

The Nature and the Limitations of the Technology used for Telemedicine in Neurology

Blanka Mitera¹, Karolina Harasimowicz², Marcin Donovan³

¹M.D., ³L.L.M, University of Warsaw, The School of Medical Law, Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28, 00-927 Warsaw - Poland, ²L.L.D, University of Warsaw, The School of Medical Law, Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28, 00-927 Warsaw - Poland, <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2481-3490>

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Abstract

The pandemic fundamentally changed our lives and accelerated the adoption of artificial intelligence in the medical field. Despite the undeniable contribution of artificial intelligence, medical experiments and human knowledge are still necessary. The aim of this study is to compare the use of AI and ML in neurology as an effective method for screening, detection, evaluation, monitoring and development of neurological diseases. This article review was conducted on databases correlating the application of ML and AI techniques to the health law. It also addresses some of the disadvantages of applying medical algorithms to real-world and difficulties from a health law perspective. The study also considers the recommendations of researchers, clinical experts and policy makers for a model strategy to explore technology in the future. Current improvements in AI and ML have significantly improved neurological treatment - but also detection, evaluation and at the same time reduced human intervention in medical practice. Article seeks sustained and organised effort to treat neurological patients faster with the cultural, political, and economic pressures under which medicine functions.

Key words: AI in neurology, medical algorithms, public health, telemedicine, e-monitoring

The nature and the limitations of the technology used for telemedicine in neurology

Introduction

Telecommunications technology to improve neurological care and results is a fast-developing discipline known as telemedicine. It allows for remote consultations, diagnosis, and treatment of neurological diseases, thus expanding accessibility and reducing geographical constraints. Patients no longer have to leave their homes to see a

specialist, eliminating a major source of stress for them. Additionally, patients are allowed to take an active role in their healthcare and can monitor their chronic neurological disorders in real-time, thanks to telemedicine. Improvements in early intervention, greater patient-doctor communication, and eventually better neurological care, especially for individuals in underserved or distant places, are all possible as the science continues to grow.^{1 (p.592)} Therefore, this paper examines the health law implications of telemedicine for neurology, delving into the nature and limitations of the technology utilised in this field of medicine.

Corresponding Author: Blanka Mitera, M.D. University of Warsaw, The School of Medical Law, Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28, 00-927 Warsaw - Poland.

E-mail: blanka.mitera@gmail.com

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Nature of Telemedicine Technology in Neurology

In neurology, telemedicine is distinguished by its versatility, with a wide range of uses that all improve patient care and outcomes. This constitutes a significant paradigm shift in the delivery of neurological healthcare, one that removes barriers of distance and time and offers novel approaches to old problems. In neurology, remote consultations have become an important and game-changing telemedicine application. Neurologists may consult with patients worldwide because of advances in video conferencing technology.^{2 (p.541)} This is especially important for those who, due to their location, have restricted access to neurology specialists. Video consultations allow neurologists to assess patients, discuss symptoms, and possibly make preliminary diagnoses.^{3 (p.23)} This not only helps doctors provide better treatment to their patients, but it also helps those who might not be able to afford it promptly get the help they need.

Regarding telemedicine in neurology, remote monitoring is as important as remote consultations.^{4 (p.1235)} Gathering and transmitting patient data in real time is essential to manage long-term neurological diseases effectively. Metrics, including brain activity, vital signs, and medication adherence, can all be monitored with the help of wearable devices and remote sensors. This real-time data allows doctors to make evidence-based decisions, fine-tune treatments, and spot developing problems before they become serious.^{5(p.411)} Because of this, people with illnesses like Parkinson's disease have a much higher chance of survival and a better quality of life in general.^{6(p.1):7(p.1)} Patient engagement in their healthcare is fostered through telemedicine technology beyond the doctor-patient connection. During these virtual follow-up meetings, patients can update their neurologists on their progress and problems. Improved two-way dialogue between patients and medical staff is just one of the many benefits of this teamwork model for neurological treatment. Self-management is also encouraged, involving patients as equal partners in their care.

Limitation of Telemedicine Technology in Neurology

Remote medical consultations and diagnostic

testing are only two examples of telemedicine changing the healthcare industry and improving patient access. However, when applied to the sophisticated and complex subject of neurology, it has several serious drawbacks that must be carefully considered.^{8 (p.219)} Several constraints, such as difficulties with physical examinations, technical hurdles, and worries about data security and privacy, threaten the quality of service and patient outcomes in neurology. Therefore, below are various concerns associated with telemedicine technology in neurology.

