Telehealth and Telemedicine – An Overview

Omolayo M. Ikumapayi, Joseph F. Kayode

Department of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria

ikumapayi.omolayo@abuad.edu.ng, kayodejf@abuad.edu.ng

Sunday A. Afolalu,

Department of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria

Department of Mechanical Engineering Science, University of Johannesburg, South Africa adeniran.afolalu@abuad.edu.ng

Emeka S. Nnochiri, Kayode O. Olowe

Department of Civil Engineering, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria nnochiri.emeka@abuad.edu.ng, oloweko@abuad.edu.ng

Ojo P. Bodunde

Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, NT, People's Republic of China opbodunde@mae.cuhk.edu.hk

Abstract

Telehealth and Telemedicine have become topics of great interest in this digital age, especially after the global outbreak of COVID-19. Medical personnel and individuals seeking healthcare require a means to bridge the gap created by inaccessibility and inability to conduct in-person visits in order to deliver efficient health services. Unfortunately, there still lies a challenge in fully incorporating this technology due to asymmetry among the healthcare providers, hospitals, and the user-ends, especially in developing countries. This paper explores services that can be rendered under telehealth; methods in which telemedicine can be integrated into the contemporary healthcare system; the advantages and possibilities that come with technology as well as the inefficiencies and limitations currently being faced, how these problems can be resolved; and the future of telehealth/telemedicine."

Keywords

Telehealth, Telemedicine, COVID-19, healthcare, hospital

1. Introduction

Telehealth is the provision of health care services by all medical practitioners employing information and communications technology for the exchange of reliable information for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases and injuries. Its applications extend to monitoring and assessment, and continuance education of healthcare professionals, all within the objectives of promoting the health of individuals and their community at large, where distance is a crucial element (Cook, 2012). Telemedicine is the process of distributing medical care to patients across a long distance. Medical information could be sent using smoke signals and light reflection, such as signalling plague outbreaks, alerting births, deaths, and the occurrence of an event. Through advancements such as the invention of printing, the telephone, and the Internet, medical information sharing, and telemedicine have advanced in recent years. Using "live-chats," drones to observe environmental hazards, and video conferencing, health care providers may now give healthcare directly to patients within the comfort of their own homes.

Telehealth has the potential to address a wide range of issues in today's healthcare by improving the performance, accessibility, utilization, efficiency, and efficacy of care while also lowering costs and making it more accessible. Apart from the evident waste of technology and human resources, the overall performance of telehealth services has become poor. The issue is, first and foremost, that several telehealth services that were successful in pilots could not have been sustained (Amalberti & Blandford 2020). Second, and perhaps more importantly, numerous implementation blunders are reiterated over and over, whereas just a few examples of good methods are copied and helpful in modern culture. The challenges of providing telehealth services are frequently underestimated. Its success is influenced by a variety of elements, including technical challenges, infrastructure, law, change management, as well as financial business models. Telehealth services are always supplied across multiple organizational entities since they are delivered across a distance. For decades, telehealth has been gaining traction in the healthcare industry. Approximately 90% of executives today believe their companies are working on or already have designed telehealth software (Suzanne & Stephen, 2003).

Telemedicine combines the fields of communications technologies, information technology, biomedical engineering, and medicine. The Telemedicine system includes tailored software and hardware both at the patient or specialist doctor's ends, along with diagnostic equipment such as an ECG, X-ray, and pathology microscope/camera at the patient's end (Abid, Mohd, Ravi, & Rajiv, 2021). Health services experts and others have been researching the use of innovative telecommunications and computer technology to improve health care for more than 25 years. "Telemedicine, a blend of traditional and cutting-edge information technology, is at the crossroads of many of these initiatives. Telemedicine, as described above, includes the use of computerized information and communication technologies to offer and support health care when participants are separated by a significant distance as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Patient receiving medical attention using telehealth

Though most individuals use technology and profit from it, there are hurdles along the way, such as the need for experienced individuals to operate equipment, the cost of machine maintenance, and so on. Telehealth, on the other hand, is not only about technologies; it also necessitates changes in working processes and data organization. The necessity to adapt work processes has been a previous hurdle to telehealth adoption. It's important to keep in mind that many clinical diseases necessitate physical tests or therapies and that caring is a social and relational activity. The COVID-19 pandemic provides a unique opportunity to build sophisticated telehealth solutions that have the potential to revolutionize health care and people's health both locally and globally (Amalberti & Blandford, 2020).

