

Table S3 Sensitivity analysis

Studies omitted	Postoperative mortality		Postoperative morbidity		Overall survival	
	Repoled RR [95%CI]	P	Repoled RR [95%CI]	P	Repoled HR [95%CI]	P
All studies included	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.88 [0.81, 0.96]	0.003	0.96 [0.86, 1.08]	0.50
Abbott 2012	1.10 [0.74, 1.65]	0.63	0.87 [0.80, 0.96]	0.003	-	-
Alexandrescu 2012	1.23 [0.81, 1.87]	0.34	0.87 [0.80, 0.95]	0.002	0.97 [0.86, 1.09]	0.60
Brouquet 2010	1.12 [0.75, 1.68]	0.59	0.88 [0.80, 0.96]	0.004	0.97 [0.86, 1.09]	0.63
Capussotti 2007	1.12 [0.75, 1.67]	0.58	0.87 [0.80, 0.95]	0.003	0.94 [0.84, 1.06]	0.34
Chua 2004	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.89 [0.81, 0.97]	0.007	0.95 [0.85, 1.07]	0.42
de Haas 2010	1.14 [0.76, 1.70]	0.52	0.89 [0.82, 0.97]	0.010	0.95 [0.85, 1.07]	0.40
Hu 2013	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.88 [0.81, 0.96]	0.006	0.96 [0.86, 1.08]	0.48
Luo 2010	1.18 [0.78, 1.78]	0.42	0.88 [0.80, 0.97]	0.007	-	-
Martin 2003	1.17 [0.78, 1.76]	0.45	0.90 [0.82, 0.99]	0.020	-	-
Martin 2009	1.15 [0.77, 1.71]	0.50	0.87 [0.79, 0.95]	0.002	-	-
Mayo 2013	1.30 [0.81, 2.06]	0.27	0.86 [0.79, 0.94]	0.001	0.92 [0.80, 1.06]	0.24
Moug 2010	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.89 [0.81, 0.97]	0.007	-	-
Reddy 2007	1.04 [0.68, 1.59]	0.84	0.87 [0.80, 0.96]	0.003	-	-
Slupski 2009	1.15 [0.77, 1.72]	0.50	0.88 [0.80, 0.96]	0.003	0.96 [0.86, 1.08]	0.54
Tanaka 2004	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.87 [0.80, 0.95]	0.002	0.98 [0.87, 1.10]	0.72
Thelen 2007	1.00 [0.65, 1.52]	0.99	0.88 [0.81, 0.96]	0.002	0.95 [0.85, 1.07]	0.41
Turrini 2007	1.17 [0.78, 1.76]	0.45	0.88 [0.81, 0.96]	0.005	0.98 [0.87, 1.10]	0.71
Vassiliou 2007	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.87 [0.80, 0.96]	0.003	-	-
Wang 2008	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.87 [0.80, 0.95]	0.002	0.96 [0.86, 1.08]	0.53
Weber 2003	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.88 [0.81, 0.96]	0.004	0.96 [0.86, 1.08]	0.52
Xu 2009	1.14 [0.76, 1.73]	0.53	0.86 [0.79, 0.94]	0.001	0.98 [0.87, 1.10]	0.69
Yan 2007	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	0.52	0.88 [0.81, 0.96]	0.005	0.97 [0.86, 1.09]	0.57

Sensitivity analyses were performed by consecutively omitting every study from all the others in the meta-analysis (leave-one-out procedure).