Review Article

Clinical Outcomes of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement in Nonagenarians: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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Objectives. To compare the incidence of mortality and complications between nonagenarians and younger patients undergoing transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR). Background. TAVR has become an alternative treatment for nonagenarian patients with severe aortic stenosis. Previous studies have reported conflicting results regarding the clinical outcomes between nonagenarians and younger patients who underwent TAVR. Methods. We searched PubMed, EMBASE, and Cochrane Library databases with predefined criteria from the inception dates to July 8, 2018. The primary clinical endpoint was 30-day and 1-year all-cause mortalities. Secondary outcomes were considered the rates of stroke, myocardial infarction, any bleeding, any acute kidney injury, any vascular complications, new pacemaker implantation, and conversion to surgical aortic valve replacement. Results. A total of 5 eligible studies with 25,371 patients were included in this meta-analysis. Compared with younger patients who underwent TAVR, nonagenarians had a significantly higher mean Society of Thoracic Surgeons score (STS score) (MD, 2.80; 95%CI: 2.58, 3.30; P<0.00001) and logistic European System for Cardiac Operative Risk Evaluation (logistic EuroSCORE) (MD, 2.72; 95% CI: 1.01, 4.43; P=0.002). Nonagenarians were associated with significantly higher 30-day mortality (6.2% vs. 3.7%; OR, 1.73; 95%CI: 1.49, 2.00) and 1-year mortality (15.5% vs. 11.8%; OR, 1.39; 95%CI: 1.26, 1.53), without significant statistical heterogeneity. Nonagenarians were associated with significantly increased rates of major or life-threatening bleeding, vascular complications and stroke of 20%, 35%, and 32%, respectively. There were no significant differences in the rate of myocardial infarction, stage 2 or 3 acute kidney injury, new pacemaker implantation, or conversion to surgical aortic valve replacement. Conclusions. Nonagenarians showed worse clinical outcomes than younger patients after TAVR, while the incidence of mortality was acceptable. TAVR remains an option for nonagenarian patients with severe aortic stenosis and should be comprehensively evaluated by the heart valve team.

1. Introduction

As forecasted by Kontis et al., the life expectancy in industrialized countries would break the 90-year barrier by 2030 [1]. Since the prevalence of aortic stenosis is increasing with lifespan, [2, 3] it is urgent to address the management of aortic stenosis (AS) for nonagenarians.

Since 2002, when the first transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) was carried out by Cribier, [4] it has become an alternative treatment for intermediate- to high-risk patients with severe AS [5, 6]. Several studies have shown no significant differences in the short- or long-term survival

of nonagenarians between surgical aortic valve replacement (SAVR) and TAVR [7–9]. In consideration of frailty and inoperability, TAVR is a preferable approach for elderly patients.

However, previous studies have reported conflicting results regarding the clinical outcomes between nonagenarians and younger patients who underwent TAVR [10–14]. To further confirm the feasibility and safety of TAVR in nonagenarians, we performed this systematic review and meta-analysis to explore the short- to mid-term clinical outcomes of TAVR.

2. Methods

This meta-analysis was performed based on the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions [15] and is presented according to the MOOSE (Meta-analysis of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) guidelines [16].

2.1. Search Strategy. We searched PubMed, EMBASE, and Cochrane Library databases for the current literature. The following search terms were used: ((((("transcatheter aortic valve replacement"[mesh]) OR transcatheter aortic valve implantation) OR TAVR) OR TAVI)) AND ((("Aged, 80 and over"[mesh]) OR 90 years) OR Nonagenarian*). No language, publication date, or publication status restrictions were imposed. The last search was performed on July 8, 2018. Two investigators (YL and YD) performed the initial search separately, deleted duplicate records, screened titles and abstracts for relevance, and identified relevant articles for further full-text assessment. Reference lists from these retrieved articles were manually screened to identify additional relevant studies.

2.2. Inclusion Criteria. Studies were selected based on the following inclusion criteria: (1) studies enrolling nonagenarian and younger patients undergoing TAVR in current clinical practices, (2) studies comparing clinical outcomes of nonagenarians to younger patients undergoing TAVR, and (3) studies in which the clinical endpoints and adverse events were diagnosed by the Valve Academic Research Consortium 2 definitions [17]. Conference abstracts, reviews, comments, and editorials were excluded.

2.3. Data Extraction and Quality Assessment. Two investigators (YL and YD) independently extracted data (first author, country of origin, publication year, number of enrolled patients, and baseline patient characteristics) using a standardized data abstraction form. When the same patients were reported in several publications, only the largest study was used for the meta-analysis to avoid data duplication.

Two investigators (YL and YD) independently assessed the quality of selected studies based on the 9-star Newcastle-Ottawa Scale [18]. This scale rates studies based on eight criteria in three sources of bias. Disagreement was resolved by discussions and by consulting a third investigator (YJZ).

2.4. Clinical Endpoints. The primary clinical endpoint of interest was 30-day and 1-year all-cause mortality, and secondary outcomes were considered as the rates of stroke, myocardial infarction, any bleeding, any acute kidney injury, any vascular complications, new pacemaker implantation, and conversion to surgical aortic valve replacement. All definitions of clinical endpoints were based on the Valve Academic Research Consortium 2 definitions.

2.5. Statistical Analysis. The odds ratios (ORs) with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) for the endpoints were calculated from each study. Trial-specific ORs were combined with the Mantel-Haenszel fixed-effects model or with random

effects model if heterogeneity was statistically significant or $I^2 > 50\%$. If no events were reported for one group in a comparison, a value of 0.5 was added to both groups for each of these studies. Trials with no events in both groups were not included in the meta-analysis when the ORs were calculated.

The presence of heterogeneity among studies was evaluated with the Cochran Q chi-squared test, with P<0.10 considered to indicate statistical significance, and the I² test was used to evaluate inconsistencies. The I² statistic is derived from the Q statistic and describes the percentage of total variation across studies which is due to heterogeneity; values of 25%, 50%, and 75% correspond to low, moderate, and high heterogeneity, respectively. The funnel plot was not drawn for outcomes due to the small number of studies included in this analysis.

We did not contact the authors of the included studies to obtain raw data. All analyses were performed using Review Manager version 5.3 (Copenhagen, Denmark; Cochrane Collaboration). All tests were two tailed, and P < 0.05 was considered significant.

3. Results

3.1. Study Characteristics and Quality Assessment. From the searches for meta-analysis, 5,238 potentially eligible studies were identified. Titles and abstracts of these studies were screened for inclusion. Full-texts of 44 studies were read, and 5 studies met the inclusion criteria (Figure 1) [10, 19–22]. The main characteristics of the included studies are described in Table 1(a). The current meta-analysis included 25,371 patients (3,929 in the nonagenarian group and 21,442 in the younger group). The mean Society of Thoracic Surgeons score (STS score), logistic European System for Cardiac Operative Risk Evaluation (logistic EuroSCORE), left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF), mean pressure gradient, and medical history of the different studies are summarized in Tables 1(b) and 1(c). All trials reported that the clinical outcomes of interest varied from a 30-day to a 3-year follow-up period.

The assessment of quality is presented in Table 2. The total score of the 5 observational studies was >5 according to the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale for risk of bias in observational studies, representing a low risk of bias.

3.2. Clinical Outcomes. Nonagenarians had a significantly higher mean STS score than younger patients (MD, 2.80; 95%CI: 2.58, 3.30; P<0.00001), with low study heterogeneity (P=0.29; I^2 =20%, Figure 2). Four studies analyzed the logistic EuroSCORE of patients, which was also higher in the nonagenarian group (MD, 2.72; 95%CI: 1.01, 4.43; P=0.002). No significant statistical heterogeneity was found among the studies (Figure 3).

