

Venice Arrhythmias 2015

Atrial fibrillation progression trial (ATTEST)

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- **Disclosures:**

- **Consultant: Medtronic, Cardiofocus**
- **Travel grants and lecture honoraria from Medtronic, Cardiofocus, Biosense-Webster, Boehringer-Ingelheim**

Background

Natural progression of atrial fibrillation over time

Figure 1 Time course of atrial fibrillation

Natural time course of atrial fibrillation. Shown is a typical chaotic pattern of time in atrial fibrillation (black) and sinus rhythm (grey) over time (x-axis). Atrial fibrillation progresses from undiagnosed to first diagnosed, paroxysmal, to permanent. Flashes indicate cardioversions as examples for therapeutic interventions that influence the natural course of the arrhythmia. Reproduced with permission from [13].

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Progression from PAF to chronic AF

	Patients n	Follow-up (y)	PAF → CAF	
			n Pts	%
Kerr 2005	757	1 (5)	65/757 (187/757)	8.6 (24.7)
Ruigómez 2005	418	2	70/418	17
Abe 1997	122	2	14/122	11
Sakamoto 2013	137	1	30/137	22
Kato 2004	171	14	132/171	77.2
De Vos 2010	1219	1	178/1219	15

HATCH Score – Progression from PAF to chronic AF

History of stroke or TIA	2.02	1.24–3.31	0.
Age >75 yrs	1.57	1.07–2.30	0.

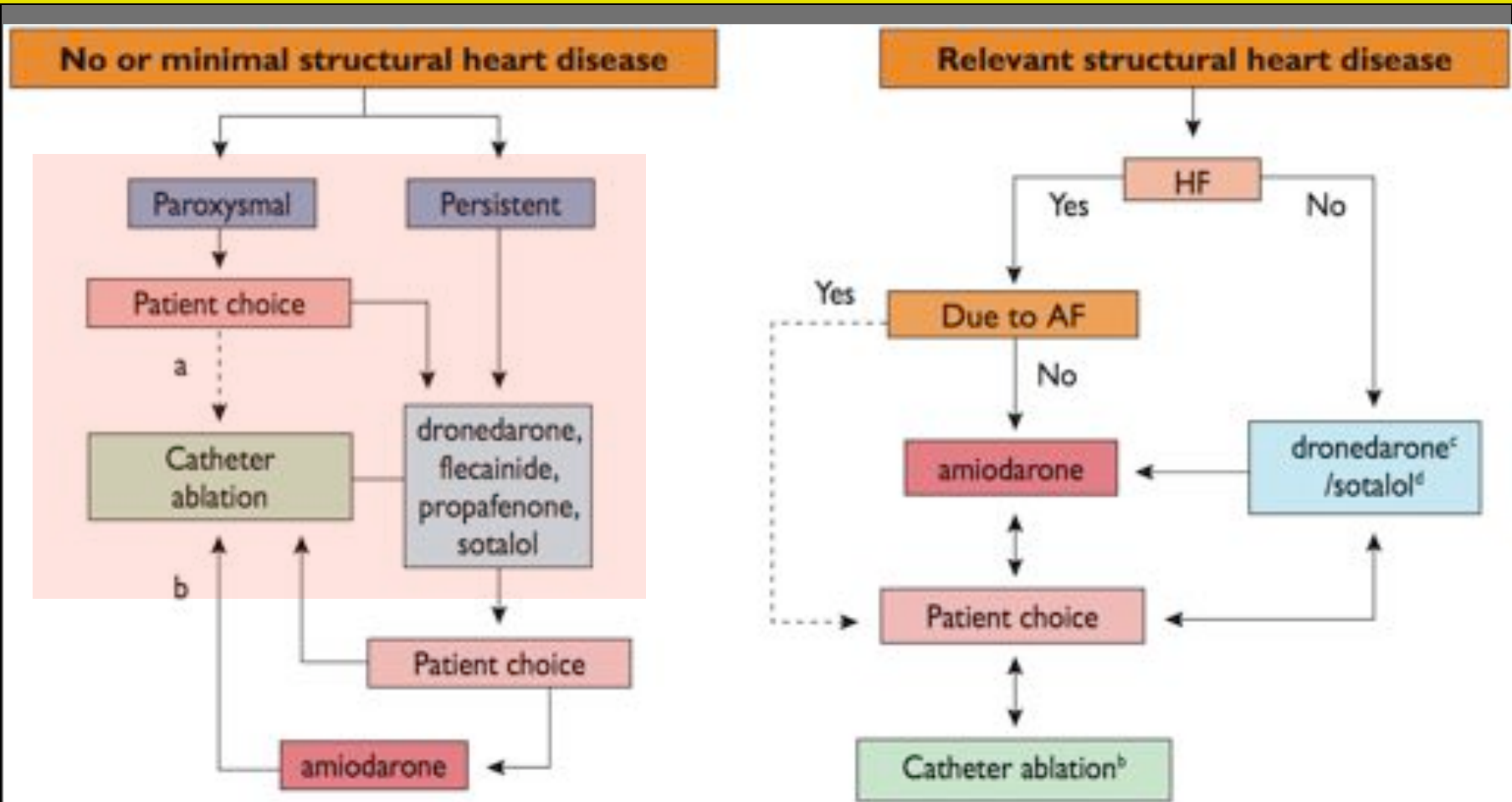
CI = confidence interval; OR = odds ratio; other abbreviations as in [Table 1](#).

