



KOMPETENZNETZ  
VORHOFFLIMMERN E.V. –  
ATRIAL FIBRILLATION  
NETWORK (AFNET)



### CLINICAL TRIALS

- Gap-AF – AFNET 1
- ANTIPAF – AFNET 2
- Flec-SL – AFNET 3
- EAST – AFNET 4
- AXAFA – AFNET 5
- NOAH – AFNET 6
- AXADIA – AFNET 8
- Smart in OAC – AFNET 9



### CURRENT PROJECTS

- MAESTRIA – ID 965286
- OCEAN
- CABA-HFPEF-DZHK 27
- CMR-ICD
- AFFECT-EU – ID 847770
- CLOSURE-AF
- EMERGE Cryo



### CONTACT Atrial Fibrillation NETWORK (AFNET)

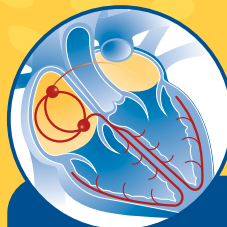
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**Prof. Paulus Kirchhof, MD (Chair)**  
**Prof. Ulrich Schotten, MD, PhD**  
**Prof. Stephan Willems, MD**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**  
 Dr. Ines Gröner, MD  
 Muenster, Germany

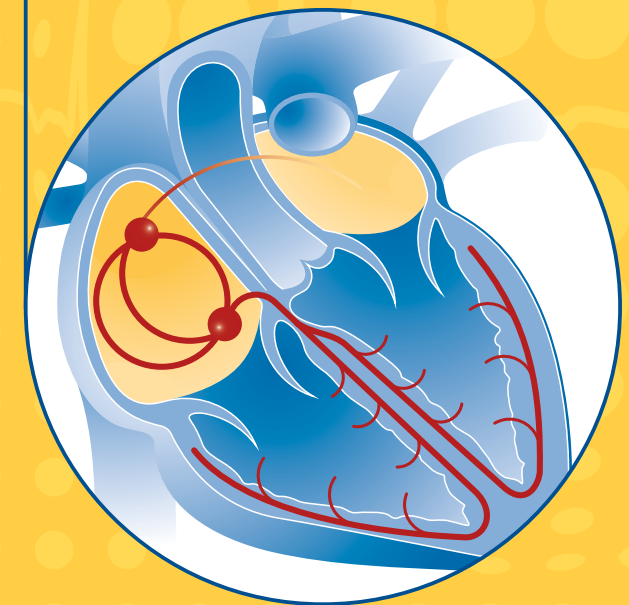
**INTERESTED?** If you are interested in recruiting patients for one of the AFNET trials or in joining the AFNET team please contact us.  
[info@kompetenznetz-vorhofflimmern.de](mailto:info@kompetenznetz-vorhofflimmern.de)

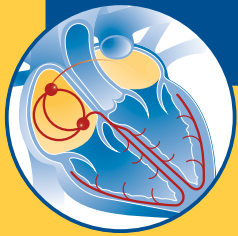
Please find further information at  
[www.kompetenznetz-vorhofflimmern.de](http://www.kompetenznetz-vorhofflimmern.de)



# ATRIAL FIBRILLATION NETWORK (AFNET)

## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF NETWORKED RESEARCH





## AFNET – 20 YEARS OF HEART RESEARCH

AFNET was founded in 2003 as one of the 21 research networks in Germany funded by the German Federal Ministry of Research and Education (BMBF).

Over the years, the national network has developed into an internationally recognised academic research organization dedicated to translational cardiovascular research and evaluating new therapies mainly focusing on atrial fibrillation.

*“We are very excited to celebrate 20 years of AFNET this year,”* said **Prof. Dr. Paulus Kirchhof**, Chair of the Board of the AFNET. *“Results of the clinical research done within the AFNET network of sites and partners changed and improved the management of patients with atrial fibrillation. Together, we helped to improve the lives of patients with this common conditions.”*



*“Complementary expertise of cardiologists and neurologists, many years of clinical experience, close cooperations across the disciplines and with industry partners and last but not least a high level of enthusiasm and motivation were key to the success of our network. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the successful development of AFNET over the last*

*20 years! We are looking forward to continuing our successful team work in order to achieve the best results for our patients,”* stated **Prof. Dr. Günter Breithardt**, founding member of AFNET and Chair of the Board 2003-2015.



## ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE LAST TWO DECADES



### Completed research projects

- 9 successful clinical trials
- 11 registries
- > 10 other translational research projects



### Publications

- > 350 publications, including NEJM, The Lancet, Circulation, Eur. Heart J
- 2 patient brochures – a new edition will be published in 2023
- Regular newsletters



### A growing network

- 130 AFNET members
- 11 employees in the central office
- Scientific cooperations with strategic partners (e.g. EHRA, DZHK, DGK, ESC)
- Successful partnerships with industry
- Track record of public funding for research projects (BMBF, EU, others)
- Multiple links to public funders, foundations and industry partners



### Conferences and public relation

- 8th AFNET/EHRA Consensus Conferences, 9th conference planned
- Numerous scientific contributions to congresses
- Regular events for patients and health care professionals educating about innovative care



## EVENTS IN 2023

*„Let’s talk about science and communicate research findings. Knowledge translation is a very important step to raise public awareness, create innovations and improve current practice,”* said **Prof. Dr. Andreas Goette**.



### Meet us at ...

- **89th Annual Meeting DGK**, April 12-15, 2023 | Congress Center Rosengarten Mannheim
- **EHRA 2023**, April 16-18, 2023 | Barcelona
- **ESC Congress**, August 25-28, 2023 | Amsterdam
- **9th AFNET/ EHRA Consensus conference and 20 years AFNET**, September 11-13, 2023 | Muenster

## OUR VISION FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS

- Improving synergy between researchers and bringing science and society closer together
- Extending our scientific network and strengthening international cooperations
- Increasing the number of public grants and private sector investments to fund innovative research projects
- Conducting international randomized clinical trials with impact on clinical guidelines
- Increasing the number of publications in high-impact scientific journals
- Developing a data hub harmonizing information collected from different studies
- Optimizing treatment strategies and treatment decisions to improve the lives of our patients with atrial fibrillation and to promote cardiovascular health