2. Literature Review

In a study conducted by (Bashshur and Shannon 2009), the history of telemedicine in medicine began in 1964 at the University of Nebraska School of Medicine using a closed television system and continues to be used in psychology. (Preston et al. 1992) states that the telemedicine approach resulted from the use and development of personal computers (PCs) and the use of asynchronous communication between patients and healthcare providers. Over the years, other areas of telemedicine application have been discovered. Some of these include telemedicine, telemedicine, behavioural telemedicine, and telepsychology. Technological advances have discovered and strengthened several

areas of expertise in telemedicine delivery. Examples include video sharing, intercontinental communication, and audio-visual feedback. A recent study by (Tsami et al. 2019) is rapidly advancing the use of telemedicine in families and educational settings to support the learning process of children with disabilities. Many educational applications have revolved around providing parents and teachers with the means to access behavioural and social problems in children with disabilities and provide appropriate solutions. Advances in telemedicine and telemedicine are further clarified in a study by Rosenberg et al. (2020) Expansion of telemedicine to support schools and coaching staff. The results of this study showed a significant improvement in the coherence of subordinates' guidance and an assessment of students' willingness to communicate. This study identifies how telemedicine enables hands-free instruction that does not require the physical presence of a teacher (Bashshur and Shannon, 2000; Rashid and Gary, 2009; Rispoli and Machalicek, 2020). Telemedicine differs from telemedicine in that it refers to a wider range of telemedicine-related services than telemedicine. Telemedicine is changing the way people have cared for underprivileged people, or those who have to travel during difficult times to get professional medical care, very difficult or completely impossible to transport. Taking responsibility from patients with possible acute illnesses, and multiple needs families even in sports and other commitments where the convenience of telemedicine conferences may make it easier to continue care.

The final systematic literature search to study the effectiveness of telemedicine was conducted in 2010. With the increasing use of telemedicine and technological advances in this area, more recent reviews have been conducted to provide more compelling results. The purpose of this review was to analyse recent evidence related to the clinical efficacy of telemedicine care and services. This review shows that telemedicine is clinically as effective as or even more effective than traditional care. However, the evidence available is highly discipline-specific, covering and emphasizing the need for further clinical efficacy studies that address telemedicine and cover a wider range of clinical care services. The results of this review support the view that telemedicine does not compromise the effectiveness of clinical care compared to traditional forms of care under favourable conditions (Snoswell et al. 2021).

The greatest need for home and community health care is related to chronic illness. The use of technology to treat chronic illnesses is associated with many benefits, including hospitalization, readmissions, length of stay, and cost savings. Improvements in some physiologic measures; high satisfaction; and improved compliance with medication do not mean that there will be no further challenges or difficulties. Patient preference and acceptance are challenging in-home telemedicine. We need to find the best way to care for our patients with their families. Another challenge is determining how everyday devices such as smartphones and gaming platforms can be used for care. And how do you best manage the information and data coming from all these gadgets and translate it into information that is understandable and practicable by your doctor? Many doctors do not have a team dedicated to disease management. So how can we expect small local medical institutions to make effective use of data and information? Finally, policy changes help enable the deployment of such technologies (NCBI, 2012).

Telemedicine has the potential to reduce healthcare costs, improve patient reach and health outcomes, and transform the way healthcare providers treat patients (InTouch, 2021). This possibility puts people in telemedicine and telemedicine. There are many signs that the future of health care will be hybrid. In other words, patients can receive a combination of virtual care and face-to-face care. Telemedicine use initially increased nearly 40-fold compared to pre-Covid levels and was stable. High level. Medical app downloads have increased by 65% over the past year. (Forbes, 2021). Therefore, the future of telemedicine and telemedicine lies in virtual medicine, that is, face-to-face hybridization of medical care. Telemedicine played an important role during Covid's pandemic, and a review was conducted to find out how telemedicine affected the community during this period. Eight studies are included from 142 search results. Currently, telemedicine, a healthcare provider, and self-isolated patient are undoubtedly suitable for reducing the risk of COVID 19 infection. This solution prevents all kinds of physical contact, provides uninterrupted care to the community, and may even reduce morbidity and mortality in the outbreak of COVID19 (BMC, 2020). The situation surrounding the pandemic is telemedicine, as the COVID 19 pandemic, the introduction of telemedicine for several days before the blockade, remained controversial due to concerns such as service refunds and potential inefficiencies. Because of the blockage, the opportunity was started or rather improved. As mentioned earlier, medical app downloads increased by 65% during the pandemic, and not only downloads, but also people wanted to help, but also wanted to make money out of the predicament, so developing such apps. Has also increased dramatically. Overall, advances in telemedicine depend on the circumstances in which we find ourselves. Although telemedicine and telehealth might nonetheless have superior withinside the destiny as generation is advancing, without the pandemic, the development or boom might be lots slower.

The use of telemedicine in Nigeria dates returned all of the manners to 2007 while NASRDA, the National Space Research, and Development Agency and FMoH, the Federal Ministry of Health inaugurated its first undertaking in coaching hospitals and 6 Federal Medical Centres throughout the usage and access to ICTs in the Nigerian health care sector (Adekunle, 2016). Telemedicine in Nigeria has the capability to enhance the fitness and wellbeing of the population via way of means of making up for the low delivery of healthcare specialists which consequently decreases the time postpone in having access to healthcare because of transit time to fitness centers in built-up towns like Lagos and growing to get admission to superb fitness services and statistics in rural and far off communities. Telemedicine offers healthcare offerings and statistics remotely with the assistance of the current generation. The stage of its incorporation into the Nigerian fitness enterprise has been very low because of demanding situations each provider-associated (consisting of excessive fee of setup, insufficient infrastructural improvement, and unwillingness to change) and affected person-associated (consisting of low get admission to required gadgets and absence of affordability of telemedicine offerings). Provision of monetary incentives, infrastructural improvement, and integration of telemedicine into the present fitness carrier transport device are a few hints to useful resources withinside the adoption of telemedicine in Nigeria (Sydani, 2021).

