

MOSES

Title: **M**idregi**O**nal proatrial natriuretic peptide to guide **S**Econdary **S**troke prevention: An international, multicenter, randomized-controlled, two-arm, assessor-blinded trial

Trial number: NCT03961334

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PI KSA: PD Dr. med. T. Kahles

Status: recruiting

Summary: Secondary stroke prevention is crucial and treatment is tailored according to the underlying stroke etiology. Cardioembolic etiology due to non-valvular atrial fibrillation (AF) is frequent and therapeutic anticoagulation with direct oral anticoagulants (DOAC) is largely effective in preventing recurrent stroke in these patients. However, despite complete stroke work-up up to 30% of strokes remain without an identified cause. Recent evidence suggests that some strokes may arise from cardiac thromboembolism that goes unrecognized having not manifested with AF yet. Midregional proatrial natriuretic peptide (MRproANP) is highly associated with AF and future stroke risk, but beyond this, it is able to independently identify cardioembolic stroke etiology even in the absence of AF. Therefore, MR-proANP seems to be a subtle marker of atrioopathy with underlying atrial thromboembolism which might help to identify patients who are likely to benefit from DOACs even in the absence of AF (or not yet detected). The overall objective of this study is to demonstrate that the efficacy of DOACs is superior to the current standard antiplatelet therapy for the prevention of stroke recurrence in MRproANP selected acute ischemic stroke patients with presumed atrioopathy but without known AF.