# HOSPITAL BASED PLATFORM FOR TELECONSULTATIONS AND SKIN CANCER SCREENING

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## Introduction

The diagnostic reliability of teledermatology (TD) for non-pigmented lesions has been shown to be comparable with conventional face-to-face consultations[1].
Teleconsultations (TCs) can be used for diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up of dermatological patients and can reduce waiting time, unnecessary referrals to dermatologists and expanses[2–4].
As rates of skin cancers increase, there is greater pressure on the dermatology workforce in both rural and urban areas [5].

## Objectives

To determine the frequency of patients and skin diseases that Family doctor refers to dermatologist using teleconsultations via Hospital based platform.

## Materials & Methods

We performed a prospective cross-sectional study of store-and-forward consults submitted between family doctors (n=10) and one experienced dermatologists using digital dermatoscope Optomed Oy (Ltd.) and Hospital based informative platform for sending dermatoscopic images (Fig 1) and medical records about patients sex, age, localization of suspicious skin lesions, clinical diagnosis and recommendations regarding treatment. The study was performed from 11th November 2017 until 6th January 2018.


Fig. 1. (A) Hospital based informative platform website; (B) Digital dermatoscope Optomed Oy (Ltd.); (C) Dermoscopic image of seborrheic keratosis.

## Results (1)

In total 463 dermatoscopic images of suspicious skin lesions were analysed of 112 patients (71 women and 41 men, mean age 55.4 years). After dermatologists consultation the following clinical diagnosis were confirmed (chart 1):

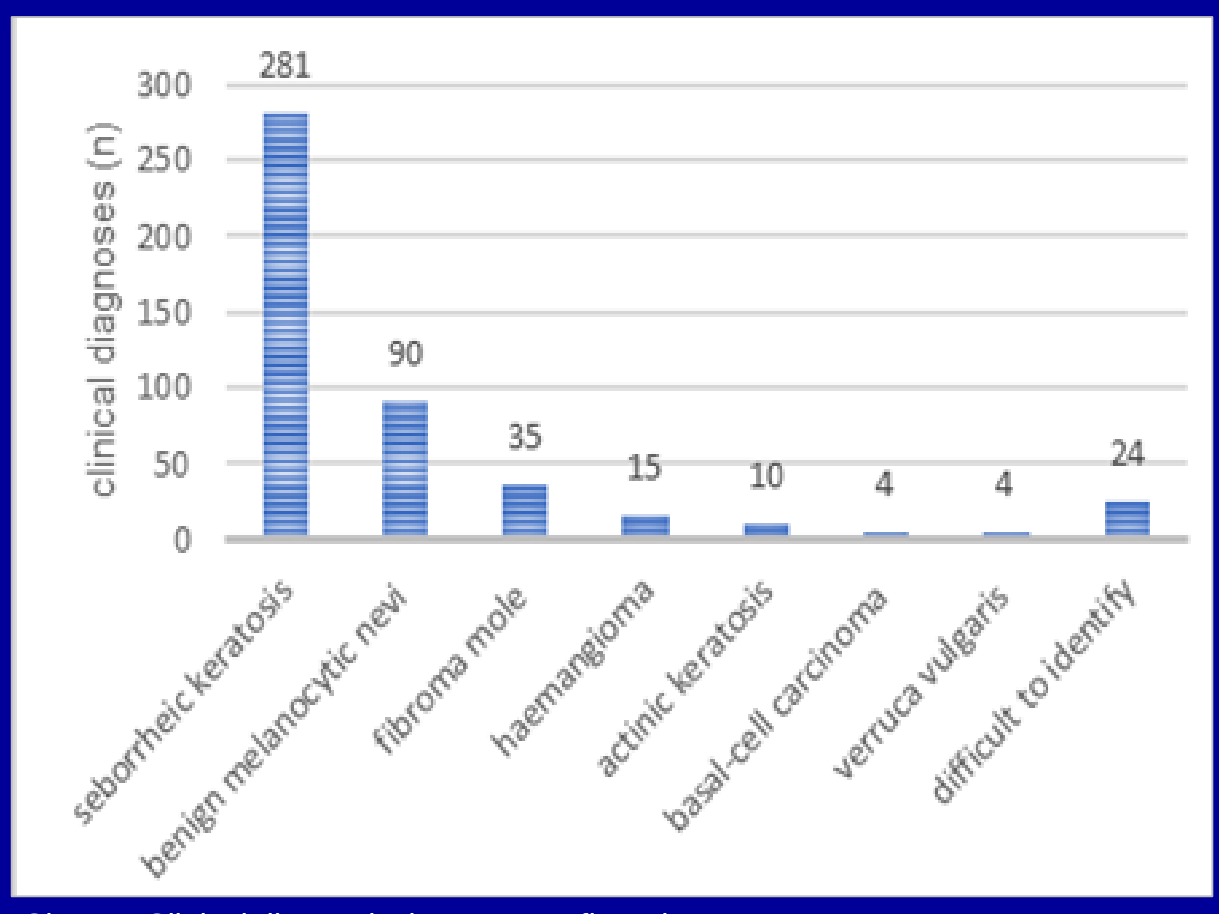


Chart 1. Clinical diagnosis that was confirmed.

## Results (2)

The mean time to receive the expert response was 7 (4.1) days. The necessity for a further dermatologist visit were concluded for 35 patients (31.3%).

## Conclusion

In routinely practice of family doctors the most frequent necessity for consultation of dermatologists are benign skin lesions, especially seborrheic keratosis. Appropriate development of suitable imaging technologies with artificial intelligence algorithms categorizing images of skin lesions could help to improve management of skin cancer in the near future.

## References

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