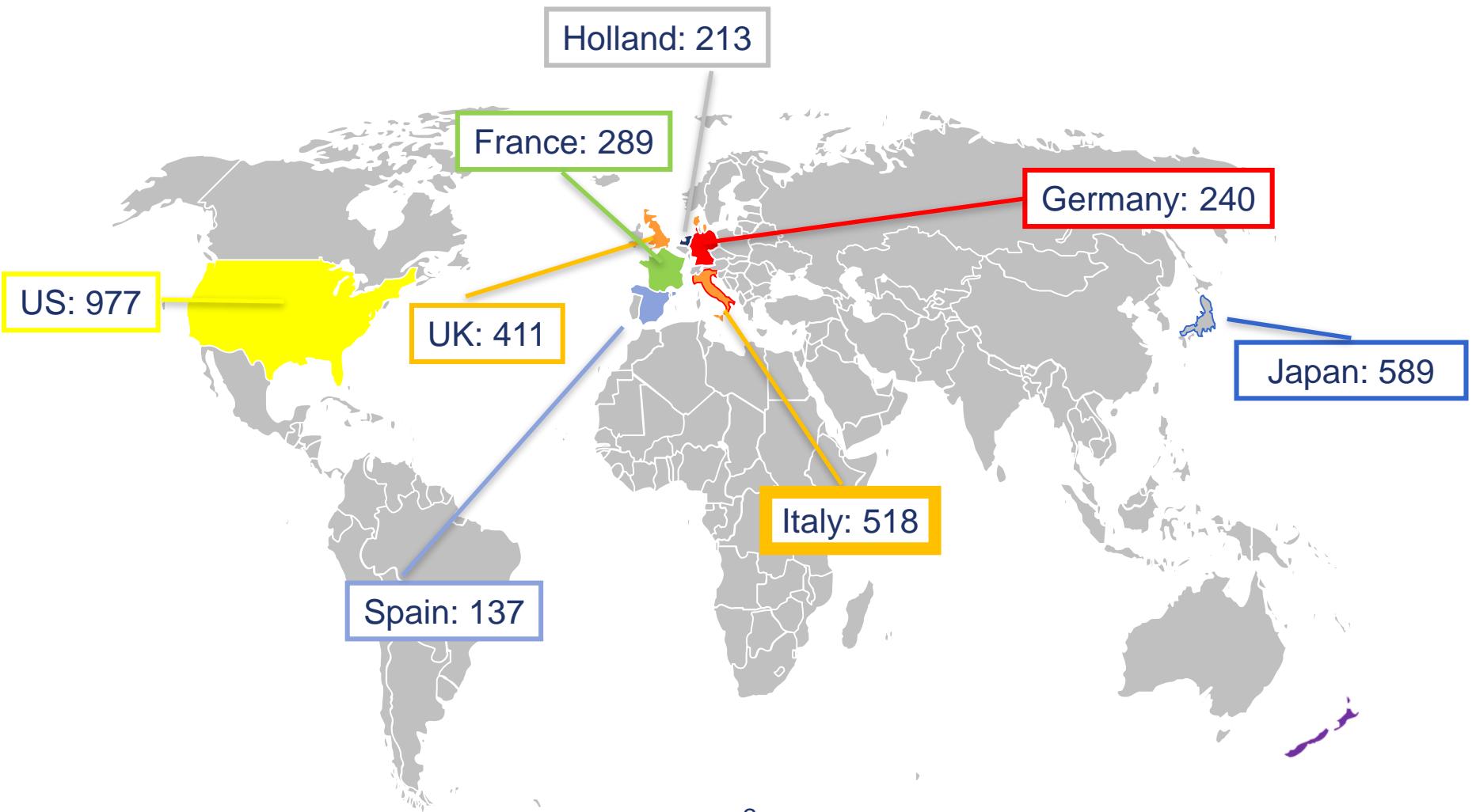


# DISCRIMINATORY VALUE OF CLINICAL FEATURES IN CUSHING'S SYNDROME: WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Alltogether to Beat Cushing's Syndrome  
Naples 5th-7th of May, 2015

M. Reincke & Co-workers  
Medizinische Klinik und Poliklinik IV  
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

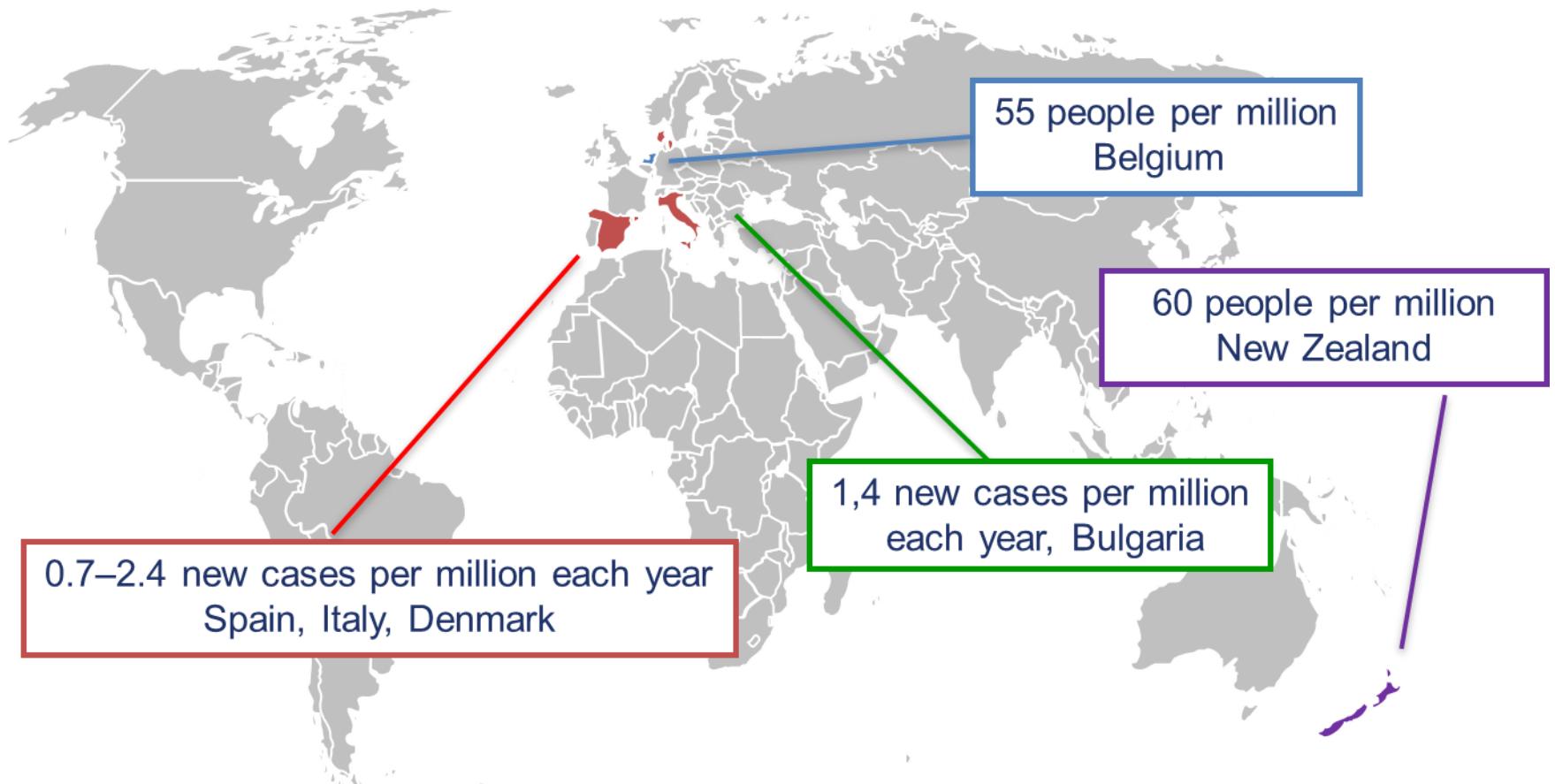
# Cushing's syndrome: Where is the science going on? PubMed listed publication (1900-2015)



# Overview: Cushing

- **Introduction**
- German Cushing Registry
- Automatic Face Recognition
- Results of the '*Diagnostic Study*'
- Conclusions

# Cushing disease: a Rare Condition



<sup>1</sup>Etxabe J & Vazquez JA. Clin Endocrinol 1994;40:479-484; <sup>2</sup>Ambrosi B et al. Excerpta Medica 1991;159–168; <sup>3</sup>Lindholm J et al. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2001;86:117–123; <sup>4</sup>Daly AF et al. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2006;91:4769–4775 ; <sup>5</sup>Bolland MJ et al. Clin Endocrinol (Oxf) 2011;75:436–442

# Cushing syndrome in Diabetes and Obesity

Author	Disease	N	N (%) Screening	N (%) confirmation
Leibowitz et al. 1996	DM, HbA1c>9; Obesity	90	4 (4,4%)	3 (3,3%)
Catargi et al. 2003	DM, HbAa1c>8; Obesity	200	52 (26%)	4 (2%)
Caetano et al. 2007	DM2, overweight	103	8 (7,8%)	0 (0%)
Reimondo et al. 2007	New DM2	100	5 (5%)	1 (1%)
Newton et al. 2008	DM2	171	32 (18,7%)	1 (0,6%)
Mullan et al. 2010	DM2, HBA1c >7, BMI>25	201	47 (23%)	0 (0%)
Baid et al. 2009	Overweight, obesity	369	n.a.	0 (0%)
Fierabracci et al. 2010	Morbid obesity	783	n.a.	6 (0,8%)
	Total	2017	148 (17,1%)	15 (0,7%)

