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Country: **Germany**

Titel of the project: **AFNET patient seminar: Event series for affected people**

Project details

Kompetenznetz Vorhofflimmern (AFNET)

Award amount: €100,000

Lecture events will be organised at various locations throughout Germany at which physicians from the AFNET will provide information about atrial fibrillation in a manner suitable for patients (total of approx. 10 events per year). As a supplement to the lectures, blood pressure measurements, ECG rhythm analyses, INR determinations, demonstrations on the heart model and information brochures are planned, as well as an accompanying telephone hotline and an Internet forum.

Content and structure of the patient seminar: Saturday morning 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at a central location in the city.
Lectures (total of 60 minutes): • What is atrial fibrillation: symptoms, associated illnesses, diagnostics (ECG) • Reducing the risk of stroke: anticoagulation, medication, other options • Rhythm maintenance treatment: rhythm medications, catheter ablation. Discussion (30 minutes). The participants can then allow themselves to be examined (90 minutes). • Blood pressure measurement • ECG rhythm analysis with portable, single channel ECG devices • INR determination
Parallel to this, coffee break with demonstrations on the heart model. Rooms: 1 large hall for approx. 200 people, several small rooms for the examinations. Locations: The events will take place at suitable AFNET centres. The locations will be selected from more than 200 centres in such a way to ensure the greatest possible distribution of the events throughout Germany. Examinations: Refreshments will be offered in the lobby in front of the lecture hall following the lecture event. The examinations will take place parallel to this at 3 stations in neighbouring rooms or partitioned off areas of the lobby: blood pressure measurement, ECG rhythm analysis, INR determination. In order to shorten the waiting time for the participants and to use the time sensibly, the principle of a catheter ablation will be demonstrated on the model. The devices will be purchased by AFNET and made available to the respective clinic for the duration of the event. The examinations will be carried out by physicians or medical personnel of the clinic. Information brochure: An information table will be found in the lobby for the entire duration of the event at which the AFNET patient information brochure "Atrial fibrillation – heart timing is off" will be distributed. Telephone hotline: Accompanying the event, a telephone consultation will be offered on the same day following the event. Affected people can call and their questions will be answered by 1 doctor. Duration: 2 hours. Internet forum: A survey for atrial fibrillation patients will be placed on an Internet page. In an online questionnaire, aspects of life quality will be enquired about there, for example, quality of life following ablation. Reference will be made to the Internet forum in the patient seminar. The AFNET head office will be responsible for the development of the questionnaire and the evaluation of the survey. Self-help groups: Locally organised self-help groups for atrial fibrillation patients should be offered a forum in the context of the event to describe their activities. In the event that no such self-help group yet exists at the event location, the founding of a self-help group should be encouraged. Personnel: The clinic provides the personnel for the event: • 3 lecturers • medical personnel for the examinations • 1 doctor for the telephone hotline
Presentation materials: AFNET scientists create Powerpoint presentations for the three lecture topics suitable for patients. These presentation materials will be made available to the lecturers of the lecture events in advance. Announcement of the event: The patient seminars and the accompanying telephone hotline will be promoted locally in consultation with the respective clinic: • Press work, announcement in local media. • Printing of a programme flyer that can be placed at suitable locations, e. g. in the clinic, in doctor's practices, in pharmacies and potentially distributed to self-help groups. • In the event that the clinic has a suitable patient distribution list, this could be used to directly invite affected people. ---Kompetenznetz Vorhofflimmern e. V. (AFNET), Domagkstraße 11, 48149 Münster, Tel: 0251-83-45341, Fax: 0251-83-45343, E-mail: info@kompetenznetz-vorhofflimmern.de, www.kompetenznetz-vorhofflimmern.de

Audience

Type

- AF Patients
- Relatives of patients with atrial fibrillation
- risk patients for the development of atrial fibrillation

Location

Germany, Europe