

# Review: Short vs. long duration dual antiplatelet Tx after stent

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(HealthDay)—Dual antiplatelet therapy (DAPT) continued beyond six months after drug-eluting stent implantation is associated with reduced stent thrombosis and myocardial infarction but also increased bleeding and all-cause mortality as compared to shorter-term DAPT therapy, according to a review published online May 25 in *Cardiovascular Therapeutics*.

Elsayed Abo-salem, M.D., from the University of Cincinnati, and colleagues conducted a systematic literature review to compare continued use of DAPT with shorter duration DAPT (aspirin alone) for variable durations beyond three months of drug-eluting stent implantation. Data were included from 10 [randomized controlled trials](#) involving 32,136 subjects randomized to continued use of DAPT versus aspirin alone.

The researchers found that longer DAPT correlated with a significant reduction in [stent thrombosis](#) (0.3 versus 0.7 percent; P

"DAPT continued beyond six months after second generation drug-eluting stent implantation decreases stent thrombosis and [myocardial infarction](#), but increases [major bleeding](#) and all-causes mortality compared to shorter DAPT (aspirin alone)," the authors conclude.

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