



Oncological outcome after completing or abandoning (radical) hysterectomy in patients with cervical cancer and intraoperative detection of LN positivity

## **ABRAX (ABandoning RAd hyst in cerviX cancer)**

Retrospective cohort study

**Protocol ID:** CEEGOG CX2

ENGOT-Cx3/CEEGOG/ABRAX

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Author: David Cibula

LEAD GROUP: Central and Eastern European Gynecologic Oncology Group (CEEGOG)

TRIAL CHAIR: David Cibula (CEEGOG)

Gynaecologic Oncology Centre, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology; First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague

and General University Hospital in Prague; Apolinarska 18, Prague 2, 128 51, Czech Republic

#### **PARTICIPATING GROUPS:**









STEERING COMMITEE: David Cibula

Ingo Runnebaum (AGO Study Group)

Department of Gynaecology and Reproductive Medicine, Jena

University Hospital, Jena, Germany

**Ladislav Dusek (Statistician)** 

Institute for Biostatistics and Analyses; Masaryk University, Czech

Republic

**Mary McCormack** 

University College London Hospitals, London, UK

Nadeem Abu-Rustum

Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center,

New York, USA

MAIN INVESTIGATOR: Lukas Dostalek

Gynaecologic Oncology Centre, Department of Obstetrics and

Gynaecology; First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague

and General University Hospital in Prague;

BIOSTATISTICIAN: Ladislav Dusek

TRIAL COORDINATOR: Ivana Nohova

CEEGOG office, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology; First

Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague and General

University Hospital in Prague;

Apolinarska 18, Prague 2, 128 51, Czech Republic

Email: ceegog@ceegog.eu Fax: +420 224 969 343

DATA CENTER: Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology; First Faculty of

Medicine, Charles University in Prague and General University

Hospital in Prague;

Apolinarska 18, Prague 2, 128 51, Czech Republic

STUDY DESIGN: International, Multicentric, Retrospective Cohort

NAME	David Cibula, M.D., Ph.D., Professor	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	14/May /2017	
TRIAL CHAIRMAN SIGNATURE	Seried St	



# 1. Protocol Synopsis

Acronym	ABRAX (ABandoning RAd hyst in cerviX cancer)						
ID	CEEGOG CX2						
	ENGOT-Cx3/CEEGOG/ABRAX						
Full Title	Oncological outcome after completing or abandoning (radical)						
	hysterectomy in patients with cervical cancer and intraoperative						
	detection of LN positivity						
Primary end point	Progression free survival (PFS)						
Secondary end points	<ol> <li>Prevalence of ≥ G2 treatment related morbidity (CTCAE)</li> </ol>						
	2) Overall survival (OS)						
	3) Pelvic PFS						
	4) Oncological outcome after stratification according to the prognostic						
	parameters such as tumour size, number of involved LN, type of						
	metastases, presence of LVSI, histological type						
Objectives	1) To determine if the performance of radical hysterectomy improves						
	oncological outcome in patients with intraoperative detection of LN						
	involvement (comparing to radio(chemo)therapy alone)						
	2) Compare the prevalence of $\geq$ G2 treatment-related morbidity						
	between the group with or without radical hysterectomy						
	3) Evaluate if the survival benefit of radical hysterectomy is modified						
	by prognostic parameters (tumour size, histological type, type of						
	metastases, presence of LVSI, number of involved LN)						
Inclusion criteria	✓ Histologically confirmed squamous cell carcinoma,						
	adenocarcinoma, adenosquamous carcinoma						
	✓ Stage pT1a – pT2b						
	✓ Patient referred for primary surgical treatment (neoadjuvant						
	chemotherapy is not an exclusion criteria) intended to perform						
	LN staging followed by radical / simple hysterectomy or						
	fertility-sparing procedure (FST)						
	✓ Intraoperative detection of LN involvement (any type of						
	metastasis):						
	Macroscopic involvement = grossly involved lymph      mades (if confirmed by final pathology)						
	nodes (if confirmed by final pathology)						
	OR  Microscopis involvement - SIN / IN intragnarative						
	<ul> <li>Microscopic involvement = SLN / LN intraoperative pathologic evaluation (frozen section)</li> </ul>						
	✓ Follow-up data available for ≥ 2 years						
	<ul> <li>✓ Follow-up data available for ≥ 2 years</li> <li>✓ Surgery performed between January 2005 and December 2015</li> </ul>						
	5 Surgery performed between January 2005 and December 2015						



