

**Treatment vs. Control
By Complication**

N of studies Treatment events/n Control events/n I²

Relative Risk (95% CI)

Individual minimally invasive approaches vs. individual sternotomy approaches

VATS extended vs. Basic transsternal

Wound Infection 1 0 / 20 5 / 20 na 0.09 (0.01 – 1.54)

VATS extended vs. Extended transsternal

Pneumonia 3 3 / 117 9 / 161 0 0.61 (0.15 – 2.44)

Myasthenia gravis exacerbation 4 18 / 229 25 / 236 0 0.75 (0.41 – 1.39)

Atelectasia 1 2 / 53 2 / 45 na 0.85 (0.12 – 5.79)

Arrhythmia 1 1 / 31 16 / 50 na 0.10 (0.01 – 0.72)

Wound Infection 2 2 / 64 7 / 116 0 0.58 (0.14 – 2.35)

Combined Transcervical–subxiphoid vs. Basic transsternal

Pneumonia 1 1 / 292 0 / 60 na 0.62 (0.03 – 15.15)

Wound Infection 1 2 / 292 0 / 60 na 1.04 (0.05 – 21.41)

Combined Transcervical–subxiphoid vs. Extended transsternal

Pneumonia 1 1 / 292 0 / 75 na 0.78 (0.03 – 18.91)

Wound Infection 1 2 / 292 2 / 75 na 0.26 (0.04 – 1.79)

All minimally invasive approaches pooled vs. All median sternotomy approaches pooled

Minimally invasive vs. Median sternotomy

Pneumonia 4 4 / 409 9 / 236 0 0.63 (0.18 – 2.26)

Myasthenia gravis exacerbation 4 18 / 229 25 / 236 0 0.75 (0.41 – 1.39)

Atelectasia 1 2 / 53 2 / 45 na 0.85 (0.12 – 5.79)

Arrhythmia 1 1 / 31 16 / 50 na 0.10 (0.01 – 0.72)

Wound Infection 4 4 / 376 14 / 211 0 0.35 (0.12 – 1.01)

0.06 0.25 0.50 2.00 4.00 16.00

