
Tilmelding af Foredrag

Foredragets titel

Introducing Innovation of Hearing Rehabilitation and Effects of Reform (InHEAR): a randomized controlled trial

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Introduktion

As demographic changes forecast a +65-population growth in future decades, demand for hearing rehabilitation is expected to increase. Therefore, a political initiative from 2018 introduced a list of innovative approaches to improve future hearing rehabilitation in Denmark; the first proposed pilot testing of remote ENT specialist assessment in hearing-impaired adults. To scientifically sanction the approach, a randomized clinical trial was designed to test patient safety, treatment quality, and satisfaction of a remote assessment routine in adult first-time hearing aid (HA) users.

Materiale/metode

Overall, 751 participants from the region of northern Jutland were recruited and randomized to three groups. Two test groups had an oto-audiological examination performed by audiology assistants in one of 12 private or 5 public hearing rehabilitation clinics and subsequently assessed remotely by 4 individual ENT specialists. Control group participants were assessed by private ENT specialists in accordance with current practice. HAs and/or additional examinations were administered when indicated. Patient-reported quality data were collected throughout the study program. Prior to program completion, all participants underwent a physical ENT specialist assessment to ensure nothing were overlooked.

Resultater

Participant recruitment was done through social media advertisement. Study program completion is currently high and questionnaire response rates regarding patient-experienced treatment quality and satisfaction are compelling. Final study results are expected in April 2022.

Diskussion

If the results support safety of remote assessment in adult first-time users, a digital assessment routine as presented in this study could become the key pillar in future nationwide implementation of remote care in hearing rehabilitation.

Forfatters fulde navn



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