

## Supplementary Material Legend

- eMethods1. PICO, used keywords and eligibility criteria
- eMethods2. PRISMA guidelines (diagram of literature search)
- eMethods3. Detailed overview of the bias assessment.
- eMethods4. Summary of data extraction.
- eFigure5. Forest-plots of cumulative incidences.
- eTable6. The sensitivity analysis
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## eMethods 1. PICO + Keywords used for literature search + Eligibility criteria

| PICO Worksheet      |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Population</b>   | Patients diagnosed with cerebral cavernous malformations |
| <b>Intervention</b> | Surgery versus radiosurgery versus observation           |
| <b>Comparison</b>   | Not applicable   |
| <b>Outcome</b>      | The risk of haemorrhage within each treatment modality   |

**Table 1:** The applied PICO worksheet.

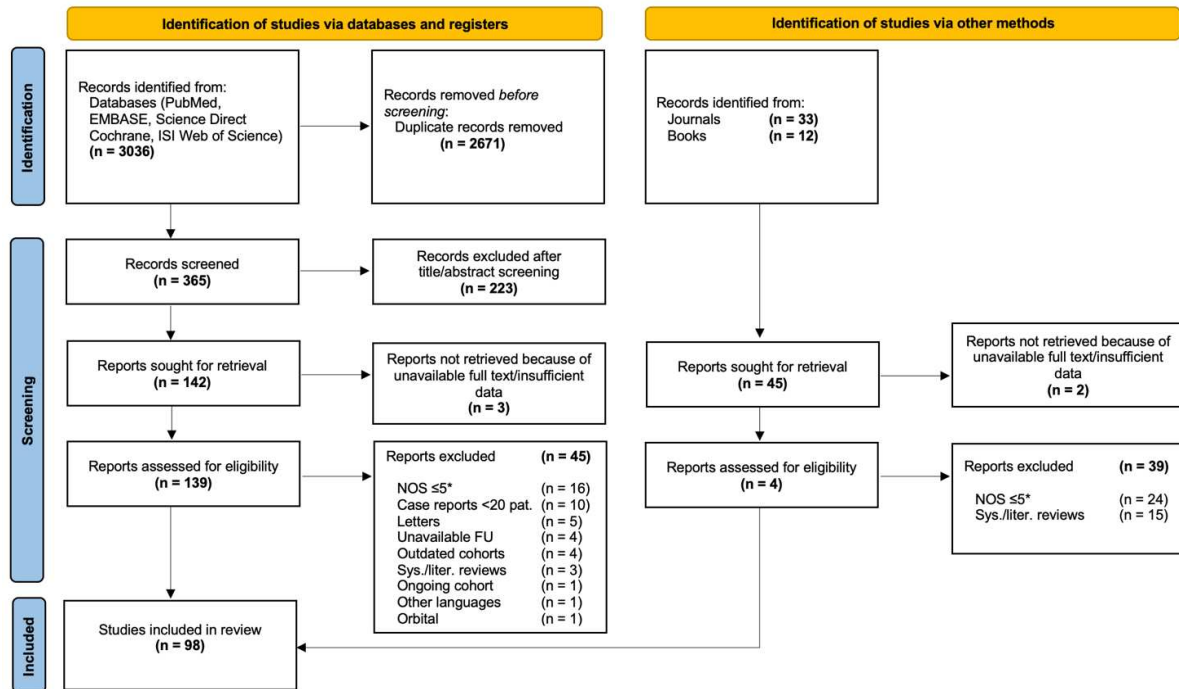
### Keywords used for literature search:

1. cavernous angioma (natural history or surgery or radiosurgery),
2. cavernous haemangioma (natural history or surgery or radiosurgery),
3. cavernous hemangioma (natural history or surgery or radiosurgery),
4. cavernous malformations (natural history or surgery or radiosurgery),
5. natural history of cavernous malformations,
6. surgery of cavernous malformations,
7. radiosurgery of cavernous malformations.

**Eligibility criteria:**

1. 20 patients per study,
2. no specifications on age, gender, race etc.,
3. both adult and paediatric patients,
4. single study must have been published between January 1990 and December 2020,
5. no specifications on study's design (both retrospective and prospective publications),
6. single study must have presented outcomes of surgical, radiosurgical or conservative treatment (at least one of the mentioned), all studies must have been published in English.

## eMethods 2. PRISMA diagram



From: Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, Boutron I, Hoffmann TC, Mulrow CD, et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. *BMJ* 2021;372:n71. doi: 10.1136/bmj.n71

For more information, visit: <http://www.prisma-statement.org/>

**Figure 1:** PRISMA flowchart.

### eMethods 3. Newcastle-Ottawa Scale

NOS quality assessment. We defined the following quality score: “good” quality score by 3 or 4 stars in the selection, 1 or 2 stars in comparability, and 2 or 3 stars in outcomes. Definition of “fair” quality score was defined as 2 stars in the selection, 1 or 2 stars in comparability, and 2 or 3 stars in outcomes. Finally, “poor” quality score was defined by 0 or 1 star(s) in the selection, 0 stars in comparability, and 0 or 1 star(s) in outcomes.

## NEWCASTLE-OTTAWA QUALITY ASSESSMENT SCALE

### COHORT STUDIES

#### Selection

##### 1) Representativeness of the exposed cohort

- a) truly representative of the average target in the community, i.e., patients diagnosed with cerebral cavernous malformation(s); CCM(s) \*
- b) somewhat representative of the average target in the community, i.e., patients diagnosed with cerebral cavernous malformation(s); CCM(s) \*

We defined somewhat representatives to be patients diagnosed with CCM(s) who (1) were treated with different comorbidities altogether with CCM(s); (2) were reoperated; (3) underwent more than one invasive treatment approach; (4) all had specific CCM(s), e.g., only brainstem CCMs.

