

1 **The Efficacy and Safety of Tranexamic Acid Combined with Rivaroxaban in**
2 **Prevention of Clinical Events in Patients after Total Knee/ Hip Arthroplasty: A**
3 **Meta-analysis**

4
5 Short Title: TXA and Rivaroxaban usage in TKA/ THA.

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45 **Abstract**

46 **Aims** To evaluate the efficacy and safety of tranexamic acid combined with
47 rivaroxaban in prevention of clinical events in patients after TKA/THA through
48 meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.

49 **Materials and Methods** Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) were retrieved from
50 medical literature databases. Risk ratios (RR) Standard mean difference (SMD) and
51 95% confidence intervals (CI) were calculated to compare the primary and safety
52 endpoints.

53 **Results** In total, 21 articles (32 trial comparisons) were retrieved which contained
54 2909 patients. In general, 1718 patients (59.06%) were randomized to experimental
55 group whereas 1191 patients (40.94%) were randomized to control group. The result
56 showed that TXA combined with rivaroxaban significantly reduce TBL, BTV, BTR
57 and the incidence of MB compared to the control group; there were no significant
58 differences in NMB between experimental group and control group.

59 **Conclusion** This meta-analysis reveals that TXA combined with rivaroxaban can
60 significantly reduce TBL, BTV, the incidence of blood transfusion and the incidence
61 of MB compared to the control group, which proved that its efficacy and safety are
62 trustworthy.

63 **Keywords** tranexamic acid; rivaroxaban; total knee arthroplasty; total hip arthroplasty;
64 meta-analysis.

65

66 **Introduction**

67 In recent years, total knee arthroplasty (TKA) has become an important method for
68 the clinical treatment of severe knee joint diseases, while total hip arthroplasty (THA)
69 is also widely used in the treatment of end-stage femoral head necrosis, hip ankylosis
70 and other hip related diseases.¹ As the techniques of TKA and THA become more and
71 more mature, the biggest problems that afflict these two types of surgery are the large
72 amount of blood loss during the perioperative period and the need for blood
73 transfusion after operation.² Therefore, the prevention and treatment of perioperative
74 complications and postoperative rehabilitation on the success or failure of the
75 operation and to ensure the postoperative recovery of patients cannot be ignored.³

76 TXA is a commonly used hemostatic drug in clinic, which can competitively prevent
77 and inhibit the binding of fibrin with fibrinogen and fibrinolytic enzyme, and then
78 play a hemostatic effect, several studies have confirmed that the use of aminocyclic
79 acid before and during THA/TKA can effectively reduce blood loss.⁴ However, there
80 may be a risk of keeping venous blood in a hypercoagulable state at the same time.^{5,6}

81 Patients undergoing major orthopedic surgery, especially lower limb joint replacement,
82 are inherently at high risk of venous thromboembolism (VTE). both the American
83 Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS) and the American College of Chest
84 Physicians (ACCP) have developed new evidence-based guidelines for venous
85 thromboembolic prophylaxis after total joint arthroplasty,^{7, 8} Low molecular weight
86 heparin (LMWH) is still the main anticoagulant after aminocyclic acid, but LMWH
87 needs to be adjusted when it is used, and subcutaneous injection leads to poor
88 compliance of patients after discharge. Rivaroxaban is a direct oral anticoagulant,

89 which is used to prevent VTE in THA/TKA.⁹ At the same time, rivaroxaban is given
90 orally without adjusting the dose. Despite its clinical efficacy in VTE prophylaxis,
91 orthopedic surgeons are still skeptical regarding the routine use of rivaroxaban in knee
92 and hip surgery and, in particular, the increased risk of bleeding complications.¹⁰
93 Therefore, how to balance antifibrinolysis and anticoagulation is a challenge. Some
94 studies have pointed out that we should guard against the risk of postoperative VTE
95 associated with antifibrinolytic drugs and the risk of bleeding caused by anticoagulant
96 drugs.^{5,6} There are also studies suggest that TXA has a short half-life in plasma and
97 its antifibrinolytic effect only lasts for 3 – 4 hours,¹¹ or according to others, up to 6 – 8
98 hours.¹² This time interval is well shorter than, or may just coincide with, the
99 initiation of anticoagulant administration to patients after joint replacement surgery. In
100 theory, therefore, no “contradiction” in the combined use of such agents exists, the
101 added use of TXA does not increase rates of thromboembolic events after total joint
102 replacement surgery.¹³⁻¹⁵ The application of TXA combined with rivaroxaban is
103 relatively few and lacks clinical significance. The purpose of this study was to explore
104 the efficacy and safety of TXA combined with rivaroxaban in patients with THA or
105 TKA to provide more options for the clinical application of anticoagulants.

