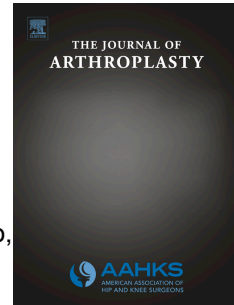


# Accepted Manuscript

Bilateral Total Hip Arthroplasty: One-stage or Two-stage? A Meta-analysis

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**Bilateral Total Hip Arthroplasty: Simultaneous or Staged? A Meta-Analysis**

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# 1 **Bilateral Total Hip Arthroplasty: One-stage or Two-stage?**

## 2 **A Meta-analysis**

### 3 **Abstract**

4 **Introduction:** Total hip arthroplasty (THA) is one of the most successful orthopaedic surgeries  
5 performed in the last 50 years. However, controversies still exist between conducting one-stage  
6 or two-stage bilateral THA.

7 **Materials and Methods:** Using Pubmed, Ovid, Embase and Cocharane library databases, we  
8 searched for papers written between January 1995 and October 2015 that contained the  
9 following search terms: “one-stage or two-stage” or “simultaneous or staged”, and “hip” and  
10 “arthroplasty or replacement”. A meta-analysis was conducted with the collected pooled data  
11 about major and minor systemic complications, surgical complications and other perioperative  
12 data associated with one-stage and two-stage bilateral THA. Statistical analysis was performed  
13 by the Mantel-Haenzel method, and the fixed effect model was used to analyze data.

14 **Results:** There were 13 studies with 17,762 patients who underwent one-stage bilateral THA  
15 and 46,147 patients who underwent two-stage bilateral THA. One-stage bilateral THA had a  
16 lower risk of major systemic complications, less deep venous thrombosis (DVT), and shorter  
17 operative time compared to two-stage bilateral THA. There were no significant differences in  
18 death, pulmonary embolism (PE), cardiovascular complication, infections, minor complications,  
19 and other surgical complications between procedures.

20 **Conclusion:** One-stage bilateral THA was superior to two-stage in terms of major systemic  
21 complication, DVT and surgical time compared to two-stage bilateral THA. However, this  
22 study does not encourage performing one-stage over two-stage bilateral THA. Higher evidence  
23 level studies are necessary for further analysis.

## 24 **Introduction**

25 Total hip arthroplasty (THA) is one of the most successful orthopaedic surgeries performed  
26 during the last 50 years, as patients have reported high satisfaction and improved activities of  
27 daily living[1]. Most patients that undergo THA suffer from primary osteoarthritis, and  
28 previous studies have demonstrated that patients who undergo unilateral THA may require a  
29 contralateral procedure within 10 years[2,3]. Conditions such as avascular necrosis, rheumatoid  
30 arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, and developmental dysplasia can affect both hips and may  
31 potentially require bilateral THA surgery. However, just because both hips are affected does not  
32 necessarily indicate that bilateral THA surgery needs to be performed.

33 After Charnley et al[4] first reported performing one-stage (simultaneous) bilateral THA in  
34 1971, many papers focused on one-stage bilateral THA[5-7]. However, controversies still  
35 exist regarding one-stage or two-stage (staged) bilateral THA. The benefits of one-stage  
36 bilateral THA include patients only undergo anesthesia once and have only one hospital stay,  
37 which means shorter overall hospital length of stay (LOS)[8,9] and cost reduction[10]. Some  
38 studies advocate one-stage bilateral THA, as they have demonstrated that the rates of  
39 perioperative complications are similar between one-stage bilateral THA and unilateral  
40 THA[7,11]. On the other hand, other opposing studies have found that one-stage bilateral  
41 THA pose greater risks to patients, with increased transfusions, greater adverse events, and  
42 suboptimal functional outcomes[12,13].

43 In 2008, Tsiridis et al[14] did a previous systemic review and meta-analysis of one-stage  
44 versus two-stage bilateral THA. They only compared thromboembolic complications and  
45 dislocation rates with the pooled data, since other parameters had significant heterogeneity, and  
46 they found that there were no significant differences between procedures. In 2010,  
47 Haverkamp et al[15] also conducted a meta-analysis comparing one-stage versus two-stage  
48 bilateral THA, but their meta-analysis only included 5 studies. Additionally, both  
49 meta-analyses lacked precision, as both of them took unilateral THA patients, then doubled this  
50 patient population when they underwent a second THA to count as two-stage bilateral THA  
51 patients. This is compared to true two-stage bilateral THA patients, who had planned THA at a

52 set time interval. Additionally, these studies were conducted greater than 5 years ago. Since  
53 then, researchers have introduced new surgical techniques and clinical protocols[16-19]. Thus,  
54 there is a need for an updated meta-analysis comparing one-stage versus two-stage bilateral  
55 THA to include more recent studies and a greater number of outcomes.

