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1 **Type II Endoleak after Endovascular Aneurysm Repair: natural history and**  
2 **treatment outcomes**

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14

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16

17 **Abstract**

18 *Objective:* The natural history of type II endoleaks and linkage to aneurysm rupture is unclear.  
19 Likewise, treatment recommendations are controversial. The aim of this study was to  
20 examine the incidence, factors associated with type II endoleaks and outcomes in an Australia  
21 cohort of patients who have undergone endovascular AAA repair (EVAR).

22 *Methods:* Data from 693 patients who underwent EVAR between 2009 and 2013 at multiple  
23 institutions across Australia were studied. Patients who developed a) type II endoleak and b)  
24 type II endoleak with sac expansion, were compared for preoperative demographics,  
25 mortality, sac expansion, aneurysm rupture and intervention rates.

26 *Results:* A total of 225 patients developed type II endoleak over a mean follow-up of 1.9 years  
27 ( $\pm 1.0$  years), out of which 133 spontaneously resolved, 37 were untreated unresolved and 16  
28 underwent intervention. Type I and III endoleaks occurred in 50 and 19 patients respectively.  
29 Smoking ( $p=0.002$ ) and Warfarin ( $p=0.044$ ) were protective factors for development of type  
30 II endoleak whilst age ( $p=0.034$ ), right iliac artery tortuosity ( $p=0.031$ ), and right ( $p=0.008$ ) and  
31 left external iliac diameters ( $p=0.028$ ) were risk factors for endoleak. Three patients suffered  
32 aneurysm ruptures in the entire cohort. All ruptures occurred in type II endoleak patients, of  
33 which two occurred after reintervention and in the absence of sac expansion ( $>5\text{mm}$ ). Late  
34 type II endoleak occurred in 117 patients, out of which 26 had sac expansion. Of those without  
35 late type II endoleak, 25 has sac expansion. There was no statistically significant difference in  
36 survival between those with and without type II endoleak. Age ( $p<0.0001$ ) and smoking  
37 ( $p=0.001$ ) were significant independent predictive factors for survival in this patient sample.  
38 Treatment outcomes were encouraging with most cases involving endoleak resolution (15 of

39 16 patients) and no sac expansion post intervention (0 of 8 patients with complete follow-up  
40 info on sac size).

41 *Conclusion:* Aneurysm rupture in patients with type II endoleak is uncommon in our series.  
42 Type II endoleak with sac expansion does not appear to be associated with aneurysm rupture.  
43 In this series, most aneurysm ruptures occurred in the absence of documented sac expansion  
44 and after reintervention.

45

46 **Key words:** endoleak, type II, endovascular, aneurysm rupture

47

## 48 1. Introduction

49 Type II endoleak (T2EL) is the commonest complication of endovascular aneurysm repair (EVAR) and  
50 due to an insufficient understanding of its role in aneurysm sac rupture, optimum treatment  
51 recommendations are presently uncertain.

52 The risk of sac expansion in patients with type II endoleak is unclear<sup>1</sup>. Sac expansion of 5mm has been  
53 reported to be associated with aneurysm rupture<sup>2</sup>, but according to a more recent review by Sidloff  
54 et al, in over one third of patients with type II endoleak who suffer aneurysm ruptures, this occurs in  
55 the absence of documented sac expansion<sup>1</sup>. This suggests that there may be other unidentified factors  
56 involved in the mechanism of aneurysm rupture in type II endoleak and highlights the concern of using  
57 sac expansion as a surrogate marker for risk of aneurysm rupture in management of type II endoleak.

58 Treatment outcomes for type II endoleak are also suboptimal, with recurrence of type II endoleak  
59 found in a third of patients following transarterial embolizations and around one fifth following  
60 translumbar embolizations. A large proportion of patients are found to have persistent sac expansion  
61 despite either treatment of type II endoleak.<sup>1</sup>.

62 The current guidelines of the European Society of Vascular Surgery recommend a conservative  
63 approach to managing type II endoleak which involves reintervention with increased sac diameter  $\geq 10$   
64 mm, with conversion to open surgery if endovascular treatment fails (level 2b)<sup>3</sup>. There are studies  
65 however, that recommend more aggressive approaches to treatment, such as intervening at  $\geq 5\text{mm}$ <sup>4</sup>,  
66 or in cases of persistent or recurrent type II endoleak regardless of sac expansion<sup>5,6</sup>.

