

Grade Evidence and Strength of Recommendations

American College of Cardiology / American Heart Association Classifications—Summary of Indications

- I** Conditions for which there is evidence and/or general agreement that a given procedure or treatment is useful and effective.
- II** Conditions for which there is conflicting evidence and/or a divergence of opinion about the usefulness/efficacy of a procedure or treatment.
 - IIa** Weight of evidence/opinion is in favor of usefulness/efficacy.
 - IIb** Usefulness/efficacy is less well established by evidence/opinion.
- III** Conditions for which there is evidence and/or general agreement that the procedure/treatment is not useful/effective and in some cases may be harmful.

Weight of Evidence

- A** Data derived from multiple randomized clinical trials that involved large numbers of patients.
- B** Data derived from a limited number of randomized trials that involved small numbers of patients or from careful analyses of nonrandomized studies or observational registries.
- C** Expert consensus was the primary basis for the recommendation.