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**Stens, NA, van Iersel, O, Rooijackers, MJP, van Wely, MH, Nijveldt, R, Bakker, EA, Rodwell, L, Pedersen, ALD, Poulsen, SH, Kjørnås, D, Stassen, J, Bax, JJ, Tanner, FC, Lerakis, S, Shimoni, S, Poulin, F, Ferreira, V, Luksic, VR, van Royen, N and Thijssen, DHJ**

**Prognostic Value of Preprocedural LV Global Longitudinal Strain for Post-TAVR-Related Morbidity and Mortality: A Meta-Analysis**

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### Article

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1 **Prognostic value of left ventricular global longitudinal strain in**  
2 **patients with severe aortic stenosis for Transcatheter Aortic Valve**  
3 **Implantation-related morbidity and mortality: a systematic**  
4 **review and meta-analysis**

5  
6 Brief title: LV-GLS predicts post-TAVI outcomes

7  
8 **Authors (in corresponding order):**

9 Niels A. Stens MSc <sup>a</sup> ([Niels.Stens@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Niels.Stens@radboudumc.nl)),  
10 Odette van Iersel BSc <sup>b</sup> ([odette.vaniersel@ru.nl](mailto:odette.vaniersel@ru.nl)),  
11 Max J.P. Rooijackers MD <sup>c</sup> ([Max.Rooijackers@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Max.Rooijackers@radboudumc.nl)),  
12 Marleen H. van Wely MD <sup>c</sup> ([Marleen.vanWely@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Marleen.vanWely@radboudumc.nl)),  
13 Prof. Robin Nijveldt MD PhD <sup>c</sup> ([Robin.Nijveldt@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Robin.Nijveldt@radboudumc.nl)),  
14 Esmée A. Bakker PhD <sup>b</sup> ([Esmee.Bakker@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Esmee.Bakker@radboudumc.nl)),  
15 Laura Rodwell PhD <sup>d</sup> ([Laura.Rodwell@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Laura.Rodwell@radboudumc.nl)),  
16 Anders L.D. Pedersen MD <sup>e</sup> ([ANLEPE@rm.dk](mailto:ANLEPE@rm.dk)),  
17 Prof. Steen H. Poulsen MD PhD <sup>e</sup> ([hvitfeldt@indbakke.dk](mailto:hvitfeldt@indbakke.dk)),  
18 Didrik Kjønnås MD <sup>f</sup> ([Didrik.Kjonas@unn.no](mailto:Didrik.Kjonas@unn.no)),  
19 Jan Stassen MD PhD <sup>g</sup> ([j.stassen@lumc.nl](mailto:j.stassen@lumc.nl)),  
20 Prof. Jeroen J. Bax MD PhD FESC FACC <sup>h</sup> ([j.j.bax@lumc.nl](mailto:j.j.bax@lumc.nl)),  
21 Prof. Felix C. Tanner MD PhD <sup>i</sup> ([felix.tanner@usz.ch](mailto:felix.tanner@usz.ch)),  
22 Prof. Stamatios Lerakis MD PhD <sup>j</sup> ([stamatios.lerakis@mountsinai.org](mailto:stamatios.lerakis@mountsinai.org)),  
23 Sara Shimoni MD <sup>k</sup> ([Sarah\\_S2@clalit.org.il](mailto:Sarah_S2@clalit.org.il)),  
24 Frédéric Poulin MD MSc <sup>l</sup> ([fredpoulin9@hotmail.com](mailto:fredpoulin9@hotmail.com)),  
25 Vera Ferreira MD PhD <sup>m</sup> ([verasvferreira25@gmail.com](mailto:verasvferreira25@gmail.com)),  
26 Vlatka Reskovic Luksic MD PhD <sup>n</sup> ([vlatka.reskovic@gmail.com](mailto:vlatka.reskovic@gmail.com)),  
27 Prof. Niels van Royen MD PhD <sup>c</sup> ([Niels.vanRoyen@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Niels.vanRoyen@radboudumc.nl)),  
28 Prof. Dick H.J. Thijssen PhD <sup>o</sup> ([Dick.Thijssen@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Dick.Thijssen@radboudumc.nl)) \*

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**Affiliations:**

<sup>a</sup> Radboud Institute for Health Sciences, Departments of Cardiology and Physiology, Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands;

<sup>b</sup> Radboud Institute for Health Sciences, Department of Physiology, Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

<sup>c</sup> Radboud Institute for Health Sciences, Department of Cardiology, Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

<sup>d</sup> Radboud Institute for Health Sciences, Department of Health Evidence, section of Biostatistics, Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

<sup>e</sup> Department of Cardiology, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus N, Denmark

<sup>f</sup> Department of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, University Hospital of North Norway, Tromsø, Norway

<sup>g</sup> Department of Cardiology, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands

<sup>h</sup> Department of Cardiology, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands; Turku Heart Center, University of Turku and Turku University Hospital, Turku, Finland

<sup>i</sup> Department of Cardiology, University Heart Center Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

<sup>j</sup> Department of Cardiology, Mount Sinai Heart, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, USA

<sup>k</sup> The Heart Center, Kaplan Medical Center, Rehovot, Israel

<sup>l</sup> Division of Cardiology, Hôpital du Sacré-Cœur de Montréal, Montréal, Canada.

<sup>m</sup> Department of Cardiology, Hospital de Santa Marta, Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Lisboa Central Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal.

<sup>n</sup> Department of Cardiovascular Diseases, University of Zagreb School of Medicine and University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia.

