

Conversion of the Seattle Angina Questionnaire into EQ-5D utilities for ischemic heart disease: a systematic review and catalog of the literature

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Background: There is a paucity of preference-based (utility) measures of health-related quality of life for patients with ischemic heart disease (IHD); in contrast, the Seattle Angina Questionnaire (SAQ) is a widely used descriptive measure. Our objective was to perform a systematic review of the literature to identify IHD studies reporting SAQ scores in order to apply a mapping algorithm to convert these to preference-based scores for secondary use in economic evaluations.

Methods: Relevant articles were identified in MEDLINE (Ovid), EMBASE (Ovid), Cochrane Library (Wiley), HealthStar (Ovid), and PubMed from inception to 2012. We previously developed and validated a mapping algorithm that converts SAQ descriptive scores to European Quality of Life-5 Dimensions (EQ-5D) utility scores. In the current study, this mapping algorithm was used to estimate EQ-5D utility scores from SAQ scores.

Results: Thirty-six studies met the inclusion criteria. The studies were categorized into three groups, ie, general IHD (n=13), acute coronary syndromes (n=4), and revascularization (n=19). EQ-5D scores for patients with general IHD were in the range of 0.605–0.843 at baseline, and increased to 0.649–0.877 post follow-up. EQ-5D scores for studies of patients with recent acute coronary syndromes increased from 0.706–0.796 at baseline to 0.795–0.942 post follow-up. The revascularization studies had EQ-5D scores in the range of 0.616–0.790 at baseline, and increased to 0.653–0.928 after treatment; studies that focused only on coronary artery bypass grafting increased from 0.643–0.788 at baseline to 0.653–0.928 after grafting, and studies that focused only on percutaneous coronary intervention increased in score from 0.616–0.790 at baseline to 0.668–0.897 after treatment.

Conclusion: In this review, we provide a catalog of estimated health utility scores across a wide range of disease severity and following various interventions in patients with IHD. Our catalog of EQ-5D scores can be used in IHD-related economic evaluations.

Keywords: health-related quality of life, Seattle Angina Questionnaire, utilities, European Quality of Life-5 Dimensions, mapping algorithm, ischemic heart disease

Introduction

Economic evaluations with cost-effectiveness analyses are important in the decision-making process for health resource allocation. Cost-effectiveness analysis involves estimation of the incremental cost of a new intervention as well as its incremental net health benefit, in comparison with a reference. To facilitate the comparison of different interventions, it is important that the health effects be reported in standardized units. Current guidelines recommend that the metric of choice for reporting health benefits in cost-effectiveness analysis is the quality-adjusted life-year.¹⁻⁵

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A variety of techniques have been developed to assess patient quality of life. Available instruments can be generally classified into two major categories, ie, descriptive measurement instruments or preference-based methods. Descriptive measurement instruments are designed to measure quality of life across important aspects of a patient's health state, such as physical, psychosocial, or functional well-being.⁶ Such instruments provide a score for each health domain and a quantitative measure that represents a patient's current health state. In contrast, preference-based or utility instruments, such as the European Quality of Life-5 Dimensions (EQ-5D), add a valuation component to a patient's reported health state.⁷ These instruments are designed to reflect both a quantitative description of a patient's health state and society's preference for that particular health state. This preference component is the primary distinction between a utility instrument and a descriptive measurement instrument. Preference-based instruments allow for the calculation of quality-adjusted life-years.

In ischemic heart disease (IHD) research, there is an abundance of published literature on the Seattle Angina Questionnaire (SAQ), a descriptive quality of life instrument. The SAQ is a validated descriptive instrument that evaluates quality of life in patients with IHD across five domains, specifically physical limitation, treatment satisfaction, angina frequency, angina stability, and disease perception.⁸ In contrast, there is a paucity of studies that report utility weights for patients with IHD.³ The absence of available and up-to-date utility weights is a substantial limitation when performing economic analyses in IHD. To address this lack of utility information, we have previously published a mapping algorithm to convert SAQ descriptive scores to utility weights, based on the EQ-5D preference-based utility instrument.^{9,10}

In this study, we extended our previous work by performing a systematic review of the literature to identify all previous studies that used the SAQ to measure health state, and then applied our validated mapping algorithm to create a comprehensive catalog of utility weights across the spectrum of IHD, with the intention that our catalog be used for future economic evaluations in IHD.

Materials and methods

Search strategy

First, we conducted a systematic review of the published literature, conforming to the standards recommended by the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) guidelines.¹¹ We used the search terms "Seattle Angina Questionnaire", "SAQ", or slight modifica-

tions of these terms (see Supplementary material for full search strategy) to identify potentially relevant citations from inception to November 7, 2012 using the following medical literature databases: MEDLINE (Ovid), EMBASE (Ovid), Cochrane Library (Wiley), HealthStar (Ovid), and PubMed. We subsequently performed a citation search in Google Scholar (Google), Web of Science (Thomson Reuters), and Scopus (Elsevier) to identify articles citing the original paper by Spertus et al⁸ that first examined the validity and reliability of the SAQ. Finally, we searched major clinical trial registries (clinicaltrials.gov and clinicaltrialsregister.eu) from inception to November 7, 2012 for studies that used the SAQ as an outcome measure, using the search terms "Seattle Angina Questionnaire" or "SAQ".

Upon removal of duplications, two independent reviewers (SF and HCW) screened each reference. We utilized a hierarchical approach, screening citations by title, then abstract, and finally by full text to determine relevance. Reviewers assessed the eligibility of these selected articles according to two prespecified inclusion criteria, ie, that publication was in English and that mean scores and standard errors (or the ability to calculate standard errors from the available data) were reported for all five domains of the SAQ. Although the SAQ has been translated into multiple languages, the original SAQ validation studies were based on the English version; as such, we restricted our algorithm to English articles. All five domains were needed to utilize our mapping algorithm. Exclusion criteria were articles that reported on experimental interventions (eg, transmyocardial laser revascularization, herbal medicine) that are not part of standard therapy. The following information was extracted from eligible studies: baseline characteristics of study participants (age, gender); inclusion and exclusion criteria for each study, interventions (eg, myocardial infarction, revascularization) and follow-up duration; and reported SAQ scores and standard errors.

Data synthesis

We have previously created and published a prediction algorithm using multivariable linear regression modeling, with the utility weight from the EQ-5D being our response variable of interest. Details of the derivation and validation of the mapping algorithm are available elsewhere.⁹ In brief, all model fitting was done using Bayesian methods. The posterior probability distribution for each of the model parameters was estimated using Markov Chain Monte Carlo simulation methods, with noninformative prior distributions for all model parameters. The data for model development

were from 1,992 consecutive patients who underwent coronary angiography in 2004 as part of the Alberta Provincial Project for Outcome Assessment in Coronary Heart Disease database. The final mapping algorithm was a linear regression model, with the dependent variable being the EQ-5D, and a conditional distribution of $Y_i \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma_i)$. The specification of the mean was given by:

$$\mu_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 AF_i + \beta_2 AS_i + \beta_3 DP_i + \beta_4 PL_i + \beta_5 TS_i$$

with the following parameter estimates:

intercept 0.4388 (0.4015–0.4763), β AF 0.0010 (0.0007–0.0013), β AS –0.0002 (–0.0005 to 0.0000), β DP 0.0023 (0.0020–0.0027), β PL 0.0019 (0.0017–0.0022), β TS 0.0004 (–0.0001 to 0.0008).

Using the posterior distribution for the coefficients of the final linear regression mapping algorithm, we calculated the EQ-5D based on the scores for the five SAQ domains for each included study. To fully incorporate uncertainty in the estimated EQ-5D utilities, we assumed that the inputted SAQ values from each paper had a normal distribution, based on the mean and standard error. We sampled from this distribution to calculate the mean and 95% credible interval of the estimated EQ-5D.

The mapping algorithm and EQ-5D estimates were calculated using WinBUGS version 1.4 (Medical Research Council, London, UK).

Results

Study selection

We identified 2,776 citations from various sources using our search criteria. After removing duplications, 1,092 articles were screened to identify articles in English that were potentially relevant and that reported scores and standard errors (or standard deviation and sample size, or confidence intervals, in order to calculate the standard error) for all five domains of the SAQ. Full review was done on 60 articles. We excluded 24 of these articles because they provided SAQ scores following experimental interventions, ie, neurostimulation (six articles), autologous bone marrow transplant (three articles), transmyocardial laser revascularization (six articles), herbal medicine (two articles), fibroblast growth factor (one article), granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (one article), cognitive behavioral therapy (one article), and other (four articles). A total of 36 articles met our eligibility criteria and were included in the final analysis. Figure 1 presents the flow diagram of our review process.

Study characteristics

The 36 studies in our systematic review represent a wide spectrum of patients with IHD. Eight of these studies focused exclusively on patients with stable angina,^{12–19} and four included patients with a previous myocardial infarction.^{12,20–22} Four studies specifically assessed SAQ in patients with advanced IHD unsuitable for revascularization.^{18,23–25} These studies reported SAQ scores in patients with general angina, or specifically with severe or refractory angina. Five studies were restricted to an elderly population,^{23,26–29} one study was restricted to women with IHD,³⁰ and one study reported SAQ data in diabetic patients with IHD.¹⁷ SAQ data were compared among South Asians versus Europeans with IHD in one study,³¹ while another study reported the SAQs of Caucasians and African Americans with IHD.²⁰ The studies ranged from cross-sectional evaluations with no follow-up to longitudinal studies with follow-up ranging from 7 days to a mean of 6 years and 11 months.

Given our intent to form a catalog such that estimated utility scores can be easily referenced, we categorized the 36 included articles in three groups, as shown in Tables 1–3. Thirteen studies focused on general IHD patients (Table 1), four focused on patients with recent acute coronary syndrome (Table 2), and 19 assessed revascularized patients (Table 3), of which eight included only patients who underwent coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG)^{23,28,29,32–36} and six included only patients who had percutaneous coronary intervention.^{19,21,27,37–39}

Predicted EQ-5D

The SAQ scores from the original publications and the calculated EQ-5D scores are shown in Tables 1–3. The estimated baseline EQ-5D scores for the general IHD patients were in the range of 0.605–0.843, increasing to 0.649–0.877 post follow-up (Table 1). The baseline range was 0.706–0.796 for the studies focused on patients with a recent acute coronary syndrome, increasing to 0.795–0.942 post follow-up (Table 2). The revascularization studies had EQ-5D scores in the range of 0.616–0.790 at baseline, increasing to 0.653–0.928 after treatment (Table 3). Studies that included only CABG as the revascularization modality had an EQ-5D score range that increased from 0.643–0.788 at baseline to 0.653–0.928 after CABG; the studies that focused only on percutaneous coronary intervention had scores that increased from 0.616–0.790 at baseline to 0.668–0.897 after treatment.

Discussion

In this report, we have provided a comprehensive catalog of predicted EQ-5D utility scores for patients with IHD. We first

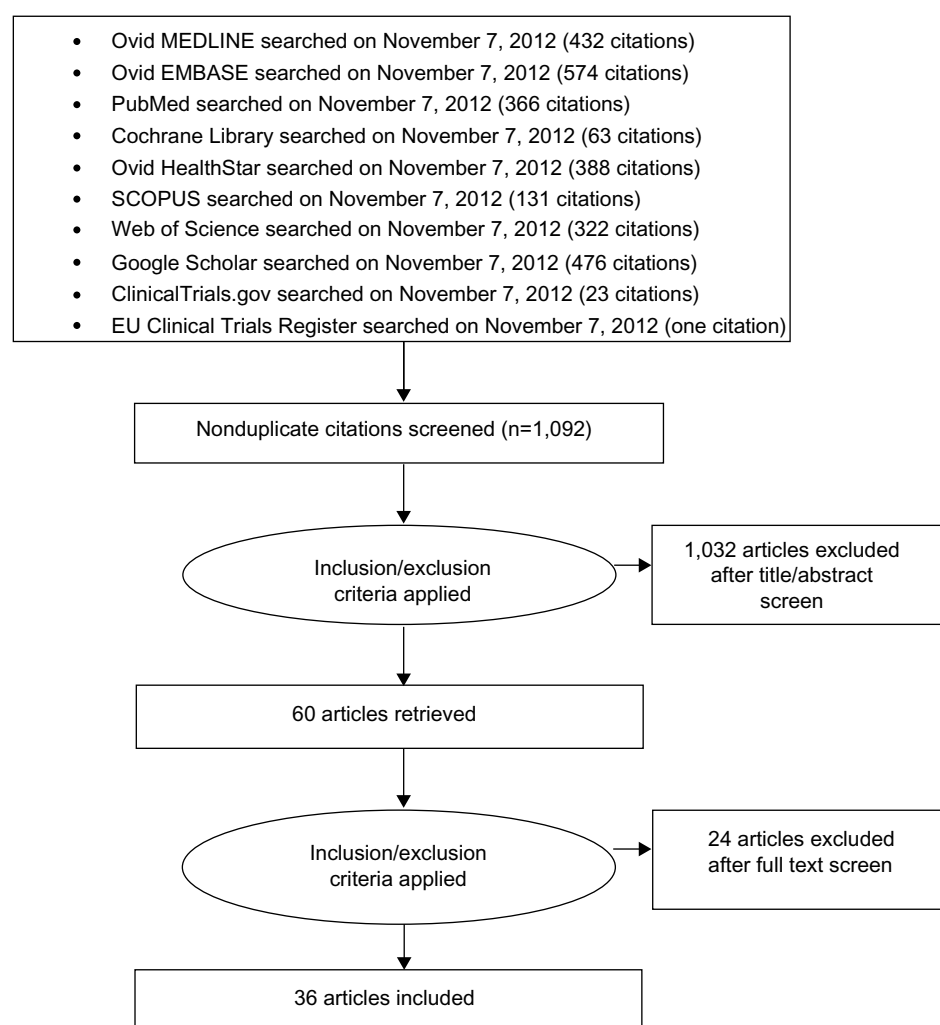


Figure 1 Process of study selection.

performed a systematic review of the literature to identify studies that reported SAQ scores and then applied our previously validated mapping algorithm to convert SAQ scores to EQ-5D scores. The studies included in our systematic review represent a broad spectrum of IHD patients and assessed quality of life at baseline and/or following a broad range of nonpharmacologic, medical, or surgical interventions.

