

Abstract Title:	Telehealth Pilot Program For Burn Wound Care: A Case Study
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Objective:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Describe the features necessary for beginning a telehealth program. 2) Consider the advantages of videoconferencing as a means of providing quality burn wound care.
Abstract:	<p>Introduction: The use of telemedicine and telehealth across many clinical settings has increased over the past two decades due to its ability to decrease barriers to care and increase access to health services. Telemedicine offers multiple advantages over traditional care, such as reducing geographic barriers, expanding access to specialty providers, and decreasing appointment time.</p> <p>Methods/Design: The University of Louisville Hospital Outpatient Burn Clinic launched a telehealth burn wound care pilot program in February 2019 with eight existing patients. After an in-person consultation and instruction on how to connect with providers online, the Burn Clinic providers conducted burn wound care appointments via an application software, which offers reliable and secure video conferencing.</p> <p>Results/Findings: Despite difficulties enrolling one patient in the program, the majority of patients in the pilot program indicated the telehealth burn care appointments provided satisfactory care without sacrificing quality. Not only did patients save time and money by seeing their providers in the comfort of their own homes, but those who faced extraordinary barriers, due to distance or medical complexity, were relieved of significant barriers to care. In addition, clinic providers, home health nurses, and familial care providers of patients reported satisfaction with the telemedicine appointments.</p> <p>Conclusion/Implications: The outcomes of the initial pilot program were overwhelmingly positive and expansion of the Burn Clinic's telehealth program will be informed by the feedback and suggestions offered through patient and provider satisfaction surveys. Although it will be necessary to increase the sample of patients enrolled in the telehealth program, videoconferencing technology may be an effective means of</p>

	reversing poor no-show rates as it mitigates the factors often associated with lack of patient follow-up care.
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