## **Original Article**

# Accuracy of elastic fusion biopsy in daily practice: Results of a multicenter study of 2115 patients

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**Abbreviations & Acronyms** CDR = cancer detection rateDRE = digital rectal examination mpMRI = multiparametric magnetic resonance imaging PCa = prostate cancerPET = positron-emission tomography PI-RADS = Prostate Imaging Reporting and Data System PRIAS = Prostate Cancer Research International Active Surveillance PSA = prostate-specific antigen STARD = Standards for Reporting Diagnostic accuracy studies TRUS = transrectal ultrasound

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**Objectives:** To assess the accuracy of Koelis fusion biopsy for the detection of prostate cancer and clinically significant prostate cancer in the everyday practice. **Methods:** We retrospectively enrolled 2115 patients from 15 institutions in four European countries undergoing transrectal Koelis fusion biopsy from 2010 to 2017. A variable number of target (usually 2–4) and random cores (usually 10–14) were carried out, depending on the clinical case and institution habits. The overall and clinically significant prostate cancer detection rates were assessed, evaluating the diagnostic role of additional random biopsies. The cancer detection rate was correlated to multiparametric magnetic resonance imaging features and clinical variables. **Results:** The mean number of targeted and random cores taken were 3.9 (standard

deviation 2.1) and 10.5 (standard deviation 5.0), respectively. The cancer detection rate of Koelis biopsies was 58% for all cancers and 43% for clinically significant prostate cancer. The performance of additional, random cores improved the cancer detection rate of 13% for all cancers (P < 0.001) and 9% for clinically significant prostate cancer (P < 0.001). Prostate cancer was detected in 31%, 66% and 89% of patients with lesions scored as Prostate Imaging Reporting and Data System 3, 4 and 5, respectively. Clinical stage and Prostate Imaging Reporting and Data System score were predictors of prostate cancer detection in multivariate analyses. Prostate-specific antigen was associated with prostate cancer detection only for clinically significant prostate cancer.

**Conclusions:** Koelis fusion biopsy offers a good cancer detection rate, which is increased in patients with a high Prostate Imaging Reporting and Data System score and clinical stage. The performance of additional, random cores seems unavoidable for correct sampling. In our experience, the Prostate Imaging Reporting and Data System score and clinical stage are predictors of prostate cancer and clinically significant prostate cancer detection; prostate-specific antigen is associated only with clinically significant prostate cancer detection, and a higher number of biopsy cores are not associated with a higher cancer detection rate.

Key words: accuracy, fusion biopsy, Koelis, random, targeted.

## Introduction

In recent years, mpMRI has become a key element in the diagnosis and management of PCa.1 The advent of mpMRItargeted biopsies has improved the CDR, usually estimated to be approximately 33%, and in particular the detection of clinically significant cancers.<sup>2-6</sup> In-bore mpMRI biopsies are the most precise, but are also costly, time-consuming and less reproducible. In contrast, TRUS-mpMRI fusion biopsies achieve good results with acceptable costs, good reproducibility and accessibility for the patient. Fusion biopsies have been shown to be superior to cognitive biopsies, and they are now routinely carried out when a lesion is detected at mpMRI.<sup>7</sup> However, to date, several challenges exist regarding the implementation of TRUS-mpMRI fusion biopsies in clinical practice: among these, the inaccurate reading of mpMRI, which should be restricted to dedicated radiologists;<sup>5</sup> the presence of approximately 10% of significant cancers invisible to mpMRI;<sup>8</sup> the inaccurate sampling of lesions during fusion biopsy, as a result of inaccurate segmentation of mpMRI images or registration;9 and last, but not least, mechanical error of the device used. Keeping in mind these limitations, TRUS-mpMRI fusion biopsies are highly utilized for targeted biopsy of the prostate, using different devices.<sup>5</sup> Among these, Koelis has shown a good targeting precision of <3 mm on prostate phantoms,<sup>6</sup> and an acceptable margin of error also in clinical practice.<sup>10</sup> Once the initial learning curve is completed, biopsies are easily carried out, usually under local anesthesia. Since the original Koelis Urostation, technological progress has been made with the new-generation Koelis Trinity. The aim of the present multicenter, retrospective study was to assess the accuracy of Koelis fusion biopsy for the detection of PCa in everyday practice on a large number of patients, providing data on the reliability of the device across different European institutions.

