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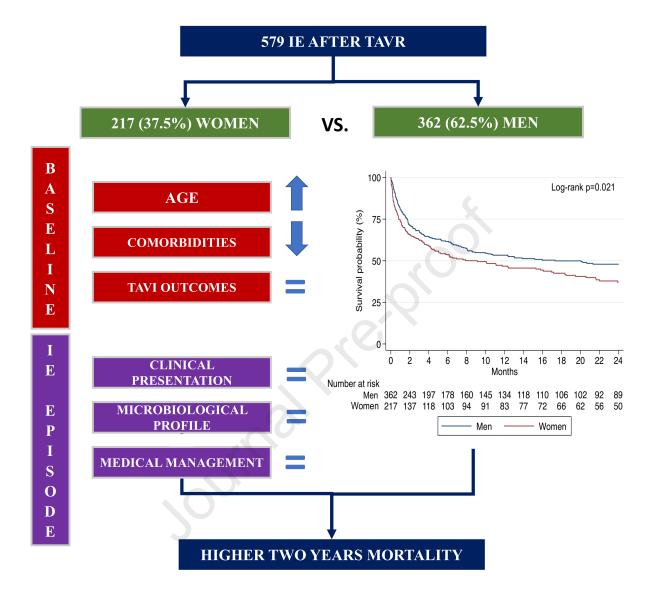
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Sex Differences in Infective Endocarditis After Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement

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ABSTRACT

Background: Outcomes after transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) and infectious diseases may vary according to sex.

Methods: This multicenter study aimed to determine the sex differences in clinical characteristics, management, and outcomes of infective endocarditis (IE) after TAVR. A total of 579 patients (217 women, 37.5%) were included retrospectively from the Infectious Endocarditis after TAVR International Registry who had the diagnosis of definite IE following TAVR.

Results: Women were older (80 ± 8 vs. 78 ± 8 years, p=0.001) and exhibited a lower comorbidity burden. Clinical characteristics and microbiological profile were similar between men and women, but culture-negative IE was more frequent in women (9.9% vs. 4.3%, p=0.009). A high proportion of patients had a clinical indication for surgery (54.4% in both groups, p=0.99), but a surgical intervention was performed in a minority of patients (women: 15.2%, men: 20.3%, p=0.13). The mortality rate at index IE hospitalization was similar in both groups (women: 35.4%, men: 31.7%, p=0.373), but women exhibited a higher mortality rate at 2-year followup (63% vs. 52.1%, p=0.021). Female sex remained an independent risk factor for cumulative mortality in the multivariable analysis (HR_{adj}: 1.28, 95% CI: 1.02-1.62, p=0.035). After adjustment for in-hospital events, surgery was not associated with better outcomes in women. *Conclusions*: There were no significant sex-related differences in the clinical characteristics and management of IE after TAVR. However, female sex was associated with increased twoyears mortality risk.

KEYWORDS: Infective endocarditis, TAVR, heart surgery, sex

BRIEF SUMMARY

This study aimed to investigate differences between sexes in infective endocarditis (IE) after transcatheter valve replacement (TAVR). Clinical characteristics and microbiological profile of IE after TAVR were found to be similar between men and women. There were no major differences in the medical management. However, women have an impaired prognostic. Further research is required to better understand women's higher mortality.

ABBREVIATIONS LIST

IE: infective endocarditis IQR: interquartile range PVE: prosthetic valve endocarditis TAVR: transcatheter aortic valve replacement THV: trans-catheter heart valve

1 INTRODUCTION

2 The clinical characteristics, management, and outcomes of different diseases vary 3 considerably between men and women, and the need for sex-specific research, reporting, and 4 guideline considerations has been increasingly recognized (1). Major sex-related differences 5 have been shown in multiple cardiovascular and infectious diseases (2,3). In the transcatheter 6 aortic valve replacement (TAVR) field, several studies have shown improved long-term 7 survival in women compared to men, despite a higher incidence of peri-procedural 8 complications (4–6). On the other hand, female sex has been associated with poorer early and 9 late outcomes in cases of non-TAVR infective endocarditis (IE) (7,8), and a potential sex-10 treatment bias including a lower likelihood of surgical intervention among women in this setting 11 has been suggested as an important factor to explain such differences (9).

12 IE after TAVR is an infrequent but life-threatening event, with specific clinical, 13 microbiological profile, and management characteristics along with very high early and late 14 mortality rates (10). However, no data exist on potential sex-related differences in the context 15 of IE after TAVR. A better knowledge of the clinical characteristics, treatment, and outcomes 16 of IE following TAVR according to sex would therefore be of high clinical relevance. The 17 objectives of this study were to evaluate sex-related differences in the clinical characteristics, 18 management, and outcomes of IE after TAVR.

19

20 MATERIAL AND METHODS

21 Study population

Data were collected from The Infectious Endocarditis after TAVR International Registry. Details on the design of this observational, multicenter, international registry have been previously reported (11). At the time of this analysis, the registry included data from 579 patients with definite IE determined by the modified Duke criteria after TAVR from 59 centers

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in 11 countries across Europe, North America, and South America between June 2005 and
November 2020.

28 Patients were identified by each center according to the modified Duke criteria (12). To 29 avoid duplicities, only the first episode of IE recorded for an individual patient was included in 30 the analysis. A dedicated uniform case report form (database) was used at all sites for data 31 collection including baseline and periprocedural TAVR features, as well as IE characteristics, 32 microbiological profile, management, and in-hospital and follow-up outcomes (191 variables). Among 604 patients with definite IE, only 579 were included in the analysis (exclusion of 25 33 34 patients with missing data on the clinical status or without a date of follow-up). Informed 35 consent was obtained from all patients before the procedure and the individual anonymized data 36 sharing was performed according to the local ethics committee of each participating center. The 37 research was performed without patient or public involvement.

38

39 Study definitions

40 The definition of definite IE was based on the modified Duke criteria (12). Transcatheter 41 heart valve (THV) type was divided into two groups: balloon-expandable (Edwards SapienTM, Sapien XTTM, and Sapien 3TM valves systems; Edwards Lifesciences, Irvine, CA, USA) and 42 43 self- or mechanically- expandable valves (Medtronic CoreValveTM and Evolut RTM systems 44 (Medtronic, Minneapolis, MN), LotusTM Valve System (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA, USA), Portico[™] valve (Abbott Vascular, Abbott Park, IL, USA), Acurate[™] valve system 45 46 (Symetis SA, a Boston Scientific company, Ecublens, Switzerland), Direct flow[™] (Direct Flow 47 Medical Inc. Santa Rosa, CA, USA), JenaValve™ (JenaValve Technology Inc. Irvine, CA, 48 USA), Medtronic EngagerTM(Medtronic, Minneapolis, MN, USA) and CenteraTM (Edwards 49 Lifesciences, Irvine, California, USA). Outcomes were defined according to the Valve Academic Research Consortium-2 criteria (13). Persistent bacteremia was defined as positive 50

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51 blood cultures despite appropriate antibiotic therapy for > 7 days. IE complications with an 52 indication for surgery were defined according to the European guidelines (12) as follows : (i) 53 intra-hospital episode of heart failure attributed to a severe aortic or mitral valve dysfunction 54 (ii) locally uncontrolled perivalvular extension, and (iii) aortic or mitral vegetation > 10 mm.

