

PHASE II: Efficacy and safety study for different doses of M-ACI with spheroid technology⁽¹⁾

Reference

Hoburg A, Niemeyer P, Laute V, Zinser W, John T, Becher C, Izadpanah K, Diehl P, Kolombe T, Fay J, Siebold R, Fickert S. *Safety and Efficacy of Matrix-Associated Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation With Spheroids for Patellofemoral or Tibiofemoral Defects: A 5-Year Follow-up of a Phase 2, Dose-Confirmation Trial*. Orthopaedic Journal of Sports Medicine. Jan 2022. doi:[10.1177/23259671211053380](https://doi.org/10.1177/23259671211053380)

Eschen C, Kaps C, Widuchowski W, Fickert S, Zinser W, Niemeyer P, Roel G. *Clinical outcome is significantly better with spheroid-based autologous chondrocyte implantation manufactured with more stringent cell culture criteria*. Osteoarthritis and Cartilage 2020. doi: [10.1016/j.jocarto.2020.100033](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jocarto.2020.100033)

Niemeyer P, Laute V, Zinser W, John T, Becher C, Diehl P, Kolombe T, Fay J, Siebold R, Fickert S. *Safety and efficacy of matrix-associated autologous chondrocyte implantation with spheroid technology is independent of spheroid dose after 4 years*. KSST 2020. Apr;28(4):1130-1143. doi: [10.1007/s00167-019-05786-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00167-019-05786-8); PubMed PMID: [31897548](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31897548/)

Hoburg A, L er I, K rsmeier K, Siebold R, Niemeyer P, Fickert S, Ruhnau K. *Matrix-Associated Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation Is an Effective Treatment at Midterm Follow-up in Adolescents and Young Adults*. Orthop J Sports Med. 2019 Apr 25;7(4). doi: [10.1177/2325967119841077](https://doi.org/10.1177/2325967119841077). PubMed PMID: [31041335](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31041335/); PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC6484242](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PMC6484242/)

Niemeyer P, Laute V, Zinser W, Becher C, Diehl P, Kolombe T, Fay J, Siebold R, Fickert S. *Clinical outcome and success rates of ACI for cartilage defects of the patella: a subgroup analysis from a controlled randomized clinical phase II trial (CODIS study)*. Arch Orthop Trauma Surg. 2020 Jun;140(6):717-725. doi: [10.1007/s00402-019-03264-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00402-019-03264-x). PubMed PMID: [31451902](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31451902/)

Becher C, Laute V, Fickert S, Zinser W, Niemeyer P, John T, Diehl P, Kolombe T, Siebold R, Fay J. *Safety of three different product doses in autologous chondrocyte implantation: results of a prospective, randomised, controlled trial*. J Orthop Surg Res. 2017 May 12;12(1):71. doi: [10.1186/s13018-017-0570-7](https://doi.org/10.1186/s13018-017-0570-7). PubMed PMID: [28499391](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28499391/); PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC5429514](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PMC5429514/)

Niemeyer P, Laute V, John T, Becher C, Diehl P, Kolombe T, Fay J, Siebold R, Niks M, Fickert S, Zinser W. *The Effect of Cell Dose on the Early Magnetic Resonance Morphological Outcomes of Autologous Cell Implantation for Articular Cartilage Defects in the Knee: A Randomized Clinical Trial*. Am J Sports Med. 2016 Aug;44(8):2005-14. doi: [10.1177/0363546516646092](https://doi.org/10.1177/0363546516646092). Epub 2016 May 20. PubMed PMID: [27206690](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/27206690/)

Summary

ACI using spheroids was safe and effective for defect sizes up to 10 cm² and showed maintenance of efficacy up to 5 years for all 3 doses that were investigated. The different defect locations (patella, trochlea, weightbearing part of the femoral condyles) and defect sizes showed comparable clinical improvement. Overall treatment failure rate until 5 years was 4%. Most treatment-related adverse events occurred within the first 12 months after implantation, with most frequent adverse reactions being joint effusion (n=71), arthralgia (n=14), and joint swelling (n=9).

Cultivation time impacts clinical outcome. Shorter cultivation yields higher KOOS scores and responder rate; i.e. new specifications for Spherox in phase III 87.5% responders (Δ KOOS > 8 points) vs. 75% for all ACT3D after 12 months. Total ACI group with spheroid technology vs. MF shows non-inferiority; ACI subgroup with Spherox specifications vs. MF shows superiority.