## **Methods**

This was a retrospective, multicenter study including 2115 consecutive patients from 15 institutions in four European countries (Italy, France, Belgium, the UK), who underwent transrectal TRUS-mpMRI fusion biopsy with the Koelis system between 2010 and 2017. All data were anonymized and inserted in a global database. All patients had at least one suspicious lesion at mpMRI. The primary end-points of study were the overall and clinically significant CDR of Koelis fusion biopsies. The secondary end-points included the diagnostic role of additional random biopsies, and the correlation between PCa and clinical or mpMRI parameters, and complications of the procedure reported according to the Clavien-Dindo classification.<sup>11</sup> All patients signed informed consent for the use of clinical information for clinical studies. The study was carried out according to the STARD.12

#### mpMRI and biopsy details

mpMRI were carried out in different centers, sometimes independent from the institution where the biopsy was carried out, as often happens in daily practice. Therefore, no data about the mpMPI protocol used were available. The suspicious lesions were scored according to the PI-RADS classification, version  $1^{13}$  up to 2015, and successively version  $2.^{14}$ 

Fusion biopsies were carried out with the Koelis system (Koelis, Meylan, France) using the Koelis Urostation in 88.7% of patients, and the more recent Koelis Trinity in the remaining 11.3%. A variable number of targeted biopsies (usually 2-4) and random biopsies (usually 10-14) were carried out, depending on the clinical case, urologist preference and institution habits. Koelis Trinity system creates a precise and highly detailed 3-D map of the prostate, showing the biopsy cores locations and suspicious areas delineated on MRI or PET sequences. Trinity integrates 3-D ultrasound, multimodal elastic fusion and Organ-Based Tracking, which is the only tracking technology available working with image-based tracking. During the examination, a 3-D TRUS probe creates a 3-D reference model of the prostate; new images are taken to register the location of the biopsy needle at each biopsy. Thanks to the organ-based technology, the device follows the position of the prostate and not that of the probe, automatically compensating for patient movement and prostate deformation. Koelis Urostation is an older mobile software platform that required a connection and communication with an external ultrasound system, whereas Koelis Trinity is a fully-integrated platform, more recently released on the market.

All biopsies in the present study were carried out with a transrectal approach by experienced urologists dedicated to fusion biopsy with Koelis (namely, >50 biopsies carried out with Koelis).

PCa was considered clinically significant in the case of findings of a Gleason score  $\geq$ 7 or three or more cores of Gleason score 6, as suggested by histological criteria of PRIAS.<sup>15</sup>

#### **Statistical analysis**

Statistical analyses were carried out with spss version 20.0 (IBM Corporation, Armonk, NY, USA). The Mann–Whitney *U*-test was used to compare the distribution of continuous variables, whereas the Fisher's exact and Pearson's  $\chi^2$ -tests were used to compare proportions of categorical variables. To identify predictors of PCa detection, univariate logistic regression was carried out initially to obtain unadjusted hazard ratios. Subsequently, all statistically significant variables were put into a multivariate model to obtain adjusted hazard ratios. Variables of interest for logistic regression were PSA, clinical stage, target size, number of targets, PI-RADS score and the number of cores taken. A two-sided *P* < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

#### **Results**

#### **Baseline patients' characteristics**

The mean patients' characteristics are shown in Table 1 together with mpMRI and biopsy features. Most patients enrolled had negative DRE (76%) and PSA  $\leq$ 10 ng/mL (74%). Almost half of the patients were biopsy-naïve,

Patients' characteristics		
Median age, years (range)	66	(41–86)
Mean PSA, ng/mL (SD)	8.4	(7.4)
PSA density (ng/mL)	0.18	(0.19)
DRE		
Negative 1	195	(76.1%)
Positive	3//	(23.9%)
missing Mean prestate volume, cc (CD)	543 527	(27.1)
Median prostate volume, cc (5D)	۲.۷C ۸٦	(27.1)
Previous hionsies	47	(13-220)
Bionsy-naïve	705	(46 7%)
Previous negative biopsies	741	(49.1%)
Patients in active surveillance	63	(4.2%)
Missing	606	( )
mpMRI features		
mpMRI targets for patient		
Single 1	754	(82.9%)
Multiple	361	(17.1%)
Mean size of targets, mm (SD)	10.6	(7.3)
PI-RADS of targets (maximum score in case of multiple targ	ets)	
3	677	(34.2%)
4	902	(45.3%)
5	409	(20.5%)
Missing	127	
Biopsy details		
Device (Kaelia Urgetation 1	075	(00.7%)
Koelis Urostation	8/5	(88.7%)
Targeted cores taken	240	(11.5%)
Mean (SD)	3.0	(2 1)
Median (range)	4.0	(2.1)
Random cores taken	4.0	(1 10)
Mean (SD)	10.5	(5.0)
Median (range)	12	(0-32)
Random cores taken in addition to targeted cores		
0	111	(5.4%)
1–11	654	(31.7%)
12–14 1	092	(52.9%)
≥15	208	(10.0%)
Missing	50	
Total cores taken		
Mean (SD)	14.4	(5.3)
Median (range)	14	(2–50)