Patient-reported health status has gained an increasingly important role in the decision-making process for health resource allocation.⁴⁰ Patient health status independently predicts mortality, cardiovascular events, hospitalizations, and costs of care in cardiovascular illnesses.^{41–43} Current methodologic guidelines emphasize the importance of preference-based measures in comparative effectiveness studies of health technologies. For example, the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence suggests that EQ-5D is the preferred method in quantifying the health outcome of various interventions.⁴⁴ However, in many

circumstances, preference-based instruments have not been included in cardiovascular studies. In the absence of such information, mapping techniques such as that applied in the current study can be used to estimate utility weights from available descriptive quality of life data.⁴⁵

Dyer et al recently published a summary of available EQ-5D scores from the entire spectrum of cardiovascular diseases,⁴⁶ and were able to identify 18 studies in IHD. They observed significant heterogeneity in the reported EQ-5D scores across these studies, in the range of 0.45–0.88. We believe our study is an important addition to this early work, by providing utility scores on additional studies in IHD, covering a wide spectrum of revascularization modalities and patient populations. Similar to the previous work by Dyer et al, we found heterogeneity between studies. This heterogeneity in utility weights between studies underscores the importance of a catalog such as ours. When researchers are developing economic models, it is essential that the

Table 1 General ischemic heart disease

Reference	Inclusion/exclusion	Intervention/Subgroup	n	Mean age, years	Gender (% male)	Time point	PL	SAQ	AF	TS	DP	EQ-5D
Bailey et al ³¹	(I) Diagnosed with IHD.	1. South Asians	635	62.1	77.9	1 year	75.0 (0.91)	77.0 (1.11)	86.0 (0.91)	86.0 (0.75)	71.0 (0.95)	0.852 (0.84–0.86)
		2. Europeans	18,934	63.5	74.0	1 year	80.0 (0.44)	77.0 (0.52)	88.0 (0.38)	89.0 (0.30)	76.0 (0.40)	0.877 (0.87–0.88)
Broddadottir et al ³⁰	(I) Women with IHD who consented to participate in the study.	1. All ages	437	66.4	0.0	Baseline	56.4 (1.12)	75.8 (1.45)	76.7 (1.23)	85.9 (0.78)	59.7 (1.13)	0.781 (0.77–0.79)
		2. Age 32–59 years	133	52.3	0.0	Baseline	57.4 (2.02)	72.9 (2.66)	72.1 (2.18)	82.0 (1.66)	52.5 (2.06)	0.760 (0.75–0.78)
		3. Age 60–74 years	190	68.2	0.0	Baseline	60.0 (1.70)	77.7 (2.26)	79.0 (1.93)	87.7 (1.10)	62.8 (1.71)	0.797 (0.78–0.81)
		4. Age 75–88 years	114	79.6	0.0	Baseline	48.8 (2.06)	76.6 (2.70)	78.2 (2.28)	87.8 (1.24)	63.2 (2.06)	0.776 (0.76–0.79)
Leung et al ⁴⁷	(I) IHD and eligible for cardiac rehabilitation.	1. All patients	1,056	66.3	71.8	9 months	61.7 (0.64)	75.1 (0.91)	86.9 (0.67)	78.7 (0.78)	67.3 (0.84)	0.816 (0.81–0.83)
		2. No rehabilitation	725	66.9	70.1	9 months	59.0 (0.81)	71.4 (1.14)	84.8 (0.87)	76.5 (0.99)	65.6 (1.01)	0.805 (0.79–0.82)
		3. Rehabilitation <6 months	148	63.3	71.9	9 months	68.9 (1.19)	83.1 (2.09)	90.9 (1.42)	85.5 (1.56)	72.4 (2.09)	0.847 (0.83–0.86)
		4. Rehabilitation >6 months	183	65.7	72.0	9 months	66.7 (1.29)	83.3 (1.81)	91.7 (1.02)	82.0 (1.73)	69.7 (2.06)	0.836 (0.82–0.85)
Ohlidin et al ²⁰	(I) Veterans, IHD: self-reported angina, history of myocardial infarction, coronary artery disease, or a coronary artery revascularization procedure on the screening questionnaire.	1. Caucasians	6,704	66.3	98.3	Baseline	50.8 (0.32)	56.2 (0.33)	76.5 (0.29)	83.0 (0.25)	63.0 (0.31)	0.781 (0.77–0.79)
		2. African Americans	1,281	64.0	98.6	Baseline	51.9 (0.72)	57.6 (0.85)	76.0 (0.69)	77.6 (0.70)	58.5 (0.77)	0.769 (0.76–0.78)
Fathi et al ²⁴	(I) Angina, symptomatic IHD, unsuitable for revascularization. (E) LVEF <30%, could not comply with follow-up, had a condition that precluded the performance of stress testing, and had compromised life expectancy.	1. Usual therapy of lipids (target LDL <116)	30	63.4	80.0	Baseline	59.0 (4.74)	57.0 (6.20)	64.0 (5.47)	85.0 (2.73)	59.0 (4.38)	0.775 (0.74–0.81)
		2. Aggressive lipid reduction/target LDL <77	30	63.9	77.0	Baseline	67.0 (4.92)	64.0 (4.92)	72.0 (5.84)	92.0 (2.55)	60.0 (4.92)	0.802 (0.77–0.83)
Moore et al ²⁵	(I) Refractory angina (rejected for revascularization) and referred to refractory angina clinic.	Refractory angina program	69	62.3	81.0	Baseline	73.0 (4.19)	78.0 (5.29)	80.0 (4.56)	91.0 (1.82)	70.0 (4.01)	0.842 (0.81–0.87)
		1 year				25.2 (1.49)	32.8 (2.85)	26.9 (2.32)	62.8 (2.80)	31.3 (2.38)	0.605 (0.58–0.63)	0.649 (0.63–0.67)

(Continued)

Table 1 (Continued)

