Telehealth Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Tamil Nadu Chapter of Telemedicine Society of India

What is New?

This issue covers the highlights of the annual conference of TSI - TELEMEDICON 2021 that happened in Hybrid mode at Lucknow. Most registrations were for the online mode of the meeting.

The annual general body meeting and the elections too took place virtually. The new office bearers of TSI are as follows –

President - Prof. Prasanta Kumar Pradhan

Immediate Past President - Colonel (Dr) Ashvini Goel (Retd)

President Elect - Dr. Meenu Singh

Vice President - Dr. R. Kim

Chief Operating Officer - Mr. B.S Bedi

Hon. Secretary - Dr. Murthy Remilla. L.N

Jt. Secretary - Ms. Bagmishika Puhan

Treasurer - Mr. Repu Daman

Executive Members
Dr. K. Sudarshan
Dr. Umashankar
Dr. Uma Nambiar
Dr. Suchitra Mankar
Ms. Indiritta Singh D'Mello
Dr. Sunil Shroff
Dr. Krishnakumar

Thank You
Dr. Sunil Shroff
Chief Editor
President - TN Chapter - TSI

Lucknow Welcomes You

17th International Conference of Telemedicine Society of India

Telemedicon 2021

12-14 November

Theme: Telehealth Trends in 21st Century

Venue: School of Telemedicine and Biomedical Informatics, SGPGIMS, Lucknow

School of Telemedicine & Biomedical Informatics, SGPGIMS, Lucknow hosted the 17th International Conference of Telemedicine Society of India from **12th Nov. to 14th Nov. 2021**. It was an annual conference of the Telemedicine Society of India being held every year in different parts of the country to create awareness, sharing new experiences and learning from each other in the field of telemedicine and digital health.

First Day i.e. 12th Nov. 2021, the event started at 9.00 AM with welcome note of the Prof S.K. Mishra, Chairman, Local Organizing Committee, TELEMEDICON2021. First session was devoted only for beginners of Telemedicine where Prof. B.N. Mohanty, Prof. Jayant Mukhopadhya, IIT, Kharagpur, Prof. Meenu Singh, PGIMER, Chandigarh and other 46 National speaker, 20 Chairs & panelist shared their experiences in the field of Telemedicine & digital health and demonstrated how this technology can help for delivering health care in rural parts of India. Mr. Baastian Quast, ITU, Geneva, delivered talk on ITU-WHO Focus Group: Benchmarking AI and Health Solutions as a special Invited speaker. Workshops on Telemedicine & Digital Health Policy & Strategy and Legal & Regulatory Issues, & Telemedicine Practice Guidelines conducted in IV sessions. Following were participated from India and abroad during panel discussion; Prof. J.A. Jayl, Professor of Surgery., National President, Indian Medical Association, Dr. Achal Gulati, Director Principal & Director Professor of ENT in Dr Baba Saheb Ambedkar Medical College & Hospital, New Delhi, Dr. Balaji Ramachandran, Digital Health Transformation Expert, Bangalore, Mr. Anay Shukla, Founder Editor, Arogyalegal, Mumbai. A panel discussion on developing guidelines of Telecare for chronic diseases like diabetes, cancer, neurological disease was considered by ICMR, National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research, Bengaluru with the help of country wide experts. For the first time, IIT Bombay, which had just established Koita Centre for Digital Health (KCDH), participated in National telemedicine conference to conduct a workshop on future Health technologies with the collaboration of National Medical Commission experts, IMA and NGOs. Telemedicine Society senior members addressed legal ethical policies issues relating the Telemedicine and digital health and carried out a workshop.

A total of 700+ registered delegates from Medical Institutions, IITs, Dental Colleges, Technical Universities were participated in the first days of conference in virtual as well physical mode. The scientific programme ended at 8.00 PM.

Second Day i.e. 13th Nov. 2021, the event started at 8.00 AM with three parallel Hall under COVID award sessions which specially designed for the speakers to present their work done during the COVID time. Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Director, IIT, Kanpur delivered Key note Lecture on Wireless Health : Promising trends for equitable access to Healthcare. Dr. Pramod Gaur from USA delivered talk on the re-positioning in Post COVID Health, Prof. D.R. Sahu, Lucknow covered the socio-Technological Dilemma of Future Tele-Health. Ms. Surabhi Joshi from WHO, Geneva, Prof. Isao Nakajima, Japan delivered speech on Digital Technologies in Infectious disease Management particularly for Avian Influenza. Mr. Frank Lievens from Belgium, Prof. Thais Russomano from Brazil, Katarina Hradska from Ostrava Czech Republic shared the experience on the Global Telemedicine & Digital Health. Apart from International, 22 National speakers and 24 abstract presentations were conducted throughout the day.