- c) selected group of users, e.g., nurses, volunteers
- d) no description of the derivation of the cohort

##### 2) Selection of the non-exposed cohort

- a) drawn from the same community as the exposed cohort \*
- b) drawn from a different source

We consider different source to be: (1) specific population of patients (e.g., if some patients were excluded because of their nationality, gender, age etc.); or (2) patients who were derived from a group only consisting of family relatives.

c) no description of the derivation of the non-exposed cohort

3) Ascertainment of exposure

a) secure record such as: surgical record or MRI evaluation \*

b) detailed clinical and radiological evaluation by specialist blinded to patients' clinical status \*

c) written self-report

d) no description

4) Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at start of study

a) yes \*

We consider this demonstration to be: (1) exclusively defined methods of diagnosis steps; (2) prospective design of the study; (3) prospectively collected patients' records; (4) independent blind assessment in retrospective citations; (5) independent evaluations of postoperative and follow-up data.

b) no

**Comparability**

1) Comparability of cohorts on the basis of the design or analysis

a) study controls for age and sex of individual patients \*

b) study controls for any additional factor, comorbidity, such as: developmental venous anomaly (DVA), coagulation, CCM size \*

**Outcome**

1) Assessment of outcome

- a) independent blind assessment \*
- b) record linkage which we consider to be MRI \*
- c) self-report
- d) no description

2) Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur

- a) yes \*

We defined the enough length of outcomes to occur to be mean 3 years with the minimum of 6 months of follow-up per patient.

- b) no

3) Adequacy of follow up of cohorts

- a) complete follow up — all subjects accounted for \*
- b) subjects lost to follow up unlikely to introduce bias — small number lost — > 20% during follow up, or description provided of those lost \*
- c) follow up rate < 80% during follow-up and no description of those lost

| Authors + year                  | Selection                            |  |                           | Comparability   |                          |                       | Outcome   |                       | Quality Score | Exclusion |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|
|                                 | Representativeness of Exposed Cohort | Selection of the Non-Exposed Cohort from Same Source as Exposed Cohort | Ascertainment of Exposure | Outcome of Interest Was Not Present at Start of Study | Comparability of Cohorts | Assessment of Outcome | Follow-up Long Enough for Outcome to Occur (< mean 3 years) | Adequacy of Follow-Up |               |           |
| Abla et al. 2011 [1]            | 1                                    | 1  | 1                         | 0   | 11                       | 1                     | 0   | 1                     | Good          |           |
| Acciari et al. 2009 [2]         | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 0   | 11                       | 0                     | 1   | 1                     | Fair          |           |
| Agosti et al. 2019 [3]          | 0                                    | 1  | 1                         | 1   | 11                       | 1                     | 0   | 0                     | Fair          | YES       |
| Aiba et al. 1995 [4]            | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 0   | 11                       | 0                     | 0   | 1                     | Fair          | YES       |
| Al-Holou et al. 2012 [5]        | 1                                    | 1  | 1                         | 0   | 11                       | 1                     | 0   | 1                     | Good          |           |
| Al-Shahi Salman et al. 2012 [6] | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 1   | 11                       | 0                     | 1   | 1                     | Good          |           |
| Amato et al. 2013 [7]           | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 0   | 1                        | 1                     | 0   | 1                     | Fair          |           |
| Amin-Hanjani et al. 1998 [8]    | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 0   | 11                       | 0                     | 0   | 1                     | Fair          | YES       |
| Amin-Hanjani et al. 1998 [9]    | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 0   | 11                       | 1                     | 0   | 1                     | Fair          |           |
| Arauz et al. 2017 (1&2) [10]    | 1                                    | 1  | 1                         | 1   | 11                       | 1                     | 1   | 1                     | Good          |           |
| Barker et al. 2001 [11]         | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 0   | 11                       | 0                     | 0   | 1                     | Fair          | YES       |
| Bartolomei et al. 1999 [12]     | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 0   | 11                       | 0                     | 0   | 0                     | Poor          | YES       |
| Baumann et al. 2007 [13]        | 1                                    | 1  | 1                         | 0   | 11                       | 1                     | 0   | 1                     | Fair          |           |
| Bertalanffy et al. 2002 [14]    | 1                                    | 1  | 0                         | 0   | 11                       | 0                     | 0   | 0                     | Poor          | YES       |
| Bhardwaj et al. 2009 [15]       | 1                                    | 1  | 1                         | 0   | 11                       | 1                     | 0   | 1                     | Good          |           |
| Bicalho et al. 2017 [16]        | 1                                    | 1  | 1                         | 1   | 1                        | 0                     | 1   | 1                     | Fair          |           |
| Bradac et al. 2020 [17]         | 1                                    | 1  | 1                         | 1   | 1                        | 1                     | 0   | 1                     | Good          |           |



|                                 |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |      |     |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|------|-----|
| Brinjikji et al. 2017<br>[18]   | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |
| Bruneau et al. 2006<br>[19]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Byun et al. 2018<br>[20]        | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Cantu et al. 2005<br>[21]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Cenzato et al. 2008<br>[22]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Chang et al. 2011<br>[23]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Chang et al. 1998<br>[24]       | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Chen et al. 2011<br>[25]        | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Chen et al. 2014<br>[26]        | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Chotai et al. 2013<br>[27]      | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Consiglieri et al.<br>2013 [28] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |
| Clatterbuck et al.<br>2000 [29] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Fair |     |
| Consales et al.<br>2009 [30]    | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Cornelius et al.<br>2016 [31]   | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |
| D'Angelo et al.<br>2006 [32]    | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Dammann et al.<br>2016 [33]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Dammann et al.<br>2017 [34]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| de Oliveira et al.<br>2010 [35] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| del Curling et al.<br>1991 [36] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |

|                                 |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |      |     |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|------|-----|
| Dukat et al. 2011 [37]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Eichberg et al. 2019 [38]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Feroli et al. 2005 [39]         | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Flemming et al. 2019 [40]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Flemming et al. 2012 [41]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Fritschi et al. 1994 [42]       | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |
| Frischer et al. 2008 [43]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |
| Frischer et al. 2014 (1&2) [44] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Garcia et al. 2015 [45]         | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Gross et al. 2016 [46]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Gui et al. 2019 [47]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Hasegawa et al. 2002 [48]       | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Hauck et al. 2009 [49]          | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| He et al. 2017 [50]             | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Huang et al. 2010 [51]          | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Huang et al. 2006 [52]          | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Jacobs et al. 2018 [53]         | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Jeon et al. 2014 [54]           | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Josephson et al. 2011 [55]      | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Kalani et al. 2013 [56]         | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |

|                               |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |      |     |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|------|-----|
| Kapadia et al. 2020 [57]      | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Karlsson et al. 1998 [58]     | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Kearns et al. 2019 [59]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Kefeli et al. 2019 [60]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Kida, Y. 2009 [61]            | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Kida et al. 2015 [62]         | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Kim et al. 2014 [63]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Kim et al. 1997 [64]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Kim et al. 2002 [65]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Kim et al. 2005 [66]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Kivelev et al. 2011 [67]      | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Kondziolka et al. 2007 [68]   | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Kondziolka et al. 1995 [69]   | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Kumar et al. 2019 [70]        | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Kupersmith et al. 2001 [71]   | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Kwon et al. 2013 [72]         | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Labauge et al. 2000 [73]      | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Labauge et al. 2001 [74]      | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Lashkarivand et al. 2020 [75] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Lee et al. 2012 [76]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |

|                                |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |      |     |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|------|-----|
| Lee et al. 2019 [77]           | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Lee et al. 2008 [78]           | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Lee et al. 2014 [79]           | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Lévêque et al. 2013 [80]       | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |
| Li et al. 2014 [81]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Li et al. 2013 [82]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Li et al. 2018 [83]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Li et al. 2020 [84]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Li et al. 2013* [85]           | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Liscak et al. 2013 [86]        | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Liu et al. 2016 [87]           | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Liu et al. 2005 [88]           | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Lopez-Serrano et al. 2017 [89] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Lunsford et al. 2010 [90]      | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Maesawa et al. 1999 [91]       | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Mai et al. 2013 [92]           | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Mathiesen et al. 2003 [93]     | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Poor | YES |
| Mehdorn et al. 1998 [94]       | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Menon et al. 2011 [95]         | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Menzler et al. 2010 [96]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |
| Monaco et al. 2010 [97]        | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Moore et al. 2014 [98]         | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |
| Moriarity et al. 1999 [99]     | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |

|                                      |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |      |     |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|------|-----|
| Mottolese et al.<br>2001 [100]       | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |
| Moultrie et al.<br>2014 (1&2) [101]  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Nagy et al. 2019<br>[102]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Nagy et al. 2019<br>[103]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Nagy et al. 2013<br>[104]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Nathal et al. 2018<br>[105]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Nikoubashman et<br>al. 2015 [106]    | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Noh et al. 2014<br>[107]             | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Ojemann et al.<br>1999 [108]         | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |
| Ohue et al. 2010<br>[109]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |
| Pandey et al. 2013<br>[110]          | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Park et al. 2018<br>[111]            | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Porter et al. 1997<br>[112]          | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |
| Porter et al. 1999<br>[113]          | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Ramina et al. 2013<br>[114]          | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |
| Rangel-Castilla et<br>al. 2015 [115] | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Regis et al. 2000<br>[116]           | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Ren et al. 2017<br>[117]             | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Robinson et al.<br>1991 [118]        | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |

|                               |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |      |     |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|------|-----|
| Sager et al. 2014<br>[119]    | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Samii et al. 2001<br>[120]    | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Sawarkar et al.<br>2017 [121] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Schneble et al.<br>2012 [122] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Schwartz et al.<br>2013 [123] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Sheen et al. 2018<br>[124]    | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Shih et al. 2005<br>[125]     | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Tian et al. 2017<br>[126]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Tsuji et al. 2019<br>[127]    | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Vale et al. 2015<br>[128]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Wang et al. 2018<br>[129]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Wang et al. 2003<br>[130]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Wang et al. 2015<br>[131]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Winkler et al. 2006<br>[132]  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Poor | YES |
| Wostrack et al.<br>2012 [133] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Woydt et al. 2001<br>[134]    | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fair |     |
| Wu et al. 2015<br>[135]       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Yang et al. 2018<br>[136]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Yoon et al. 1998<br>[137]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |

|                             |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |      |     |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|------|-----|
| Zabramski et al. 2014 [138] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Zaidi et al. 2014 [139]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Zaidi et al. 2017 [140]     | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Fair | YES |
| Zanello et al. 2019 [141]   | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |
| Zhang et al. 2016 [142]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Zhao et al. 2007 [143]      | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Good |     |
| Zheng et al. 2020 [144]     | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Good |     |
| Zuurbier et al. 2019 [145]  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Good |     |
| Zimmerman et al. 1991 [146] | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Fair | YES |

**Table 2:** The final evaluation of the risk of bias using the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale. Note: the exclusion was based on two factors: (1) NOS score  $\leq 5^*$ , or/and (2) less than  $2^*$  within the evaluation of study's outcomes.

**eMethods 4. Data extraction**

| <b>Data extraction—overview</b>   |
|---|
| <b>Study design</b>   |
| prospective, retrospective  |
|   |
| <b>Patient demographics</b>   |
| age of patients (mean, median, SD)  |
| number of males/females   |
| number of paediatric/adult patients   |
|   |
| <b>CCM characteristics</b>  |
| number of CCMs  |
| sporadic/familiar form (1—present, 0—not present/unavailable data)          |
| mean, median, SD lesion size (in cm/cm <sup>3</sup> )                       |
| incidental/symptomatic findings (1—present, 0—not present/unavailable data) |
| number of patients with lobar, deep-seated, brainstem, cerebellar CCM(s)    |
|   |
| <b>Treatment</b>  |
| <i>Observation:</i>   |
| number of patients with haemorrhage before/after initial identification     |
| number of haemorrhages before/after initial identification                  |
| mean, median time of bleeding (months)                                      |
| patients who bled (%)   |
| results of haemorrhages   |
|   |



|  |
|--|
| <i>Surgery:</i>  |
| number of patients with haemorrhage – preoperatively and postoperatively   |
| number of patients with neurodeficits – preoperatively and postoperatively |
| number of patients with seizures – preoperatively and postoperatively      |
|  |
| <i>Radiosurgery:</i>   |
| number of patients with haemorrhage – preoperatively and postoperatively   |
| number of patients with neurodeficits – preoperatively and postoperatively |
| number of patients with seizures – preoperatively and postoperatively      |
| mean, median marginal dose (in Gy)   |
| SRS modality (Gamma Knife (GK), Linear Accelerator (LINAC) etc.)           |
|  |
| <b>Outcomes</b>  |
| morbidity (%)  |
| mortality (%)  |
| the length of follow-up (mean, median and SD in months)                    |

