**Appendix 1:** Patient characteristics and surgery details-comparison of included and excluded patients

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|  | **Included patients**  **n=318** | **Excluded patients**  **n=3 915** | **p-value** |
| Male sex, n (%)  Yes | (N=318)  273 (85.9) | (N=3 915)  3 177 (81.2) | 0.038 |
| Surgery, n (%)  Yes (open surgery or EVAR) | (N=318)  252 (79.3) | (N=3 915)  3 136 (80.1) | 0.713 |
| Unfit for surgery, n (%)  Yes | (N=276)  21 (7.6) | (N=3 396)  224 (6.6) | 0.517 |
| Age at first scan (years), mean  (95% CI) | (N=181)  71.7 (70.6;72.8) | (N=2 254)  72.5 (72.1;72.8) | 0.215 |
| Modality initial scan, n (%)  Ultrasound  CT  MR | (N=304)  194 (63.8)  102 (33.6)  8 (2.6) | (N=3 328)  2 134 (64.1)  1 093 (32.9)  101 (3.0) | 0.906 |
| Follow-up  Number of scans, mean (95% CI) | (N=318)  2.58 (2.35;2.80) | (N=3 915)  2.03 (1.97;2.10) | <0.0001\* |
| Age at surgery (years), mean (95% CI) | (N=157)  71.7 (70.6;72.8) | (N=2 236)  72.3 (72.0;72.6) | 0.326 |
| Age at RAAA (years), mean  (95% CI) | (N=39)  71.6 (69.0;74.2) | (N=1 030)  73.7 (73.2;74.2) | 0.102 |
| RAAA, n (%)  Yes | (N=318)  46 (14.5) | (N=3 915)  1 187 (30.3) | <0.001\* |
| Level of education, n (%)  Primary  Secondary  Higher education | (N=165)  85 (51.2)  59 (35.8)  21 (12.7) | (N=2 303)  1 185 (51.5)  819 (35.5)  299 (13.0) | 0.995 |
| Initial scan, mm (95% CI)  Max. diameter | (N=304)  56.8 (55.0;58.6) | (N=3 355)  59.1 (58.6;59.8) | 0.030\* |
| Iliac aneurysm, n (%)  Yes | (N=248)  96 (38.7) | (N=3 126)  924 (29.6) | 0.003\* |
| Smoking, n (%)  Current  Former  Never | (N=296)  151 (51.0)  111 (37.5)  34 (11.5) | (N=2 743)  1 543 (56.2)  855 (31.2)  345 (12.6) | 0.085 |
| Alcohol abuse1  Yes | (N=142)  15 (10.6) | (N=1 080)  160 (14.8) | 0.174 |

RAAA=Ruptured Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, maximum aortic diameter > 30 mm;

EVAR=Endovascular Aneurysm Repair; CI=Confidence Interval; Alcohol abuse =More than 2 standard drinks/day for women and more than 3 standard drinks/day for men.

N: number of patients with information regarding the specific variable

\*: p-value significant at 95% confidence level