There were 245 patients (6.2%) with 30-day mortality reported among the nonagenarian group and 800 patients (3.7%) among the younger group. The 30-day mortality rates were significantly higher among nonagenarians (OR, 1.73; 95%CI: 1.49, 2.00; I^2 =0%, Figure 4). Four studies reported 1-year all-cause mortalities. The pooled average 1-year mortality was 12.4% and was 15.5% in the nonagenarian group and 11.8%



FIGURE 1: Flow diagram of study selection process.

	nonage	narian g	roup	youn	iger gr	oup		Mean Difference			Mean Di	fference		
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Fixed, 95% CI	Year		IV, Fixe	d, 95% CI		
Yamamoto et al	13.4	7.2	26	12.3	8.8	110	0.5%	1.10 [-2.12, 4.32]	2012			-	-	
Ramkumar et al	5.7	2.2	23	3.6	1.8	81	5.3%	2.10 [1.12, 3.08]	2016					
Arsalan et al	9.22	7.17	3773	6.34	5.09	20252	89.4%	2.88 [2.64, 3.12]	2016					
Miura et al	10	9.5	25	6	5	87	0.3%	4.00 [0.13, 7.87]	2017					
Scholtz et al	8.5	4.8	82	6.3	4.5	912	4.4%	2.20 [1.12, 3.28]	2017					
Total (95% CI)			3929			21442	100.0%	2.80 [2.58, 3.03]				•		
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 5	.01, df = 4	(P = 0.2	9); I ² = 2	20%					+	10 5		<u> </u>		10
Test for overall effect: Z	2 = 24.28 (P < 0.00	001)						-1	Favors nonag	enarian group	Favors youn	ວ ger group	10

FIGURE 2: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing Society of Thoracic Surgeons score of nonagenarians versus younger patients.

in the younger group. Nonagenarians were associated with a significantly higher 1-year mortality (OR, 1.39; 95%CI: 1.26, 1.53; $I^2=0\%$, Figure 5).

The specific definitions of any bleeding, any acute kidney injury, and any vascular complications are shown in Table 3. Major or life-threatening bleeding was reported in 313 patients (8.1%) in the nonagenarian group and in 1,405 patients (6.8%) in the younger group. Vascular complications were reported in 135 patients (3.43%) in the nonagenarian group and 553 (2.6%) in the younger group. Nonagenarians

				(a) Baseli	ne characteristics c	of the includ	led studies					
First Author	Country	Year N	Anlticenter	Number	of Patient		Mean Ag	e (years)			Male (%)	,
	1		n	onagenarian gro	up control gr	ou dno.	nagenarian group	control ;	group no	nagenarian	group conti	rol group
Yamamoto et al.	France	2012	No	26	110		91.6 ± 1.9	82.3±	-7.0	19		50
Arsalan et al.	United States	2016	Yes	3773	20252		92.0 (90.0-93.0)	82.0 (76.0	0-86.0)	48.24		50.74
Ramkumar et al.	Australia	2016	No	23	81		90.6 ± 2.6	$81.1\pm$	4.6	52		44
Miura et al.	Japan	2017	No	25	87		91.6 ± 1.7	82.5±	6.0	20		37.9
Scholtz et al.	Germany	2017	No	82	912		91.8 ± 1.4	$84.8\pm$	2.6	19.5		58.8
				(b) Baseline ch	aracteristics of pati	ients in the i	ncluded studies					
Et and A toth out	M	ean STS (%		Logisti	c EuroSCORE		Left Vent	ricle EF (%)		Mean G	radient (mm H	Ig)
LILLA MULTIN	nonagenarian g	troup co	ontrol group	nonagenarian g	roup control	group	nonagenarian groi	up control	l group nc	nagenarian	group conti	rol group
Yamamoto et al.	13.4 ± 7.2		12.3±8.8	26.6 ± 9.3	23.6±	-12.4	51.3 ± 12.3	48.6	±14.2	56.3±23.4	45.	$.5\pm 15.4$
Arsalan et al.	9.22 (6.73-13	25) 6.2	34 (4.20-9.77)	NR	IN	Ч	58(48-65)	56(4)	5-63)	NR		NR
Ramkumar et al.	5.7 ± 2.2		3.6 ± 1.8	5.5 ± 5.4	$4.0\pm$	-3.3	53.7±17	59.1	l±11	44.7 ± 14	49	9.6±16
Miura et al.	10.0(7.5-12.0	(5.0(3.0-7.0)	20.0(16.0-25.	5) 14.0(11.0)-22.0)	63.2±6.9	61.8	±9.0	59.6±19.0	54	.2±19.9
Scholtz et al.	8.5±4.8		6.3±4.5	27.7±14.8	23.1±	14.4	54.6 ± 9.5	52.5	±11.4	47.1±17.3	45	i.1±16.8
				(c) Medical	l history of patients	s in the inclu	uded studies					
Eisot Anthos	Hypertensi	on (%)	Diabetes N	Aellitus (%)	CAD (%	()	Stroke (%		I-III AHYN	V (%)	COPD ((%)
TOTINING ISTLT	nonagenarian	control	nonagenaria	n control	nonagenarian	control	nonagenarian	control no	nagenarian	control	nonagenarian	control
	group	group	group	group	group	group	group	group	group	group	group	group
Yamamoto et al.	73	76	23	25	NR	NR	NR	NR	65	64	19	30
Arsalan et al.	86.56	89.26	19.35	40.39	NR	NR	9.33	12.77	80.97	81.37	15.4	30.1
Ramkumar et al.	57	81	14	26	22	20	6	17	74	69	27	23
Miura et al.	72	71.3	4	26.4	20	44.8	4	15.1	72	63.2	12	17.2
Scholtz et al.	82.9	79.6	11	22.1	50.1	57	NR	NR	NR	NR	15.9	14.5
CAD: coronary arter	y disease; COPD: c	hronic obstr	uctive pulmonary d	lisease.								

