

## OP08.1

### **Which procedures are performed by primary care physicians? – A comparison of specialists in family medicine and general internal medicine**

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**Background & Aim:** in Germany primary care is mainly delivered by specialists in family medicine and general internal medicine. in order to investigate the procedural performance of family physicians (FPs) and general internists (GIs) two cross-sectional studies were performed, each with focus on one specialization. Aim of this study was to compare the participants' procedural spectrum in order to draw conclusions for future specialist training.

**Method:** A questionnaire with 89 procedures and nine sociodemographic values was sent to 1576 primary care physicians - mainly FPs - in late 2012 and to 1002 GIs delivering primary care in own practice from May to July 2015. Addresses were identified through the web sites of the Associations of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians for both studies. Participants were asked whether they performed mentioned procedures in their own practice ("yes" or "no") and how important they think it is to learn the procedure in specialty training (1 = "very important" to 4 = "not important").

Descriptive analysis for both studies was performed as well as chi squared tests for comparing GIs and FPs.

**Results:** Study's response rate in 2012 was 42 % (666/1576), 592 (38 %) FPs fulfilled inclusion criteria for analysis. in 2015, study's response rate was 30 % (302/1002), whereof 273 (27 %) GIs fulfilled inclusion criteria for analysis.

At least half of the participants performed 42 procedures (FPs) vs. 29 procedures (GIs). FPs named 55 procedures as "very important" or "important" being learned in specialty training for future primary care physicians, GIs chose 46 procedures.

Comparing both studies 56 procedures were significantly more often performed by FPs, 12 procedures by GIs.

**Conclusions:** FPs and GIs differ in their performed procedural spectrum. These differences should be considered in specialty training's curricula according to patients' needs.