tele-`  
WORD ORIGIN

1 a combining form meaning “distant,” especially “transmission over a distance,” used in the formation of compound words: 
telegraph.

medicine  [ med-uh-sin or, esp. British, med-suhn ]  
SYNONYMS | EXAMPLES | WORD ORIGIN |IDIOMS  SEE MORE SYNONYMS FOR medicine ON THESAURUS.COM

noun
1 any substance or substances used in treating disease or illness; medicament; remedy.
2 the art or science of restoring or preserving health or due physical condition, as by means of drugs, surgical operations or appliances, or manipulations: often divided into medicine proper, surgery, and obstetrics.
3 the art or science of treating disease with drugs or curative substances, as distinguished from surgery and obstetrics.
4 the medical profession.
5 (among North American Indians) any object or practice regarded as having magical powers.
Telehealth (public health, global view)

• home („virtual“?) health care (outside of facility)
  • hospital / institution – dangerous environment
• remote field (long distance) – experience transfer
  • in diagnosis, care
  • training can sometimes be delivered
• to improve health care access and outcomes
  • chronic disease treatment
    • individual care pathways
    • team work and case management support
  • vulnerable groups
• to reduce demands on crowded facilities
  • e.g. “teletriage” in acute care (EM...)
• cost savings?
  • health sector more resilient

Telemedicine: practice of medicine using technology to deliver care at a distance.
Telehealth to provide care and services at-a-distance. Telehealth is different from telemedicine: Telehealth can refer to remote non-clinical services. Broader scope.
Telemedicine

• real-time two-way communication
  • calls (not just in primary care...)
    • mostly non-emergency medical problems
• asynchronous e.g. store and forward
  • teleradiology (cardio, derma, psych, ...)
• no “Wow effect” for health workers
  • importance of physical exam
    • general status, thorough local assessment
      • to be reviewed
    • lost of face to face contact
• is telemedicine safe?
  • QA/QC, surveillance, governance, auditing, accreditation

Health workers shortage

• one to one vs. one to many
  • algorithm decision
    • “Artificial intellig.” (patient will feed?)
• strong temptation to invest (private! public?)
• important or easy to solve (to sell) problem?
• public health vs. private interest (driving force?)
Slovak republic perspective

- Teleradiology
  - PACS (picture archive. and communic. system)
- Teleconsultations
  - (“unofficial”) telephone consultations with a
    - primary care physician / nurse
    - specialist
  - minor acute problem contact phone line
    - health insurance company
  - STEMI app (ECG dg), Stroke app (resources util.)
- Remote patient monitoring (e.g. producer driven)
  - arrhythmias
- First experience with patient decision AI support
- ePrescription (after TelEConsultation)
  - part of centralized national eHealth system

Opportunities

- Legislation?
- Reimbursement?
- eInformed consent?
- Registration?
- Regulation?
- IT infrastructure supp.
- Safety of data storage, transfer?
- Fragmentation?
- Highest authority?
Future of telemedicine in the EU

• increased mobility of EU citizens
  • cross border (consolidation of EU health care system?)
• mHealth apps

• patient “big” data collection and analytics
• security enhance., interoperab., fragmentation?

• include, invest (fairly, regulation), innovate
  • leaving no one behind
• digital standards, standard procedures
• authorities and public “cultivation”, regulation