



**Executive committee**

Prof. dr. C.J.M. Klijn  
Drs. K.M. van Nieuwenhuizen  
Drs. F.H.B.M. Schreuder  
Dr. H.B. van der Worp

**Participating centers**



UMC Utrecht  
Radboudumc  
Rijnstate  
OLVG West  
Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen  
Medisch Spectrum Twente  
Albert Schweitzer Ziekenhuis  
Amsterdam UMC, locatie AMC  
Gelre Ziekenhuizen  
Amphia Ziekenhuis  
Maastricht Universitair Medisch Centrum  
Erasmus MC  
Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum  
Elisabeth  
Tweesteden Ziekenhuis  
Zuyderland  
Haaglanden Medisch Centrum

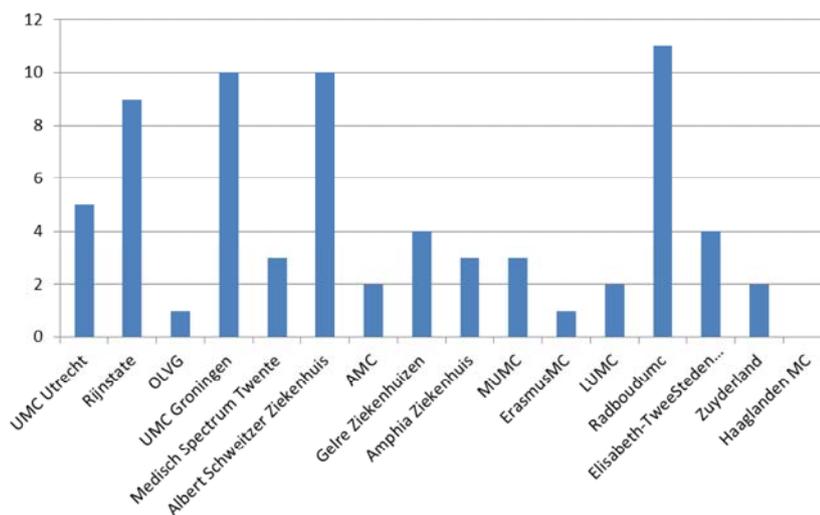
Beste

You are reading the 13<sup>th</sup> APACHE-AF newsletter. Starting with this edition, our newsletters will appear in English!

**Trial update**

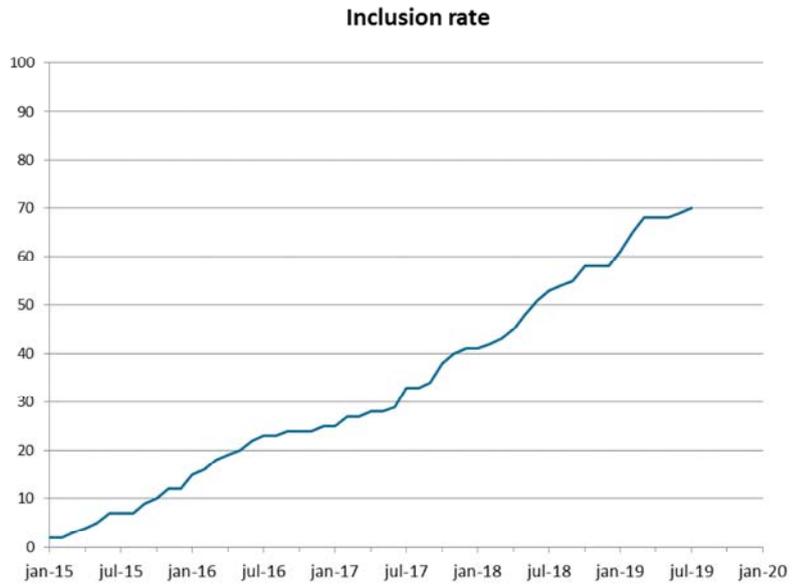
Since our last newsletter (February 2019) we have included **eight new patients!** We would like to thank the teams from Jeannette Hofmeijer (Rijnstate hospital, 4 patients), Julia van Tuijl (Elisabeth-TweeSteden hospital, 1 patient), Bart van der Worp (UMC Utrecht, 1 patient), Henk Kerkhoff (Albert Schweitzer hospital, 1 patient) and Karin Klijn / Floris Schreuder (Radboudumc, 1 patient) for their effort!

