

## **Abstract**

The current debate on digitization has also reached social work, and addiction counselling services. However, the question arises as to how digitization can be meaningfully integrated into the work of addiction counselling centres. Therefore 10 counselling centres based in Thuringia and 63 of their clients were questioned. In addition, 26 clients of an inpatient treatment facility based in Sotterhausen (Saxony Anhalt) were questioned. The quantitative research was conducted as a paper-pencil questionnaire. Some facilities have already created digital access, such as e-mail contacts, to reach clients. Yet, in outpatient addiction counselling centres, digital services are still new territory. Clients, however, are interested in expanding these services. Anonymity and low-threshold access are just two examples of the benefits of digital access. Existing creative offers that are already being implemented successfully can be considered pioneers in the progress of expanding digital services in addiction counselling centres based in Thuringia. Overall though the social sector is lacking a digital infrastructure and therefore has many potentials to grow up to.