

# The SphynX trail: a randomised clinical trial comparing the outcome of endoluminal fundoplication with EsophyX™ to laparoscopic Nissen fundoplication for refractory gastro-esophageal reflux disease (GERD)

<b>Submission date</b> 17/02/2008	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 26/02/2008	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 26/02/2008	<b>Condition category</b> Digestive System	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

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## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
07-214

## Study information

## **Scientific Title**

### **Acronym**

SphynX

### **Study objectives**

Endoluminal fundoplication with Esophyx™ will not be less effective than laparoscopic Nissen fundoplication, expressed as the percentage of successful procedures, based on the patient's opinion at six months after surgery.

### **Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

### **Ethics approval(s)**

Independent central medical ethics committee of the University Medical Center Utrecht has approved the study protocol. Date of approval: 08/01/2008 (EC ref: 07-214; CCMO ref: 1795404107)

### **Study design**

Randomised non-inferiority multicenter trial

### **Primary study design**

Interventional

### **Study type(s)**

Treatment

### **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Gastro-esophageal reflux disease

### **Interventions**

Endoluminal fundoplication with Esophyx™ versus laparoscopic Nissen fundoplication.

### **Intervention Type**

Other

### **Phase**

Not Specified

### **Primary outcome(s)**

Effectiveness will be expressed as the percentage of successful procedures, based on the patient's opinion at six months after surgery (Visick grading). Visick classification: grade I: No symptoms, resolved; grade II: Mild occasional symptoms easily controlled, improved; grade III: Mild symptoms not controlled, unchanged; grade IV: Not improved, worsened. Success will be defined as grade I or II and failure will be defined as grade III or IV.

### **Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. Success expressed as the percentage of patients with normalisation of acid exposure on pH metry, minus the percentage of patients needing reintervention (dilatation or re-operation) for troublesome dysphagia at six months

Definition of objective normalisation of acid exposure:

The combination of the following:

- a. Upright acid exposure <8.4%
- b. Supine acid exposure <3.4 %
- c. Total acid exposure <5.8% on post-operative 24-h pH-monitoring

The presence of troublesome dysphagia will render the procedure unsuccessful.

2. Percentage of patients free from PPIs at three and six months

3. Quality of Life (QoL) assessment: Visual analogue scale [VAS] score, the 36-item Short Form health survey (SF-36) and EuroQol (EQ-5D) at three and six months

4. Impact of reflux symptoms on QoL: The Gastro-Oesophageal Reflux Disease Health-Related Quality-of-Life scale (GORD-HRQoL) at three and six months

5. Esophageal symptoms: OES18 score at three and six months

6. Prevalence of esophagitis on upper endoscopy at six months

7. Cost-effectiveness expressed as costs per successfully treated patients and incremental costs per Quality Adjusted Life Year gained at six months

**Completion date**

31/12/2010

## Eligibility

### Key inclusion criteria

1. GERD patients of eight Dutch hospitals with reflux symptoms persisting for over 6 months despite double dose of Proton Pump Inhibitor (PPI) (>40 mg omeprazole/24 hours or comparable therapy) and/or patients who refuse or do not tolerate to take acid suppressing drugs for life.

2. Documented temporal relation between pathological reflux and symptoms during 24-hr pH monitoring.

Pathological reflux is defined as upright acid exposure >8.4%, supine acid exposure >3.4 % and /or total acid exposure >5.8% on 24-hr pH monitoring. A documented relation between reflux and symptoms is reflected by a Symptom Association Probability (SAP) >95%.

3. Patients without a diaphragmatic hernia or a sliding hernia not exceeding 2 cm (endoscopically measured distance from Z-line and impression of the diaphragm).

4. Age between 18 and 65 years.

5. Informed consent.

### Participant type(s)

Patient

### Healthy volunteers allowed

No

### Age group

Adult

### Lower age limit

18 years

**Sex**

All

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Patients with a diaphragmatic hernia other than of the sliding type and/or larger than 2 cm.
2. Grade C and D esophagitis according to the Los Angeles classification.
3. Histologically proven long-segment Barrett's oesophagus.
4. Patients with severe esophageal or gastric motility disorders.
5. Patients with a history of esophageal- or gastric surgery.
6. American Society of Anaesthesiologists classification III and IV patients.
7. Patients with a psychiatric disease or other conditions making them incapable of filling out the questionnaires or completing the objective esophageal function tests.
8. Pregnancy.

**Date of first enrolment**

01/01/2009

**Date of final enrolment**

31/12/2010

**Locations**

**Countries of recruitment**

Netherlands

**Study participating centre**

University Medical Center Utrecht

Utrecht

Netherlands

3508 GA

**Sponsor information**

**Organisation**

University Medical Center Utrecht and seven participating hospitals (The Netherlands)

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/0575yy874>

**Funder(s)**

**Funder type**

Hospital/treatment centre

**Funder Name**

The costs of this trial are internally covered by the eight participating hospitals in the Netherlands:

**Funder Name**

University Medical Center Utrecht

**Funder Name**

Meander Medical Center Amersfoort

**Funder Name**

Lange Land Hospital Zoetermeer

**Funder Name**

Catharina Hospital Eindhoven

**Funder Name**

Medical Center Leeuwarden

**Funder Name**

Antonius-Mesos Hospital Nieuwegein-Utrecht

**Funder Name**

Rivierenland Hospital Tiel

**Funder Name**

Amphia Hospital Breda

# Results and Publications

## Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary  
Not provided at time of registration

### Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Participant information sheet</a>	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes
<a href="#">Study website</a>	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes