

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

857 – Thoracoscopic exclusion of the left atrial appendage in non-valvular atrial fibrillation (with or without other cardiac surgery) for the prevention of thromboembolism Consultation Comments table

IPAC date: Thursday 14th April 2011

Com. no.	Consultee name and organisation	Sec. no.	Comments	Response
1	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser	2.2	there are newly developed devices that do not use staples, such as the Atriclip from Atricure. I have used this and it is less traumatic, sealing more biologically. Also, chest drains are usually inserted for bleeding, as it is usually possible to ensure lung re-inflation by direct vision through the scope on completion of the procedure.	Please respond to all comments Thank you for your comment. There was no published literature on the use of the Atriclip device. The Committee has added a comment to section 2.5 pointing out that new devices are available for this procedure that avoid the use of staples.

"Comments received in the course of consultations carried out by NICE are published in the interests of openness and transparency, and to promote understanding of how recommendations are developed. The comments are published as a record of the submissions that NICE has received, and are not endorsed by NICE, its officers or advisory committees."