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more sustained forms of AF are likely to develop in the future. Previous studies showed that the presence of underlying heart disease is associated with poor response to rhythm control therapy (10). However, these patients are more likely to have AF progression. In the same study, data suggest that the potential preventive effect of antiarrhythmic drugs on AF progression was outperformed by the promoting effect of underlying heart disease as represented by the HATCH parameters. This finding seems very important to identify patients that a

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Background



AF = atrial fibrillation; HF = heart failure. ^aUsually pulmonary vein isolation is appropriate. ^bMore extensive left atrial ablation may be needed. ^cCaution with coronary heart disease. ^dNot recommended with left ventricular hypertrophy. Heart failure due to AF = tachycardiomyopathy.

Impact of ablation on AF progression

Table 4. Impact of Catheter Ablation on AF Disease Progression: Within-study Comparisons (non-randomized unless noted)

Study	Catheter ablation % progression (n/N)	No catheter ablation % progression (n/N)	Notes
Santonecchia 2009 RCT (APAF-2 trial)	1% (1/99)	2% (2/96)	p=NS At 4 years
Dabrowski 2010	0% (0/6)	10% (15/148)	p=NS At 1 year
de Vos 2010	6.5% (4/61)	15% (174/1158)	p=0.065 At 1 year
Pappone 2008	0% (0/11)	53% (24/45)	p=0.029 At 5 years
Bertaglia 2010	10% (10/102)	N/A	3-year followup for patients free from recurrence at 1 year
Ouyang 2010	2.5% (4/161)	N/A	At 5 years
Sawhney 2009	11% (8/71)	N/A	At 5 years

ATTEST: Study Hypothesis

For subjects undergoing **early RF ablation** for *recurrent, symptomatic PAF*, it is hypothesized that:

- compared to the Drug Therapy (control) Group,
- the PVI (test) Group will demonstrate

=> superior effectiveness

as evidenced by

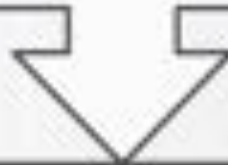
**=> a longer time needed to progress to persistent AF/AT
during follow-up through 3 years**

Study-Design: Primary Endpoint

Time to Persistent/AT AF

With persistent being defined as:

"AF/AT lasting longer than 7 consecutive days or requiring termination by cardioversion after 48 hours"



- Unnecessary Cardioversion < 7 days should be discouraged, but within ethical bounds.
- If the Investigator believes the subject's AF symptoms are sufficiently severe to warrant cardioversion, he/she should proceed, regardless of timing.
 - AF symptoms sufficiently severe to warrant cardioversion are angina, shortness of breath and/or systolic blood pressure < 90 mmHg, related to AF