Inauguration ceremony conducted at the evening where Prof. R.K. Dhiman,Director,SGPGIMS inaugurated the conference as Chief Guest and Prof. Arvind Rajvanshi, Executive Director, AIIMS, Raibareli delivered keynote address. Prof. S.K. Mishra, Chairman, organizing Committee welcome the dignitaries and Prof. P.K. Pradhan, Organizing Secretary delivered the vote of thanks. A total of 600+ delegates from Medical Institutions, IITs, Dental Colleges, Technical Universities were participated in the first days conference in virtual as well physical mode.The Programme ended at 7.00 PM. Subsequently,it was followed with a cultural programme of thematic Kathak dance on ramayan and dinner at hobby center of SGPGIMS,Lucknow.

Third & last day i.e. 14th Nov. 2021, the event again started at 8.00 AM with three parallel Hall under COVID award session which specially designed for the speakers to present their work done during the COVID time. Dr. Gulshan Rai, Former National Cyber Security Coordinator, Govt. of India delivered Key note Lecture on Need of Cyber Security in Health Sector. Dr. Maurice Mars, South Africa, Dr. Luiz Messina, Brazil and Prof. Saroj Mishra from India covered the

area of Health 4.0, a vision for Smart Futuristic Healthcare in the symposium session. Prof. R.K. Dhiman, Director, SGPGI delivered the talk on Chronic Disease Telecare, personal perspective with remote monitoring and management of Hepatitis C, Prof. Rakesh Aggarwal, Director, JIPMER, Puducherry emphasize on Digital Health Technologies for the management of public Health Disaster,Prof P K Pradhan shared his experience of telefollow up in thyroid cancer: more than decade long experience and Prof.Sanjay Behari shared his experience of e-CCS in SGPGIMS. Apart from International, 62 National speakers, 36 Moderators and 47 abstract presentation were conducted throughout the day.

Valedictory function conducted at the evening where Prof. Aneesh Srivastava, Dean, SGPGIMS chaired the function though could not attend the function due to medical emergency. Prof. S.K. Mishra, Chairman, organizing Committee welcome the President Col Dr. Aswani Goel, Secretary, Dr. RLN Murthy and other dignitaries. President handed over the Presidential Medallion to President Elect Prof. P.K. Pradhan virtually and Prof. P.K. Pradhan, Organizing Secretary delivered the vote of thanks.

Brief on Conference.

1. **Participants:** A total of 700+ delegates from Medical Institutions, IITs, Dental Colleges, Technical Universities were participated in the first days conference virtual as well physical.
2. **Invited Speakers/Chairs/Moderators and presenter;**
   The Scientific Programme consists of 02 Key Note Lectures from Director, IIT Kanpur and Ex Cyber Security Chief, Govt. of India, 15 International Invited Lectures, 10 Symposia, Three Panels and 09 free paper sessions having 54 slots for oral presentations. Besides there are three Poster Presentation Sessions covering 18 posters and 12 Industry presentations highlighting technical solutions for telemedicine & digital health. **A total 234 speaker/chairs/panelist** taken part in this international conference. Best Oral and Poster presentations award and CME Points for all attendees is provided as per U.P. Medical Council regulations. Two Free paper sessions dedicated COVID-19 on Tele-care and Tele-education practices undertaken during COVID-19 Pandemic.
3. **Industry Participation:** A total of 15 industry participated and extend their active support for this event.
4. **Knowledge partner Institution:** Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, Koita Centre for Digital Health (KCDH), Indian Institute of Technology(IIT), Bombay and Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), New Delhi supported this conference as knowledge partner.

www.telemedicon2021.com

Documentation for Teleconsultations

Anay Shukla
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Associate, Arogya Legal - Health Laws Specialist Law Firm

The legal significance of well-maintained medical records cannot be emphasized enough. Especially for telemedicine where the jurisprudence is still in its primitive stages, it is of utmost important for doctors to maintain detailed records of their teleconsultations.

The Telemedicine Practice Guidelines 2020 specify the minimum information that must be documented in a patient's telemedicine records. In this article, we outline the mandatory information that should be recorded, as well as additional best practices to ensure maximum legal protection.