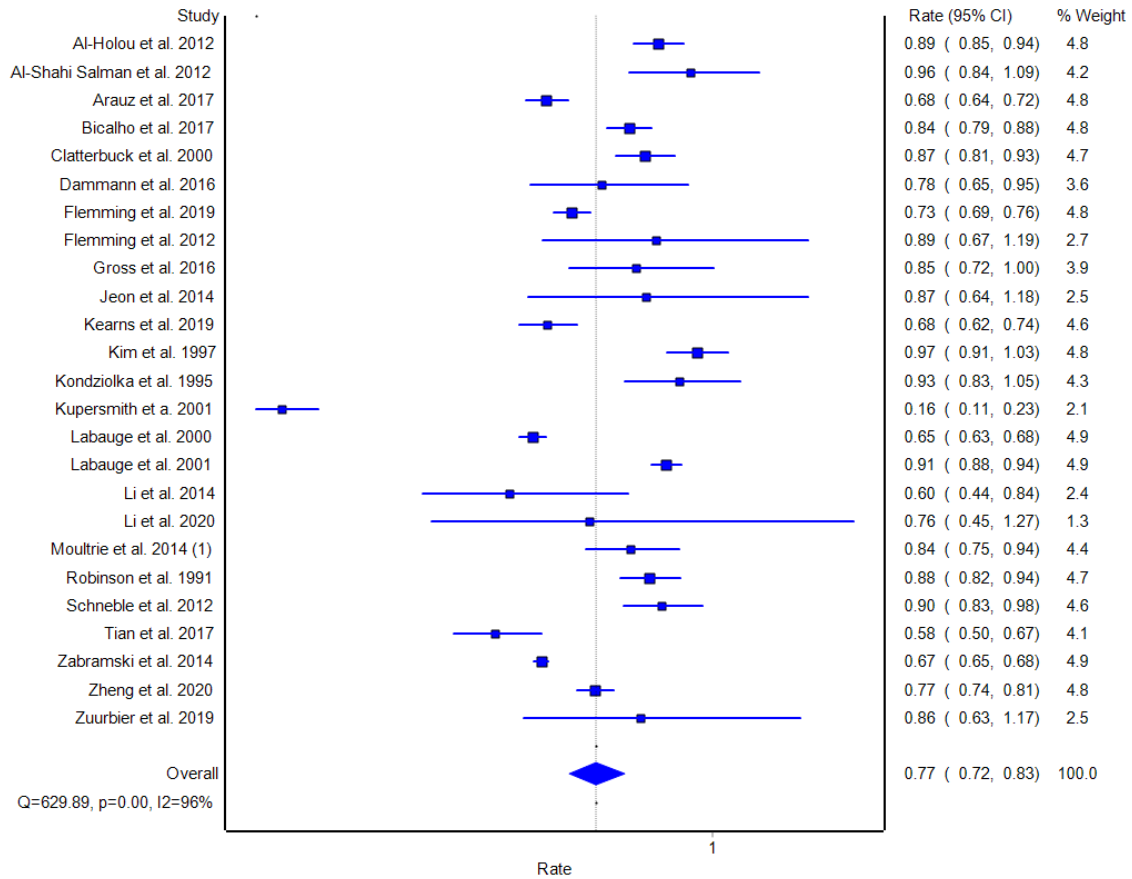
**Table 3:** The type of extracted data. Used abbreviations: CCM, cerebral cavernous malformation; GK, gamma knife; GOS, Glasgow Outcome Scale; Gy, gray; KPS, Karnofsky Performance Scale; LINAC, linear accelerator; SD, standard deviation.

**eFigure 5. The cumulative incidence – tables and forest plots****Natural history**

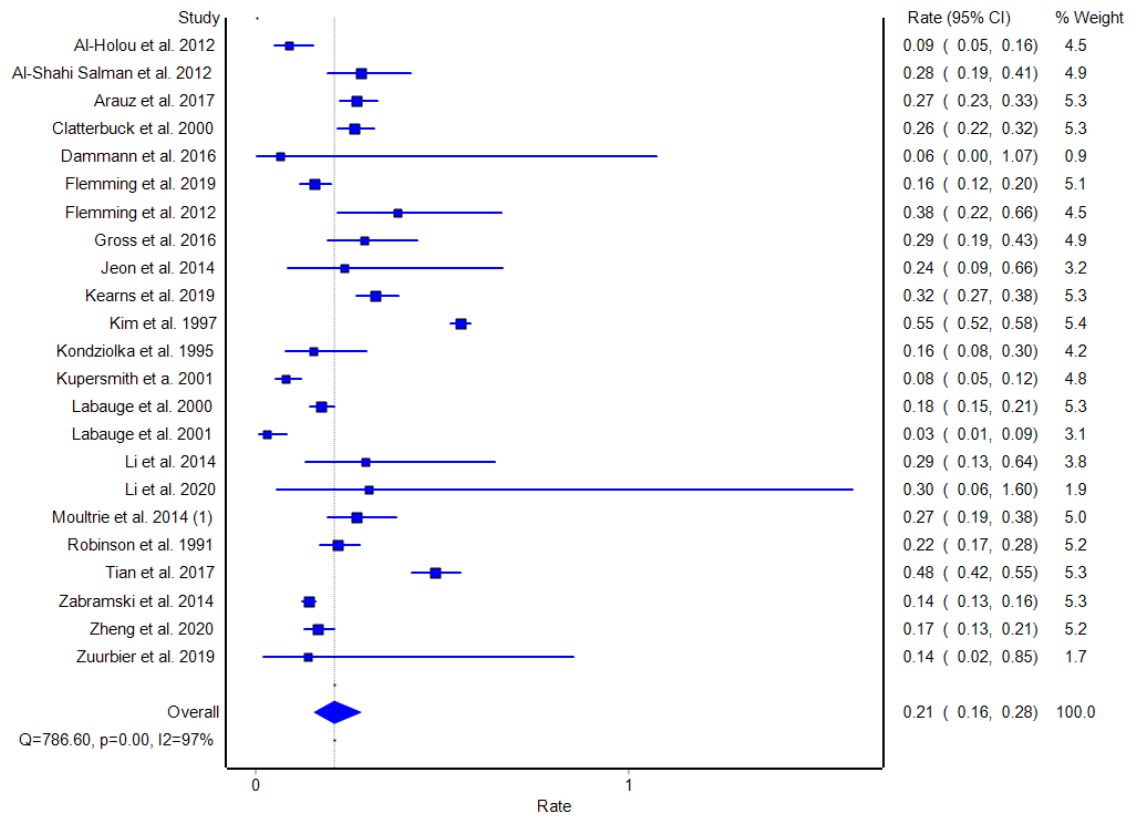
| <b>Authors</b>                  | <b>N</b> | <b>Mortality/morbidity, %</b> | <b>Efficacy, %</b> |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Al-Holou et al. 2012 [5]        | 56       | 8.93                          | 89.29              |
| Al-Shahi Salman et al. 2012 [6] | 134      | 28.36                         | 95.60              |
| Arauz et al. 2017 [10]          | 62       | 27.20                         | 67.70              |
| Bicalho et al. 2017 [16]        | 49       | NA                            | 83.70              |
| Clatterbuck et al. 2000 [29]    | 68       | 26.40                         | 86.77              |
| Dammann et al. 2016 [33]        | 199      | 6.50                          | 78.40              |
| Flemming et al. 2019 [147]      | 51       | 15.70                         | 72.60              |
| Flemming et al. 2012 [41]       | 292      | 38.01                         | 89.04              |
| Gross et al. 2016 [46]          | 167      | 29.00                         | 85.00              |
| Jeon et al. 2014 [54]           | 326      | 23.93                         | 87.10              |
| Kearns et al. 2019 [59]         | 84       | 32.14                         | 67.86              |
| Kim et al. 1997 [64]            | 62       | 54.84                         | 96.80              |
| Kondziolka et al. 1995 [69]     | 122      | 15.57                         | 93.40              |
| Kupersmith et al. 2001 [71]     | 37       | 8.10                          | 16.30              |
| Labauge et al. 2000 [73]        | 40       | 17.50                         | 65.00              |
| Labauge et al. 2001 [74]        | 33       | 3.03                          | 90.90              |
| Li et al. 2014 [81]             | 331      | 29.40                         | 60.40              |
| Li et al. 2020 [84]             | 708      | 30.30                         | 76.00              |
| Moultrie et al. 2014 (1) [101]  | 109      | 27.03                         | 84.00              |
| Robinson et al. 1991 [118]      | 66       | 21.96                         | 87.70              |
| Schneble et al. 2012 [122]      | 87       | NA                            | 90.00              |

