



ARCR\_Pred: The Swiss multicenter cohort study to assess and predict key outcomes in arthroscopic rotator cuff reconstruction.  
Role model for orthopedic patients?

**Prof Laurent Audigé**

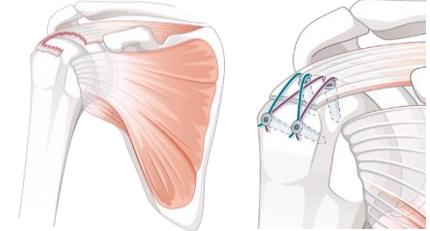
*2. BEST PRACTICE IN HEALTHCARE*

SCHULTHESS KLINIK ZÜRICH

September 21-22, 2023



# Background



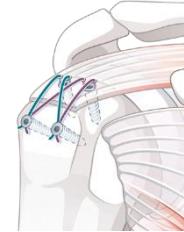
- Need to inform patients about risks and benefits of surgical interventions, incl. arthroscopic rotator cuff repair (ARCR)
- Important core outcome measures (COS):
  - Healing process / status
  - Clinical objective outcome parameters
  - Patient-reported subjective outcome measures (PROMs)
  - Adverse Events (AE) / Complication
- Need for standardization
  - Audige et al. *Orthop J Sports Med* 2015
  - Audige et al. *J Shoulder Elbow Surg* 2016
- Need for representative (Swiss multicenter) documentation



Start small, get it right and grow ...

Image source

# Schulthess Klinik ARCR Register



Obere Extremität 2015 · 10:33–40  
DOI 10.1007/s11678-014-0299-4  
Received: 15 October 2014  
Accepted: 19 November 2014  
Published online: 23 December 2014  
© Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2014

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<sup>2</sup> Orthopedic Clinic, University Hospital Basel, Basel, Switzerland

## Implementation of a local outcome register for arthroscopic rotator cuff tear repair

DOI: [10.1007/s11678-014-0299-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11678-014-0299-4)



Start : 2010

N = 4998 ARCRs

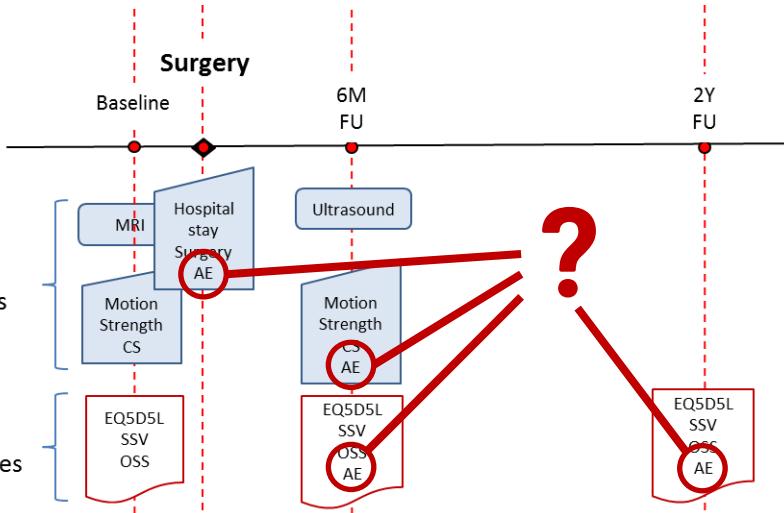
Period 2016-2023

3463 ARCRs

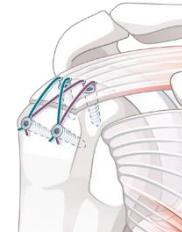
Follow-up rate  
6 months : 71%  
24 months : 66%

Clinical examinations

Patient questionnaires



# ARCR Core Event Set (CES 1.0)



Complications associated with arthroscopic rotator cuff tear repair: definition of a core event set by Delphi consensus process



Laurent Audigé, PhD<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Matthias Flury, MD<sup>b</sup>, Andreas M. Müller, MD<sup>a,c</sup>, ARCR CES Consensus Panel, Holger Dutschholz, MD<sup>b</sup>

Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery, 2016

25(12):1907–1917. DOI: [10.1016/j.jse.2016.04.036](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jse.2016.04.036)

Local event groups		Period
Intraoperative	Postoperative	
Device	Device	24 months
Osteochondral	Osteochondral	24 months
Soft tissue	Persisting or worsening pain	12 months
	Rotator cuff	12 months
	Peripheral neurological	3 months
	Vascular	30 days
	Surgical site infection	30 days (no implant) 12 months (implant)
	Superficial soft tissue	30 days to 6 months
	Deep soft tissue	12 months

Non-local event groups	Period
Intra / Postoperative	
Anaphylactic / allergic reaction	
Neuro-psychiatric event	
Cardiovascular event	
Pulmonary event	
Urinary tract event	
Gastrointestinal event	3-6 months
Musculoskeletal system	
Other non-local AE	

Can we apply this concept & proposal in practice?

Which event(s) really matter for surgeons and patients?

# Analysis of local KWS ARCR Register

All tears  
(N=1661)

## Safety : Risk of adverse events

### Complications Within 6 Months After Arthroscopic Rotator Cuff Repair: Registry-Based Evaluation According to a Core Event Set and Severity Grading

Quinten Felsch, M.D., Victoria Mai, M.D., Holger Durchholz, M.D., Matthias Flury, M.D., Maximilian Lenz, M.D., Carl Capellen, M.D., and Laurent Audigé, D.V.M., Ph.D.