55

56 Statistical Analysis

57 Continuous variables were expressed as mean \pm standard deviation or median 58 (interquartile range) depending on the variable distribution, which was assessed using the 59 Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. Categorical variables were expressed as numbers (%). Comparisons 60 between groups were performed using the Student t-test or Wilcoxon rank-sum test for 61 continuous variables and χ^2 or Fisher exact test for categorical variables. Multivariable Cox 62 proportional hazard models were performed to determine the factors independently associated 63 with cumulative follow-up mortality. Likewise, the first model (whole population) included all significant (p<0.05) baseline variables considered a priori to contribute to two-year mortality 64 65 with the only exception of age that was forced in the model for its relevance. The second model (female population) included all significant variables from the IE-hospitalization with the only 66 67 exception of the IE management (surgery vs. medical treatment) that was forced in the model 68 due to its potential relevance. Surgery was included as a time-varying covariate in the Cox 69 models to control for immortal time bias. The multivariable models were built by backward 70 stepwise (likelihood ratio) selection. The Kaplan–Meier method was used to provide survival 71 estimates, which were assessed with a log-rank test. Differences in the incidence of mortality 72 were determined using the log-rank test. A 2-sided p-value of <0.05 was considered statistically 73 significant. Data analyses were performed using STATA 14.0 (StataCorp, College Station, TX, 74 USA).

76 **RESULTS**

A total of 579 patients with definite IE were included, 217 (37.5%) of them were women. The main baseline and TAVR peri-procedural characteristics are shown in **Table 1**. Women were older (80±8 vs. 78±8, p=0.001), and exhibited a lower rate of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (21.7% vs. 30.7%, p=0.019), previous stroke (8.8 vs. 15.5%, p=0.020), and previous heart surgery (12.9% vs. 27.9%, p<0.001). There were no significant differences between women and men in TAVR procedural characteristics, periprocedural complications, and length of hospital stay.

84

85 Clinical presentation of IE episode and outcomes

The clinical characteristics and outcomes of the IE episode according to sex are 86 87 presented in Table 2. Initial symptoms, perivalvular extension, and vegetation size were similar 88 between the two sexes. IE involving the THV alone was more frequently observed in men 89 (53.6% vs. 41.5%, p=0.005). There were no significant differences in the identified causative 90 organism, but a higher proportion of culture-negative episodes were observed in women (9.9% 91 vs. 4.3%, p=0.009). Complications related to the IE episode were also similar and 54.4% of 92 both men and women had an indication for surgery. Up to 15.2% of women had a surgical 93 intervention at index IE episode (vs. 20.3% of men, p=0.125) after a median of 27 days IQR 94 [6-54] (vs. 14 days in men IQR [6-36] (p=0.161)). When there was an indication for surgery, 20.3% of women were operated on vs. 27.4% of men (p=0.188). Relapse of the IE episode 95 96 during follow-up was similar between groups (6.0% in women vs. 9.4% in men, p=0.147).

Despite similar in-hospital mortality rates (31.7% in men vs. 35.4% in women,
p=0.373), the 2-year mortality rate was higher in women compared to men (63% CI [56-69.8]
vs. 52.1% [46.5.9-57.9], p=0.021) (Figure 1). Female sex was an independent risk factor of

100 death after adjustment to significant baseline characteristics including age (HR_{adj}: 1.28 [1.02101 1.62], p=0.035) (Table 3).

- 102
- 103 Clinical profile of operated women

104 A total of 32 women underwent surgery (15.2%) of the women cohort). The operated 105 patients were younger 77±9 years vs. 81±7 years (p=0.015), had less chronic kidney disease 106 (29.0% vs. 48.3%, p=0.047), a lower surgical risk (median Logistic EuroSCORE 9.8, IQR [6-107 18] vs. 15, IQR [10-23.6], p=0.01) and had TAVR less frequently through transfermoral 108 approach (78.1% vs. 92.7%, p=0.009). Ten out of 32 patients (31.3%) died during index 109 hospitalization after surgery (supplementary table S1). Two-year mortality rate similar in operated women compared to non-operated women (53.3% CI [35.9-72.9] vs. 63.2% [55.6-110 111 70.8], p=0.203) (figure 2).

