

## Supplementary Appendix

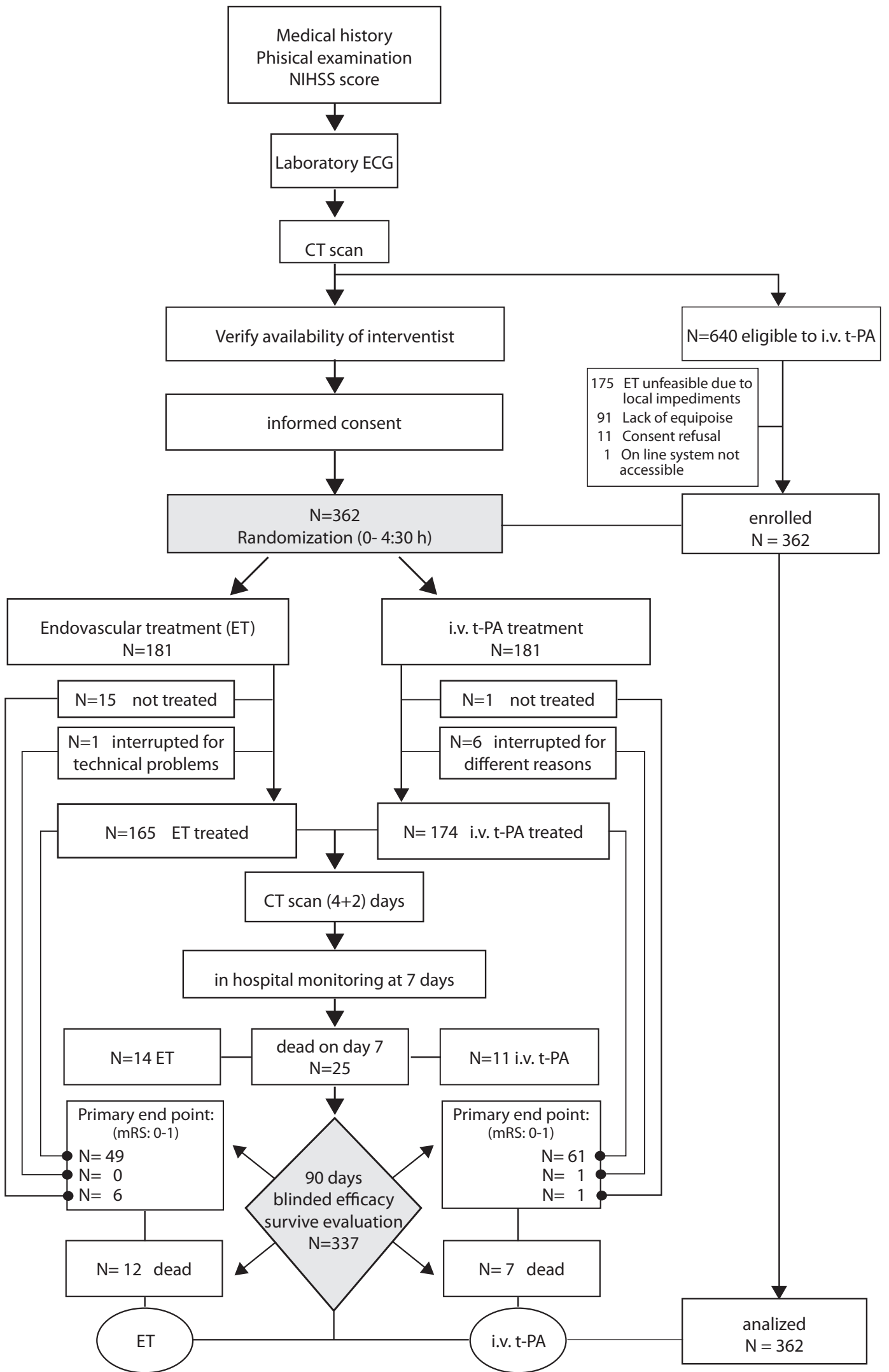
This appendix has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

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**Endovascular treatment for acute ischemic stroke**  
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This supplement contains an Appendix with the following items:

- 1.** Supplementary Figure 1
- 2.** List of the Investigators with the number of patients enrolled per center
- 3.** List of the members of the study committees
- 4.** Authors' contributions.