# Cushing's syndrome: S&S in textbooks

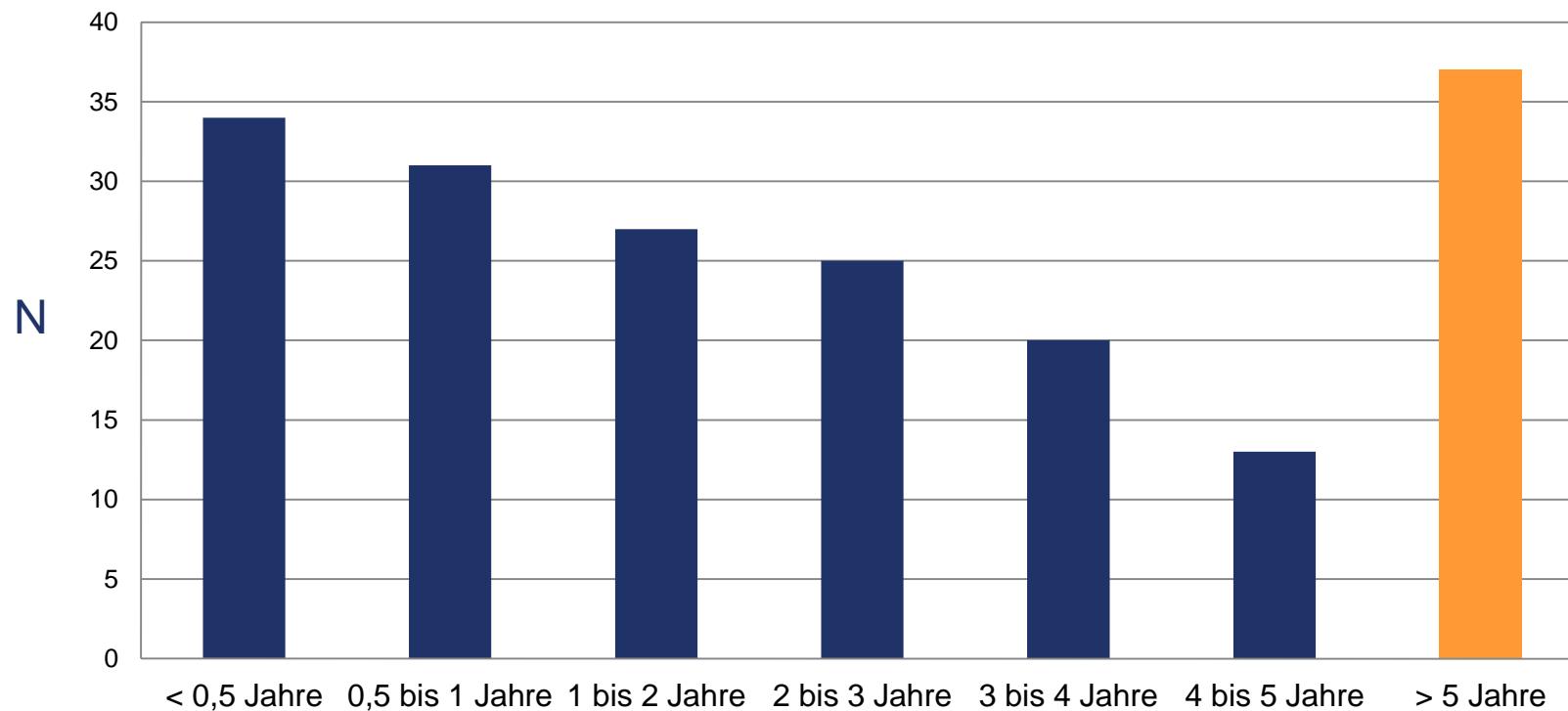
Unspecific/low discriminatory value	Prevalence (%)
Obesity	40–80
Diabetes mellitus	25–50
Hirsutism	30–50
Hypertension	50
Osteoporotic fracture	40–50
Specific/high discriminatory value	
Skin changes (atrophy, rubeosis, plethora, ecchymosis, wide violaceous striae, acne, skin infections)	100
Truncal obesity	80–100
Moon face	50–95
Myopathy	30–90
Oligomenorrhea/impotence	30–85
Mental disturbances	50–80

Metabolic syndrome



3 years prior    6 month prior    1 month prior surgery

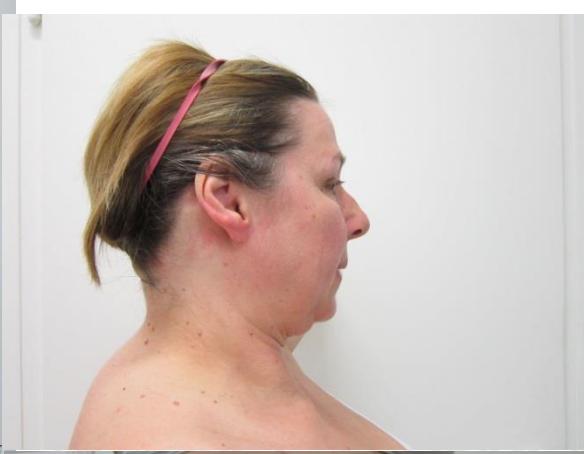
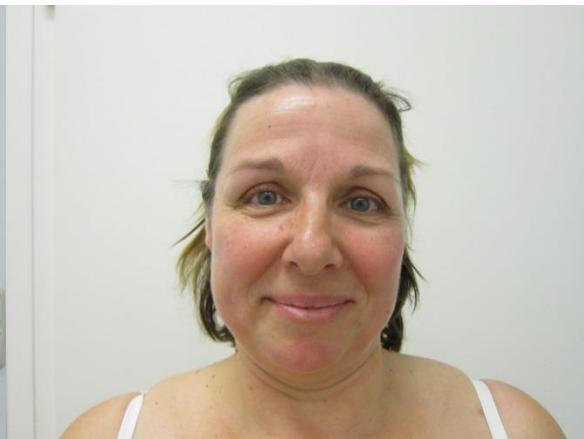
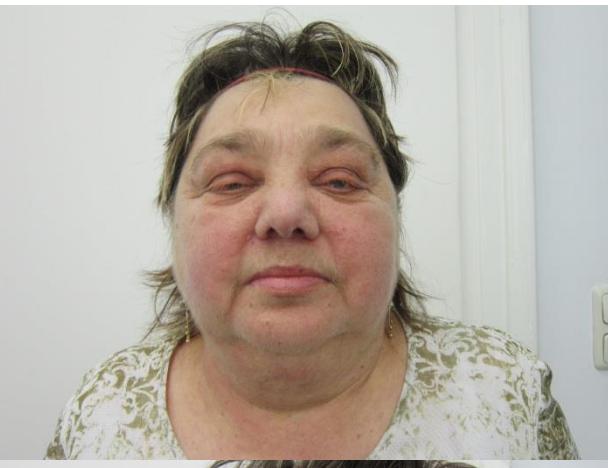
## Time from first symptoms to diagnosis: the LMU experience



The median time elapsed between onset of symptoms and final diagnosis was 2.0 yrs. (range < 1 month to 15.7 yrs.). In male patients it was 1.6 yrs. (range < 1 month to 15.2 yrs.), in female 2.0 yrs. (range < 1 month to 15.2 yrs.). About 20% of patients were diagnosed after more than 5 years (CD 61%; AC 33%; EC 6%).

# Discriminatory value of signs and symptoms of Cushing syndrome the past, the presence and the future

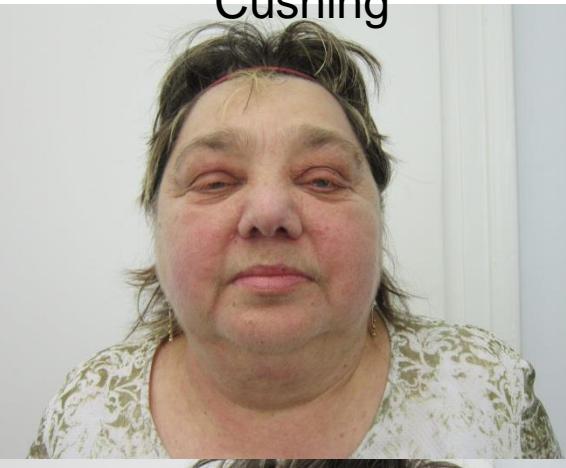
Discriminant index	own series <sup>2</sup> 2000 - 2012	ERCU-SYN <sup>2</sup> ? - 2012	Ross and Linch <sup>2</sup> 1960-1982
n	73	481	
Osteopenia	na	5,6	-
Recurrent infections	3,9	-	-
Red striae	2,8		2,5
Amenorrhea	2,7	2,3	1,6
Abdominal fat distribution	2,6	-	-
Plethora	2,5	-	3,0
Muscle weakness	2,4	3,7	8,0
Hirsutism	2,1	2,2	2,8
Hypertension	1,6	1,9	-
Loss of libido	1,4	1,1	-
Oedema	1,0	-	2,9
Depression	0,9	0,6	-



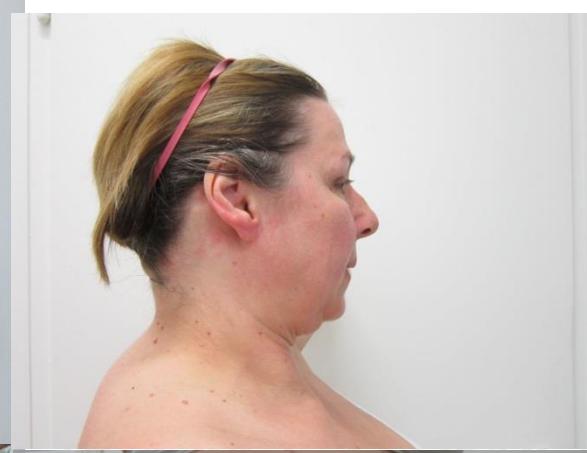
Cushing



Cushing



No Cushing



# Overview: Cushing

- Introduction
- German Cushing Registry
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- Conclusions

## Why start a Cushing Registry in 2012?

	Pheo	Primary Aldo.	Cushing
Rare Disease?	+	+	+
Sufficient screening test?	+	-	-
Subtype testing accuracy?	+	-	-
Overall diagnostic accuracy?	++	--	--
Excellent surgical outcome?	+	+	(+)
Pathophysiology elucidated?	++	++	-
Medical treatment	(+)	++	(+)

# Goals of a Cushing's Registry

---

- To build a cohort of sufficient epidemiologic strength for studies of high evidence
- To investigate long-term morbidity and mortality
- To identify patients with high risk for adverse events
- To identify those factors that contribute to persistence of Cushing associated co-morbidities despite biochemical cure
- To define better diagnostic tests for Cushing syndrome
- To build a network for IIT in the treatment of CS