*Arthroscopy*, 37: 50-58. DOI: [10.1016/j.arthro.2020.08.010](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.arthro.2020.08.010)



Event groups	%
At least one local event (AE)	18.5
Device	0.7
Osteochondral	0.4
Persisting or worsening pain	3.4
Rotator cuff – failure to repair	3.1
Peripheral neurological	1.7
Vascular	0.1
Surgical site infection	0.8
Superficial soft tissue	0.2
<b>Deep soft tissue</b>	<b>9.4</b>
Capsule (stiffness)	7.6

## Outcome prediction

### Prediction of **Shoulder Stiffness** After Arthroscopic Rotator Cuff Repair

Laurent Audigé,<sup>\*†‡§</sup> DVM, PhD, Soheila Aghilmandi,<sup>‡</sup> PhD, Cécile Grobet,<sup>†</sup> MSc, Thomas Stojanov,<sup>†§</sup> MSc, Andreas M. Müller,<sup>§</sup> MD, Quinten Felsch,<sup>||</sup> MD, Johannes Gleich,<sup>||</sup> MD, Matthias Flury,<sup>¶</sup> MD, and Markus Scheibel,<sup>||</sup> MD  
Investigation performed at the Schulthess Clinic, Zurich, Switzerland

AJSM, 49:3030-3039. DOI: [10.1177/03635465211028980](https://doi.org/10.1177/03635465211028980)

Development and validation of a model predicting patient-reported **shoulder function** after arthroscopic rotator cuff repair in a Swiss setting.

Thomas Stojanov<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Soheila Aghilmandi<sup>3</sup>, Andreas Marc Müller<sup>1</sup>, Markus Scheibel<sup>2</sup>, Matthias Flury<sup>4</sup>, Laurent Audigé<sup>1,2,3</sup>

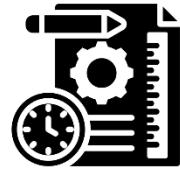
BMC Diagnostic and Prognostic Research

Manuscript in press



University Hospital  
Basel



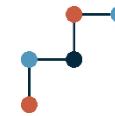


ARCR\_Pred project design and setting ...

Image source

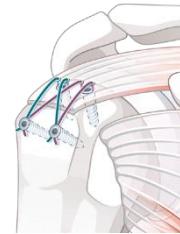
# ARCR\_Pred Project

Prospective multicenter Swiss cohort study of primary arthroscopic rotator cuff repairs (ARCR)



Swiss National  
Science Foundation

2020-2024



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19 sites (CH und 1 in DE)

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151 project collaborators & partners

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**973 rotator cuff tear repairs**

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Follow-up timepoints

6 weeks 961 (99%)

6 months 922 (97%)

12 months [12-2022] 877 (93%)

24 months [12-2023] 757 (87% of expected)

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Overall, 98.2% of 11'055 forms are complete

Project protocol : Audige et al. BMJ Open DOI: [10.1136/bmjopen-2020-045702](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2020-045702)

# Patient population and project objectives



Swiss National  
Science Foundation

2020-2024

## Patients:

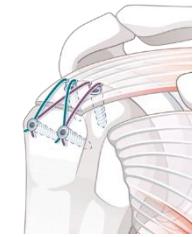
- Adult patients with rotator cuff tears
- Primary arthroscopic repairs

## Prediction of post-operative outcomes:

- Primary:
  - Shoulder stiffness
  - Shoulder subjective function score (PROM)
- Secondary:
  - Healing: repair integrity
  - Objective outcomes: function, motion, strength
  - PROM: pain level, quality of life, satisfaction
  - Return to work / sport
  - ...

## Surgical safety data:

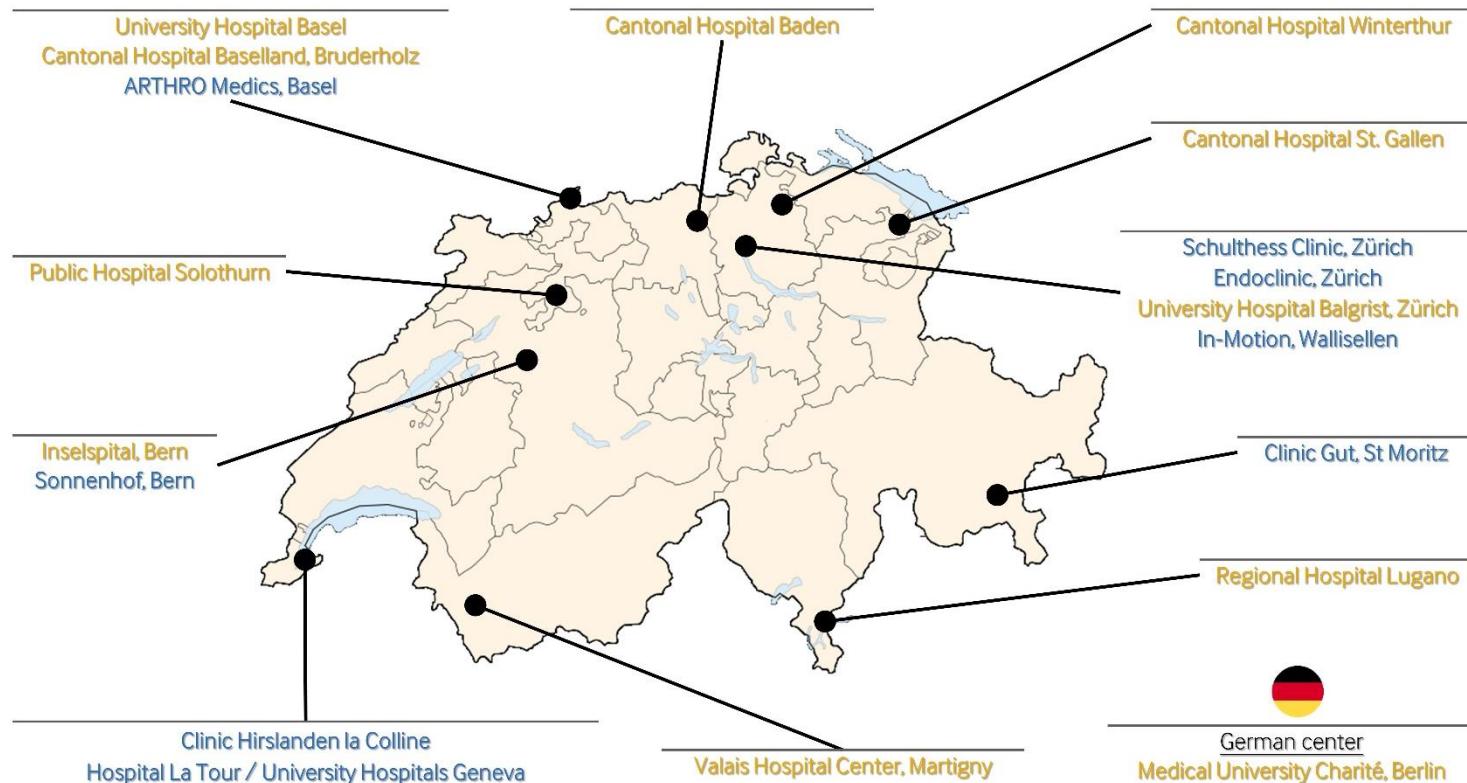
- Standardized documentation system for adverse events (AE)
- AE severity classification
- Incidence of AE up to 24 months