**Number of included patients per center**



**Baseline data**

We have now included **70 out of 100 patients**. The average age of the participants is 77 years and 43% is female. A total of 36 patients (51%) are randomized for apixaban treatment. A lobar hematoma was present in 26 patients (37%). Please remember that cerebral amyloid angiopathy is not an exclusion criterion for participation in the trial.



**Each patient is important!**

We aim to include 100 patients before December 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. This challenging goal can be achieved if each participating center will include 2 patients by the end of this year.

To help you reach this goal:

- The website now also includes a page with information for possible participants (<http://apache-af.nl/voor-patienten/>), where the trial is explained in Dutch.
- The trial website from one of our close collaborators, the SoStart trial, contains several videos which can be of interest and can help you with patient recruitment. This includes a 9-minute video of the Chief Investigator professor Al-Shahi Salman on **how to explain the dilemma** about ant coagulants for atrial fibrillation in patients who survive an ICH, as well as a 14-minute video of **patient experience** in the SoStart trial. The link to these videos can be found [here](#).
- Do not hesitate to contact us to discuss possibly eligible patients (by mail on [apache-af@umcutrecht.nl](mailto:apache-af@umcutrecht.nl) or by telephone 024-3610245).
- Discuss the referral of eligible patients with hospitals in your region
- Our tasty thank-you gift for including a patient!



**English newsletters**

We have decided to publish our newsletters in English, so they are also available to our close collaborators from the different ongoing trials as well as to the scientific community.

**Collaboration**

Several trials regarding the subject of anticoagulation resumption after ICH are ongoing or being scheduled. You can find the updated progress of these trial below. Click on the individual trial names to visit the available trial websites (if available).

Trial	Principal investigator(s)	Country	Trial progress
<a href="#">APACHE-AF</a>	Karin Klijn / Bart van der Worp	Nederland	Active inclusion: 70/100
<a href="#">NASPAF-ICH</a>	Ashkan Shoamanesh / Bob Hart	Canada	Inclusion closed: 30/150
<a href="#">SoSTART</a>	Rustam Al-Shahi Salman	United Kingdom	Active inclusion: 113/190
<a href="#">STATCH</a>	Eivind Berge	Denmark, Norway, Sweden	Active inclusion: 12/250
A3-ICH	Charlotte Cordonnier	France	Active inclusion: 12/300
<a href="#">PRESTIGE-AF</a>	Roland Veltkamp	Europa	Inclus on first patients
ASPIRE	Kevin Sheth / Hooman Kamel	USA	Preparat on phase
<a href="#">ENRICH-AF</a>	Ashkan Shoamanesh / Bob Hart	Canada, Europe	Preparat on phase

**News from the ESOC 2019**

- The results of the RESTART trial were discussed and simultaneously published in the [Lancet](#). This trial randomized 537 patients with an intracerebral hemorrhage who used antiplatelet or ant coagulant therapy for occlusive vascular disease to restart or

discontinue antithrombotic drugs. Primary outcome was recurrent symptomatic intracerebral hemorrhage). Secondary outcomes were major hemorrhagic complications and major ischemic complications, as well as the combination of these complications. Median time between hemorrhage and restarting antiplatelets was 76 days. Median follow-up duration was 2 years. In the group randomized to restart antiplatelet therapy, 12 (4%) of the 268 patients had a recurrent intracerebral hemorrhage compared to 23 (9%) of 269 patients randomized to avoid antiplatelet therapy (adjusted HR [aHR] 0.51, 95%-CI 0.25-1.03). The aHR for the combined endpoint was 0.86 (95%-CI 0.60-1.24). The authors conclude that the risk of recurrent intracerebral hemorrhage is probably too small to exceed the established benefits of restarting antiplatelet therapy.

- In a MRI substudy of the RESTART trial (published in the [Lancet Neurology](#)), restarting antiplatelet therapy did not demonstrate clinically or statistically significant hazards on MRI markers of small vessel disease, most importantly microbleeds.

Two ongoing trials need to confirm these findings (RESTART-Fr and STATICH). It will be interesting whether APACHE-AF will have similar results when it comes to restarting oral anticoagulation in patients with atrial fibrillation. We really need to push our efforts to finish inclusion by the end of this year!

**Remember, it takes "just" two patients per center and we will reach our target of a 100 patients!**



**Please remember to report SAEs within 24 hours after you became aware of an event in OpenClinica and e-mail the SAE to [apache-af@umcutrecht.nl](mailto:apache-af@umcutrecht.nl).**

Regards,

Karin Klijn  
Koen van Nieuwenhuizen  
Floris Schreuder  
Bart van der Worp