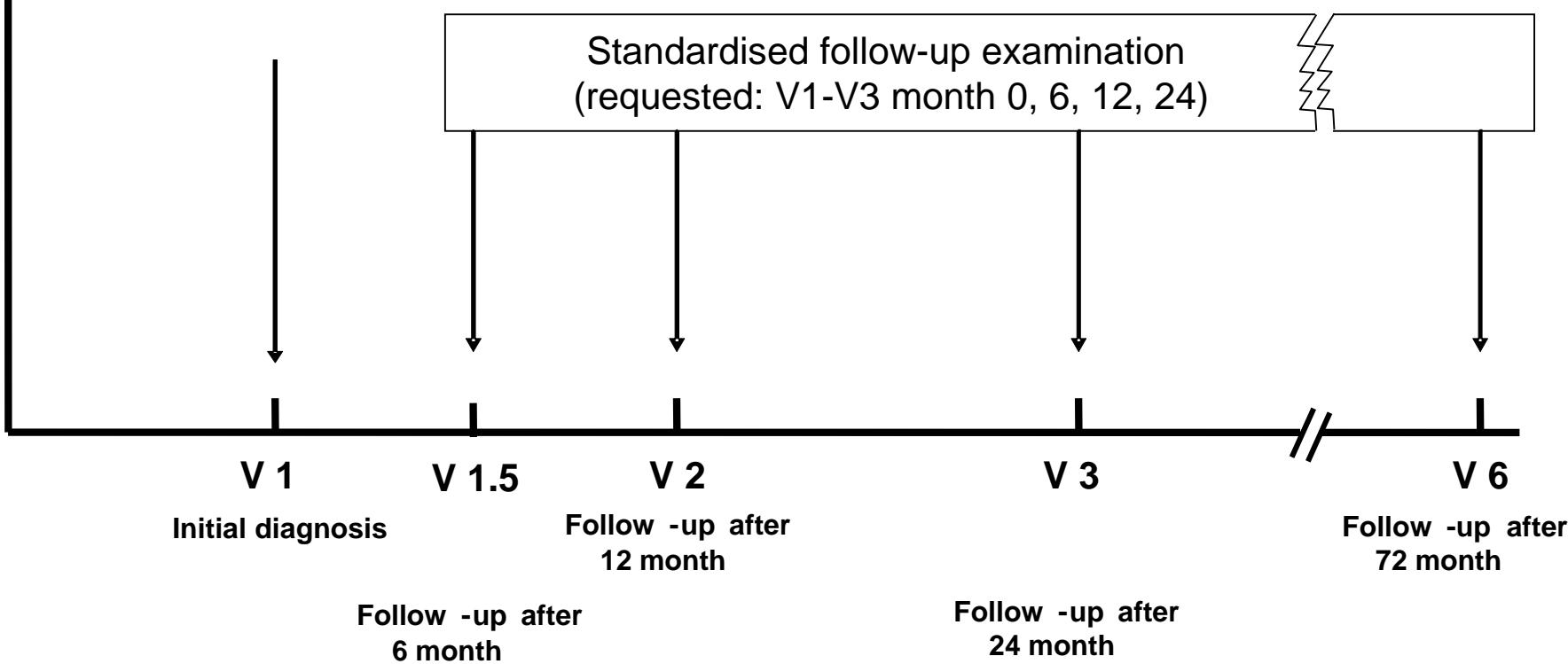
## Case-control study, 1: 2 matching, significance $\alpha=0.05$

Odds ratio	Sample size					
	250	300	500	750	1000	1500
1.1	0.065	0.068	0.079	0.095	0.109	0.14
1.3	0.164	0.188	0.282	0.394	0.497	0.667
1.5	0.323	0.376	0.565	0.739	0.851	0.957
1.7	0.498	0.572	0.789	0.923	0.974	0.998
1.9	0.652	0.731	0.914	0.983	0.997	1
2.1	0.771	0.841	0.969	0.997	1	1
2.3	0.854	0.910	0.989	0.999	1	1
2.5	0.909	0.950	0.997	1	1	1
2.7	0.944	0.973	0.999	1	1	1

## Power Calculation

Diagnosis: Cushing's Syndrome  
determination of subtypes  
specific therapy

Standardised follow-up examination  
(requested: V1-V3 month 0, 6, 12, 24)



Retrospective  
data entry  
(Cohort 1:>**400**)

Clinical, biochemical, metabolic and  
cardiovascular characterization of retrospective  
patients invited to (annual) follow up (Cohort 2: **140**)

Prospective recruitment of newly diagnosed  
patients with CS (Cohort 3: **65**)

Intervention trials

### Participating centers:

- Ziemssenstraße, MK IV, München
- MPI f. Psychiatrie, München
- Uni Düsseldorf
- Uni Dresden
- Uni Würzburg
- Uni Tübingen
- Uni Essen
- Uni Erlangen
- Berlin (Praxis Quinkler)
- Berlin (Endokrinologikum)



## End points of the cohort study:

### Hypothesis-driven data base:

- cardiovascular morbidity
- metabolic comorbidity
- psychiatric comorbidity
- musculoskeletal comorbidity

### Standardized follow-up examination of CS patients:

- Medical history and clinical examination
- Quality of life questionnaires
- Measurements (*blood pressure, muscle power, grip strength, ECG, bioelectrical impedance, thyroid ultrasound, intima-media thickness, BMD*)
- 18 – laboratory findings, biomaterial deposition (plasma, tumor, saliva, urine, hair)

## ■ Diagnosis of CS

Schneider et al. Clin Endo 2013

Schneider et al. ECED 2013

Johar et al. JCEM 2014

## ■ Surgical Outcome

Dimopoulou et al. EJE 2013

Ritzel et al. JCEM 2013

Osswald et al. EJE 2014

Di Dalmazi et al. JCEM 2014

Berr et al., JCEM 2015

## ■ Subtype differentiation

Ritzel et al. EJE 2015

Di Dalmazi et al. 2014

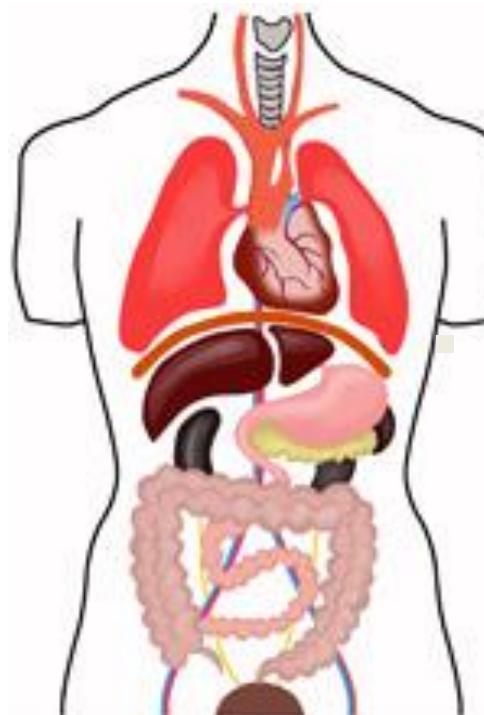
## ■ Genetics of CS

Beuschlein et al. NEJM 2014

Di Dalmazi et al. JCEM 2014

Reincke et al. Nat Gen 2015

Perez-Rivas et al., JCEM 2015



## ■ CNS: Anxiety, depression, impaired quality of life

**Cardiovascular co-morbidities:**  
MI, heart failure, stroke, AF

**Metabolic co-morbidities:**  
glucose intolerance, lipid abnormalities,

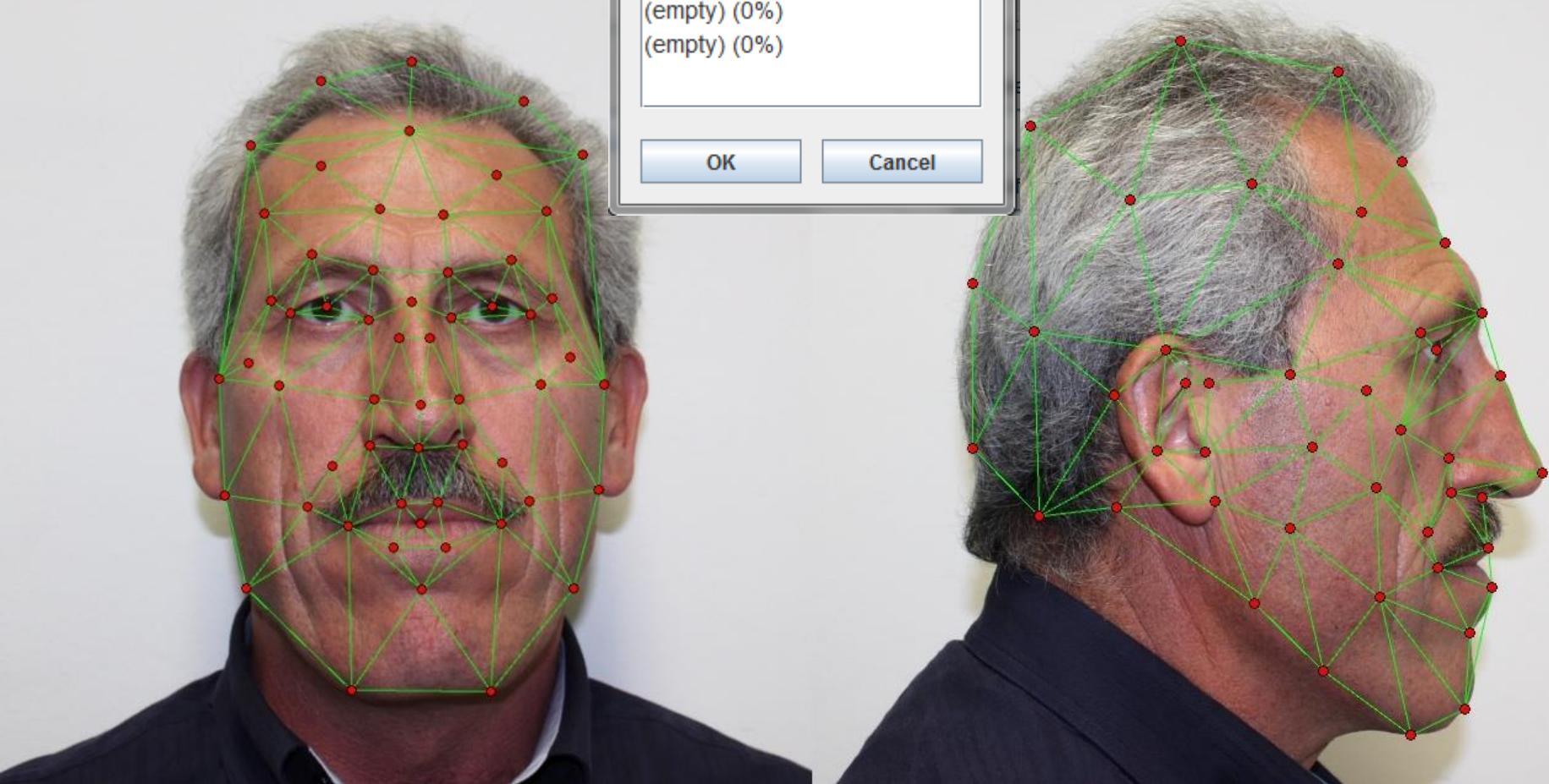
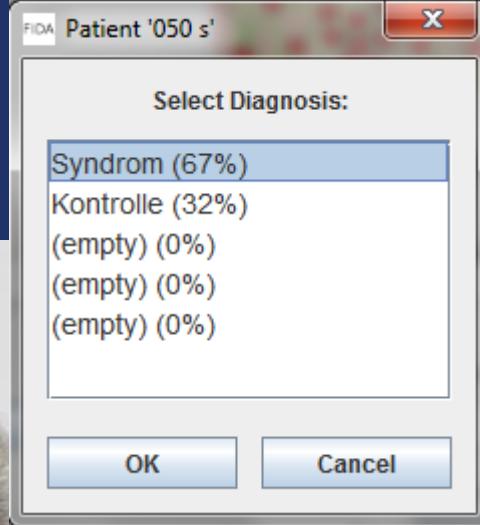
**Musculoskeletal co-morbidities**  
Osteoporosis, sarcopenia