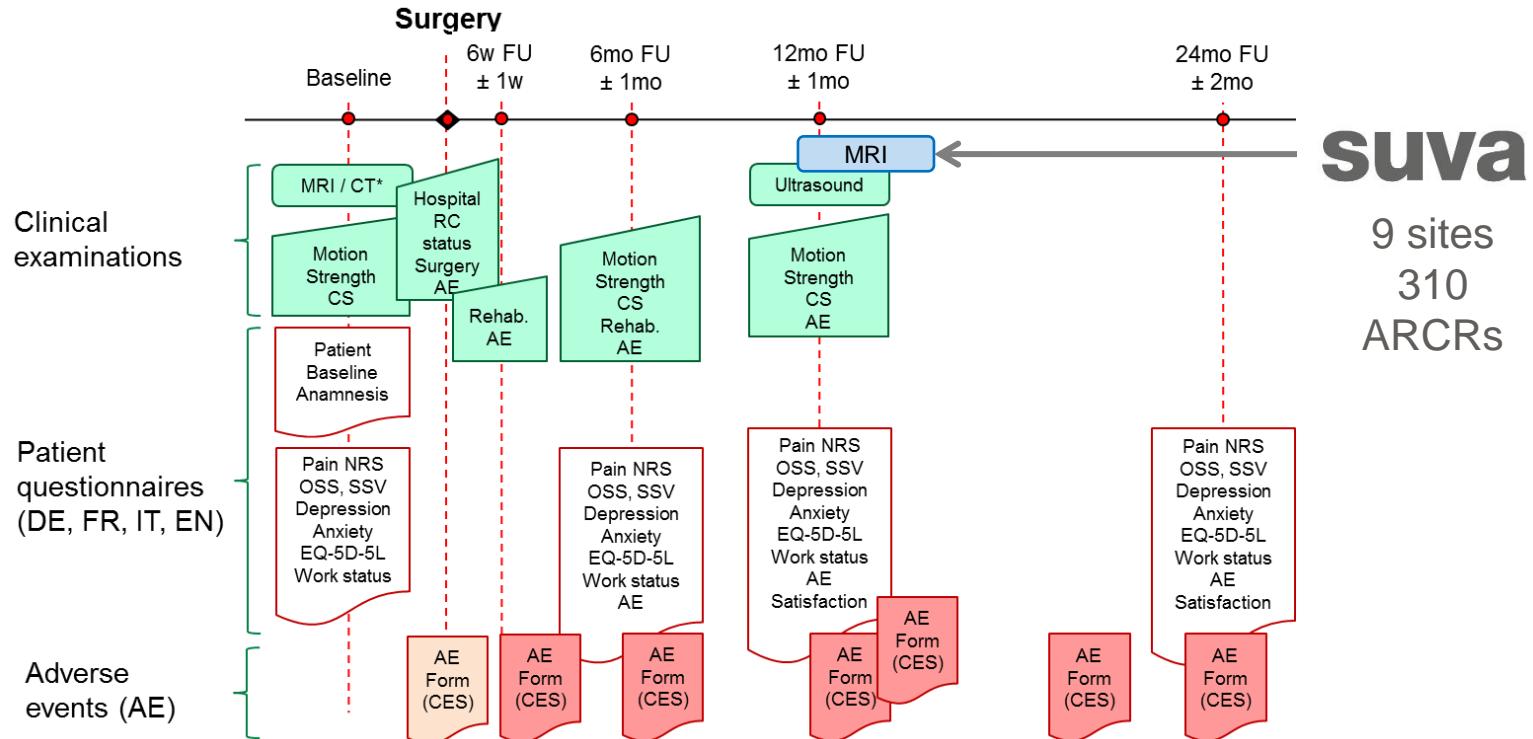
## Swiss representative cohort

- Variability between clinics

# Multicenter cohort



# Patient documentation and time points

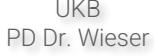
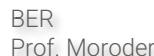




Organization & implementation issues ...

