Clinical assessments by non-experienced users

Our cohort includes data from 8 centers worldwide, who participated in clinical assessments between January 2020 and April 2021. A total of 43 participants (users) were included. Two hundred and fourteen patients were treated in these assessments, with a mean of 26.8 per center, and a total of 338 ears, with a mean of 41.3 ears per center. The mean duration of the procedure was 37 seconds. The mean success grade given to the use of the EarWay® Pro device was 3.45 (on a scale of 1 to 5). Figure 2, Figure 3. A total of 4 complications were reported – a rate of 1.2% (4/330). Reported complications included slight bleeding in all four cases. The mean safety grade given was 4.2 (on a scale of 1 to 5).

Clinical Assessment by Experienced users

Five experienced users replied. All had over a decade of experience in cerumen removal and used the EarWay® Pro for at least 50–200 cases. Based on their experience, they rated in a 1-5 scale, device efficacy as 4.1/5, safety as 4-4.5/5.

None encountered device related complications

Some patients mentioned mild discomfort or pressure sensation when the device reaches the bony external ear canal. Discomfort was tolerable and only momentary when the patient was counseled and prepared well. One responder reported mild discomfort with better angling of the device. None had to abort the procedure due to discomfort.

Discussion

The EarWay® Pro device presents a safe, effective and efficient method for cerumen removal by healthcare professionals. The high success rate and safety of this device make it very useful, enabling the removal of cerumen prior to audiologist evaluation without the need for referral to an ENT specialist, and thus significantly shortening waiting time and dropout rate of patients.