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113 **Risk factors of mortality in the female population**

After adjustment for in-hospital events during IE hospitalization, heart failure HR_{adj}:1.66 CI [1.02-2.68], p=0.04, septic shock HRadj: 3.88 CI [2.43-6.22], p<0.001 and persistent bacteriemia HR_{adj}: 2.09 CI [1.32-3.32], p=0.002 were associated with mortality and surgery was not found to be protective when adjusted to in-hospital events (**Table 4**). Risk factors associated with mortality in the male population is available in supplemental table S2.

119

120 DISCUSSION

121 The main results of this study providing the first detailed description on sex differences 122 in the clinical characteristics and outcomes of IE after TAVR can be summarized as follows: 123 (i) IE symptoms, presentation, and causative microorganisms are similar between men and 124 women after TAVR except for more culture-negative episodes among women; (ii) there were

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no major differences in the medical management between sexes; (iii) early mortality was similar
between women and men, but women had an impaired two-years survival compared to men.

127 Numerous studies investigating outcomes between men and women after TAVR have 128 been published. In a meta-analysis including 17 studies, Saad et al. found that women were 129 older, but with fewer comorbidities than men (6). Moreover, despite having more in-hospital 130 complications (bleeding, major vascular events, and stroke), women had better long-term 131 prognosis after TAVR than men. These results were consistent with another study from the 132 TVT registry including 11 808 patients (5). In accordance with these previous studies, women 133 were older and exhibited a lower comorbidity burden. Therefore, baseline characteristics 134 between men and women in our study including only patients with definite IE parallel previous 135 TAVR reports.

136 Both women and men had a similar microbiological profile. Sex distribution of non-137 TAVR IE causative organisms is not consistent in the existing literature. While Sambola et al. 138 found no differences in the microbiological profile between men and women (9), Sevilla et al. 139 reported more Gram-negative bacilli and fewer Streptococcus viridians in women compared to 140 men (14), and Aksoy et al. described less coagulase-negative staphylococci in women (7). 141 Interestingly, we found a higher rate of culture-negative episodes among women. This finding 142 may be related to numerous factors: blood cultures sterilized by early antibacterial treatment, 143 IE related to fastidious pathogens (e.g., HACEK group bacteria), organism requiring a 144 serological diagnosis (e.g., Q fever, Bartonella infections), or non-infective endocarditis (auto-145 immune or marantic). The high relative proportion of culture-negative episodes found in 146 women (10%) highlights the importance of serological analysis, antinuclear antibodies 147 research, or valvular biopsies when available in this peculiar subpopulation (15).

It has been previously suggested that the impaired prognosis of women after IE in non-TAVR patients was related to the reduced likelihood to undergo surgery when indicated (9).

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Moreover, it is known that women are less likely to receive cardiovascular therapies (16–18). This gap is likely related to numerous factors including differences in clinical presentation, socioeconomic disparities, or sex discrimination (1). Interestingly, the rate of surgery in our study was numerically lower in women compared to men (15.2% vs. 20.3%) without reaching a statistical difference. Therefore, the difference observed concerning outcomes is unlikely to be related to a major discrepancy in medical care.

156 Female sex was an independent predictor of mortality even after adjustment with age 157 and baseline characteristics of the population. This finding is of clinical importance and difficult 158 to explain. Sepsis prognosis may vary between males and females but largely depend on the 159 infection site; moreover, sex is not an independent factor of outcome when examining all 160 infections (19). In animal models, it has been found that hormones modulate the severity of sepsis, and castration of females worsens the septic lesions (3). The lack of hormonal protection 161 162 of our elderly population could partly explain our findings. Nevertheless, the observed mortality 163 is likely multifactorial and may not be solely related to the IE episode itself.

Surgery was not associated with better outcomes in women. Previous large studies of non-TAVR patients have shown higher in-hospital mortality in operated women after IE (despite a lower chance to be operated) (20,21). Further studies are required to precise the role of surgery in this context.

