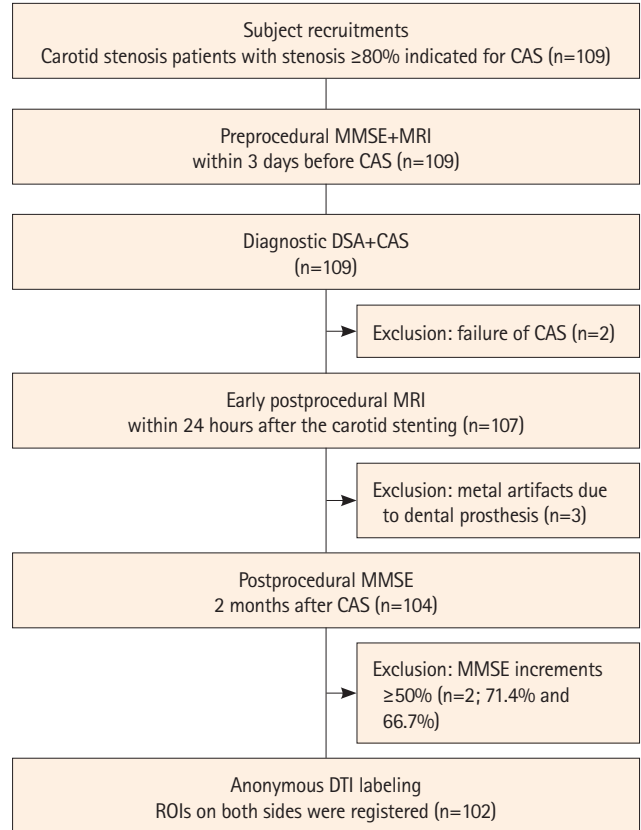


Supplementary Table 1. Criteria for carotid stenting indications by Taiwan National Health Insurance (code: A220-1)

No.	Carotid stenting is indicated by any 1 of the following criteria*
1	Asymptomatic carotid stenosis $\geq 80\%$
2	Symptomatic carotid stenosis $\geq 60\%$
3	Stenosis after radiation therapy
4	Dissecting aneurysm or stenosis due to artery dissection
5	Patients who are not candidates for surgical endarterectomy or general anesthesia due to cardiopulmonary conditions

*This is general criteria for carotid stenting indications in Taiwan. Since we recruited subjects with severe carotid stenosis only in this study, subjects may not fulfill the criteria 2 to 5.



Supplementary Figure 1. Flow diagram of the study subject recruitment. CAS, carotid angioplasty and stenting; MMSE, Mini-Mental State Examination; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; DSA, digital subtraction angiography; DTI, diffusion tensor image; ROIs, regions of interest.