Can physicians really know everything there is to know in their specific field? The answer, even from physicians themselves, is a clear, resounding "no". Every year, there are over 500,000 scientific publications with important information regarding the "state of the art" treatment of patients. These medical advancements can be made available during the course of treatment using digital knowledge databases.

This requires the use of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) and a so-called Clinical Decision Support System (CDSS). A patient's data (patient history, findings, results of clinical tests, etc.) are entered directly into the digital record and analysed regarding possible diagnoses and treatment options. These are then offered to the physician together with more detailed information. Naturally, the medical decision still remains with the physicians, but they can thereby plan the treatment on the basis of verified and up-to-date information. The ifa Group has developed the only system so far that allows an Electronic Medical Record to work together with a professional system for supporting decision-making in ophthalmology (CDSS). It combines the implementation of official medical guidelines and ifa's own analyses gained from working together with ophthalmologists worldwide. (Information)