# Overview: Cushing

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# Screening with for endocrine diseases with face classification: the experience with acromegaly

- Initial study
- Subjects:
- N=57 acromegalics, N=60 age- and sex-matched controls
- frontal and side photographs with digital camera
- Face classification based on
  - Texture (Gabor wavelets)
  - Geometry of landmarks
- Calculation of correct classification rate using the leave-on-out method

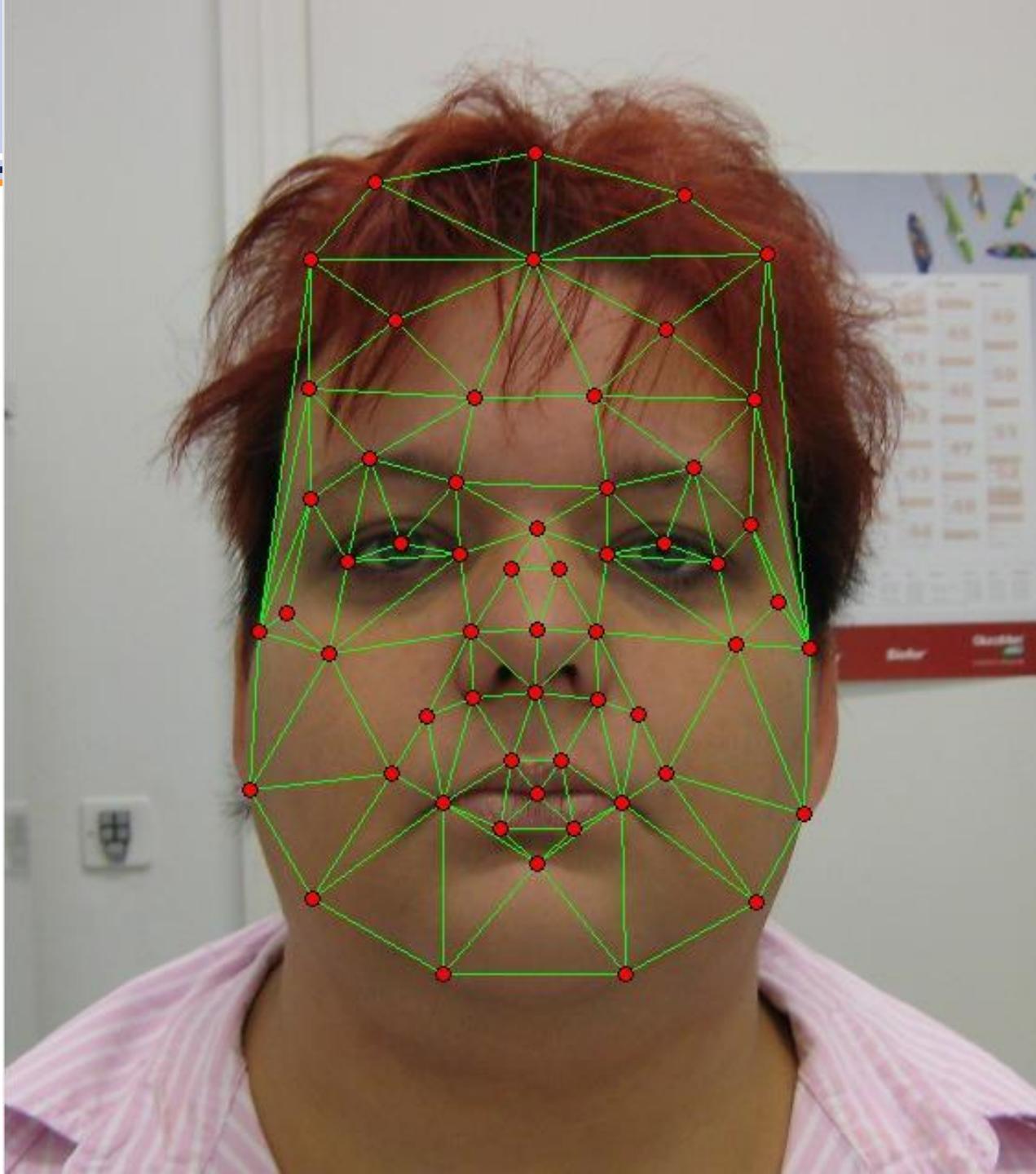


# Results

<b><i>correct classification rates (%)</i></b>	<b><i>Software<sup>1</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Experts<sup>2</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Internists<sup>3</sup></i></b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>64.9</b>
<b>Acromegaly</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>42.1</b>
<b>Controls</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>80.8</b>	<b>87.0</b>

# Proof-of-principle study in women with Cushing's syndrome

- Subjects:
- N=20 women with Cushing's syndrome
- N=40 age- and sex-matched controls
- frontal and side photographs with digital camera
- Face classification based on
  - Texture (Gabor wavelets)
  - Geometry of landmarks
- Calculation of correct classification rate using the leave-one-out method



# Results

Classification Accuracy (%)	n	FIDA <sup>a</sup>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>91.7</b>
<b>Patients / Sensitivity</b>	<b>20</b>	85.0
<b>Endogenous CS</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>75.0</b>
- <i>Central CS</i>	8	<b>62.5</b>
- <i>Adrenal CS</i>	4	<b>100</b>
<b>Iatrogenic CS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Controls / Specificity</b>	<b>40</b>	95.0

Schneider et al., JCEM (2011)

Schneider et al., ECED(2013) 26

# Ongoing prospective study on Cushing's syndrome

---

## Recruitment targets:

- 50 patients with Cushing's syndrome
- 100 age-, sex- and BMI-matched controls referred for exclusion of Cushing's syndrome
- Recording of clinical parameters, face classification and biochemical parameters

## Aim:

- Determining classification rates with face classification and establishment of a Clinical Prediction Score for the presence of Cushing's syndrome

## Preliminary results

---

- Included subjects
- 56 Patients (40 women, 16 men)
- 60 controls (30 women, 30men)

# Preliminary results

	Controls		Patients	
	m N=30	m N=16	f N=30	f N=40
BMI	BMI	BMI	BMI	BMI
Mean	32.9	27.7	34.2	29.9
p	0.0045		0.009	
Age (y)	Age (y)	Age (y)	Age (y)	Age (y)
Mean	43.5	53.5	43.4	55.5
p	0.060		0.0008	

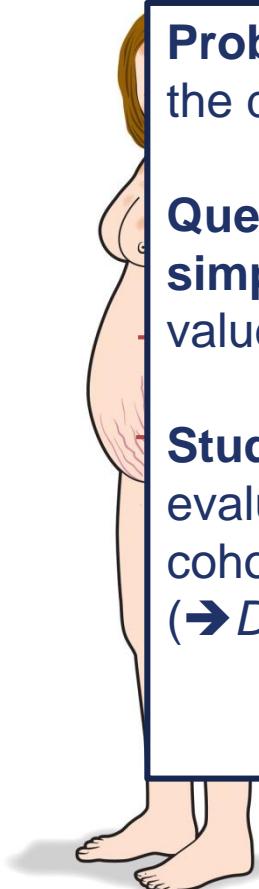
# 1:1-matching by BMI: Preliminary results

BMI-matched		Patients	Controls
Correct classification rates (%)	Women N=54	70.4	74.0
	Men N=32	68.8	75.0
<b>DISAPPOINTING!</b>			
All patients		Patients	Controls
Correct classification rates (%)	Women N=70	72.5	53.3
	Men N=46	43.8	90.0

# Overview: Cushing

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# Cushing's syndrome – development of a *Diagnostic Score*



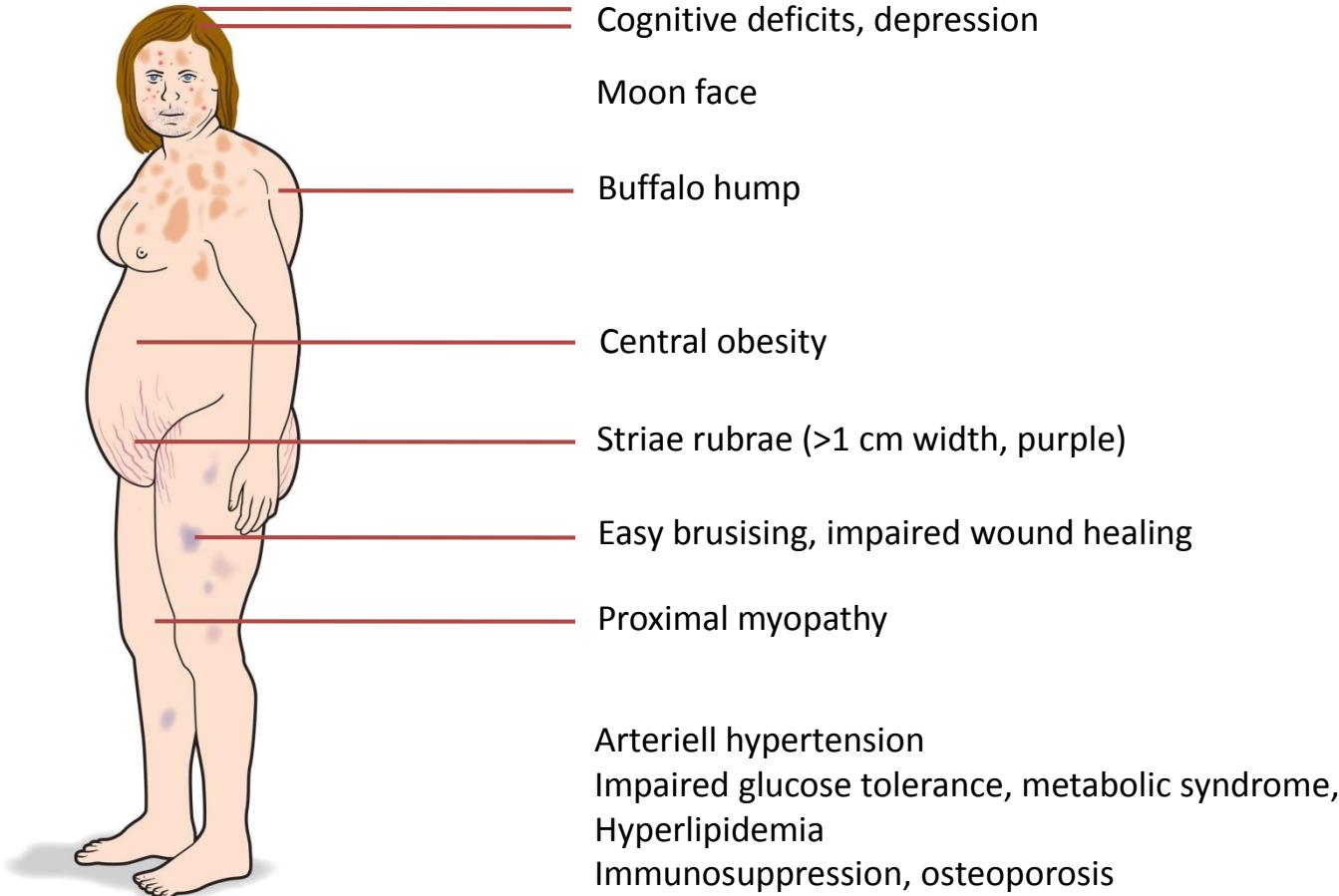
**Problem:** Single signs and symptoms do not have the desired discriminatory power

