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Editorial

Dear DISPACT Trial Group,

We are very happy to see that patient enrolment for DISPACT trial is on the home straight now. Our target of 450 patients is already in sight and we hope to be able to finish randomisation by the end of this year at the latest.

Some large centres of excellence for pancreatic surgery have succeeded in randomizing 20 or even more than 30 DISPACT patients, which is absolutely outstanding! On the other hand, more than two years after the trial has started, there are a number of centres where patient recruitment still rests within a one-digit range. In order to prevent learning curves and centre effects, we want all centres to treat at least 10 patients within DISPACT trial. Please make an effort to reach this target figure and help the trial to achieve its goal !

On behalf of the Steering Committee



Christoph M. Seiler



Markus Diener

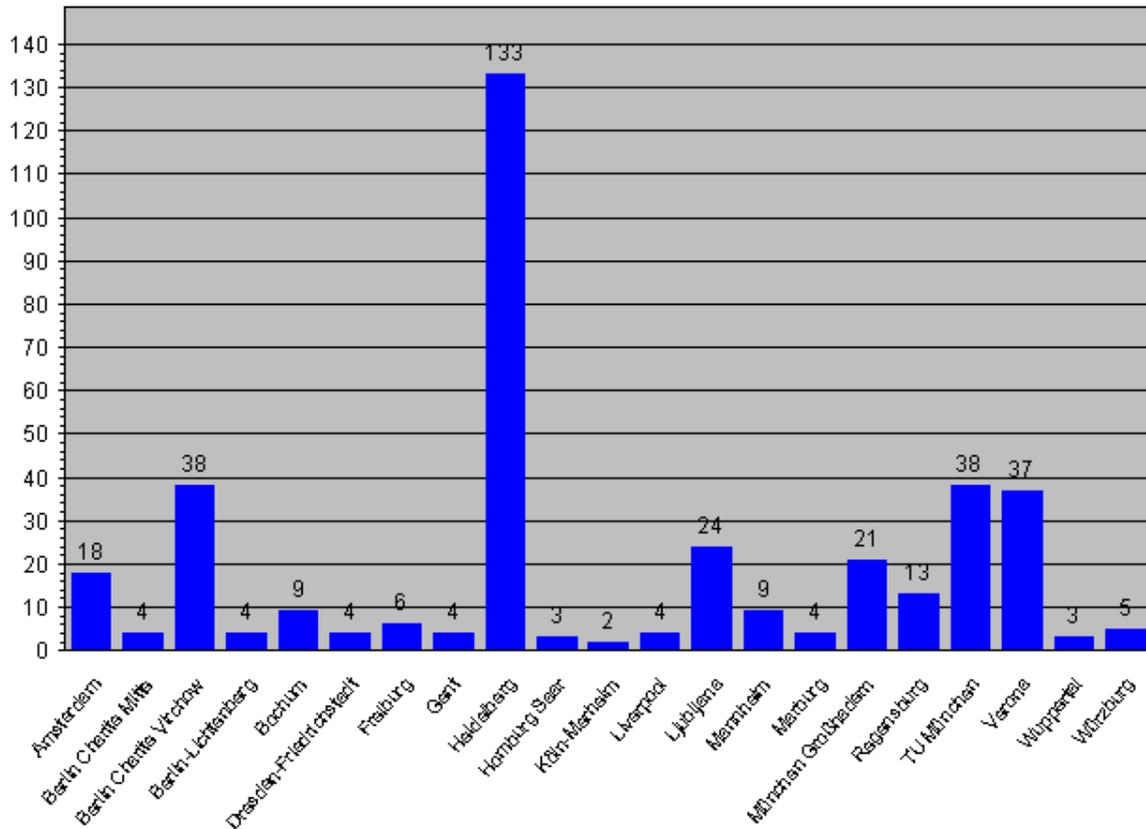


Inga Rossion



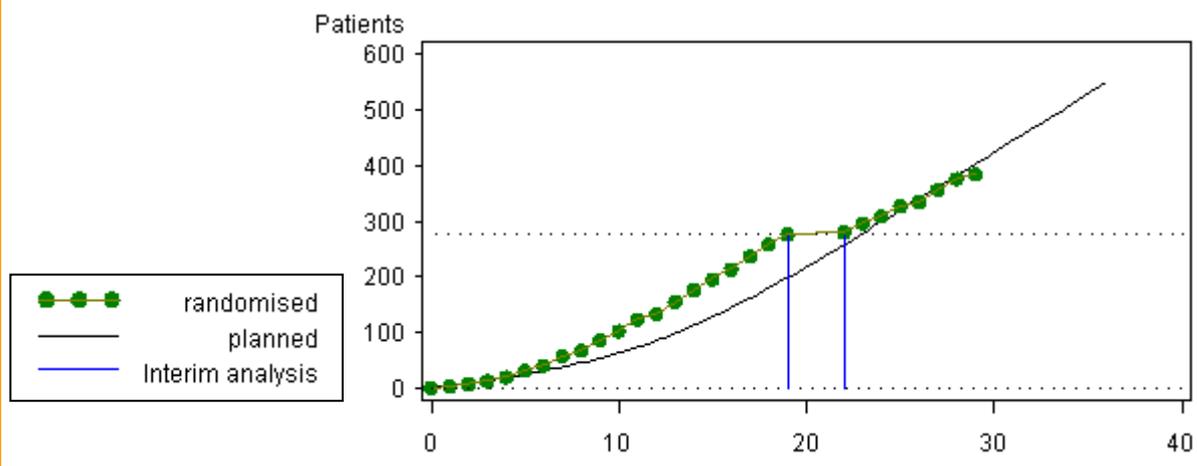
Patient enrolment per centre

There are thirteen trial centres with less than 10 DISPACT patients. We would like these centres to complete their recruitment up to ten patients.