<sup>o</sup> Radboud Institute for Health Sciences, Department of Physiology, Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands; Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Sciences, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, United Kingdom

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**\* Address for correspondence:** Dr. Prof. Dick H.J. Thijssen, Department of Physiology (392), Radboud University Medical Center, P.O. Box 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, the Netherlands. Email: [Dick.Thijssen@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Dick.Thijssen@radboudumc.nl); Phone: +31 (0)24-361 42 09; Fax: +31 (0)24 366 83 40

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**Number of figures** 3 (+ 1 supplement)

**Twitter:** Meta-analysis by @NielsStens and colleagues highlighted that preprocedural LV-GLS was associated w/ post-TAVI all-cause mortality and MACE. Addition of LV-GLS to current-guideline based assessment of LVEF may improve AS risk stratification. #CardioTwitter #JACCIMG #TAVR

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77 **STRUCTURED ABSTRACT**

78 **OBJECTIVES:** The aim of this systematic review and meta-analysis was to evaluate the prognostic  
79 value of preprocedural left ventricular global longitudinal strain (LV-GLS) for post-Transcatheter  
80 Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI)-related morbidity and mortality.

81 **BACKGROUND:** Traditional echocardiographic parameters, including left ventricular (LV) ejection  
82 fraction (LVEF), demonstrate limited prognostic value for post-TAVI outcomes. Several studies have  
83 reported conflicting results regarding the potential role of LV global longitudinal strain (LV-GLS) in  
84 this setting, which in part may relate to studies being underpowered and/or using various methodological  
85 approaches.

86 **METHODS:** A systematic search was conducted in PubMed, Embase and Web of Science from January  
87 2001 to April 2022. We included all studies on patients with severe aortic stenosis who underwent TAVI,  
88 and in which the association between preprocedural 2D-speckle-tracking-derived LV-GLS and clinical  
89 outcomes was investigated. An inversely-weighted random effects meta-analysis was adopted to  
90 investigate the association between LV-GLS vs primary (i.e. all-cause mortality) and secondary (i.e.  
91 major cardiovascular events [MACE]) post-TAVI outcomes.

92 **RESULTS:** Of the 1,130 identified records, 12 were eligible, all of which had a low-to-moderate risk  
93 of bias (Newcastle-Ottawa scale). On average, 2,049 patients demonstrated preserved LVEF  
94 ( $52.6\pm 5.0\%$ ), but impaired LV-GLS ( $-13.6\pm 1.6\%$ ). Patients with a lower LV-GLS had a higher all-cause  
95 mortality (pooled hazard ratio (HR) 2.01 [95% confidence interval (CI): 1.59, 2.55]) and MACE (pooled  
96 odds ratio (OR) 1.26 [95% CI: 1.08, 1.47]) risk compared to patients with higher LV-GLS. In addition,  
97 each 1% decrease of LV-GLS was associated with an increased mortality (HR 1.06 [95% CI: 1.04, 1.08])  
98 and MACE risk (OR 1.08 [95% CI: 1.01, 1.15]).

99 **CONCLUSIONS:** Preprocedural LV-GLS was significantly associated with post-TAVI morbidity and  
100 mortality. This suggests a potential clinically important role of pre-TAVI evaluation of LV-GLS for risk  
101 stratification of patients with severe aortic stenosis. Registration number: CRD42021289626.

102 **KEYWORDS:** Aortic stenosis, Echocardiography, Morbidity, Mortality, Strain, Transcatheter Aortic  
103 Valve Replacement

104

105 **CONDENSED ABSTRACT**

106 Traditional echocardiographic parameters, including left ventricular (LV) ejection fraction,  
107 demonstrate limited prognostic value for post-Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI)  
108 outcomes. The current meta-analysis evaluates the prognostic value of preprocedural LV global  
109 longitudinal strain (LV-GLS) for post-TAVI mortality and major cardiovascular events (MACE). Our  
110 results highlight that preprocedural LV-GLS was significantly associated with post-TAVI mortality  
111 and MACE. This suggests a potentially clinically important role of pre-TAVI evaluation of LV-GLS  
112 for risk stratification of patients with severe aortic stenosis.

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130 **ABBREVIATIONS LIST**

131 AS = aortic stenosis

132 CI = confidence interval

133 HR = hazard ratio

134 IQR = interquartile range

135 LV = left ventricle

136 LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction

137 LV-GLS = left ventricular global longitudinal strain

138 MACE = major cardiovascular events

139 NYHA = New York Heart Association functional class

140 OR = odds ratio

141 SD = standard deviation

142 TAVI = Transcatheter aortic valve implantation

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151 **INTRODUCTION**

152 Transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) has become the method of choice to treat symptomatic,  
153 severe aortic stenosis (AS) in older patients with intermediate and high surgical risk <sup>1,2</sup>. The indication  
154 for aortic valve replacement is based on symptomatology and systolic dysfunction of the left ventricle  
155 (LV), reflected by an ejection fraction (EF) of <50% <sup>1,2</sup>. Interpretation of AS symptoms in older patients  
156 remains challenging <sup>3</sup>, posing a strong emphasis on early detection of LV systolic dysfunction to  
157 facilitate timely replacement of the native calcified aortic valve. The concentric remodeling of the LV,  
158 induced by the persistent increase in afterload due to AS, can mask decrements in LVEF until very late  
159 in the AS disease process <sup>4</sup>. Consequently, LVEF has limited value for risk stratification within the older  
160 population with AS.

161

162 In the past years, several studies have demonstrated that myocardial deformation assessment via 2D-  
163 speckle tracking represents a reliable method to evaluate clinical and subclinical systolic dysfunction <sup>5-</sup>  
164 <sup>7</sup>. LV global longitudinal strain (LV-GLS) may indicate subtle changes in LV mechanics already present  
165 during early stages of AS, even when LVEF is preserved <sup>4</sup>. Previous studies have examined whether  
166 impaired LV-GLS is associated with post-TAVI outcomes, both in symptomatic and asymptomatic  
167 patients with AS <sup>8,9</sup>. Similarly, studies have explored the relation between preprocedural LV-GLS and  
168 post-TAVI outcomes. However, studies have reported conflicting results, which in part may relate to  
169 studies being underpowered and/or using various methodological approaches. Pooling of these studies  
170 may provide better insight into the potential prognostic value of preprocedural LV-GLS for post-TAVI  
171 morbidity and mortality.