**Question:** is there the potential to develop a **simple**, diagnostic score with **good** predictive value?

**Study:** prospective, multicentric, standardized evaluation of all relevant parameters in a large cohort with adequate statistical power  
(→ *Diagnostikstudie*)

Impaired glucose tolerance, metabolic syndrome,  
Hyperlipidemia  
Immunosuppression, osteoporosis

# Cushing syndrome - signs and symptoms



# The German Cushing Registry *Diagnostic Study*: -study outline-

- Investigation of the prevalence of signs and symptoms of Cushing's syndrome *versus* rule-out Cushing cases.

150 patients referred for evaluation of Cushing's syndrome



Standardized clinical and biochemical evaluation, histology or follow-up (3-12 months)

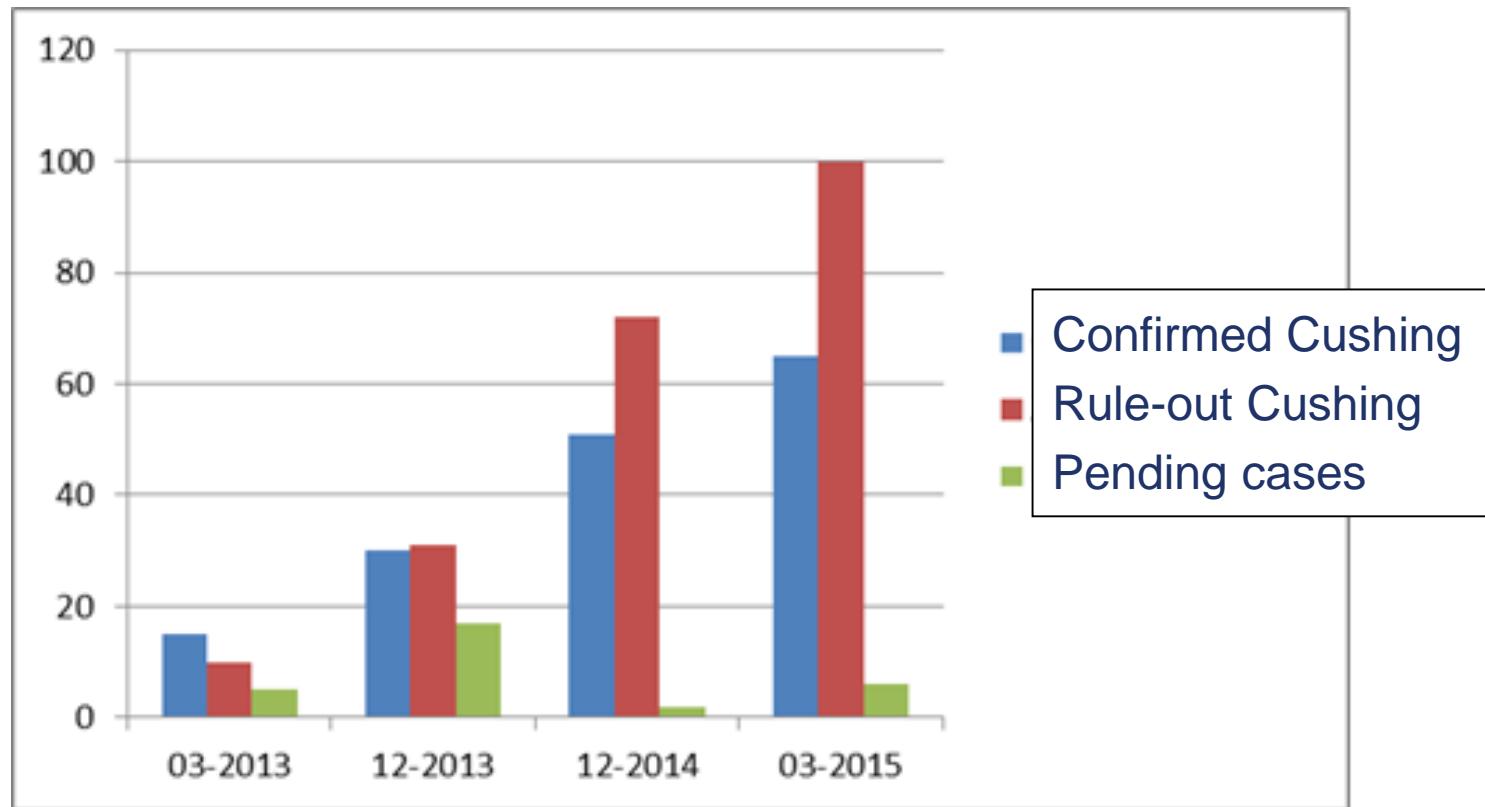


Confirmed Cushing's  
syndrome  
**N=50**

Definitive exclusion of  
Cushing's syndrome  
**N=100**



# Total prospective cases in 4 German centers



Including subclinical cases, excluding cosecretory cases and unclassified cases

# Cushing patients by centers and entity

Centers	Cushing's syndrome				Rule-out Cushing's syndrome
	Total (2012-2015)	Cushing's Disease	Adrenal Cushing's syndrome	Ectopic Cushing's	
München 1 (LMU)	44	31	8	5	87
München 2 (MPI)	0				2
Würzburg	2	1	1		0
Dresden	4	4			11
Düsseldorf	0				0
Tübingen	15	15			0
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100</b>

Anmerkung: inkl. Subklinische Patienten, exklusive unklare Fälle, Cosekretion etc.

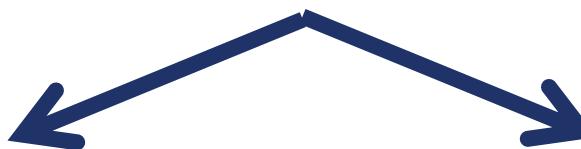
# The German Cushing Registry Diagnostic Study: Interim Analysis

- Investigation of the prevalence of signs and symptoms of Cushing's syndrome versus rule-out Cushing cases.

**109** patients referred for evaluation of Cushing's syndrome



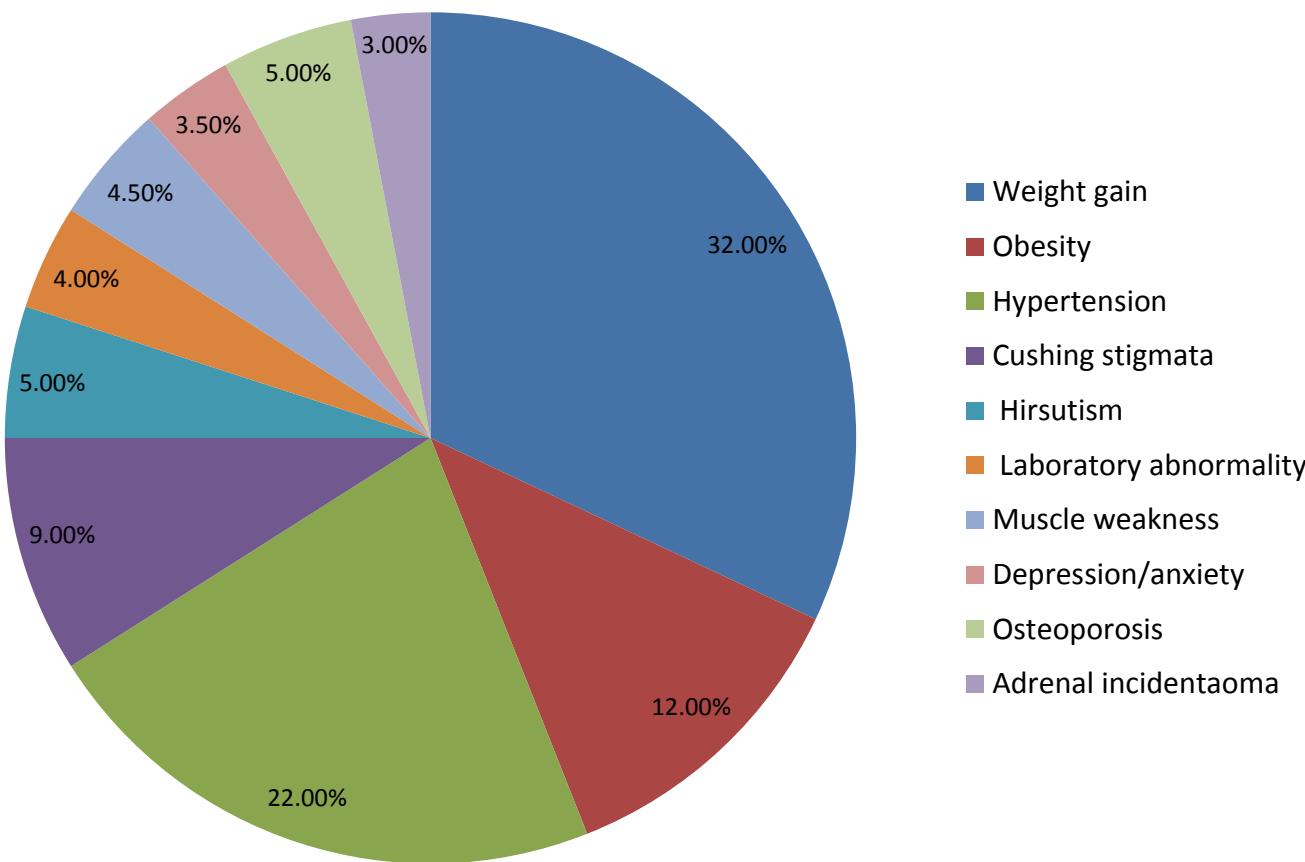
Standardized clinical and biochemical evaluation, histology or follow-up (3-12 months)