Patient recruitment

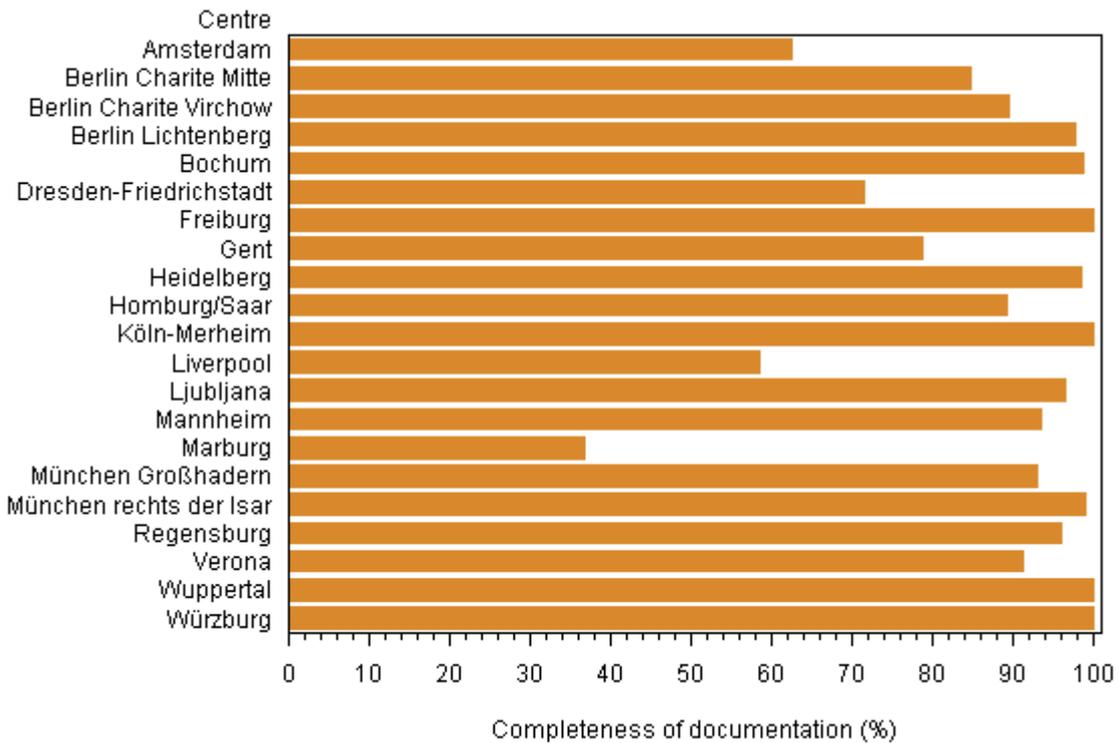
After interim analysis, patient enrolment has slowed down a bit, but overall recruitment is still within the planned range. We expect that the goal of 450 patients will be reached before the end 2009.





Documentation

From the beginning, documentation was very well with most trial centres and has improved still for interim analysis. Since last summer, a high level of over 90 % completeness was maintained. Actually, mean percentage of complete documentation is 93 % for all centres. Thank you very much for this excellent work !



Looking Forward

We wish the DISPACT trial good continuation and hope that every trial centre will be able to carry on with this great performance enabling us to finish the trial successfully.

At the 126. Annual Meeting of the German Surgical Society Professor Neuhaus and his Team will present the DISPACT Trial on Wednesday the 29th of April between 01.00 and 02.30 pm Room 14C in Munich. The SDGC will be present during the whole meeting in Munich from the 28th of April until the 1st of May. Please visit us in Hall B0 #126!

With kind regards from Heidelberg

The DISPACT Steering Committee and the DISPACT Team at the SDGC