56 Therefore, the purpose of this study was to conduct a meta-analysis comparing the  
57 differences between one-stage and two-stage bilateral THA in terms of mortality, pulmonary  
58 embolism (PE), deep venous thrombosis (DVT), cardiovascular complications and systemic or  
59 surgical complications, including infection, as well as, operative time, blood loss, and  
60 transfusion rate.

61

## 62 **Materials and Methods**

63 A systemic review and meta-analysis was performed using the method described by the  
64 Cochrane Handbook[20] and reported with the PRISMA[21] checklist guidelines.

### 65 *Search Strategy*

66 Using Pubmed, Ovid, Embase and Cocharane library databases, studies were searched  
67 between January 1995 and October 2015 that contained the following search terms: “one-stage  
68 or two-stage” or “simultaneous or staged”, and “hip” and “arthroplasty or replacement.” The  
69 bibliographies of any relevant review and meta-analysis were also checked for potentially  
70 eligible papers.

### 71 *Eligibility Criteria*

72 In order to be included in this study, the papers reviewed had to meet the following criteria:  
73 (1) patients had to undergo primary THA; (2) studies that compared one-stage bilateral versus  
74 two-stage bilateral THA; and (3) reported results including any parameters of surgical time,  
75 blood loss, transfusion, cost, hospital LOS, death, PE, DVT, cardiovascular complication,  
76 pulmonary complication, any other systemic or surgical complications. We excluded any  
77 studies comparing bilateral to unilateral THA, studies that evaluated other hip replacement  
78 surgeries, such as resurfacing or revision THA, and studies that assumed that unilateral THA  
79 performed twice were two-stage bilateral THA.

### 80 *Study selection and data extraction*

81 Two orthopaedics surgeons independently screened studies by titles and abstracts to ensure  
82 that they met the eligibility criteria. Subsequently, the full text of each potential suitable study  
83 was reviewed. If there was disagreement between the reviewers, a third orthopedic surgeon was  
84 consulted to determine if the study should be included.

85 Once the final studies were determined that met the criteria, we extracted the study design,  
86 the number of study subjects, demographic data (age and gender), and time of publication.  
87 Corresponding authors of each of the studies were contacted to ask for additional and missing  
88 data, but no additional information was obtained.

89 For determining the outcomes investigated in this meta-analysis, we examined parameters  
90 that were evaluated when deciding to do a one- or two-stage bilateral THA. The decision of  
91 which procedure to perform is often based on the number of possible complications. Thus, our  
92 primary objective was to compare major adverse complications between one-stage and  
93 two-stage bilateral THA. Major complications were defined as death, PE, DVT, cardiovascular  
94 complications, pulmonary complications, gastric ulcers, gastric bleeding and neurological  
95 complications. These major complications were also separately analyzed between the two  
96 procedures. The second objective was to compare minor systemic complications, surgical  
97 complications and surgical related parameters between the two groups. Minor complications  
98 were defined as all digestive complications except gastric ulcers or bleeding, postoperative  
99 urinary complications, anemia and other systemic complications not included in major  
100 complications. We divided surgical complications into infection and other surgical  
101 complications besides infection, since infection correlates with prolonged surgical time [22].  
102 We also compared surgical time, blood loss, transfusion rate, cost and hospital LOS.

### 103 *Study quality*

104 Since prospective randomized control trials, prospective cohort studies and retrospective  
105 observational studies were all included, we used Cochrane Collaboration's tool[20] for  
106 prospective, randomized studies and the Newcastle-Ottawa quality scale[23] for prospective  
107 cohort studies and retrospective observational studies to assess the risk of bias. The

108 Newcastle-Ottawa Scale, which was used for non-randomized studies included in this  
109 meta-analysis, is a quality assessment tool where 9 indicates the highest quality study based on  
110 3 categories (selection, comparability and exposure/outcome). Two orthopaedic surgeon  
111 reviewers assessed the quality of eligible studies independently, and if there was disagreement,  
112 it was discussed with a third orthopaedic surgeon.

