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Safety and Efficacy of Aneurysm Treatment with the WEB

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AJNR Am J Neuroradiol 2017, 38 (12) E109

doi: <https://doi.org/10.3174/ajnr.A5387>

<http://www.ajnr.org/content/38/12/E109>

This information is current as
of August 8, 2025.

Safety and Efficacy of Aneurysm Treatment with the WEB

We read with interest the article by Pierot et al¹ regarding the results of the WEBCAST 2 study. We do, however, take issue with the statement that it confirms the “high” efficacy of the device. They reported a complete occlusion rate of 54% and “adequate” occlusion, including neck remnants, in 80% of 50 aneurysms (93% unruptured). The complete occlusion rate from neurosurgical clipping in the largest randomized controlled trials of coiling versus clipping of ruptured aneurysms was 96%.^{2,3} A meta-analysis of clipping of unruptured aneurysms showed a complete occlusion rate of 92%.⁴ Although the decision to proceed with endovascular therapy in WEBCAST was made by a multidisciplinary team, it may be wise to temper one’s enthusiasm for novel endovascular devices when open neurosurgical treatment may offer a truly “high” level of efficacy.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.3174/ajnr.A5387>

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