106

107 **Methods**

108 ***Search strategy***

109 Two researchers searched for published articles comparing the efficacy and safety of
110 TXA combined with rivaroxaban in patients with THA or TKA following the
111 Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA)
112 guidelines. The RCTs were systematically searched in the databases such as the
113 Cochrane Library, Embase, PubMed, Google Scholar, Baidu Scholar, China National
114 Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) and China Science and Technology Journal
115 Database (VIP) with no restrictions on language or publication date from inception to
116 1 Oct. 2022. The following keywords and MeSH terms were used: (“total knee
117 arthroplasty” OR “total hip arthroplasty”) AND “tranexamic acid”. Additional
118 relevant studies were retrieved from reviews, meta-analyses, and other literature. Two
119 authors screened and double-reviewed the retrieved studies. Where disputes were
120 encountered, they were resolved by consulting a third author. In this meta-analysis, all
121 data were extracted from previously published studies, thus no patient consent and
122 ethical approval were required.

123

124 ***Inclusion and exclusion criteria***

125 The following inclusion criteria were used: (1) Studies that assessed the efficacy and
126 safety of TXA combined with rivaroxaban in patients with THA or TKA; (2) The
127 study was a randomized controlled trial (RCT); (3) The study subjects were patients
128 undergoing THA or TKA; (4) General information (e.g. gender, age, disease type) of
129 the experimental group and the control group was not statistically different at baseline;
130 (5) At least one of the evaluated groups was based on TXA combined with
131 rivaroxaban; (6) TXA and rivaroxaban had no limitation in usage and dose; (7)
132 Included articles provide sufficient data for analysis; (8) Language was limited to

133 English or Chinese.
134 The following exclusion criteria were used: (1) Nonclinical trials, case reports or
135 series; (2) Animal experiments; (3) Semi-randomized controlled trials or
136 non-randomized trials; (4) Articles with incorrect or incomplete data, or articles
137 whose data could not be extracted; (5) Studies that compared the efficacy and safety
138 of TXA versus rivaroxaban in patients after THA or TKA.

139

140 ***Endpoints***

141 The primary endpoints for this study were total blood loss (TBL), blood transfusion
142 volume (BTV) and blood transfusion rate (BTR). The secondary endpoints for this
143 study were hidden blood loss (HBL), intraoperative blood loss (IBL), postoperative
144 drainage, activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT), fibrinogen (FG), hemoglobin
145 (Hb) and prothrombin time (PT). The safety endpoints included major bleeding (MB),
146 non-major bleeding (NMB) (including life-threatening bleeding, clinically relevant
147 non-major bleeding, minor bleeding, any overt bleeding, etc) and venous
148 thromboembolism (VTE).

149

150 ***Data extraction***

151 Two authors independently reviewed the contents of the retrieved studies. The
152 primary endpoints were extracted by two authors and verified by a third author. The
153 data extracted included the following primary information: first author's name, year of
154 publication, test type/region, sample size, sex ratio, average age, body mass index
155 (BMI), intervention, operative type, follow-up time and endpoints measured in each
156 study. If the contents of the studies needed clarification, the first author of the study
157 was contacted. Disagreements were resolved through consensus or by consulting a
158 third author.

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160 ***Risk-of-Bias Assessments***

161 The methodological quality of the included studies was estimated independently by
162 two authors based on The Cochrane Risk of Bias criteria. Each quality item was
163 graded as low risk, high risk, or no clear risk. The seven items used to assess bias in
164 each trial included the randomization sequence generation, allocation concealment,
165 blinding of participants and personnel, blinding of outcome assessment, incomplete
166 outcome data, selective reporting, and other biases.

167

168 ***Statistical analysis***

169 Stata (version 12.0, Stata Corp, College Station, Texas) was used to analyze and pool
170 the individual research results. Pooled results were recorded as risk ratios (RR) or
171 Standard mean difference (SMD) and 95% confidence intervals (CI) with two-sided
172 P-values. P-values <0.05 were considered to be statistically significant. Heterogeneity
173 was evaluated using the I^2 test. The heterogeneity was considered to be small when
174 $I^2 < 50\%$ and substantial when $I^2 > 50\%$. The fixed effect model was used when $I^2 <$
175 50% , while the random effect model was used when $I^2 > 50\%$. A funnel plot was
176 generated to examine the publication bias and to explore the sources of heterogeneity

177 if more than ten studies were included to assess this endpoint. Subgroup analysis was
178 performed according to the administration, operative type, follow-up period and
179 dosage of TXA.

