol- low up	In- ten- tion to treat	Outcome Measure- ment	Out- come Reliabil- ity	Sta- tisti- cal Anal- ysis	Appro- priate Trial Design
Etiway et al., 2018	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lee et al., 2018	No	No	No	Unclear	No	No	Un- clear	No	No	No	Unclear	Yes	No

Supplementary Table 2: Quality assessment of included studies using JBI critical appraisal checklist for RCTs