### 113 *Statistical analysis*

114 RevMan (Version 5.3. Copenhagen: The Nordic Cochrane Center, The Cochrane  
115 Collaboration, 2012) was used to perform statistics, and  $p < 0.05$  was set as statistically  
116 significant. We calculated the mean difference (MD) for continuous data and odds ratio (OR)  
117 for dichotomous data with 95% confidence interval (CI) for each outcome. For studies that  
118 reported continuous variables with ranges instead of standard deviation (SD), we use the  
119 Walter's method[24] to estimate SD with range data. The meta-analysis was performed by  
120 the Mantel-Haenzel method, and the fixed effect model was used to analyze the data. We  
121 used  $\chi^2$  and  $I^2$  to test the heterogeneity.  $I^2=0\%$  indicates low heterogeneity, while  $I^2=100\%$   
122 indicates high heterogeneity. If  $\chi^2 < 0.1$  or  $I^2 > 50\%$ , then the studies were interpreted as  
123 heterogeneous and the random-effects model was re-applied to complete the meta-analysis.  
124 Publication bias was assessed by funnel plots, which is a scatter plot of treatment effect versus  
125 an assessment of study error, where there was lower bias if all publications fell within a  
126 symmetric funnel, and higher bias if publications fell outside of the symmetric funnel.

## 127 **Results**

### 128 *Study selection and characteristics*

129 There were 689 relevant studies from our initial database search. After evaluating the  
130 titles and abstracts, there were 27 full-text articles. Among these studies, 14 were excluded,  
131 leaving 13 studies for the meta-analysis. **Figure 1** demonstrates the study selection flow.

132 Among these thirteen studies, 1 was a prospective, randomized study, 1 was a prospective  
133 cohort study, 7 were retrospective observational studies, and 4 reported on registry or national

134 data (**Table 1**). All studies involved 63,909 patients, of which 17,762 patients underwent  
135 one-stage bilateral THA and 46,147 patients underwent two-stage bilateral THA.

### 136 *Methodological Quality of Included Studies*

137 **Table 2** summarizes the quality assessment of studies. One study was a randomized  
138 control trial (RTC) with random sequence, allocation concealment and blinding assessment.  
139 Among the other twelve non-randomized studies, the studies had scores ranging from 5 to 7  
140 using the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale quality assessment. The score for selection, comparability  
141 and exposure/outcome were 4, 2, and 2, respectively, and the qualities of these studies were  
142 acceptable.

### 143 *Complications*

144 Major systemic postoperative complications were less in one-stage bilateral THA  
145 compared to two-stage bilateral THA based on 11 studies (OR = 0.53; 95% CI 0.36–0.77;  $p =$   
146 0.001; heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2=15.68$ ,  $I^2= 36\%$ , **Figure 2**), but there was no statistical difference  
147 between the two groups with regards to cardiovascular complications (OR = 0.81; 95% CI  
148 0.40–1.64;  $p = 0.56$ ; heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2=4.32$ ,  $I^2= 0\%$ , **Table 3**). Four studies (59,480  
149 patients) provided data on postoperative death related to surgery. Of the 16,676 patients that  
150 underwent one-stage THA, 21 patients died in 90 days after surgery, the mortality rate was  
151 0.13%. And of the 42,804 two-stage THA patients, 127 patients died in 90 days after surgery,  
152 the mortality rate was 0.3%. There was no statistically significant difference of mortality  
153 between the two groups (OR = 0.75; 95% CI 0.38-1.49;  $p = 0.41$ ; heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2= 4.25$ ,  
154  $I^2= 29\%$ ).

155 With regards to thromboembolic events, there were seven studies that evaluated PE (3,775  
156 patients) and DVT (4,259 patients). There were no differences between one-stage and  
157 two-stage bilateral THA groups for developing PE (OR = 1.08; 95% CI 0.47–2.48;  $p = 0.86$ ;  
158 heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2= 2.74$ ,  $I^2= 0\%$ , **Figure 3**), but one-stage bilateral THA patients were less

159 likely to develop a DVT compared to two-stage bilateral THA patients (OR = 0.37; 95% CI  
160 0.16–0.85;  $p = 0.02$ ; heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 5.59$ ,  $I^2 = 0\%$ , **Figure 4**).