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181 Results

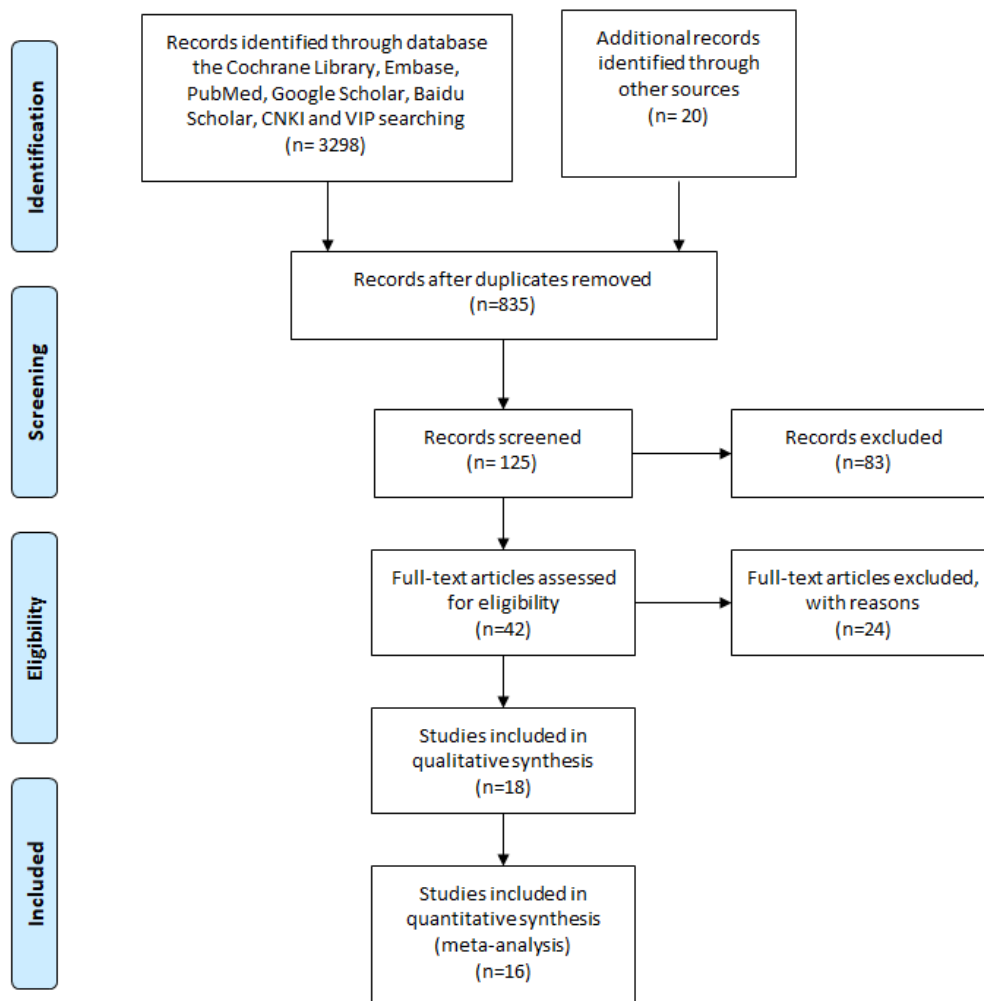
182 *Studies Retrieved and Characteristics*

183 A total of 3308 relevant studies were enrolled according to PRISMA guidelines. The
184 titles and abstracts of the studies were screened to exclude irrelevant studies. Then,
185 we further eliminated the unfit studies by reading the full text of the articles. Finally,
186 21 studies^{12, 16-30} (32 trial comparisons) were included according to the inclusion and
187 exclusion criteria as shown in **Figure 1**. In general, included studies had a total of
188 2909 patients. Among them 1718 patients (59.06%) were randomized to experimental
189 group whereas 1191 patients (40.94%) were randomized to control group. All studies
190 included in this meta-analysis were RCTs.

191

192 Figure 1

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195 **Literature quality evaluation**

196 The Cochrane Risk of Bias criteria was used to evaluate the quality of the retrieved
 197 studies by two authors. The included studies were all randomized controlled trials. 21
 198 studies^{12, 16-35} described random sequence generation and 6 studies^{12, 16, 19, 25, 33, 35}
 199 described blinding of participants and personnel. 6 studies^{12, 16, 19, 25, 33, 35} described
 200 blinding of outcome assessment. None of the studies described other biases.

