IQWiG Reports – Commission No. H22-01

Stent retriever for the treatment of cerebral artery vasospasm following subarachnoid haemorrhage

Addendum to Commission H21-10[1]

Extract

[1] Translation of the executive summary of the addendum H22-01 *Stentretriever zur Behandlung des Vasospasmus zerebraler Arterien nach Subarachnoidalblutung – Addendum zum Auftrag H21-10* (Version 1.0; Status: 14 June 2022). Please note: This translation is provided as a service by IQWiG to English-language readers. However, solely the German original text is absolutely authoritative and legally binding.

Publishing details

Publisher
Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care

Topic
Stent retriever for the treatment of cerebral artery vasospasm following subarachnoid haemorrhage - Addendum to Commission H21-10

Commissioning agency
Federal Joint Committee

Commission awarded on
21 April 2022

Internal Commission No.
H22-01

Address of publisher
Institut für Qualität und Wirtschaftlichkeit im Gesundheitswesen
Im Mediapark 8
50670 Köln
Germany

Phone: +49 221 35685-0
Fax: +49 221 35685-1
E-mail: berichte@iqwig.de
Internet: www.iqwig.de

IQWiG employees involved in the addendum

- Anna Margraf
- Michael Hort
- Martina Lietz
- Jona Lilienthal
- Nadine Reinhardt
- Dorothea Sow

Keywords: Stent-Retriever, Vasospasm - Intracranial, Subarachnoid Hemorrhage, Device Approval, Risk Assessment, Benefit Assessment

Executive summary

In a letter dated 21 April 2022, the Federal Joint Committee (G-BA) commissioned the Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG), as an addendum to commission H21-10, to examine the conclusions of the assessment according to §137h Social Code Book (SGB) V on the benefit, harmfulness and ineffectiveness of the method "stent retriever for the treatment of cerebral artery vasospasm following subarachnoid haemorrhage (SAB)".

Research question

The aim of the present investigation was to determine whether further relevant studies on stent retriever for the treatment of cerebral artery vasospasm following SAB exist besides the documents already used in the §137h assessment H21-10. If this was the case, it was to be examined whether, taking these into account, still neither a benefit, harmfulness nor ineffectiveness could be identified for the examination or treatment method in question. Furthermore, it was to be examined whether, besides the studies already used in the §137h assessment, ongoing studies exist that are in principle suitable to provide relevant findings on the benefit, harmfulness or ineffectiveness of the method in the near future.

Methods

Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) were to be included that investigated stent retriever for the treatment of cerebral artery vasospasm following SAB with regard to patient-relevant outcomes and that had not already been used in the assessment according to §137h. For one comparison, prospective comparative cohort studies were additionally included.

A systematic literature search for studies was conducted in MEDLINE and the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials. In parallel, a search for relevant systematic reviews was conducted in MEDLINE, the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, the International HTA Database as well as on the websites of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The search was conducted on 27 April 2022. In addition, the following information sources and search techniques were considered: study registries and screening of reference lists. The selection of relevant studies was performed by 2 reviewers independently of one another.

Information assessment and information synthesis and analysis were guided by the principles described in the Institute's General Methods.

Results

No additional relevant completed or ongoing studies were identified during information retrieval. An additionally identified ongoing RCT is highly unlikely to provide any relevant findings for the assessment of the method, but may provide valuable information on the feasibility of a randomized controlled testing study in Germany as the apparently first comparative study of the method under assessment.

Conclusion

After systematic examination, there is still no evidence of a benefit, ineffectiveness or harmfulness of the method "stent retriever for the treatment of cerebral artery vasospasm following SAB". Beyond the studies already considered in the §137h assessment, no additional completed or ongoing studies were found that would in principle be suitable to provide evidence of a benefit, ineffectiveness or harmfulness in the near future.

The full report (German version) is published under

https://www.iqwig.de/projekte/h22-01.html