

Appendix

TABLE E-1 Results of Random-Effect Meta-Analysis for Outcomes with Moderate Heterogeneity*

| Outcome | No. of Patients | | No. of Studies | RR | | | | | RD | | | | | RRR (%) | NNT |
|-------------------|-----------------|------|----------------|------|--------------|---------|--------------------|---------|-------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | MIS | Open | | ES | 95% CI | P Value | Heterogeneity | | ES | 95% CI | P Value | Heterogeneity | | | |
| | | | | | | | I ² (%) | P Value | | | | I ² (%) | P Value | | |
| Infections | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 182 | 176 | 8 | | | | | | -0.08 | -0.15 to -0.02 | 0.01 | 44 | 0.09 | | 13 |
| Superficial | 182 | 176 | 8 | | | | | | -0.04 | -0.10 to 0.01 | 0.12 | 42 | 0.10 | | 25 |
| Pain/tendinitis | 116 | 112 | 5 | 0.59 | 0.09 to 2.63 | 0.42 | 41 | 0.16 | | | | | | -41 | |

*RR = risk ratio, RD = risk difference, MIS = minimally invasive surgery, ES = effect size, CI = confidence interval, RRR = relative risk reduction, and NNT = number needed to treat. Values in bold are significant.