172

173 Therefore, we systematically reviewed the current literature and performed a comprehensive meta-  
174 analysis to evaluate the prognostic value of LV-GLS for post-TAVI outcomes. We hypothesize that  
175 preprocedural LV-GLS predicts post-TAVI related morbidity and mortality in patients with severe AS.  
176 Identifying patients at high risk for developing clinical outcomes after TAVI allows for timely  
177 recognition, intervention and intensified follow-up.

178

179 **METHODS**

180 This meta-analysis was reported according to the Preferred Reporting Items of Systematic Reviews and  
181 Meta-Analyses checklist <sup>10</sup>. The protocol of this meta-analysis is registered within the PROSPERO  
182 system (CRD42021289626).

183

184 *Information sources and search strategy*

185 A systematic literature search was performed in three bibliographic databases, including PubMed,  
186 Embase (Ovid), and Web of Science, from January 2001 to April 2022. The search strategy included a  
187 combination of the following terms: strain, speckle tracking, TAVI, mortality, and cardiovascular  
188 events. **Supplemental Table 1** highlights the search strategy that was used within the selected  
189 bibliographic databases. Reference lists of relevant articles were thoroughly screened for additional  
190 studies.

191

192 *Eligibility criteria*

193 To be eligible for inclusion in this systematic review and meta-analysis, manuscripts had to: 1) include  
194 patients with AS that underwent TAVI; 2) quantify the LV-GLS using 2D-speckle tracking before  
195 TAVI; 3) investigate the association between preprocedural LV-GLS versus primary (i.e. all-cause  
196 mortality) and secondary (i.e. major adverse cardiovascular events [MACE, i.e. incident  
197 rehospitalization, stroke, heart failure, myocardial infarction, revascularization or death])  
198 postprocedural outcomes; 4) define follow-up time as the interval between pre-TAVI and the end of  
199 follow-up (determined by either occurrence of an event or the duration of the study); 5) be written in  
200 English and be published in a peer-reviewed journal; and 6) be performed in adults. Studies addressing  
201 bicuspid valves were excluded. In addition, reviews, case studies and conference abstracts were  
202 excluded, but no further restrictions regarding study design were applied.

203

204 *Data selection and extraction*

205 Study selection was performed by two independent researchers (NS, OvI). All titles and abstracts of the  
206 retrieved articles were screened for the inclusion and exclusion criteria. Subsequently, full-texts of the

207 relevant manuscripts were retrieved and reviewed. The results from both researchers were compared  
208 and discussed until consensus was reached. In case of continued disagreement a third researcher was  
209 consulted (DT). After consensus was reached, the included studies were then summarized within a pre-  
210 formatted data sheet, where report (i.e. author and year), study (i.e. sample characteristics, criteria used  
211 for AS), patient (i.e. disease and surgical risk status, presence of comorbidities, measures of cardiac  
212 function), survival (i.e. outcome measure, number of events, follow-up duration, prognostic value of  
213 LV-GLS) and measurement (i.e. echo and analysis software vendor) characteristics were described.  
214 Authors were contacted whenever insufficient data were reported. When multiple manuscripts from the  
215 same research group were included with overlapping time ranges, authors were asked to send data from  
216 unique patients only, to prevent patients from appearing twice in the meta-analysis.

217

#### 218 *Risk of bias assessment*

219 The risk of bias of included studies was independently rated by two researchers (NS, OvI) using the  
220 Newcastle-Ottawa Scale <sup>11</sup>. Results were discussed until consensus was reached, where a third  
221 researcher (DT) was consulted in case of continued disagreement. Included studies were rated on three  
222 different domains, including the selection of the study groups, the comparability of the groups, and the  
223 ascertainment of the outcome. The quality score ranges from 0 to 9 points, where 1-3, 4-6 and 7-9 points  
224 are reflecting a high, intermediate and low risk of bias respectively.

225

#### 226 *Syntheses of results*

227 Unadjusted hazard ratios (HR) and corresponding 95% confidence intervals (CI) were extracted from  
228 included studies that included all-cause mortality as their outcome measure, whilst unadjusted odds  
229 ratios (OR) and corresponding 95% CI were extracted from studies that included MACE as their  
230 outcome measure. Transformation of HRs and ORs using the natural logarithm was performed to allow  
231 accurate estimation of the 95% confidence interval for the pooled estimate. An inverse variance-  
232 weighted random-effects model was subsequently used to pool per % LV-GLS decrease hazard ratios  
233 for all-cause mortality following the DerSimonian and Laird approach <sup>12</sup>. In an individual analysis, we  
234 explored trends when LV-GLS was presented on a dichotomous scale (i.e. impaired vs preserved LV-

235 GLS) for all-cause mortality and MACE separately. The median LV-GLS was used as a cutoff to  
236 dichotomize LV-GLS if between -12 and -15%. If this criterion was not satisfied, authors were contacted  
237 to share the hazard ratio / odds ratio corresponding to a LV-GLS of -13.5%. To evaluate heterogeneity  
238 present within the included studies, we used the  $I^2$  test, with >50% indicating significant heterogeneity.  
239 Inverted funnel plots were used to exploratively evaluate the presence of publication bias. Analyses  
240 were performed in R version 4.1.2 (R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria) using the  
241 *meta*-package (version 5.1-1) <sup>13</sup>, where a two-tailed p-value of 0.05 was used to claim statistical  
242 significance. Data is presented as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation (SD), median with interquartile range  
243 (IQR), or frequency and proportion, as appropriate.

