

## **Abstract EFAS/DGA 2007**

### **A prospective longitudinal quality of life study before and after cochlear implantation in post-lingually deafened adults**

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A prospective longitudinal study with five specific investigation times with patients treated with cochlear implants was conducted.

Over a period from 9-12 months N=52 patients were measured before and after an implantation with cochlear implants. The research is still ongoing and up to now the data from N=36 patients over all five measurement points, 1-2 months before, and 1, 3, 6, and 9-12 months after implantation are available. The participants were post-lingually deafened adults (62% female, age range from 18-80 years).

Generic Quality of life was assessed with the German version of the Nottingham Health-Profile (Kohlmann et al., 2000). Hearing specific Quality of Life was measured with standardized questionnaires such as the Gothenburg Profile, the Oldenburg Inventory-R and other scales dealing with coping, hearing handicaps, leisure time etc (see Kompetenzzentrum HörTech, 2004).

In a cross-sectional quality of life study in the German-speaking part, Meis, Plotz, Dillier et al. (2006) demonstrated, that most of the used Quality of Life scales were sensitive regarding the degree of hearing loss, age, and bilateral vs. unilateral provision (hearing aids and cochlear implants). One important question is to clarify whether the scales are applicable also for longitudinal studies of the cochlear implantation process. First results of the ongoing longitudinal study will be presented at this session.

#### **Literatur:**

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