Reference	Inclusion/exclusion	Intervention/Subgroup	n	Mean age, years	Gender (% male)	Time point	PL	SAQ	AF	TS	DP	EQ-5D
Spertus et al ¹²	(I) Chronic, stable, symptomatic IHD, documented history of coronary disease (prior MI, coronary revascularization, or history of typical angina pectoris), taking at least 2 regular antiangina medications for control of symptoms. (E) Hospitalizations within 4 months, aortic stenosis, EF <40%, sick sinus syndrome, advanced heart block, or other significant comorbidity limiting life expectancy.	1. Usual antianginal medications 2. Long-acting diltiazem ± nitroglycerin patches ± atenolol	49	64.6	NA	Baseline	54.2 (3.61) 48.9 (3.05)	57.1 (3.41) 50.5 (3.01)	66.9 (3.52) 56.7 (3.87)	83.6 (2.07) 80.6 (2.31)	55.3 (3.14) 48.7 (2.99)	0.760 (0.74–0.78) 0.724 (0.70–0.75)
Beltrame et al ¹³	(I) Stable angina. Not required to have ongoing angina symptoms.		2,031	71.0	64.0	Baseline	70.0 (0.62)	63.0 (0.59)	84.0 (0.51)	90.0 (0.31)	70.0 (0.54)	0.843 (0.84–0.85)
Makolklin and Osadchiy ¹⁴	(I) Stable angina with average of >3 angina attacks/week, 1–2 antianginal agents with hemodynamic action at stable doses at the time of inclusion for ≥3 months. (E) NYHA class ≥II, unstable angina, recent MI or stroke within 6 months, severe arrhythmia or conduction impairment.	Trimetazidine and conventional therapy	846	58.7	61.0	Baseline	50.7 (0.70) 61.0 (0.60)	57.6 (0.90) 92.5 (0.70)	33.3 (0.70) 55.6 (0.80)	62.3 (0.70) 77.4 (0.50)	36.7 (0.60) 55.5 (0.70)	0.667 (0.65–0.68) 0.751 (0.74–0.76)
Stone et al ¹⁵	(I) Age ≥18 years, chronic stable angina and ≥3 episodes of angina/week despite treatment with 10 mg of amlodipine. (E) NYHA class IV CHF; prior MI, unstable angina within 2 months, active acute myocarditis, pericarditis, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, uncontrolled hypertension, history of torsades de pointes, agents to prolong QTc interval, QTc interval ≥500 msec, receiving inhibitors of cytochrome P450-3A4, hepatic disease, creatinine clearance <30 mL/min, chronic illness likely to interfere with protocol compliance, taking any digitalis preparation, perhexiline, trimetazidine, beta-blockers, or calcium channel blockers other than amlodipine, proscribed antianginal medications within 4 weeks before initiation of the study drug, participation in another investigative trial within 30 days before study start.	1. Placebo + amlodipine 2. Ranolazine + amlodipine	283 281	61.3 62.0	73.0 72.0	Baseline	48.9 (1.02) 49.2 (1.03)	57.2 (1.05) 54.7 (1.07)	40.0 (0.88) 40.6 (0.78)	75.4 (0.83) 74.6 (0.85)	41.5 (1.05) 41.6 (1.02)	0.687 (0.67–0.70) 0.688 (0.68–0.70)

Maxwell et al ¹⁶	(I) CCS II and III stable angina and ≥ 1 mm ST depression during treadmill exercise testing before achieving 14.5 Mets. (E) Unstable angina, MI, major surgery or angioplasty within the past 3 months, symptomatic HF, impaired renal or hepatic function, or any other systemic illness, congenital heart disease, valvular heart disease, atrial fibrillation, uncontrolled hypertension, type I diabetes, diseases other than IHD that would interfere with treadmill testing.	Dietary management (2 L-arginine-enriched nutrient bars/day)	36	65.9	77.8	Baseline 1. 2 weeks of dietary management 2. 2 weeks of placebo	60.0 (2.33) 64.0 (2.50) 60.0 (3.50)	54.0 (2.66) 67.0 (3.66) 60.0 (3.66)	64.0 (3.50) 67.0 (3.16) 66.0 (4.00)	70.0 (3.16) 77.0 (2.50) 70.0 (3.83)	53.0 (3.33) 61.0 (2.66) 56.0 (3.83)	0.758 (0.74–0.78) 0.787 (0.77–0.81) 0.766 (0.74–0.79)
Deaton et al ¹⁷	(I) Stable, symptomatic IHD and coronary anatomy suitable for PCI.	1. Diabetic 2. Nondiabetic	320 693	62.0 61.0	84.0 85.0	Baseline Baseline	60.0 (1.48) 65.0 (1.02)	49.0 (1.84) 51.0 (1.29)	64.0 (1.56) 66.0 (1.02)	83.0 (1.17) 85.0 (0.75)	47.0 (1.45) 49.0 (0.98)	0.750 (0.74–0.76) 0.767 (0.76–0.78)
de Jong-Watt et al ¹⁴	(I) Elective, first time coronary angiogram, planned angiography date 3–8 weeks from the time of referral, understand written or spoken English. (E) Previous coronary angiography, CABG surgery, PCI, or other cardiac procedures such as valve surgery, awaiting coronary angiography in hospital.	Coronary angiogram	42	64.6	67.5	Baseline 1 week pre-angiography	60.0 (4.29) 57.7 (4.29)	46.3 (3.95) 48.8 (3.99)	57.5 (4.67) 54.3 (4.58)	83.1 (2.55) 79.4 (2.75)	47.7 (3.63) 42.3 (3.36)	0.746 (0.72–0.77) 0.724 (0.70–0.75)

Note: SAQ values include standard error; EQ-5D values include 95% confidence intervals.

Abbreviations: I, inclusion criteria; E, exclusion criteria; EF, ejection fraction; IHD, ischemic heart disease; LVEF, left ventricular ejection fraction; LDL, low-density lipoprotein; MI, myocardial infarction; NYHA class, New York Heart Association classification; CHF, congestive heart failure; Mets, metabolic equivalents; HF, heart failure; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; CABG, coronary artery bypass graft; CCS, Canadian Cardiovascular Society; NA, not available; SAQ, Seattle Angina Questionnaire; PL, physical limitation; TS, treatment satisfaction; AF, angina frequency; AS, angina stability; DP, disease perception; EQ-5D, European Quality of Life-5 Dimensions; QTc, corrected QT.