244

## 245 **RESULTS**

### 246 *Search results*

247 In total, 1,130 studies were identified after applying the specified search string in PubMed, Embase and  
248 Web of Science. Screening of the titles and abstracts in respect to the inclusion and exclusion criteria,  
249 combined with the removal of duplicates, resulted in the exclusion of 1,075 articles. Subsequent  
250 assessment of the full text of the remaining 55 articles resulted in further exclusion of 38 articles, leaving  
251 17 relevant studies. To overcome methodological constraints in pooling of the data, authors were  
252 contacted to provide data on LV-GLS vs primary (all-cause mortality) and secondary (i.e. MACE)  
253 outcomes. Authors of nine publications provided unpublished data <sup>14-22</sup>. Five studies originally met the  
254 requirements for inclusion, but were excluded due to incomplete data reporting <sup>23-26</sup> or covering the same  
255 cohort <sup>27</sup> as another included study <sup>15</sup>. Taken together, this resulted in the inclusion of twelve studies in  
256 the meta-analysis of which nine evaluated the association of preprocedural LV-GLS with all-cause  
257 mortality (n=1,750) <sup>14-16, 19-22, 28, 29</sup> and five with MACE (n=498) <sup>17, 18, 19, 22, 30</sup> respectively. **Figure 1**  
258 visualizes the sequential steps performed above.

259

### 260 *Population characteristics*

261 Preprocedural characteristics of the included studies are depicted in **Table 1**. The analytical cohort of  
262 the twelve included studies comprised 2,049 unique patients (49.8% women) with AS who underwent  
263 TAVI. Mean age was  $81.1\pm 1.4$  years and NYHA class  $\geq$ III was reported in 66.0%. Mean aortic valve  
264 area was  $0.70\pm 0.04$  cm<sup>2</sup> with a mean transaortic pressure gradient of  $43.6\pm 4.9$  mmHg. Comorbidities  
265 were frequent (prevalence hypertension 77.7%, diabetes 27.1%, coronary artery disease 54.6%). On  
266 average, patients demonstrated preserved LVEF (mean  $52.6\pm 5.0\%$ ) but impaired LV-GLS (mean -  
267  $13.6\pm 1.6\%$ ). In terms of risk of bias, five studies had an intermediate risk of bias (Newcastle-Ottawa  
268 Scale: 6) and the remaining studies showed a low risk of bias (Newcastle-Ottawa Scale  $\geq 7$ ,  
269 **Supplemental Table 2**).

270

#### 271 *LV-GLS vs clinical outcomes*

272 During a median follow-up of 24.7 months (IQR 22.5, 32.9), overall all-cause mortality was 25.5%  
273 (n=447). Patients with a lower preprocedural LV-GLS had a higher risk of all-cause mortality compared  
274 to patients with a higher LV-GLS (pooled HR 2.01 [95% CI: 1.59, 2.55],  $p < 0.001$ ,  $I^2 = 0\%$  [95% CI:  
275  $0\%$ ,  $68\%$ ],  $p = 0.74$ ; **Figure 2A**). Each 1% lower LV-GLS (i.e., towards  $0\%$ ) was associated with an  
276 increased mortality risk after TAVI (pooled HR 1.06 [95% CI: 1.04, 1.08],  $p < 0.001$ ,  $I^2 = 0\%$  [95% CI:  
277  $0\%$ ,  $65\%$ ],  $p = 0.79$ ; **Figure 2B**).

278

279 In addition, during a median follow-up of 16.8 months (IQR 13.6, 36.7), MACE occurred in 117 patients  
280 (23.5%). Patients with a lower preprocedural LV-GLS had a higher odds of MACE compared to patients  
281 with a higher LV-GLS (pooled OR 1.26 [95% CI: 1.08, 1.47],  $p = 0.003$ ,  $I^2 = 0\%$  [95% CI:  $0\%$ ,  $79\%$ ],  
282  $p = 0.67$ ; **Figure 3A**). In addition, each 1% decrease in LV-GLS was associated with an increased odds  
283 of MACE after TAVI (pooled OR 1.08 [95% CI: 1.01, 1.15],  $p = 0.022$ ,  $I^2 = 0\%$  [95% CI:  $0\%$ ,  $85\%$ ],  
284  $p = 0.67$ ; **Figure 3B**).

285

286 Explorative assessment of publication bias for the association between preprocedural LV-GLS (on a  
287 continuous and dichotomous scale) and all-cause mortality via inverted funnel plots showed a  
288 symmetrical pattern, suggesting no publication bias (**Supplemental Figure 1**).

289

## 290 **DISCUSSION**

291 The aim of this meta-analysis was to evaluate the prognostic value of LV-GLS for post-TAVI morbidity  
292 and mortality in patients with severe, symptomatic AS undergoing TAVI. First, despite different cut-off  
293 values when LV-GLS was modelled on a dichotomous scale, those with a lower preprocedural LV-GLS  
294 demonstrated a significantly higher post-TAVI risk for all-cause mortality (101% increased risk) and  
295 MACE (1.26 times higher odds) compared to individuals with a higher LV-GLS. In addition, we found  
296 that every percentage point decline in LV-GLS was associated with an increased risk for post-TAVI all-  
297 cause mortality (6% higher risk) and MACE (1.08 times higher odds). Taken together, our meta-analysis  
298 demonstrates that LV-GLS significantly predicts post-TAVI outcomes (**Central Illustration**), which  
299 suggests an important role for the preprocedural evaluation of LV-GLS for risk stratification of patients  
300 with severe symptomatic AS for clinical outcomes post-TAVI.

301

302 Assessment of systolic dysfunction has been considered the mainstay of risk stratification in patients  
303 with AS. Current guidelines advocate the presence of an impaired LVEF as a gatekeeper for aortic valve  
304 replacement<sup>1, 2</sup>. However, the recovery of LV function after TAVI varies widely and more sensitive  
305 methodologies to detect subclinical LV dysfunction are warranted. Speckle-tracking has emerged as a  
306 relevant method to quantify sub-clinical and clinical systolic dysfunction. Unfortunately, studies that  
307 used LV-GLS as a prognostic factor for events post-TAVI were often limited by a small sample size,  
308 causing the majority of studies to conclude that LV-GLS has no significant prognostic value. The ability  
309 to pool data from 2,049 individuals within our meta-analysis effectively overcomes this limitation.  
310 Indeed, in our meta-analysis we found preprocedural LV-GLS to significantly predict post-TAVI all-  
311 cause mortality in patients with severe, symptomatic AS.