Eligibility for the study	✓ Neoadjuvant chemotherapy
(the following cases can	<ul> <li>✓ Any surgical approach (laparoscopy, laparotomy, robotic surgery)</li> </ul>
be included)	✓ SLN biopsy performed or not – with or without SLN pathologic
	ultrastaging
	✓ Paraaortic lymphadenectomy performed or not
	✓ Positive paraaortic lymph nodes
	✓ Pelvic lymphadenectomy completed or not
	✓ Any type of uterine procedure (simple hysterectomy, radical)
	hysterectomy, fertility sparing procedure)
	✓ Any type of adjuvant treatment
	✓ Any preoperative staging strategy
	✓ Any surveillance strategy
Exclusion criteria	✓ Preoperative evidence of grossly involved LN
	<ul> <li>Histologic subtypes other than those noted in the Inclusion</li> </ul>
	criteria
	✓ Negative pelvic LN
	✓ LN involvement reported by the final histology but not detected
	during the surgery
	✓ Unavailability of follow-up data



## **Table of Contents**

1.	Protocol Synopsis	3
2.	Background	5
3.	Study limitations	7
4.	Study aims	8
5.	Study description	8
6.	Study setting	10
7.	Reporting of treatment-related complications	11
8.	Type of metastases	11
9.	Ethical committee approval	11
10.	Minimum requirements for centre participation	12
11.	Study supervision	12
12.	Data handling	12
13.	Monitoring	12
14.	Funding	13
15.	Publication rules (adopted from ENGOT publication rules)	13
	15.1 General	13
	15.2 Additional publications of sub-projects or subgroup / institutional data	13
16.	Abbreviations	14
17.	References	15
18.	List of Appendices	16
	APPENDIX 1 Ethical commitee approval	17
	APPENDIX 2 Application to join the ABRAX trial	19
	APPENDIX 3 Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events v4.0 (CTCAE)	20

## 2. Background

The management of patients with intraoperative detection of LN involvement currently varies widely. Management options inlcude completing or abandoning radical hysterectomy, performing or abandoning pelvic lymph node dissection (PLND) and even continuing with inframesenteric or infrarenal paraaortic lymph node dissection (PALND). The most significant aspect is the decision



regarding the performance of radical hysterectomy, due to the high morbidity caused by combined treatment composed of radical surgery and adjuvant radiotherapy in these patients<sup>1-2</sup>.

Thanks to the broader use of modern imaging technologies in pre-treatment work-up, the number of patients with an intraoperative finding of grossly involved LN has decreased. At the same time though, as an increasing number of institutions routinely perform SLN biopsy and submit SLNs for frozen section, microscopic LN positivity is more often detected intraoperatively.

Data on the oncologic outcome of patients with LN involvement after radical hysterectomy and adjuvant radiotherapy are broadly available. Recent figures show five-year survival in stage IB at around 70–85 %<sup>3–5</sup>. In contrast, the data on patients in whom radical hysterectomy was abandoned due to intraoperative detection of LN involvement are scarce. Available literature mostly refers to small groups of cases with grossly involved LN detected during surgery<sup>6–10</sup>. In the majority of papers, there is a trend towards longer PFI in patients with completed radical hysterectomy, while overall survival does not differ<sup>8–10</sup>. The results are, however, severely biased because retrospective groups in whom radical hysterectomy was abandoned had worse prognostic factors. The largest analysed series obtained data from the US-based SEER database (Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results)<sup>5</sup>. Even in such a robust national dataset of more than 3,100 patients, only a small subset of 50 cases in whom radical hysterectomy was abandoned intraoperatively was found. Overall, the five-year survival was identical to patients with completed radical hysterectomy (69% vs. 71%). However, the reliability of data is limited by its source, which is a retrospective national cancer database.

Current clinical practice remains divided. The main arguments used by supporters and opponents of both types of management are summarized in Table 1. The goal of this retrospective cohort study is to obtain the best data available from an adequate number of patients treated by both types of management in the same period of time and to analyse the risks and benefits of the performance of radical hysterectomy if LN involvement is detected intraoperatively in spite of non-suspicious preoperative radiological assessment. Another objective is to assess how the presence of selected factors with potential impact on the response to radiotherapy (histological type, size of tumour, number of positive LNs, size of LN metastases) can determine the benefit of the radical hysterectomy on oncological outcome.



