

Pioneering  
**Non-Invasive**  
Surgery



## **MEET THE EXPERT**

**Dr. med. Hans-Christian Kolberg**

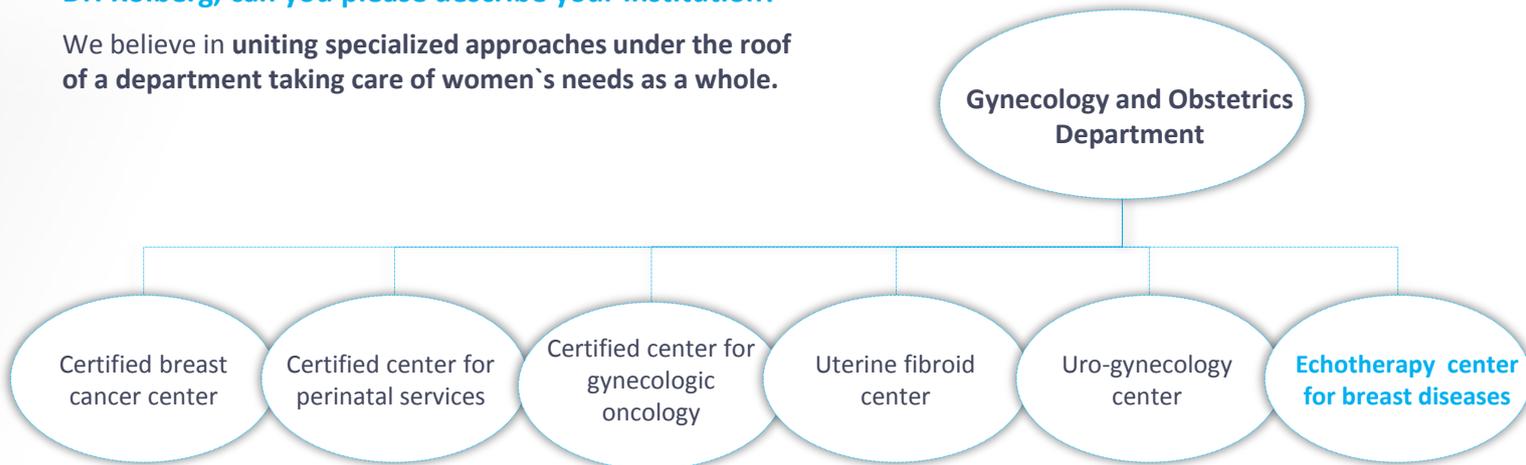
Chief of the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics

**Marienhospital Bottrop, Germany**

***“Patients call from all over Germany and  
from outside Germany too.”***

## Dr. Kolberg, can you please describe your institution?

We believe in **uniting specialized approaches under the roof of a department taking care of women`s needs as a whole.**



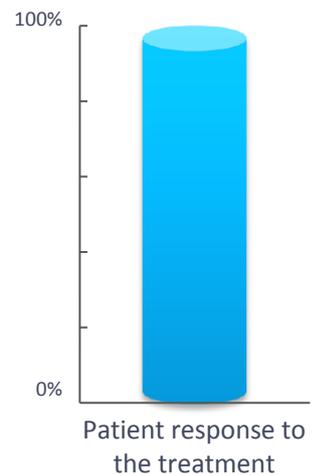
## Why did you choose the Echopulse ®?

One of the **main subjects my team is driven by is deescalation of therapies.** Among other therapies, we are evaluating non-invasive techniques in benign and malignant diseases. After our experiences with high focused ultrasound in uterine fibroids, **it was only logical to broaden this approach** and use the technique in other indications too **by offering echotherapy for breast fibroadenoma.** Our nuclear medicine department has also started using Echopulse for the treatment of benign thyroid nodules.



## How did you integrate the Echopulse system in your service?

**Integration of Echopulse® was almost seamless.** We were offering a new technique and integrated it into our daily routine. We did not have to change the organization of the department.



## Could you please describe your experience so far ?

We've been offering echotherapy as a non-invasive option for breast fibroadenoma for more than 3 years now. Responses differ depending on the size of the tumor, patient characteristics and treatment sessions, but **we have not seen one case without response.**

## In your opinion, what is the main benefit for patients?

**Patients needing surgery can avoid it.** I don't think that needs further explanation.



## Can you describe the patient workflow in your center?



1 Patient inquires

2 Questions to evaluate eligibility by nurse  
Diagnosis exam (biopsy, US images) faxed or emailed

3 Pre-treatment examination  
Discussion about the treatment

4 Treatment is performed  
**under local anesthesia - in one session only- without hospitalization**

5 Patients can leave immediately after treatment



## How would your patients, who today receive echotherapy, have been treated before you had access to the technology?

Before, a select number of cases could be treated with vacuum biopsies, but most patients needed surgery.

## Do you have patients calling you for echotherapy specifically?

Patients are calling from all over Germany and from outside Germany too. I have even treated the daughter of an Asian politician. Most patients contact us because they already know they have a breast fibroadenoma, are well informed and call specifically to get information on echotherapy.

## Did the introduction of echotherapy bring a new population of patients to your center?

What changed is not the indications we are treating but where our patients are coming from. **Many travel hundreds of kilometers to get to us.**

## Can you say a word about your relationship with Theraclion?

We were the first Echotherapy center in Germany and **have had a history with the company for years. Theraclion is not just a company that sold us a machine but a true partner in developing this promising technology.** And I have no doubt this partnership will last, not only with my center but with all centers dedicated to the deescalation of surgical approaches.

## To conclude, what could for you be potential new application areas for Echopulse?

The **most important area** where Echotherapy will have to go **in the future is malignant tumors.** We have to do large trials on this subject **but I firmly believe that one day we can spare carefully selected breast cancer patients from undergoing surgery.**

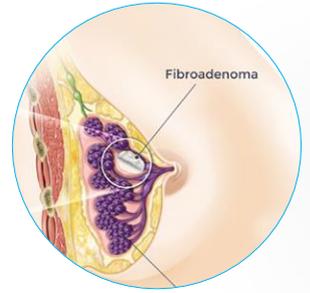


*"People are travelling hundreds of kilometers to get to us."*



## Can you please present one case of fibroadenoma volume reduction ?

First, it is important to highlight how echotherapy works. When treated with echotherapy, the tissue of the fibroadenoma is rapidly heated up, leading to a type of “melting process”, with effects continuing after treatment. As a result, the fibroadenomas progressively becomes smaller over time.



For instance, you can see below the case of a 22-year-old patient with one palpable fibroadenoma located in the left internal upper quadrant (10.00). Echotherapy was performed under local anesthesia.



**-88.5%**



### Before echotherapy

- ✓ Volume: 3.5 cm<sup>3</sup>
- ✓ Causing pain

### Results (18 months after echotherapy)

- ✓ Volume: 0.4 cm<sup>3</sup>
- ✓ **No side effects**
- ✓ **No symptoms** of the fibroadenoma

Echopulse® is a class IIb medical device (according to Directive 93/42/EEC) designed and marketed by Theraclion  
Echopulse® has received CE-mark for non-invasive treatment of breast fibroadenomas and thyroid nodules – CE n° 0120  
Not covered by statutory health insurance schemes in Europe  
(with the exception of Germany where it is covered by several insurance companies)  
Before use, read the instruction for use carefully

Non contractual pictures

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