

Patients' perspectives on telemedicine: is it a future concept for bariatric programs?

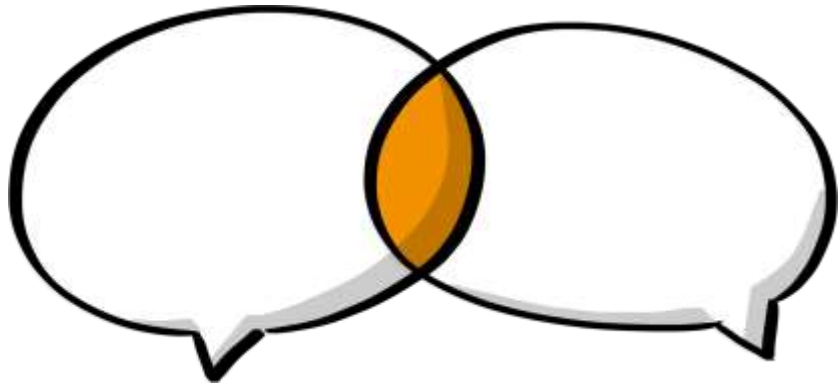
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XXVI IFSO WORLD CONGRESS NAPOLI 2023

31.08.2023



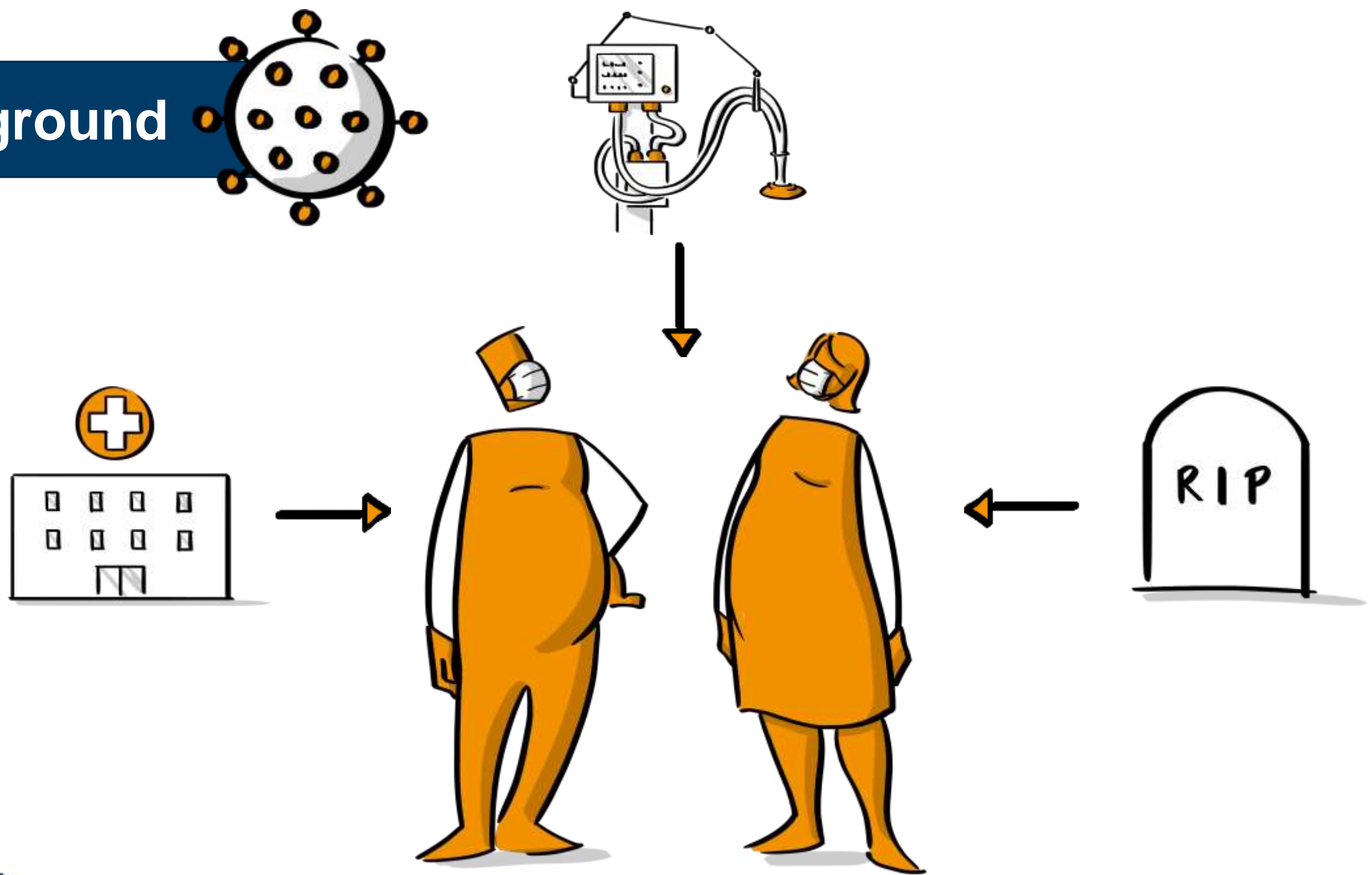
Telemedicine



Visuals by Workvisual Institute

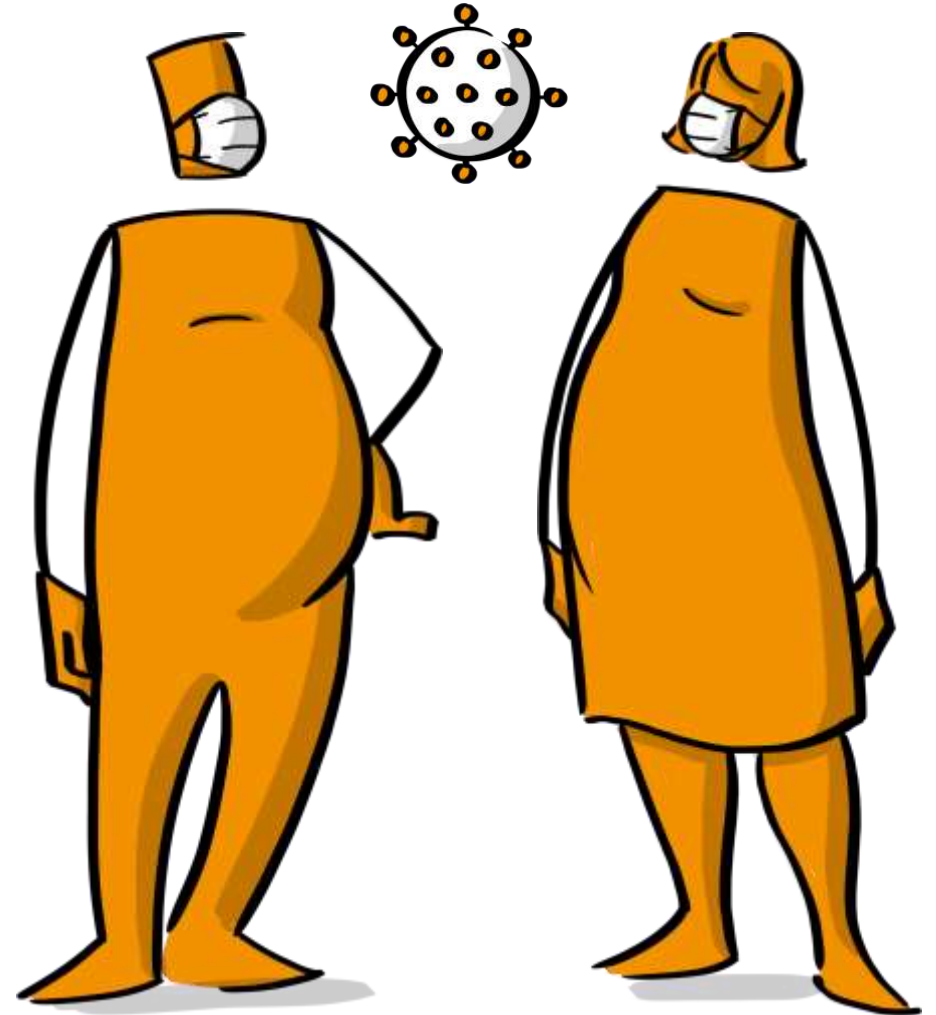
- enables patients to **virtually consult healthcare professionals**
- video calls, phone calls, or secure messaging platforms **without in-person visits**

Background

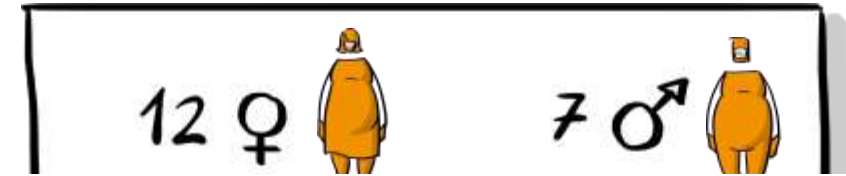


Why telemedicine in bariatric surgery?

- Convenience and Reduced Travel
- Accessibility
- Regular Monitoring and Continuity of Care
- Privacy and Comfort
- Support for Mental Health
- Flexible Scheduling
- Reduced Exposure to Infections (COVID)



Study Design and Setting





healthcare



Article

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Patients from a Bariatric Program: A Qualitative Analysis of Their Perceptions of Health and Well-Being

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Results

- 12 patients (63.16%) preferred telecommunication