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		Adequacy of	Follow-Up	*	*	*	*	*	
	Outcome	Length of	Follow-Up	*	*	*	*	*	
ieu studies.		Assessment of	Outcome	*	/	_	_	_	
	Comparability	COMPATADIMY		*	*	*	*	*	
INEWCASHE-UIIAWA		Outcome of	Interest	*	*	*	*	*	
IABLE 2:	u	Ascertainment	of Exposure	*	*	*	*	*	
	Selectio	Non-Exposed	Cohort	*	*	*	*	*	
		Exposed	Cohort	*	*	*	*	*	
	Ctudur	Juudy		Yamamoto, 2012	Arsalan, 2016	Ramkumar, 2016	Miura, 2017	Scholtz, 2017	

TABLE 2: Newcastle-Ottawa Scale of the included studies.

First Author	Bleeding	Acute kidney injury	vascular complications
Yamamoto et al.	Major, life-threatening	Stage 2 or 3	Major
Arsalan et al.	Major	New requirement for dialysis	Major, minor
Ramkumar et al.	Major	Stage 2 or 3	Major
Miura et al.	Life-threatening	Stage 2 or 3	Major, minor
Scholtz et al.	NR	NR	No specified

TABLE 3: The specific definitions of bleeding, acute kidney injury, and vascular complications.

Mean Difference nonagenarian group younger group Mean Difference IV, Fixed, 95% CI Year IV, Fixed, 95% CI Study or Subgrou Mean SD Total Mean SD Total Weight Yamamoto et al 26.6 9.3 26 23.6 12.4 110 16.0% 3.00 [-1.26, 7.26] 2012 Ramkumar et al 5.5 5.4 23 4 3.3 81 54.1% 1.50 [-0.82, 3.82] 2016 Scholtz et al 27.7 14.8 82 23.1 14.4 912 26.2% 4.60 [1.26, 7.94] 2017 Miura et al 20 21.5 25 14 12.7 87 3.7% 6.00 [-2.84, 14.84] 2017 Total (95% CI) 1190 100.0% 2.72 [1.01, 4.43] 156 Heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.83, df = 3 (P = 0.42); I² = 0% -50 -25 25 50 Test for overall effect: Z = 3.12 (P = 0.002) Favors nonagenarian group Favors vounger group

FIGURE 3: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing logistic European System for Cardiac Operative Risk Evaluation of nonagenarians versus younger patients.