Study-Design: Secondary Endpoints

Effectiveness

- Rate and time to persistent AFiAT at 1 year and 2 years, rate of persistent AFiAT by number of ablations at 3 years
- Number of repeat ablations and new AAD per subject throughout 3 year FUP
- Rhythm (% subjects in SR, % subjects with recurrent AF) throughout 3 years FUP
- Subject's pre-existing or new onset/worsened condition(s), that may be associated with AF progression,
⇒ parameters include: age and gender; LA size; HATCH Score; BP; NYHA Functional Classification of heart disease; diabetes; lipid profile; renal function; dementia
- Subjects will be considered an effectiveness success if they do not progress to persistent AF through the 3-year follow-up period

Study-Design: Secondary Endpoints

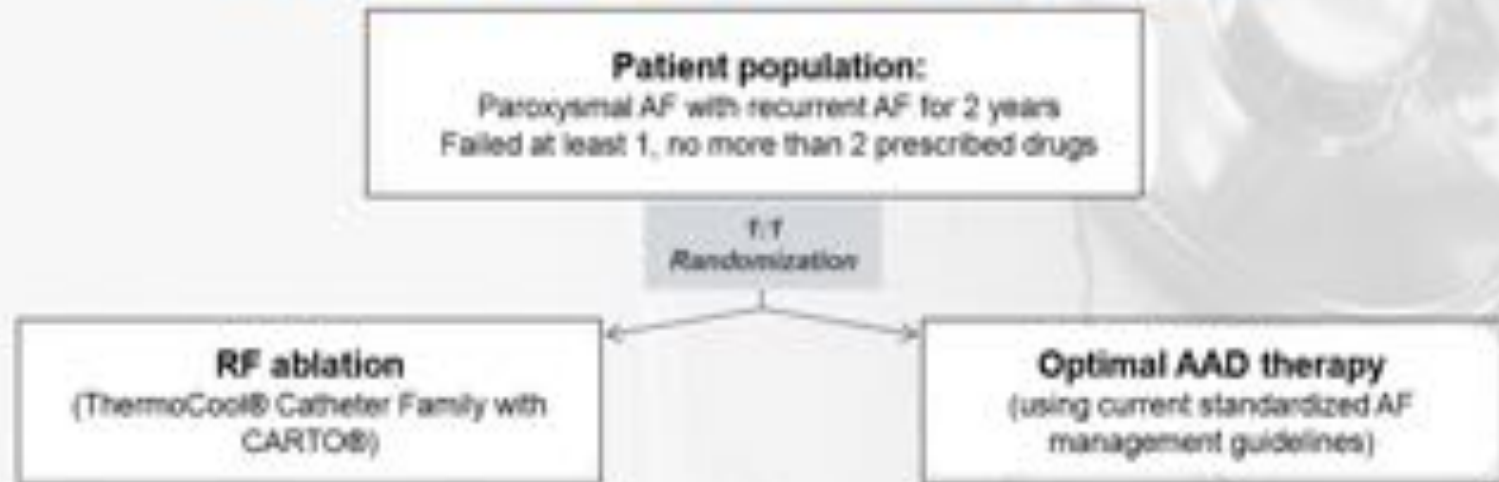
Safety

- Catheter-ablation related complications (ablation)
- Adverse drug reactions (AAD).

Health Economics Outcomes

- Health care utilization
(number and length of hospitalizations and unscheduled cardiovascular-related visits)
- Quality of Life (QoL)
EQ-5D and AFEQT² Questionnaire at 3M, 6M, 1Y, 2Y, 3Y FUP

Study-Design: Study overview



Study Objective:
Early RF ablation in paroxysmal AF (PAF) population delays progression of AF compared with drug therapy

