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Authors: J. Fladt, C. Kronlage, G.M. De Marchis

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# Cerebral White Matter Disease and Microbleeds in Acute Ischemic Stroke: Impact on Recanalization Therapies. A Review of the Literature.

Fladt J<sup>1\*</sup>, Kronlage C<sup>1\*</sup>, De Marchis GM<sup>1</sup>

1) Department of Neurology, University Hospital Basel, Switzerland

\* These authors contributed equally to this work

## Corresponding author:

PD Dr. Gian Marco De Marchis, MSc (Patient-Oriented Research)

Stroke Center and Neurology (GMDM)

University Hospital Basel

Petersgraben 4

CH-4031 Basel/Switzerland

Email: gian.demarchis@usb.ch

Telephone: +41-61-328-73-02

## Highlights

- The most important risk factors for white matter disease are age and hypertension.
- Following recanalization therapies for ischemic stroke, patients with white matter disease suffer more frequently of intracerebral hemorrhage and have worse functional outcome than those without or less severe white matter disease.
- On MRI acquired before recanalization therapies, the presence and number of cerebral microbleeds is associated with the risk of subsequent intracranial hemorrhage, both within and outside the ischemic brain region.
- In the week following an acute ischemic stroke, 1 in 10 patients develop new cerebral microbleeds outside the infarcted brain region, even when not treated with recanalization therapies.
- Despite the risks mentioned above, patients with white matter disease or microbleeds can still benefit from recanalization therapies, which shall not be withheld if otherwise indicated.

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