312

313 Compared to all-cause mortality, the association between preprocedural LV-GLS and post-TAVI  
314 cardiovascular morbidity has been less extensively described in literature. The pooling of the four  
315 included studies reinforces both the limitation of relatively small sample sizes, but also the potential  
316 benefit of meta-analyses to provide better insight into these areas. Our meta-analysis showed that  
317 preprocedural LV-GLS is also significantly related to post-TAVI morbidity. It should be noted that an  
318 odds ratio is dependent on the number of events and the sample size <sup>31</sup>, which may explain the  
319 observation that the pooled effect is largely determined by two individual studies. Nevertheless, reports  
320 have highlighted that the preprocedural LV-GLS correlated with the improvement in NYHA functional  
321 class <sup>32</sup> and complication rate directly following TAVI <sup>33</sup>. To further support our observations, previous  
322 work using computed tomography angiography reinforced that a lower LV-GLS is related to a higher  
323 risk of all-cause mortality and heart failure hospitalizations <sup>34</sup>. Whilst it remains premature to make  
324 definitive conclusions, the presented evidence, paired with recent reports, suggest that LV-GLS also has  
325 potential to predict post-TAVI morbidity. This warrants future studies to elaborate on the association  
326 between preprocedural LV-GLS and post-TAVI morbidity.

327

328 The observation that LV-GLS has predictive capacity for mortality and potentially morbidity in patients  
329 undergoing TAVI raises the question about the potential underlying physiological mechanism. In  
330 essence, AS transcends the definition of an isolated valvular disease with its considerable implications  
331 for cardiac function and structure. Compensatory left ventricular hypertrophy develops in response to  
332 the persistent pressure overload induced by the stenotic aortic valve, as an attempt to compensate and  
333 normalize left ventricular wall stress and systolic function. Since the subendocardial myocytes are  
334 susceptible to reductions in coronary blood flow <sup>35</sup>, the accompanied myocardial ischemia mainly affects  
335 longitudinally-oriented muscle fibers. If pressure overload persists, irreversible myocardial fibrosis and  
336 a reduction in myocardial (longitudinal) function may occur. This may explain that global LV afterload,  
337 left ventricular mass and replacement fibrosis are independently associated with LV-GLS in patients  
338 with AS <sup>36,37</sup>. In addition, transthyretin cardiac amyloidosis is often co-existing in patients with AS <sup>38</sup>.

339 In patients with cardiac amyloidosis, the degree of deposited myocardial amyloid fibrils strongly  
340 correlated with longitudinal strain in all segments in a 17-segment model<sup>39</sup>. Also others found that LV-  
341 GLS is more impaired in AS patients with concurrent transthyretin cardiac amyloidosis compared to  
342 those with isolated AS<sup>40</sup>. These processes may contribute to the ability of LV-GLS to predict post-  
343 TAVI all-cause mortality.

344

345 Although our meta-analysis revealed that a dichotomous cut-off has prognostic value, substantial  
346 variation in using cut-off values was present between these studies. This raises questions on its  
347 applicability, but also what would represent the optimal LV-GLS cut-off for prognosis of post-TAVI  
348 outcomes in patients with severe symptomatic AS. Variation in cut-offs was minimized by setting a  
349 range of LV-GLS for the dichotomous analysis (i.e., between -12 and -15%). Since no clear trend was  
350 observed in a change in HRs in relation to the increase in cut-off values (**Figure 2**), it seems unlikely  
351 that the variation in cut-offs explained the large inter-study variability that we observed when LV-GLS  
352 was modelled on a dichotomous scale. Alternatively, differences in the patient's risk profile may play  
353 an important role in this large inter-study variability. Although all studies included patients with severe,  
354 symptomatic AS, differences in comorbidity prevalence (i.e. hypertension, diabetes, coronary artery  
355 disease) and/or disease status (i.e. mean transvalvular gradient, NYHA functional class) may affect the  
356 association between LV-GLS and post-TAVI mortality. In addition, data regarding the degree of  
357 myocardial fibrosis and cardiac amyloidosis were not present, even though these entities are frequently  
358 encountered in patients with AS<sup>38, 40, 41</sup>.

359

### 360 *Study limitations*

361 Some limitations should be considered. First, in asymptomatic patients with more than moderate AS,  
362 the association between % decline LV-GLS and mortality appears to follow a non-linear shape<sup>8</sup>. The  
363 exact shape of the dose-response curve between preprocedural LV-GLS and post-TAVI all-cause  
364 mortality remains to be clarified<sup>28, 34</sup>. In other words, each additional decrease in % LV-GLS would be



365 highly informative upon demonstration of a linear pattern in symptomatic patients that undergo TAVI.  
366 Insufficient data were available to elaborate on the shape of the dose-response curve. Another limitation  
367 is that the majority of the included studies were retrospective cohort studies, whilst all studies reported  
368 univariate hazard ratios. This highlights that residual confounding may be present, which could affect  
369 the pooled estimates in either direction <sup>42</sup>.

370

### 371 *Conclusions*

372 This meta-analysis showed that preprocedural LV-GLS as measured by 2D-speckle tracking is a  
373 significant predictor for TAVI-related mortality in patients with severe, symptomatic AS, irrespective  
374 of how LV-GLS was modelled. Even though LVEF is commonly used in patients with AS for risk  
375 prediction and adopted as a gatekeeper for aortic valve replacement, LVEF seems to remain preserved  
376 until late in the AS disease process due to compensatory mechanisms in cardiac structure. Indeed, LVEF  
377 seems largely preserved in severe, symptomatic AS patients from the studies we included in our meta-  
378 analysis. In contrast to LVEF, alterations in LV-GLS seem to occur early in the disease process of AS,  
379 potentially even preceding changes in LVEF. Addition of evaluation of LV-GLS to current guideline-  
380 based assessment of LVEF may provide clinicians with better risk stratification for patients undergoing  
381 TAVI.