Telemedicine` will now no longer be an aspect in the year 2050, neither will it exist even in 2025. It will simply be regular `fitness.` It will now no longer be `digital care`, it's going to simply be regular `care`. The strains between far-off remedy and in-facility remedy turn so blurred that any difference turns into vestigial (Bill, 2021).

This evaluation of literature clears up essential statistics regarding Advances in Telehealth/Telemedicine. The get admission to of net with its clean use of generation makes the software of telehealth/telemedicine unavoidable. The COVID-19 pandemic substantially prompted the use and exercise of medicine. Medicine, which has been primarily based often on the bodily interplay among medical doctors and the affected person withinside the past, is now held at an excessive charge via way of means of generation which affects greater than ever the pleasant of care and the human values that entails a clinical professional. Nevertheless, even though it offers an advantage in phrases of affected person accessibility to clinical medical doctors and professionals and in enhancing persistent pathologies, it additionally tells a few moral shortcomings. If the right advice and safeguards are installed the world over and nationally for telemedicine it can be medically, legally, and ethically justified. The established order in international locations of a clean regulation which regulates those technologies will make certain the confidentiality and safety of virtual affected person facts and building up the belief courting connecting the medical doctor and the man or woman receiving care or the affected person. The setup of education and schooling withinside the take a look at of telemedicine will deliver room to have certified people or employees.

3. Research Gaps

Modern external influences, such as the deadly coronavirus disease (COVID19) in 2019, have reduced physical human interaction. As a result, telemedicine is needed to close the gap. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) declared an emergency on March 17, 2020, with requirements for physicians to use telemedicine to care for patients in clinics, nursing homes, hospitals, and medical facilities nationwide.

3.1 Health Information Considerations

Telemedicine is a resource-constrained technology. To conduct a telemedicine visit, the provider can use a computer with a webcam and microphone, a smartphone, or an iPad with a reliable Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliant platform. Video conference software must include encryption, access restrictions, and an audit trail to be HIPAA compliant. Obfuscating important data in a format makes it incomprehensible without a decryption key. Encryption prevents unnecessary access to protected health information (PHI). Access control uses different credentials to assign actions to users (users who receive different degrees of PHI based on their job description). Audit logs keep track of who accessed the information and how long it was accessed, making it easy to find and report unauthorized access to PHI. Basic telemedicine features are available in a variety of electronic health record (EHR) systems such as Epic, Allscripts, and Cerner. HIPAA states that sellers need to monitor both stored and transmitted data. The seller must ensure that the customer is provided with a Business Associate Agreement (BAA) that is responsible for any breach that occurs under the customer's authority in order to meet the HIPAA compliance requirements. "Healthcare providers may use popular programs that enable video calls such as Apple FaceTime, Facebook Messenger video chat, Google Hangouts video, Zoom, and Skype to provide telemedicine," said U.S. Health. The Ministry of Health (HHS) said in March 2020 that these third-party petitions can pose a risk to customer privacy and that caregivers have all encryption and lockdown options turned on when using

such apps. In fact, some suppliers are hesitant to sign a BAA because of the risks involved. These emergency platforms will continue to be available, but physicians should be aware that future use may violate HIPAA rules. When conducting a telemedicine visit, you must follow HIPAA rules in addition to the video platform you use. This is because the person who can hear and watch the video visit may not look like a medical professional. Therefore, it is essential for the medical professional to see if someone else is in the room by asking the patient to agree to be in the "virtual room".

3.2 Patient welfare in telemedicine

Patient well-being is as important as HIPAA and should be considered in telemedicine policies. Patient health includes verifying the patient's identity, phone number at the time of separation, emergency access to the patient's location, and verification of emergency contact information. Your doctor may be required to request and record this safety information using the EHR template. If emergency medical services are needed, the actual location (rather than the address) of the visiting patient should be provided to the dispatcher. Health professionals need to keep this in mind for patients who may attend a telemedicine visit while parked in a car. In this situation, the make, model, license plate number, and location of the parked car are relevant. During this time. Out-of-the-box safety information during these visits can increase the safety and confidence of your healthcare provider.

