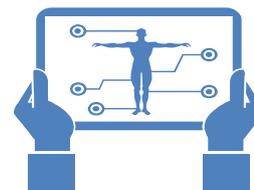


Glossary

Common Telemedicine Terms



Asynchronous Communication

A two-way communication with a time delay between when a message is sent, when it is received, and when a response is communicated.

Audio-teleconferencing

Two-way electronic voice communication between two or more people at separate locations.

Authentication

The use of passwords, keys, and other automated identifiers to verify the identity of the person sending or receiving information.

Bandwidth

A measure of the information carrying capacity of a communications channel; a practical limit to the size, cost, and capability of a telemedicine service.

Computer-based patient record (CPR)

A compilation in electronic form, of individual patient information that resides in a system designed to provide access to complete and accurate patient data, alerts, reminders, clinical decision support systems, links to medical knowledge, and other aids.

Digital Health Literacy

The ability to seek, find, understand and appraise health information from electronic sources and apply the knowledge gained to addressing or solving a health problem.



Digital Medical Devices

Example: blood pressure cuffs, glucometers, and pulse oximeters.

Distant Site

The location of the healthcare provider (HCP) at the time at which the telemedicine service is provided. This term is often used when discussing reimbursement, as certain locations are not covered.



Electronic Medical Record (EMR)

A single practice's digital version of a patient chart that contains medical history, diagnoses, and treatments by a particular HCP. Electronic Medical Records allow healthcare organisations to store, retrieve, and modify patient records.



Electronic Health Record (EHR)

Comprehensive report of the patient's medical history that can be shared across healthcare settings. Electronic Health Records commonly contain billing information, vital signs, and medical history.

Encryption

A method of encoding electronic data where the information can only be retrieved and decoded by those given authorisation. Secure telemedicine software uses encryption to protect patient privacy when sharing sensitive information through digital communications

Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

A United States legislation enacted in 1996 that provides data privacy and security provisions for safeguarding sensitive medical information. The HIPAA is important to telemedicine because its Privacy Rule and Security Rule govern how providers and their business associates must protect the confidential health information of patients.

Originating Site

Also known as the patient site. The original site is the patient's location when they received telemedicine services.



Real-time Communication

The capture, processing, and presentation of data at the time the data is originated, where participants interact as if they were in the same room.

Remote Monitoring

The use of audio, video, and other electronic-information-sharing technologies and devices to monitor the condition of a patient remotely. Examples include tracking a patient's heart rate, activity, or blood glucose levels.

SaaS (Software as a Service)

A method of delivering software in which the programme resides on hardware controlled by the vendor, and can be accessed via a web browser or mobile application. This method reduces the time and cost it takes to get started. This is also referred to as cloud-based or internet-based software.



Store-and-Forward

Transmission of information to a remote data storage device, from which they can be retrieved by a medical practitioner for review at any time. This obviates the need for simultaneous availability of consulting parties and reduces transmission costs due to low bandwidth requirements.

Synchronous communication

Interactive video connections that transmit information in both directions during the same time period.

Telecare

Technology-enabled remote monitoring of patients, while allowing them to maintain their independence and safety. Examples of telecare include mobile monitoring devices, medical alert systems, and telecommunications like computers and telephones.



Teleconferencing

Interactive, electronic communication between two or more people at two or more sites, which make use of voice, video, and/or data transmission systems.

Telehealth

A broad term that refers to health information services, healthcare education, and healthcare services provided at a distance. It includes provider training, administrative meetings, and continuing medical education, as well as surveillance, health promotion, and public health functions.



Telemedicine

A subset of telehealth that involves the use of information technologies and electronic communications to support remote clinical healthcare services. Telemedicine can be used for primary care, management of chronic conditions, medication management, mental health services, and other clinical care that can be provided effectively using secure video and audio connections. Examples of telemedicine include digital transmission of medical imaging, remote medical diagnoses and evaluations, and video consultations with specialists.

Telepresence

The use of devices that allow a person to perform a task at a remote site by manipulating instruments and receiving sensory feedback. This creates a sense of being present at the remote site and allows a degree of technical performance.

Virtual care

Any interaction between patients and their care team that occurs remotely, using communication or information technologies with the aim of facilitating or maximising the quality and effectiveness of patient care.



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