Table 2 Acute coronary syndrome, MI, and acute chest pain

Reference	Inclusion/exclusion	Intervention/ Subgroup	n	Mean age, years	Gender (% male)	Time point	PL	AS	AF	TS	DP	EQ-5D
Arnold et al ¹	(I) Myocardial ischemia at rest for ≥ 10 minutes presenting within the previous 48 hours, and elevated biomarkers of myocardial necrosis, ST depression of at least 0.1 mV, diabetes mellitus or a TIMI risk score of ≥ 3. (E) Persistent ST segment elevation, successful revascularization before randomization, and ECG abnormalities that interfere with interpretation of ischemia.	I. Prior history of angina	3,565	66.0 (median)	62.6	Baseline	54.5 (0.57)	30.8 (0.70)	52.1 (0.63)	77.5 (0.43)	37.7 (0.45)	0.708 (0.70–0.72)
		A. Ranolazine				Baseline	54.1 (0.57)	30.6 (0.72)	51.2 (0.65)	77.5 (0.44)	37.5 (0.47)	0.706 (0.69–0.72)
		B. Placebo										
		2. No prior history of angina	2,995	62.0 (median)	68.0							
Arnold et al ²	(I) ≥ 18 years, symptoms of myocardial ischemia at rest lasting at least 10 minutes and present within the previous 48 hours, and had at least one of: elevated biomarkers of myocardial necrosis, ST depression of ≥ 0.1 mV, diabetes mellitus or a TIMI risk score of ≥ 3. (E) Persistent ST segment elevation, revascularization before randomization, and ECG abnormalities that would interfere with interpretation of Holter monitoring for ischemia.	A. Ranolazine				Baseline	73.0 (0.65)	39.2 (0.70)	76.4 (0.64)	85.9 (0.40)	47.6 (0.54)	0.793 (0.78–0.80)
		B. Placebo				Baseline	73.5 (0.65)	40.2 (0.74)	76.7 (0.62)	86.5 (0.41)	48.4 (0.54)	0.796 (0.79–0.81)
		Rose Dyspnea Scale: 0	972	59.5	75.3	1 month	97.6 (0.31)	54.7 (0.50)	95.4 (0.40)	92.5 (0.37)	83.0 (0.54)	0.942 (0.93–0.95)
		Rose Dyspnea Scale: 1	318	59.7	67.3	1 month	93.1 (0.84)	56.9 (1.03)	92.7 (0.82)	90.0 (0.71)	76.8 (1.11)	0.914 (0.90–0.93)
		Rose Dyspnea Scale: 2	205	60.9	61.5	1 month	89.1 (1.36)	55.6 (1.45)	88.0 (1.32)	90.8 (0.87)	71.0 (1.57)	0.889 (0.88–0.90)
		Rose Dyspnea Scale: 3	170	60.7	57.6	1 month	80.0 (1.85)	57.9 (1.77)	86.0 (1.53)	86.9 (1.18)	65.8 (2.06)	0.855 (0.84–0.87)
Petersen et al ²²	(I) Persistent ST segment elevation, revascularization before randomization, and ECG abnormalities that would interfere with interpretation of Holter monitoring for ischemia.	Rose Dyspnea Scale: 4	170	60.6	64.1	1 month	60.5 (2.35)	56.1 (1.83)	81.1 (1.90)	85.7 (1.18)	58.4 (2.23)	0.795 (0.78–0.81)
Asadi-Lari et al ³	(I) Discharge diagnosis of acute MI. (I) Admitted to acute cardiac unit with chest pain.		408	65.5	71.0	2–3 years	73.0 (1.23)	68.0 (1.29)	86.0 (1.10)	81.0 (1.09)	72.0 (1.15)	0.851 (0.84–0.86)
		1. Women	242	69.7	59.0	Baseline	49.3 (2.79)	48.1 (1.92)	73.9 (3.00)	84.2 (2.11)	57.7 (2.70)	0.765 (0.75–0.79)
		2. Men				Baseline	55.1 (2.45)	53.2 (1.61)	75.6 (2.34)	87.6 (1.46)	63.1 (2.13)	0.791 (0.77–0.81)

Notes: SAQ values include standard error; EQ-5D values include 95% confidence intervals.

Abbreviations: I, inclusion criteria; E, exclusion criteria; TIMI, Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction; ECG, electrocardiogram; SAQ, Seattle Angina Questionnaire; PL, physical limitation; TS, treatment satisfaction; AF, angina frequency; AS, angina stability; DP, disease perception; EQ-5D, European Quality of Life-5 Dimensions.

Table 3 Revascularization

Reference	Inclusion/Exclusion	Intervention/Subgroup	n	Mean age	Gender (% male)	Time point	PL	AS	AF	TS	DP	EQ-5D
Zhang et al ⁴⁸	(I) Multivessel IHD, revascularization was clinically indicated and appropriate.	1. PCI	488	61.0	80.0	Baseline	56.6 (1.02)	47.4 (1.45)	55.8 (1.26)	86.7 (0.65)	39.5 (0.90)	0.720 (0.71–0.73)
	(E) Previous revascularization, thoracotomy, intervention for pathology of the valves, great vessels, or aorta.	2. CABG	500	62.0	78.0	Baseline	54.3 (0.98)	45.0 (1.41)	53.8 (1.25)	86.2 (0.67)	37.0 (0.91)	0.708 (0.70–0.72)
Andréll et al ¹⁸	(I) Refractory and severe stable angina (CCS class III–IV) despite optimal conventional pharmacological therapy.	1. Refractory angina	139	70.0	73.0	Baseline	51.9 (2.16)	50.3 (2.83)	48.4 (3.09)	66.9 (2.65)	46 (2.63)	0.710 (0.69–0.73)
		2. Stable angina and revascularization	139	72.0	73.0	1 year	55.8 (2.39)	59.4 (3.77)	60.7 (4.45)	72.7 (2.76)	53.4 (3.09)	0.747 (0.73–0.77)
Kim et al ⁴⁹	(I) Chest pain at rest, documented electrocardiographic or arteriographic evidence of IHD.	1. Early interventional strategy – maximal medical therapy and early coronary arteriography with possible myocardial revascularization.	895	63.0	61.0	4 months	66 (3.43)	71.7 (4.60)	80.9 (4.11)	78.5 (3.51)	64.4 (4.21)	0.813 (0.79–0.84)
		2. Conservative strategy – maximal medical therapy and ischemia – or symptom-provoked angiography and revascularization.	915	62.0	64.0	4 months	75.4 (0.90)	70.3 (1.00)	80.2 (0.90)	90.1 (0.50)	72.1 (0.90)	0.853 (0.84–0.86)
Hofer et al ⁵⁰	(I) Patients with angina symptoms referred for angiographic screening of IHD. Following angiogram treatment decision (CABG, PCI, or medical management) was made as per clinical indication.	1. All patients	158	64.5	67.7	Baseline	76.9 (1.00)	67.7 (1.00)	82.4 (0.90)	91.2 (0.50)	75.9 (0.90)	0.868 (0.86–0.88)
		2. CCS class I	22	NA	NA	Baseline	69.8 (0.90)	63.9 (1.00)	72.6 (0.90)	86.3 (0.50)	64.4 (0.80)	0.816 (0.81–0.82)
Graham et al ²⁶	(I) IHD.	3. CCS class II	20	NA	NA	Baseline	73.3 (1.00)	63.7 (1.00)	78.0 (0.90)	88.6 (0.50)	71.2 (0.90)	0.845 (0.84–0.85)
	(E) Undergoing investigation for valvular heart disease, without IHD on angiography, no consent for follow-up.	4. CCS class III	62	NA	NA	Baseline	61.6 (2.99)	53.9 (2.68)	45.0 (1.92)	84.7 (1.35)	48.9 (2.08)	0.738 (0.72–0.76)
		5. CCS class IV	54	NA	NA	Baseline	63.7 (2.13)	68.4 (2.44)	72.7 (2.18)	82.5 (0.46)	64.7 (2.16)	0.803 (0.79–0.82)
		1. Age <70 years: A. Medical therapy	3,488	59.2 (median)	68.9	1 year	64.9 (9.45)	57.1 (11.19)	40.0 (10.41)	89.6 (3.85)	51.9 (9.86)	0.747 (0.68–0.81)
						Baseline	67.9 (6.48)	46.4 (10.15)	54.2 (8.51)	89.5 (3.48)	53.2 (7.44)	0.774 (0.73–0.82)
						Baseline	61.5 (3.90)	61.1 (4.71)	44.9 (4.27)	85.0 (2.34)	55.3 (3.77)	0.751 (0.72–0.78)
						Baseline	60.5 (4.47)	54.7 (4.66)	45.1 (3.72)	84.8 (2.52)	41.7 (3.61)	0.719 (0.69–0.75)
						Baseline	72.8 (0.18)	75.3 (0.07)	84.1 (0.10)	84.4 (0.05)	71.1 (0.07)	0.846 (0.84–0.85)