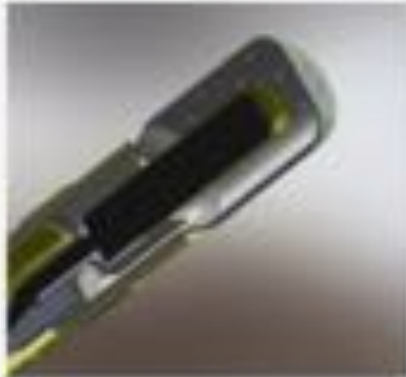
Primary Endpoint at 3 years:
Time to persistent AF/AZ
(persistent being defined as lasting longer than 7 consecutive days or requiring cardioversion after 48 hours)

Patient Visit Schedule

Baseline 3M 6M 9M 1 Yr 18M 2 Yr 30M 3 Yr

Principal Investigator: Prof. Karl Heinz Kuck

Study-Device/Equipment



Including all catheters from the ThermoCool® Navigation Family of Catheters (eg. RMT, SF, Smarttouch)



CARTO®3 System
CARTO®XP System

CARTO® RMT System



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Inclusion Criteria

1.	Patients with recurrent <u>AF</u> for 2 years, with ≥ 2 episodes over the last 6 months
2.	HATCH Score ≥ 1 and ≤ 4
3.	Eligible for catheter ablation AND for anti-arrhythmic or rate control medications, after having failed at least 1, but no more than 2 prescribed drugs (either anti-arrhythmic or rate control drug)
4.	≥ 60 years
5.	LA diameter ≤ 55 mm by TTE
6.	LV ejection fraction $\geq 50\%$ when in sinus rhythm or LV ejection fraction $\geq 35\%$ when in AF
7.	Signed Patient Informed Consent Form Able and willing to comply with protocol requirements

Exclusion Criteria

1.	Awaiting cardiac transplantation or other cardiac surgery
2.	Acute illness (ongoing) or active systemic infection or sepsis
3.	Reversible causes of AF e.g. thyroid disorders, acute alcohol intoxication, recent major surgical procedures or trauma, ...
4.	Recent cardiac events incl. MI, PCI, heart failure or valve or bypass surgery in the preceding 3 months
5.	Heart failure decompensation
6.	Previously diagnosed with persistent/permanent AF/AT
7.	Previously required cardioversion >48h after onset AF/AT
8.	Previous stroke - Subject having previous TIA or stroke (cerebrovascular accident) one year prior to patient enrolment and/or no sufficient recovery
9.	Pulmonary embolism or recent atrial embolism/thrombosis
10.	Hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy

Exclusion Criteria cont.

11.	Class IV angina or Class IV CHF (including past or planned heart transplantation)
12.	Mandated anti-arrhythmic drug therapy for disease conditions other than AF.
13.	Heritable arrhythmias or increased risk for torsade de pointes with class I or III Drugs
14.	Prior LA catheter ablation with the intention of treating AF; prior surgical interventions for AF such as the MAZE procedure
15.	Prior AV nodal ablation
16.	Contra-indications for the study catheter(s) ref. Instructions For Use
17.	Contraindication to warfarin, other anticoagulation therapy, or all anti-platelet medications
18.	Medical conditions limiting expected survival to < 3 years
19.	Concurrent participation in any other clinical study
20.	Prior history of non-adherence to prescribed drug regimens
21.	Pregnant, lactating or planning to become pregnant during course of trial

Time to event monitoring

Patient enrolment

Test group Day 0 = index ablation

Control group Day 0 = Randomization

Start weekly TTM Day 104 (+/-3M FU)

1x/week to capture some asymptomatic episodes

! AF documented → Daily monitoring for 7 consecutive days

Start monthly TTM Day 300 (+/-9M FU)

