

## Telehealth Adoption: The Knowledge And Attitudes Of Ghanaians Toward Telemedicine

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**Background:** Telemedicine has become a preferred option in delivering healthcare considering the increase in population and the emergence of infectious diseases. Technology has provided a means of remotely attending to a large number of patients. In the African health sector, telemedicine is yet to be largely utilized and has become imperative to investigate the knowledge and attitudes of the people who are to utilize it. This study, therefore, assessed the knowledge and attitude of Ghanaians toward telemedicine adoption in Ghana.

**Materials and Methods:** A self-designed questionnaire after an extensive literature review was used as a tool for data collection. By convenience sampling, 315 persons participated in this study. The data collected were summarised and analyzed using Excel 2019.

**Results:** More than half (53.02%) of the participants had used telemedicine before and 77.07% contributed that the concept of telemedicine wasn't vague. 75.56% of the participants were willing to pay for telemedicine applications. More than half (52.38%) strongly agreed that telemedicine eliminates waiting time and 66.35% strongly agreed that it saves travelling time. 26.98% were neutral on telemedicine risking their privacy and 28.25% strongly agreed that telemedicine may expose their medical records to unauthorized persons.

**Conclusions:** The findings of this study indicated that participants had adequate knowledge and a positive attitude toward telemedicine adoption. They knew the benefits of telemedicine such as being faster than hospital visits, time-saving and economical. They were however sceptical about whether telemedicine would be able to protect their privacy and also their medical records from unauthorized persons.

**Biography:** Maame Fosua Afrifa-Minka completed her MBA in Healthcare Management as a gold medalist at 29 years from Sanskriti University and currently pursuing PhD in Healthcare Management from the same university. She is a licensed diagnostic radiographer and has practised in reputable hospitals in Ghana which is her country of origin.

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