(Continued)

Table 3 (Continued)

Reference	Inclusion/exclusion	Intervention/Subgroup	n	Mean age	Gender (% male)	Time point	PL	AS	AF	TS	DP	EQ-5D
Neil et al ²¹	(I) Age 21–81 years, with stable or unstable angina and a positive functional study for ischemia or undergoing angioplasty after a recent MI with target lesions that were potentially treatable by balloon angioplasty or a stent	B. CABG	1,697	61.6 (median)	83.9	3 years	73.5	74.9	84.6	84.8	71.6	0.849
							(0.18)	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.05)	(0.07)	(0.84–0.86)
							74.2	78.6	86.2	86.9	73.3	0.856
							(0.26)	(0.10)	(0.13)	(0.05)	(0.10)	(0.85–0.86)
		C. PCI	2,698	59.1 (median)	78.4	3 years	74.7	78.1	86.6	87.1	74.0	0.859
							(0.28)	(0.10)	(0.13)	(0.07)	(0.10)	(0.85–0.87)
							74.9	76.7	85.4	85.5	72.5	0.855
							(0.20)	(0.07)	(0.10)	(0.05)	(0.07)	(0.85–0.86)
		2. Age 70–79 years: A. Medical therapy	1,302	73.9 (median)	62.7	3 years	75.5	76.2	85.8	85.9	73.0	0.858
							(0.18)	(0.70)	(0.07)	(0.05)	(0.07)	(0.85–0.86)
							62.1	77.0	83.0	86.3	74.9	0.833
							(0.36)	(0.15)	(0.15)	(0.07)	(0.15)	(0.82–0.84)
		B. CABG	819	73.6 (median)	77.2	3 years	62.2	76.7	83.6	86.6	75.1	0.835
							(0.41)	(0.13)	(0.15)	(0.07)	(0.15)	(0.83–0.84)
							63.3	80.5	85.5	88.6	77.3	0.844
							(0.46)	(0.18)	(0.52)	(0.10)	(0.18)	(0.84–0.85)
		C. PCI	819	73.9 (median)	68.1	3 years	62.9	80.0	85.9	88.9	77.4	0.844
							(0.49)	(0.18)	(0.20)	(0.10)	(0.18)	(0.84–0.85)
							63.2	78.2	84.0	87.1	75.8	0.839
							(0.44)	(0.18)	(0.20)	(0.10)	(0.15)	(0.83–0.85)
		3. Age ≥80 years: A. Medical therapy	220	82.4 (median)	65.5	3 years	63.1	77.8	84.5	87.4	76.0	0.840
							(0.46)	(0.15)	(0.20)	(0.10)	(0.18)	(0.83–0.85)
							51.9	75.0	79.9	87.9	73.5	0.808
							(1.01)	(0.33)	(0.41)	(0.20)	(0.36)	(0.80–0.82)
		B. CABG	82	81.8 (median)	74.4	3 years	53.8	76.8	81.2	88.3	74.2	0.815
							(1.27)	(0.39)	(0.44)	(0.23)	(0.39)	(0.80–0.83)
							53.7	78.1	82.2	89.6	75.3	0.818
							(1.56)	(0.54)	(0.62)	(0.31)	(0.54)	(0.81–0.83)
		C. PCI	137	82.1 (median)	56.2	3 years	54.2	80.3	83.8	90.1	76.2	0.823
							(1.69)	(0.52)	(0.62)	(0.33)	(0.59)	(0.81–0.83)
							51.9	74.7	79.3	88.0	72.9	0.806
							(1.06)	(0.41)	(0.46)	(0.23)	(0.44)	(0.80–0.82)
		1. Primary stent	230	61.0 (median)	75.0	6 months	53.3	76.9	81.0	88.7	73.9	0.813
							(1.25)	(0.41)	(0.46)	(0.23)	(0.44)	(0.80–0.82)
							84.0	82.0	90.0	88.0	77.0	0.887
							(1.51)	(1.84)	(1.18)	(1.18)	(1.45)	(0.88–0.90)
		2. Optimal PTCA/provisional stent	249	60.0 (median)	72.0	6 months	86.0	83.0	90.0	91.0	77.0	0.892
							(1.33)	(1.58)	(1.07)	(0.82)	(1.33)	(0.88–0.90)