1x/month to capture some asymptomatic episodes

! AF documented → Daily monitoring for 7 consecutive days

Primary endpoint reached

AF present for 7 consecutive days or requires termination by cardioversion >48h

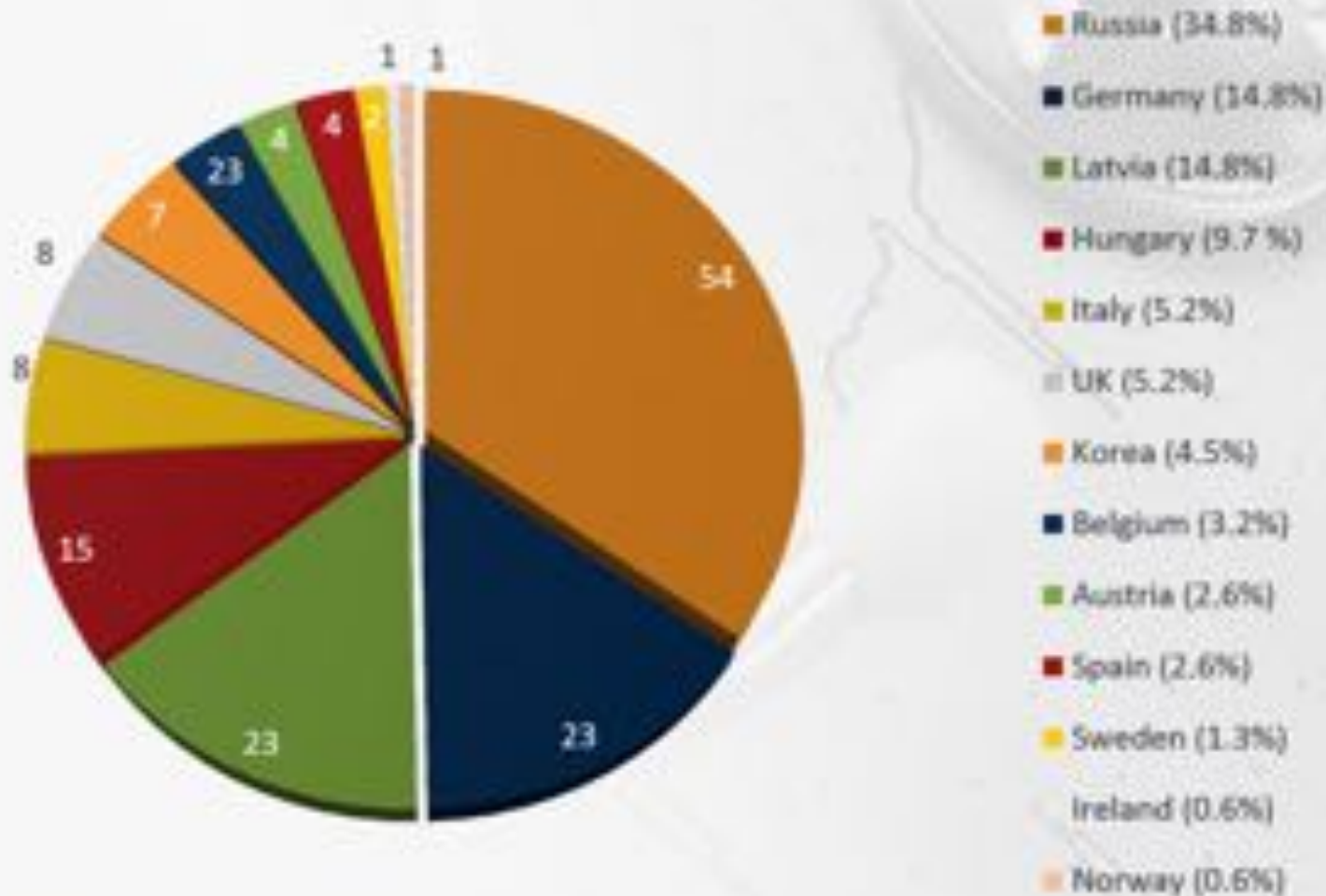
→ Stop TTM monitoring, FUP visit at 3Y, continue safety reporting