67 It is therefore important to clarify the natural history of type II endoleak and treatment outcomes,  
68 which will guide the establishment of more appropriate treatment guidelines.

69 The key objectives of this present study are to evaluate the incidence, outcomes, predictive factors  
70 and treatment success of type II endoleak in patients who have undergone EVAR for infrarenal AAA in

71 Australia with particular reference to rates of sac expansion, death, interventions, aneurysm rupture  
72 and treatment success. This will assist with the development of better treatment recommendations.

73

## 74 2. Materials and Methods

75

76 Data were collected prospectively between 2009 and 2013 in this multicenter study from 67 surgeons  
77 at 29 institutions throughout Australia. Institutions included both public tertiary centers and private  
78 hospitals. A total of 693 patients who underwent EVAR for infrarenal AAAs were entered onto a  
79 prospective database which was analysed retrospectively. Collected data included perioperative  
80 demographics and follow-up information such as aneurysm size, detection of type II endoleak, deaths,  
81 aneurysm ruptures, and treatments performed. The follow-up period was 3 years, with follow-up  
82 intervals of 1, 6, 12, 24 and 36 months. Ultrasound (USS) and Computed Tomographic Angiography  
83 (CTA) imaging were used during follow-up. Ethical clearance was obtained from the Queen Elizabeth  
84 Hospital Ethics of Human Research Committee, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and  
85 from all institutions contributing data to the EVAR trial.

86 Incidence of type II endoleak was defined by the presence of a type II endoleak at any point in the  
87 study, and included type II endoleaks combined with other endoleaks, e.g. type I and III endoleaks.  
88 Patients with combined type II endoleaks (two types of endoleaks) were included in the analysis of  
89 type II endoleak outcomes. The detection of type II endoleak is based on CTA and USS evidence, and  
90 the clinical judgment of the surgeon. Type II endoleak was further classified into early (demonstrated  
91 within 30 days) and late type II endoleak (type II endoleak occurring after 30 days). Sac expansion was  
92 defined as  $\geq 5$ mm increase in aneurysm diameter. Anything less was regarded as stable sac size. All  
93 Australian death data were obtained from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare National  
94 Death Index. Mortality was recorded in terms of overall, 30-day and twelve-month mortality rates.  
95 Survival analysis included variables with  $< 10\%$  incomplete data and involved two approaches. One  
96 approach was to assess the effects of Type II endoleak on survival reported as an unadjusted model  
97 along with a model adjusted for confounding factors. The other approach was to develop a model that  
98 contained significant, independent predictors of survival.

99 Preoperative Computed Tomographic Angiography (CTA) scans were prospectively reviewed for  
100 several anatomic variables which included aneurysm diameter, infrarenal neck length and diameter,  
101 infrarenal neck shape, aortic and aneurysm angles, diameters of iliac arteries, prevalence of aortic  
102 neck thrombus (as judged by the treating surgeon on the preoperative CTA),, presence of saccular  
103 aneurysm, occlusive aorto-iliac disease, arteries involved in the aneurysm sac, patency of Inferior  
104 Mesenteric Artery (IMA) and iliac tortuosity. Iliac tortuosity was defined as the extent of tortuosity of  
105 the common iliac arteries as assessed by the clinician using the following categories: none (i.e.  
106 straight), mild, moderate or severe. This scoring is subjective.

## 107 **2.1 Statistical analysis**

108 Statistical analyses were performed using SAS Version 9.3 (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC, USA) -. The data  
109 were summarized as means with standard deviations or percentages as appropriate. Group  
110 comparisons were made using Pearson's Chi-squared test or Fisher's exact test for categorical  
111 variables and Wilcoxon (Mann Whitney) test for continuous variables. The association between any  
112 Type II Endoleak and survival was summarized as median survival and assessed using a Cox  
113 Proportional Hazards model. Independent predictors of survival were identified using regression  
114 modelling. All tests were two-tailed and significance was assessed at  $p < 0.05$ .