Image source

# Organization - Project Scientific Board

	KSBL Dr. Suter	KSB PD Dr. Eid	KSSG Prof. Jost	INM Dr. Flury	KSW PD Dr. Benninger			
USB Prof. Müller								
ART Prof. Rosso								
SON Prof. Zumstein								
INB Dr. Schär								
HUG PD Dr. Lädermann								
	HIR Dr. Cunningham	CHV PD Dr. Moor	BSS Dr. Dao Trong	EOC Prof. Candrian	GUT Dr. Durchholz			

# Organization - Team



Prof. Dr. L. Audigé



Martina Wehrli

Main project coordination

Database management  
Central monitoring – Data queries  
Newsletter – Communication



Dr. H. Durchholz  
AE review committee

*u*<sup>b</sup>

b  
UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN



Prof. Dr. D. Schwappach  
AE review committee



Prof. Dr. A.M. Müller



Thomas Stojanov  
PhD student



Dr. C. Baum  
Assistant surgeon



Ilona Ahlborn

MRI study  
coordinator

Ethics (EKNZ)  
Project documentation



Dr. S. Aghlmandi  
Statistics



Prof. Dr. S. Hunziker  
Psychosomatic



Dr. Ch. Appenzeller-Herzog  
Literature review

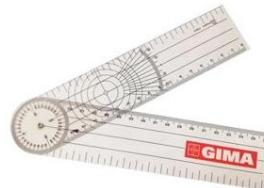


# Standardization of clinical measurements

Der Balgrist

## Range of motion:

- Flexion, abduction
- External rotation / Neck grip
- Internal rotation



## Strength:



Lafayette  
Dynamometer



MicroFET 2  
Dynamometer

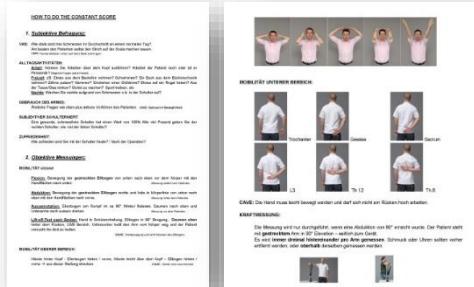


IsoForceControl® EVO2  
Isobex

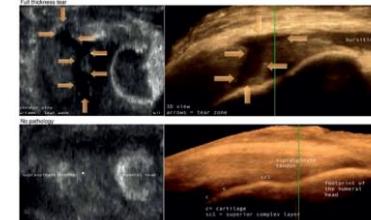


Mark-10  
Force Gauge

## Constant Score Video



## Ultrasound examination @ 12 months:



KD Dr. G. Tamborrini

# REDCap Electronic Data Capture System



Patient ARCR cohort number **KWS-020**  
KWS

Data Collection Instrument	Baseline Enrollment	Hospital Surgery	6 W	6 Mo	12 Mo	24 Mo	+ Add new <b>AE</b> Adverse event(s)
Enrollment	<input checked="" type="radio"/>						
Patient Contact	<input checked="" type="radio"/>						
Dropout Form	<input checked="" type="radio"/>						
Monitoring	<input checked="" type="radio"/>						
Investigator Form (survey)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
Ultrasound Form (survey)					<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
Patient Questionnaire De (survey)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Patient Questionnaire Fr (survey)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Patient Questionnaire It (survey)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Patient Questionnaire En (survey)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Operation Form (survey)		<input checked="" type="radio"/>					
Adverse Event (survey)						<input checked="" type="radio"/>	

Electronic data capture  
(paper-based CRF not used)

Data Access Group / Site

Structured database

- Repeated events (AE)
- Branching logic
- Languages (FR, DE, IT, EN)

Patient online questionnaires

Data query management



# Monitoring

## Central monitoring

- Recruitment statistics
- Completion of examinations and follow-ups
- Missing data reports
- Consistency checks → Data Query generation



Prof. Dr. Audigé



Martina Wehrli



Marije de Jong  
Patient Newsletter



Dr. K. Grezda  
USB  
Safety data



## On-site / Off-site visits

- Initiation / monitoring / closure visits → Data Query resolution



Th Stojanov



Dr. C. Baum  
MRI data



Marije de Jong  
Closure visits

## Communication channel

- **Weekly email** : individual site information – patient listings
- 2-4-weekly **Newsflash** to all staff members
- Bi-annual **newsletter** : overall project info & statistics