382

### 383 **CLINICAL PERSPECTIVES**

384 **COMPETENCY IN MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE:** In this meta-analysis of twelve studies including  
385 2,049 patients with severe, symptomatic aortic stenosis, we demonstrate that preprocedural LV-GLS  
386 significantly predicts post-TAVI outcomes. This suggests an important role for the evaluation of LV-  
387 GLS for risk stratification of patients with severe symptomatic AS for clinical outcomes post-TAVI.

388 **TRANSLATIONAL OUTLOOK:** Alterations in LV-GLS seem to occur early in the disease process  
389 of AS, potentially even preceding changes in LVEF. Addition of evaluation of LV-GLS to current

390 guideline-based assessment of LVEF may therefore provide clinicians with improved risk stratification,  
391 allowing for timely recognition, intervention and intensified follow-up.

392

### 393 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

394 Not applicable.

395

### 396 **DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT**

397 The analyzed dataset underlying this manuscript will be shared on reasonable request to the  
398 corresponding author.

399

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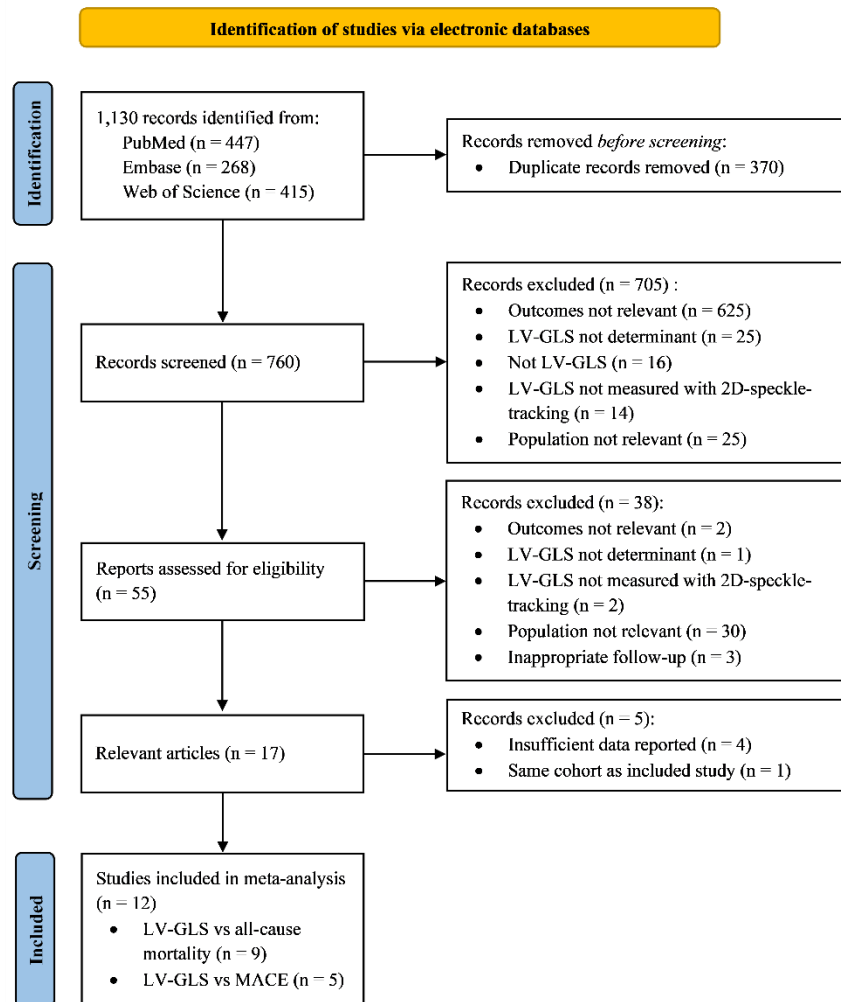
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555 **FIGURE TITLES AND LEGENDS**

556 **Figure 1. Flowchart of study screening process.**



557

558 The Preferred Reporting Items for Systemic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) flow diagram  
 559 highlights the number of records identified, included and excluded, and the reasons for exclusions,  
 560 through the different phases of the systematic review and meta-analysis. *LV-GLS* left ventricular global  
 561 longitudinal strain, *MACE* major adverse cardiovascular events, *TAVI* transcatheter aortic valve  
 562 implantation.

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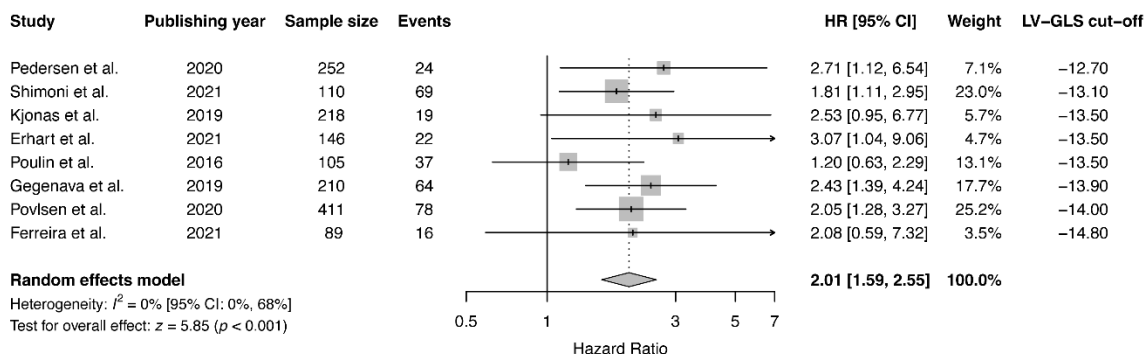
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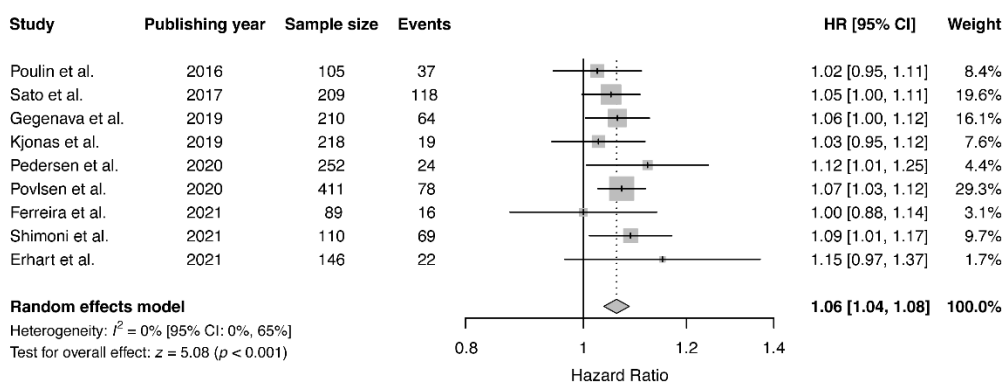