## 115 **3. Results**

### 116 **3.1 Incidence of type II endoleak and preoperative variables**

117 Out of 693 patients in Australia who underwent EVAR, 225 patients developed a type II endoleak.  
118 Median follow-up was 1356 days (95% CI: 1303-1404 days) for the type II endoleak group and 1466  
119 days (95% CI: 1288-1576 days) for the no type II endoleak group ( $p=0.760$ ). Combined type II endoleaks  
120 occurred in 9 patients, with 6 patients having combined type I and II endoleaks and the other 3 having  
121 combined type II and III endoleaks. Type I and type III endoleaks occurred in 50 and 19 patients  
122 respectively. The majority of the grafts were Zenith (Cook) grafts (67%) and the aorto-bi-iliac-bifurcated



123 configuration was used in over 90% of cases. The prevalence of type II endoleaks was higher in patients  
124 treated with the Excluder (Gore) device (54.2%) when compared to Zenith (Cook) (32.2%) and  
125 Endurant (Medtronic) (26.0%) devices (P=0.001). While the Excluder device was used in only 8% of  
126 patients, it accounted for 14% of type II endoleaks.

127 During the procedure, 124 type II endoleaks were detected. At first postoperative imaging and on  
128 discharge, 71 cases of type II endoleak were detected. At 36 months, 26 type II endoleaks were  
129 detected. The number of patients with type II endoleak detected both perioperatively and at some  
130 point during follow-up reduced from 23 at discharge to 7 at 36 months.

131 In terms of preoperative variables, smoking (p=0.002) and Warfarin therapy (p=0.044) were shown to  
132 be associated with a significantly lower risk of type II endoleak. Age (p=0.034), right iliac tortuosity  
133 (p=0.031), right (p=0.008) and left external iliac diameter (p=0.028) were shown to significantly  
134 increase the risk of type II endoleak (Table I).

### 135 **3.2 Aneurysm ruptures, mortality and survival**

136 A total of three patients in the entire cohort suffered aneurysm rupture in the present study. All of  
137 them had type II endoleak reported during the study, of which one had a type I endoleak documented  
138 perioperatively. In this patient, the type I endoleak resolved after re-stenting the right limb within the  
139 original graft perioperatively, but a type II endoleak was subsequently detected at 1-month follow-up,  
140 then at 6 and 12 months until reintervention with Onyx glue at 24 months. Despite post-intervention  
141 endoleak resolution and absence of documented sac expansion during follow-up, rupture occurred at  
142 36 months resulting in death. The two other patients with ruptures had isolated type II endoleaks. Of  
143 these patients, one had a type II endoleak documented at 1 and 6 months before undergoing  
144 reintervention at 12 months with coiling. Despite post-intervention endoleak resolution and absence  
145 of documented sac expansion during follow-up, rupture also occurred at 36 months. The other patient  
146 with isolated type II endoleak, did not undergo reintervention. In this patient, type II endoleak was  
147 detected perioperatively, but not at 1, 6 and 12 months. At 24 months, type II endoleak was detected

148 again with rupture occurring at 36 months. There was a documented sac expansion of 14mm in the 2  
149 years leading up to the rupture. In summary, of the three patients with ruptures, all had type II  
150 endoleak, and two had ruptures in the absence of sac expansion (>5mm), and two had ruptures  
151 despite successful endoleak resolution post-reintervention.

152 A total of 104 (mean follow-up in this cohort was 1.9 years) deaths were recorded over the course of  
153 the present study. Of these, 28 deaths were amongst type II endoleak patients and 76 were amongst  
154 patients without type II endoleak. Median survival was 1356 days amongst patients who had had a  
155 Type II endoleak. This compares to 1466 days amongst those who had not had a Type II endoleak.  
156 While the hazards of dying were somewhat lower amongst patients who had had a Type II endoleak,  
157 the difference between the two patient groups was not significant (HR = 0.80; 95% CI: 0.51-1.24;  
158 p=0.313) (Figure 1).

159 There was no statistically significant difference in survival between those with and without type II  
160 endoleaks (Table II and III). However, older age and active smoking were found to be significant,  
161 independent predictors of decreased survival in this patient sample (Table IV).

### 162 **3.3 Sac expansion**

163 Sac expansion was reported in 35 patients with a type II endoleak. An overall sac expansion (> 5 mm)  
164 was recorded in 24 patients, of whom, 5 died and 4 underwent an intervention. Of the 5 deaths in  
165 patients with sac expansion, 4 deaths were non-aneurysm related and 1 was of unknown cause. 17  
166 deaths were reported amongst type II endoleak patients without sac expansion, while 20 patients  
167 required intervention.

168 None of the perioperative variables were found to be significantly associated with T2EL and sac  
169 expansion (Table V).

170 Late type II endoleaks were reported in 117 patients (excluding the perioperative type II endoleaks).  
171 Of the 117 patients with late type II endoleak, 26 had sac expansion and 91 did not have sac expansion.

