

## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

### Mechanical Thrombectomy in Patients with Cervical Artery Dissection and Stroke in the Anterior or Posterior Circulation – A Multicenter Analysis from the German Stroke Registry

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|--|---|
| <b>Supplemental Table I</b> Baseline characteristics in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion.....    | 2 |
| <b>Supplemental Table II</b> Procedural characteristics in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion..... | 3 |
| <b>Supplemental Table III</b> Reperfusion outcomes in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion.....      | 3 |
| <b>Supplemental table IV</b> Adverse events in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion.                 | 4 |
| <b>Supplemental Table V</b> Functional outcome in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion.....          | 5 |

**Supplemental Table I** Baseline characteristics in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion.

|  | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation |                     |      | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation |                    |       | CAD-Patients   |
|--|---|---------------------|------|--|--------------------|-------|----------------|
|  | No CAD<br>n=2,207   | CAD<br>n=45         | P    | No CAD<br>n=283  | CAD<br>n=17        | P     | P <sup>a</sup> |
| <b>Demographic</b>   |   |                     |      |  |                    |       |                |
| Age – years, median (IQR), n   | 76 (65-82), n=2207  | 51 (48-56), n=45    | .001 | 75 (65-81), n=283  | 46 (36-57), n=17   | .001  | .305           |
| Female, % (n)  | 52.4% (1157)  | 20.0% (9)           | .001 | 40.3% (114)  | 41.2% (7)          | 1.000 | .111           |
| Pre-stroke mRS, % (n)  |   |                     |      |  |                    |       |                |
| 0  | 68.0% (1443)  | 93.3% (42)          |      | 69.0% (189)  | 100.0% (17)        |       |                |
| 1  | 12.6% (268)   | 0% (0)              |      | 14.2% (39)   | 0.0% (0)           |       |                |
| 2  | 8.3% (177)  | 4.4% (2)            | .002 | 6.9% (19)  | 0.0% (0)           |       |                |
| 3  | 6.2% (131)  | 2.2% (1)            |      | 4.0% (11)  | 0.0% (0)           |       |                |
| 4  | 3.4% (72)   | 0% (0)              |      | 4.4% (12)  | 0.0% (0)           |       |                |
| 5  | 1.5% (31)   | 0% (0)              |      | 1.5% (4)   | 0.0% (0)           |       |                |
| Current smoking, % (n)   | 15.4% (298)   | 23.8% (10)          | .335 | 13.0% (32)   | 25.0% (3)          | .301  | .635           |
| <b>Clinical</b>  |   |                     |      |  |                    |       |                |
| NIHSS, median (IQR)  | 15 (10-18), n=2,207   | 14 (7-16), n=45     | .100 | 15 (7-26), n=283   | 13 (5-26), n=17    | .410  | .967           |
| Medical history, % (n)   |   |                     |      |  |                    |       |                |
| Hypertension   | 76.3% (1,672)   | 26.7% (12)          | .001 | 79.4% (223)  | 23.5% (4)          | .001  | 1.000          |
| Diabetes mellitus  | 21.4% (470)   | 4.4% (2)            | .003 | 20.7% (58)   | 5.9% (1)           | .210  | 1.000          |
| Dyslipidemia   | 34.2% (747)   | 22.2% (10)          | .112 | 33.3% (93)   | 5.9% (1)           | .016  | .262           |
| Atrial fibrillation  | 42.8% (935)   | 2.2% (1)            | .001 | 34.5% (97)   | 0.0% (0)           | .002  | 1.000          |
| Medication, % (n)  |   |                     |      |  |                    |       |                |