Table 1: Arguments supporting either the performance of or abandoning radical hysterectomy after intraoperative detection of LN involvement

Reasons to abandon		Reasons to complete			
>	Avoidance of morbidity related to	~	Lower risk of central pelvis recurrence		
	radical hysterectomy itself		(especially in larger tumours or		
>	Lower morbidity related to		adenocarcinomas)		
	radiotherapy if previous radical	>	Lower morbidity due to the avoidance		
	hysterectomy is avoided		of brachytherapy		
>	Better oncological outcome due to the				
	possibility of using brachytherapy				

## 3. Study limitations

The retrospective nature is the major trial limitation. Taking into account a limited number of patients with intraoperative detection of LN involvement, a prospective design would be demanding if not undoable. Moreover, randomisation of patients would be difficult to conduct because individual institutions usually strongly prefer one of the two types of management tested in this trial.

A potential limitation is the selection of higher-risk patients for one preferred management. However, it can be hypothesized that no other prognostic risk factors are used in the majority of institutions for triaging these patients, and all cases with positive LN are managed by one preferred algorithm. Moreover, the oncological outcome will be adjusted to the presence of main prognostic factors in each group.

Due to a long-term study period, incomplete data might become another limitation, especially concerning radiotherapy or treatment-related morbidity. Mandatory variables have been identified in the database, a clinical monitor will review data, and cases with missing mandatory type of data will be excluded. One of the inclusion criteria is the requirement for availability of at least two-year follow-up data.

The assessment of treatment-related morbidity is one of the biggest challenges. The classification and evaluation of post-operative and post-radiation complications is, however, a difficult task even in prospective trials. The main reasons are the following: a) lack of a uniform classification system, b) a broad spectrum of complications, c) subjective evaluation of its causality. Due to the above-mentioned reasons, only more severe complications with a higher probability of reporting in medical charts will be documented in the study (see Chapter 7).



## 4. Study aims

#### **Primary End-Point**

Progression free survival (PFS)

#### **Secondary End-Point**

- 1. Prevalence of  $\geq$  G2 treatment related morbidity (CTCAE)
- 2. Overall survival (OS)
- 3. Pelvic PFS
- 4. Oncological outcome after stratification according to the prognostic parameters such as tumour size, number of involved LN, type of metastases, presence of LVSI, histological type, neoadjuvant chemotherapy

#### **Objectives**

- To determine if the performance of radical hysterectomy improves oncological outcome in patients with intraoperative detection of LN involvement (compared to radio(chemo)therapy alone)
- 2. Compare the prevalence of  $\geq$  G2 treatment-related morbidity between the group with or without radical hysterectomy
- 3. Evaluate if the survival benefit of radical hysterectomy is modified by prognostic parameters (tumour size, histological type, type of metastases, presence of LVSI, number of involved LN)

## 5. Study description

Patients with early stage (pT1a – pT2b) cervical cancer (squamous, adeno or adenosquamous), who did not have positive lymph nodes on preoperative imaging, who were scheduled for primary surgical treatment, and in whom metastatic involvement of pelvic LN was found during surgery either as a grossly (macroscopically) involved LN or on intraoperative pathology assessment (any type of metastasis), will be enrolled. Patients can be included irrespective of surgical approach (laparoscopy, robotic surgery, laparotomy) and surgical procedure performed (SLN biopsy yes or no, performance of PLND or PALND, type of (radical) hysterectomy). Figure 1 shows the algorithm of the selection of eligible candidates.

Data on patients' characteristics, disease characteristics at diagnosis, primary treatment, adjuvant treatment, serious treatment-related complications, and survival will be collected.



#### **Inclusion criteria**

- ✓ Histologically confirmed squamous cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, adenosquamous carcinoma
- √ Stage pT1a pT2b
- ✓ Patient referred for primary surgical treatment intended to perform LN staging followed by radical / simple hysterectomy or fertility-sparing procedure (FST)
- ✓ Intraoperative detection of LN involvement (any type of metastasis):
  - Macroscopic involvement = grossly involved lymph nodes (if confirmed by final pathology)

OR

Microscopic involvement = SLN / LN intraoperative pathologic evaluation (frozen section)

- ✓ Follow-up data available for  $\ge$  2 years
- ✓ Surgery performed between January 2005 and December 2015

#### **Exclusion criteria**

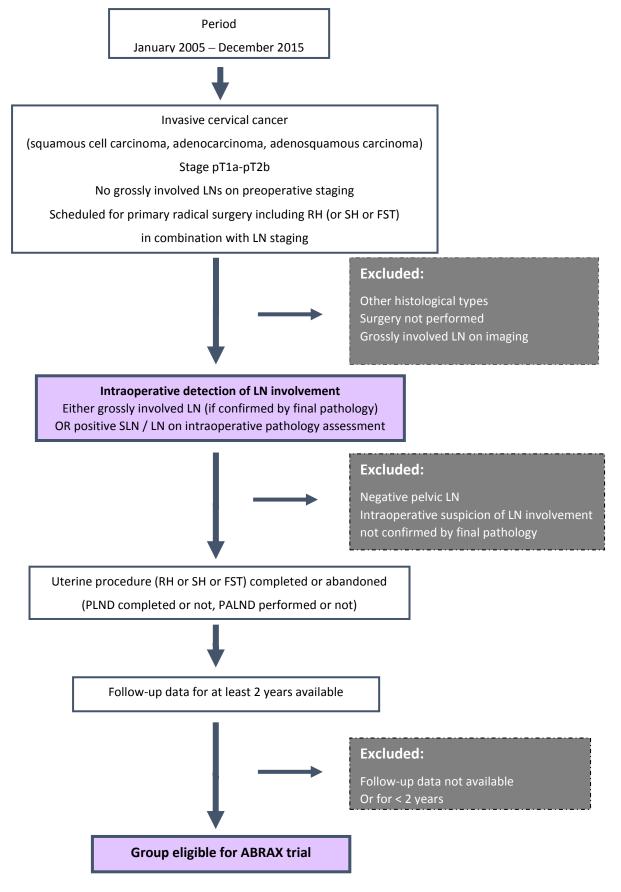
- ✓ Preoperative evidence of grossly involved LN
- ✓ Histologic subtypes other than those noted in the Inclusion criteria
- √ Negative pelvic LN
- ✓ LN involvement reported by the final histology but not detected during the surgery
- ✓ Unavailability of follow-up data

#### Patients who are also eligible for the study

- ✓ Neoadjuvant chemotherapy given before surgery
- ✓ Any surgical approach (laparoscopy, laparotomy, robotic surgery)
- ✓ SLN biopsy performed or not with or without SLN pathologic ultrastaging
- ✓ Paraaortic lymphadenectomy performed or not
- ✓ Pelvic lymphadenectomy completed or not
- ✓ Any type of uterine procedure (simple hysterectomy, radical hysterectomy, fertility sparing procedure)
- ✓ Any type of adjuvant treatment
   Any preoperative staging strategy
- ✓ Any surveillance strategy



## 6. Study setting





## 7. Reporting of treatment-related complications

Only those complications that, in the investigator's opinion, are related to the cervical cancer treatment should be documented. Complications (adverse events) will be classified according to the NCI Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events Version 4.0 (http://evs.nci.nih.gov/ftp1/CTCAE/CTCAE\_4.03\_2010-06-14\_QuickReference\_5x7.pdf). Comments were included for each category (Appendix 3) in order to make it more easily applicable to the assessment of late complications with an impact on the quality of life. Taking into account the limited reliability of retrospective evaluation of less serious adverse events, only complications of grade 2–5 will be retrospectively reported.

## 8. Type of metastases

The type of metastases will be classified according to the TNM system. Macrometastases are defined as metastasis > 2 mm in diameter, micrometastases are metastases > 0.2 and  $\leq$  2 mm, and isolated tumour cells (ITCs) as individual tumour cells or small clusters of cells up to 0.2 mm in diameter or < 200 cells.

## 9. Ethical committee approval

It is the responsibility of participating institutions to receive the approval from the institutional ethical committee. Patients' consent is not required.

The study will be performed in accordance with the terms of the protocol, generally accepted standards of Good Clinical Practice and the investigators will adhere to all applicable laws and regulations governing the conduct of clinical trials, including but not limited to the ICH Harmonized Tripartite Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice and the Declaration of Helsinki.

The Investigator shall treat all information and data relating to the study as confidential and shall not disclose such information to any third parties or use such information for any purpose other than the performance of the study.