202 **Primary endpoints**

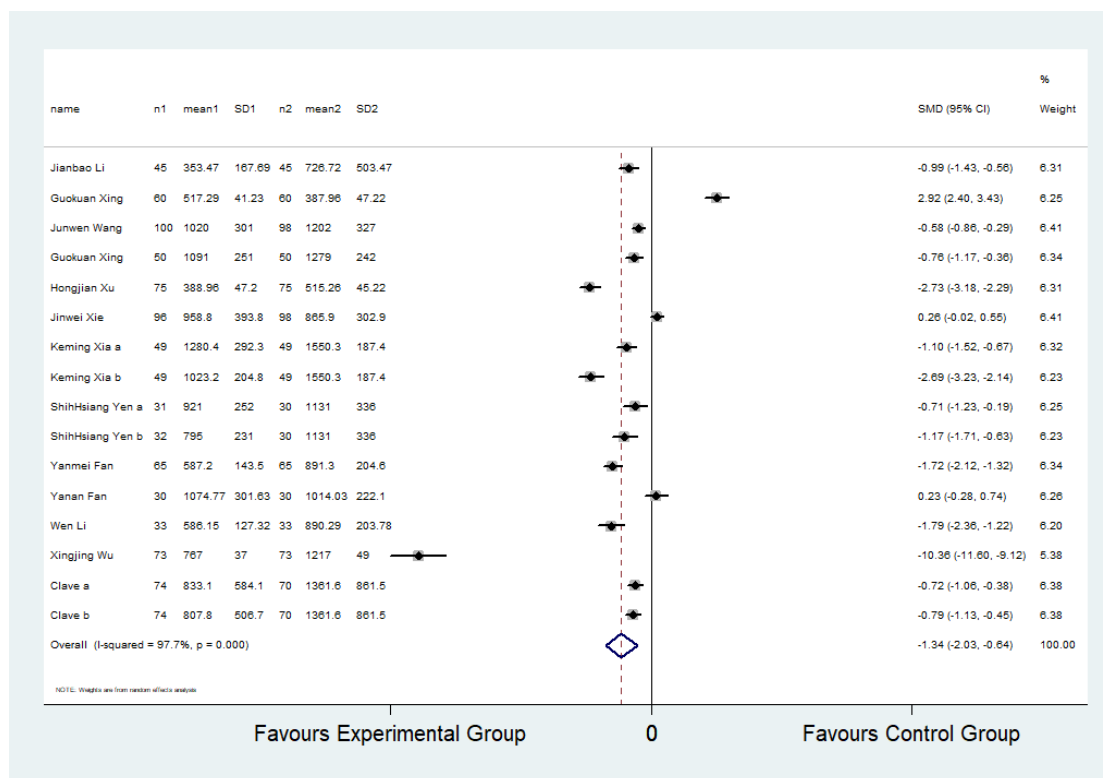
203 **TBL**

204 sixteen studies^{12, 16-19, 21-25, 27-28, 30, 31, 33, 35} (23 trial comparisons) reported TBL. In total,
 205 2188 patients were involved to evaluate TBL, wherein 1269 were assigned to
 206 experimental group and 919 were assigned to control group. The result showed that
 207 patients' TBL in experimental group was significantly less than that in control group
 208 (SMD: -1.35, 95% CI -1.87 to -0.84, I²=96.9%) as shown in **Fig. 2**. The random effect
 209 model was applied. Subgroup analysis was performed according to the administration,
 210 operative type, follow-up period and dosage of TXA.

211

212 **Figure 2**

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215 The result of the administration subgroup showed that patients' TBL in experimental
 216 group was significantly less than that in control group when TXA were local wet
 217 compressed or intravenous injected or intraarticular injected (SMD: -2.22, 95% CI
 218 -3.21 to -1.23; SMD: -1.30 95% CI -1.70 to -0.89; SMD: -1.73, 95% CI -3.34 to -0.12);
 219 there was no significant difference when TXA were intravenous dripped or
 220 intravenous dripped and intraarticular injected at the same time (SMD: -0.63, 95% CI

221 -1.42 to 0.16; SMD: -1.05, 95% CI -2.60 to 0.51).

222 The result of operative type subgroup showed that patients' TBL in experimental
223 group was significantly less than that in control group when undergoing THA or TKA
224 (SMD: -2.43, 95% CI -3.84 to -1.01; SMD: -1.02, 95% CI -1.55 to -0.50).

225 The result of the follow-up period subgroup showed that patients' TBL in
226 experimental group was significantly less than that in control group at each follow up
227 period including half a month, 3 months and 6 months (SMD: -1.63, 95% CI -2.37
228 to -0.89; SMD: -0.61, 95% CI -1.15 to -0.08; SMD: -4.85, 95% CI -7.82 to -1.87).

229 The result of dosage subgroup showed that patients' TBL in experimental group was
230 significantly less than that in control group at all 1g or 2g or any other dosage (SMD:
231 -1.09, 95% CI -1.89 to -0.29; SMD: -2.63, 95% CI -4.11 to -1.15; SMD: -1.01, 95%CI
232 -1.76 to -0.27).