	nonagenarian	group	younger	group		Odds Ratio			0	dds Ratio		
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Fixed, 95% C	I Year		М-Н,	Fixed, 95% CI		
Yamamoto et al	4	26	7	110	1.0%	2.68 [0.72, 9.93]	2012			· · · ·		
Ramkumar et al	1	23	1	81	0.2%	3.64 [0.22, 60.50]	2016					
Arsalan et al	232	3773	755	20252	96.4%	1.69 [1.45, 1.97]	2016					
Scholtz et al	8	82	37	912	2.4%	2.56 [1.15, 5.69]	2017				-	
Miura et al	0	25	0	87		Not estimable	2017					
Total (95% CI)		3929		21442	100.0%	1.73 [1.49, 2.00]				•		
Total events	245		800									
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = ²	1.69, df = 3 (P =	0.64); l² =	0%									100
Test for overall effect:	Z = 7.25 (P < 0.0	0001)						Favors	nonagenarian grou	up Favors yo	unger group	100

FIGURE 4: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing 30-day mortality of nonagenarians versus younger patients.

Study or Subgroup	nonagenarian Events	group	younger	group Total	Weight	Odds Ratio	Voar	Odds Ratio
<u>Study of Subgroup</u>	Lventa	10101	LVEIILS	10101	4.00/	4 54 10 50 0 001 (2040	
ramamoto et al	0	20	25	110	1.0%	1.51[0.59, 3.69] 2	2012	
Arsalan et al	570	3773	2324	20252	95.6%	1.37 [1.24, 1.52] 2	2016	
Miura et al	2	15	7	56	0.4%	1.08 [0.20, 5.81] 2	2017	
Scholtz et al	25	82	170	912	3.0%	1.91 [1.16, 3.15] 2	2017	
Total (95% CI)		3896		21330	100.0%	1.39 [1.26, 1.53]		•
Total events	605		2526					
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 1	1.76 df = 3 (P = 1.00)	0.62 · $l^2 =$	0%				H	
Tast fan swaarl offe st		00004						0.01 0.1 1 10 100
Test for overall effect: A	Z = 6.68 (P < 0.0	JUUU I)						Favors nonagenarian group Favors younger group

FIGURE 5: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing 1-year mortality of nonagenarians versus younger patients.

were associated with a significantly higher rate of major or life-threatening bleeding (OR, 1.20; 95%CI: 1.05, 1.36; $I^2=0\%$, Figure 6) and vascular complications (OR, 1.35; 95%CI: 1.11, 1.64; $I^2=4\%$, Figure 7). In addition, we observed that nonagenarians had a higher risk of stroke than younger patients, with evidence of low heterogeneity (OR, 1.32; 95%CI: 1.08, 1.62; $I^2=1\%$, Figure 8).

There were no significant differences in the rate of myocardial infarction (OR, 1.09; 95%CI: 0.80, 1.49; $I^2=0\%$), stage 2 or 3 acute kidney injury (OR, 0.84; 95%CI: 0.65, 1.10; $I^2=0\%$), new pacemaker implantation (OR, 0.97; 95%CI: 0.59, 1.59; $I^2=0\%$), or conversion to surgical aortic valve replacement (OR, 2.03; 95%CI: 0.53, 7.77; $I^2=0\%$) (Figures 9–12).

4. Discussion

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first comprehensive review of the current literature comparing the clinical outcomes of TAVR between nonagenarian and younger patients in a meta-analytic approach. In the results reported here, nonagenarians, with a higher mean STS score and logistic EuroSCORE, had an increased 30-day and 1-year postoperative all-cause mortalities compared with the younger group. In addition, the rates of major or life-threatening bleeding, vascular complications and stroke were also higher in nonagenarians. Furthermore, no significant differences were observed in the rates of myocardial infarction, stage 2 or 3 acute kidney injury, new pacemaker implantation, and



FIGURE 6: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing the rates of major or life-threatening bleeding in nonagenarians versus younger patients.