Issues associated with Cost and Clinical Effectiveness

In neurology, telemedicine must balance cost-effectiveness and clinical efficacy.^{9 (p.519)} The use of telemedicine has the potential to improve clinical outcomes and reduce healthcare costs significantly. The savings in patients' transportation costs is a major perk. Because of their location, many people with neurological problems have difficulty getting the specialized care they need. They can consult with neurologists via telemedicine instead of making the time- and cost-intensive journey to their offices. Remote consultations and monitoring can assist in managing chronic illnesses without needing in-person visits, reducing the frequency and duration of hospital admissions. The clinical efficacy of telemedicine in neurology varies from one neurological illness to the next. More complex situations requiring comprehensive physical examinations or diagnostic testing may not be good candidates for telemedicine, even though it's highly successful for specific conditions, such as follow-up visits for stable patients or those wanting guidance on lifestyle management. The success of telemedicine is also affected by the quality and accessibility of patient records. Cost-effectiveness and provision of high-quality care must coexist in every healthcare law or regulation.^{10 (p.3)} Although telemedicine can potentially cut expenses, therapeutic outcomes mustn't be jeopardised. The quality of care can be maintained while cost savings are realised by carefully considering which neurological disorders are suited for telemedicine and by establishing rigorous requirements for telemedicine service providers. In the end, each patient's needs and neurological state should be

considered when determining telemedicine's cost and clinical effectiveness.

Issues Associated with Telemedicine Data Transmission and Network Considerations

The success relies heavily on data transmission and network infrastructure. Data transmission and network issues are crucial for telemedicine to be effective in neurology. Health law rules must consider the growing importance of protecting the privacy and security of patients' personal information in the digital realm.^{11 (p.1)} Strong encryption, safe storage, and strict access control are crucial for telemedicine to keep medical information private and earn patients' trust. Also crucial to the efficient delivery of telemedicine services is access to consistently fast and reliable internet and network infrastructure. Patient treatment can be jeopardised, and missed diagnoses can occur during network outages.^{12 (p.879)} Investments in telehealth infrastructure are crucial to fully realize the potential of telemedicine, especially in underserved or rural areas, closing the digital divide and making telemedicine available to all. For continuity of care, legislation should also encourage standardised technology and interoperability between various telemedicine platforms^{13 (p.242)} Finally, to assure their accuracy and security in delivering crucial patient information, it is vital to regulate the usage and approval of remote monitoring equipment. To sum up, for telemedicine services in the field of neurology to be delivered in a secure, dependable, and equitable way, health law laws must consider these key network and data transmission factors.

Rationale for Telemedicine in Neurology

Many strong reasons support the use of telemedicine in neurology.^{14 (p.506)} First, the availability of specialised neurological treatment is greatly improved through telemedicine. Patients in rural or underserved areas may have trouble seeing a neurologist owing to their location; therefore, this is very important for them.^{15 (p.5)} Telemedicine successfully closes this gap, making access to specialists more widely available. In neurological crises like strokes, telemedicine allows for prompt treatment to be administered. In such critical cases, time is important, and telemedicine facilitates quick

diagnoses and sometimes lifesaving treatments. Virtual consultations with neurologists can speed up diagnosis, which could lead to improved outcomes.^{16 (p.818)} Telemedicine is a priceless resource for the treatment of persistent neurological disorders. It allows patients and doctors to take charge of their health by monitoring vitals in real-time and taking corrective action remotely.^{17 (p.3)} Regular checkups, adjusting treatment programs, and early diagnosis of potential consequences all contribute to enhanced quality of life for patients with illnesses like epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, or multiple sclerosis.

Role of NASA and Telemedicine

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has been instrumental in developing telemedicine systems. These discoveries, initially intended to aid astronauts' health during space missions, have had far-reaching ramifications for medicine on Earth.^{18 (p.4)} Cutting-edge telemedicine technologies with applications on Earth have been developed thanks to the junction of NASA's experience in space technology and healthcare.^{19 (p.25)} Creating telehealth monitoring systems is one of NASA's most significant contributions to telemedicine.^{20 (p.3)} Due to space's harsh and isolating conditions, constant monitoring of astronauts' vital signs and health data is needed for space missions. NASA developed the remote monitoring equipment and methods that allow doctors on Earth to watch astronauts in real-time.^{21 (p.1852)} These developments are being utilised in telemedicine on Earth, allowing remote patient monitoring in many healthcare facilities. Patients with chronic diseases can stay home while their doctors keep tabs on their health using this technology.

Improvements in teleconsultation and teleconferencing have resulted from NASA's efforts in telemedicine. NASA built high-tech communication technologies to allow astronauts to confer with doctors on Earth when necessary.^{22 (p.2)} Teleconsultation services have been made available to people in rural or isolated places of the world thanks to the prevalence of these technologies. With the advent of telemedicine, people in outlying areas have better access to the care of professionals elsewhere. NASA's efforts have made telemedicine platforms and applications that can safely transmit sensitive

health information. Telemedicine solutions on Earth have adopted the stringent data security procedures necessary for space missions, protecting the privacy and safety of patients during remote appointments.

Conclusion

Telemedicine in neurology is a glimmer of hope, with the ability to overcome barriers such as distance and improve patient outcomes in this vital area of medicine. However, its development is interwoven with overcoming various obstacles and fundamental constraints. A healthy legal viewpoint is essential for its continued development. Health legislation will need to change in tandem with the development of telemedicine technology to ensure that patients continue to have access to care that is also safe, secure, and effective. Space exploration and medicine alike stand to benefit greatly from the lessons acquired by organisations like NASA, which have been early adopters of telemedicine technologies. The future of telemedicine in neurology has enormous promise for advancing healthcare delivery if we embrace the possibilities while focusing on patient safety and data protection.

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