whereas 4% followed a protocol of active surveillance. mpMRI targets were single in the majority of cases (83%). The mean number of targeted and random cores taken were 3.9 (SD 2.1) and 10.5 (SD 5.0), respectively. A variable number of additional random cores were taken for each patient; most commonly, a scheme of 12–14 cores was used (53% of cases), whereas 5% of patients received targeted biopsies only. The procedure was well tolerated, with only minor complications reported (all grade II; urinary infection rate <5%).

#### **Biopsy outcomes**

Biopsy outcomes are reported in Table 2. The CDR of Koelis biopsies was 58% for all cancers and 43% for clinically

 Table 2
 Biopsy results in terms of PCa and clinically significant PCa detection, comparing target biopsies only with target + random biopsies

	Target biopsies only	Target + random biopsies	Ρ
PCa detection on biopsy			
CDR	965 (45.6%)	1230 (58.2%)	< 0.001
PCa Gleason score			
GS 6	357 (37.3%)	461 (40.1%)	0.14
GS 7	437 (45.7%)	493 (42.8%)	0.25
GS 8–10	162 (16.9%)	197 (17.1%)	0.86
Missing	9	79	
PCa detection according	g to DRE		
Negative	494 (65.9%)	664 (69.0%)	0.17
Positive	256 (34.1%)	299 (31.0%)	0.17
Missing	215	266	
PCa detection according	g to size		
<10 mm	256 (45.6%)	305 (46.7%)	0.70
≥10 mm	305 (54.4%)	348 (53.3%)	0.70
Missing	404	577	
PCa detection according	g to PI-RADS		
3	144 (15.7%)	208 (17.8%)	0.20
4	450 (49.0%)	595 (51.0%)	0.36
5	325 (35.4%)	363 (31.1%)	0.03
Missing	46	64	
PCa detection according	g to previous biop	sy	
Biopsy naïve	371 (52.9%)	420 (48.6%)	0.08
Previous negative biopsies	299 (42.7%)	393 (45.4%)	0.27
Patients in active surveillance	31 (4.4%)	52 (6%)	0.16
Missing	264	365	
Clinically significant PCa d	etection on biops	/	
Clinically significant CDR	716 (33.9%)	909 (43.0%)	<0.001
Clinically significant PCa	detection accord	ing to PI-RADS	
3	77 (11.3%)	114 (13.2%)	0.29
4	334 (48.9%)	426 (49.4%)	0.84
5	272 (39.8%)	323 (37.4%)	0.36
Missing	33	48	

significant PCa. When considering targeted biopsies only, the CDR was 46% for all cancers and 34% for clinically significant PCa.

The performance of additional, random cores improved the CDR of 13% for all cancers and 9% for clinically significant PCa; in both cases, the differences were statistically significant (P < 0.001). Additional, random cores allowed the detection of an upgrade from Gleason 6 to 7 in 11% of patients, and from Gleason 7 to 8 in 6% of patients. Only one patient was upgraded from Gleason 6 to 8. PCa was detected in 31%, 66% and 89% of patients with lesions scored as PI-RADS 3, 4 and 5, respectively. Clinically significant PCa was detected in 17%, 47% and 79% of lesions scored as PI-RADS 3, 4 and 5, respectively (Fig. 1). An increase in Gleason score was noted with the increase of PI-RADS score (Fig. 2). The improvement of CDR as a result of additional, random cores was shown independently from the version of PI-RADS used (Table S1); PCa was more likely to be found in lesions scored as PI-RADS 5 in version 1.0 (93.3%), rather than version 2.0 (81.0%; Fig. S1).



Fig. 1 (a) PCa detection according to PI-RADS score; (b) clinically significant PCa detection according to PI-RADS score.



