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The SII – a simple tool for good speech intelligibility

The Speech Intelligibility Index (SII) is an index value frequently overlooked by hearing aid acousticians. It is readily available to acousticians, and contains important information for a quick and objective assessment of the quality of a hearing aid fitting. The presentation aims to raise awareness for the SII among the audience as well as to provide the knowledge necessary to incorporate the index into daily practice.

The SII is determined and illuminated using the Otosuite and the common Natus Medical measurement technology. Scientific articles from the last two decades serve as the data basis.

First, the background and the development of the index are illuminated. Furthermore, consideration is given to the information the index is based on, and which factors influence the resulting value. Finally, the interpretation of the SII is discussed, and an outlook on possible improvements to the index is provided. The conclusion will emphasise the relevance of the SII as a tool for optimising speech intelligibility.