|                             |     |       |       |
|-----------------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| Tian et al. 2017 [126]      | 121 | 47.95 | 57.65 |
| Zabramski et al. 2014 [138] | 21  | 14.28 | 66.70 |
| Zheng et al. 2020 [144]     | 48  | 16.68 | 77.10 |
| Zuurbier et al. 2019 [145]  | 300 | 14.00 | 86.00 |

**Table 4:** The overview of conservative treatment series. Used abbreviations: NA, not applicable.



**Figure 2:** The efficacy of conservative treatment.



**Figure 3:** The morbidity/mortality rate from conservative treatment. Two studies [16, 122] must have been excluded due to unavailable data.

## Surgery

| Authors                       | N   | Mortality/morbidity, % | Efficacy, % |
|-------------------------------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| Abla et al. 2011 [1]          | 260 | 40.40                  | 93.00       |
| Acciari et al. 2009 [2]       | 42  | 7.14                   | 100.00      |
| Amato et al. 2013 [7]         | 26  | 7.69                   | 100.00      |
| Amin-Hanjani et al. 1998 [9]  | 94  | 6.20                   | 98.00       |
| Arauz et al. 2017 (1) [10]    | 37  | 10.20                  | 100.00      |
| Baumann et al. 2007 [13]      | 168 | 9.00                   | 100.00      |
| Bradac et al. 2020 [17]       | 58  | 11.90                  | 96.00       |
| Byun et al. 2018 [20]         | 47  | 27.60                  | 91.00       |
| Cenzato et al. 2008 [22]      | 30  | 3.30                   | 97.00       |
| Chang et al. 2011 [23]        | 79  | 8.86                   | 100.00      |
| Chen et al. 2011 [25]         | 55  | 14.50                  | 100.00      |
| Chen et al. 2014 [26]         | 38  | 10.52                  | 100.00      |
| Chotai et al. 2013 [27]       | 59  | 14.70                  | 98.00       |
| Consales et al. 2009 [30]     | 32  | 7.10                   | 97.00       |
| D'Angelo et al. 2006 [32]     | 118 | 7.00                   | 98.00       |
| Dammann et al. 2017 [34]      | 79  | 3.00                   | 100.00      |
| de Oliviera et al. 2010 [35]  | 45  | 11.10                  | 100.00      |
| Dukatz et al. 2011 [37]       | 71  | 11.00                  | 100.00      |
| Eichberg et al. 2019 [38]     | 20  | 5.00                   | 100.00      |
| Ferrolì et al. 2005 [39]      | 52  | 20.90                  | 100.00      |
| Frischer et al. 2014 (1) [44] | 29  | 25.00                  | 62.00       |
| Garcia et al. 2015 [45]       | 104 | 10.56                  | 95.00       |

|                                   |     |       |        |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|--------|
| Gui et al. 2019 [47]              | 67  | 5.97  | 100.00 |
| Hauck et al. 2009 [49]            | 44  | 11.00 | 95.00  |
| He et al. 2017 [50]               | 181 | 5.00  | 100.00 |
| Huang et al. 2010 [51]            | 22  | 13.90 | 95.00  |
| Kwon et al. 2013 [72]             | 56  | 16.70 | 100.00 |
| Lashkarivand et al. 2020 [75]     | 22  | 4.50  | 100.00 |
| Lee et al. 2008 [78]              | 25  | 10.10 | 100.00 |
| Li et al. 2013 [82]               | 242 | 12.36 | 97.00  |
| Li et al. 2018 [83]               | 27  | 18.20 | 96.00  |
| Li et al. 2013* [85]              | 47  | 18.20 | 98.00  |
| Mai et al. 2013 [92]              | 22  | 14.00 | 90.00  |
| Moultrie et al. 2014 (2) [101]    | 25  | 10.00 | 96.00  |
| Nathal et al. 2018 [105]          | 50  | 22.00 | 92.00  |
| Pandey et al. 2013 [110]          | 176 | 15.90 | 97.00  |
| Porter et al. 1999 [113]          | 100 | 10.00 | 100.00 |
| Rangel-Castilla et al. 2015 [115] | 46  | 9.00  | 100.00 |
| Samii et al. 2001 [120]           | 36  | 13.80 | 100.00 |
| Sawarkar et al. 2017 [121]        | 50  | 12.80 | 100.00 |
| Schwartz et al. 2013 [123]        | 35  | 9.10  | 94.00  |
| Tsuji et al. 2019 [127]           | 72  | 7.10  | 98.00  |
| Vale et al. 2015 [128]            | 34  | 3.00  | 100.00 |
| Wang et al. 2018 [129]            | 23  | 0.23  | 100.00 |
| Wang et al. 2015 [131]            | 23  | 4.30  | 95.00  |

|                            |     |       |        |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|--------|
| Wostrack et al. 2012 [133] | 45  | 4.00  | 100.00 |
| Woydt et al. 2001 [134]    | 35  | 13.00 | 97.00  |
| Wu et al. 2015 [135]       | 58  | 3.40  | 100.00 |
| Yang et al. 2018 [136]     | 47  | 14.80 | 100.00 |
| Zaidi et al. 2014 [139]    | 31  | 3.20  | 96.00  |
| Zhang et al. 2016 [142]    | 120 | 11.10 | 98.00  |
| Zhao et al. 2007 [143]     | 70  | 8.60  | 100.00 |