3.3 Limits of telemedicine

Lack of vital sign assessment and limited physical examination is the main and most visible drawbacks of telemedicine. Scales, sphygmomanometers, pulse oximeters, and thermometers are useful tools for identifying patients with heart failure. These devices are relatively inexpensive, can be covered by insurance, and are commonly found in people's homes. Although device issues such as calibration and application errors can occur, healthcare providers should use them to improve data collection and support clinical decision-making. Physical video exams should not be overlooked, as they can provide a large amount of information without auscultation or palpation. Patients should be encouraged to bring proper lighting and flashlights to their appointments. Lack of vital sign assessment and limited physical examination is the main and most visible drawbacks of telemedicine. Scales, sphygmomanometers, pulse oximeters, and thermometers are useful tools for identifying patients with heart failure. These devices are relatively inexpensive, can be covered by insurance, and are commonly found in people's homes. Although device issues such as calibration and user error can occur, healthcare providers should use them to improve data collection and support clinical decision-making. I did it. Video physical examinations should also be considered as they can provide a large amount of information without the need for auscultation or palpation. Patients should be encouraged to bring proper lighting and flashlights to their appointments. "Patient's decision-making ability was efficiently expressed in each contingent valuation."

The fact that the relationship between a patient and a healthcare provider can worsen over time is a well-known concern among healthcare providers. Studies conducted at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center show that the quality of interaction between dermatologists and patients is not compromised when remote dermatologists are involved. In densely populated areas such as India, finding hospital resources and specialists is generally difficult, so telemedicine is often the preferred method of consultation. Patients are often unfamiliar with telemedicine, but many were excited about the possibility after the concept was presented. Building trust with video and phone is more difficult than communicating face-to-face. Therefore, we need to educate ourselves in different ways to improve the relationship between doctors and patients. This is very important. A special tip is to look at the camera while talking to the patient, rather than looking at the patient's image on the screen. Physicians need to discuss the difference between telemedicine visits and face-to-face visits. If the patient feels uncomfortable, he must sympathize with the patient. Depending on the scheduling system used in your healthcare facility, it can be difficult to schedule a telemedicine visit. Leverage an alternative scheduling model to run a patient-centric hybrid scheduling model and integrate virtual care with a regular face-to-face care model. Healthcare is beginning to run in parallel with a consumer-oriented economy. Patients can seek medical care directly via video or phone, just as consumers can receive groceries directly, order online but receive them directly, or have them delivered to their homes. Some clinics alternate between face-toface and virtual visits to reduce patient waiting room time and increase the patient room cleaning time. This is very useful in single vendor practices. Other clinics also offer alternating time blocks for personal or virtual care. This has the added benefit of maximizing half-day or full-day telework (Brian, 2021).

3.4 The ultimate fate of telemedicine

What's happening in telemedicine is one of the few notable bright spots in the COVID-19 pandemic. Patients with abundant treatment deterrents such as Separation (especially rural areas), transportation, and openness as Gatekeeper benefit from telemedicine. Patients with immunodeficiency do not have to be afraid to become nervous again. Patients who have been waiting for months to see a specialist nearby can now meet and visit specialists across the country. If these confusions cause the patient to inadvertently miss a plan or significantly forget to adjust the plan, the provider can treat the patient's telemedicine without changing the plan. In this way, you can extend your schedule as much as possible so that it is not overlooked.

3.5 Administrative and legal implications

To ensure the protected recording, storage, and transmission of patient information in telemedicine management, institutions need to simultaneously revise HIPAA and the Economic and Clinical Health Information Technology (HITECH) Act. HIPAA and HITECH are working together to address how PHI is monitored domestically and to establish future industry principles as coordination of telemedicine in healthcare management. HITECH promotes improvements to the infrastructure that supports electronic PHI and oversees the goals and uses of health data innovation in the United States. HITECH clearly states that innovations in telemedicine can reduce the need for patient mobility in remote areas (Hollander & Carr 2020). The language does not fully support the improvement of telemedicine as a standardized technology that provides medical care to all patients with little consideration of geographic areas. In order for the public clinical framework to be fully telemedicine-ready, HITECH sets the boundaries at which telemedicine can function and the key innovative prerequisites for ensuring the accessibility and well-being of the telemedicine framework. Define. You have to do it. HITECH currently includes provisions for including telemedicine in medical advances, but HIPAA excludes such dialects. The protection and security requirements for electronic PHI processing, storage, and transmission currently specified by HIPAA can also be applied to telemedicine via the current HIPAA Consistency Level, thus providing basic benefits for telemedicine as well. I will be hung up. (Hollander & Carr, 2020; Ethical Practice in Telemedicine, 2020). However, the unique difficulties of telemedicine exceed current administrative obligations. To properly address the new challenges and threats that telemedicine poses to the well-being and security of patient data, HIPAA needs to be transformed into a subsection dedicated to telemedicine. This fix aims to set minimal protection and security standards for clinical applications and communication procedures in telemedicine and to prevent patient data from being stored on thirdparty servers.

3.6 Morality of virtual nursing

Similarly, significant advances in medical management cannot be achieved without a review of clinical ethics (Chaet, Clearfield, Sabin, & Skimming, 2017). As a noteworthy and interesting model, telemedicine is worth special attention to ensure that the moral norms of education are not lost. The American Medical Association (AMA) characterizes different parts of telemedicine, and professionals need to take ownership of these perspectives so that patients can be self-reliant and enjoy great benefits. These obligations are based on two core moral norms: Care Advancement and Informed Consent. Access to telemedicine does not change all the complaints that patients make. Health professionals are responsible for knowing the adequacy of telemedicine and guiding patients who need to meet with their health care professionals, whether important or not. Patients should also be encouraged to share their telemedicine experience with key professionals, who are advised on how to proceed with considerations through telemedicine or referrals to other professionals. Should be. Despite the referral strategy, patients need to receive similar quality care. Almost all data that doctors gradually provide to patients should also be available.

3.7 Innovative development

Remote silent checks could soon be the most important improvement in telemedicine (RPM). RPM allows patients to wear devices that can send data to mobile phones and tablets to monitor their health [20]. A programmed insulin siphon, a computer-controlled circulatory stress cuff, and an advanced heart rate monitor are just a few of the models. The RPM framework allows patients to better monitor their health and provide GP with constant physiological information. Preparing patients to adapt to innovations is one of the main drivers of RPM progress. According to a VivaLNK study, nearly 66% of patients over the age of 40 are willing to wear an RPM device if it helps them fall asleep. Another potential improvement in telemedicine is the adaptation of artificial consciousness in patient welfare applications. Application programming calculations can identify patterns of quiet outcomes and encourage patients to take precautions before signs appear (Tuckson, Edmunds, & Hodgkins, 2017). You can integrate your bot into your application to stimulate side effects and other data when a patient seeks treatment and unknowingly send that data to

your doctor. The fusion of human awareness and telemedicine innovation further enhances the convenience of the application, supports access to thinking, and enables the patient to adhere to the treatment program.

4. State of Telemedicine Services Globally and World Health Organization (WHO) 4.1The Current State of Telemedicine Services

The four most prevalent and prevalent areas of telemedicine are specifically addressed to better understand the current status of telemedicine administrative orders. Respondents were asked if their country provides government in all areas and, if so, how much improvement it provides. "Establishment" (progressive management supported by subsidies from public authorities or significantly other sources), "pilot" (testing and evaluating the framework in a particular environment), and "occasionally" There were three levels of improvement (the framework is a coordinated program). The review investigated four areas of telemedicine:

Teleradiology — the utilization of data and correspondence innovation (ICT) to move computerized pictorial portrayal pictures (e.g., X-beam pictures) starting with one site then onto the next for translation and additionally meeting.

Telepathology – the utilization of data and correspondence innovation (ICT) to communicate digitized obsessive outcomes (e.g., minute pictures of cells) for understanding or potentially meeting.

Teledermatology is the utilization of data and correspondence innovation (ICT) to send clinical data about skin issues (like skin growths) for translation as well as meeting.

Telepsychiatry is the utilization of data and correspondence innovation (ICT) for mental assessments or potentially counsels through video and communication.

Among the four spaces of telemedicine examined, teleradiology has the most elevated pace of setup assistance arrangement.

Telemedicine arrangement is significantly less progressed in upper-center, lower-center, and low-pay countries than it is in big league salary nations; this may be the situation for both the level of nations with existing administrations and the extent of states giving telemedicine administrations.

The African and Japanese Mediterranean Regions had the most reduced number of nations with perceived telemedicine administrations, and the biggest number of states offering unstructured telemedicine administrations, contrasted and different locales.

4.2 Telemedicine services globally

Teleradiology is as of now the most progressive telemedicine framework on the planet, with simply more than 60% of respondent nations giving some type of administration over 30% of regions having a framework set up (see Table 1). While the percent of states giving any type of administration went from nearly 40% on teledermatology and telepathology to approximately 25% on telepsychiatry, states with perceived administrations inside these three regions drew closer to 15%.

	Established (%)	Pilot (%)	Informal (%)	No Stage Provided (%)	Total (%)
Teleradiology	33	20	7	2	62
Telepathology	17	11	9	4	41
Teledermatology	16	12	7	3	38
Telepsychiatry	13	5	5	1	24

Table 1. International implementation rates of telemedicine services

4.3 Telemedicine services by WHO region

The management of remote radiology, remote pathology, remote dermatology, and remote psychiatry is fully covered by the charts below. They show the range of countries with established, piloted, and casual governments and the WHO regions where they are found (World Health Organisation, 2010). For each measurement, the global rate is displayed near the local similarity rate. Although there was great diversity among the four telemedicine areas considered, Southeast Asia, Europe, and the Americas districts were most prominent in the number of countries with established telemedicine frameworks. Both Southeast Asia and Europe (75% and 50% separately) have all the prerequisites for advancing the more important levels of existing remote radiation programs. These two places have more states than world rates and have existing governments. Again, the Mediterranean regions of Africa and Japan certainly had the lowest number of established telemedicine administrations and countries. Rating For all four of these telemedicine

disciplines, existing doses accounted for less than 10% of the countries surveyed across the African region. Teledermatology and telepsychiatric programs were established in less than 10% of the country, and while no country in the region was reported to have established telepathology administration, only 25% of the country's response in the Mediterranean region of Japan was remote radiation. The program was established. It has also become more common for administration in these two areas to be loose: in many cases, the level of condition that provides an informal type of support is higher than the level of the country that provides an established type of support. It was expensive. Figures 2, 3, and 4 respectively depict Teledermatology, Telepathology, and Telepsychiatry initiatives by the WHO region.

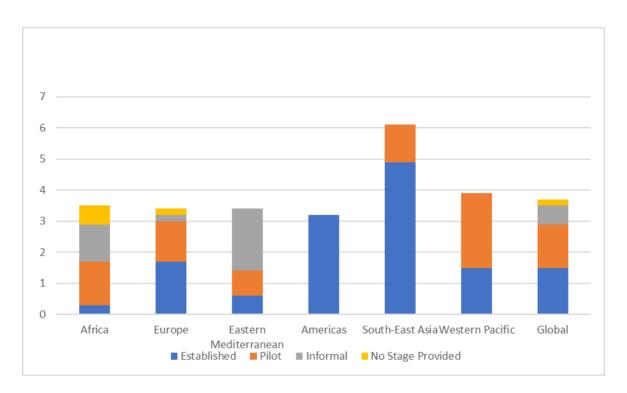


Figure 2. Teledermatology initiatives by WHO region

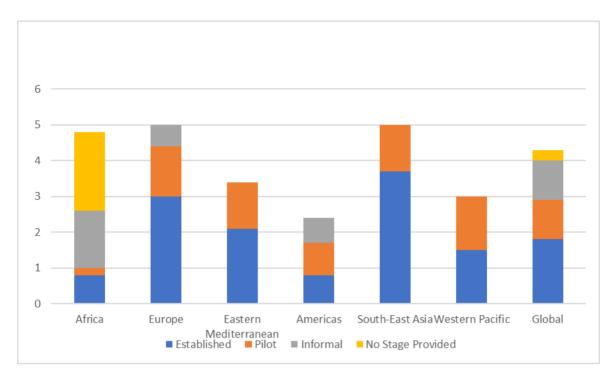


Figure 3. Telepathology initiatives by WHO region

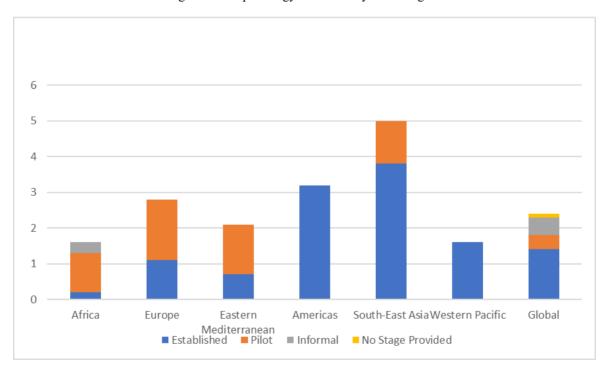


Figure 4. Telepsychiatry initiatives by WHO region

5. Conclusion

Telemedicine combines the fields of communications technologies, facts era, biomedical engineering, and medicine. The Telemedicine device consists of a tailor-made software program and hardware at both the sufferers' or expert physician ends, in addition to the diagnostic device which includes an ECG, X-ray, and pathology Microscope/Camera

on the affected person end. For decades, telehealth has been getting numerous interest withinside the clinical sector. Telemedicine is the act of supplying hospital treatment to sufferers throughout a protracted distance. Telehealth has the cap potential to deal with an extensive variety of troubles in today's healthcare via way or means of decorating the effectiveness, accessibility, utilization, performance, and efficacy of care even as additionally reducing expenses and making it extra accessible. Its fulfilment is inspired via several elements, which include era challenges, infrastructure, law, extrude management, and economic enterprise models. Numerous adjustments arise over the years in fitness care, and those adjustments will retain at a fast pace, necessitating even extra training. Nevertheless, with this era comes a slew of latest issues, which includes maintaining up with today's technologies, exercising at a quicker rate, and so on. Even though the bulk of human beings make use of the era and take advantage of it, there are hurdles alongside the way, which include the want for skilled people to perform devices, the value of servicing, and so on. It's essential to hold in thoughts that many medical ailments necessitate bodily exams or treatments, and that being concerned is a humanistic and relational activity. The COVID-19 outbreak provides a treasured danger to construct state-of-the-art telehealth answers which have the potential to revolutionize clinical offerings and human beings' lives each regionally and globally. Telemedicine permits sufferers to speak with their doctors through video or phone, which is fine for their fitness in addition to their convenience. Patients are more and more being allowed to "see" their doctors through pc or smartphone. Because of technological advancements, telemedicine has ended up tons extra accessible, even to folks who are not pc savvy. Telemedicine minimizes the want to go back and forth to a medical institution or clinic, park, walk, or take a seat down in a ready vicinity whilst you are ill. You can be trying to find a clinical recommendation from the benefit of your very own home. To help withstand the prevention and unfold of COVID-19, flu, in addition to different infectious diseases, does can use telehealth meetings to pre-display sufferers for feasible infectious disease. It additionally minimizes the want for ill human beings to return to work.

Telemedicine may also help a few specialized practitioners as it permits them to peer you withinside the consolation of your very own home. Allergists, for instance, can be capable of discovering allergy-inflicting triggers for your environment. To shield your circle of relatives' fitness, seek advice from a number one care practitioner on an ordinary basis, which includes one that focuses on own circle of relatives' medicine, inner medicine, or pediatrics. Telemedicine makes it simpler to talk with a physician or nurse practitioner. The emergence of telemedicine is one of the few blessings of the COVID-19 pandemic (Barney, Buckelew, Mesheriakova, & Raymond-Flesch (2020). Telehealth gives the cap-potential to address an extensive variety of problems in today's contemporary-day healthcare via way of means of fine improvement, accessibility, utilization, productivity, and effectiveness of care even as slicing expenses and growing performance to make it extra accessible. One of the important thing issues amongst fitness-care employees could be that the affected person-company courting may also deteriorate.

To gather a truthful understanding of the existing kingdom of telemedicine carrier provision, 4 of the maximum famous and well-mounted telemedicine sectors have been explicitly explored. Among the fields are teleradiology, telepathology, teledermatology, in addition to telepsychiatry. Among the 4 telemedicine specialties analyzed, teleradiology has the nice danger of growing a carrier supply.

Acknowledgments

The authors wish to acknowledge the financial support offered by the Afe Babalola University Ado Ekiti in the publication of this manuscript.

References

- Abid H., Mohd J., Ravi P. S., and Rajiv S., Telemedicine for healthcare: Capabilities, features, barriers, and applications, *Sensors International*, Volume 2, 100117, ISSN 2666-3511, 2021.
- Adekunle, Y., Evolving usage and access to ICTs in the Nigerian health care sector: challenges and prospects, *University of Westminster*, 2016.
- Amalberti R., and Blandford A., Opportunities and challenges for telehealth within, and beyond, a pandemic. *The Lancet: Global Health*, Vol. 8, no. 11, pp. 99-111, 2020.
- Barney, A., Buckelew, S., Mesheriakova, V., and Raymond-Flesch M., The COVID-19 pandemic and rapid implementation of adolescent and young adult telemedicine: challenges and opportunities for innovation [published online ahead of print, 2020 May 14]. *J Adolescent Health*, 05.006, 2020.
- Bashshur R. L., and Shannon G. W., History of Telemedicine. ISBN13 978-1-934854-11-2, ISBN *e-book* 978-1-934854-04-2, 2009.

- Bashshur R. L., Reardon T. G., and Shannon G. W. Telemedicine: a new health care delivery system. *Annu Rev Public Health*, 21:613-37, 2000.
- Bill S., Telehealth 2050: The future design of virtual care technology. [Online]. Available from: https://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/telehealth-2050-future-design-virtual-care-technology, 2021.
- Brian W. H., Benefits of Telemedicine. Available: https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/treatment-tests-and-therapies/benefits-of-telemedicine, 2021.
- Chaet D., Clearfield R., Sabin J. E., and Skimming K., Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs American Medical Association. Ethical practice in Telehealth and Telemedicine. *J Gen Intern Med.* 2017 Oct;32(10):1136-1140, 2017.
- Cook, R., Exploring the Benefits and Challenges of Telehealth, *Nursing TIMES*, vol. 1, no. Nursing Times, pp. 1-5, 2012.
- Elham M., Alireza H., Monaghesh, E., and Hajizadeh, A. The role of telehealth during COVID-19 outbreak: a systematic review based on current evidence. *BMC Public Health* 20, 1193, 2020.
- Forbes, Virtual healthcare is the future- If organisations can clear these hurdles, 2021.
- Hollander J. E., and Carr B. G., Virtually perfect? Telemedicine for Covid-19. N *Engl J Med.*, 382:1679-1681, 2020. InTouch, The future of telehealth in the U.S. and across the globe, 2021.
- James H. T., The evolution of telehealth: Where have we been and where are we going? 2021.
- Preston G. M., Carroll T. P., Guggino W. B., and Agre P., Appearance of water channels in Xenopus oocytes expressing red cell CHIP28 protein. Science, 256(5055):385-7, 1992.
- Rashid L. B. and Gary W. S., History of Telemedicine: Evolution, Context, and Transformation. *Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.*: New, 2009.
- Rispoli M., and Machalicek W., Advances in Telehealth and Behavioural Assessment and Intervention in Education: Introduction to the Special issue" *Journal of Behavioural Education.*, Vol.29, no.2, pp.189-194, 2020.
- Rosenberg E. S., Dufort E. M., and Udo T., Association of Treatment with Hydroxychloroquine or Azithromycin with In-Hospital Mortality in Patients with COVID-19 in New York State. *JAMA*. 2020;323(24):2493–2502, 2020.
- Snoswell C. L., Chelberg, G., Keshina, R. D., Haydon, H. H., Thomas, E. E., Caffery, L. J., and Smith, A. C., The clinical effectiveness of telehealth: A systematic review of meta-analyses from 2010 to 2019. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*, 2021.
- Suzanne G. B., and Stephen P. D., Understanding and motivating health care employees, *National Library of Medicine*, Vol. 2nd edition, pp. 10-15, 2003.
- Sydani, Telemedicine: The untapped Goldmine in Nigeria's healthcare system. [Online]. Available from: https://www.google.com/amp/s/sydani.org/telemedicine-the-untapped-goldmine-in-nigerias-healthcare-system/amp/, 2021.
- Tsami, L., Lerman D., and Toper O., Effectiveness and acceptability of parent training via telehealth among families around the world. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. 4. 10.1002/jaba.645, 2019.
- Tuckson, R., Edmunds, M. and Hodgkins, M., Telehealth. N Engl J Med. 2017, 377:1585-1592, 2017.
- World Health Organisation (WHO), Telemedicine opportunities and developments in member states: Report on the second global survey on e-health. Global survey for e-health series volume 2, 2010.

Biographies

Omolayo M. Ikumapayi is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria. He earned his Ph.D. degree at the Department of Mechanical Engineering Science, University of Johannesburg South Africa. MSc degree in Mechanical Engineering (option in Design and Production) from the University of Lagos, Nigeria, and his BEng in Mechanical Engineering from the Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi, Nigeria. He is a registered Engineer with COREN, Member of Nigerian Society of Engineers (MNSE), Member of Nigerian Institution of Mechanical Engineer (MNIMechE), Member of Chartered institute of purchasing and supply management of Nigeria (MCIPSM), Member of the Academy for Entrepreneurial Studies (M.AES) and Associate Member of the Certified Institute of Shipping, Nigeria (ACIS) among others. His research interests include additive manufacturing, simulation, processing using agro-wastes powders, surface modifications, characterizations, tribocorrossion, Friction stir processing/welding, automation, mechatronics, and nanotechnology.

Sunday A. Afolalu, PhD is a full Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria. He is a research-oriented and creative problem-solver scholar with a cumulative of over Eighteen (18) years of industrial and academics/teaching experience. He is equally a certified and

registered member of COREN, NSE, and CIPSMN. He has published several articles in peer-reviewed Learned Journals, Conference Proceedings, and Book of chapters which are majorly Thomson Reuters, SCImago and Scopus indexed Journals. His current research interest areas are Laser Additive Manufacturing, Nanotechnology, Production Engineering, Surface Engineering, Modeling, and Simulation. Fluid Mechanics, Kinematics and Tribocorrosion

Joseph F. Kayode is a Ph.D holder from The Federal University of Technology Akure, Nigeria at the Department of Mechanical Engineering (option in Production Engineering) and his M.Eng in the same Faculty of Engineering. He obtained his B.Eng in Mechanical Engineering from The Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria. He is currently a lecturer and Researcher at Afe Babalola University Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria. He was one-time Teaching Assistant at The Federal University of Technology Akure, Nigeria. He is a COREN Registered Engineer, MNSE and MNIMechE. His research interest include production, welding, manufacturing, material, mechatronics

Emeka S. Nnochiri has his first degree, Bachelors of Engineering (B.Eng) in Civil Engineering from the University of Ado-Ekiti (now, Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti) (2002). He holds a Masters (M. Eng.) degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering (Transportation Engineering Options) from the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria. He bagged his Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D) in Civil Engineering (Geotechnical Engineering option) from Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria. At present, he lectures in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Kayode O. Olowe is the current acting head of the Department of Civil Engineering, Afe-Babalola University where he engaged in teaching and research at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. He holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa in Civil Engineering for his research in the development and application of a mathematical model for assessing Nutrient Kinetics in Surface-water. His research interest is in environmental pollution, solute transport, water distribution system analysis, Water quality modeling, and has published several papers in reputable journals. He has received many research awards which includes Water Research Commission (WRC), South Africa, the JW Nelson Endowment Fund, and University of KwaZulu-Natal's research grants.

Ojo P. Bodunde is a Ph.D research scholar at the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering, Chinese University of Hong Kong. He obtained BEng and MEng degrees at the department of Mechanical Engineering (option in Production) from the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria. He is a registered Engineer with COREN, Member of Nigerian Society of Engineer (MNSE), Member of Nigerian Institution of Mechanical Engineer (MNIMechE). His research interests include additive manufacturing, simulation, nanotechnology, 3D printing, 4D printing, Smart manufacturing, cloud manufacturing etc.