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169 Perspectives

This study raises more questions than answers. The over mortality of women can be related to hormonal factors that can be further investigated using prespecified specific questionnaires and hormonal dosages. The high rate of culture negative episode is also of clinical interest and justify the realisation of a complete and exhaustive research of IE in women when the context is suggestive. Furthermore, this finding should justify research in the field to

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better understand the exact causes of negative episodes in women. Unfortunately, the scarcity
of these episodes is detrimental to the elaboration of prospective studies that are needed to
answer these questions.

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179 Limitations

Our study has some limitations. First, due to its retrospective observational design, some data were not available. Centers participated voluntarily and there was no external monitoring committee to verify the accuracy of data reported by each center. Lastly, due to its multicenter design, diagnosis and treatment modalities of patients may have been different between participating centers.

185

186 CONCLUSIONS

Women with IE after TAVR are older but present fewer comorbidities than men. The IE clinical presentation and microbiological profile are similar except for a higher rate of culture-negative episodes in women. This highlights the importance of starting antibiotic therapy and implementing multi-imaging modalities to rule out the diagnosis of IE in women with suggestive symptoms following TAVR. Also, women's two-years mortality was higher compared to men following the IE episode. Further studies are warranted.

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312 313 Table 1 - Baseline characteristics, comparison between men and women

	Women	Men	Unadjusted
	(n=217)	(n=362)	p-value
Baseline characteristics			
Age, years \pm SD	80.0 ± 7.5	77.9 ± 7.5	0.001
Body mass index (kg/m2)	27.9 ± 6.1	28.0 ± 5.7	0.842
Diabetes mellitus, n (%)	71 (32.7)	145 (40.1)	0.077
COPD, n (%)	47 (21.7)	111 (30.7)	0.019
Atrial fibrillation, n (%)	99 (45.6)	148 (41.0)	0.276
Chronic kidney disease, n (%)	98 (45.6)	150 (42.1)	0.421
Previous Stroke, n (%)	19 (8.8)	56 (15.5)	0.020
Previous heart surgery, n (%)	28 (12.9)	101 (27.9)	<0.001
Previous infective endocarditis, n (%)	4 (1.9)	2 (0.6)	0.134
Logistic EuroSCORE, % (SD)	17.4 ± 12.2	17.0 ± 12.5	0.774
Left ventricular ejection fraction, $\% \pm SD$	57.7 ± 11.2	51.0 ± 13.9	<0.001
Mitral regurgitation \geq 2, n (%)	58 (26.7)	84 (23.2)	0.340
Mean transaortic gradient, mean \pm SD, mmHg	48.2 ± 16.1	43.4 ± 15.5	<0.001
Periprocedural characteristics			
Implantation site			
Catheterization laboratory, n (%)	87 (40.1)	147 (40.6)	-
Operating hybrid room, n (%)	16 (7.4)	20 (5.5)	0.670
Hybrid room	114 (52.5)	195 (53.9)	_

Transfemoral	197 (90.8)	311 (86.4)	0.115
Prosthesis type			
Balloon-expandable, n (%)	111 (51.9)	187 (52.5)	0.879
Self-expanding, n (%)	103 (48.1)	169 (47.5)	0.879
Antibiotic prophylaxis			
B-Lactam alone, n (%)	182 (93.8)	296 (93.7)	
Vancomycin alone or in combination, n			0.930
(%)	8 (4.1)	12 (3.8)	
Other	4 (2.1)	8 (2.5)	
In-hospital Outcomes (TAVR))	
Acute renal failure, n (%)	27 (12.7)	47 (13.3)	0.827
Stroke, n (%)	9 (4.2)	18 (5.1)	0.637
Major vascular complication, n (%)	19 (8.9)	19 (5.4)	0.103
Major bleeding, n (%)	24 (11.3)	30 (8.5)	0.277
Sepsis, n (%)	23 (11.8)	33 (10.1)	0.543
New pacemaker implantation, n (%)	43 (19.8)	62 (17.2)	0.434
Residual aortic regurgitation ≥ 2 at	(
discharge, n (%)	33 (15.6)	49 (13.9)	0.576
Mean residual transaortic gradient, mean			
± SD, mm Hg	11.6 ± 7.1	10.9 ± 5.6	0.201
Length of hospital stay, median (IQR),			
days	9.0 [6.0-15.0]	9.0[6.0-14.0]	0.493
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321 Table 2 - Main clinical characteristics, management, and outcomes of IE episode by sex