**Figure S1. Study outline.**

CT, computed tomography; NIHSS, National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale (range 0 to 42, with higher values indicating more severe neurological impairment:  $\leq 6$ , mild impairment;  $\geq 25$ , very severe neurologic impairment); t-PA, recombinant tissue plasminogen activator; mRS, modified Rankin Scale (range 0 to 6, 0= no symptoms, 1= no significant disability despite symptoms, 6=dead).

Patients enrollment was competitive and participating centers were recruited throughout the duration of the study. Thus, only a few centers have been active for four years of study. Some have been enrolling only for a few months either because involved in the final phase of the study or for the loss of the conditions essential to randomize (for example for the transfer of the interventionist in another hospital). Eligibility applied to all the patients with indication to be treated within 4.5 h according to the terms of the t-PA licensing approval by the European Evaluation of Medicines Agency. There were no pre-specified clinical criteria, such as a NIHSS cut-off, or instrumental criteria, such as the demonstration of arterial occlusion with noninvasive procedures, to further select a patient already eligible for i.v. t-PA, although clinicians were free to use them.

## APPENDIX

**Investigators:** The following persons and institutions participated in the trial (numbers of patients enrolled per center are in brackets)

1. **“Niguarda Cà Granda” Hospital, Milan (54).** *Stroke Unit:* A. Ciccone, A. Gatti, A. Guccione, C. Motto, I. Santilli, R. Tortorella, R. Sterzi. *Neurology:* E. Ferrante, F. Imbesi, R. Marazzi, S. Jann, A. Protti, M. Rizzone, Tiraboschi P. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* E. Boccardi, L. Valvassori, Pero G, Quilici L, M. Piano.
2. **Nuovo Ospedale Civile "S.Agostino-Estense", AUSL Modena (51).** *Stroke Unit - Neurology Clinic:* A. Zini, F. Casoni, M. Cavazzuti, F. Falzone, P. Nichelli. *Neuroradiology Unit:* S. Vallone, P. Carpeggiani, F. Menetti.
3. **“Valduce” Hospital, Como (30).** *Neurology Division - Stroke Unit:* M. Guidotti, N. Checcarelli, F. Muscia. *Radiology:* A. Martegani.
4. **University Hospital “Fondazione Ca' Granda. IRCCS. Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico”, Milan (17).** *Emergency medicine:* G. Torgano, C. Mandelli, B. Zecca. *Department of Neurology:* P. Baron, A. Bersano. *Diagnostic/ Interventional Neuroradiology:* V. Branca, M. Isalberti, R. Papa, A. Paolucci.
5. **“Spedali Civili”, Brescia (18).** *Stroke Unit:* M. Magoni, A. Costa, Gamba M. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* R. Gasparotti.
6. **University “Policlinico”, Bari (5).** *Neurological Clinic and Stroke Unit:* F. Federico, M. Petruzzellis, B. Tartaglione, D. Mezzapesa. *Neuroradiology Unit:* L. Chiumarulo, R. De Blasi,.
7. **Hospital “A. Manzoni”, Lecco (9).** *Stroke Unit:* E. Agostoni, E. Botto, M. Longoni. *Neuroradiology:* V. Ballarini, P. Reganati.
8. **“S. Martino” University Hospital, Genoa (24).** *Hospital Stroke Unit:* L. Malfatto, D. Rizzi, C. Serrati. *University Stroke Unit:* M. Balestrino, C. Gandolfo. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* L. Castellan, N. Mavilio, L. Allegretti.
9. **“AO Circolo e Fondazione Macchi” University Hospital, Varese (52).** *Stroke Unit:* M.L. Delodovici, F. Carimati, E.P. Verrengia. *Neurology:* G. Bono. *Emergency Department:* F. Perlasca. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* G. Craparo, A. Giorgianni.
10. **University Hospital “Arcispedale S. Anna”, Ferrara (13).** *Stroke Unit:* C. Azzini, A. De Vito, M. Tola. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* A. Saletti.
11. **“San Camillo-Forlanini” Hospital, Rome (6).** *Stroke Unit:* C. Pozzessere, F. Corsi, G. Scifoni, S. Anticoli, F.R. Pezzella. *Diagnostic/Interventional Neuroradiology:* E. Cotroneo, R. Gigli.
12. **University Hospital “Careggi”, Florence (11).** *Stroke Unit and Neurology:* P. Nencini, V. Palumbo, L. Pantoni, D. Inzitari. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* S. Mangiafico.
13. **“Santa Maria della Misericordia” Hospital, Rovigo (15).** *Stroke Unit:* M. Chinaglia, M. Russo, R. L’Erario. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* P. Amistà.
14. **“Arcispedale S. Maria Nuova” Hospital, Reggio Emilia (12).** *Stroke Unit:* G. Malferrari, A. Nucera, M.L. Zedde, A. Dallari. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* G. Deberti.
15. **“San Matteo” Hospital, Pavia (1).** *Emergency and Vascular Medicine:* F. Falaschi, A. Martignoni. *Diagnostic/Interventional Neuroradiology:* F. Zappoli.
16. **“Humanitas” Hospital, Rozzano (4).** *Stroke Unit:* S. Marcheselli, B. Stival. *Hemodynamic Unit:* P. Presbitero, ML Rossi, G. Belli.
17. **Perugia Hospital, Perugia (2).** *Stroke Unit:* M. Paciaroni, V. Caso, G.C. Agnelli. *Interventional Neuroradiology.* M. Hamam.
18. **University Hospital, Verona (3).** *Stroke Unit:* P. Bovi. *Neuroradiology Service:* E. Piovan.
19. **University Hospital “San Raffaele”, Milan (7).** *Stroke Unit:* M. Sessa, MD. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* F. Scomazzoni, MD.

