

Introduction to the Minitrack: Telemedicine

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Telemedicine is a technological innovation that has increasingly interested IS researchers and practitioners. An emerging area largely driven by technologies and their clinical applications, telemedicine is still searching for coherent and directing frameworks to advance management practices and research. Findings and discussions offered by the papers accepted by this year's minitrack are interesting and warrant continued research. A total of seven papers have been accepted, providing different but complementary perspectives to telemedicine research and management.

The first paper by LeRouge et al. examines important quality attributes in telemedicine video conferencing systems. The second paper by Naegele-Jackson investigates the effects of compression and network

impairments on picture quality in video transmissions. The third paper by Hu et al. examines the telemedicine development in Taiwan and discusses their implications for program management. The fourth paper by Linderoth discusses important issues in telemedicine implementation and evaluation. The next paper by Calabretto et al. investigates an Internet Medicine Cabinet-based communication between patients and community pharmacists. The sixth paper by Scheidemman-Miller et al. reports exciting results from a two-year pilot study of the telemedicine-enabled speech therapy services provided to children located in rural Oklahoma. Last but not least, Geisler investigates indexing transition indicators of medical technology by comparing the process and co-variation methodologies.