FIGURE 7: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing the rates of vascular complication in nonagenarians versus younger patients.

	nonagenarian	group	younger	group		Odds Ratio			Od	ds Ratio		
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Fixed, 95% CI	Year		M-H, F	ixed, 95% C		
Yamamoto et al	4	26	5	110	1.1%	3.82 [0.95, 15.37]	2012					
Ramkumar et al	0	23	1	81	0.5%	1.14 [0.05, 28.96]	2016			<u> </u>		
Arsalan et al	108	3773	456	20252	94.2%	1.28 [1.03, 1.58]	2016					
Scholtz et al	3	82	32	912	3.4%	1.04 [0.31, 3.49]	2017					
Miura et al	3	25	3	87	0.8%	3.82 [0.72, 20.24]	2017			+		
Total (95% CI)		3929		21442	100.0%	1.32 [1.08, 1.62]				•		
Total events	118		497									
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 4	.03, df = 4 (P = 0).40); l ² =	1%							-	10	100
Test for overall effect: 2	Z = 2.66 (P = 0.0	08)						Favors	nonagenarian grou	p Favors yo	ounger group	100

FIGURE 8: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing the rates of stroke in nonagenarians versus younger patients.

	nonagenarian	group	younger	group		Odds Ratio		Odds Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Fixed, 95% CI	Year	r M-H, Fixed, 95% Cl
Yamamoto et al	1	26	1	110	0.5%	4.36 [0.26, 72.11]	2012	2
Arsalan et al	0	23	0	81		Not estimable	2016	6
Ramkumar et al	46	3773	230	20252	98.6%	1.07 [0.78, 1.48]	2016	6
Miura et al	0	25	1	87	0.9%	1.13 [0.04, 28.61]	2017	7
Total (95% CI)		3847		20530	100.0%	1.09 [0.80, 1.49]		•
Total events	47		232					
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 0	.95, df = 2 (P = 0	0.62); I ² =	0%					
Test for overall effect: 2	Z = 0.55 (P = 0.5	8)						Favors nonagenarian group Favors younger group

FIGURE 9: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing the rates of myocardial infarction in nonagenarians versus younger patients.

	nonagenarian	group	younger	group		Odds Ratio		Od	ls Ratio	
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Fixed, 95% C	l Year	M-H, F	xed, 95% Cl	
Yamamoto et al	4	26	20	110	5.1%	0.82 [0.25, 2.64]	2012		•	
Ramkumar et al	0	23	6	81	2.3%	0.25 [0.01, 4.55]	2016			
Arsalan et al	60	3773	373	20252	91.7%	0.86 [0.65, 1.13]	2016			
Miura et al	0	25	2	87	0.9%	0.67 [0.03, 14.42]	2017			
Total (95% CI)		3847		20530	100.0%	0.84 [0.65, 1.10]		•	•	
Total events	64		401							
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 0).73, df = 3 (P = 0	0.87); l² =	0%						+ + +	100
Test for overall effect: 2	Z = 1.26 (P = 0.2	1)						Favors nonagenarian group	Favors younger group	100

FIGURE 10: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing the rates of stage 2 or 3 acute kidney injury in nonagenarians versus younger patients.



FIGURE 11: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing the rates of new pacemaker implantation in nonagenarians versus younger patients.



FIGURE 12: Forest plot of pooled analysis comparing the rates of conversion to aortic valve replacement in nonagenarians versus younger patients.

conversion to surgical aortic valve replacement between the two groups.

Although the mortality rate for nonagenarians in our study remained higher than for younger patients, considering life expectations, comparison of medical treatment, and quality of life, the mortality rate may be acceptable. It was reported in nonagenarians that age alone accounted for a predicted logistic EuroSCORE mortality risk of 6.55% for male patients, and for female patients, this risk rises to 8.89% without any other preoperative risk factors [23]. Similarly, our results showed that nonagenarians had a significantly higher logistic EuroSCORE than younger patients (MD, 2.72; 95%CI: 1.01, 4.43). Bernal et al. indicated that approximately one-third of nonagenarians with severe aortic stenosis have few comorbidities [24]. Therefore, in a particular population, patients at a very advanced age could be the primary factor making nonagenarians have a high risk for surgery. Furthermore, Bernal et al. observed that nonagenarians who underwent conservative management tended to have a higher 1-year mortality than those who underwent TAVR (58% vs. 40.7%, P=0.097) [24]. In our meta-analyses, the pooled postoperative 30-day and 1-year all-cause mortalities of nonagenarians was 6.2% and 15.5%, respectively. Despite the higher mortality than younger patients, TAVR could be a better option for severe AS nonagenarians.

