Correspondence to Dr Bongani M Mayosi, Department of Medicine, J Floor Old Groote Schuur Hospital, Anzio Road, Observatory, 7925, Cape Town, South Africa; bongani.mayosi@uct.ac.za

Contributors The idea of the study was conceived by BMM and EDS. BMM, EDS, MN, KAW and RJW were involved in the design of the experiment. The experimental work was carried out by MN, KM and JW. MB conducted the statistical analysis of the data. MN wrote the first draft of the manuscript, and all authors participated in the finalisation of the manuscript.

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Competing interests None.

Patient consent Obtained.

Ethics approval University of Cape Town Human Research Ethics Committee.

Provenance and peer review Not commissioned; externally peer reviewed.

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Piccolo R, L Gu Y L, Iversen A Z, Dominguez-Rodriguez A, De Smet B J G L, Mahmoud K D, Eitel I, Abreu-Gonzalez P, Thiele H, Piscione F. Clinical impact of intracoronary abciximab in patients undergoing primary percutaneous coronary intervention: an individual patient-data pooled analysis of randomised studies. *Heart* 2012 May 24 [Epub ahead of print] doi:10.1136/heartjnl-2011-301101. The findings in this paper are unreliable because it fails to address the data from AIDA STEMI [*Lancet* 2012;**379**:923–31], to which the authors had access prior to submission and which contraindicate the paper's conclusion by showing no advantage for intracoronary administration. The authors were asked to update the paper to include the AIDA STEMI findings but, with the exception of Dr Olivier F Bertrand, they declined. Owing to this difference of opinion, Dr Bertrand asked to be removed from the list of authors, a request to which we acceded. Under these circumstances, the matter was considered by COPE who recommended retraction and this paper has now been withdrawn from *Heart*.

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