

## **Abstract EFAS/DGA 2007**

### **Functional results after bilateral Cochlea Implantation - The Zurich experience**

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**Introduction:** Cochlear implantation has become progressively more common in the last years. The goal of this study was to compare the subjective benefit, speech comprehension in quiet and noise and localisation ability of unilateral and bilateral implant use.

**Method:** All consecutive implanted adult patients of a tertiary referring centre using the second implant for more than 6 months were included in the study. Subjective benefit was assessed by a questionnaire (The Speech, Spatial and Qualities of Hearing Scale SSQ). Speech comprehension measures were performed by Oldenburger sentences in quiet and in noise with unilateral and bilateral implant use. Advantage for binaural stimulation was calculated with respect to unilateral stimulus. Additionally a localization test was performed using 12 speakers arranged in a circle.

**Conclusion:** The results will be discussed in the presentation. Bilateral cochlear implantation improves the speech understanding in noise. Thereby communication in daily life can be facilitated subjectively which could be verified by the questionnaire.