Fig. 2 Gleason score findings according to PI-RADS score.

#### **Predictors of PCa at biopsy**

Considering target biopsies only, PSA, positive DRE, target size  $\geq 10$  mm, multiple targets, elevated PI-RADS score and biopsy-naïve status correlated with PCa detection. Multivariate analyses confirmed this association only for positive DRE and elevated PI-RADS score (Table 3). As for clinically significant PCa, multivariate analyses found positive DRE, PI-RADS score and also PSA to be predictors of PCa detection (Table 4).

Considering target plus random biopsies, positive DRE and elevated PI-RADS score were the only predictors of PCa in multivariate analyses. The number of cores taken was associated with PCa, but only in univariate analyses (Table 3). As for clinically significant PCa, PSA, positive DRE and PI-RADS score were again associated with PCa detection (Table 4).

## Discussion

The technique of prostate biopsy has been revolutionized in recent years with the advent of mpMRI/TRUS fusion biopsies. Among the devices used for this goal, Koelis is supported by quite robust evidence, showing a CDR ranging from 48% to 80%.<sup>6,7,16–22</sup> When deciding to use a device for fusion biopsy, its precision, safety and ease of use are essential parameters to be considered. However, several other factors must also be taken into account, such as the reliability of mpMRI, the skill of the operator and the presence of cancers still invisible to mpMRI.<sup>8</sup>

Most of the studies published to date on fusion biopsy are single-center, small-sized and based on mpMRIs carried out in high-volume centers by dedicated radiologists, thus limiting their reproducibility. To overcome these limitations, our multicenter study has gathered data from different European institutions, with the aim to provide data on the accuracy of Koelis coming from daily practice. All urologists included in the study were experienced in Koelis fusion biopsy with >50 procedures carried out each, as the influence of experience in the accuracy of the fusion biopsy has been well demonstrated.<sup>10</sup>

It is difficult to assess the real CDR of fusion biopsy, considering the heterogeneity of devices used. A recent review found that mpMRI-TRUS image fusion biopsy achieves a

	Univariate analysis		Multivariate analysis	
	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	Р	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	Р
PCa detected on target biopsies only				
PSA	1.02 (1.00-1.03)	0.003	1.02 (0.99–1.05)	0.57
DRE				
Negative	Ref	-	Ref	_
Positive	3.00 (2.35–3.83)	< 0.001	2.49 (1.73–3.57)	< 0.001
Target size				
<10 mm	Ref	-	Ref	-
≥10 mm	1.52 (1.19–1.94)	0.001	1.08 (0.81–1.45)	0.56
No. targets				
Single	Ref	-	Ref	-
Multiple	1.42 (1.13–1.78)	0.002	1.38 (0.95–1.99)	0.08
Maximum PI-RADS score				
3	Ref	-	Ref	-
4	3.68 (2.94-4.61)	< 0.001	2.22 (1.61-3.06)	<0.001
5	14.32 (10.58–19.37)	<0.001	6.93 (4.64–10.35)	<0.001
No. target cores taken	1.02 (0.98-1.06)	0.30	-	_
Previous biopsies				
No	Ref	-	Ref	
Yes	0.62 (0.51-0.76)	< 0.001	0.75 (0.54–1.06)	0.10
PCa detected on target + random biopsies				
PSA	1.02 (1.01-1.04)	0.001	1.02 (0.99–1.05)	0.16
DRE				
Negative	Ref		Ref	-
Positive	3.08 (2.34–4.06)	< 0.001	2.43 (1.65–3.58)	<0.001
Target size				
<10 mm	Ref	-	Ref	-
≥10 mm	1.50 (1.17–1.93)	0.001	0.99 (0.73–1.33)	0.99
No. targets				
Single	Ref	-	Ref	-
Multiple	1.45 (1.14–1.83)	0.002	1.18 (0.81–1.72)	0.37
Maximum PI-RADS score				
3	Ref	-	Ref	-
4	4.37 (3.53-5.42)	< 0.001	2.21 (1.61-3.02)	<0.001
5	17.74 (12.53–25.11)	<0.001	8.30 (5.35–12.86)	< 0.001
No. target + random cores taken	1.03 (1.01–1.05)	<0.001	1.04 (0.99–1.10)	0.07
Previous biopsies				
No	Ref	-	_	-
Yes	0.08 (0.68-1.03)	0.09	_	_