Patient's Location

It is advisable to record where the patient is located at the time of consultation. In the event that the patient is situated in a place where the doctor is not licensed to practice, he/she should refrain from continuing with the consultation, and should advice the patient to seek medical advice from a licensed professional. If the patient is a regular patient of the doctor who is temporarily located outside of the area where the doctor is licensed, the doctor may, if he deems necessary, proceed with the consultation, and should note down the peculiarity of the situation in the patient's records.

Patients Consent

Explicit consent must be sought from the patient if the consultation is being initiated by anyone other than the patient (such as a relative, friend, another doctor or a health worker). The doctor may elect to have the patient state his/her consent during the consultation or send their consent via email, text message or an audio/video recording.

If the patient is a minor or mentally incapacitated, a guardian or caregiver may consent on their behalf. The identity of such person should be ascertained and recorded along with the consent.

If the doctor wishes to record the sessions, explicit written consent must be sought from the patient for recording and storing the session.

Patient information

If the doctor requests any identity or age proof in the course of the consultation, details of the same should be noted. The doctor must maintain records of the patient's case history, doctor's notes, investigation reports, images, etc that they rely upon to arrive at a diagnosis or treatment plan.

If the patient shares information about pulse, blood oxygenation, blood pressure, blood sugar, etc which they/their caregivers have recorded, it is advisable to record what device was used for measuring the levels.

Logs

The doctor should record how the consultation was carried out, and maintain the logs of the same for future reference.

During the course of the consultation, if the doctor deems that it is necessary to change to another mode of consultation (from text/audio to video or in-person), the reasons for same should be recorded. If the patient refuses, the doctor should be sure to capture the same in their records.

Prescriptions

The doctor may either issue a signed paper-prescription and share a photograph or scanned copy of the same, or issue an e-prescription. A recommended format has been annexed to the Telemedicine Practice Guidelines. The doctor must maintain copies of all prescriptions that are issued as he/she would for in-person consultations.

Comprehensive Records

Note that if the teleconsultation is taking place across various mediums (for example, the initial discussion over voice call, prescription for pathology tests issued over text message, results shared via email, etc), the doctor should ensure that copies of all communications and records are stored in a common folder, along with any records from in-person consultations, so that the records for the patient are complete and easily accessible.

The background to the Telemedicine Practice Guidelines 2020 specifies that one of the key advantages to telemedicine is a higher likelihood of maintenance of records and written documentation. Thus, while it may seem cumbersome to maintain detailed records of telemedicine consultations, the law expects meticulous documentation.

Promoting Telemedicine in Tamil Nadu

To promote Telemedicine, a hybrid program, themed "Telemedicine – the Untapped Potential" was organized by the Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) – TN Chapter, at The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University in Guindy, Chennai on November 19, 2021. This event was supported by TeleOphthalmology Society of India (TOSI) and Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association (TNOA).

The online conference commenced with Dr. K. Selvakumar introducing the event and welcoming everyone. This was followed by brief lectures on History and Definition of Telemedicine by Prof. Dr. K Ganapathy; Modes of Communication, Bandwidth by Dr. S Dheeraj Krishnaa; and Mobile Health by Dr. Sheila John.

Next, Dr. Sunil Shroff walked the audience through Telemedicine Practice and Guidelines from Government of India in detail, to help them easily understand the subject, and a lecture on Producing a "Wow" effect – Using Telemedicine by Prof. Dr. K Ganapathy followed.

The guest of honour for the occasion was Dr. J Radhakrishnan IAS - Health Secretary of Tamil Nadu. The formal welcome address was delivered by Dr. Sunil Shroff, President - TSI TN Chapter and Dr. Sudha Seshayyan - Vice Chancellor, The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University delivered the inaugural address. Dr. J Radhakrishnan IAS spoke in brief about the future of Telemedicine and highlighted its effectiveness during the pandemic. Special addresses by Dr. Mohan Rajan and Padmashri Dr. S Natarajan were followed by vote of thanks by Dr T Senthil.