161 There were 6 studies that provided data on minor systemic complications, but there were  
162 no significant differences between one-stage and two-stage groups (OR = 1.22; 95% CI  
163 0.61–2.46;  $p = 0.57$ ; heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 20.38$ ,  $I^2 = 75\%$ , **Table 3**). There were 4 studies that  
164 provided data on infectious complications (including deep and superficial infection), and the  
165 pooled data showed a statistically higher infection rate in one-stage versus two-stage bilateral  
166 THA (OR = 2.17; 95% CI 1.27–3.71;  $p = 0.004$ ; heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 3.50$ ,  $I^2 = 14\%$ ). Of the  
167 13 total studies, 8 studies evaluated other surgical complications except infection, and the  
168 pooled data showed no significant difference between the one-stage and two-stage groups (OR  
169 = 1.18; 95% CI 0.87–1.61;  $p = 0.28$ ; heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 9.86$ ,  $I^2 = 29\%$ ). The cumulative  
170 operative time was shorter in one-stage than two-stage bilateral THA groups (MD = -7.30; 95%  
171 CI -13.18–1.41;  $p < 0.05$ , heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 5.65$ ,  $I^2 = 47\%$ ). With regards to blood loss and  
172 allogeneic transfusions (4 studies), there were no significant differences between the one-stage  
173 and two-stage bilateral THA groups (blood loss: MD = 42.75; 95% CI -277.65–363.15;  $p = 0.79$ ;  
174 heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 58.82$ ,  $I^2 = 95\%$ , allogeneic transfusions: MD = 0.17; 95% CI -0.98–1.33;  $p$   
175 = 0.77; heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 203.20$ ,  $I^2 = 99\%$ ), but the heterogeneity of minor systemic  
176 complications, blood loss and transfusion studies were high ( $I^2 = 75$ , 95 and 99%, respectively)  
177 and should be interpreted carefully.

#### 178 *Publication bias*

179 The funnel plot of studies for major systemic complication indicates mild asymmetry,  
180 suggesting moderate evidence of publication bias (**Figure 5**).

#### 181 **Discussion**

182 Ever since Charnley first implemented one-stage bilateral THA, many studies have been  
183 conducted to address the controversial risks and benefits of one-stage bilateral THA compared  
184 to two-stage bilateral THA. especially about complications and higher transfusion rates.

185 Previous systematic reviews and meta-analysis[14,15] studies had small numbers of two-stage  
186 bilateral THA studies included and do not include more recent studies. Thus, the purpose of  
187 our study was to compare one-stage to two-stage bilateral THA with regards to major and  
188 minor complications.

189 Our pooled data indicated that two-stage bilateral THA group had more major  
190 complications than the one-stage bilateral THA group. The report from Aghayev et al[17],  
191 which included 1819 patients, indicated that two-stage bilateral THA patients have a higher rate  
192 of major systemic complications. Most studies indicate that one-stage bilateral THA patients  
193 are often younger and have less preoperative comorbidities, but theoretically, patients that  
194 undergo two-stage bilateral THAs experience approximately twice the risk of a single  
195 procedure[10,16,29]. Previous reports showed no difference in systemic complication  
196 between one-stage bilateral THA and unilateral THA[7, 30]. If major systemic complications  
197 accumulate with each successive surgery, then it seems reasonable that the complication rate is  
198 higher for two-stage bilateral THA patients.

199 Within major complications, the mortality rate from the four pooled studies was not  
200 different between groups. Our mortality rates were little less than other studies, which have  
201 estimated that the mortality rate is 0.3% and 0.65% following the first 30 and 90 days,  
202 respectively, after primary THA[31]. Recently published data using a national database with  
203 more than a half million cases reported that the inpatient primary THA mortality rate was  
204 0.13%[32]. Older patients undergoing THA have a higher mortality rate postoperatively  
205 compared to younger patients[33,34]. Cardiovascular complications and pulmonary  
206 embolism are the most common reasons that THA patients die postoperatively[35], but our data  
207 demonstrated no difference in cardiovascular complications and pulmonary embolism between  
208 one-stage and two-stage bilateral THA. Although the two-stage bilateral THA patients were  
209 older and possibly had higher comorbidities, one-stage patients had longer surgical time and  
210 more blood loss. This could justify the lack of statistical difference in mortality rate between  
211 both groups.

