

Is it time to tame the hype over catheter-based valves? | MassDevice.com On Call

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Physicians need to take a closer look at the risks of transcatheter aortic valve replacement surgery before offering the procedure to lower-risk patients, researchers say.



MASSDEVICE ON CALL — Physicians may need to take a step back and temper the hype surrounding transcatheter aortic valve implantation surgeries, researchers warned.

That's more bad news for [Edwards Lifesciences](#) [1] (NYSE:[EW](#) [2]), whose shares took a tumble earlier this month after an analysis published in the *British Medical Journal* claimed that "many" of the heart valve replacements using its flagship Sapien heart valve "cannot be justified."

Given increased risks of stroke and vascular complications, the new study warned that surgeons may need to avoid over-stating the benefits of TAVI surgery in patients who are eligible for alternate procedures, [heartwire](#) [3] reported.

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