Confirmed Cushing's  
syndrome  
**N=34**

Definitive exclusion of  
Cushing's syndrome  
**N=75**

# Leading Symptoms



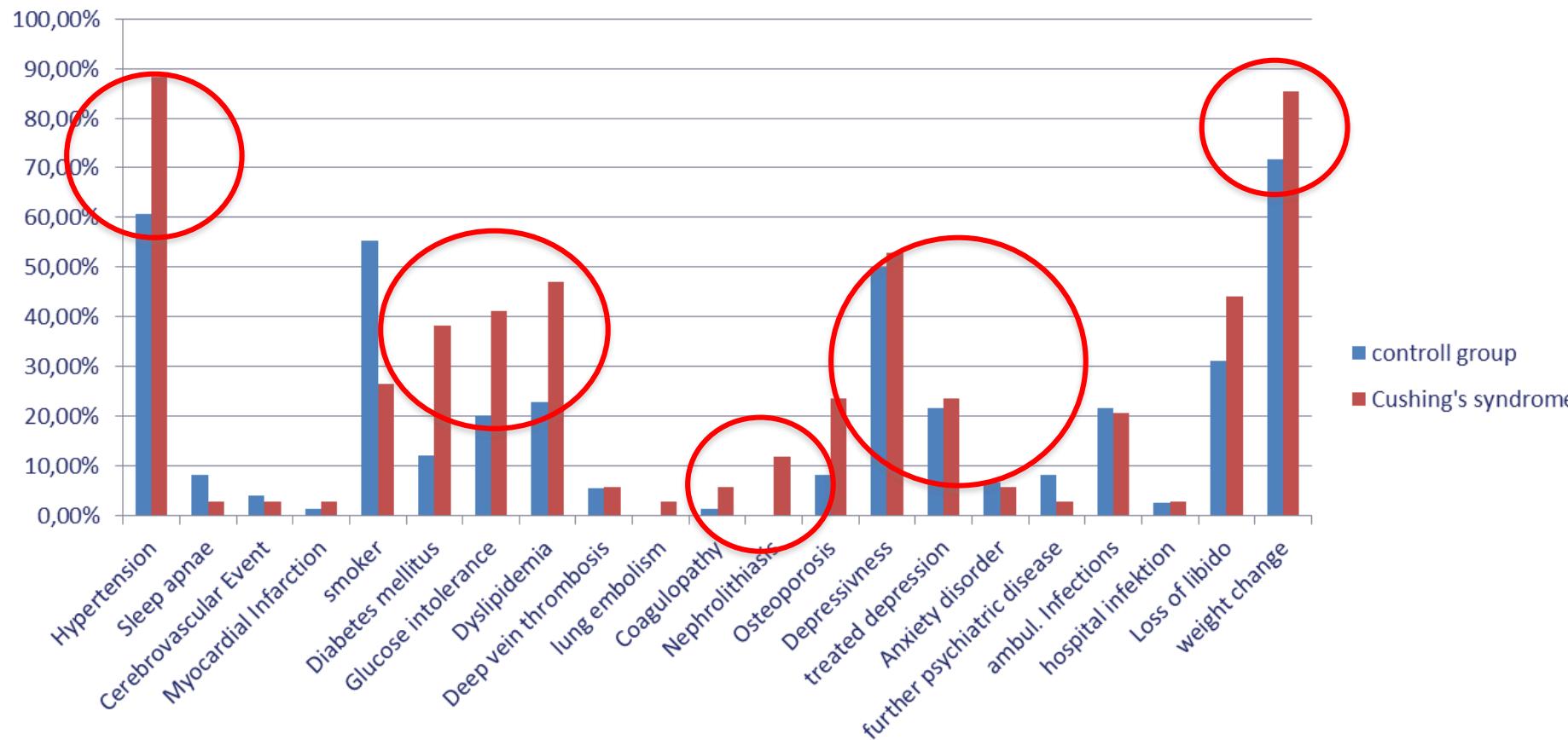
# Deutsches Cushing Register

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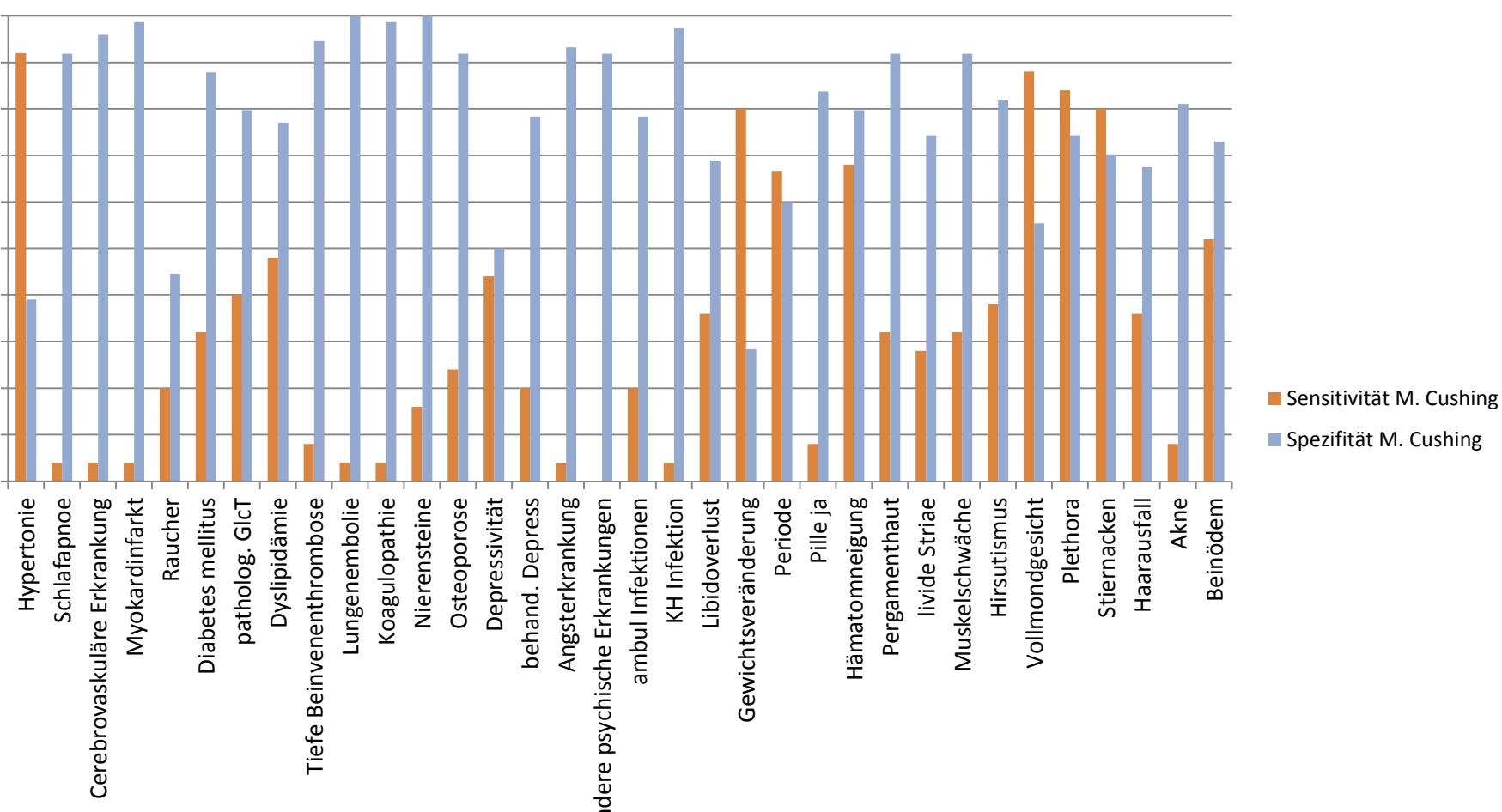


Parameter	Controll group	Cushing 's syndrome (total)	P value	Cushing ' s disease	Adrenal Cushing 's syndrome
No.	75	34		28	6
sex (% female)	68 %	64 %		64 %	67 %
age (years)	43,3	45,6	0.32	44,1	46,8
BMI (kg/m2)	32,6	30,4	0.22	30,1	29,8
Blood pressure sys	141	153	0.002*	151	152
Blood pressure dia	89	98	0.007*	96	99
Diabetes rate	12 %	38 %		32 %	50 %