172 Of the 26 patients with sac expansion, 5 died and 10 underwent intervention. Of the 91 patients  
173 without sac expansion, 19 died and 15 underwent intervention. Sac expansion was reported in 25  
174 patients who did not have a late type II endoleak; of these, 8 died and 3 underwent intervention. 62  
175 deaths were reported in patients without sac expansion and a further 33 of these patients underwent  
176 intervention (Table VI).

### 177 **3.4 Outcomes of treatment of type II endoleaks**

178 Out of 225 patients with type II endoleak, 186 patients had adequate follow-up information regarding  
179 treatment or resolution outcomes. Of these, 133 had spontaneous resolution, 37 had an unresolved  
180 type II endoleak but were being observed untreated, 28 underwent a diagnostic or other procedure  
181 to fix a complication but 16 underwent reintervention specifically for the type II endoleak, and thus  
182 form the treatment group.

183 Of the 16 patients treated for type II endoleak, at the time of the procedure, endoleak resolution  
184 occurred in 15 patients. For the one patient without endoleak resolution, intervention was indicated  
185 for a persistent type II endoleak with sac expansion of 17mm. The intervention involved embolization  
186 at 3 years which was close to the end of the follow-up period. This gave little time for observing  
187 endoleak resolution and assessing post-intervention reduction in sac size.

188 Indications for intervention in the present study included persistent type 2 endoleak (endoleak for  
189 longer than 6 months) in 8 patients, persistent type II endoleak with sac expansion in 5 patients, and  
190 sac expansion alone in 3 patients. All sac expansions in these patients were >5mm, except for one  
191 patient with 2mm sac expansion (5-5.2cm) with abdominal pain. Three patients had sac expansion  
192 exceeding 10mm prior to intervention. For the patients with sac expansion alone as their indication  
193 for treatment, type II endoleak was present at the time of documented sac expansion. No resolution  
194 of endoleak occurred prior to the onset of documented sac expansion or prior to intervention.

195 Following endoleak treatment, death occurred in 3 patients, with 2 being non-aneurysm related. The  
196 one patient with aneurysm-related death, died of a ruptured aneurysm at 3 years, described under  
197 'Aneurysm ruptures, mortality and survival.' Only 8 patients with treated type II endoleaks had  
198 sufficient follow-up information regarding sac size, out of which none had sac expansion (6 had sac  
199 shrinkage and 2 had stable sac sizes). These 8 patients had undergone a range of interventions,  
200 including 1 with laparoscopic ligation of inferior mesenteric artery, 3 with coiling, 2 with embolization  
201 with embolic agent unspecified, 1 with open repair, and 1 with a bifurcated graft placed into the old  
202 tube graft. Indications for intervention in these 8 patients included 5 for persistent type II endoleak, 1  
203 for persistent type II endoleak with sac expansion >5mm, and 2 for sac expansion alone, one being  
204 >5mm and the other >10mm.

#### 205 **4 Discussion**

206 Our study demonstrates that not all aneurysm ruptures occur in the setting of sac expansion. Other  
207 unknown factors are involved. Although aneurysm rupture is uncommon in type II endoleak, the  
208 occurrence of rupture has been shown to be unpredictable. This explains the uncertainty in knowing  
209 when to intervene to prevent such a fatal outcome. Despite the unclear treatment indications, the  
210 present study shows that treatment outcomes are encouraging

211 The number of perioperative type II endoleaks of the present study appears much higher than that of  
212 the earlier Australian ASERNIP study. The current study identified 124 type II endoleaks out of 693  
213 patients compared with 69 out of 959 patients respectively<sup>7</sup>. This could be due to improved procedural  
214 imaging.

215 Our study found a significantly lower incidence of type II endoleak with smoking ( $p=0.002$ ) and  
216 anticoagulation with warfarin ( $p=0.044$ ). Smoking has been reported as a protective factor for type II  
217 endoleak in other studies<sup>5, 8-10</sup>, including the study by Koole et al.<sup>11</sup>. Accelerated atherosclerosis from  
218 smoking might narrow or occlude the inferior mesenteric and lumbar arteries. Warfarin has not been

219 reported a protective factor in other studies. Studies specifically looking at Warfarin and its association  
220 with type II endoleak have either reported it to be a risk factor<sup>12</sup> or as insignificant<sup>8, 13, 14</sup>. Older age  
221 (p=0.034) was found to be a significant risk factor for type II endoleak in the present study, which is  
222 supported by several studies<sup>5, 8-10</sup>. Nonetheless, there are also several studies which report it to be  
223 insignificant<sup>6, 13-16</sup>.