Significant improvement of KOOS across all treatment groups. No dose dependence. No difference between defect sizes. Comparable safety profile for all dose groups. SOC most often affected: musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders.

Comparison of adolescents (range: 15 to 17 years) with young adults treated in phase II (range: 19 to 34 years). Comparable results with respect to all considered scores after minimum of 4 years. Low number of treatment failures in both groups (3% in adolescent and 5% in adult group).

Non-inferiority of treatment of patella vs. femoral condyle proven. Similar improvement of all scores across the whole study period. Lasting results up to 5 years post treatment.

Comparison of dose groups in phase II up to 3 years. No relevant dose difference in number of adverse events, affected patients, treatment-related adverse reactions, serious and severe adverse events. Most affected SOC: musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders. Most common adverse reaction: arthralgia.

No statistically significant difference in MOCART scores between dose groups after 1 year. No dose dependence of adverse events. No correlation between structural (MOCART) and patient-reported end point (KOOS).

PHASE III: Comparator study of M-ACI with spheroid technology and microfracture⁽²⁾

Hoburg A, Niemeyer P, Laute V, Zinser W, Becher C, Kolombe T, Fay J, Pietsch S, Ku ma T, Widuchowski W, Fickert S. *Sustained superiority in KOOS subscores after matrix-associated chondrocyte implantation using spheroids compared to microfracture*. Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc. 2022 Oct 21. doi: [10.1007/s00167-022-07194-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00167-022-07194-x). Epub ahead of print. PMID: [36269383](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36269383/)

Hoburg A, Niemeyer P, Laute V, Zinser W, Becher C, Kolombe T, Fay J, Pietsch S, Ku ma T, Widuchowski W, Fickert S. *Matrix-Associated Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation with Spheroid Technology Is Superior to Arthroscopic Microfracture at 36 Months Regarding Activities of Daily Living and Sporting Activities after Treatment*. Cartilage 2020 Jan 1. doi: [10.1177/1947603519897290](https://doi.org/10.1177/1947603519897290). PubMed PMID: [31893951](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31893951/)

Niemeyer P, Laute V, Zinser W, Becher C, Kolombe T, Fay J, Pietsch S, Ku ma T, Widuchowski W, Fickert S. *A Prospective, Randomized, Open-Label, Multicenter, Phase III Noninferiority Trial to Compare the Clinical Efficacy of Matrix-Associated Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation With Spheroid Technology Versus Arthroscopic Microfracture for Cartilage Defects of the Knee*. Orthop J Sports Med. 2019 Jul 10;7(7). doi: [10.1177/2325967119854442](https://doi.org/10.1177/2325967119854442). eCollection 2019 Jul. PubMed PMID: [31317047](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31317047/); PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC6620731](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PMC6620731/)

Non-inferiority of M-ACI with spheroid technology vs. microfracture confirmed even after 5 years for overall KOOS and KOOS subscores. Superiority of M-ACI with spheroid technology shown for subscores „Quality of Life“, „Activities of Daily Living“ and „Sports and Recreation“. Safety and efficacy proven after 5 years.

Non-inferiority of M-ACI with spheroid technology vs. microfracture proven for overall KOOS and KOOS subscores. Superiority of M-ACI with spheroid technology shown for subscores „Activities of Daily Living“ and „Sport and Recreation“ at 3 years. Comparable safety profile. Treatment failure rate (need for reoperation) for microfracture (4 of 49); none in M-ACI with spheroid technology.

Non-inferiority of M-ACI with spheroid technology vs. microfracture shown. At 24 months superiority in KOOS subscore „Activities of Daily Living“ for M-ACI with spheroid technology. Histologic analysis did not reveal significant differences between treatments but slightly better outcome of M-ACI with spheroid technology. Comparable safety profile.

(1) Prospective, randomised, open label, multicentre Phase II clinical trial to investigate the efficacy and safety of the treatment of large defects (4-10 cm²) with 3 different doses of the autologous chondrocyte transplantation product co.don chondrosphere[®] (ACT3D-CS) in subjects with cartilage defects of the knee. EudraCT Number: 2009-016816-20

(2) Prospective, randomised, open label, multicentre Phase III clinical trial to compare the efficacy and safety of the treatment with the autologous chondrocyte transplantation product co.don chondrosphere[®] (ACT3D-CS) with microfracture in subjects with cartilage defects of the knee with a defect size between 1 and 4 cm². EudraCT Number: 2009-016466-82