**Table 5:** The overview of surgical series.



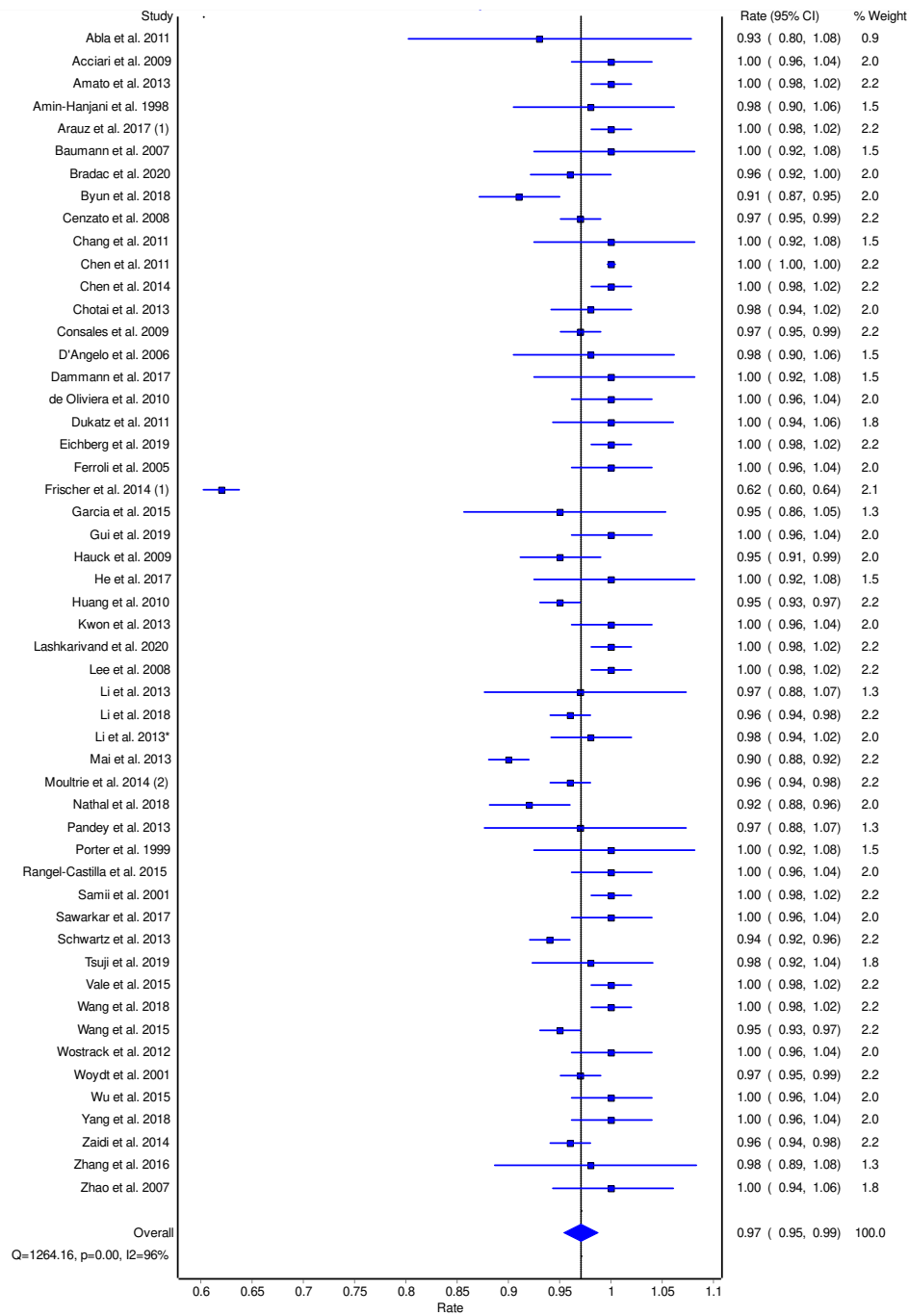


Figure 4: Surgical efficacy.