## Prevalence, patient's history

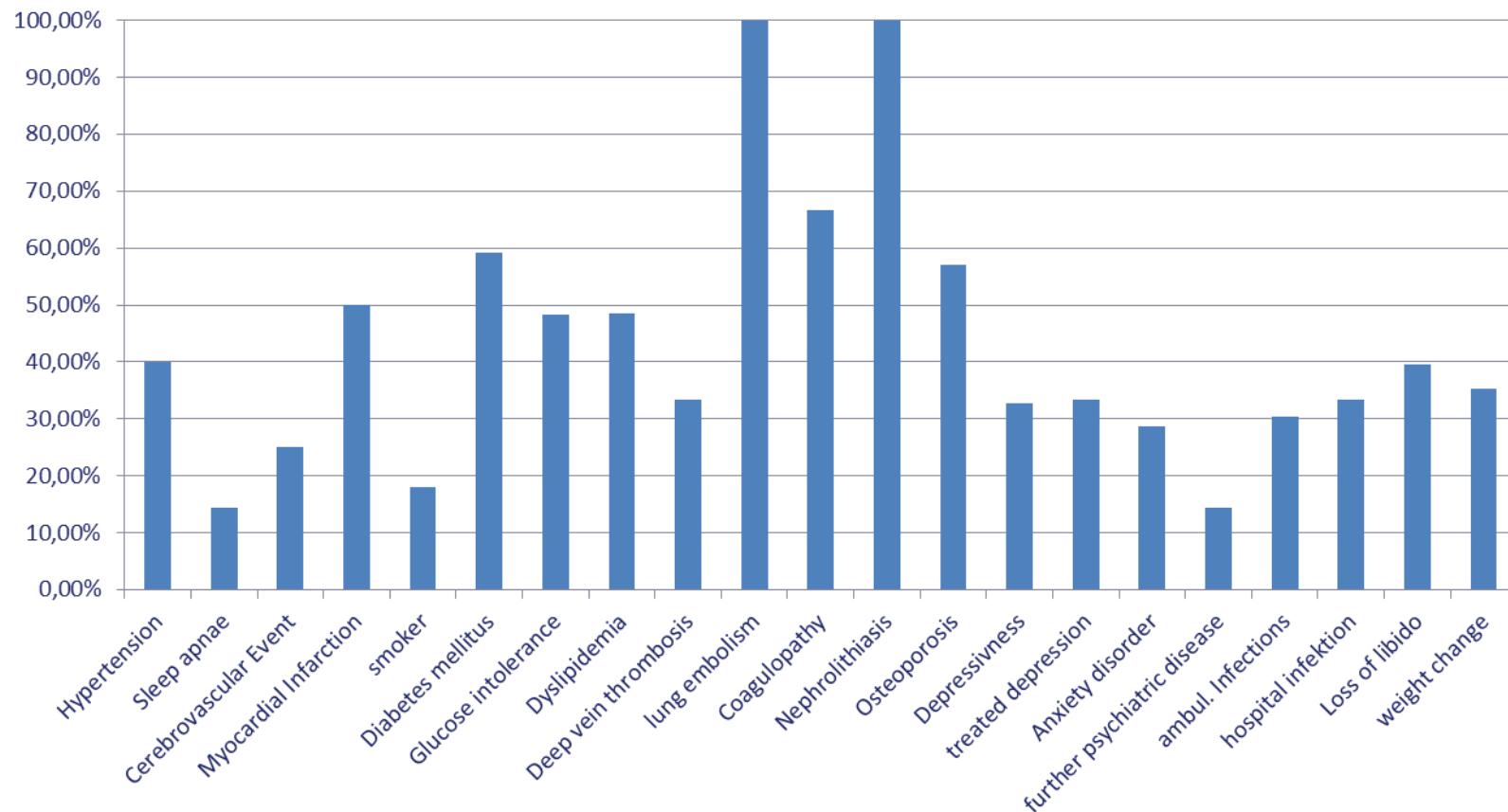


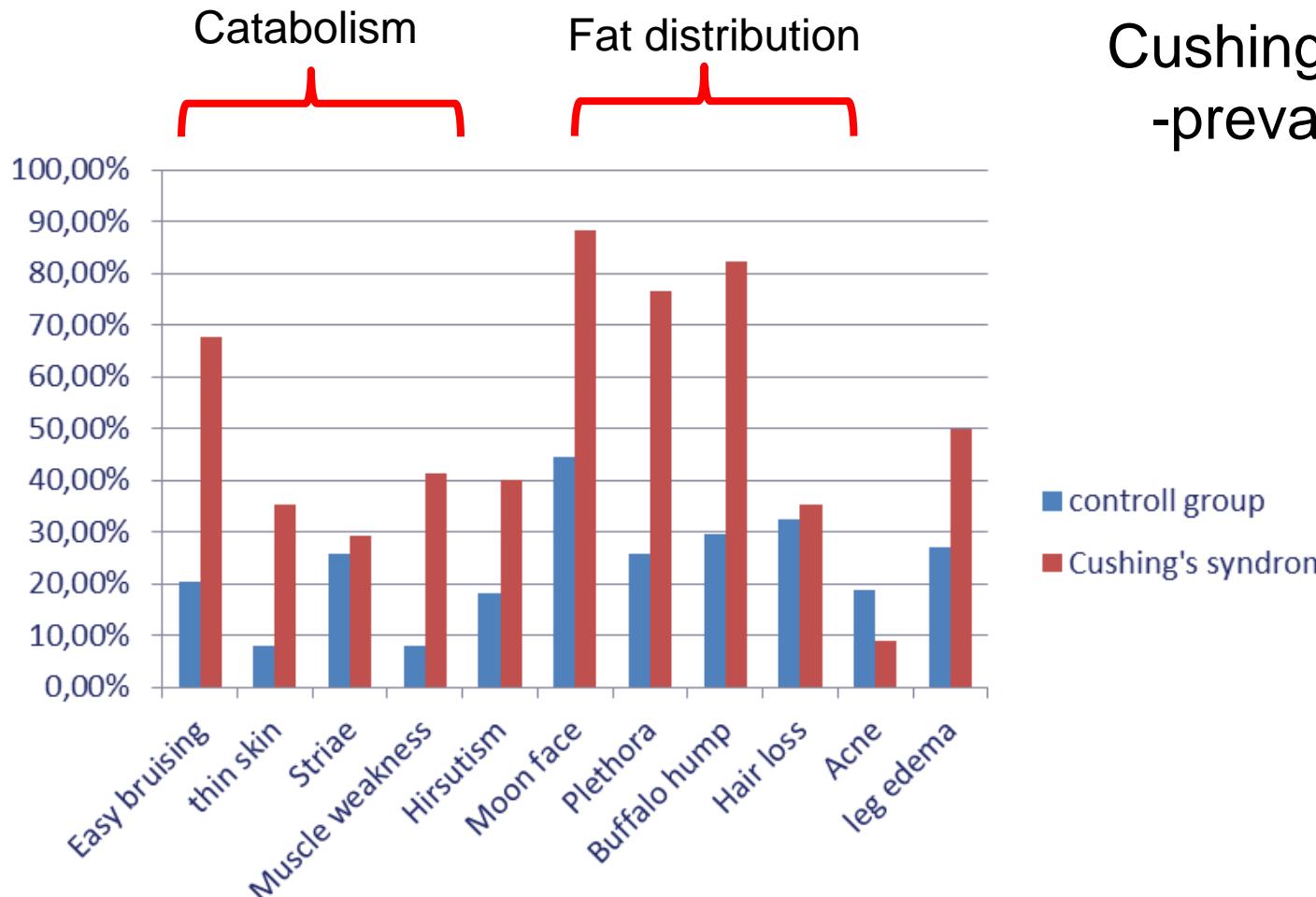
## Sensitivity and specificity, patient's history



