

**Supplement 2.** Search strategy.

Search step	Search terms
#1	((((((((((((((((("Intracranial Arterial Diseases"[Mesh]) AND "Constriction, Pathologic"[Mesh]) OR "Intracranial Arteriosclerosis"[Mesh]) OR intracranial arterial stenosis) OR intracranial atherosclerosis) OR intracranial stenosis) OR intracranial atherosclerotic stenosis) OR intracranial atherosclerotic diseases) OR "Vertebrobasilar Insufficiency"[Mesh]) OR intracranial vertebral artery stenosis) OR intracranial vertebrobasilar artery stenosis) OR ischemic cerebrovascular disease caused by artery stenosis) OR basilar artery stenosis) OR cerebral artery stenosis) OR vertebral artery stenosis) OR atherosclerotic vertebrobasilar artery occlusion) OR (intracranial large artery stenoses and occlusions)) OR (intracranial large artery stenosis and occlusions)) OR intracranial vertebral artery atherosclerotic stenosis) OR vertebral atherosclerotic diseases) OR vertebral atherosclerosis diseases) OR intracranial internal carotid artery stenosis) OR atherosclerotic intracranial stenosis
#2	(((balloon expandable intracranial stent*) OR balloon expandable stent*) OR balloon dilatable stent*) OR balloon mounted stent*) OR balloon angioplasty with stent*
#3	(((self expanding stent*) OR self expanded stent*) OR self expandable stent*) OR primary stent*
#4	(((((((balloon angioplasty) OR balloon dilatation) OR balloon dilation) OR primary angioplasty) OR intracranial angioplasty alone) OR endovascular treatment alone) OR endovascular therapy alone) OR intravascular treatment alone) OR intravascular therapy alone

#5	<p>((((((((((((("Drug Therapy"[Mesh]) OR drug therapy) OR pharmacotherapy) OR chemotherapy) OR medication)) OR (((((((((((((((("Aspirin"[Mesh]) OR aspirin) OR acetylsalicylic acid) OR ASA) OR "2-acetyloxy benzoic acid") OR acylpyrin) OR aloxiprinum) OR colfarit) OR disopril) OR ecotrin) OR endosprin) OR magnecyl) OR micristin) OR polopirin) OR polopiryna) OR solprins) OR solupsan) OR zorprin) OR acetysal)) OR (((((((((((("clopidogrel" [Supplementary Concept]) OR clopidogrel) OR iscover) OR pcr 4099) OR pcr-4099) OR pcr4099) OR plavix) OR sr 25989) OR sr-25989) OR sr25989) OR sr 25990c) OR sr-25990c) OR sr25990c)) OR (((((((((((("Warfarin"[Mesh]) OR warfarin) OR aldocumar) OR warfant) OR coumadin) OR coumarin) OR marevan) OR coumadine) OR tedicumar) OR jantoven) OR waran)) OR (((((((((((("cilostazol" [Supplementary Concept]) OR cilostazol) OR pletal) OR pletaal) OR OPC 13013) OR OPC-13013) OR OPC13013) OR OPC 21) OR OPC-21) OR OPC21)) OR (((((((("Ticagrelor" [Supplementary Concept]) OR ticagrelor) OR brilinta) OR brilique) OR AZD 6140) OR AZD-6140) OR AZD6140)) OR (((((((((((("Ticlopidine"[Mesh]) OR ticlopidine) OR ticlid) OR tiklid) OR ticlodix) OR ticlodone) OR panaldine) OR 53 32C) OR 53-32C) OR 5332C)) OR (((((((((((("Prasugrel Hydrochloride"[Mesh]) OR prasugrel) OR efient) OR effient) OR CS 747) OR CS-747) OR CS747) OR LY 640315) OR LY-640315) OR LY640315)) OR (((("Thienopyridines"[Mesh]) OR thienopyridine) OR thienopyridines)) OR (((((((("Aspirin, Dipyridamole Drug Combination"[Mesh]) OR aspirin-dipyridamole drug combination) OR aspirin dipyridamole drug combination) OR TX 3301) OR TX-3301) OR TX3301) OR asasantin) OR aggrenox)</p>
#6	<p>((((((((("Cerebral Revascularization"[Mesh]) OR extracranial-intracranial) OR extracranial intracranial) OR extra-intracranial) OR extra intracranial) OR EC-IC) OR ECIC) OR graft) OR bypass) OR bypasses</p>
#7	#1 AND #2 AND #3 AND #4
#8	#1 AND (#2 OR #3 OR #4)
#9	#1 AND #5 AND #6
#10	Filters: Publication date from 2000/01/01; English
#11	(#7 OR #8 OR #9) AND #10