After a short break, Dr. Ikramullah moderated a Panel Discussion on Specialty Practice in Telemedicine, featuring the following TSI members as speakers:

- Dr. Senthil
- Dr. Sheila John
- Dr. Vidya Ramkumar
- Dr. Lovelena Munawar and
- Dr. Kim R

Dr. Sunil Shroff briefed about the courses in Telemedicine that are going to be offered in the near future. Dr. Masood Ikram chaired a session on How to Set up Telemedicine in your Practice.
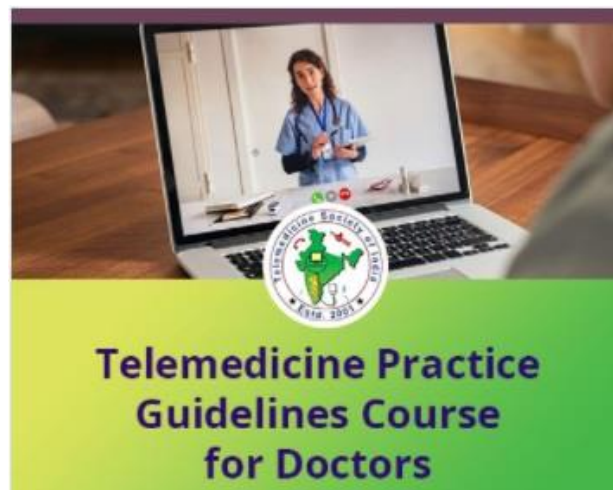Dr. Natarajan presented his key note address on "Teleophthalmology for Blind-Free Tamil Nadu 2025." A second panel discussion on Promoting Telemedicine in Tamil Nadu was moderated by Dr. Natarajan and the speakers were:

- Dr. Kim R
- Dr. Ganapathy
- Dr. Prabhu Rajagopal and
- Dr. Selva Kumar

The final segment featured participant discussions and the concluding remarks were delivered by Mr. D. Satheesh Kumar.

Name	Affiliation
Dr. K. Selvakumar	Prof and Head Neurosurgery, SRMC and RI (Retd) Past President Telemedicine Society of India
Dr. K. Ganapathy	Director Apollo Telemedicine Networking Foundation Hon Distinguished Professor The TN Dr MGR Medical University
Dr. S Dheeraj Krishnaa	Head Telemedicine - Star Health Insurance
Dr. Sheila John	Head Teleophthalmology Sankara Nethralaya

Dr. Sunil Shroff	President TSI TN Chapter Senior Consultant Urologist & Transplant Surgeon Madras Medical Mission Hospital, Chennai, India
Dr. Mohan Rajan	President TNOA
Padmashri Dr. S Natarajan	Chief Clinical Services Aditya Jyot Eye Hospital Mumbai Chief Vitreo Retinal Services Dr Agarwal's Group of Eye Hospitals Visiting Emeritus Professor of Ophthalmology, The TN MGR Medical University President Teleophthalmology Society of India
Dr. T. Senthil	Treasurer TSI TN Chapter
Dr. Ikramullah	Vice President TSI TN Chapter
Dr. Masood Ikram	MD – Mellon AI

Telemedicine Practice Guidelines - A Foundation Course for RMPs by TSI

To know more about the Telemedicine Foundation Course click on the link below:

https://tsi.org.in/courses/

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India

First step towards safer and efficient health records

The world is undergoing a tremendous digital transformation, much accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, it contemplates providing a seamless flow of information through a digital healthcare infrastructure….**Read More**

Using Artificial Intelligence to Diagnose Blood Diseases

Artificial intelligence has the potential to boost the method of diagnosing blood diseases using optical microscopes, according to a finding in the journal Blood. Every day, cytologists around the world use optical microscopes to analyze and classify blood cells….**Read More**

International

New Robotic Device Improves Health Rehabilitation

A robotic device is developed by Inrobics that provides an innovative motor and cognitive rehabilitation service that can be used at health centers as well as at home. The entrepreneurial team has developed a platform made up of four elements….**Read More**

Brain Diseases can be Detected by Eye Movements

Using artificial intelligence (AI) to develop an eye tracker that analyzes images from MRI brain scans to recognize patterns that are shared across people is developed by scientists….**Read More**

TN - TSI invites all the TSI Chapters and Members to submit information on their upcoming Webinar or Events (50 words), News related to Telemedicine (200 words) or short articles (500 words) for the monthly e-newsletter.

Guidelines for submission to TN TSI Newsletter-

1. Report can be from 500 to 600 words

2. Report Should be relevant to Telemedicine or Medical Informatics

3. No promotion of self or any product

4. Avoid plagiarism

5. All references should be included

6. Provide any attributions

7. Visuals are welcome including video links

8. Send full authors name, degrees, affiliations along with a passport sized photograph of good resolution. If multiple authors only main author photo to be sent.

Submission may be sent to - tsigrouptn@gmail.com
Editors reserve the rights for accepting and publishing any submitted material.

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Editors - Dr. Senthil Tamilarasan & Dr. Sheila John
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Telemedicine Society of India

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