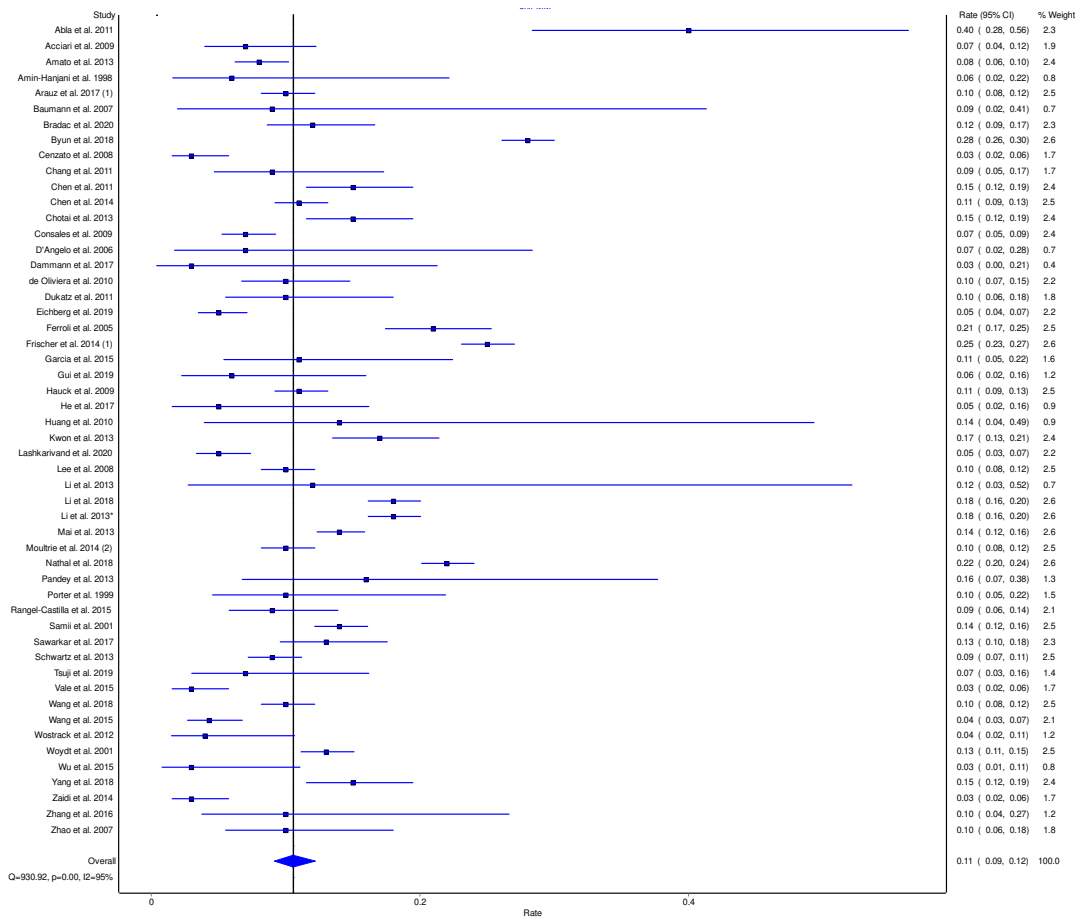


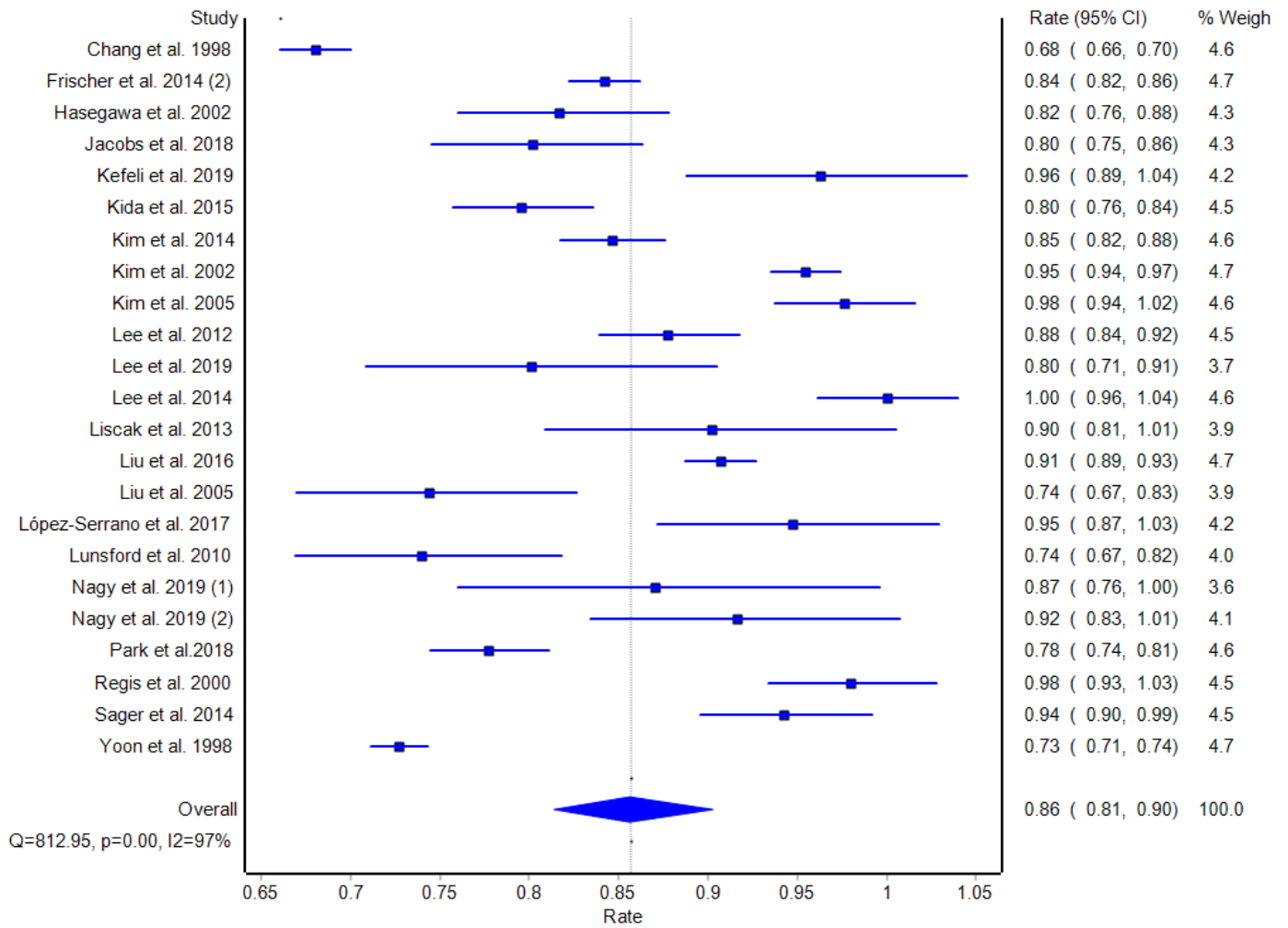
Figure 5: Surgical morbidity/mortality rate.