Overall Project Status

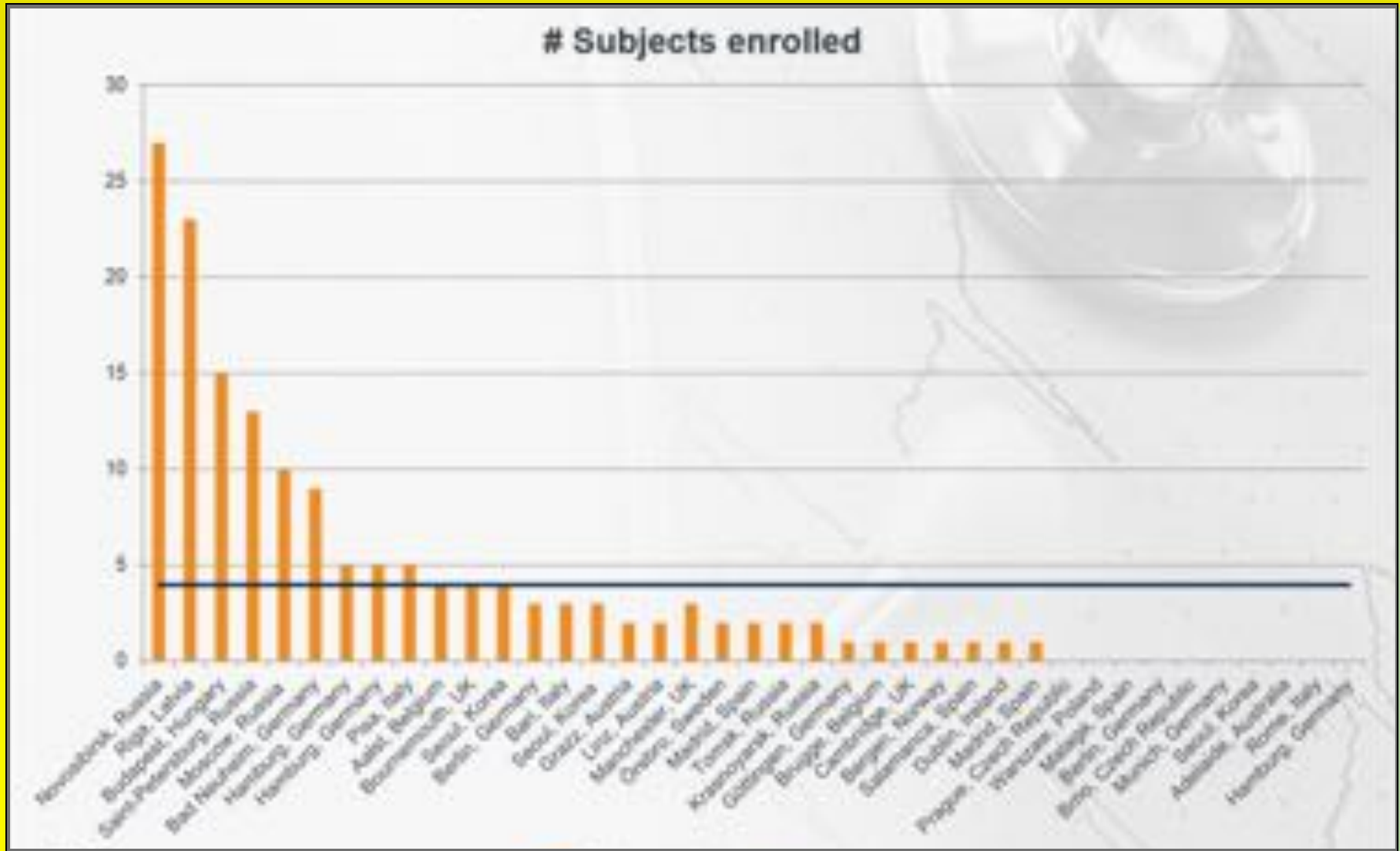


Overall Project Status – Enrollment by Country

46.9% of enrollment target reached to date (total of 155 subjects out of 330 subjects)



Overall Project Status – Enrollment by Site



Conclusions

- So far only limited data on AF progression is available
- The ATTEST trial aims at assessment of AF progression comparing ablation vs. drug-based treatment in a randomized, prospective, multi-center fashion
- ~50% of patients are enrolled
- → more active centers are required

Thank You!