Manolis et al. demonstrated that, in nonagenarians who underwent TAVR, bleeding and vascular complications ranged from 9% to 34% (average 16%), and stroke risk ranged from 2% to 18% (average 3–4%) [25]. Similarly, in this meta-analysis, we indicated that nonagenarians were associated with significantly increased rates of major or life-threatening bleeding, vascular complications and stroke of 20%, 35%, and 32%, respectively. The higher incidence of vascular complications may be attributed to the higher rates of transfemoral access. Another possible reason could be the higher rates of vascular calcification [26] in the "oldest

old" population. The higher incidence of stroke and major or life-threatening bleeding may be attributed to the higher prevalence of atrial fibrillation [11] and antiplatelet therapy after TAVR [27], respectively.

In the general population, life expectancy in nonagenarians is 2.5 and 3.5 years for men and women, respectively [23]. The rate of 1-year mortality in nonagenarians was 19.3% [28]. Accordingly, we should focus on the improvement of quality of life and try to add life to their years instead of years to their life [29]. Stanska et al. showed that the quality of life in elderly patients was significantly improved at the one-month followup after TAVR [30]. Mack et al. indicated that nonagenarians undergoing TAVR have an improvement in quality of life (47.2 to 74.0, P=0.051), as measured by the Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire (KCCQ) [7]. Arsalan et al. reported that nonagenarians have similar KCCQ scores with younger patients 1 year after TAVR [10].

Nonagenarians referred for TAVR should be evaluated carefully by the heart valve team composited of cardiovascular surgeons, interventional cardiologists, imaging specialists, cardiovascular anesthesiologists, and cardiovascular nursing professionals [31]. Generally, we use the STS score and logistic EuroSCORE to assess the risk of TAVR, and neither of these scores includes the specific geriatric conditions, which tend to generate a considerable impact on prognosis in elderly patients. Okoh et al. indicated that frailty status is independently associated with increased mortality after TAVR (hazard ratio: 1.84; 95%CI: 1.06–3.17; P=0.028) [32]. Multidimensional Geriatric Assessment (MGA) is a diagnostic process that determines the medical and functional resources and problems of elderly patients. According to Stortecky et al., risk prediction of TAVR can be improved by adding MGA-based information to global risk scores [33]. Furthermore, in nonagenarians, transapical TAVR was associated with a significantly higher risk of early mortality compared with transfermoral TAVR [34-37]. The procedure should be comprehensively evaluated by the heart valve team.

This study has several limitations. First, all of the eligible studies were observational studies, and the results may have been affected by unmeasured confounding variables. Second, due to the limited number of studies included in this analysis, we did not conduct sensitivity and meta-regression analysis for outcomes. Third, our analysis did not include individual patient data. Finally, these data are mostly from highly experienced TAVR centers and may not be generalizable to other hospitals with less experience.

In conclusion, the results reported here suggest that nonagenarians showed higher short- to mid-term mortalities and higher rates of major or life-threatening bleeding, vascular complications and stroke compared to younger patients. However, the rate of mortality in nonagenarians is potentially acceptable. TAVR remains an optional therapy for nonagenarian patients, which should be comprehensively evaluated by the heart valve team.

Abbreviations

TAVR:	Transcatheter aortic valve
	replacement
STS score:	Thoracic Surgeons score
logistic EuroSCORE:	Logistic European System for Cardiac
-	Operative Risk Evaluation
AS:	Aortic stenosis
SAVR:	Surgical aortic valve replacement
MOOSE:	Meta-analysis of Observational
	Studies in Epidemiology
OR:	Odds ratio
CI:	Confidence interval
LVEF:	Left ventricular ejection fraction
KCCQ:	Kansas City Cardiomyopathy
	Questionnaire
MGA:	Multidimensional Geriatric
	Assessment
CAD:	Coronary artery disease
COPD:	Chronic obstructive pulmonary
	disease.

Data Availability

The data supporting this article are from previously reported studies and datasets, which have been cited. All relevant data are within the article.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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