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SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT #1

Appendix 1 [Document] Search strings.

Search strings

MEDLINE / CENTRAL

("Cervical Vertebrae"[Mesh] OR cervical[tiab])
AND

AND

NOT ("Animals"[Mesh] NOT "Humans"[Mesh])

EMBASE

(cervical:ab,ti OR 'cervical spine'/exp)
AND

('spinal cord surgery'/exp OR 'spine surgery'/exp OR (diskectomy* OR discectomy* OR foraminotom* OR frykholm OR cloward OR (smith* AND robinson*)) OR fusion* OR ‘disc replacement*’ OR ‘disk replacement*’ OR ‘disc arthroplast*’ OR ‘disk arthroplast*’):ab,ti OR decompression*:ti)
AND

('controlled clinical trial'/exp OR (randomi* OR randomly):ab,ti OR trial:ti)
NOT

('conference abstract'/it OR (‘animal’/exp OR ‘nonhuman’/exp) NOT ‘human’/exp))
Appendix 2 [Figure] Risk of bias assessment.
Appendix 3 [Figure] Funnel plot success rates.
Success rates

SE = standard error; RR = risk ratio; PCF= Posterior cervical foraminotomy; ACDF= Anterior cervical discectomy with fusion; PMMA = ACDF with polymethylmethacrylate as an intervertebral spacer; ACD = anterior cervical discectomy without intervertebral spacer; Zero-P = ACDF with a zero-profile cage as intervertebral spacer; ACDFP = ACDF with additional plating; ABG = ACDF with autologous bone graft.
Appendix 4 [Figure] Funnel plot complication rates.
Complication rates

SE = standard error; RR = risk ratio; PCF = Posterior cervical foraminotomy; ACDF = Anterior cervical discectomy with fusion; PMMA = ACDF with polymethylmethacrylate as an intervertebral spacer; ACD = anterior cervical discectomy without intervertebral spacer; CDR = cervical disc replacement; ABG = ACDF with autologous bone graft; ACDFP = ACDF with additional plating; Zero-Profile = ACDF with a zero-profile cage as intervertebral spacer.
Appendix 5 [Figure] Funnel plot reoperation rates.
Reoperation rates

SE = standard error; RR = risk ratio; PCF = Posterior cervical foraminotomy; ACDF = Anterior cervical discectomy with fusion; PMMA = ACDF with polymethylmethacrylate as an intervertebral spacer; ACD = anterior cervical discectomy without intervertebral spacer; CDR = cervical disc replacement; ABG = ACDF with autologous bone graft; ACDFP = ACDF with additional plating.
References


41. Donk RD, Verbeek ALM, Verhagen WIM, Groenewoud H, Hosman AJF, Bartels RHMA. What’s the best surgical treatment for patients with cervical radiculopathy due to single-