**Radiosurgery**

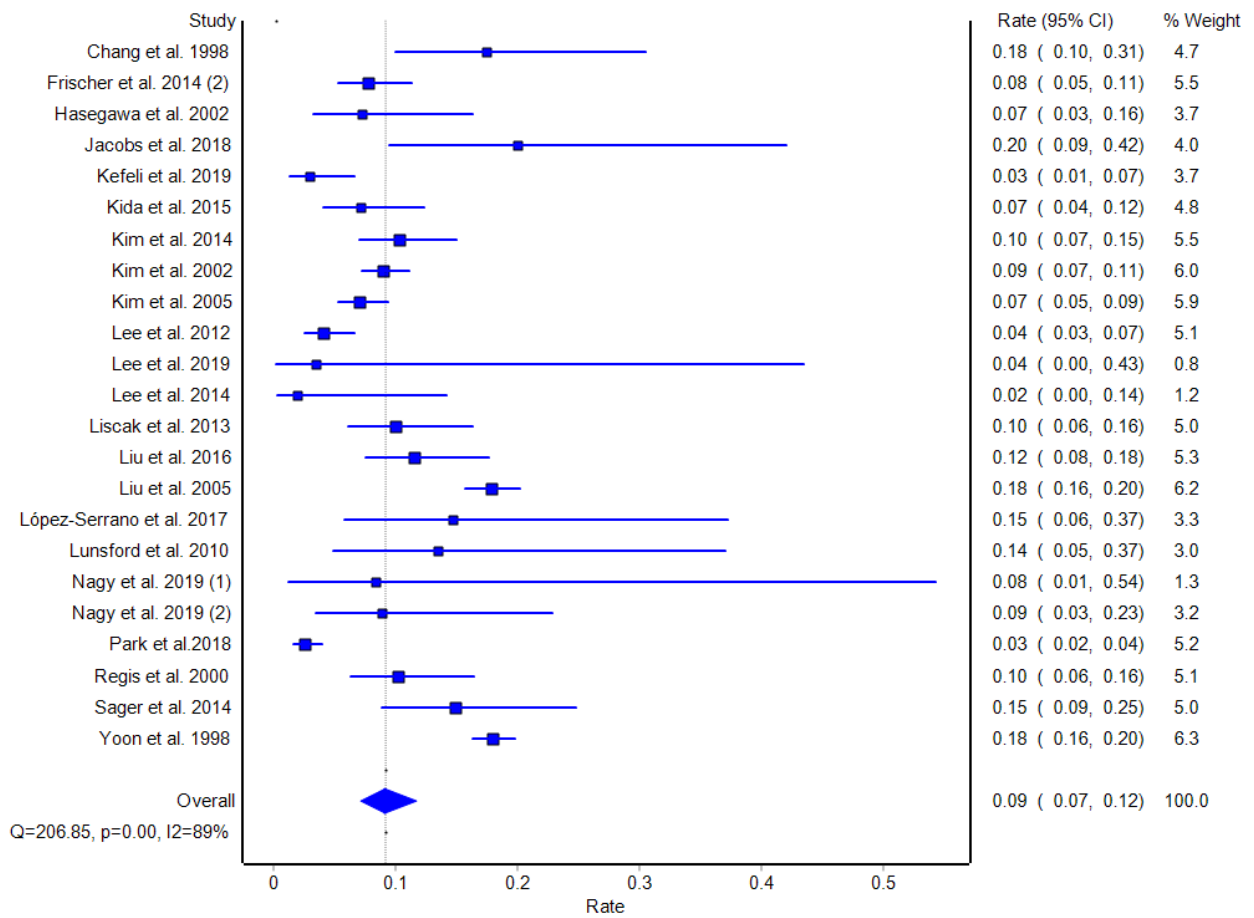
| <b>Authors</b>                 | <b>N</b> | <b>Mortality/morbidity, %</b> | <b>Efficacy, %</b> |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Chang et al. 1998 [24]         | 57       | 17.50                         | 68.42              |
| Frischer et al. 2014 (2) [44]  | 38       | 7.80                          | 84.21              |
| Hasegawa et al. 2002 [48]      | 82       | 7.32                          | 81.71              |
| Jacobs et al. 2018 [53]        | 76       | 20.00                         | 80.26              |
| Kefeli et al. 2019 [60]        | 82       | 3.00                          | 96.34              |
| Kida et al. 2015 [62]          | 298      | 7.12                          | 79.53              |
| Kim et al. 2014 [63]           | 39       | 10.30                         | 84.61              |
| Kim et al. 2002 [65]           | 22       | 9.00                          | 95.45              |
| Kim et al. 2005 [66]           | 42       | 7.10                          | 97.61              |
| Lee et al. 2012 [148]          | 49       | 4.10                          | 87.76              |
| Lee et al. 2019 [77]           | 261      | 3.50                          | 80.08              |
| Lee et al. 2014 [79]           | 49       | 2.00                          | 100.00             |
| Liscak et al. 2013 [86]        | 112      | 10.04                         | 90.18              |
| Liu et al. 2016 [87]           | 43       | 11.60                         | 90.70              |
| Liu et al. 2005 [88]           | 125      | 17.85                         | 74.40              |
| Lopez-Serrano et al. 2017 [89] | 95       | 14.70                         | 94.74              |
| Lunsford et al. 2010 [90]      | 103      | 13.50                         | 74.76              |
| Nagy et al. 2019 (1) [102]     | 210      | 8.39                          | 87.14              |
| Nagy et al. 2019 (2) [103]     | 96       | 8.95                          | 91.67              |
| Park et al. 2018 [111]         | 45       | 2.60                          | 77.78              |

|                         |    |       |       |
|-------------------------|----|-------|-------|
| Regis et al. 2000 [116] | 49 | 10.20 | 97.96 |
| Sager et al. 2014 [119] | 52 | 14.90 | 94.23 |
| Yoon et al. 1998 [137]  | 22 | 18.00 | 72.72 |

**Table 6:** The overview of radiosurgical series.



**Figure 6:** Radiosurgical efficacy.



**Figure 7:** Radiosurgical morbidity/mortality rate.

**eTable 6. Sensitivity analysis – evaluation of haemorrhage rate in high-quality cohorts**

| <b>Sensitivity analysis (n = 37)</b> |           |               |                |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|
|                                      | <b>RR</b> | <b>95% CI</b> | <b>p-value</b> |
| <b>Males</b>                         | 0.970     | 0.950–0.980   | <.001          |
| <b>Initial ICH</b>                   | 1.005     | 1.002–1.008   | .002           |
| <b>CCM</b>                           |           |               |                |
| <b>Lobar</b>                         | 0.997     | 0.995–0.997   | .088           |
| <b>Deep</b>                          | 1.005     | 1.001–1.008   | .008           |
| <b>Brainstem</b>                     | 1.006     | 1.004–1.009   | <.001          |
| <b>Cerebellum</b>                    | 0.977     | 0.961–0.9924  | .004           |

**Table 7:** The sensitivity analysis of high-quality cohorts. Used abbreviations: CCM, cerebral cavernous malformation; CI, confidence interval; ICH, intracerebral haemorrhage; RR, rate ratio.

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