## 10. Minimum requirements for centre participation

- Local ethical committee approval
- Adequate administrative support available

## 11. Study supervision

Central supervision: the Steering Committee is responsible for the protocol, quality control, interim analyses of the data and final analysis and reporting of the study.

Local supervision: the Principal Investigators are responsible for the data collection in their centres.

#### 12. Data handling

The trial will use a web-based electronic data capture ABRAX Information System (AIS) for all data collection. Users will be able to access the AIS through major web browsers without a need to install any additional software. Access to AIS will be restricted to only authorized users and communication between the server and users will be secured by an encrypted protocol HTTPS. Only non-identifiable data will be collected and a local identifier will be provided by the system for all patients. Each centre will obtain unique username and password for AIS after the submission of signed "Application to Join the ABRAX Trial" form to the Trial centre (ceegog@ceegog.eu).

## 13. Monitoring

Monitoring will be provided by the Trial office, which is responsible for checking the accuracy, completeness, and plausibility of all data and its compliance with the protocol and GCP requirements.



#### 14. Funding

The ABRAX trial is a non-commercial retrospective trial that does not receive any support from the industry. **Participating institutions will not receive any financial compensation for participation in the study.** All expenses related to the trial (administrative centre, statistics, electronic data capture system, monitoring) will be covered by research grants.

# 15. Publication rules (adopted from ENGOT publication rules)

#### 15.1 General

- a) All calculations regarding the number and position of co-authors will be based on the numbers of patients recruited by institutions / groups with positions guaranteed by the institution / group leading the specific project.
- b) Each institution / group is independent and free to fill in individual names according to its number and position of co-authorships.

#### Number of co-authors per group

- a) An institution / group receives a co-authorship position if it has recruited / submitted at least 5 % of the total number of patients / cases. Every additional 5 % = 1 additional co-author.
- b) Institutions that recruit < 5 % of patients can be co-authors of secondary publications.

#### 15.2 Additional publications of sub-projects or subgroup / institutional data

- a) Each participating institution / group can receive a dataset of patients recruited by the respective study institution / group after the final analysis.
- b) Separate analyses by one participating institution / group on their included patients should not include primary or secondary end points, and the leading institution (Trial Chair) must be informed about any such project.
- c) All sub-publications or meta-analyses can only be published after the main manuscript of the study has been published.



- d) Any additional subgroup analysis of the whole population (usage of other institutions' data) done by a participating institution / group should be prospectively discussed among the whole group and agreed upon.
- e) Co-authors' number and position in sub-publications follows the same rules as for main publication.

#### 16. Abbreviations

AIS – ABRAX Information System

BMI – Body Mass Index

CEEGOG – Central and Eastern European Gynecologic Oncology Group

CTCAE – Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events

ENGOT – European Network for Gynaecological Oncological Trial groups

FST – Fertility-sparing treatment

G -Grade

GCP - Good clinical practice

HTTPS – Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure

ICH — International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use

ICT – Isolated tumour cell

LN – Lymph nodes

LVSI – Lymphovascular space invasion

MAC – Macrometastases

MIC – Micrometastases

NCI – National Cancer Institute

OS – Overall survival

PALND – Paraaortic lymph node dissection

PFI – Progression free interval

PFS – Progression free survival

PLND – Pelvic lymph node dissection

RH – Radical hysterectomy



SH – Simple hysterectomy

SLN – Sentinel lymph node

TNM – TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours

## 17. References

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## 18. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 Ethical commitee approval

Appendix 2 Application to join the ABRAX trial

Appendix 3 Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events v4.0 (CTCAE)