# Patient list and status

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
ARCR_Pred Project	ptn	event	Clinic	sgopsurgeon	sgopsurgdt	examstatus1	examdt1	examstatus6	examdt6	promstatus6	promdt6	examstatus12	examdt12	promstatus12	promdt12	imfupstatus12	imfupd12	promstatus24	promdt24
REDCap Link 2023-01-20_1046	ptn	event	Clinic	sgopsurgeon	sgopsurgdt	examstatus1	examdt1	examstatus6	examdt6	promstatus6	promdt6	examstatus12	examdt12	promstatus12	promdt12	imfupstatus12	imfupd12	promstatus24	promdt24
Patient Grid					03.08.2020	Done	01.10.2020	Done	25.02.2021	Done	25.02.2021	Verified	10.09.2021	Done	10.09.2021	Done	08.09.2022		
Patient Grid					31.07.2020	Done	23.09.2020	Done	08.04.2021	Done	08.04.2021	Done	27.08.2021	Done	27.08.2021	Verified	27.08.2021	Missing	
Patient Grid					12.08.2020	Done	23.09.2020	Done	11.03.2021	Done	11.03.2021	Done	26.08.2021	Done	26.08.2021	MissOK			
Patient Grid					17.08.2020	Done	27.10.2020	Done	11.03.2021	Done	11.03.2021	Done	02.09.2021	Done	02.09.2021	Done	02.09.2021	Done	01.09.2022
Patient Grid					24.08.2020	Done	19.11.2020	Done	18.02.2021	Done	18.02.2021	Done	19.08.2021	Done	19.08.2021	Done	19.08.2021	Done	01.09.2022
Patient Grid					31.08.2020	Done	29.10.2020	Done	25.03.2021	Done	25.03.2021	MissOK			MissOK			Done	22.09.2022
Patient Grid					07.09.2020	Done	29.10.2020	Done	18.05.2021	Done	18.05.2021	MissOK			MissOK			MissOK	
Patient Grid					11.09.2020	Done	12.11.2020	Done	25.03.2021	Done	25.03.2021	Done	02.09.2021	Done	02.09.2021	Done	02.09.2021	Missing	
Patient Grid					26.10.2020	Done	17.12.2020	Done	20.05.2021	Done	20.05.2021	Done	04.11.2021	Done	04.11.2021	Done	04.11.2021	Missing	
Patient Grid					11.11.2020	Done	04.02.2021	Done	05.05.2021	Done	05.05.2021	Done	04.02.2022	Done	04.02.2022	Done	04.02.2022	Missing	
Patient Grid					17.11.2020	Done	04.02.2021	Done	24.06.2021	Done	24.06.2021	MissOK			MissOK			Missing	
Patient Grid					02.12.2020	Done	28.01.2021	Done	01.07.2021	Done	01.07.2021	Done	24.02.2022	Done	24.02.2022	Done	24.02.2022	FupInt	
Patient Grid					25.11.2020	DropOut		DropOut		DropOut		DropOut		DropOut		DropOut		DropOut	
Patient Grid					27.11.2020	Done	27.01.2021	Done	01.07.2021	Done	01.07.2021	MissOK			MissOK			FupInt	
Patient Grid					15.01.2021	Done	11.03.2021	Done	22.07.2021	Done	22.07.2021	MissOK			MissOK			DropOut	
Patient Grid					05.02.2021	DropOut		DropOut		DropOut		DropOut		DropOut		DropOut		DropOut	
Patient Grid					22.03.2021	Done	27.05.2021	Done	26.08.2021	Done	26.08.2021	Done	17.03.2022	Done	17.03.2022	Done	17.03.2022	NotDue	
Patient Grid					26.03.2021	Done	02.06.2021	Verified	28.07.2021	Verified	28.07.2021	Done	06.04.2022	Done	06.04.2022	Done	06.04.2022	NotDue	

REDCap Link	ptn	alertyxt	languagepat	promdt	aepatloct1	aepatloch1	aepatloch2	aepatloch9	aepatloctxt	aepatoclyt	aepatocreat	aepatogenyn	aepatgenxt	respstrain	respfunction	respol	passpain	passfunction	passqol	paintwo	sleepnrs	ssv	oss01	oss02	oss03	oss04	oss05	oss06	oss07	oss08	oss09	oss10	oss11	oss12
REDCap Link 2023-01-20_1046	ptn	alertyxt	languagepat	promdt	aepatloct1	aepatloch1	aepatloch2	aepatloch9	aepatloctxt	aepatoclyt	aepatocreat	aepatogenyn	aepatgenxt	respstrain	respfunction	respol	passpain	passfunction	passqol	paintwo	sleepnrs	ssv	oss01	oss02	oss03	oss04	oss05	oss06	oss07	oss08	oss09	oss10	oss11	oss12
REDCap Patient Questionnaire 24 months	DataQuery	1	12.12.2022	0 0 0 0	1 1 1 1	5 5 5 1	5 5 5 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	2 2 2 2	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1		
REDCap Patient Questionnaire 24 months	DataQuery	1	18.11.2022	0 0 0 0	1 1 1 1	5 5 5 1	5 5 5 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	2 2 2 2	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	



Baseline ARCR cohort description...

[Image source](#)

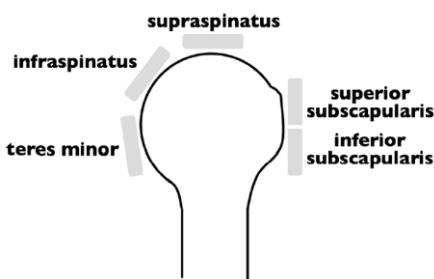
# Recruitment (June 2020 – Nov 2021)

Characteristic	n (%)	Overall, N = 1,890	Not enrolled, N = 917	Enrolled, N = 973	Standardized Difference
Age (years)	Mean (SD)		58 (10)	58 (9)	0
Male sex			560 (61%)	611 (63%)	0.04
Tear severity					0.38
Partial tear			231 (25%)	147 (15%)	
Single full tear			259 (28%)	255 (26%)	
Two or three tendons (only one full)			241 (26%)	417 (43%)	
Massive tear			186 (20%)	154 (16%)	
Public hospitals			365 (40%)	565 (58%)	0.37

# RC injury profile

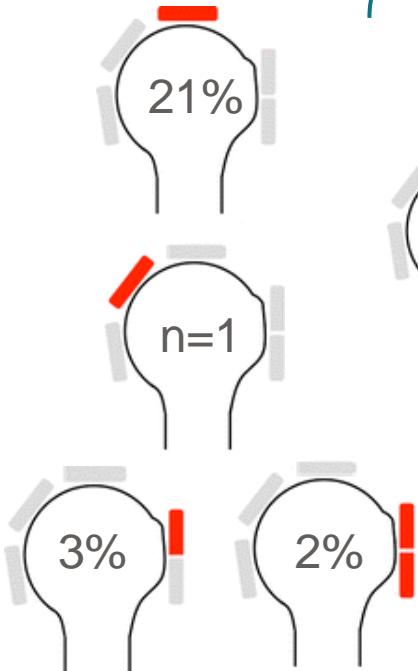
N=973

Partial tears  
15%



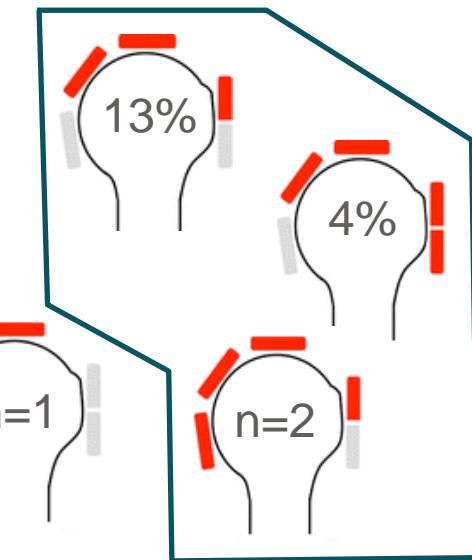
Injuries with at least one full-thickness tear 85%