median detection rate of any PCa of 50.5%, including five different softwares.<sup>4</sup> According to the present results, the overall CDR of Koelis biopsies is 58%, which is in line with other studies focused on the Koelis system.7,16,17,20 The CDR decreases to 42% when focusing only on clinically significant PCa. However, what PCa is really to be considered as clinically significant? This definition varies greatly between studies, reflecting the uncertainty of identifying the determinants of cancer progression on biopsy.<sup>4</sup> In the present study, we considered the finding of Gleason score 7 or more, or more than two cores of Gleason score 6 as clinically significant, following the histological criteria of the PRIAS study.15 In the literature, there is no definitive consensus about the definition of clinically significant PCa, but we thought it best to use the criteria that define a cancer to be addressable to active surveillance or not. When dealing with fusion biopsy, it is still not clear how to consider multiple positive cores taken from the same target. Some authors suggest to consider them

as a single positivity, as they come from the same lesion, but cancer volume and target size must be taken into account. As there are no clear recommendations in this field, we chose to consider every single positive core for the assessment of clinically significant PCa. Some other studies used cancer core length as a surrogate marker of cancer volume, even if the exact threshold to define the lesion as clinically significant is not clear.<sup>4</sup>

Another debated issue is represented by the utility of random biopsies in addition to target biopsies. Should we rely only on target biopsies only? A prospective study of 1003 patients undergoing both targeted (UroNav, Invivo, Gainesville, FL, USA) and standard biopsy found that targeted biopsy diagnosed 30% more high-risk cancers and 17% fewer low-risk cancers.<sup>23</sup> Nevertheless, it has been reported that up to 17% of significant PCa is missed by target biopsy only, prompting the execution of an additional, standard biopsy.<sup>8</sup> Nowadays, the combination of target and random biopsies

	Univariate analysis		Multivariate analysis	
	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	Р	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	Р
Clinically significant PCa detected on target	biopsies only			
PSA	1.03 (1.02–1.05)	<0.001	1.05 (1.02–1.08)	0.001
DRE				
Negative	Ref	-	Ref	-
Positive	3.29 (2.59–4.18)	<0.001	3.13 (2.01–4.87)	< 0.001
Target size				
<10 mm	Ref	-	Ref	-
≥10 mm	1.67 (1.29–2.15)	<0.001	0.93 (0.64–1.35)	0.71
No. targets				
Single	Ref	-	-	-
Multiple	1.25 (0.99–1.59)	0.05	-	-
Maximum PI-RADS score				
3	Ref	-	Ref	-
4	4.58 (3.48-6.02)	<0.001	2.10 (1.37-3.24)	0.001
5	15.47 (11.30–21.17)	< 0.001	5.24 (3.13-8.77)	< 0.001
No. target cores taken	1.08 (1.03–1.13)	<0.001	1.05 (1.02–1.08)	0.32
Previous biopsies				
No	Ref	-	Ref	-
Yes	0.68 (0.55–0.85)	0.001	0.89 (0.61-1.29)	0.55
Clinically significant PCa detected on target	+ random biopsies			
PSA	1.02 (1.01-1.03)	0.002	1.05 (1.02–1.09)	0.001
DRE				
Negative	Ref	-	Ref	-
Positive	3.07 (2.41–3.91)	< 0.001	2.58 (1.68–3.97)	< 0.001
Target size				
<10 mm	Ref	-	Ref	-
≥10 mm	1.53 (1.20–1.95)	0.001	0.80 (0.56-1.11)	0.24
No. targets				
Single	Ref	-	-	-
Multiple	1.23 (0.98–1.55)	0.06	-	-
Maximum PI-RADS score				
3	Ref	-	Ref	-
4	4.42 (3.47–5.61)	<0.001	2.03 (1.38–2.98)	< 0.001
5	18.54 (13.58–25.39)	<0.001	5.47 (3.32–9.01)	<0.001
No. target + random cores taken	1.02 (1.00–1.03)	0.01	1.00 (0.94–1.05)	0.98
Previous biopsies				
No	Ref	-	Ref	-
Yes	0.69 (0.56-0.85)	0.001	0 77 (0 54–1 09)	0.15

represents the standard for PCa detection; the present study strengthens this recommendation, showing that additional, random cores improved the CDR for all PCa of 13%, and that of clinically significant PCa of 9%. We must keep in mind that our patients underwent a variable number of random biopsies, being less than the usual 12–14 cores in >30% of the cohort.