#### APPENDIX 1 Ethical committee approval

#### Etická komise Všeobecné fakultní nemocnice v Praze ETHICS COMMITTEE of the General University Hospital, Prague

Na Bojišti 1 128 08 Praha 2 tel.: 224964131 e-mail: eticka.komise@vfn.cz

Vážený pan prof. MUDr. David Cibula, CSc. 20.07.2017 Onkogynekologické centrum, č.j.: 998/17 S-IV Gynekologicko-porodnická klinika 1.LF UK a VFN v Praze, Apolinářská 18, 128 51 Praha 2 Etická komise VFN projednala na svém zasedání dne 20.7.2017 Vámi předložený projekt - ind.výzkum, čj.: Název studie/Title of CT: Porovnání doby přežití bez progrese a celkového přežití či odstoupení od radikální hysterektomie u pacientek s karcinomem děložního hrdla, u kterých bylo peroperačně diagnostikováno nádorové postižení lymfatických uzlin. Zadatel/Applicant: prof. MUDr. David Cibula, CSc; Onkogynekologické centrum, Gynekologicko-porodnická klinika 1.LF UK a VFN v Praze, Apolinářská 18, 128 51 Praha 2 Lhůta pro podání písemné zprávy o průběhu KH od jeho zahájení/ Time schedule for submission of the written Annual Report from the CT commencement: 🔯 1x ročně/Once a year 🔲 Jiná lhůta/Other Úhrada nákladů spojených s posouzením žádosti a vydáním stanoviska /Reimbursement of costs related to assessment and issue of the EC opinion: Ano/Yes Ne, zdűvodnění/ No, reasons: Nesponzorovaný projekt Datum doručení žádosti / Date of submission of the Application Form: 29.6.2017 Datum jednání EK + čas/Date and time of Ethics Committee's session: 20.7.2017 (15,30 -17,30 hod.) Seznam míst hodnocení s označením míst, ke kterým se EK vyjádřila jako místní EK a kde vykonává dohled Místo hodnocení / Jméno zkoušejícího Mistní EK Adresa mistni EK Trial Site / Name of Investigator Address Local EC prof. MUDr. David Cibula, CSc; Onkogynekologické centrum,  $\boxtimes$ EK při VFN, Na Bojišti 1, Gynekologicko-porodnická klinika 1.LF UK a VFN v Praze, 128 08 Praha 2 Apolinářská 18, Praha 2, 128 51

Seznam hodnocených dokumentů / List of all submitted documents:

Název dokumentu, verze, datum  Document title, version, date	1700 100000	Schvåleno /Approved		Vzato na vědomí / Taken into account	
	ANO Yes	NE No	ANO Yes	NE No	
Průvodní dopís z 15.6.2017			$\boxtimes$		
Dotazník k předkládaným dokumentům – Víceúčelový formulář EK VFN, z 13.6.2017			$\boxtimes$		
Protokol ID: CEEGOG CX2, anglická verze 1.0 z 14.5.2017					
Protokol Synopsis v anglickém jazyce, verze 1.0 z 14.5.2017					
Synopse protokolu v českém jazyce, nedatované verze					
Čestná prohlášení z 20.6.2017			$\boxtimes$		
Souhlas přednosty kliniky prof. MUDr Aloise Martana, DrSc, 20.6.2017			X		
Životopis hlavního zkoušejícího prof. MUDr. Davida Cibuly, CSc. z 15.6.2017			$\boxtimes$		

Stanovisko etické komise:

EK VFN vydává souhlasné stanovisko k provedení individuálního výzkumu – "Porovnání doby přežití bez progrese a celkového přežití či odstoupení od radikální hysterektomie u pacientek s karcinomem děložního hrdla, u kterých bylo peroperačně diagnostikováno nádorové postižení lymfatických uzlín" na Gynekologicko-porodnické klinice 1.LF UK a VFN v Praze.

Etická komise Všeobecná fakultní nemocnice v Praze Na Bojišti 1 128 08 Praha 2 Podpis predsedy EK / Signature of Chairperson

MUDr. Josef ŠEDIVÝ, CSc.