224 Other significant anatomical variables such as right iliac tortuosity, right and left external iliac  
225 diameters have not been evaluated by other studies to date. The extent of right iliac tortuosity in the  
226 present study is a subjective measure based on its determination by clinician assessment using the  
227 four categories of severity. In our study, the graft type used was relatively homogenous, and therefore  
228 a comparison of endoleak incidence with each graft type is unlikely to be meaningful. Pre-emptive  
229 coiling of the inferior mesenteric artery was performed in only one patient, and they did not develop  
230 any endoleak over the three years.

231 All three aneurysm ruptures in the present study occurred in patients with type II endoleak. This may  
232 suggest that aneurysm ruptures are more likely to occur in type II endoleak. Sac expansion is  
233 commonly used as a surrogate marker for risk of aneurysm rupture<sup>1</sup>, and sac expansion of 5mm has  
234 been previously reported as a risk factor for rupture<sup>2</sup>. The European Society of Vascular Surgery  
235 guidelines recommend intervention at 10mm sac expansion<sup>3</sup>. As all ruptures occurred in patients  
236 without documented sac expansion, it may be that sac expansion per se is not a surrogate for sac  
237 pressurization. Alternatively, sac re-expansion may have occurred between the time of last follow-up  
238 and presentation with rupture. Causes for aneurysm rupture other than sac expansion have not been  
239 clearly identified to date. More studies are needed to determine other factors in type II endoleak that  
240 could lead to rupture.

241 There was no statistically significant difference in survival between those with and without type II  
242 endoleaks Age and smoking were found to be significantly associated with decreased survival in this  
243 patient sample. Age has already been reported as a factor associated with poorer long-term (5-year)

244 survival in patients following EVAR in other studies<sup>17,18</sup>. Smoking has not been reported as a predictive  
245 factor for survival following EVAR to date. A review paper by Lottman et al, has found that mortality  
246 does not significantly differ between smokers and non-smokers after EVAR<sup>19</sup>. A systematic review by  
247 Khashram et al, however, reports that patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)  
248 requiring supplemental oxygen is associated with poor long-term survival following abdominal aortic  
249 aneurysm repair, i.e. either open or endovascular<sup>20</sup>. COPD mostly occurs in chronic smokers. Perhaps  
250 the impact of smoking on survival after EVAR becomes more evident when smoking occurs for long  
251 enough to impair respiratory function.

252 Treatment outcomes seemed satisfactory, given that most type II endoleaks resolved and had sac  
253 shrinkage rate post intervention. Both currently used techniques (translumbar vs transarterial),  
254 embolic agents (glue, onyx, coils), and ligation (open, laparoscopic) used seemed to obtain  
255 satisfactory results. Limitations to this study include variations in criteria used for treating the type II  
256 endoleaks, as the data came from multiple institutions with EVARs performed by different surgeons.  
257 Another limitation is that only 186 out of 225 patients with type 2 endoleak had adequate follow-up  
258 information due to some patients being lost to follow-up, some surgeons failing to supply follow-up  
259 data, and some patients being non-compliant with follow-up. A recent published study examined  
260 rates of compliance to post-EVAR surveillance and showed only 43% of patients were compliant<sup>21</sup>,  
261 which is a similar result to that of our study.

## 262 **5 Conclusion**

263 In summary, the present study suggests that type II endoleak with sac expansion does not appear to  
264 be associated with aneurysm rupture. Treatment outcomes were encouraging. Aneurysm ruptures in  
265 type II endoleak are uncommon but occurred in the absence of documented sac expansion raising the  
266 need to identify factors other than sac expansion that can cause aneurysm rupture in type II endoleak.

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330 **Tables**331 **Table I: Baseline characteristics of patients with and without Type II endoleak**

