



# PRESTIGE-AF

PREVENTION OF STROKE IN INTRACEREBRAL HAEMORRHAGE  
SURVIVORS WITH ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

## THE BEST CHOICE FOR YOUR INTRACEREBRAL HAEMORRHAGE (ICH) PATIENTS WITH ATRIAL FIBRILLATION (AF)

ICH survivors with AF are not uncommon and present a dilemma for many clinicians who wish to balance preventing ischaemic stroke without increasing the likelihood of recurrent ICH, and so question the use of anticoagulants.

PRESTIGE-AF is a randomised controlled trial (RCT) looking to address this uncertainty. Here's why we believe it is the best option for the benefit of your patients.

- Observational studies into the benefit and risks of anticoagulation have been going on for some time. However, these studies have important limitations that may lead to false conclusions. Therefore, **RCTs are needed** to resolve this uncertainty. It is the view of the **European Stroke Organisation** that it is **the best choice for patients to enrol them into RCTs whenever possible!**
- Evidence from two pilot RCTs, SoSTART and APACHE-AF, indicates that **major vascular events are more likely to be prevented** when patients are treated with direct oral anticoagulants. However, this **may increase the risk of ICH**. The trial chief investigators believe that enrolment into Phase 3 RCT's such as PRESTIGE-AF is **the best course of action** for these patients.
- Care must obviously be taken with patients who have a particularly high risk of recurrent ICH, such as those with lobar ICH or cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA). However, the largest observational study to date suggests that **oral anticoagulation is still beneficial** for these patients. The authors also conclude that **evidence from RCTs is still needed**.
- There is **limited evidence** that Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion (LAAO) may be an effective stroke prevention treatment for these patients, but **data from RCTs is not available**.
- PRESTIGE-AF aims for **personalised approaches** for stroke prevention to take into account individual patient risks, and wants to **resolve the uncertainty** around the use of anticoagulants for ICH patients with AF.

Learn more about the information in this flyer and about PRESTIGE-AF in [this informational video](#), where Professor Roland Veltkamp goes into all the details, or scan the QR code on the right.