#### Seznam členů etické komise/ List of the Ethics Committee Members:

	Muž/ Žena Male/ Female	Odbornost Specialist	Zaměs zřizov EK Ano Yes	tnanec atele Ne No	Funkce v EK Role in EC	Ano Yes	men dance Ne No	Hlasoval Voted Ano Ne Yes No
MUDr.Josef Šedivý, CSc.	M/M	Clinical Pharmacologist			Předseda/ Chairperson			
MUDr.Magda Šišková, CSc.	Ž/F	Haematologist	×		Mistopřed- seda/Vice- chairperson			
JUDr.Milada Džupinková, MBA	Ž/F	Lawyer			Člen/Member		$\boxtimes$	
Jana Farkačová	Ž/F	Lab.Technician	$\boxtimes$		Člen/Member	23	$\boxtimes$	
Doc.MUDr.Pavel Freitag, CSc.	M/M	Gynaecologist			Člen/Member			
Ing.Antonín Grošpic, CSc.	M/M	Engineer		$\boxtimes$	Člen/Member	$\boxtimes$		
Prof.MUDr.Eva Kubala Havrdová, CSc.	Ž/F	Neurologist	×		Člen/Member		$\boxtimes$	
MUDr.Hana Honová	M/M	Oncologist	$\boxtimes$		Člen/Member		$\boxtimes$	
MUDr.Anna Jedličková	Ž/F	Microbiologist		$\boxtimes$	Člen/Member	$\boxtimes$		
MUDr.Jiří Kolář	M/M	Cardiologist	$\boxtimes$		Člen/Member		X	
MUDr.Ladislav Korábek, CSc., MBA	M/M	Dental surgeon			Člen/Member		$\boxtimes$	
Prof.MUDr.František Perlík, DrSc.	M/M	Pharmacologist			Člen/Member			
Prof.MUDr.Jan Roth, CSc.	M/M	Neurologist	$\boxtimes$		Člen/Member		$\boxtimes$	
Mgr.Libuše Roytová Mgr.ThLic.of Theologie	Ž/F	Member of clergy		$\boxtimes$	Člen/Member	$\boxtimes$		
MUDr.Kateřina Rusinová, MgA.,Ph.D.	Ž/F	Anesthesiologist- Intensive Med.	Ø		Člen/Member		$\boxtimes$	
JUDr.Šárka Špeciánová	Ž/F	Lawyer		$\boxtimes$	Člen/Member	X		
MUDr.Marcela Trojánková	Ž/F	Privat Nefrologist		×	Člen/Member	×		
Prof.MUDr.Jiří Zeman, DrSc. pozn: *Zaměstnanec zřizova	M/M	Paediatrist – AdolescentMed			Člen/Member	×		

pozn: Zaměstnanec zřizovatele EK/ Employee of EC appointing authority)

Etická komise prohlašuje, že byla ustavena a pracuje v souladu se správnou klinickou praxi (GCP) a platnými právními předpisy. Poslední sloupec udává, zda členové EK byli přitomní hlasování, ale nikoli jak hlasovali ve věci./The Ethics Committee hereby declares that it was established and operates in accordance with its Rules of Procedure in compliance with GCP and valid legal regulations. EC members personally presented the voting procedure (and NOT their individual voting result to or against the cause) are indicated in the last column:

\[ \begin{align\*} \text{Ano/Yes} & \text{No} & \text{Komentář/Comments:} \end{align\*}

Datum/Date: 20.07.2017

Podpis předsedy EK nebo zástupce Signature of Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson

Etická komise Všeobecná fakultní nemocnice v Praze Na Bojišti 1 128 08 Praha 2 MUDr. Josef ŠEDIVÝ, CSc.



#### APPENDIX 2 Application to join the ABRAX trial

#### **APPLICATION TO JOIN THE ABRAX TRIAL**

OFFICIAL NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT / INSTITUTION:
Official address:
Name of the department chair:
STUDY INVESTIGATOR:
Name:
Email address:
Contact phone number:
STUDY COORDINATOR OR STUDY NURSE (OPTIONAL):
Name:
Email address:
Contact phone number:
I hereby confirm that:
- I have received the trial protocol
<ul> <li>I have obtained the approval from the Local Ethical Committee</li> <li>I understand the protocol and my institution fulfils criteria for joining the trial</li> </ul>
- I understand the protocol and my institution familis criteria for joining the trial
Minimum requirements for centre participation
Local ethical committee approval
DATE:
NAME OF STUDY INVESTIGATOR:
SIGNATURE:



#### APPENDIX 3 Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events v4.0 (CTCAE)

Grade	CTCAE description	Comments
Grade 2	Moderate; minimal, local or non-invasive intervention indicated; limiting age-appropriate instrumental ADL.	Complications that had a long-term negative impact on daily activities, such as shopping, or cooking.
Grade 3	Severe or medically significant but not immediately life threatening; hospitalization or prolongation of hospitalization indicated; disabling; limiting self-care ADL.	Complications that required hospitalisation, re-operation or which had a long-term negative impact on patients' self-care (bathing, dressing and undressing, feeding self, using the toilet, taking medications, and not bedridden).
Grade 4	Life-threatening consequences; urgent intervention indicated.	Life-threatening complications or those with long-term debilitating consequences for the quality of life of the patient.
Grade 5	Death related to AE.	