

**Newsletter 2/2007**



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**Editorial**

**Dear members of the DISPACT study group,**

**we are happy to inform you that the DISPACT trial has had a very successful start. We welcome all new members that have joined in and thank all centres for putting an effort into the activation of each trial site.**

**Since June 2007, Inga Rossion, a physician with many years of experience in trial management, has joined our study team. She will be your principal contact person for all trial related questions and give you any support you might need. Do not hesitate to contact her.**

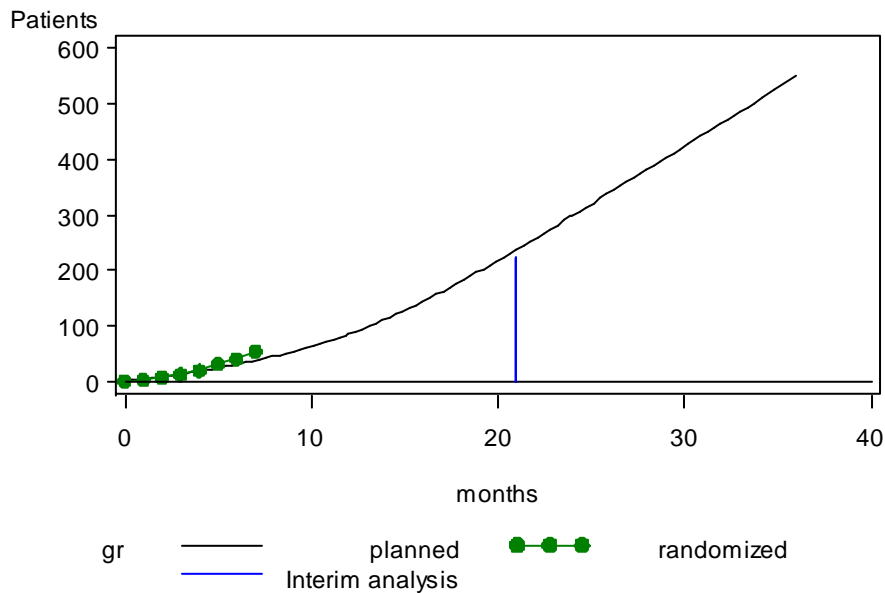
**On behalf of the Steering Committee**

**Christoph M. Seiler, MD**

## PATIENT RECRUITMENT AND PREPARATIONS OF PARTICIPATING CENTRES

We are very happy to inform you that patient enrolment for the DISPACT-Trial is progressing according to the recruitment plan (see below) with 70 patients randomized at present.

DISPACT: Recruitment plan and Reality



## PARTICIPATING CENTRES

To date, 10 trial centres are activated, 8 of them having already randomized patients.

Activated centres are: Amsterdam, Berlin Charité Virchow, Freiburg, Heidelberg, Homburg, Ljubljana, Mannheim, Regensburg, Verona, Würzburg. A number of further sites should be ready soon for activation.

## PERIOPERATIVE STANDARDS IN DISTAL PANCREATECTOMY

The survey on perioperative standards in distal pancreatectomy is well on its way with only very few questionnaires missing. For trial documentation and analysis, we need information on your standard proceeding concerning perioperative octreotide (e.g. Sandostatin) application. Please remember, that no other perioperative treatment is allowed.

## **DOCUMENTATION: eCRF AND PHOTO-UPLOAD**

All centres should take care that their first patients are documented in eCRF promptly. Our trial monitor, Sonja Wittkus, will then make an appointment for the first monitoring visit on site. Thus, you will be able to get a feed-back very early and have an opportunity to discuss any questions you may have.

The data verification committee has reviewed the first photo-uploads and reports very good quality of pictures. It was possible to review correctness of surgical procedures in all photos. Within the DISPACT trial the photo documentation represents an innovative instrument for quality control which is essential to assure surgical quality standards. Please make sure that your photos are uploaded in time as we are preparing for the next surgical review session soon. You will find a description of photo documentation procedure in the manual (see attachment). For any technical questions you may contact Heidrun Binder from our IT-support team.

## **HISTOLOGICAL MATERIAL**

Most centres have received study material by now. For security reasons, we were forced to send out empty vials for the collection of histological material. We kindly ask you to fill them yourselves with formalin and ethanol. Please make sure you have all these solutions at your disposition and let us know in case you don't. At present, we are organizing the dispatchment of RNA-later solution to each centre. Simultaneously, an update of the histology manual will be sent out to you. All histological material should be stored at your hospital and will be collected once a year via a courier service.

## **DISPACT STUDY STAFF**

The trial team has grown with two new members: Heidrun Binder joined us in April. She will offer you any support with the electronic transfer of photo documentation. Contact mail [heidrun.binder@med.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:heidrun.binder@med.uni-heidelberg.de) or phone ++49-(0) 6221-56 38517.

Your contact person for any dispact matter (contracts, ethics, logistics and so on) from now on is Inga Rossion. Contact mail [inga.rossion@med.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:inga.rossion@med.uni-heidelberg.de) or phone ++49 (0) 6221 56-6984 or -37726.

Thanks to all members for the successful start of the DISPACT trial. We will pursue our efforts in order to continue this way during the next months to come.

With kind regards from Heidelberg

The DISPACT Steering Committee and the DISPACT Team at the SDGC