

Appendix 2: Reason for exclusion for references screened at Level 2

First author, year	Reference	Reason for exclusion
Kobayashi H. et al, 1988	Coronary artery bypass grafting in women: analyses of preoperative and intraoperative factors. <i>Nihon Kyobu Geka Gakkai Zasshi</i> . 1988 Aug;36(8):1285-91	Japanese, non-English
Hanet C. et al., 1990	Angiographic evaluation of vasomotor properties of internal mammary arteries before and after coronary artery bypass grafting in men. <i>The American Journal of Cardiology</i> . 1990;65(13):918–21.	Studied patient sex only
Meyer SA., 1993	The relationship of nutritional status, personality hardiness, and social support of the older adult to treatment outcomes following non-emergent cardiac surgery. <i>Thesis (D.P.H.) University of Hawaii at Manoa</i>	Doctorate thesis
Vallejo JL. et al, 1994	Influence of sex in the technique and results of valvular surgery. <i>Rev Esp Cardiol</i> . 1994;47 Suppl 3:68–75.	Spanish, non-English
Bryan CF. et al., 1996	Influence of donor gender on patient mortality after heart transplantation. <i>Transplant Protocol</i> . 1996 Feb;28(1):149-51.	Studied recipient and donor patient sex only
Aidala E. et al., 1999	Gender and coronary artery bypass mortality. <i>Ann Thorac Surg</i> . 1999 Aug;68(2):625–6.	Commentary
TH. Lee., 2001	Heart lines. Neurological complications more common in women after heart surgery. <i>Harvard Heart Letter</i> . 2001 Dec;12(4):1-7	Commentary
Herd JA. et al., 2003	Heart rate and blood pressure responses to mental stress and clinical cardiovascular events in men and women after coronary artery bypass grafting: The Post Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (Post-CABG) biobehavioral study. <i>American Heart Journal</i> . 2003;146(2):273–9.	Studied patient sex only

Koch CG. et al., 2003	Is it gender, methodology, or something else? <i>Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery</i> . 2003;126(4):932–5.	Commentary
Habib RH. et al., 2004	Sex differences in mortality after coronary artery bypass graft surgery. <i>JAMA</i> . 2004 Jul 7;292(1):40–1.	Commentary
Habib RH. et al., 2004	Worse early outcomes in women after coronary artery bypass grafting: Is it simply a matter of size? <i>The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery</i> . 2004;128(3):487–8.	Commentary
Cheng TO., 2005	In China women uphold half of the sky. <i>International Journal of Cardiology</i> . 2005;102(1):159–159.	Commentary
Jonker G. et al., 2006	Increased mortality among women after coronary artery bypass grafting seems mainly to be explained by infections. 2006.	Commentary
Dixon B. et al., 2014	The operating surgeon is an independent predictor of chest tube drainage following cardiac surgery. <i>J Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth</i> . 2014;28(2):242–6.	Studied patient gender only
Lopes CT. et al., 2015	Excessive bleeding predictors after cardiac surgery in adults: integrative review. <i>J Clin Nurs</i> . 2015;24(21–22):3046–62.	Studied patient sex only
Mattioli AV. et al., 2018	Combined Rehabilitation and Nutritional Coaching After Cardiac Surgery: Sex Differences. <i>The Annals of Thoracic Surgery</i> . 2018;106(4):1265.	Commentary

Commentary: qualitative analysis exclusively.