A recent study on 564 patients newly diagnosed with PCa has shown that systematic biopsy over fusion one (UroNav, Invivo) upgraded PCa from Gleason 6 to 7 in 5%, and from Gleason 7 to 8 in 1% of patients. The present results, drawn from a larger series of patients, are quite different, showing an upgrade from Gleason 6 to 7 in 11% of patients, and from Gleason 7 to 8 in 6% of patients. A possible explanation for this diversity might be due to the different populations in the study: the present series of patients was more heterogeneous and possibly exposed to a greater risk of harboring a significant PCa outside of the lesions detected at the mpMRI, given

that it includes patients whose mpMRIs were not carried out in the same center of the fusion biopsy, and sometimes interpreted by radiologists not dedicated to prostate imaging. The diagnostic advantage of Koelis fusion biopsy over a standard biopsy, however, is not in doubt, considering the overall perpatient CDR of 58%, a percentage much higher than that reported for standard biopsies, approximately 33–36%.<sup>24</sup>

A linear relationship has been suggested between PI-RADS and Gleason score, reflecting the cellular density of the region of interest.<sup>25</sup> Following this lead, the present results showed a higher probability of finding PCa with an elevated Gleason score in the case of PI-RADS 4 or 5. The uncertainty of this correlation, however, is highlighted by the nonnegligible proportion of patients harboring PI-RADS 5 lesions that resulted in being Gleason 6 PCa, or no cancer at all. Sometimes, an intense granulomatous inflammation of the prostate can mimic an aggressive cancer at mpMRI, as was noted in some of our 46 patients who were negative at biopsy even in the presence of PI-RADS 5 lesions. In contrast, some lesions might have been simply missed by fusion biopsy. To overcome these diagnostic inaccuracies, continuous feedback between urologists, pathologists and radiologists dedicated to fusion biopsy is required to ensure good quality of the procedure. Unfortunately, in everyday clinical practice, it is not easy to maintain good standards, especially if mpMRIs are carried out in centers not dedicated to prostate imaging.

When analyzing the correlation between PI-RADS score and PCa, we have to remember that PI-RADS classification was updated in 2015; however, the adoption of the new classification did not affect the present results, with the addition of random cores still leading to a significant improvement in CDR. Interestingly, with the adoption of PI-RADS version 2.0, more lesions scored as PI-RADS 5 resulted negative for cancer, possibly reflecting the need for a learning curve in MRI interpretation by radiologists.

Regarding the predictors of overall cancer detection at fusion biopsy, only clinical stage and PI-RADS score showed a significant association at multivariate analyses. It is interesting to remark that the number of cores taken was not a predictor of PCa detection, adding another point against the old saturation biopsy. As for the prediction of clinically significant cancers, the old, maltreated PSA seems to reacquire an important diagnostic role, together with the usual clinical stage and PI-RADS score. On the contrary, target size was not a strong predictor of cancer, reflecting again the uncertainties of the mpMRI.

To our knowledge, the present study gathered the largest series of fusion biopsies reported to date, but is not devoid of limitations, mostly inherent to its retrospective design. The main limitations were the lack of a control group, the lack of data regarding mpMRI protocols and types, the lack of a central revision of mpMRI images and bioptic specimens, and the absence of a standardized protocol of random biopsies, which did not allow a proper comparison between targeted and systematic biopsies. In contrast, the heterogeneity of our cohort can be seen as a strength of this study, which shows the outcomes of Koelis fusion biopsy in everyday practice, where mpMRIs are carried out in centers with different degrees of expertise and patients cannot be selected.

In conclusion, under routine conditions, fusion biopsy with Koelis achieves a good CDR, which increases in patients with a high PI-RADS score and clinical stage. The performance of additional, random cores seems unavoidable for correct sampling. PI-RADS and clinical stage are the strongest predictors of PCa detection, whereas PSA showed an association only for clinically significant PCa. The number of cores taken was not associated with higher CDR.

## **Conflict of interest**

Marco Oderda, Pierre Mozer and Roland Van Velthoven have worked as consultants for Koelis.

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## **Supporting information**

Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article at the publisher's web-site:

Figure S1. PCa detection according to PI-RADS score version 1.0 or 2.0.

**Table S1.** Biopsy results in terms of PCa and clinically significant PCa detection, comparing target biopsies only with target + random biopsies, stratified as per PI-RADS version 1.0 and 2.0.