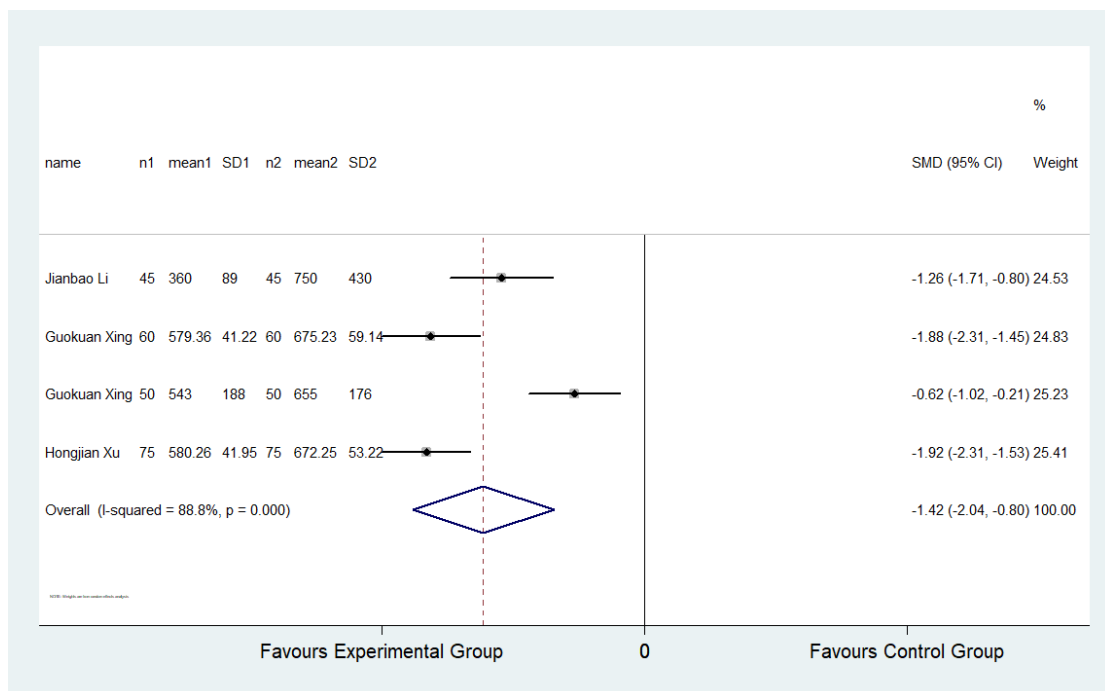
233 BTV

234 Five studies^{16-18, 21, 22} (6 trial comparisons) reported BTV. In total, 620 patients were
235 involved to evaluate BTV, wherein 310 were assigned to the experimental group and
236 310 were assigned to control group. The result showed that patients' BTV in
237 experimental group was significantly less than that in control group (SMD: -1.21,
238 95% CI -1.84 to -0.59, $I^2=90.9%$) as shown in **Fig. 3**. The random effect model was
239 applied. Subgroup analysis was performed according to the operative type. The result
240 of operative type subgroup showed that patients' BTV in experimental group was
241 significantly less than that in control group when undergoing THA or TKA (SMD:
242 -1.60, 95% CI -2.25 to -0.95; SMD: -0.96, 95% CI -1.86 to -0.06)

243

244 Figure 3

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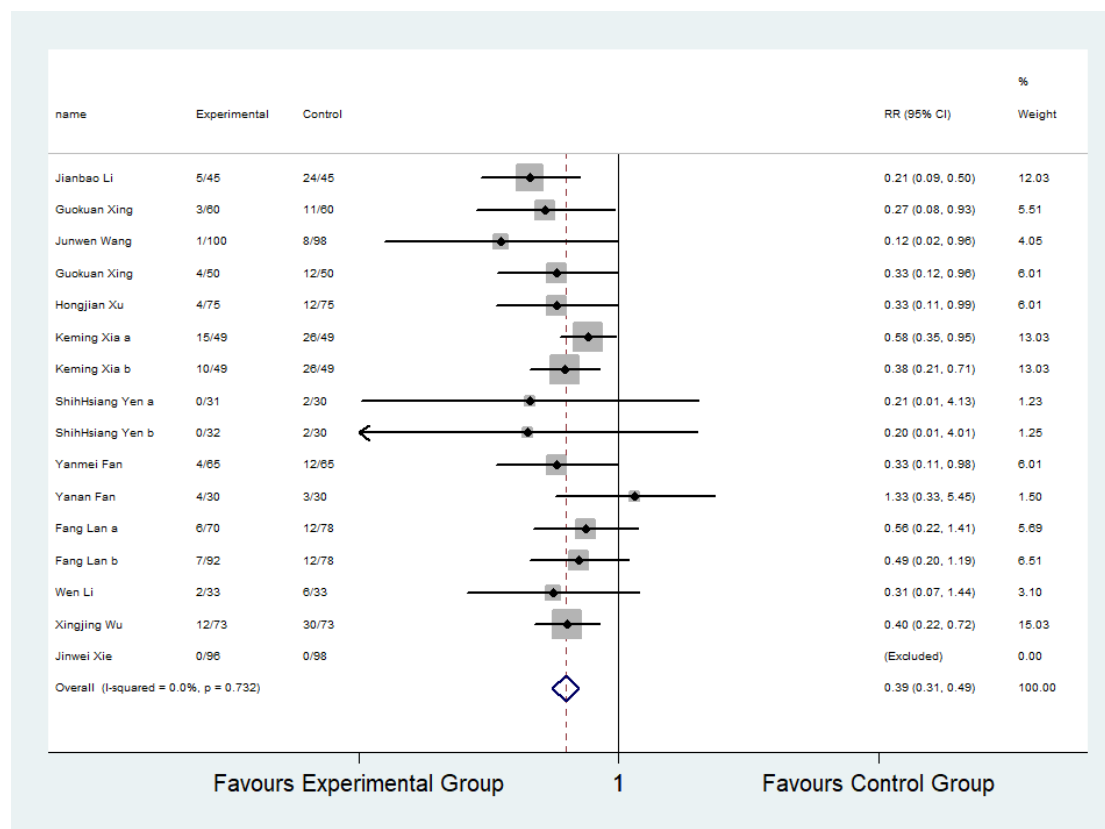
247 BTR

