

Search Strategy

Data sources and search strategy

A systematic literature search was conducted in accordance with PRISMA guidelines to identify randomized controlled trials evaluating ticagrelor monotherapy after percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI). Electronic databases including PubMed/MEDLINE, Cochrane CENTRAL, and ClinicalTrials.gov were searched from database inception to 31 August 2025.

The search strategy used predefined combinations of keywords and Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) related to ticagrelor, aspirin discontinuation, dual antiplatelet therapy, and PCI.

Primary PubMed search strategy:

((("ticagrelor"[Title/ Abstract] OR "P2Y12 inhibitor"[Title/ Abstract]) AND ("monotherapy"[Title/ Abstract] OR "aspirin discontinuation"[Title/ Abstract] OR "aspirin withdrawal"[Title/ Abstract] OR "single antiplatelet therapy"[Title/ Abstract]) AND ("dual antiplatelet therapy"[Title/ Abstract] OR DAPT[Title/ Abstract]) AND ("percutaneous coronary intervention"[Title/ Abstract] OR PCI[Title/ Abstract] OR "coronary stent"[Title/ Abstract]))

AND (randomized [Title/ Abstract] OR randomised[Title/ Abstract] OR "randomized controlled trial"[Publication Type])

Filters applied:

- Humans
- No language restriction
- Randomized controlled trials

Reference lists of all included studies, relevant review articles, and conference abstracts were manually screened to identify additional eligible trials not captured through database searches.

Study selection process

All retrieved records were imported into citation manager software (Zotero) and duplicates were removed. Two reviewers independently screened titles and abstracts for relevance. Full-text articles were assessed for eligibility according to predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria. Any disagreements between reviewers were resolved through discussion and consensus.