Safety and Efficacy of Aneurysm Treatment with the WEB

We read with interest the article by Pierot et al¹ regarding the results of the WEBCAST 2 study. We do, however, take issue with the statement that it confirms the “high” efficacy of the device. They reported a complete occlusion rate of 54% and “adequate” occlusion, including neck remnants, in 80% of 50 aneurysms (93% unruptured). The complete occlusion rate from neurosurgical clipping in the largest randomized controlled trials of coiling versus clipping of ruptured aneurysms was 96%.^{2,3} A meta-analysis of clipping of unruptured aneurysms showed a complete occlusion rate of 92%.⁴ Although the decision to proceed with endovascular therapy in WEBCAST was made by a multidisciplinary team, it may be wise to temper one’s enthusiasm for novel endovascular devices when open neurosurgical treatment may offer a truly “high” level of efficacy.

REFERENCES

1. Pierot L, Gubucz I, Buhk JH, et al. **Safety and efficacy of aneurysm treatment with the WEB: results of the WEBCAST 2 study.** *AJNR Am J Neuroradiol* 2017;38:1151–55 [CrossRef Medline](#)
2. Spetzler RF, McDougall CG, Zabramski JM, et al. **The Barrow Ruptured Aneurysm Trial: 6-year results.** *J Neurosurg* 2015;123:609–17 [CrossRef Medline](#)
3. Campi A, Ramzi N, Molyneux AJ, et al. **Retreatment of ruptured cerebral aneurysms in patients randomized by coiling or clipping in the International Subarachnoid Aneurysm Trial (ISAT).** *Stroke* 2007; 38:1538–44 [CrossRef Medline](#)
4. Kotowski M, Naggara O, Darsaut TE, et al. **Safety and occlusion rates of surgical treatment of unruptured intracranial aneurysms: a systematic review and meta-analysis of the literature from 1990 to 2011.** *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 2013;84:42–48 [CrossRef Medline](#)

D.M. Pelz

S.P. Lownie

Departments of Medical Imaging and Clinical Neurological Sciences
Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, Western University
London, Ontario, Canada

<http://dx.doi.org/10.3174/ajnr.A5387>