## Statistical Process Control (SPC) Freeware

The EpiData Analysis software performs basic statistical analysis, graphs, and comprehensive data management. We present the SPC-module in EpiData Analysis with Run-Chart, I-Chart and P-Chart. More charts are under development (MR-chart, X-bar and S-chart, X-bar and R-chart). The first version was released in September 2005. SPC is a well known tool in improvement work. However, minor health organisations can hardly afford the expensive software for SPC. Due to funding and voluntary work the EpiData software is released as a free-ware.

EpiData Analysis comes in addition to EpiData Entry which is used for simple or programmed data entry and data documentation.

The software can be downloaded from the EpiData Association`s webpage: http://www.epidata.dk/

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The SPC module in EpiData Analysis is built upon the general principles for SPC and is developed by the EpiData Association in Denmark in collaboration with Stiftelsen GRUK in Norway, both non-profit organisations. The project has been funded by The Norwegian Medical Association.

## **EXAMPLE FROM ONE OF THE NORWEGIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION'S BREAKTHROUGH PROJECTS:**

An institution for Child and Adolescent Mental Health in Norway recognized that information given to parents with children suffering from ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) was unsatisfactory, and that the parents were unsure of how to manage their parental role.

In order to meet this challenge they developed a ten-hour-long interdisciplinary information- and training programme for parents with children recently been diagnosed. The effect was evaluated by a questionnaire to measure parents' contentment with the information received about ADHD and their feeling of mastering their parental role. The main results are presented by using an I-chart from the SPC module in EpiData Analysis.

Parents without training had an average score of 3.2 (scale 1 to 5), and parents with training had an average score of 4.3; which is an improvement of 33 %. By using an I-diagram we can show that the change is significant and that the variation in the results is less among parents with systematic training.