248 Seventeen studies^{16-19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27-33, 35} (24 trial comparisons) reported blood

249 transfusion. In total, 84 out of 1318 patients in experimental group experienced blood
 250 transfusion while 218 out of 1008 patients in the control group experienced blood
 251 transfusion. The result showed that TXA combined with rivaroxaban significantly
 252 reduce the incidence of blood transfusion compared to the control group (6.4% vs
 253 21.6%) (RR: 0.39, 95% CI 0.31 to 0.49 $I^2=0.0\%$) as shown in **Fig. 4**. The fixed effect
 254 model was applied. Subgroup analysis was performed according to the administration,
 255 operative type, follow-up period and dosage of TXA.

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Figure 4



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The result of administration subgroup showed that TXA combined with rivaroxaban significantly reduce the incidence of blood transfusion compared to the control group when TXA was intravenous dripped or intraarticular injected or local wet compressed or intravenous dripped and intraarticular injected at the same time (RR: 0.47, 95% CI 0.32 to 0.68; RR: 0.33, 95% CI 0.22 to 0.50; RR: 0.33, 95% CI 0.16 to 0.72; RR: 0.43, 95% CI 0.27 to 0.69).

The result of operative type subgroup showed that TXA combined with rivaroxaban significantly reduce the incidence of blood transfusion compared to the control group when undergoing THA or TKA (RR:0.40, 95% CI 0.28 to 0.59; RR:0.38, 95% CI 0.29 to 0.50).

The result of follow-up period subgroup showed that TXA combined with rivaroxaban significantly reduce the incidence of blood transfusion compared to the control group when the follow-up period was half a month, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months (RR:0.39, 95% CI 0.28 to 0.55; RR:0.52, 95% CI 0.28 to 0.99; RR:0.34, 95%

274 CI 0.21 to 0.56; RR:0.37, 95% CI 0.23 to 0.59).
275 The result of dosage subgroup showed that TXA combined with rivaroxaban
276 significantly reduce the incidence of blood transfusion compared to the control group
277 at 1g, 2g or other dosage (RR:0.33, 95% CI 0.18 to 0.61; RR:0.37, 95% CI 0.24 to
278 0.58; RR:0.41, 95% CI 0.31 to 0.55).

279

280 *Secondary endpoints*

281 The result showed that compared to the control group, TXA combined Rivaroxaban
282 could significantly reduce the HBL (SMD: -1.39, 95% CI -2.00 to -0.78, I²=97.4%);
283 IBL (SMD: -0.55, 95% CI -0.89 to -0.21, I²=91.5%); postoperative drainage (SMD:
284 -1.37, 95% CI -1.95 to -0.79, I²=96.4%);

285 The result showed that compared to the control group, TXA combined Rivaroxaban
286 could significantly increase the APTT (SMD: 0.26, 95% CI 0.13 to 0.38, I²=5.6%);
287 Hb (SMD: 1.22, 95% CI 0.44 to 2.00, I²=96.8%).

288 There was no significant difference between the TXA combined Rivaroxaban and the
289 control group on FG (SMD: -0.12, 95% CI -0.32 to 0.07, I²=0.0%) and PT (SMD:
290 -0.67, 95% CI -1.67 to 0.33, I²=97.9%).

291

292 *Safety endpoints*

293 The result showed that compared to the control group, TXA combined Rivaroxaban
294 could significantly reduce the incidence of MB (1.3% vs 2.9%) (RR: 0.27, 95% CI
295 0.10 to 0.71, I²=27.5%).

296 There was no significant difference between the TXA combined Rivaroxaban and the
297 control group on NMB (19.4% vs 25.5%) (RR: 0.85, 95% CI 0.69 to 1.04, I²=48.2%)
298 and VTE (3.1% vs 5.4%) (RR: 0.68, 95% CI 0.47 to 0.98, I²=0.0%).

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300 *Publication bias and sensitivity analysis*

301 The funnel plot showed that there was bias among retrieved articles as shown in
302 **Supply Fig. 1-7**. The results of the sensitivity analysis were shown in **Supply Fig.**
303 **8-10**.

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305 **Discussion**

306 THA/TKA is one of the operations with large blood loss in orthopedic surgery.³⁶ TXA,
307 a hemostatic, is often used to prevent perioperative bleeding in TKA/THA.³⁷ However,
308 the antifibrinolytic effect of TXA may increase the risk of DVT.³⁸ Anticoagulant drugs
309 should be given within 6-12 hours after the application of aminocyclic acid.³⁹ As a
310 direct oral anticoagulant, rivaroxaban has been used clinically for more than a decade,
311 and its antithrombotic effect has been widely recognized.⁴⁰ Applying TXA and
312 rivaroxaban at the same time in clinic is contradictory, so the efficacy and safety of
313 TXA combined with rivaroxaban in the prevention of clinical events in patients
314 undergoing TKA/THA are still controversial.⁴¹