Single 26%



2 or 3 tendons 59%

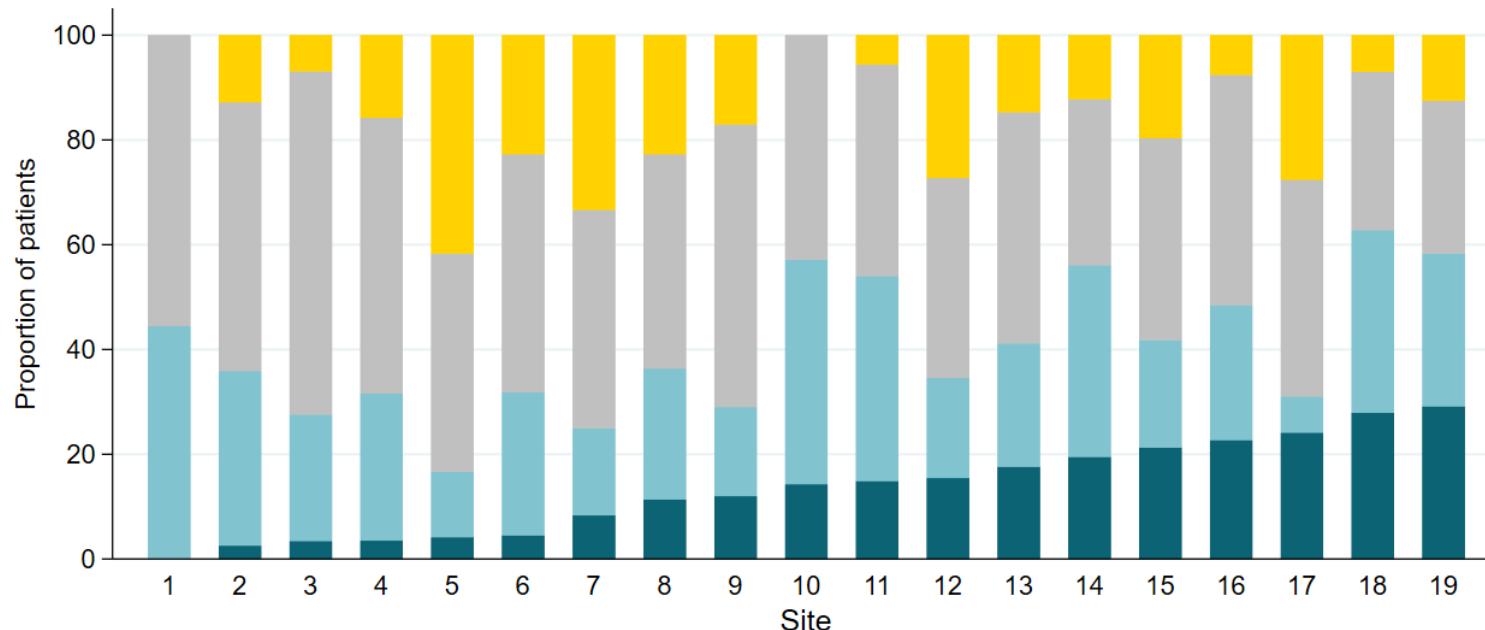
Massive tears 16%



# Project case-mix (1)

## RC tear severity (intra-operative diagnosis)

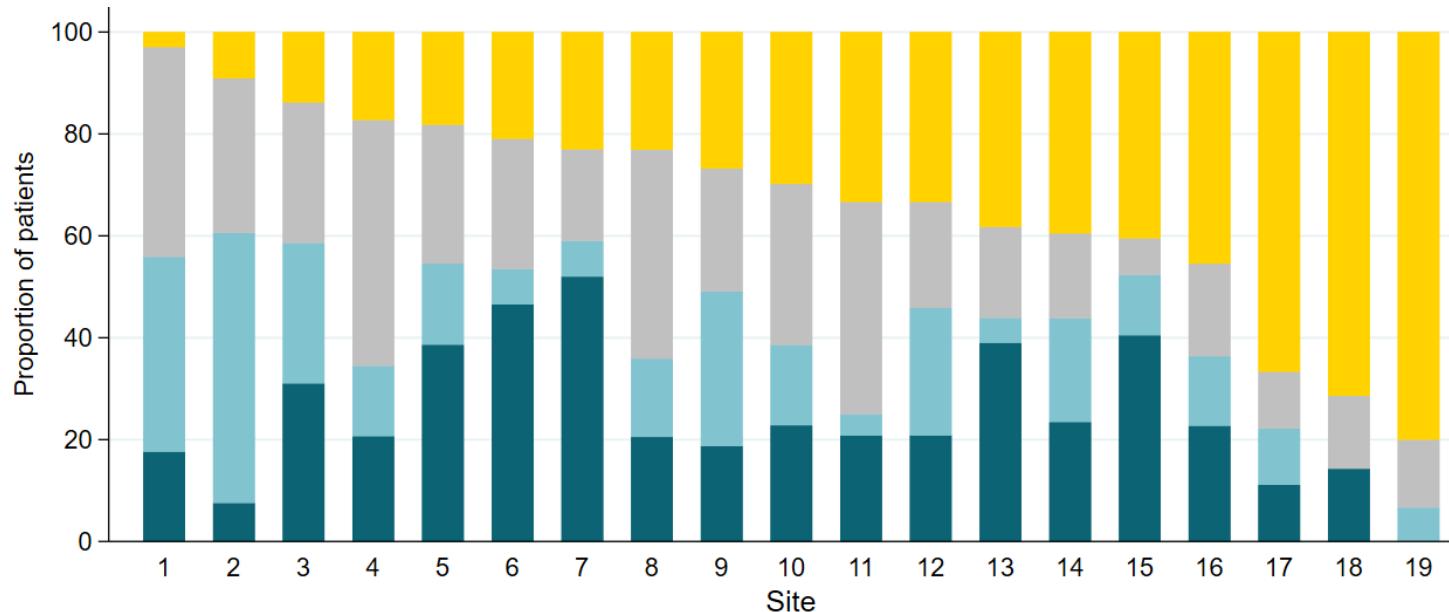
	N (%)
Massive (2+ full-thickness tears)	154 (16)
Two or three tendons (only one full)	417 (43)
Single full-thickness tear	255 (26)
Partial tear	147 (15)



# Project case-mix (2)

Surgeons' judgement as to  
the cause of the shoulder complaint

	N (%)
Purely traumatic	289 (29)
More traumatic than degenerative	233 (24)
More degenerative than traumatic	182 (19)
Purely degenerative	277 (28)

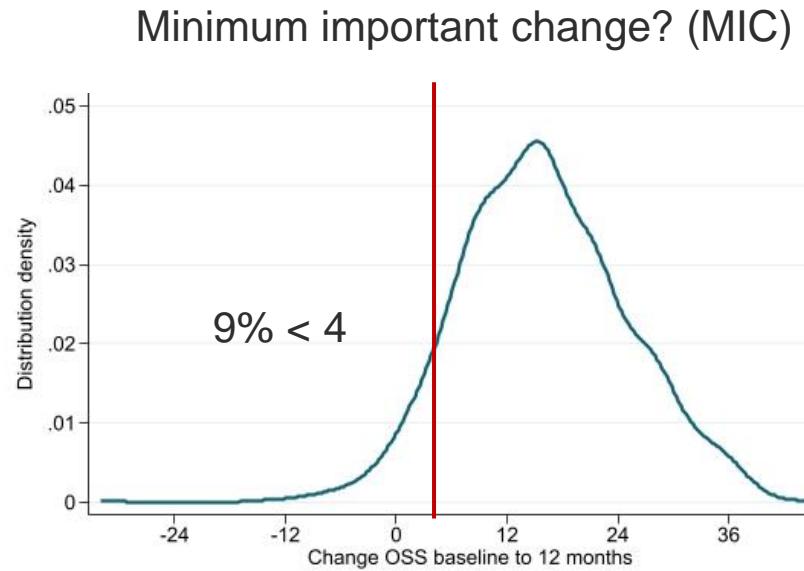
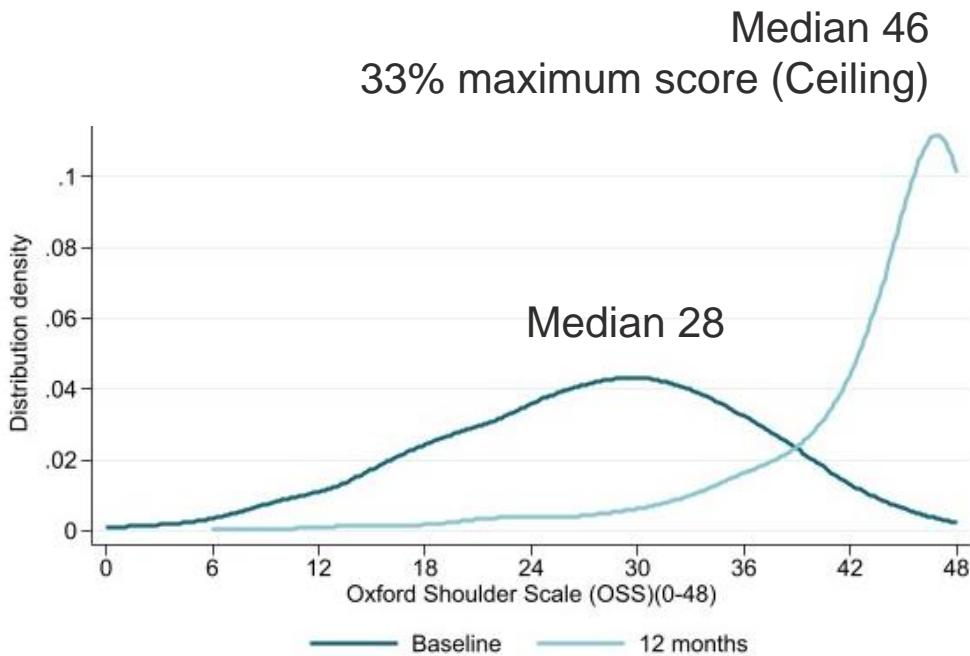




