

**ESTREL – Enhancement of Stroke Rehabilitation with Levodopa: a randomized placebo-controlled trial**

Trial registration number:	ClinicalTrials.gov NCT03735901
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Contributor:	Szabina Gäumann, Zorica Suica, Dr. Corina Schuster-Amft
External collaborator:	Prof. Stefan Engelter – Felix Platter Spital Basel stefan.engelter@fps.ch
Contact:	c.schuster@reha-rhf.ch
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Short summary:	<p>In stroke medicine, the large body of high-quality evidence proving benefits of acute revascularization therapies and secondary prevention is offset by a large gap of evidence on means to enhance stroke recovery. Levodopa is a promising candidate for the pharmacological enhancement of stroke recovery. Motor deficits are common and affect quality of life in stroke patients prompting for motor improvement as a top priority. Given the high prevalence and tremendous burden of stroke, a straightforward applicable measure to improve motor outcome is highly relevant. The research project ESTREL addresses the aim to sustainably improve recovery after a cerebral stroke.</p> <p>The primary objective of this study is to investigate whether levodopa compared to placebo given in addition to standardized rehabilitation based on the principles of motor learning is associated with a patient-relevant enhancement of functional recovery in acute stroke patients.</p>