<i>Preoperative variables*</i>	<i>Type II endoleak</i> = 225 (32.4%) <sup>†</sup>	<i>No Type II endoleak</i> = 468 (67.5%)	<i>p-value</i>
Aneurysm diameter, mm (mean, ±sd)	58.55 (±10.22) <sup>‡</sup>	58.09 (±9.46)	0.995
Infrarenal neck length, mm (mean, ±sd)	27.67 (±12.46)	29.08 (±13.80)	0.390
Infrarenal neck diameter, mm (mean, ±sd)	23.27 (±3.03)	23.85 (±3.59)	0.106
Aortic neck angle, degrees (mean, ±sd)	20.04 (±18.90)	16.84 (±16.48)	0.078
Thrombus in neck (number, %)	39 (25.83) <sup>§</sup>	98 (32.45)	0.148
Occlusive aorto-iliac disease (number, %)	11 (7.19)	50 (15.38)	0.435
Saccular aneurysm (number, %)	22 (14.10)	16 (5.35)	0.712
Artery involved in aneurysm sac (number, %)	122 (77.71)	242 (72.89)	0.254
Aneurysm angle, degrees (mean, ±sd)	27.53 (22.05)	25.48 (21.79)	0.308
RCIA diameter, mm (mean, ±sd)	15.64 (5.86)	15.58 (6.06)	0.890

LCIA diameter, mm (mean, ±sd)	14.71 (4.20)	14.73 (4.71)	0.874
REIA diameter, mm (mean, ±sd)	9.48 (1.52)	11.43 (44.50)	0.008
LEIA diameter, mm (mean, ±sd)	9.43 (1.65)	9.24 (2.94)	0.028
<i>RCIA tortuosity (number, %)</i>			
None	34 (22.22)	94 (28.75)	} 0.031
Mild	90 (58.82)	145 (44.34)	
Moderate	23 (15.03)	71 (21.71)	
Severe	6 (3.92)	17 (5.20)	
Patency IMA (number, % patent)	86 (60.14)	172 (58.11)	0.055
Age, years (mean, ±sd)	75.21 (±7.77)	74.02 (±7.73)	0.034
<i>Gender (number, %)</i>			
Male	200 (88.89)	421 (90.00)	} 0.847
Female	24 (10.67)	48 (10.26)	
<i>Medications (number, %)</i>			
Warfarin	15 (6.73)	53 (11.73)	0.044
Statin	154 (68.75)	315 (68.78)	0.941
Beta-blocker	82 (36.94)	165 (36.11)	0.800
<i>Smoking (number, %)</i>			
Current	29 (13.30)	108 (24.00)	} 0.002
Ex-smoker	141 (64.68)	274 (60.89)	
Never	48 (22.02)	68 (15.11)	

332 \*For each categorical variable, the number and proportion of patients with that variable out  
333 of all patients with and without type II endoleak (who had sufficient data for that variable)  
334 are recorded. LCIA tortuosity, RCIA and LCIA calcification, ASA, BMI, CIA isolated, and  
335 infrarenal neck shape were also all insignificant. ASA: American Society of Anesthesiologists  
336 grading; BMI: Body Mass Index, CIA: common iliac artery; RCIA: Right common iliac artery;  
337 LCIA: Left common iliac artery; REIA Right external iliac artery; LEIA: Left external iliac artery;  
338 IMA: Inferior mesenteric artery; sd: standard deviation

339 †Number, % of patients with and without type II endoleak are reported in the header row.

340 ‡Continuous data are shown as the mean  $\pm$  standard deviation (sd)

341 §Categorical data are shown as number and %.

342

343 **Table II: Univariate associations: survival analysis**

Parameter	Label	HR*	Lower CL	Upper CL	P
Age		1.05	1.02	1.08	0.0008
Gender	Male	1.00	-	-	-
	Female	1.58	0.85	2.91	0.146
Statin	Statin (yes)	1.00	-	-	-
	Statin (no)	1.64	1.07	2.52	0.024
Beta blocker	Beta blocker (yes)	1.00	-	-	-
	Beta blocker (no)	0.94	0.61	1.45	0.774
ASAI	ASAI 1-2	1.00	-	-	-
	ASAI 3-4	1.56	0.86	2.82	0.143
Smokes (p=0.052)	Never	1.00	-	-	-
	Ex-smoker	1.77	0.90	3.49	0.100
	Current	2.50	1.19	5.29	0.016
Warfarin	Warfarin (yes)	1.00	1.00	1.00	-
	Warfarin (no)	0.86	0.46	1.61	0.644
Aneurysm diameter		1.01	0.99	1.04	0.1669
RCIA diameter		0.99	0.95	1.03	0.7188
LCIA diameter		1.01	0.97	1.06	0.5070
REIA diameter		0.96	0.85	1.08	0.4789
LEIA diameter		0.96	0.86	1.08	0.5398

344 \*HR: hazards ratio; CL = confidence level; ASA: American Society of Anesthesiologists grading;

345 BMI: Body Mass Index; CIA: common iliac artery; RCIA: Right common iliac artery; LCIA: Left

346 common iliac artery; REIA Right external iliac artery; LEIA: Left external iliac artery;

