**Table III. Classic open surgery versus cryostripping.**
2 articles, 2 RCTs.

| Operative procedure | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|
| Classic open surgery *versus* cryostripping | Menyhei G, Gyevnar Z, Arato E, Kelemen O, Kollar L. Conventional stripping versus cryostripping: a prospective randomised trial to compare improvement in quality of life and complications. *Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg*. 2008;35:218-23 | Monocenter study.<br>165 patients with GSV incompetence less than 12 mm in diameter<br>No SSV reflux. No data on deep vein.<br>CEAP clinical classification C2-C4S in the lower limb treated.<br>Spinal or general anesthesia. No complementary VV phlebectomy at thigh in both groups.<br>Group I (n=86): OS<br>*versus*<br>Group II (n=79): HL+ cryostripping<br>**Post-operative course:**<br>. No difference between group I and II in terms of pain<br>. Less bruising in group II compared with group I. P=0.01<br>**Results at 6 months of follow-up:**<br>· No difference between group I and II in terms of clinical results. |
| | Klem TMAL, Schnater JM, Schütte PR, Hop W, van der Ham AC, Wittens CHA. A randomized trial of cryostripping versus conventional stripping of the great saphenous vein. *J Vasc Sur*g. 2009;49:403-409 | Multi-center study.<br>494 patients with GSV incompetence. No SSV reflux, no deep vein obstruction.<br>CEAP clinical classification C2-C4S in the lower limb treated.<br>Group I (n=245): OS<br>*versus*<br>Group II (n=249): HL+ cryostripping<br>**Post-operative course**<br>Median operation time was significantly shorter in group II.<br>**Results at 6 months of follow-up:**<br>The percentage of patients with residual GSV at 6 months (primary outcome) was better ingroup I. *P* < .001.<br>The AVVQ showed small but significantly better results in group I |

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***Abbreviations:***
*AVVQ Aberdeen varicose vein questionnaire; GSV=Great saphenous vein; HL= High ligation; OS= Open surgery: High ligation + Saphenous stripping+/ - Perforator ligation +/ - Tributary phlebectomy below the knee; SSV =small saphenous vein; VV= varicose veins*