212 The risk of DVT did differ between groups. During a prolonged surgical procedure,  
213 increased blood loss can induce Virchow's triad and result in venous thromboembolism  
214 (VTE)[36]. However, some reports have showed no difference in the incidence of VTE  
215 between one-stage bilateral THA and unilateral THA[25,37], as Babis et al[38] combined five  
216 studies and found that the one-stage bilateral THA group had a lower DVT incidence than  
217 unilateral THA group, with no difference in the number of PE. Similar to our study, Tsiridis  
218 et al combined three studies and found no difference between one-stage and two-stage bilateral  
219 THA with regard to VTE [14]. However, Tsiridis et al did not separate DVT from PE, and  
220 this posed some limitations. When we separated out the patient cohorts, we determined that  
221 there were greater DVT in two-stage bilateral THA but no difference in PE. The higher DVT  
222 rate in the two-stage bilateral THA group may have resulted from the following: 1) the  
223 two-stage bilateral THA group underwent two procedures while one-stage group only  
224 underwent one; and 2) two-stage THA patients may have limited rehabilitation ability after the  
225 first surgery because of pain in their contralateral hip. DVT and PE may have different results,  
226 as previous studies have shown that PE and DVT may be unrelated[39,40].

227 In our study, we found no statistical difference in minor systemic complications such as  
228 postoperative anemia and urinary problems. However, Alfaro-Adrian et al[9] reported more  
229 minor complications in the two-stage bilateral THA group, whereas Parvizi et al[8] and Egli et  
230 al[25] reported more minor complications in one-stage bilateral THA patients. The other  
231 three included studies reported no difference between these two groups[17,18,26].

232 On the other hand, complications like infection were higher in the one-stage bilateral THA  
233 group compared to the two-stage group. Due to the limitations in the studies included in the  
234 meta-analysis, we grouped PJI and superficial surgical infections (SSI) cases together. SSI  
235 increase the duration of a patient's hospital stay and may lead to periprosthetic joint infection  
236 (PJI)[22]. One-stage bilateral THA cases have longer surgical times (for one procedure), but  
237 lower operative time cumulatively. Pulido et al[41] reported that increased operative time and  
238 allogenic blood transfusion are predisposing factors for PJI, as allogenic transfusions can

239 transmit infectious agents and modulate the immune system to increase the risk of infection[42].  
240 While the results of our study showed that there were no differences in blood loss and  
241 transfusion between these two groups, other studies have demonstrated different findings[9,26].  
242 Surgical technique, hemostasis, tranexamic acid, transfusion criteria and the use of blood  
243 saving devices can influence blood loss and transfusion, which possibly explains the variations  
244 in our results.

245 Additionally, there were no differences in other surgical complications such as neuropraxia,  
246 dislocation or intraoperative fracture. A previous meta-analysis also showed no difference in  
247 dislocation between one-stage and two-stage bilateral THA [14], and the majority of these  
248 complications arose due to surgical technique and not the difference between one- and  
249 two-stage bilateral THA.

250 There were four studies that compared operative time between one-stage and two-stage  
251 bilateral THA, and our results demonstrated that it took less surgical time to complete  
252 one-stage bilateral THA than the two-stage procedure. However, surgical time varies  
253 depending on the surgical approach, patient's position and surgeon experience. With the  
254 direct anterior approach, surgeons can begin the second procedure while closing the wound  
255 from the first procedure[43]. One-stage surgery limits the patient's exposure to anesthesia to  
256 only one occasion. Although we could not include this data in the meta-analysis, all evaluated  
257 studies that reported LOS and cost indicated a shorter stay and lower cost in the one-stage  
258 group compared to the two-stage bilateral THA. We found the same results as in the previous  
259 systemic review [14].

260 Though thirteen studies were pooled and the meta-analysis was conducted, there were still  
261 some limitations in our analysis. First, we combined prospective and retrospective studies  
262 with registry data, as an ideal meta-analysis would only contain prospective RCTs. However,  
263 when the data was analyzed with the Mantel-Haenzel method, most of the results were found to  
264 be homogeneous. Second, we did not subgroup two-stage bilateral THA patients based on the  
265 time interval between each stage, and different interval times may have resulted in different

266 outcomes. We attempted to subgroup studies by interval time of two-stage bilateral THA, but  
267 due to the variability of interval times and that only 5 studies reported interval times, we could  
268 not consolidate two-stage bilateral THAs at certain time points. Third, most of the studies  
269 included did not mention surgical approach, patient position, and diagnostic criteria of  
270 complications or transfusion criteria. Fourth, there was limited demographic data, and most  
271 demographic variables such as comorbidities could not be compared using a meta-analysis.  
272 Last, there was moderate evidence of publication bias and some of the parameters had high  
273 heterogeneity. However we used random effect model with if it had high heterogeneity. All of  
274 these pose a potential bias risk for the meta-analysis, but these factors could not be regulated  
275 since they were not provided.

276 In summary, if patients have bilateral hip disease, one-stage bilateral THA has less major  
277 complications, DVTs and decreased operative time, costs and shorter hospital lengths of stay,  
278 but increased infections compared to two-stage bilateral THA. However, this study does not  
279 encourage performing one-stage over two-stage bilateral THA. Since there are risks and  
280 benefits to both procedures, these potential complications must be interpreted in light of each  
281 individual patient's needs and concerns. Further studies are needed to provide higher quality  
282 of evidence to evaluate the two procedures.

283

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**Table 1:** Characteristics of the selected studies.

Author (year)	Study type	Country	One-stage Bilateral THA			Two-stage Bilateral THA		
			n	Sex (M/F)	Age (years)	n	Sex (M/F)	Age (years)
(1996) Eggli[26]	Prospective cohort	Switzerland	64	26/38	54	191	108/83	61.3
(1998) Reuben[10]	Retrospective cohort	USA	7	4/3	49	8	1/7	57
(1999) Alfaro-Adrian[9]	Retrospective cohort	UK	95	40/55	65	107	42/65	63.9
(2006) Bhan[25]	Randomized control trial	India	83	54/29	46.6	85	51/34	43.4
(2006) Parvizi[8]	Retrospective case control	USA	98	53/45	53	98	46/52	65
(2007) Berend[12]	Retrospective cohort	USA	167	100/67	52.7	110	47/63	57.3
(2009) Hooper[16]	Registry	New Zealand	303		61	743		61
(2010) Aghayev[17]	Retrospective cohort	Switzerland	247	116/131	59	1572	794/778	62.5
(2010) Saito[27]	Retrospective case control	Japan	49	6/43	59	40	4/36	61.9
(2011) Johnston[28]	Retrospective cohort	UK	68	26/42	61.5	526	208/318	66.5
(2013) Lindberg-Larsen[18]	Registry	Denmark	103	59/44	55.7	577	234/343	66.9
(2014) Rasouli[29]	National database	USA	14,798		58.4	1532		60.3
(2015) Garland[19]	Registry	Sweden	1,680	767/913		40558	16,356/24,202	
<b>Total</b>			<b>17,762</b>	<b>1,251/1,410</b>		<b>46147</b>	<b>17,891/25,981</b>	

THA=Total hip arthroplasty; n=number of patients; M=male; F=female; USA=United States of America; UK=United Kingdom.

**Table 2:** Quality of selected studies

Study	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other bias
(2006) Bhan[25]	Yes	Yes (sealed envelope)	Unclear	Yes	Yes	Unclear	Unclear
Study	Study type	Newcastle-Ottawa Scale					
		Selection	Comparability	Exposure/Outcome	Total score		
(1996) Eggli[26]	Prospective cohort	3	2	2	7		
(1998) Reuben[10]	Retrospective cohort	3	1	1	5		
(1999) Alfaro-Adrian[9]	Retrospective cohort	3	1	2	6		
(2006) Parvizi[8]	Retrospective case control	3	1	2	6		
(2007) Berend[12]	Retrospective cohort	3	1	2	6		
(2009) Hooper[16]	Registry	3	1	2	6		
(2010) Aghayev[17]	Retrospective cohort	3	1	2	6		
(2010) Saito[27]	Retrospective case control	4	1	2	7		
(2011) Johnston[28]	Retrospective cohort	4	1	2	7		
(2013) Lindberg-Larsen[18]	Registry	4	1	2	7		
(2014) Rasouli[29]	National database	3	1	2	6		
(2015) Garland[19]	Registry	3	1	2	6		

**Table 3:** Comparison of complications (major, minor, and surgical) and other parameters between one-stage and two-stage bilateral THA.