| Antiplatelet   | 32.4% (697)   | 15.6% (7)           | .015 | 41.4% (111)  | 23.5% (4)          | .203  | .475           |
| Anticoagulation  | 21.5% (462)   | 0.0% (0)            | .001 | 16.8% (45)   | 5.9% (1)           | .325  | .274           |
| Etiology, % (n)  |   |                     |      |  |                    |       |                |
| Cardioembolism   | 53.1% (1,171)   | -                   |      | 41.0% (116)  | -                  |       |                |
| Dissection   | -   | 100.0% (45)         |      | -  | 100.0% (17)        |       |                |
| Large-artery atherosclerosis   | 25.1% (553)   | -                   |      | 33.2% (94)   | -                  |       |                |
| Small-vessel occlusion   | 0.0% (1)  | -                   |      | 0.0% (0)   | -                  |       |                |
| Stroke of other determined etiology  | 4.3% (96)   | -                   |      | 7.4% (21)  | -                  |       |                |
| Stroke of undetermined etiology  | 17.5% (386)   | -                   |      | 18.4% (52)   | -                  |       |                |
| Direct-to-center, % (n)  | 52% (1,140)   | 58% (26)            | .454 | 53.7% (152)  | 47.1% (8)          | .625  | .570           |
| Symptom onset known, % (n)   | 61.8% (1,365)   | 73.3% (33)          | .123 | 58.0% (164)  | 76.5% (13)         | .203  | 1.000          |
| Time from symptom onset to admission – min, median (IQR), n                            | 128 (59-203), n=1,365   | 87 (54-171), n=33   | .120 | 127 (60-243), n=164  | 262 (63-356), n=13 | .177  | .032           |
| Time from last-seen-well to admission – min, median (IQR), n                           | 346 (201-676), n=842  | 267 (195-331), n=12 | .181 | 475 (301-780), n=119   | 348 (270-426), n=4 | .422  | .485           |
| <b>Radiological</b>  |   |                     |      |  |                    |       |                |
| ASPECTS, median (IQR)  | 9 (7-10), n=1,904   | 8 (6-10), n=37      | .029 | -  | -                  | -     | - <sup>a</sup> |
| Occluded vessel, % (n)   |   |                     |      |  |                    |       |                |
| ICA  | 27.5% (607)   | 62.2% (28)          | .001 | -  | -                  | -     | -              |
| MCA, M1  | 63.9% (1,410)   | 40.0% (18)          | .002 | -  | -                  | -     | -              |
| MCA, M2  | 20.0% (441)   | 26.7% (12)          | .262 | -  | -                  | -     | -              |
| ACA  | 2.8% (61)   | 0.0% (0)            | .633 | -  | -                  | -     | -              |
| BA   | -   | -                   |      | 88.3% (250)  | 70.6% (12)         | .049  | -              |
| VA   | -   | -                   |      | 13.4% (38)   | 64.7% (11)         | .001  | -              |
| PCA  | -   | -                   |      | 15.9% (45)   | 5.9% (1)           | .486  | -              |
| mTICI before thrombectomy, % (n)   | 86.6% (1,845)   | 90.7% (39)          |      | 81.5% (221)  | 76.5% (13)         |       |                |
| 0  | 4.4% (93)   | 4.7% (2)            |      | 7.7% (21)  | 5.9% (1)           |       |                |
| 1  | 2.1% (44)   | 2.3% (1)            | .416 | 2.2% (6)   | 0.0% (0)           |       |                |
| 2a   | 3.2% (68)   | 0.0% (0)            |      | 2.2% (6)   | 17.6% (3)          |       |                |
| 2b   | 3.8% (81)   | 2.3% (1)            |      | 6.3% (17)  | 0.0% (0)           |       |                |
| 3  | 86.6% (1845)  | 90.7% (39)          |      | 81.5% (221)  | 76.5% (13)         |       |                |
| Extracranial ICA stenosis (>70%) ipsilateral to intracranial vessel occlusion, % (n/n) | 15.7% (327)   | 61.4% (27)          | .001 | 0.8% (2)   | 6.3% (1)           | .161  | .001           |

<sup>a</sup> P-value for comparing patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation to patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation. <sup>b</sup> P value cannot be estimated due to singularities in the Fisher information matrix.

CAD stands for cervical artery dissection; IQR, interquartile range; mRS, modified Rankin scale; NIHSS, National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale; ASPECTS, Alberta Stroke Program Early CT Score; ICA, internal carotid artery; ACA, anterior cerebral artery; BA, basilar artery; VA, vertebral artery; PCA, posterior cerebral artery; mTICI, modified Treatment in Cerebral Infarction.

**Supplemental Table II** Procedural characteristics in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion.

|   | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation |                     |      | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation |                     |      | CAD-Patients   |
|---|---|---------------------|------|--|---------------------|------|----------------|
|   | No CAD<br>n=2,207   | CAD<br>n=45         | P    | No CAD<br>n=283  | CAD<br>n=17         | P    | P <sup>a</sup> |
| <b>Intervention</b>   |   |                     |      |  |                     |      |                |
| Treatment with intravenous thrombolysis, % (n)  | 56% (1231)  | 80% (36)            | .001 | 49.3% (139)  | 35.3% (6)           | .322 | .001           |
| Anesthesia, % (n)   |   |                     |      |  |                     |      |                |
| Conscious sedation  | 32.8% (696)   | 28.9% (13)          | .555 | 2.9% (8)   | 0.0% (0)            | .256 | .017           |
| Beginning with conscious sedation, switch to general anesthesia   | 3.8% (80)   | 6.7% (3)            |      | 11.0% (30)   | 0.0% (0)            |      |                |
| Primary general anesthesia  | 63.4% (1,346)   | 64.4% (29)          |      | 86.1% (235)  | 100% (17)           |      |                |
| Number of passages, median (IQR), n   | 2 (1-3), n=2,207  | 2 (1-3), n=5        | .578 | 1 (1-2), n=283   | 3 (1-4), n=17       | .171 | .797           |
| Intra-arterial medication, % (n)  | 14.9% (322)   | 34.1% (15)          | .002 | 22.2% (61)   | 35.3% (6)           | .236 | 1.000          |
| Additional heparin bolus given, % (n)   | 13.0% (258)   | 28.6% (12)          | .009 | 16.1% (42)   | 23.5% (4)           | .496 | .759           |
| Stenting of >70% ipsilateral extracranial ICA stenosis (if present), % (n)  | 69.7% (228)   | 63.0% (17)          | .391 | 0.0% (0)   | 100.0% (1)          | .333 | 1.000          |
| <b>Time intervals</b>   |   |                     |      |  |                     |      |                |
| Known symptom onset – min, median (IQR), n  |   |                     |      |  |                     |      |                |
| Time from symptom onset to flow restoration   | 245 (188-320), n=1,365  | 313 (233-422), n=33 | .002 | 280 (200-350), n=164   | 395 (233-444), n=13 | .203 | .566           |
| Unknown symptom onset – min, median (IQR), n  |   |                     |      |  |                     |      |                |
| Time from last-seen-well to flow restoration  | 512 (350-817), n=842  | 463 (372-480), n=12 | .654 | 625 (464-949), n=119   | 568 (568-568), n=4  | .881 | .500           |
| Known and unknown symptom onset – min, median (IQR), n  |   |                     |      |  |                     |      |                |
| Time from admission to i.v. thrombolysis  | 21 (-77-34), n= 2207  | 17 (-67-28), n=45   | .757 | 28 (-75-42), n=283   | -34 (-195-58), n=17 | .467 | .662           |
| Time from admission to groin puncture   | 70 (46-101), n=2,207  | 80 (56-114), n=45   | .130 | 78 (53-122), n=283   | 98 (75-129), n=17   | .168 | .225           |
| Time from groin puncture to flow restoration  | 69 (45-97), n=2,207   | 95 (61-136), n=45   | .005 | 75 (53-113), n=283   | 101 (82-152), n=17  | .051 | .382           |
| <sup>a</sup> P-value for comparing patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation to patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation. <sup>b</sup> No P-value estimated due to low numbers. |   |                     |      |  |                     |      |                |
| CAD stands for cervical artery dissection; IQR, interquartile range; ICA, internal carotid artery; mTICI, modified Treatment in Cerebral Infarction.  |   |                     |      |  |                     |      |                |

**Supplemental Table III** Reperfusion outcomes in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion.

|   | All patients      |             |      | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation |             |      | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation |             |   | CAD-Patients   |
|---|-------------------|-------------|------|---|-------------|------|--|-------------|---|----------------|
|   | No CAD<br>n=2,527 | CAD<br>n=62 | P    | No CAD<br>n=2,207   | CAD<br>n=45 | P    | No CAD<br>n=283  | CAD<br>n=17 | P | P <sup>a</sup> |
| <b>mTICI after thrombectomy, % (n)</b>  |                   |             |      |   |             |      |  |             |   |                |
| 0   | 9.0% (224)        | 4.9% (3)    |      | 8.7% (189)  | 6.8% (3)    |      | 10.2% (28)   | 0.0% (0)    |   |                |
| 1   | 1.9% (48)         | 0.0% (0)    |      | 1.8% (39)   | 0.0% (0)    |      | 2.9% (8)   | 0.0% (0)    |   |                |
| 2a  | 5.7% (141)        | 9.8% (6)    | .116 | 5.9% (129)  | 13.6% (6)   | .125 | 3.3% (9)   | 0.0% (0)    |   |                |
| 2b  | 35.6% (881)       | 54.1% (33)  |      | 37.3% (809)   | 47.7% (21)  |      | 22.2% (61)   | 70.6% (12)  |   |                |
| 3   | 47.7% (1182)      | 31.1% (19)  |      | 46.3% (1004)  | 31.8% (14)  |      | 61.5% (169)  | 29.4% (5)   |   |                |
| <sup>a</sup> P-value for comparing patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation to patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation. |                   |             |      |   |             |      |  |             |   |                |
| CAD stands for cervical artery dissection; mTICI, modified Treatment in Cerebral Infarction.  |                   |             |      |   |             |      |  |             |   |                |

**Supplemental table IV** Adverse events in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion.

|                                     | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation |             |              | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation |             |              | CAD-Patients<br>P <sup>a</sup> |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|--------------|--|-------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
|                                     | No CAD<br>n=2,207   | CAD<br>n=45 | P            | No CAD<br>n=283  | CAD<br>n=17 | P            |                                |
|                                     |   |             |              |  |             |              |                                |
| Any adverse events, % (n)           | 13.4% (294)   | 13.3% (6)   | 1.000        | 12.5% (35)   | 11.8% (2)   | 1.000        | 1.000                          |
| Device malfunction                  | 0.3% (7)  | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | 0.4% (1)   | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | <sup>b</sup>                   |
| Dissection/perforation              | 2.8% (61)   | 4.4% (2)    | <sup>b</sup> | 3.2% (9)   | 5.9% (1)    | <sup>b</sup> | <sup>b</sup>                   |
| Clot migration/embolism             | 3.2% (70)   | 6.7% (3)    | <sup>b</sup> | 2.1% (6)   | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | <sup>b</sup>                   |
| Intracerebral hemorrhage            | 2.3% (51)   | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | 1.4% (4)   | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | <sup>b</sup>                   |
| Vasospasm                           | 2.8% (62)   | 4.4% (2)    | <sup>b</sup> | 1.1% (3)   | 5.9% (1)    | <sup>b</sup> | <sup>b</sup>                   |
| Stroke                              | 0.0% (1)  | 2.2% (1)    | <sup>b</sup> | 0.0% (0)   | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | <sup>b</sup>                   |
| New persistent neurological deficit | 0.1% (2)  | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | 0.0% (0)   | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | <sup>b</sup>                   |
| New transient neurological deficit  | 0.0% (1)  | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | 0.0% (0)   | 0.0% (0)    | <sup>b</sup> | <sup>b</sup>                   |

<sup>a</sup> P-value for comparing patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation to patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation. <sup>b</sup> No P-value estimated due to low numbers.  
CAD stands for cervical artery dissection.

| Supplemental Table V Functional outcome in subgroups of patients with anterior or posterior circulation occlusion. |   |                |                           |  |               |                           |  |
|--|---|----------------|---------------------------|--|---------------|---------------------------|--|
|  | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation |                |                           | Patients with occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation |               |                           | Patients with CAD<br>P <sup>a</sup><br>P <sub>adj</sub> <sup>a</sup> |
|  | No CAD<br>n=2,207   | CAD<br>n=45    | P<br>P <sub>adj</sub>     | No CAD<br>n=283  | CAD<br>n=17   | P<br>P <sub>adj</sub>     |  |
| <b>After 24 hours</b>  |   |                |                           |  |               |                           |  |
| NIHSS after 24 hours, median (IQR)   | 10 (4-19), n=2,207  | 9 (4-17), n=45 | .418<br>.494 <sup>b</sup> | 9 (3-30), n=283  | 3 (1-5), n=17 | .002<br>.942 <sup>b</sup> | .010<br>.969 <sup>b</sup>  |
| mRS score after 24 hours, % (n)  |   |                |                           |  |               |                           |  |
| 0  | 2.6% (49)   | 5.0% (2)       |                           | 3.8% (9)   | 23.5% (4)     |                           |  |
| 1  | 5.8% (110)  | 12.5% (5)      |                           | 9.6% (23)  | 11.8% (2)     |                           |  |
| 2  | 8.7% (166)  | 10.0% (4)      | .032                      | 9.6% (23)  | 0.0% (0)      | .242                      | .974   |
| 3  | 13.5% (258)   | 17.5% (7)      | .634 <sup>b</sup>         | 10.5% (25)   | 5.9% (1)      | .294                      | .996 <sup>b</sup>  |
| 4  | 18.6% (355)   | 17.5% (7)      |                           | 13.0% (31)   | 5.9% (1)      |                           |  |
| 5  | 50.2% (957)   | 37.5% (15)     |                           | 51.9% (124)  | 52.9% (9)     |                           |  |
| 6  | 0.6% (12)   | 0.0% (0/40)    |                           | 1.7% (4)   | 0.0% (0)      |                           |  |
| <b>At discharge</b>  |   |                |                           |  |               |                           |  |
| NIHSS at discharge, median (IQR)   | 6 (2-13), n=2,207   | 5 (0-11), n=45 | .210<br>.946 <sup>b</sup> | 5 (1-12), n=283  | 0 (0-3), n=17 | .002<br>.750              | .018<br>.812 <sup>b</sup>  |
| mRS score at discharge, % (n)  |   |                |                           |  |               |                           |  |
| 0  | 7.9% (170)  | 11.6% (5)      |                           | 11.2% (31)   | 41.2% (7)     |                           |  |
| 1  | 12.1% (260)   | 23.3% (10)     |                           | 11.9% (33)   | 17.6% (3)     |                           |  |
| 2  | 11.9% (255)   | 9.3% (4)       | .008                      | 10.1% (28)   | 11.8% (2)     | .001                      | .054   |
| 3  | 14.0% (302)   | 20.9% (9)      | .673 <sup>b</sup>         | 10.8% (30)   | 5.9% (1)      | .868                      | .678 <sup>b</sup>  |
| 4  | 17.3% (371)   | 14.0% (6)      |                           | 14.4% (40)   | 0.0% (0)      |                           |  |
| 5  | 21.7% (466)   | 18.6% (8)      |                           | 21.3% (59)   | 11.8% (2)     |                           |  |
| 6  | 15.2% (326)   | 2.3% (1)       |                           | 20.2% (56)   | 11.8% (2)     |                           |  |
| <b>After 90 days</b>   |   |                |                           |  |               |                           |  |
| mRS score after 90 days, % (n/n)   |   |                |                           |  |               |                           |  |
| 0  | 11.7% (228)   | 17.5% (7)      |                           | 12.4% (31)   | 20.0% (3)     |                           |  |
| 1  | 14.7% (285)   | 32.5% (13)     |                           | 12.4% (31)   | 33.3% (5)     |                           |  |
| 2  | 10.4% (203)   | 22.5% (9)      | .001                      | 10.8% (27)   | 13.3% (2)     | .029                      | .901   |
| 3  | 12.1% (236)   | 5.0% (2)       | .548 <sup>b</sup>         | 12.4% (31)   | 6.7% (1)      | .601                      | .122 <sup>b</sup>  |
| 4  | 13.4% (260)   | 10.0% (4)      |                           | 8.4% (21)  | 6.7% (1)      |                           |  |
| 5  | 9.7% (189)  | 10.0% (4)      |                           | 12.8% (32)   | 6.7% (1)      |                           |  |
| 6  | 27.9% (542)   | 2.5% (1)       |                           | 30.8% (77)   | 13.3% (2)     |                           |  |

<sup>a</sup> P-value for comparing patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the anterior circulation to patients with CAD and an occlusion in a vessel of the posterior circulation. <sup>b</sup> P-value adjusted for age, gender, pre-stroke modified Rankin scale score, medical history, prior medication, Alberta Stroke Program Early CT Score (only anterior circulation occlusions), and location of occluded vessel.  
CAD stands for cervical artery dissection; IQR, interquartile range; mRS, modified Rankin scale; NIHSS, National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale.