Why an otology database?

Standard hospital information systems do not meet the specific requirements of a specialised ENT department. Although they provide for efficient access to patient records, they do not offer options such as the comparison of audiograms, the documentation of the results of complex otological examinations and treatments, the statistical analysis of large data sets or the comparison of various treatment strategies within a clinical trial. But this is exactly what the otology module of the ENTstatistics program is designed to do.

Easy integration of clinical images

While results of audiological examinations are automatically imported with the help of interfaces, other data such as preoperative CT, MRI and x-ray images, intraoperative photos and sketches prepared by the surgeon can be readily transferred to the database by means of a drag 'n' drop function. Direct access to all information relevant to a procedure enables users to review cases in their entirety and make evaluations on that basis.
Prospective data collation - the benefits

The provision of personalised medical care is a declared aim of contemporary healthcare systems. The otology database contributes to the achievement of this aim because users can better assess the prospective success of a planned procedure, such as ossiculoplasty, in each individual case. While data provided in major journals can provide guidance, there is no doubt that the individual experience of a surgeon can be of considerable relevance. This can be assessed in relation to the issue in question in ENTstatistics with the aid of just a few mouse clicks.

Statistical evaluation made easy

The otology module provides surgeons with a wealth of options for analysing data. The treatment information stored in the database can be analysed from various perspectives and key statistical parameters, such as the average improvement of the ABG, can be rapidly calculated or viewed as graphs. This also means that outlier values can be more rapidly identified, an aspect that is relevant to clinical studies and for the increasingly important requirements of clinical reporting.

Audiogram comparison with Glasgow Benefit Plot

Statistical evaluation

Prof. Dr. Thomas Linder
Director
ENT Clinic, Lucerne Canton Hospital, Switzerland

"An extremely constructive collaborative project with INNOFORCE has resulted in a database program which not only provides complete storage of relevant audiological, surgical, imaging and graphic data but also supplies a rapid and comprehensive statistical evaluation. - A system like this is something we’ve been waiting for for a long time!"