

Supplementary table 3: Subgroup analysis for post-operative back pain

		N studies; MD (95%-CI) [I ²]					
		Endo-LIF vs MIS-LIF			Endo-LIF vs Open-LIF		
		Early back VAS	Intermediate back VAS	Late back VAS	Early back VAS	Intermediate back VAS	Late back VAS
Variable	Number of Endo-LIF portals						
	1	N=10; -1.0 (-0.2;0.0) [0%]	N=6; -0.1 (-0.2;0.1) [0%]	N=15; -0.2 (-0.3;0.0) [38%]	N=5; -1.1 (-1.4;-0.7) [65%]	N=5; -0.6 (-1.3;0.1) [92%]	N=5; -0.3 (-0.5;-0.1) [68%]
	2	N=1; -0.1 (-0.4;0.2)	-	N=2; -0.2 (-0.4;0.1) [0%]	N=1; -0.7 (-1.2;-0.2)	N=1; 0.0 (-0.4;0.3)	N=1; -0.3 (-0.7;0.1) [0%]
	Type of Endo-LIF approach						
	Interlaminar	N=2; -0.2 (-0.5;0.2) [47%]	N=1; -0.2 (-0.4;0.1)	N=5; -0.3 (-0.5;-0.1) [57%]	N=3; -1.0 (-1.2;-0.8) [11%]	N=3; -0.3 (-0.5;-0.1) [52%]	N=3; -0.5 (-0.6;-0.3) [0%] *
	Transforaminal	N=8; -0.1 (-0.2;0.0) [0%]	N=4; 0.0 (-0.2;0.2) [0%]	N=11; -0.1 (-0.2;0.0) [0%]	N=3; -1.1 (-1.7;-0.5) [81%]	N=3; -0.7 (-2.0;0.6) [96%]	N=3; -0.1 (-0.2;0.1) [0%] *
	Mixed	N=1; 0.0 (-0.4;0.4)	N=1; 0.0 (-0.4;0.3)	N=1; 0.0 (-0.4;0.4)	-	-	-

Legend: (*) – p-value<0.05; (-) – missing data; CI – Confidence interval; Endo – endoscopic; I² – heterogeneity; LIF – lumbar interbody fusion; MD – mean difference; MIS – minimally invasive surgery; VAS – Visual analog scale