566 **Figure 2. Forest plot for the association between LV-GLS and all-cause mortality.**

**A.**



**B.**



567

568 LV-GLS on a dichotomous (A) and continuous (B) scale versus all-cause mortality. Sato et al. did not  
 569 present data regarding the association between LV-GLS (on a dichotomous scale) and all-cause  
 570 mortality, so this study was removed from section A. Weights are obtained via the random effects  
 571 analysis.

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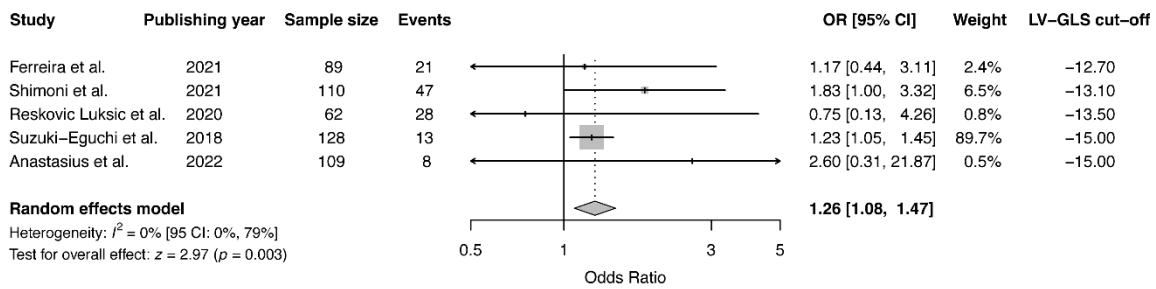
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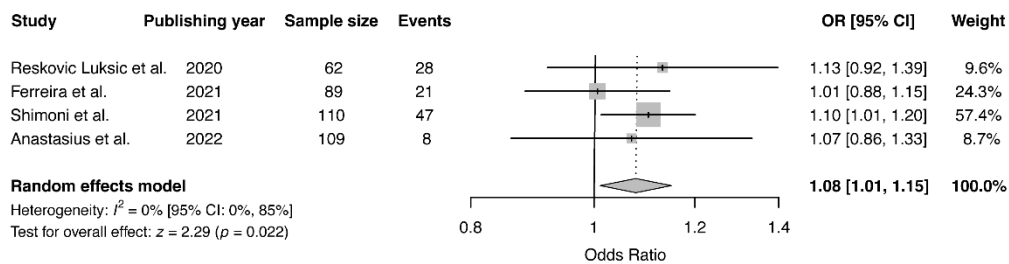
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579 **Figure 3. Forest plot for the association between LV-GLS and MACE.**

**A.**



**B.**



580

581 LV-GLS on a dichotomous (A) and continuous (B) scale versus MACE. Suzuki-Eguchi et al. did not  
582 present data regarding the association between LV-GLS (on a continuous scale) and MACE, so this  
583 study was removed from section B. Weights are obtained via the random effects analysis.

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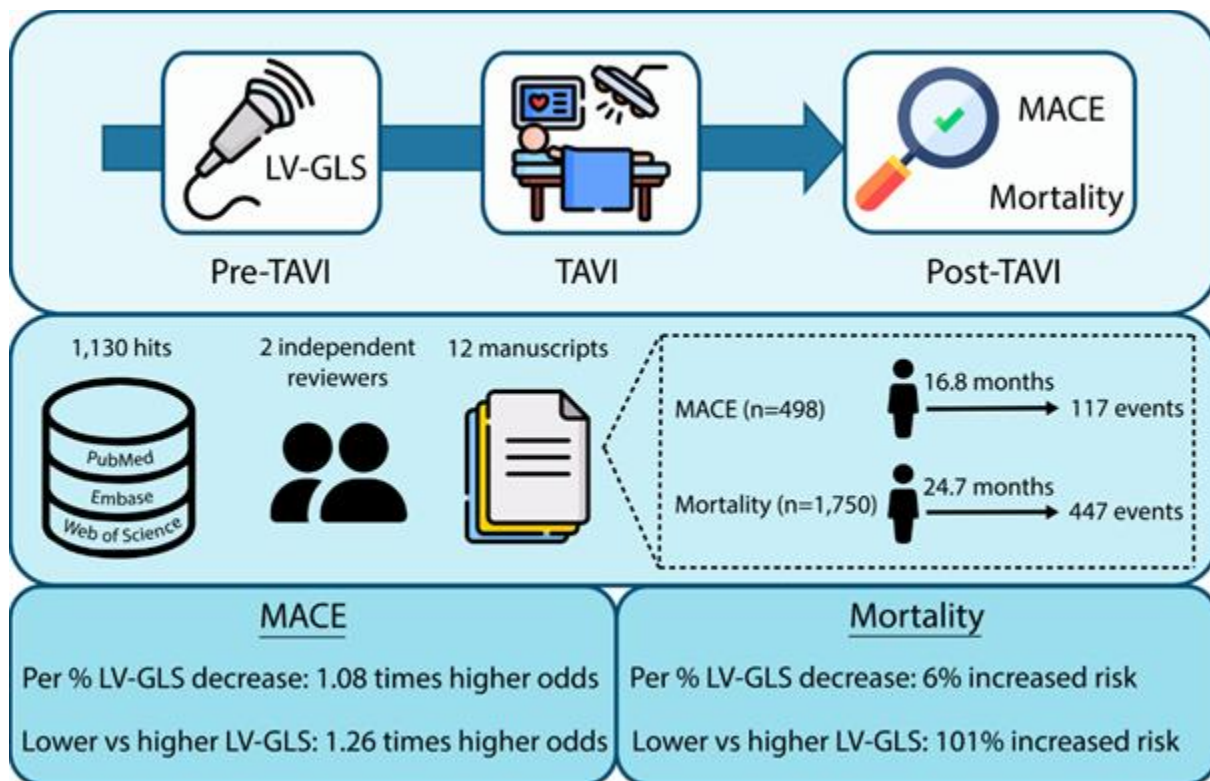
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593 **Central Illustration. Preprocedural LV-GLS predicts post-TAVI mortality and MACE.**



