Patients with acute left-sided malignant colonic obstruction fulfilling the in-/exclusion criteria

Randomization after informed consent (N=120)

Decline to participate

Colonic stenting as bridge to elective surgery (N=60)

Dependent on tumor staging:
  b) Incurable disease; stent serves as palliative therapy
  b) Curable disease; elective surgery

Emergency surgery (N=60)

In case of colostomie:
  a) Restoration of bowel continuity within 3-6 months if patient is fit enough
  b) No restoration if patient is not fit enough

Follow-up for 6 months

Analysis on intention-to-treat basis, quality of life, morbidity and mortality