## Positive predictive value, patient's history

positive predictive value





Cushing's signs  
-prevalence-

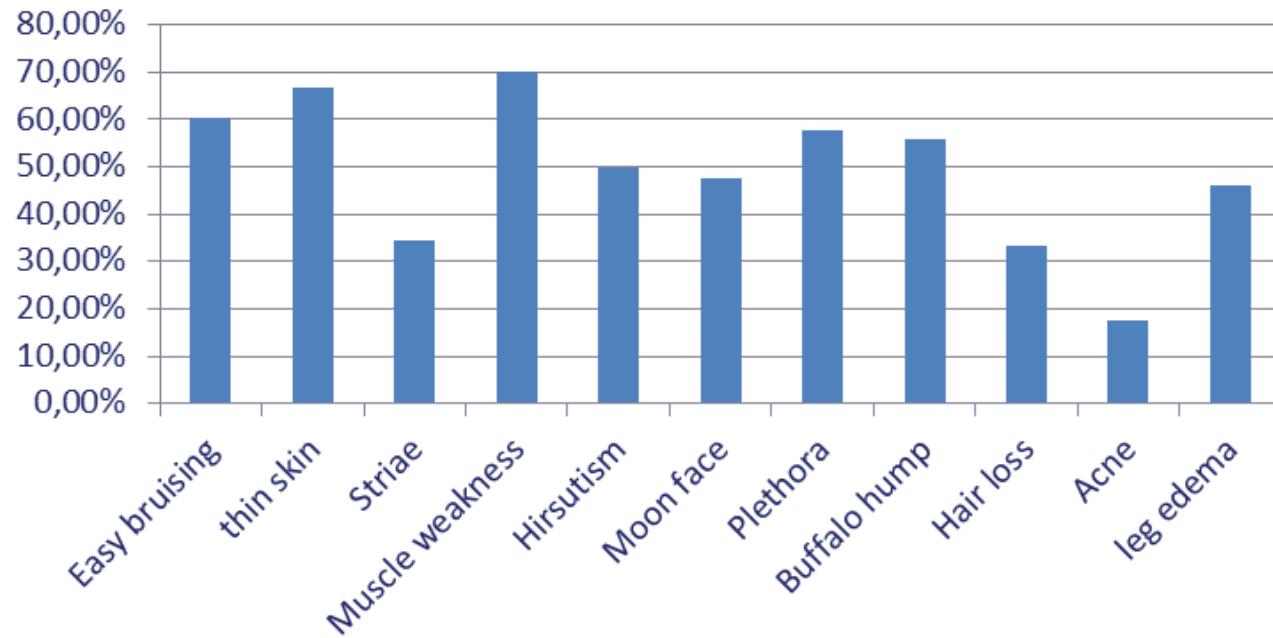
Catabolism



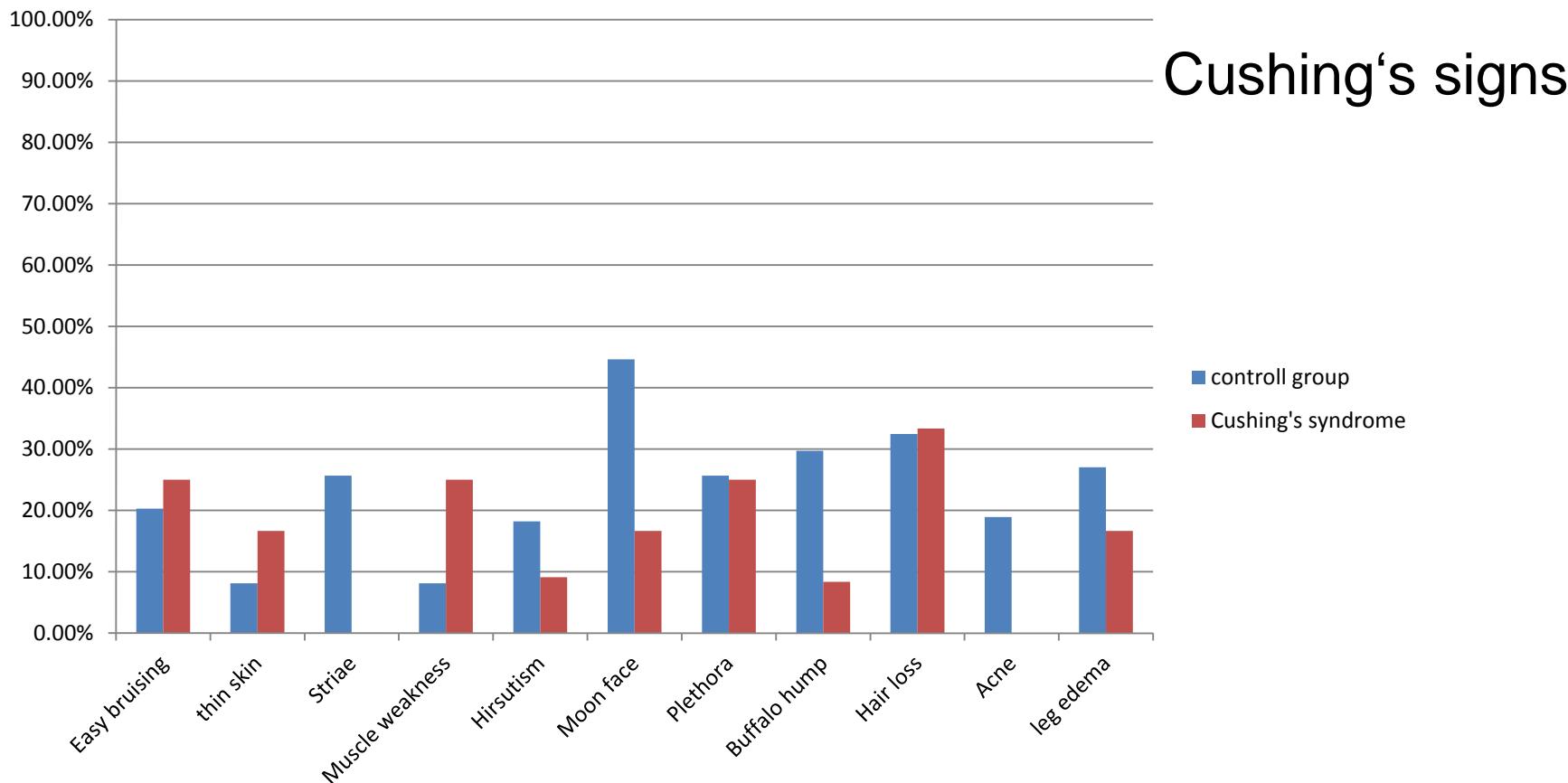
Fat distribution

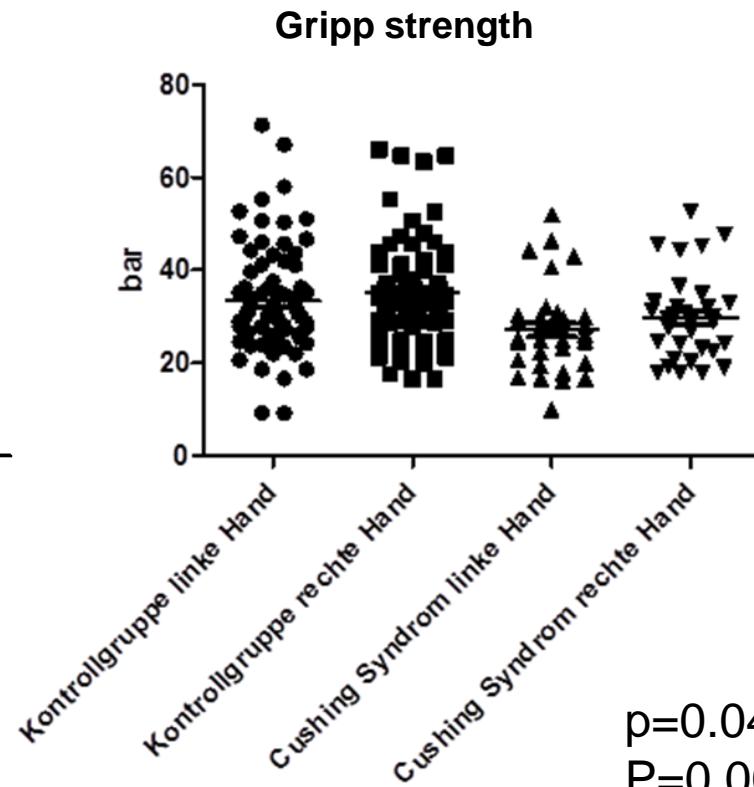
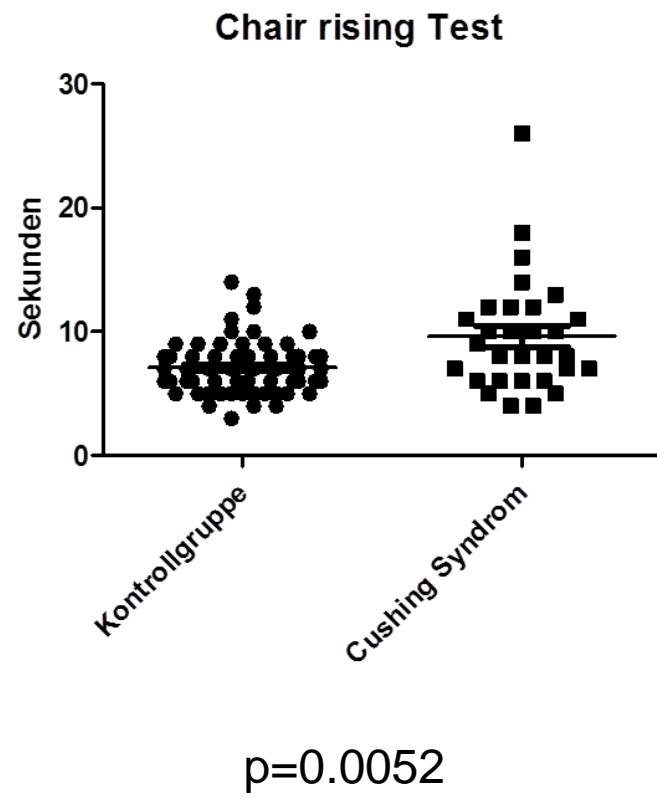
Cushing's signs

**positive predictive value**



# Subclinical Cushing's syndrome (n=17)

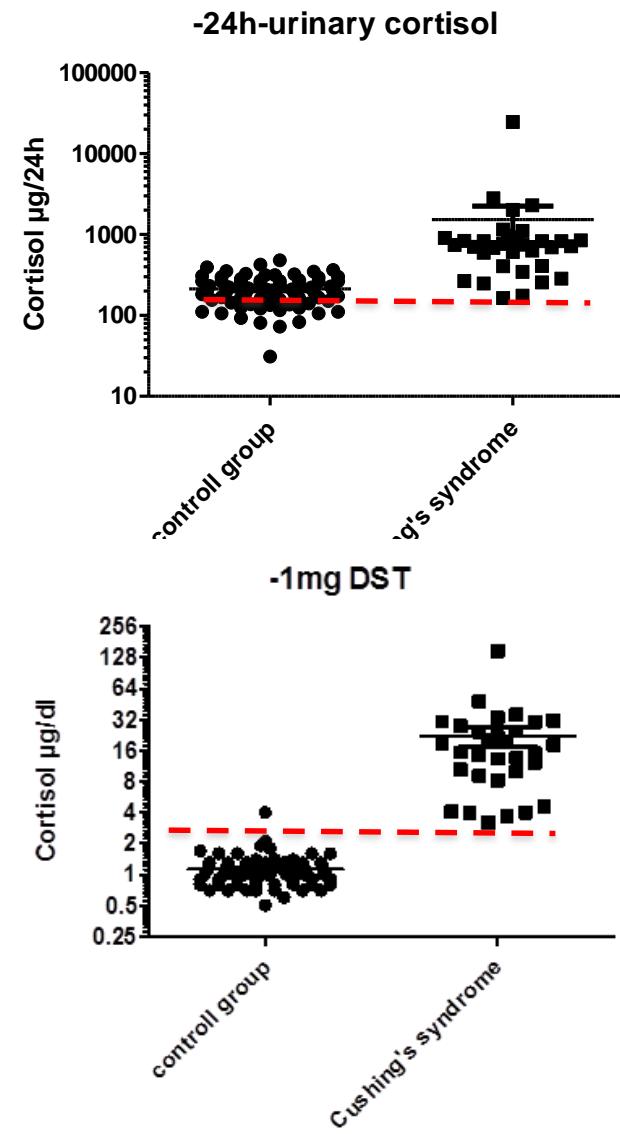
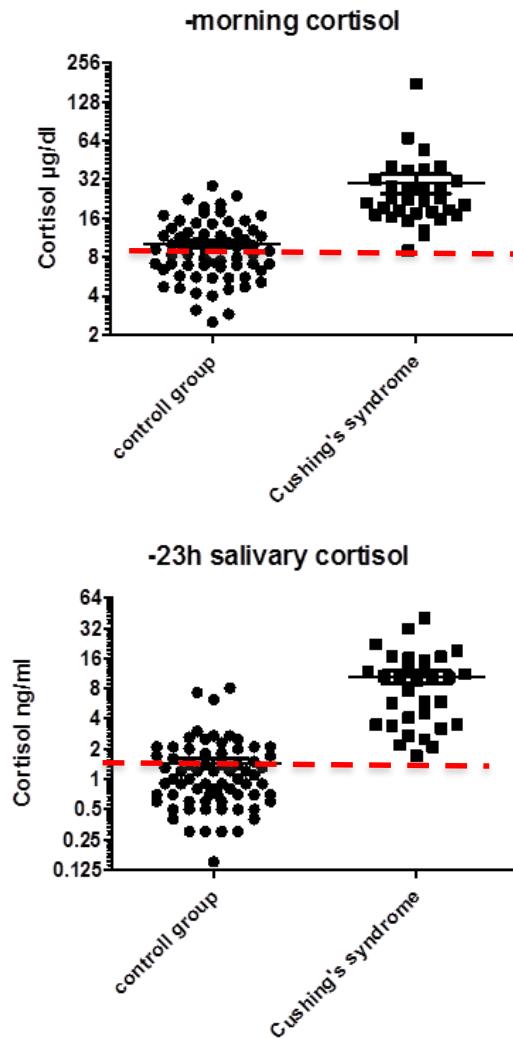




# Deutsches Cushing Register

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Custodes



## German Cushing's Registry

- Is an interesting tool to study prospectively clinical aspects of a rare disease

## Discriminatory value of S&S in Cushing's

- Increasingly difficult in times of the *'obesity tsunami'*

## Automatic face recognition for Cushing's syndrome

- Interim results disappointing

## Diagnostic scoring system for Cushing's syndrome

- Might be feasible!

# Deutsches Cushing Register

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Studienleiter



Studienleiter



Tumorgewebe



Ärztin



Ärztin



Leiter Endokrinologisches  
Labor



Psychosomatik



Koordination



Koordination



Koordination



Koordination



Radiologe



Chirurgie



Doktorandin



MPI für Psych



MPI für Psych



Substudien



Phase III Studien



Phase III Studien



Guido Di Delmazi



MPI für Psychiatrie

# Deutsches Cushing Register

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The German Cushing Registry



## Acknowledgment



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### MPI:

Günther Stalla

Christina Dimopoulou

### Tübingen:

Jürgen Honegger

Monika Milian

### TU:

Klaus Kuhn

Rainer Blaser



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