


SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT 11

This table also appears in the Supplemental Digital Content 2 in the complete set of evidence tools.

Table 11. Levosimendan versus dobutamine in patients with septic shock and persistent hypoperfusion

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Bibliography: Fang M Zhonghua Wei Zhong Bing Ji Jiu Yi Xue 2014; 26(10):692-6, Memis D J Crit Care 2012; 27(3):18e1-6, Morelli A Intensive Care Med 2005; 31(5):638-44, Morelli A Crit Care 2010; 14(6):R232, Alhashemi JA J Crit Care 2009; 24(3):e14-5, Vaitsis J Crit Care 2009;13 (Suplem 1):165.

No of studies	Study design	Quality assessment					No of patients		Effect		Quality	Importance
		Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Levosimendan	dobutamine	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
Mortality												
6	randomized trials	serious ¹	not serious ²	not serious	serious ³	none	53/112 (47.3%)	63/108 (58.3%)	RR 0.83 (0.66 to 1.05)	99 fewer per 1000 (from 29 more to 198 fewer)	 LOW	CRITICAL

CI: Confidence interval; RR: Risk ratio

1. We downgraded for risk of bias by one level, the randomization process and allocation concealment was unclear for most trials. small sample size, blindness and allocation concealment not adequately described
2. The $I^2 = 0\%$, no significant statistical heterogeneity identified
3. We downgraded the quality of evidence for imprecision by one level, the CI contained significant benefit and small harm