

Abstract

Video Consultations in Primary Care Outside Office Hours

Mette Amalie Nebsbjerg¹, MD; Katrine Bjørnshave Bomholt¹, MD; Claus Høstrup Vetsergaard¹; Morten Bondo Christensen^{1,2}, MD; Linda Huibers¹, MD

¹Research Unit for General Practice, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark

²Department of Public Health, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark

Corresponding Author:

Mette Amalie Nebsbjerg, MD

Research Unit for General Practice

Aarhus University

Bartholins Allé 2

Aarhus, 8000

Denmark

Phone: 45 24647244

Email: man@ph.au.dk

Abstract

Background: Out-of-hours primary care (OOH-PC) is facing increasing demands and workload with many negative consequences, including longer waiting time and increased risk of treatment delay and safety incidents. During the COVID-19 pandemic, video consultation (VC) was introduced as an alternative to face-to-face contact. We hypothesize that VC contributes to sustainable OOH-PC by changing patient flows, decreasing workload, and reducing waiting time.

Objective: This study aims to evaluate the use of video in telephone triage in OOH-PC by studying user rate, the effect on contact patterns, and patient characteristics related to receiving a VC.

Methods: We conducted a register-based study of VC use in OOH-PC, including all Danish residents contacting OOH-PC in the regions of Central Denmark, Southern Denmark, Northern Denmark, and Zealand. The study population will be followed from birth, immigration, or March 1, 2020 (whichever came last), until death, emigration, or December 31, 2021 (whichever comes first). We will use national registers, linking data with the unique personal identification number. We plan to conduct descriptive analyses, calculating the proportion of VC of all teletriage consultations per month during the study period. We plan to use regression models to measure the association between VC and triage outcome and the association between VC and patient characteristics, calculating risk ratios and 95% CIs. Both crude and mutual adjusted risk ratios for patient characteristics will be presented.

Results: Data analyses started in May 2022.

Conclusions: A preliminary conclusion will be presented at the conference.

Conflicts of Interest: None declared.

(*iproc* 2023;9:e41634) doi: [10.2196/41634](https://doi.org/10.2196/41634)

KEYWORDS

out-of-hours primary care; telephone triage; video consultation

Edited by B Dinesen; this is a non-peer-reviewed article. Submitted 03.08.22; accepted 19.06.23; published 27.06.23.

Please cite as:

Nebsbjerg MA, Bomholt KB, Vetsergaard CH, Christensen MB, Huibers L

Video Consultations in Primary Care Outside Office Hours

iproc 2023;9:e41634

URL: <https://www.iproc.org/2023/1/e41634>

doi: [10.2196/41634](https://doi.org/10.2196/41634)

PMID:

©Mette Amalie Nebsbjerg, Katrine Bjørnshave Bomholt, Claus Høstrup Vetsergaard, Morten Bondo Christensen, Linda Huibers. Originally published in Iproceedings (<https://www.iproc.org>), 27.06.2023. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work, first published in Iproceedings, is properly cited. The complete bibliographic information, a link to the original publication on <https://www.iproc.org/>, as well as this copyright and license information must be included.