347

348 **Table III: Adjusted and unadjusted models for association between Type II endoleak and survival**

	Unadjusted			Adjusted*		
	HR <sup>†</sup>	95% CI	P	HR	95% CI	P
Endoleak						
No	1.00	-		1.00	-	
Yes	0.74	0.46-1.20	0.222	0.78	0.48 – 1.28	0.329

349

350 \*Adjusted for age, sex, and smoking status

351 †HR: hazards ratio; CL = confidence level

352

353 **Table IV: Independent predictors of survival**

Predictor	HR*	95% CI	p
Age	1.07	1.04-1.11	<0.0001
Smoking status			
(p=0.001)			
Never smoked	1.00	-	-
Ex-smoker	2.33	1.17 – 4.66	0.017
Current smoker	4.27	1.95 – 9.34	0.0003

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355 \*HR: hazards ratio; CL = confidence level

356

357 **Table V: Baseline characteristics in type II endoleak patients with vs without sac expansion**

<i>Preoperative variables*</i>	Type II endoleak with sac expansion at any time= 35 (23.3%) <sup>†</sup>	Type II endoleak without sac expansion at any time = 115 (76.7%)	<i>p-</i> <i>value</i>
Aneurysm diameter, mm (mean, $\pm$ sd)	57.16 ( $\pm$ 9.60) <sup>‡</sup>	58.82 ( $\pm$ 10.35)	0.416
Infrarenal neck length, mm (mean, $\pm$ sd)	28.10 ( $\pm$ 13.27)	27.60 ( $\pm$ 12.38)	0.447
Infrarenal neck diameter, mm (mean, $\pm$ sd)	23.75 ( $\pm$ 2.39)	23.17 ( $\pm$ 3.14)	0.326
Aortic neck angle, degrees (mean, $\pm$ sd)	18.87 ( $\pm$ 20.39)	20.25 ( $\pm$ 18.71)	0.426
Thrombus in neck (number, %)	4 (20.00) <sup>§</sup>	35 (26.72)	0.523
Occlusive aorto-iliac disease (number, %)	2 (9.09)	9 (6.87)	0.660
Saccular aneurysm (number, %)	3 (13.04)	19 (14.29)	1.000
Artery involved in aneurysm sac (number, %)	18 (78.26)	104 (77.61)	0.945
Aneurysm angle, degrees (mean, $\pm$ sd)	27.96 ( $\pm$ 19.81)	27.45 ( $\pm$ 22.48)	0.727
RCIA diameter, mm (mean, $\pm$ sd)	15.28 ( $\pm$ 6.16)	15.71 ( $\pm$ 5.81)	0.557
LCIA diameter, mm (mean, $\pm$ sd)	15.09 ( $\pm$ 6.67)	14.64 ( $\pm$ 3.54)	0.206
REIA diameter, mm (mean, $\pm$ sd)	9.45 ( $\pm$ 1.51)	9.48 ( $\pm$ 1.53)	0.718
LEIA diameter, mm (mean, $\pm$ sd)	9.51 ( $\pm$ 1.52)	9.42 ( $\pm$ 1.67)	0.860
Age, years (mean, $\pm$ sd)	76.09 ( $\pm$ 6.48)	75.04 ( $\pm$ 7.99)	0.845



RCIA tortuosity (number, %)	-	-	
None	9 (39.13)	25 (19.23)	
Mild	12 (52.17)	78 (60.00)	}0.200
Moderate	2 (8.70)	21 (16.15)	
Severe	0 (0.00)	6 (4.62)	
Patency IMA (number, % patent)	11 (50.0)	75 (61.98)	0.167
Gender (number, %)			
Male	31 (88.5)	169 (89.42)	}0.774
Female	4 (11.43)	20 (10.58)	
Medications (number, %)			
Warfarin	3 (8.82)	12 (6.38)	0.708
Statin	24 (68.57)	130 (69.15)	0.946
Beta-blocker	13 (37.14)	69 (37.10)	0.996
Smoking (number, %)			
Current	3 (8.57)	26 (14.21)	}0.617
Ex-smoker	23 (65.71)	118 (64.480)	
Never	9 (25.71)	39 (21.31)	

358 \*For each categorical variable, the number and proportion of patients with that variable out  
359 of all patients with and without type II endoleak (who had sufficient data for that variable) are  
360 recorded. LCIA, ASA, BMI, CIA isolated, and infrarenal neck shape were all insignificant. ASA:  
361 American Society of Anesthesiologists grading; BMI: Body Mass Index; CIA: common iliac  
362 artery; RCIA: Right common iliac artery; LCIA: Left common iliac artery; REIA Right external iliac  
363 artery; LEIA: Left external iliac artery; IMA: Inferior mesenteric artery; sd: standard deviation  
364 †Number, % of patients with and without type II endoleak are reported in the header row.  
365 ‡Continuous data are shown as the mean ± standard deviation (sd)  
366 §Categorical data are shown as number and %.



