TITLE:  Tele-medicine for Patients with Mental Health Disorders: Clinical and Cost-effectiveness

DATE:  20 August 2015

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical evidence regarding tele-medicine interventions for patients with mental health disorders?

2. What is the cost-effectiveness of tele-medicine interventions for patients with mental health disorders?

KEY FINDINGS

Twelve systematic reviews, 15 randomized controlled trials, and six economic evaluations were identified regarding the clinical or cost-effectiveness of tele-medicine interventions for patients with mental health disorders.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library, University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. Methodological filters were applied to limit the retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, and economic studies. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2010 and August 12, 2015. Internet links were provided where available.

SELECTION CRITERIA

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.
Table 1: Selection Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Patients with mental health disorders</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intervention</td>
<td>Tele-medicine interventions:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Video conferencing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Home health monitoring</td>
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<td>- Tele-health phone lines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comparator</td>
<td>Usual care without tele-medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcomes</td>
<td>Q1: Clinical benefits (improved health outcomes, improved access to care, patient experience, travel time)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Q2: Cost-effectiveness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study Designs</td>
<td>Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, economic evaluations</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, and economic evaluations.

Twelve systematic reviews, 15 randomized controlled trials, and six economic evaluations were identified regarding the clinical or cost-effectiveness of tele-medicine interventions for patients with mental health disorders. No relevant health technology assessments were identified.

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses


Randomized Controlled Trials


Economic Evaluations


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