

Response to Letter to the Editor: Comparison of short- and mid-term outcomes of antiplatelet versus anticoagulant use in peripheral artery disease patients with synthetic grafts

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We sincerely thank the author for their interest in and constructive comments on our study.^[1] In this study, we compared the short- and mid-term outcomes of anticoagulant versus antiplatelet therapy following above-knee femoropopliteal bypass with synthetic grafts. We demonstrated that patency rates were similar between the two treatment groups.^[2]

Considering the potential impact of graft properties and type selection on patency outcomes, our study cohort was limited to patients treated with straight Dacron® grafts. To minimize heterogeneity, we included only patients who underwent bypass with straight Dacron® grafts. Nevertheless, as rightly noted, technical parameters such as graft diameter and configuration may also impact graft patency. Clarification of these factors, however, requires further studies with larger patient cohorts.

From an anatomical standpoint, the integrity and patency of distal vessels are pivotal for adequate runoff, particularly in the context of revascularization procedures. We fully concur with this opinion. Accordingly, in our study, we selected patients with sufficiently distal runoff for above-knee femoropopliteal bypass, and during follow-up, no additional surgical or endovascular reinterventions were required for infragenicular disease.

In conclusion, our study attempted to address a clinically relevant issue frequently encountered in daily vascular practice, yet one for which robust data remain limited. Larger prospective studies are warranted to validate and expand upon our findings.

Data Sharing Statement: The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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