

Cardiovascular Risk Profiling in ANCA-Associated Glomerulonephritis

Anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody (ANCA) associated vasculitides are aggressive diseases of the immune system destructing the kidneys.

Patients with ANCA vasculitis often lose their kidney function at time of diagnosis. Following a diagnosis of ANCA vasculitis, patients suffer far more often from heart attacks and strokes, so called cardiovascular complications, compared to other kidney failure patients. ANCA vasculitis patients have an increased risk to die from this.

We want to use the more advanced technique of magnet resonance imaging (MRI) to investigate patients with a new diagnosis of ANCA glomerulonephritis.

We will perform an MR of the heart at time of diagnosis for any indication that a patient is at increased risk to develop cardiovascular complications.

Combining MRI with blood markers, we want to separate patients in different risk groups to allow treatment depending on the risk of the individual patient.

We hope to improve detection and handling of cardiovascular complications so that AAV patients develop less heart attacks and strokes.