Response to Letter Regarding Article, “Endovascular Thrombectomy for Anterior Circulation Stroke: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis”

We thank Lahiri et al1 for their careful review of our article, “Endovascular Thrombectomy for Anterior Circulation Stroke: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis,” for identifying this error and for your thoughtful comments. The statement in the abstract that patients who did not receive intravenous tissue-type plasminogen activator before endovascular therapy benefited from endovascular therapy was in error, for as you pointed out, the confidence intervals crossed unity. We thank you for correcting this error.

We also agree that although this meta-analysis did not show clear benefit for the subgroup of patients not receiving tissue-type plasminogen activator, the primary outcome of our meta-analysis (which included both patients who did and did not receive intravenous tissue-type plasminogen activator) favored thrombectomy, and consequently that there is no change to the overall conclusion that endovascular therapy is beneficial for patients with stroke who fall within the clinical guidelines.

Disclosures
Dr Derdeyn is a Consultant to Microvention, Inc., Silk Road, Inc., and Penumbra, Inc. Dr Derdeyn is a Stock Ownership in Pulse Therapeutics. The other authors report no conflicts.

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The online version of this article, along with updated information and services, is located on the World Wide Web at:
http://stroke.ahajournals.org/content/46/12/e259