Outcome assessment ...

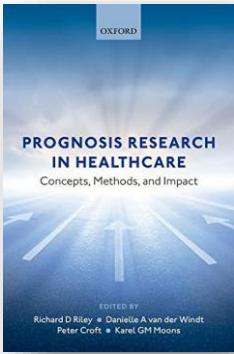
Image source

# Shoulder function: change of Oxford Shoulder Score

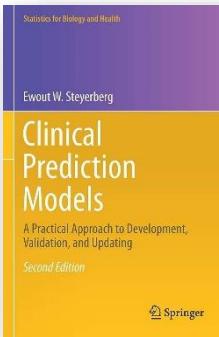


# Prediction model for shoulder stiffness @6 months

Prevalence = 10.8% (105 / 941)



Riley et al., 2019

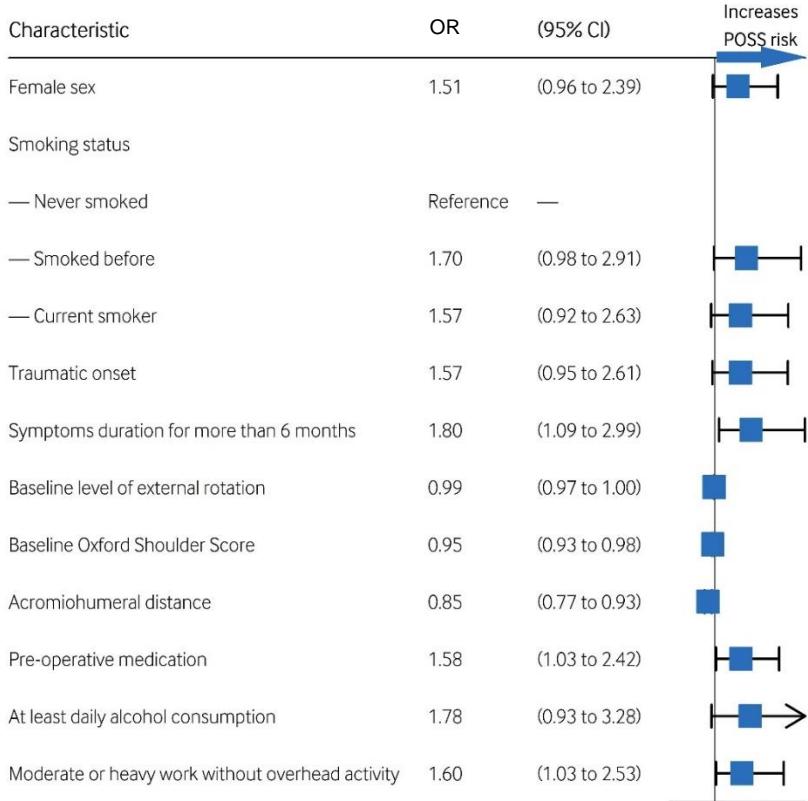


Steyerberg, 2009



Alwin Jäger Prize 2023

klinische arthroskopische Innovation





Next steps and future development...

[Image source](#)

2020-2024



**suva**

# Analyses and publication concept

## Main objectives and topics

- Baseline and operative epidemiological data
- Outcome: safety & effectiveness data
- Prognostic models

## Additional analyses / nested projects (50+)

- Initiative from local project leaders
- Co-authorship of publications among centers

<https://arcr-pred.ch>

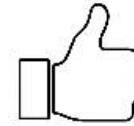


## Publications / presentations

- Scientific articles - Congress presentations - Seminars / Webinars - Media
- Project Website

# Role model project for orthopedic patients?

- Multicenter collaboration on a national level (public / private)
- Engage with professional organization
- Forster interdisciplinary collaboration  
*(clinicians, clinical epidemiologists, research staff, statisticians, data scientist...)*
- Structure : central organizational unit + trained local project coordinators
- Secure personnel resources and project funding
- Ensure quality through intensive cooperation and monitoring
- Maintain active communication
- Implement more patient and public involvement



# Surgical Outcome Research Center Basel (SORC)

Register / Cohort data for frequent surgical procedures

Subjective Measurements

Objective Measurements

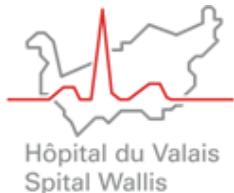
Biomechanics





Bürgerspital  
Solothurn

solothurner  
spitäler soH



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Orthopädie und Traumatologie



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IN MOTION  
Zentrum für Orthopädie & Neurochirurgie



Kantonsspital Baden



KSW Kantonsspital  
Winterthur

balgristcampus



Kantonsspital  
Baselland  
ganz nah

