

A global rating of operative microscopic surgical skills (GROMSS) for otolaryngology residents: a pilot study

Authors: O. Marglani¹, K. Alnoury², I. Alnoury², F. Kozak³, B. Westerberg³, A. Chalmers³.
Institutions: ¹Umm al-Qura University , Makkah, Saudi Arabia, ²King Abdul Aziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia , ³University of British Columbia , BC, Canada
Keywords: surgical assessment, otolaryngology

The requirement of a valid and reliable assessment of intra-operative technical competence is an ongoing issue in surgical training programs. We present an assessment tool that is designed specifically for microscopic surgical procedures in Otolaryngology training programs called the Global Rating of Operative Microscopic Surgical Skills (GROMSS).

The aim of this study was to develop a GROMSS assessment tool of various microscopic procedures performed by Otolaryngology residents to assess this new tool's inter-observer and intra-observer reliability and construct validity and to be used in Otolaryngology surgical evaluation. The study design involved prospective, observational data collection. The GROMSS evaluation instrument was designed from input of academic otolaryngologists, otologists/neuro-otologists and experts in medical education.

Ten residents from various levels of training were assessed objectively while performing different microscopic surgical procedures using this instrument. It is possible to objectively measure microscopic surgical skills with good reliability and construct validity; it has the potential to assess the surgical competence of residents and aid in their overall evaluation.