594

595 *LV-GLS* left ventricular global longitudinal strain, *MACE* major adverse cardiovascular events, *TAVI*

596 transcatheter aortic valve implantation.

597

598

600 Table 1. Population characteristics of the included studies

Study	Design	Outcome	N	Sex (% women)	Age (years)	AVA (cm <sup>2</sup> )	Mean Transaortic gradient (mmHg)	NYHA class $\geq$ III (%)	HTN (%)	DM (%)	CAD (%)	LVEF (%)	LV-GLS (%)	Follow-up (months)
Erhart et al.	Retrospective cohort	All-cause mortality	146	49	81.8 [7.2]	0.79 [0.25]	37.5 [16.3]	41	80	25	53	56.0 [15.5]	-17.0 [4.1]	24.3 [5.7]
Gegenava et al.	Retrospective cohort	All-cause mortality	210	50	80 $\pm$ 7	0.7 $\pm$ 0.2	41 $\pm$ 18	57	76	26	60	46 $\pm$ 10	-14 $\pm$ 4	31 [31]
Kjønnas et al.	Prospective cohort	All-cause mortality	218	45	81.5 $\pm$ 6.8	NR	NR	NR	68	28	67	49 $\pm$ 12	-11 $\pm$ 4	33 $\pm$ 8
Pedersen et al.	Retrospective cohort	All-cause mortality	252	51	79.3 $\pm$ 6.7	0.67 $\pm$ 0.16	43 $\pm$ 17	51	74	24	38	51 $\pm$ 11.2	-12.7 $\pm$ 3.7	19 [10]
Poulin et al.	Retrospective cohort	All-cause mortality	105	42	82.1 $\pm$ 7.8	0.68 $\pm$ 0.17	49 $\pm$ 15	88	82	29	66	53.8 $\pm$ 11.8	-12.6 $\pm$ 3.9	38.5 [19.5]
Povlsen et al.	Prospective cohort	All-cause mortality	411	46	80.1 $\pm$ 7.1	0.7 $\pm$ 0.3	39 $\pm$ 16	78	73	18	NR	50 $\pm$ 13	-14.0 $\pm$ 5.2	25.1 [19.4]
Sato et al.	Retrospective cohort	All-cause mortality	209	42	81 $\pm$ 10	NR	47 $\pm$ 15	94	84	41	84	50 $\pm$ 14	-12.0 $\pm$ 3.7	44.2 [28.0]
Shimoni et al.	Retrospective cohort	All-cause mortality Hospitalization / cardiac death	110	62	83 [6]	0.73 $\pm$ 0.16	45 $\pm$ 12	14	90	36	38	55 $\pm$ 8.7	-13.4 $\pm$ 3.4	57 [35]
Anastasius et al.	Prospective	HF hospitalization and death	109	51	81 $\pm$ 7.3	0.7 [0.2]	42.9 $\pm$ 13.2	82	96	34	41	62 [13]	-15 [3.4]	14.1 [14.0]
Ferreira et al.	Retrospective cohort	All-cause mortality MACE: all-cause mortality, stroke	89	56	82.1 $\pm$ 5.9	0.6 $\pm$ 0.2	57.0 $\pm$ 16.8	72	87	28	52	56.7 $\pm$ 10.0	-13.0 $\pm$ 3.8	13.4 [25.8]

		and HF hospitalization												
Reskovic Luksic et al.	Retrospective cohort	MACE: mortality and HF hospitalizations	62	63	84.5 ± 6.6	0.77 ± 0.21	46.8 ± 17.3	61	71	26	44	64.5 ± 8.0	-16.7 ± 2.4	42.0 ± 22.8
Suzuki-Eguchi et al.	Retrospective cohort	MACE: mortality and HF/stroke hospitalization	128	66	83.7 ± 4.2	0.65 ± 0.18	50 ± 18	NR	73	27	34	62 ± 13	-15 ± 4.4	19.4 [NR]

601

602 Data are presented as mean ± SD, median [IQR], number or percentage as appropriate. Pedersen et al. and Povlsen et al. showed overlap in patients, so

603 Pedersen et al. represents solely the unique patients of this cohort. Shimoni et al. provided data regarding an extended cohort. Kjønås et al. provided data

604 regarding an extended follow-up.

605 *AVA* aortic valve area, *CAD* coronary artery disease, *DM* diabetes, *LV-GLS* global longitudinal strain, *HF* heart failure, *HTN* hypertension, *IQR* interquartile

606 range, *LVEF* left ventricular ejection fraction, *MACE* major cardiovascular events, *NOS* Newcastle-Ottawa Scale, *NR* not reported, *NYHA* New York Heart

607 Association functional classification, *SD* standard deviation.