

- **ACTO Training Academy**

Within the framework of the ACTO Training Academy, ACTO e.V. organizes continuing education courses for physicians, physician assistants and nurses at the Cologne Merheim Eye Clinic.

- **SightCity Forum**

Since 2005 ACTO e.V. has organized the Sight City Forum—the largest trade fair for blind and visually impaired people—in collaboration with the German Association of the Blind and Visually Impaired (DBSV), the PRO RETINA Germany and the Vocational Development and Education Institutes. This forum offers political and scientific lectures and discussions on medical and social policy topics as well as patient symposia about the current state of research on eye diseases.

- **Courses on chemicals burns**

Regarding the topic of chemical burns to the eye and first aid, ACTO e. V. organizes training courses for experts.

In 1998 ACTO e.V. was founded by research physicians and engineers and was legally recognized as a non-profit organization in Germany. Lectures, events or project requests can be arranged with our administrative office. Please contact our office should you wish to grant a donation or legacy, for which we are very grateful.

Since 2011 ACTO e.V. has been distinguished as the first medical affiliated Institute, „AN-Institut“ at RWTH Aachen University.

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Keratoprosthesis

Together with the Institute for Technical and Macromolecular Chemistry (ITMC) and the Institute of Textile Technology (ITA) at RWTH Aachen University as well as industrial partners, ACTO e.V. has developed an artificial cornea, "keratoprosthesis", as a temporary implant (ACTO TempKPRO) and as a permanent implant (ACTO TexKPRO). The temporary implant, ACTO TempKPRO, for example, can be used for a limited time during vitrectomy and, thus, significantly improve the prognosis for the later transplantation of a donor cornea.

Moreover, the permanent implant, ACTO TexKPRO, has already been applied in humans and will be further modified. This implant promises help for those patients whose immune system has continuously rejected donor tissue or for whom the previously available transplantation methods have failed

ACTO e. V. unifies the expertise of physicians, engineers and scientists in fundamental research in development of innovative therapies. The staff of ACTO e. V. are investigating artificial cornea replacement, non-animal experiments regarding burns and easy access to ophthalmic diagnosis.

Project EVEIT

The EVEIT system, developed by ACTO e. V., allows preclinical tests for proving the effect and healing of drugs and pharmaceutical products without animal testing. On the isolated rabbit cornea, this test system aims to evaluate medicinal products for clinical application, assess risk according to REACH and to validate the system.

As the result of healing "in vitro", EVEIT can completely replace the Draize test on live animals.

The slightest changes to the cornea can be depicted by combining the EVEIT system with optical coherence tomography (OCT), introduced in a joint research project with the Institute for Semiconductor Technology at RWTH Aachen University (IHT). ACTO e.V. and the IHT were distinguished with several prizes for this new method as an alternative to animal testing.

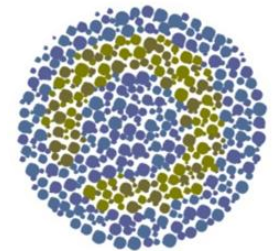


Visus TAS



Through the development of an online sight test, ACTO e.V. supports patients and physicians in the diagnosis. By means of an online self-examination test, the patient can investigate the function of his or her eyes and, if desired, e-mail the ophthalmologist the respective test results. Especially because the ophthalmologist directly checks the test results, this test provides an additional margin of safety for the patient and the doctor.

Vision, visual field, color vision, and with the aid of red / green glasses, stereovision and strabismus are also tested.



There is also a paper version of the test that enables less experienced Internet users the opportunity for self-examination.