de Quadros et al ³⁷	(I) IHD. (E) Unsuccessful procedures (a residual stenosis >30% or TIMI flow 0/1 after stenting, or in-hospital major adverse cardiovascular events (death, MI, or urgent revascularization), severe cardiac disease other than IHD, ejection fraction <40%, severe neurologic disease, neoplasia, pregnancy, periprocedural hemodynamic instability, patient refusal.	PCI	110	62.8	68.0	Baseline	59.0 (1.71)	30.0 (2.47)	56.0 (2.38)	80.0 (2.09)	30.0 (2.09)	0.704 (0.69–0.72)
						6 months	79.0 (1.04)	81.0 (2.66)	86.0 (2.09)	91.0 (1.33)	64.0 (2.38)	0.845 (0.83–0.86)
						1 year	80.0 (1.00)	90.0 (2.61)	93.0 (1.30)	94.0 (0.90)	83.0 (2.21)	0.897 (0.88–0.91)
Wong and Chair ³⁸	(I) Chinese, ≥21 years old, no mental disorder, no prior PCI, understand and speak Cantonese, no severe medical illness.	PCI	65	66.0	75.4	Baseline	67.6 (2.30)	62.5 (3.62)	74.2 (3.34)	75.5 (1.51)	55.8 (2.93)	0.790 (0.77–0.81)
						1 month	74.2 (3.24)	65.5 (2.80)	91.5 (0.76)	85.6 (1.91)	77.1 (2.75)	0.873 (0.85–0.89)
Weintraub et al ³⁹	(I) >70% stenosis in at least one major epicardial coronary artery with objective evidence of myocardial ischemia or >80% stenosis in at least one coronary artery and classic angina without provocative testing.	1. PCI + OMT	1,149	61.5	85.0	Baseline	66.0 (0.81)	54.0 (1.06)	68.0 (0.83)	88.0 (0.48)	51.0 (0.80)	0.776 (0.77–0.79)
						1 month	73.0 (0.82)	81.0 (0.88)	82.0 (0.77)	92.0 (0.40)	68.0 (0.81)	0.839 (0.83–0.85)
						3 months	76 (0.82)	77 (0.95)	85 (0.75)	92 (0.41)	73 (0.75)	0.869 (0.86–0.87)
						6 months	77.0 (0.77)	76.0 (0.94)	87.0 (0.66)	92.0 (0.43)	75.0 (0.73)	0.869 (0.86–0.88)
						1 year	75.0 (0.82)	74.0 (0.92)	87.0 (0.64)	92.0 (0.40)	76.0 (0.71)	0.868 (0.86–0.88)
						2 years	74 (0.88)	73 (0.99)	89 (0.65)	92 (0.47)	77 (0.80)	0.871 (0.86–0.88)
						3 years	74.0 (1.00)	72.0 (1.16)	89.0 (0.74)	92.0 (0.49)	79.0 (0.82)	0.876 (0.87–0.88)
						Baseline	66.0 (0.81)	53.0 (1.02)	69.0 (0.83)	86.0 (0.51)	51.0 (0.80)	0.777 (0.77–0.79)
		2. OMT	1,138	61.8	85.0	1 month	70.0 (0.82)	73.0 (0.94)	76.0 (0.80)	88.0 (0.50)	62.0 (0.80)	0.813 (0.81–0.82)
						3 months	72 (0.79)	73.0 (0.92)	80.0 (0.78)	90.0 (0.47)	68 (0.78)	0.836 (0.83–0.84)
						6 months	72.0 (0.83)	73.0 (0.97)	83.0 (0.75)	90.0 (0.48)	70.0 (0.75)	0.844 (0.84–0.85)
						1 year	73.0 (0.84)	70.0 (0.98)	84.0 (0.72)	90.0 (0.48)	73.0 (0.76)	0.854 (0.85–0.86)
						2 years	72 (0.89)	69 (1.00)	86.0 (0.70)	92.0 (0.48)	76 (0.81)	0.862 (0.85–0.87)
						3 years	74.0 (0.99)	70.0 (1.16)	88.0 (0.74)	92.0 (0.45)	77.0 (0.82)	0.870 (0.86–0.88)

(Continued)

Table 3 (Continued)

Reference	Inclusion/exclusion	Intervention/Subgroup	n	Mean age	Gender (% male)	Time point	PL	AS	AF	TS	DP	EQ-5D
Agarwal et al ²⁷	(I) Age ≥ 80 years, undergoing I or 2 vessel PCI.	PCI	74	82.5	68.0	Baseline 6 months 1 year	24.4 (3.82) 42.3 (2.55) 41.4 (2.68)	50.0 (6.61) 72.4 (3.54) 66.3 (4.01)	45.8 (6.51) 76.5 (3.67) 73.5 (4.11)	74.3 (3.85) 83.7 (1.77) 83.7 (2.08)	38.8 (4.97) 66.7 (3.04) 62.3 (3.30)	0.640 (0.61–0.67) 0.769 (0.75–0.79) 0.756 (0.73–0.78)
Lowe et al ¹⁹	(I) Severe stable angina (CCS class III or IV) despite maximum tolerated doses of at least two antianginal drugs, a left-ventricular ejection fraction of $\geq 30\%$, and reversible perfusion defects on the thallium stress test.	PCI	11	59.0 (median)	82.0	Baseline Pre-PCI Post PCI	38.0 (3.01) 37.0 (4.52) 36.0 (4.82)	42.0 (6.03) 43.0 (8.74) 60.0 (9.64)	40.0 (6.93) 49.0 (6.33) 61.0 (8.74)	63.0 (6.33) 76.0 (6.33) 80.0 (6.33)	21.0 (3.91) 38.0 (8.14) 45.0 (8.44)	0.616 (0.59–0.65) 0.668 (0.62–0.71) 0.692 (0.64–0.74)
Ascone et al ³²	(I) Conventional or off-pump CABG. (E) LVEF $< 30\%$, recent MI within 1 month (trial 1 of 2 only), history of supraventricular arrhythmia, previous CABG, renal or respiratory impairment, previous stroke, transient ischemic attack, coagulopathy, coronary disease in the branches of the circumflex artery distal to the first obtuse marginal branch (trial 1 of 2 only).	1. Conventional CABG 2. Off-pump CABG	159 169	61.4 63.1	81.1 83.4	2–4 years 2–4 years	75.2 (2.03) 74.7 (1.88)	69.6 (2.66) 66.3 (2.81)	86.8 (1.83) 85.1 (1.79)	88.1 (1.72) 88.6 (1.28)	74.8 (2.01) 74.4 (1.79)	0.865 (0.85–0.88) 0.862 (0.85–0.88)
Angelini et al ³³	(I) Conventional or off-pump CABG. (E) LVEF $< 30\%$, recent MI within 1 month (trial 1 of 2 only), history of supraventricular arrhythmia, previous CABG, renal or respiratory impairment, previous stroke, transient ischemic attack, coagulopathy, coronary disease in the branches of the circumflex artery distal to the first obtuse marginal branch (trial 1 of 2 only).	1. Conventional CABG 2. Off-pump CABG	149 150	60.9 62.1	86.6 84.7	6 years, 11 months (mean) 6 years, 11 months (mean)	72.4 (2.21) 75.0 (2.18)	45.6 (3.77) 46.5 (3.67)	88.8 (1.90) 89.6 (1.67)	89.2 (1.96) 91.5 (1.55)	74.0 (2.37) 77.0 (2.15)	0.866 (0.85–0.88) 0.879 (0.86–0.90)
Karolak et al ³⁴	(I) Conventional or off-pump CABG. (E) Reoperation, emergency CABG, concomitant major cardiac procedures, and EF $< 30\%$.	1. Conventional CABG 2. Off-pump CABG	150 149	63.7 62.2	80.0 81.2	1 year 1 year	80.0 (1.06) 78.0 (1.88)	86.0 (1.95) 86.0 (1.88)	91.0 (1.55) 92.0 (1.14)	79.0 (1.46) 79.0 (1.63)	81.0 (1.87) 81.0 (1.72)	0.886 (0.87–0.90) 0.883 (0.87–0.90)