20. **Hospital “S. Anna”, Como (6).** *Stroke Unit:* M. Arnaboldi, L. Tancredi. *Radiology:* R. Peroni.
21. **Ospedali Riuniti, Bergamo (11).** *Stroke Unit:* B. Censori, M. Poloni. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* S. Lunghi, G. Bonaldi.
22. **“Poliambulanza” Foundation Hospital, Brescia (4).** *Stroke Unit:* E. Donati, E. Magni. *Interventional Neuroradiology:* M. Pavia, M. Cobelli.
23. **“Regional Hospital”, Aosta (4).** *Stroke Unit:* E. Bottacchi, G. Corso, P. Tosi, S. Cordera, M. Di Giovanni, G. Giardini. *Neuroradiology:* T. Meloni. M. Cristoferi, M. Natrella.
24. **Azienda Ospedaliera Nazionale SS. Antonio e Biagio e Cesare Arrigo, Alessandria (3).** *Stroke Unit:* L. Ruiz, M.L. Dell’Acqua. *Interventional Radiology:* G. Rolandi, I. Gallesio.

**Principal investigator** A. Ciccone, MD (Niguarda Ca’ Granda Hospital, Milan, Italy).

**Steering committee** A. Ciccone, MD - Chairman, L. Valvassori, MD, E. Boccardi, MD, R. Sterzi, MD (Niguarda Ca’ Granda Hospital, Milan, Italy).

**Data Monitoring and Safety Committee** P. Sandercock, MD – Chairman (University of Edinburgh, UK), L. Candelise, MD, (University of Milan, Italy), G. del Zoppo, MD, (University of Washington, Seattle, USA).

**Statisticians** M. Nichelatti, BSc, PhD (Niguarda Ca’ Granda Hospital, Milan, Italy), M. Ponzio, PhD (University of Pavia, Italy).

**Neuroradiology committee** E. Ciceri, MD, (Neurological Institute Carlo Besta, Milan, Italy), P. Doneda, MD, (Niguarda Ca’ Granda Hospital, Milan, Italy), C. Motto, MD – coordinator, (Niguarda Ca’ Granda Hospital, Milan, Italy).

**Study coordination** M. Daolio, (Niguarda Ca’ Granda Hospital, Milan, Italy).

**Data management and clinical monitoring** A. Sgoifo, PD – from April 2010 until the end of the study, D. Caputo, MD – from April 2009 to April 2010, E. del Zotto, MD – from November 2008 to March 2009, E. Botto, MD – from November 2007 to March 2009 (Niguarda Ca’ Granda Hospital, Milan, Italy).

**Follow-up** T. Cantisani, MD, (“Santa Maria della Misericordia” Hospital, Perugia, Italy).

#### **Authors' contributions**

The study was conceived by the principal investigator, AC, and designed by AC and LV, with input from EB and RS. AS gathered the data and MN and MP performed the statistical analysis. AC, LV, AS, MN and MP vouches for the data and the analysis. AC decided to publish the paper after consultation with the Steering Committee (AC, LV, EB, RS). AC wrote the first draft of the manuscript, LV wrote the “Treatment modality” in the “Results” section, MN wrote the “Statistical analysis” section, AS prepared the Figures and all authors commented on drafts and approved the final version.