Appendix Table F-3. Study characteristics—KQ 3

| **Study** | **Study Design; Setting; Location;**  **Quality** | **Total N;**  **Interventions (N)** | **Mean Age** | **Type of AF: (Permanent, Paroxysmal, Persistent)** | **Mean Duration of AF** | **Special Popula-tion** | **HF** | **Mean LVEF (%)** | **CAD** | **Outcomes Assessed** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Levy, 2001[20](#_ENREF_20) | RCT;  Outpatient;  UK;  Good | Total N: 36  Arm 1: VVIR pacing + rate-control medications (18)  Arm 2: VVIR pacing + His-bundle ablation (18) | Total:  69  (SD 7)  Arm 1:  69  (SD 7)  Arm 2:  68  (SD 8) | Total:  100%, 0, 0  Arm 1:  100%, 0, 0  Arm 2:  100%, 0, 0 | Arm 1:  3.5 yr  (SD 3.8)  Arm 2:  3.8 yr  (SD 4.0) | Permanent AF | NR | Arm 1: 67 (SD 9)  Arm 2: 61 (SD 9) | NR | Control of ventricular heart rate (24-hour Holter monitor), Exercise duration by treadmill testing, Quality of life/functional status |
| Weera-sooriya, 2003[21](#_ENREF_21) (AIRCRAFT=Australian Intervention Randomized Control of  Rate in Atrial Fibrillation Trial)  Lim, 2007[22](#_ENREF_22) | RCT;  NR;  Australia/ NZ;  Fair | Total N: 99  Arm 1: Rate-control medications (50)  Arm 2: AVN ablation + VVIR pacemaker (49) | Total:  68  (SD 8.7)  Arm 1:  67.9  (SD 9)  Arm 2:  68  (SD 8.5) | Total:  100%, 0, 0  Arm 1:  100%, 0, 0  Arm 2:  100%, 0, 0 | Total:  68 mo  (SD 104)  Arm 1:  78 mo  (SD 131)  Arm 2:  58 mo  (SD 66) | Permanent AF | NR | NR | Total:  40%  Arm 1:  38%  Arm 2:  43% | All-cause mortality, Myocardial infarction, Control of AF symptoms, Control of ventricular rate, Quality of life/functional status, Exercise duration (by treadmill test) |
| Kirkutis, 2004[23](#_ENREF_23) | RCT;  NR;  NR;  Poor | Total N: 76  Arm 1: Amiodarone (38)  Arm 2: AVN ablation + His bundle pacemaker (38) | Total:  62  Min age:  45  Max age:  82 | 100% “resistant chronic AF” | NR | None | NR | NR | NR | Control of ventricular rate |
| Doshi, 2005[24](#_ENREF_24) | RCT;  NR;  US, Canada;  Fair | Total N: 184  Arm 1: RV pacing (81)  Arm 2: BiV pacing (103) | Arm 1: 67  (SD 10)  Arm 2:  70  (SD 10) | Total:  100%, 0, 0 | NR | Permanent AF | NR | Arm 1:  45  (SD 15)  Arm 2:  47  (SD 16) | Arm 1: 30%  Arm 2:  38% | All-cause mortality  Quality of life/ Functional status |
| Petrac, 2005[25](#_ENREF_25) | RCT;  Outpatient;  Europe;  Good | Total N: 102  Arm 1: AVN ablation + VVIR pacemaker (52)  Arm 2: AVN ablation + DDDR pacemaker + antiarrhythmic medication (50) | Arm 1:  62  (SD 10)  Arm 2:  60  (SD 11) | Arm 1:  0, 0, 100%  Arm 2:  0, 0, 100% | NR | Persistent AF | Arm 1:  23.1%  Arm 2:  12% | NR | Arm 1:  23.1%  Arm 2:  16% | Cardiac mortality, Stroke, All-cause mortality, CV hospitalizations, Recurrence of AF, Heart failure symptoms, Myocardial ischemia, Composite outcome (cardiac mortality, stroke) |
| Lee, 2000[26](#_ENREF_26) | RCT;  NR;  Asia;  Fair | Total N: 40  Arm 1: AF ablation by PVI (transcatheter, anterior) (18)  Arm 2: AF ablation by PVI (transcatheter, posterior) (22) | Arm 1:  67  (SD 8)  Arm 2:  66  (SD 11) | Arm 1:  50%, 50%, 0  Arm 2:  55%, 45%, 0 | Arm 1:  4.9 yr  (SD 1.6)  Arm 2:  5.2 yr  (SD 1.8) | None | NR | Arm 1:  48 (SD 7)  Arm 2:  46 (SD 9) | Arm 1:  6%  Arm 2:  14% | Restoration of sinus rhythm, Control of ventricular rate |

**Abbreviations:** AF=atrial fibrillation; CAD=coronary artery disease; CV=cardiovascular; HF=heart failure; IQR=interquartiles range; KQ=Key Question; LVEF=left ventricular ejection fraction; mo=month(s); N=number of participants; NR=not reported; RCT=randomized controlled trial; SD=standard deviation; wk=week(s); yr=year(s)