

#### Arrhythmogenic (Right Ventricular) CardioMyopathy (ACM)



- INFORMATION
- MEET-UPS
- ADVICE
- NETWORKING
- PATIENT ADVOCACY
- FUTURE PERSPECTIVES



# Our Heartfelt Goal: **Moving Forward** Together



www.arvc-selbsthilfe.org

## What is ARVC?

ARVC, or more generally ACM, is a primarily hereditary heart disease in which heart muscle cells are replaced with fat and/or connective tissue. This replacement process can lead to cardiac arrythmias, and more rarely, to heart failure or even sudden cardiac death.

#### **POSSIBLE SYMPTOMS**

- Palpitations, skipping or racing heartbeat
- Dizziness or fainting
- Pressure or pain in the chest
- Shortness of breath, breathlessness.
- Fatigue or exhaustion

#### DIAGNOSIS

The presence of disease may be indicated by ECG, echocardiogram, or MRI results, or if there is a family history of sudden cardiac arrest or death. Genetic testing may help to confirm the diagnosis and identify at-risk relatives.

Not every carrier of a genetic variant will develop clinical symptoms within his or her lifetime. There are overlaps with DCM (dilated cardiomyopathy) in left dominant or biventricular forms.

#### TREATMENT

The symptoms of ARVC can be treated with medication and/or with a catheter ablation procedure. To reduce the risk of sudden cardiac death. an implanted defibrillator is recommended for patients with high-risk profiles.



"Receiving the diagnosis of ARVC can have an enormous impact on one's life. We're committed to ensure that those affected receive comprehensive care, and we provide resources that support them throughout their challenging journey."

Ruth Biller, Chairperson ARVC-Selbsthilfe e.V.

### We're here for you!



#### LOCAL CONTACT PARTNERS

Across Germany, members of our group are available for conversation and communication. In some regions, there are also in-person meet-ups.

For the most up-to-date contact information, please visit our website.

# & E-MAIL

For questions about the disease, the organisation and counselling after sudden cardiac death +49163-1847521 or

info@arvc-selbsthilfe.org

#### HOMEPAGE



On our website, you can find the most up-todate event schedule, more information about ARVC, and opportunities to get on our mailing list or become a member of our association.

### www.arvc-selbsthilfe.org

#### **ARVC-Selbsthilfe e.V.** c/o Ruth Biller • Fastlingerring 113 • D-85716 Unterschleißheim









#### Ventricleaffecting

heart muscle D = Dysplasia

L = left

A= Arrhythmogenic

Arrhythmiacausing

IN

SHORT:

ACM. AVC. AC

Umbrella term for

all types, including

ARVC, ARVD

Typical right-domi-

nant presentation

ALVC, NDLVC

Left-dominant

variants

biventricular

ND = non-dilated not expanded/ enlarged

V = ventricular

Disease of the

Malformation

C(M)= Cardiomyopathy

(outdated term)







#### **INFORMATION CLEAR & UP TO DATE**

Have you just recently received the diagnosis and do you have a lot of guestions? Or have you been living with this disease for a while, but still want to understand some things more precisely?

We'll help you find the answers you're looking for.

- LECTURES LIVE & ONLINE Concentrated knowledge on chosen themes regarding ARVC/ACM
- Q&A-SESSIONS Patients ask - experts answer
- HOMEPAGE Extensive information on living with the disease www.arvc-selbsthilfe.org
- YOUTUBE CHANNEL Our videos are here: ARVC-Selbsthilfe e.V.
- ARVC SYMPOSIUM ARVC-Selbsthilfe Meet-up with experts



SCAN ME

### **MEET-UPS REGIONAL & CROSS-REGIONAL**



"The conversations reallv helped me to come to terms with this diagnosis, which so suddenly affected almost all my family members and to understand what the risks were for us. There is a sympathetic ear for all guestions."

Jutta Wevers,

ARVC patient





Do you wish to have contact with others affected by ARVC? Do you want to share some of your own experiences and learn how others are coping?

Together, we can find our way out of crisis and develop new strategies for managing this disease.

#### • WEEKEND MEET-UPS

A weekend in Germany with the whole "ARVC Family". A great opportunity to meet new people, catch up, get useful tips and gain insight into the life of others.

#### REGIONAL MEET-UPS

Meet-ups with others affected by ARVC from your area, organised by our local partners in Germany.

ONLINE MEET-UPS

Meet other ARVC patients without travelling, from the comfort of your own home.

#### PATIENT FORUM

Ask questions, discuss personal topics, and share stories. A moderated online community is available on www.arvc-selbsthilfe.org/forum/\* \*German language





#### **FUTURE PERSPECTIVES SCIENCE & RESEARCH**

ARVC is a rare disease, for which there is still a great need for research. We support research on basic knowledge of the disease mechanisms, the faster achievement of a diagnosis and the development of future treatment strategies.

#### SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

Close cooperation with ARVC experts from practices, hospitals and research

#### • STUDIES, **PATIENT REGISTRIES AND BIOBANKS**

Financial and organisational support for various projects

#### TRAINING & EDUCATION

Participation in (inter-)national conferences, literature review of state-of-the-art medicine and recent study results







Prof. Dr. med. Eric Schulze-Bahr. Member of the Scientific Advisory Board

"The ARVC-Selbsthilfe provides outstanding help with everything that is important: a personal, psychological and medical understanding of and information about your disease."





Goal: Moving Forward Together



Vero Lüscher. ARVC patient

"The dav-to-dav living with ARVC was very hard for me in the beginning. Am I allowed to exercise: what is it like to live with a defibrillator: what else do I have to worry about...? Connecting with others affected by ARVC is very helpful with all of that."

Our Heartfelt