

**Complementary materials:** Ronald Grossarth-Maticcek, Renatus Ziegler: Prospective Controlled Cohort Studies on Long-Term Therapy of Breast Cancer Patients with a Mistletoe Preparation (Iscador®). *Forschende Komplementärmedizin* 13(2006)(5).

## Patients and Methods

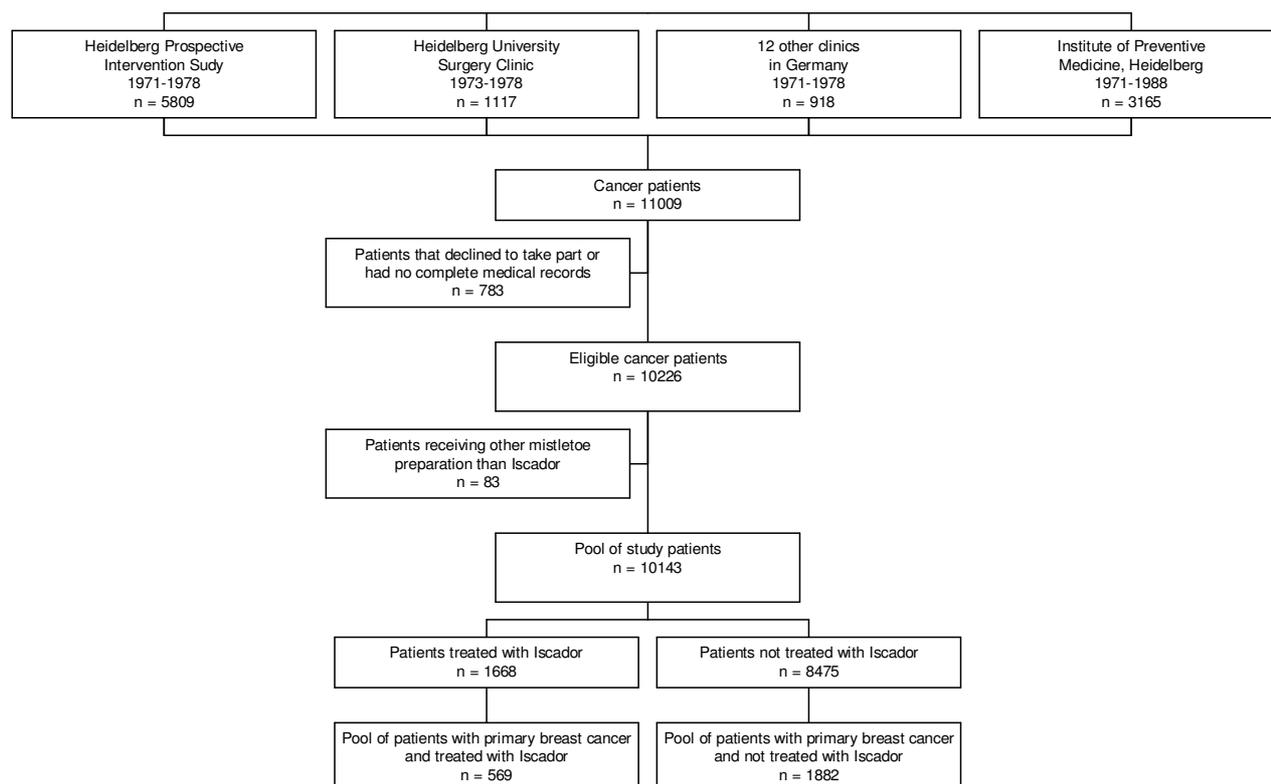
### Background

The two studies presented here are part of an encompassing long-term prospective epidemiological program to explore the influence and interaction of physiologic, psychosocial, individual and therapeutic factors on the survival of cancer patients [12, 13]. Quality of life was assessed in these studies as the degree of psychosomatic «self-regulation», i.e. the capacity for autonomous regulation of emotional, social and psychological factors [14–18].

We started publishing the results of this program concerning the influence of Iscador therapy on the survival of cancer patients with [19, 20]. These studies included the patients with best matching. The two studies presented here include patients with far poorer matching and refer to different kind of data, comprising time to event data other than survival.

### Study Setting and Data Sources

The study patients with breast cancer were recruited from a pool of four different sources of cancer patients with diverse locations and prognosis (fig. 1; further details: [12, 13, 19]).



**Figure 1:** Flow chart for the pool of sources of study patients with cancer for randomized and non-randomized matched-pair studies.

### Sources of funding

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### Contributors

R. Grossarth-Maticcek was responsible for the design and implementation of these studies as well as for the quality, reliability and documentation of the raw data; he contributed substantially to this paper by earlier drafts and comments; he gave final approval to the version to be published. Renatus Ziegler started working on this project in 2001. He proposed, executed, documented and presented the statistical analysis for this paper; he wrote the several drafts of this paper and gave final approval to the version to be published. For contributions to this project other than from the authors of this paper, see [12, 19, 31].

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