

Biostatistics statement:

Stent patency duration and survival time were estimated by the Kaplan-Meier method. Continuous variables were analyzed using one-way analysis of variance, and categorical and binary variables were analyzed using Fisher's exact test. All statistical tests were two-tailed and assessed at a 0.05 probability level. All analyses were performed using SPSS software, version 18.0 (SPSS Inc., Chicago, Illinois, USA).

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "M. Kikuyama". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M' and a long, sweeping underline.