Variables	Studies	Number of patients (One-stage/Two-stage) Bilateral THA	Overall effect		Heterogeneity	
			p-value	MD/OR (95% CI)	Chi <sup>2</sup>	I <sup>2</sup> (%)
Cardiovascular complication	6	690/2630	0.56	0.81(0.40-1.64)	4.32	0
Death	4	16676/42804	0.41	0.75(0.38-1.49)	4.25	29
Minor complications	6	690/2,630	0.57	1.22 (0.61-2.46)	20.38	75
Infection	4	557/1,931	0.004*	2.17 (1.27-3.71)	3.50	14
Other surgical complication	8	876/3,208	0.28	1.18 (0.87-1.61)	9.86	29
Operative time	4	325/330	0.02*	-7.30 (-13.18 to 1.41)	5.65	47
Blood loss	4	325/330	0.79	42.75 (-277.65 to 363.15)	58.82	95
Transfusion	4	443/400	0.77	0.17 (-0.98 to 1.33)	203.20	99

THA=Total hip arthroplasty; MD=mean difference; OR=odds ratio; CI=confidence interval.

\* statistically significant.

**Figure Legend**

**Figure 1:** Flow diagram showing study selection for the meta-analysis.

**Figure 2:** Forest plot showing the odds ratio and 95% CI for postoperative major systemic complication.

M-H= Mantel-Haenszel; CI=Confidence interval.

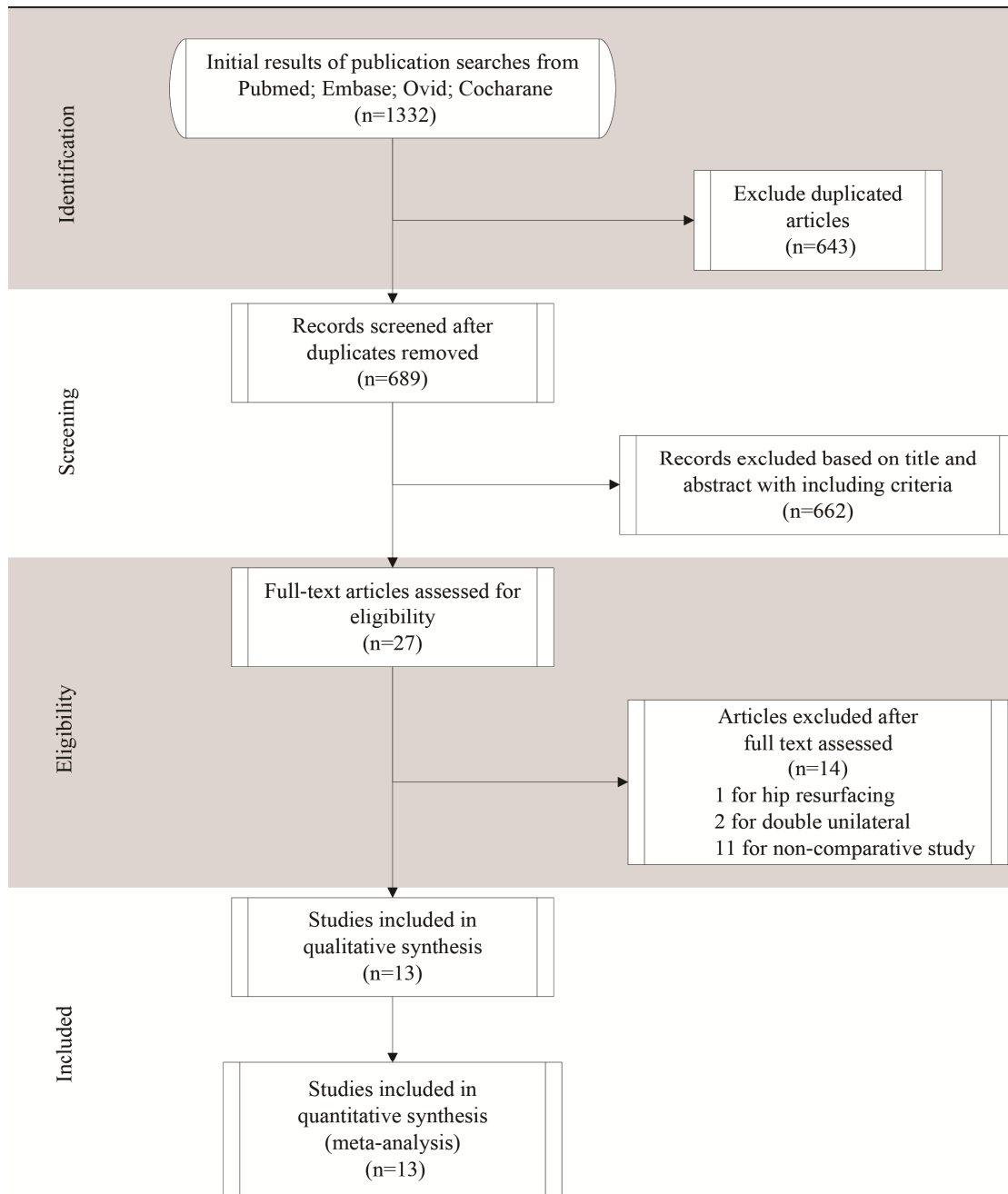
**Figure 3:** Forest plot demonstrating the odds ratio and 95% CI for postoperative pulmonary embolism.

