

Appendix C. DECIDE Decision Tool

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Coronary Stents

A coronary stent is a device that props open a narrowed artery in the heart. There are 2 types of coronary stents: bare metal and drug-coated. The chart below explains the differences between a bare metal stent and a drug-coated stent. Research shows **there is no difference in survival or future heart attacks between the two types of stents**. You may prefer one stent over the other based on the information below and a discussion with your doctor or nurse.

	BARE METAL STENT	DRUG COATED STENT
<p>Repeat Heart Procedure If the stent that you receive today becomes blocked, you will need another heart procedure to place another stent.</p>	<p>Out of 100 people like you: 91 will not need a repeat procedure due to stent blockage 9 will need a repeat procedure due to stent blockage</p>	<p>Out of 100 people like you: 95 will not need a repeat procedure due to stent blockage 5 will need a repeat procedure due to stent blockage</p>
Required Medicine You will need to take a blood thinner medicine (in addition to aspirin).	At least 1 month†	At least 12 months†
Stopping the medicine early increases the risk of a heart attack and death.	Before 1 month	Before 12 months
Cost of medicine varies, depending on insurance coverage.	Total cost: \$16 - \$200	Total cost: \$192 - \$2400
Bleeding and Bruising Most patients bruise and bleed more easily while taking the extra blood thinner medicine.	At least 1 month	At least 12 months
Other Medical Procedures and Surgery Major medical procedures, major dental work, and surgery must wait.	At least 1 month	At least 12 months

†Duration of medication therapy varies. Do not stop your medicine without talking with your doctor first.