	Women	Men	Unadjusted
	N=217	N=362	<i>p</i> -value
Time from TAVR, median (IQR), days	158 [45-428]	204 [70-493]	0.113
Initial symptoms			
Fever, n (%)	161 (76.3)	283 (79.9)	0.308
New-onset heart failure, n (%)	96 (45.5)	141 (40.1)	0.206
Neurological, n (%)	39 (18.7)	66 (18.7)	0.991
Systemic embolism, n (%)	28 (13.4)	45 (12.8)	0.825
Skin lesions	7 (3.4)	18 (5.1)	0.327
Healthcare-associated infection, n (%)	92 (42.4)	158 (43.7)	0.769
Echocardiographic findings, No./total (%)			
Perivalvular extension	35 (16.1)	70 (19.3)	0.332
Vegetation size [IQR], mm	11 [6-15]	10 [6-15]	0.384
Valve involved			
Mitral valve	38 (17.5)	48 (13.3)	0.164
Isolated THV	90 (41.5)	194 (53.6)	0.005
Right-sided	13 (5.9)	19 (5.2)	0.711
Multiple localizations	76 (35.0)	101 (27.0)	0.077
Causative microorganisms, No./total (%)			
Staphylococcus aureus, n (%)	56/203 (27.6)	81/350 (23.1)	0.243
Methicillin-resistant	11/56 (19.6)	14/81 (17.3)	
Coagulase-negative staphylococci, n (%)	32/203 (15.8)	65/350 (18.6)	0.403
Methicillin-resistant	9/32 (28.1)	19/65 (29.2)	

	Enterococci, n (%)	52/203 (25.6)	91/350 (26.0)	0.921
	Streptococci			
	S. viridans, n (%)	21/203 (10.3)	50/350 (14.3)	0.182
	S. gallolyticus (S. bovis), n (%)	7/203 (3.5)	19/350 (5.4)	0.289
	Others, n (%)	7/203 (3.5)	15/350 (4.3)	0.627
	Culture negative, n (%)	20/203 (9.9)	15/350 (4.3)	0.009
Presu	med source of entry, n (%)			
	Unknown, n (%)	80 (38.3)	126 (35.4)	
	Procedural TAVR related, n (%)	11 (5.3)	16 (4.5)	
	Urological, n (%)	21 (10.1)	30 (8.4)	
	Odontological, n (%)	3 (1.4)	16 (4.5)	
	Pacemaker implantation, n (%)	5 (2.4)	7 (2.0)	N/A
	Skin/soft tissue infection, n (%)	5 (2.4)	14 (3.9)	
	Digestive, n (%)	6 (2.9)	32 (9.0)	
	Cancer, n (%)	2 (1.0)	3 (0.8)	
Comp	plications during IE hospitalization No./total			
(%)				
	Heart failure, n (%)	92/203 (45.3)	143/348 (41.1)	0.333
	Acute renal failure, n (%)	72/189 (38.1)	142/324 (43.8)	0.204
	Septic shock, n (%)	62/202 (30.7)	93/346 (26.9)	0.339
	Stroke, n (%)	20/203 (9.9)	37/348 (10.6)	0.772
	Systemic embolization, n (%)	22/202 (10.9)	36/347 (10.4)	0.849
	Persistent bacteremia, n (%)	59/175 (33.7)	89/310 (28.7)	0.250
	Indication for surgery	118 (54.4)	197 (54.4)	0.992
Mana	gement and Outcomes, No./Total (%)			
	Antibiotic treatment alone, n (%)	179/211 (84.8)	282/354 (79.7)	0.125

