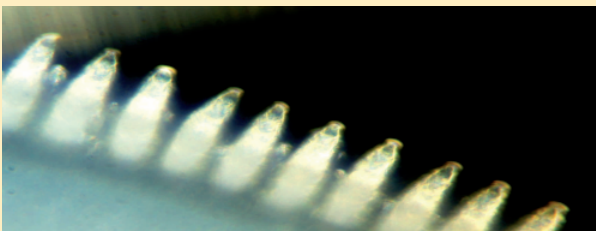


# Hirudo/Leech Therapy



In Germany, the annual number of leech therapies exceeds 100.000 applications from more than 30 indications. Examples of indications:

- Acute and chronic painful arthrosis, such as of the knee and thumb
- Varicose veins, spider veins, leg ulcers
- Tendinitis and tenosynovitis (tennis elbow, golf arm)
- Hypertension (as a supplemental treatment)
- Rheumatic diseases
- Otitis media / Tinnitus
- Furuncles, Carbuncles, Abscesses
- Spinal and sacrum syndromes
- Circulation problems following skin and tissue transplantation



## Well-directed Local Application:

The picture shows the detail of a medicinal leech jaw with its teeth. This unique natural tool constitutes an extremely precise medicinal product injecting the active ingredients exactly into the target area.

## Evidence of Efficacy:

A number of recent clinical studies had underlined the efficacy of leech therapy in the indications Arthroses, back pain, tinnitus, and preservation of grafts during reconstructive surgery.

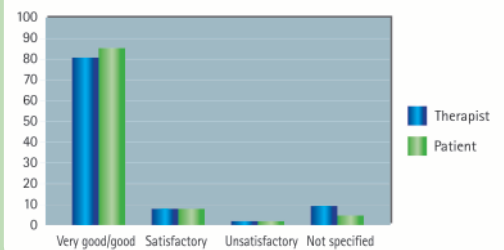
## Efficacy and Safety as Experienced by Therapists and Patients:

A current survey documenting the medical records of 171 leech outpatient treatments, indicated excellent ratings on efficacy and safety in a broad range of indications.

## Conclusion:

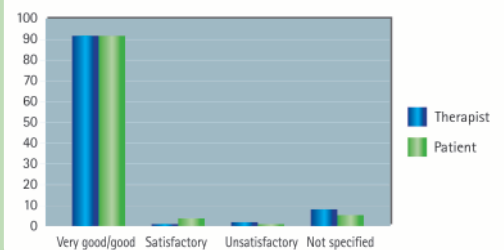
Over the centuries, leech therapy has established itself as a natural healing method. Today, leech therapy - using an extensively monitored living drug - is recognised as a modern method of treatment with a broad spectrum of effective applications showing a high level of safety.

Efficacy Ratings on Leech Therapy as Percentage (N=171)



Reference: Aurich M, Koepgen D: The Medical Use of Leech Therapy in Outpatients: A Survey on 171 case reports. Zeitschrift für Komplementärmedizin 2009; 5: 12-18

Safety Ratings on Leech Therapy as Percentage (N=171)



Pharmaceutical producer of medicinal leeches for the use in humans.

Pharmaceutical product: Medirud®Biebertal  
Species: Hirudo medicinalis/verbana/orientalis  
Facility-bred leeches and cultivated leeches in quarantine for 32 weeks.

## Legal Status:

First in Europe, according to German Drug Law (AMG), medicinal leeches and pharmaceutical drugs are both subject to the same guidelines on quality, efficacy and safety.

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