

WHAT CAN WOUND CARE LEARN FROM DERMATOLOGY; 6 YEARS OF TELE-DERMATOLOGY IN THE NETHERLANDS: RESULTS OF 80000 TELE-CONSULTATIONS

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Teledermatology has been successfully implemented in The Netherlands resulting in improved care trajectories and lower associated costs:

2,816 general practitioners and 203 dermatologists performed teledermatology. 79,361 teleconsultations performed from 2006 to 2012 were included. In the group of patients where the general practitioner sent a teleconsultation to prevent a referral, 73% of physical referrals were prevented. In the group of patients where the general practitioner sent a teleconsultation for a second opinion, 15% were physically referred after teleconsultation. Conventional Care constituted € 192,00 per dermatology patient. TeleDermatology constituted € 68,00 per teleconsultation. Average price of patient that has been selected for TD: € 157,06. The estimated cost reduction was 18%.

What were the factors leading to this success and are they generalizable to other countries.