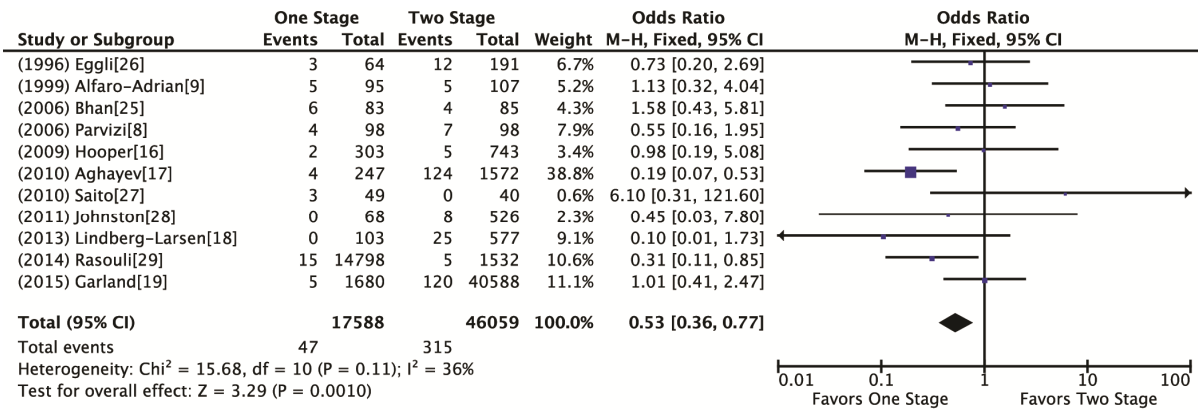
M-H= Mantel-Haenszel; CI=Confidence interval.

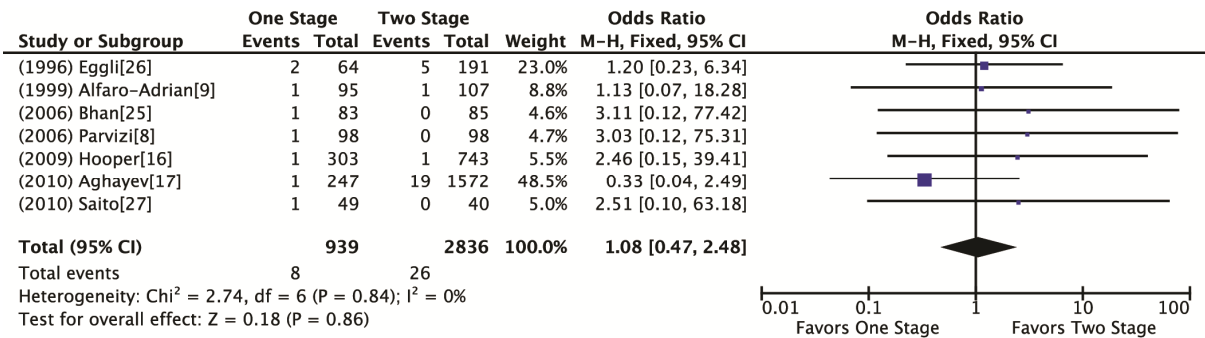
**Figure 4:** Forest plot demonstrating the odds ratio and 95% CI for postoperative deep vein thrombosis.

M-H= Mantel-Haenszel; CI=Confidence interval.

**Figure 5:** Funnel plot for major systemic complication, demonstrating evidence of publication bias.







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