Supplementary Table 4. Exploratory multivariable-adjusted mediation analyses using collateral status, infarct volume, and baseline NIHSS as candidate mediators of the association between ePWV and 3-month functional outcome

Mediator	Total effect β (95% CI)	Direct effect β (95% CI)	Indirect effect β (95% CI)
Collateral status*	0.259 (0.137–0.381)	0.237 (0.115–0.359)	0.022 (0.001–0.053)
Infarct volume	0.270 (0.149–0.392)	0.248 (0.132–0.363)	0.023 (–0.012 to 0.055)
Baseline NIHSS	0.288 (0.157–0.419)	0.238 (0.120–0.356)	0.050 (–0.010 to 0.114)

NIHSS, National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale; ePWV, estimated pulse wave velocity; CI, confidence interval.
*Main mediation analysis presented in the manuscript. Multivariable-adjusted mediation analyses were performed using PROCESS with 5,000 bootstrap samples. Models were adjusted for age (<60 *vs.* ≥60 years), sex, onset-to-randomization time, blood pressure management strategy, Alberta Stroke Program Early CT Score, internal carotid artery occlusion, smoking, atrial fibrillation, previous stroke, and stroke subtype. The collateral status and infarct volume mediation models were additionally adjusted for baseline NIHSS score. Statistical significance of indirect effects was determined according to whether the 95% bootstrap CI excluded zero.