315 Nowadays, there are many meta-analyses to study TXA in patients after THA/TKA.
316 They all concluded that TXA was effective after THA/TKA. Grandhi et al,⁴² Wei et
317 al,¹⁴ Dong et al,⁴³ and Kuo et al⁴⁴ conducted meta-analyses to evaluate the

318 effectiveness and safety of aminocaproic acid for reducing blood loss in total knee
319 and hip arthroplasty; Li et al,⁴⁵ Chen et al⁴⁶ and Yang et al⁴⁷ conducted
320 meta-analyses to comprise the efficacy and safety of topical, system and intravenous
321 tranexamic acid usage in total knee and hip arthroplasty; Zhang et al⁴⁸ and Han et al
322⁴⁹ conducted meta-analyses to compared the efficacy and safety of oral compared with
323 intravenous tranexamic acid in reducing blood loss after primary total knee and hip
324 arthroplasty. However, they only focused on the administration of TXA itself, but did
325 not analysed other influencing factors. Yu et al⁵⁰ and Wu et al⁵¹ compared tranexamic
326 acid plus diluted-epinephrine versus tranexamic acid alone for blood loss in total joint
327 arthroplasty, but they only retrieved several studies and only focused on blood loss
328 and transfusion rate. As a result, whether TXA combined with anticoagulant are
329 effective and safe enough to apply in clinical is still inconsistent.

330 This is the first meta-analysis to evaluate the efficacy and safety of TXA combined
331 with rivaroxaban in the prevention of clinical events in patients undergoing
332 TKA/THA. The result showed that TXA combined with rivaroxaban significantly
333 reduce TBL, BTV, BTR and the incidence of MB compared to the control group
334 (SMD: -1.35, 95% CI -1.87 to -0.84; SMD: -1.21, 95% CI -1.84 to -0.59; RR: 0.39,
335 95% CI 0.31 to 0.49; RR: 0.27, 95% CI 0.10 to 0.71); there were no significant
336 differences in NMB between experimental group and control group (RR: 0.85, 95%
337 CI 0.69 to 1.04).

338 When evaluating the primary endpoints, we found that the results were highly
339 heterogeneous, so we did sensitivity analyses to decompose it. The results showed
340 that after excluding Wu et al 's article,³¹ the overall effect and subgroup effects of TBL
341 has been greatly affected; after excluding Wang et al 's article,¹⁸ the overall effect of
342 NMB has been greatly affected; the heterogeneity of BTV cannot be explore by
343 sensitivity analysis, which may be caused by the lack of studies. In the study of Wu et
344 al,⁴⁶ the TBL was calculated according to the formula provided by Good et al,⁴⁷ which
345 was somewhat different from the calculation methods in other studies. (In this
346 formula, the TBL was calculated without blood transfusion.) It would easily lead to
347 heterogeneity; in the study of Wang et al,¹⁸ rivaroxaban was used in control group. As
348 a direct oral anticoagulant, it is not surprising that the use of rivaroxaban increases the
349 risk of NMB.

350 Subgroup analyses were performed according to the administration, operative type,
351 follow-up period and dosage of TXA when evaluating primary endpoints. And
352 subgroup analyses were performed only if there were more than two trial comparisons
353 per subgroup. In the administration subgroup analysis, TXA combined with
354 rivaroxaban was more effective in reducing TBL during local wet compression or
355 intravenous injection. Thus, the administration should be paid attention to in the
356 clinical use. In the operative type subgroup analysis, the effects of TXA combined
357 with rivaroxaban on patients undergoing THA or TKA were different, which may be
358 due to the different wound size, operation time and the severity of primary disease. In
359 the follow-up time subgroup analysis, the results showed that follow-up time wasn't
360 the significant influencing effect on TBL and BTR for each group could reduce TBL
361 and BTR. In the dosage of TXA subgroup analysis, the results showed that all group

362 could reduce TBL and BTR. However what needs to point out is the dosage of TXA
363 included in the article is different, we only distinguish it from the clinical commonly
364 used 1g and 2g, and combine the other doses into one group, so different doses may
365 be the main reason for the high heterogeneity.

366 The potential clinical implications of this meta-analysis are as follows: (1) This is the
367 first study focusing on the efficacy and safety of TXA combined with rivaroxaban in
368 patients after THA/TKA. Previous articles evaluated the efficacy of TXA after
369 THA/TKA, and there was only one existing specific meta-analysis to assess the
370 applying of TXA combined with rivaroxaban which was limited to exploring the
371 efficacy of unilateral TKA. Our article just filled the gap. (2) 21 RCTs were retrieved
372 which included a large sample size of 2909 participants compared to previous studies.
373 (3) Subgroup analyses were performed according to the administration, operative type,
374 follow-up period and dosage of TXA to explain the influence of different factors on
375 the overall effect. (4) Sensitivity analyses were conducted to decompose heterogeneity
376 and explore the influence of sample size on the overall effect. (5) We evaluated 12
377 indicators, including TBL, BTV, BTR, HBL, IBL, postoperative drainage, APTT, FG,
378 Hb, PT, MB and NMB, which were more comprehensive than previous articles.