368 **Table VI: Influence of sac expansion on death and intervention in patients with late type II**  
 369 **endoleak**

	All			Sac expansion >5mm <sup>†</sup>			No Sac expansion >5mm		
	Total	Mortality	Intervention	Total	Mortality	Intervention	Total	Mortality	Intervention
Late type 2 endoleaks*	117 <sup>‡</sup>	24	25	26	5	10	91	19	15
No late type 2 endoleaks	458	70	36	25	8	3	433	62	33

370

371 \*Late type 2 endoleaks: type 2 endoleaks detected after 30 days

372 <sup>†</sup>'Sac expansion >5mm' refers to patients with sac expansion of greater than 5mm at any point  
 373 following EVAR

374 <sup>‡</sup>Data on sac expansion, mortality, intervention are all reported as number of patients in the table

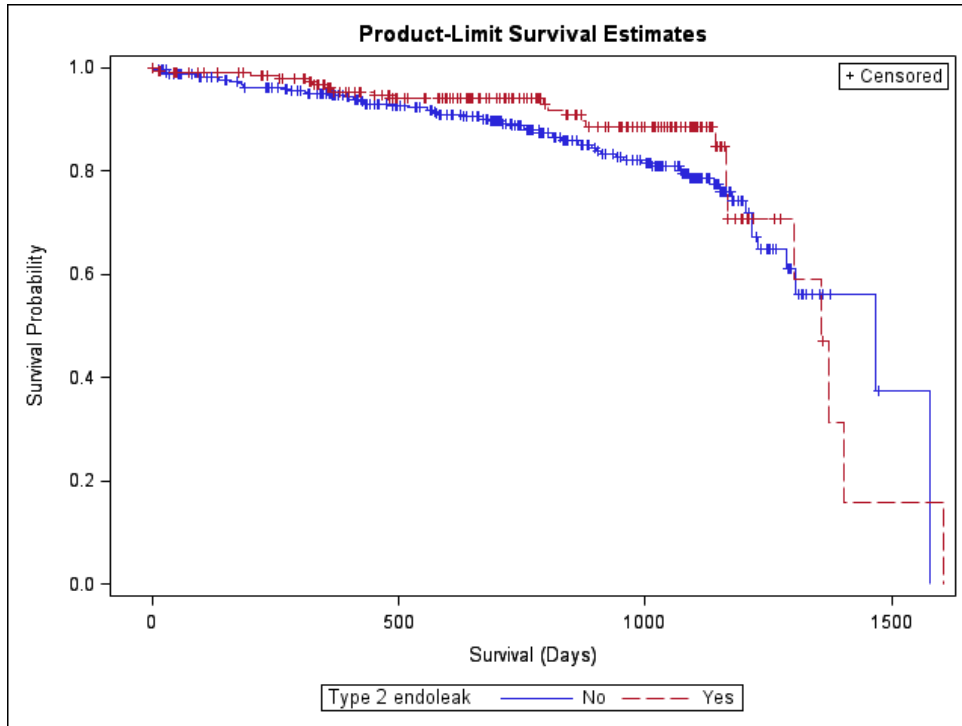
375 *\*Note: this table above is required to be printed in color*

376

377 **Figure 1: Kaplan-Meier survival curve comparing survival between patients with type II endoleak**  
 378 **and without type II endoleak**

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387

388

**Median survival amongst patients who had and had not had a Type II endoleak**

389

Type II endoleak	Median survival	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
No	1466.00	1289.00	1576.00
Yes	1356.00	1167.00	1404.00

390

**Parameter estimates for survival amongst patients who had had an endoleak compared to those who had not.**

391

Parameter	Class	Hazard Ratio	Lower CL	Upper CL	P
Type II endoleak	No	1.00	-	-	0.313
	Yes	0.80	0.51	1.24	

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393

394 *\*Note: this figure above is required to be printed in color*

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