


Welcome to the second SWISS-AF newsletter!

Today, all sites are set up for brain scanning and all have recruited at least one patient. In general, most sites improved and consolidated their activities. New staff was efficiently trained; separate training days were held in Bern and Zurich. We thank the local study teams for their continuing efforts. We are also grateful to our supporting partners: the **MRI Core Lab MIAC**, the **CTU**, and the **ECG Core Lab (Lugano)** for their help to establish this broad interdisciplinary research network; the **Schiller AG** for providing the ECG machines and helpful support. We look forward to accumulating insights from this outstanding collaboration that should help to advance health care and therapy of patients with AF.

 **The study team in Basel wishes you all a relaxing and enjoyable holiday, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2015!**



	Participating Center (with Site No.)	Patients enrolled (n)
1.	Basel – Universitätsspital (01)	197
2.	Bern – Inselspital, Universitätskliniken für Allgemeine Medizin, Neurologie, Kardiologie (11)	72
3.	Baden – Kantonsspital (10)	21
4.	Fribourg – Hôpital Cantonal Fribourg (13)	19
5.	St. Gallen – Kantonsspital (02)	10
6.	Lugano – Ospedale Regionale di Lugano (04)	10
7.	Zürich – Triemli Spital (15)	10
8.	Lugano – Cardiocentro Ticino (12)	9
9.	Bellinzona – Ospedale Regionale di Bellinzona e Valli (03)	7
10.	Luzern – St. Anna Spital (14)	6
11.	Genève – Hôpitaux Universitaires Genève (09)	4
12.	Lausanne – Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois (07)	2
13.	Luzern – Kantonsspital (08)	1
	all centres	368

Important news:

1. Swiss-AF needs to enroll about **100 patients per month across all sites**, as you can see in the Figure on the next page. The success and the future of the whole project are depending on this point. Therefore, we need to reach this goal as soon as possible. **SWISS-AF depends on the recruitment efforts of each individual center involved.**

2. Today, all sites are able to export data to the **ECG Core Lab** (Cardiocentro Ticino, Lugano). The data base is working well. For optimal backup, the **full Patient ID** must be indicated in the ECG data file. You find them printed on the blood kits. Please use only these pre-defined IDs.





All centers will receive their own **ECG card** describing how to insert the Pat-ID soon. Please put this small card as a reminder on your ECG machine.

Incoming Subprojects

For submissions please use our official **Subproject proposal form** downloadable from the Swiss-AF Website at <http://www.swissaf.ch/collaborate.htm>

Online!





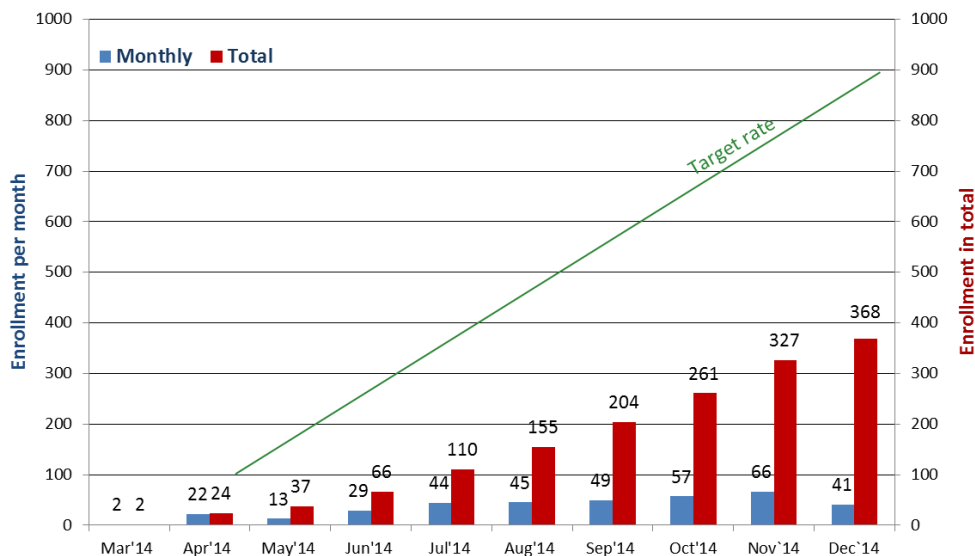
Swiss Atrial Fibrillation Cohort

Demography

PID* (SiteNum_0000):	01_XXXX
Last Name (anonymous)	LEAVE BLANK
First Name (anonymous)	LEAVE BLANK
Birthday (01.01.YYYY)	01.01.XXXX
Height (m)	XX
Weight (kg)	XX

* XXXX signs must be filled in individually for each patient (ID / Year of birth / Height / Weight)

Enrollment SWISS-AF (across all sites) /Dec 19th, 2014



Investigator Fee Payments:

Investigator Fee Payments are distributed on a quarterly basis. All patients entered in the secuTrial database at the deadline will be compensated; in addition, each MRI will be compensated with 400 CHF.

Next payment deadline:
December 31, 2014

Triemli Spital Zürich

Swiss-AF Team Profile

In each newsletter we will introduce a team from one of our actively participating sites. Here, we are pleased to present to you the team of the **Triemli Spital Zürich** joining us most recently:



From left to right: **Dr. med. Christopher Beynon** (Radiology), **Jacqueline Nadler** (cand. psych.), **Simone Fontana** (Study Nurse), **Karin Scheuch-Fischer** (Study Nurse), **Dr. med. Andreas Müller** (PI)

„Die Swiss-AF Studie ist für uns besonders interessant, weil sie langfristig auf die Optimierung der Therapie von Patienten mit Vorhofflimmern abzielt. Speziell für uns Studienkoordinatorinnen ist die eigenständige Durchführung der Tests, insbesondere der kognitiven Tests, eine spannende Herausforderung; ebenso begrüßen wir, dass wir die Patienten über die verschiedenen Studienprozeduren hinweg begleiten und umfassend betreuen können.“

(Study Team Triemli Spital Zürich, Nov. 2014)

Hints & Facts:

- **3 new variables** were included in the eCRF: *Hemoglobin, hematocrit, thrombocytes* (CRF item 47). Importantly, these values are not directly measured. They have to be collected from patient charts (with dates of measurement): values taken **within the last 6 months** from Baseline are acceptable, if taken under stable conditions. These data need to be added to the eCRF for **all patients** (even for those who were already tested)! These values are crucial for the conduct of a subproject on bleeding score development and potential other subprojects. Thanks for helping us in getting a complete dataset!
- **eCRF validation:** Please check your eCRF data regularly. In secuTrial, click on 1. *Reports* (welcome page) and 2. *Validation information*. Now click on items that are flagged for correction, if any. Thank you!
- **Blood samples:** An SOP for smooth sample delivery was provided; delivery works well. Please request new kits at least 14 days in advance (so you will get them on time). Also, please use the original bags of the kits for shipping the samples back to Basel (cf. SOP).
- **Patients with heart devices** like pacemakers can be included but we do not advise brain scanning, even if their device is MRI compatible. However, they can perform all the remaining study procedures.
- **Guidelines about clinically relevant incidental findings** (V2, 07.11.2014) regarding GDS, MoCa, MRI, and ECG were circulated to facilitate the handling of these critical events.

Swiss-AF is funded by:



Editors:

Dr. Anne Springer, Prof. Dr. David Conen, Markus Riesterer
Contact us: swiss-af@usb.ch