Chaudhury et al ³⁵	(I) Admitted to hospital for CABG, consented to participate in the study.	CABG	30	60.0	90.0	Baseline	71.6 (1.44)	9.8 (2.31)	9.9 (1.62)	37.8 (1.11)	22.6 (0.89)	0.653 (0.63–0.68)
						1 week	53.1 (2.66)	8.3 (2.20)	5.8 (1.77)	59.4 (0.76)	36.1 (0.94)	0.653 (0.63–0.68)
Wagner et al ³⁶	(I) Veterans: non-emergent first time CABG surgery. (E) Single-vessel bypass with the internal mammary artery, concerns about arm functioning, creatinine level requiring hemodialysis or a level higher than 2.0 mg/dL, cardiogenic shock, allergic reactions to contrast material, robotic surgery, concomitant valve surgery,* concomitant Dor or Maze procedure,** no suitable radial target, participation in other research studies involving an intervention.	1. Saphenous vein CABG 2. Radial artery CABG	367 366	62.0 61.0	99.0 99.0	Baseline 1 year	71.9 (0.99) 86.1 (0.82) 69.5 (1.05) 83.3 (0.95)	37.9 (1.12) 51.8 (0.64) 37.0 (1.08) 52.7 (0.67)	65.1 (1.15) 92.5 (0.65) 64.7 (1.16) 91.7 (0.70)	91.2 (0.54) 94.1 (0.54) 92.0 (0.51) 93.8 (0.57)	50.4 (1.02) 83.3 (0.84) 50.1 (1.07) 83.6 (0.86)	0.788 (0.78–0.80) 0.918 (0.91–0.93) 0.783 (0.77–0.80) 0.912 (0.90–0.92)
MacDonald et al ²⁸	(I) Age ≥ 75 years, candidates for CABG.	CABG	100	78.8	66.0	Baseline 3 months	40.2 (2.12) 63.8 (2.44)	51.8 (3.41) 92.7 (1.69)	53.8 (2.97) 93.4 (1.45)	92.5 (1.49) 93.3 (1.39)	40.3 (1.81) 82.3 (2.05)	0.689 (0.67–0.71) 0.863 (0.85–0.88)
Gelsomino et al ²³	(I) Age ≥ 70 years, undergoing cardiac surgical procedures.	1. Age ≥ 80 years	1,142	83.0	49.0	Baseline 5 years, 9 months (median)	42.0 (4.42) 77.0 (7.55)	32.0 (7.03) 67.0 (6.51)	42.0 (8.59) 79.0 (6.25)	52.0 (4.16) 76.0 (5.20)	29.0 (3.12) 76.0 (3.64)	0.643 (0.61–0.68) 0.859 (0.82–0.90)
		2. Age 70–79 years	1,213	72.0	68.9	Baseline 5 years, 9 months (median)	44.0 (5.72) 83.0 (9.63)	35.0 (7.03) 94.0 (4.42)	39.0 (7.03) 92.0 (5.46)	51.0 (4.16) 88.0 (5.98)	34.0 (3.12) 93.0 (4.68)	0.655 (0.62–0.69) 0.918 (0.87–0.96)
Fruitman et al ²⁹	(I) Age ≥ 80 years, accepted for cardiac surgical procedures at a peer review conference. (E) Preoperative neurological diseases.	CABG	127	83.0	49.6	1 year, 4 months (mean)	86.8 (2.84)	94.4 (1.86)	92.3 (2.14)	89.3 (1.92)	91.9 (1.84)	0.928 (0.91–0.95)

Notes: SAQ values include standard error, EQ-5D values include 95% confidence intervals. * Valve surgery is aortic or mitral valve replacement/repair. ** Dor or Maze is for treatment of atrial fibrillation.

Abbreviations: I, inclusion criteria; E, exclusion criteria; IHD, ischemic heart disease; LVEF, left ventricular ejection fraction; MI, myocardial infarction; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; CABG, coronary artery bypass graft; CCS, Canadian Cardiovascular Society; PTCA, percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty; TIMI, Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction; OMT, optimal medical therapy; SAQ, Seattle Angina Questionnaire; PL, physical limitation; TS, treatment satisfaction; AF, atrial fibrillation; AS, aortic stenosis; DP, disease perception; EQ-5D, European Quality of Life-5 Dimensions.

utility weights inputted are reflective of the population being studied. Our catalog provides detailed information on the population being evaluated, as well as interventions, which will provide researchers with the information needed such that they can utilize the most appropriate utility weights when developing economic models.

Our mapping algorithm was designed to estimate EQ-5D scores using the scores and standard errors in all five domains of the SAQ.⁹ An important limitation is that we had to exclude studies that did not publish scores on all five domains of the SAQ. However, our final catalog included estimated EQ-5D scores across a wide range of baseline patient demographics, disease severity, and various treatment interventions. A weakness of our systematic review is that we failed to capture studies that did not use the name of the SAQ scale in the text of the paper and failed to cite the source of the questionnaire.

In conclusion, in the current era of budgetary constraints, cost-effectiveness analysis has become increasingly important in decision-making for health resource allocation. In the absence of directly measured individual patient preference-based data, our catalog of estimated EQ-5D scores can be useful in IHD-related economic evaluations.

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Author contributions

HCW was involved in the conception, design, acquisition, analysis and interpretation of the data, and critically revised the manuscript. SFZ was involved in the conception and design, acquisition of data, and interpretation of the data, and drafted the manuscript. WW was involved in conception of the study, performed the systematic search, and revised the manuscript critically. MCB was involved in the acquisition of data, analysis and interpretation of data, and revised the manuscript critically. All authors approved the final manuscript for publication and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work.

Disclosure

The authors report no competing interests in this work.

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Supplementary material

The following method describes the search strategy used to collect the references analyzed in this study. This strategy had three primary facets, outlined below.

- Identification of materials in the primary databases of medical literature that referenced the Seattle Angina Questionnaire. These databases were MEDLINE (Ovid), EMBASE (Elsevier), OVID HealthStar, MEDLINE (PubMed), and the Cochrane Library (Wiley).
- Use of the citation mapping tools Google Scholar (Google), Scopus (Elsevier), and Web of Science (Thomson Reuters), to find all available references to the paper in which Seattle Angina Questionnaire was first described by John Spertus et al in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* in 1995. The search strategy was to locate the original article by Spertus et al and export the references that the tool identified as having cited that article.
- Use of the major clinical trial registries to determine the studies that used the SAQ as an outcome measure. These registries have simple search functions, and so our search terms were “Seattle Angina Questionnaire” or “SAQ”. The strategy then underwent peer review by a librarian experienced in the creation and review of systematic search strategies.

Search strategy

The following search strategy was applied to MEDLINE (Ovid), HealthStar (Ovid), and EMBASE (Ovid). It was adapted for use in PubMed by updating the syntax to match that offered in the PubMed search tool. When searching the Cochrane Library, only the words “Seattle Angina Questionnaire” were used. Databases were searched from inception until 2013.

1. (Development and evaluation of the Seattle Angina Questionnaire: a new functional status measure for coronary artery disease).m_titl.
2. seattle angina questionnaire.mp.
3. seattle angina questionnaire.tw.
4. (seattle adj3 angina).af.
5. (angina adj3 questionnaire).af.
6. saq.mp.
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