Antibiotic + Surgery during IE hospitalization,

= (0/)		32/211 (15.2)	72/354 (20.3)	
n (%)				
	Time to surgery, median (IQR), days	27 [6-54]	14 [6-36]	0.161
	Transcatheter valve in valve, n (%)	2/85 (2.4)	1/157 (0.6)	0.249
	Isolated pacemaker extraction, n (%)	4/86 (4.7)	4/157 (2.6)	0.380
	In-hospital mortality, n (%)	75/212 (35.4)	113/356 (31.7)	0.373
	Relapse during follow up	13 (6.0)	34 (9.39)	0.147
	1-year mortality rate, (95% CI), %	53.3 [46.6-60.3]	46.7 [41.4-52.3]	0.065*
	2-year mortality rate, (95% CI), %	63.0 [56.0-69.8]	52.1 [46.5-57.9]	0.021*
	Follow-up, median (IQR), months	5.0 [0.8-23.1]	5.3 [1.3-23.8]	0.263
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323	*By log-rank test			
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337 Table 3 – Univariable and multivariable analysis of baseline characteristics associated

338 with mortality

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	Univariable Analysis	Multivariable			
	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	Unadjusted <i>p</i> -value	Analysis Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	Adjusted <i>p</i> -value	
Baseline characteristics			X		
Age	1.00 [1.00-1.02]	0.742	0,		
Female sex	1.31 [1.04-1.65]	0.022	1.28 [1.02-1.62]	0.035	
Body mass index	0.99 [0.97-1.02]	0.616			
Diabetes mellitus	1.04 [0.82-0.75]	0.747			
COPD	0.89 [0.69-1.16]	0.409			
Atrial fibrillation	1.05 [0.83-1.32]	0.675			
Chronic kidney disease	1.63 [1.29-2.05]	<0.001	1.61 [1.28-2.03]	<0.001	
Previous stroke	0.79 [0.55-1.13]	0.187			
Previous heart surgery	1.03 [0.79-1.37]	0.799			
Previous infective endocarditis	0.76 [0.24-2.37]	0.620			
Logistic EuroSCORE*	1.01 [1.00-1.02]	0.002			
Left ventricular ejection fraction, $\% \pm SD$	0.99 [0.99-1.00]	0.217			
Mitral regurgitation \geq 2, n (%)	1.15 [0.89-1.49]	0.302			
Mean transaortic gradient, mean ± SD, mmHg	0.99 [0.99-1.00]	0.178			



341 * Not included in the multivariable analysis because of collinearity

342 Table 4 – Univariable and multivariable analysis of IE hospitalization events associated

343 with mortality in women

	Univariable Analysis	Unadjusted	Multivariable Analysis	Adjusted
	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	<i>p</i> -value	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	<i>p</i> -value
Complications during IE hospitalization	on			
Heart failure	2.55 [1.75-3.72]	< 0.001	1.66 [1.02-2.68]	0.040
Acute renal failure	2.33 [1.60-3.41]	<0.001	~	
Septic shock	6.31 [4.29-9.29]	<0.001	3.88 [2.43-6.22]	0.002
Stroke	2.11 [1.24-3.59]	0.012		
Systemic embolization	1.92 [1.12-3.28]	0.027		
Persistent bacteriemia	3.19 [2.10-4.85]	<0.001	2.09 [1.32-3.32]	< 0.001
Management				
Surgery	1.19 [0.65-2.18]	0.579		
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357 FIGURE TITLE AND CAPTIONS

- 358
- 359 Graphical Abstract: Sex differences in infective endocarditis after transcatheter valve360 replacement
- 361
- 362 **Figure 1:** Kaplan-Meier curves comparing survival stratified by sex. Test comparing the two
- 363 groups was based on the log-rank test
- 364
- 365 **Figure 2:** Kaplan-Meier curves comparing survival stratified by surgical status and sex. Test
- 366 comparing women with and without surgery was based on the log-rank test

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