

TAVI, Surgery Both Improve Health Status

For patients with symptomatic severe aortic stenosis who are at high risk for surgical complications, both transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) and surgical replacement dramatically improve health status within 1 year, an analysis of the PARTNER trial showed.

By 1 year, the gains seen in each group were similar, although in the shorter term TAVI performed using the transfemoral approach -- but not the transapical approach -- led to more rapid improvement compared with surgery, according to David Cohen, MD, of Saint Luke's Mid America Heart Institute in Kansas City, Mo., and colleagues.

The short-term benefits with transfemoral TAVI "may be important from the patient's perspective," the researchers wrote online in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

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