379 The limitations of this study are as follows: (1) Several baseline characteristics
380 (diabetes, hypertension, older age or other drug use) were not considered and this may
381 lead to mixed bias. (2) We used the outcome events reported in the retrieved studies to
382 integrate the results of this meta-analysis. Therefore, it is difficult to assess the effect
383 of these baseline characteristics on the results. (3) This study could not explore the
384 interactions among the subgroup analysis because of the limitations inherent in the
385 included studies. (4) The intervention measures in the control group were different.
386 Some groups were given saline intravenously, some groups were treated with
387 rivaroxaban or TXA alone and the dosage was different, so subgroup analysis could
388 not be carried out, which may lead to significant heterogeneity. However, in view of
389 ethical factors, it is immoral to require the original author not to use any hemostatic or
390 anticoagulant interventions, so we have included all of these articles. (5) Only two
391 retrieved articles have been published in what are considered high-impact orthopaedic
392 surgical journals of the English literature. Seven of the retrieved papers have been
393 published in Chinese journals, and the remaining in journals of general medicine. As a
394 result, we have correctly tried to address this issue by evaluating the quality of the
395 retrieved studies, assigning a grade C to most.

396 This meta-analysis reveals that TXA combined with rivaroxaban can significantly
397 reduce TBL, BTV, the incidence of blood transfusion and the incidence of MB
398 compared to the control group, which proved that its efficacy and safety are
399 trustworthy.

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406 **Declarations**

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412 **Author Contributions**

413 The authors confirm contribution to the paper as follows: study conception and design:
414 Mingyang JIANG. Author, Ke ZHANG. Author; data collection: Chuanliang CHEN.
415 Author; analysis and interpretation of results: Xiaochong ZOU. Author, Kaicheng LIU.
416 Author. Yongheng DAI. Author; draft manuscript preparation: Zhandong BO. Author.
417 Mingyang JIANG. Author. All authors reviewed the results and approved the final
418 version of the manuscript.

419 **Availability of Data and Materials**

420 The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are available
421 from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

422 **Ethnics Approval**

423 None.

424 **Conflict of interest**

425 The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest to report regarding the
426 present study.

427 **Abbreviations**

428 RCT= Randomized Controlled Trials

429 RR= Risk ratios,

430 SMD= Standard mean difference,

431 CI= confidence intervals

432 TXA= Tranexamic acid

433 TBL=total blood loss

434 BTV=blood transfusion volume

435 BTR=blood transfusion rate, HBL=hidden blood loss

436 IBL=intraoperative blood loss

437 APTT=activated partial thromboplastin time

438 FG=fibrinogen

439 Hb=hemoglobin

440 PT=prothrombin time

441 MB=major bleeding

442 NMB=non-major bleeding

443 VTE=venous thromboembolism

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626 **Figure legends**

627 **Figure 1.** Flow diagram of the study selection process.

628 CNKI=China national knowledge infrastructure, VIP=China Science and Technology
629 Journal Database

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631 **Figure 2.** Comparison of TBL between the experimental group and the control group.

632 SMD= standardized mean difference

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634 **Figure 3.** Comparison of BTV between the experimental group and the control group.

635 SMD= standardized mean difference

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637 **Figure 4.** Comparison of BTR between the experimental group and the control group.

638 RR= Risk Ratio

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642 **Supply Figure 1.** Comparison of TBL between the experimental group and the
643 control group. (funnel plot)

644 SMD= standardized mean difference

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646 **Supply Figure 2.** Comparison of BTR between the experimental group and the
647 control group. (funnel plot)

648 RR= Risk Ratio

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650 **Supply Figure 3.** Comparison of HBL between the experimental group and the
651 control group. (funnel plot)

652 SMD= standardized mean difference

653

654 **Supply Figure 4.** Comparison of IBL between the experimental group and the control
655 group. (funnel plot)

656 SMD= standardized mean difference

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658 **Supply Figure 5.** Comparison of Postoperative drainage between the experimental
659 group and the control group. (funnel plot)

660 SMD= standardized mean difference

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662 **Supply Figure 6.** Comparison of non-major bleeding between the experimental group
663 and the control group. (funnel plot)

664 RR= Risk Ratio

665

666 **Supply Figure 7.** Comparison of APTT between the experimental group and the
667 control group. (funnel plot)

668 SMD= standardized mean difference

669

670 **Supply Figure 8.** Comparison of TBL between the experimental group and the
671 control group. (sensitivity analysis)

672 SMD= standardized mean difference

673

674 **Supply Figure 9.** Comparison of BTV between the experimental group and the
675 control group. (sensitivity analysis)

676 SMD= standardized mean difference

677

678 **Supply Figure 10.** Comparison of NMB between the experimental group and the
679 control group. (sensitivity analysis)

680 RR= Risk Ratio

681