- 4 (21.05%) indecisive, hybrid approach
- 3 (15.79%) preferred face-to-face consultations

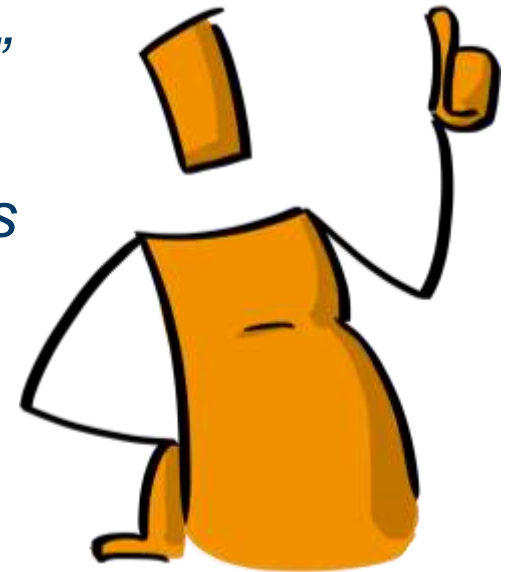


Positive experiences

“I had a very good experience. I was always given good advice on the phone, and I got help. From then on, we did nearly all meetings by phone. This saved me the trip and a lot of time (P7).”

“In person, it was often very difficult because I work all day and I had the opportunity to call by phone. It saved me a lot of time ... (P19).”

“... It's also easier to communicate, if you don't have to wait months for the next appointment (P3).”



Further perceptions



“Sometimes I had the feeling that the interpersonal aspect was missing (P14)”.

“... quite strange, to openly present your life to someone you don't know via video. That bothered me a lot at the beginning. But I couldn't help it, it had to be that way (P11)”.

“Honestly, I'd rather have the consultations in person and be examined properly. Bariatric surgery is not a small matter that should be dismissed so easily. I have taken on a major procedure and want to be examined properly afterwards (P10).”

Key Takeaways

➤ Telemedicine:

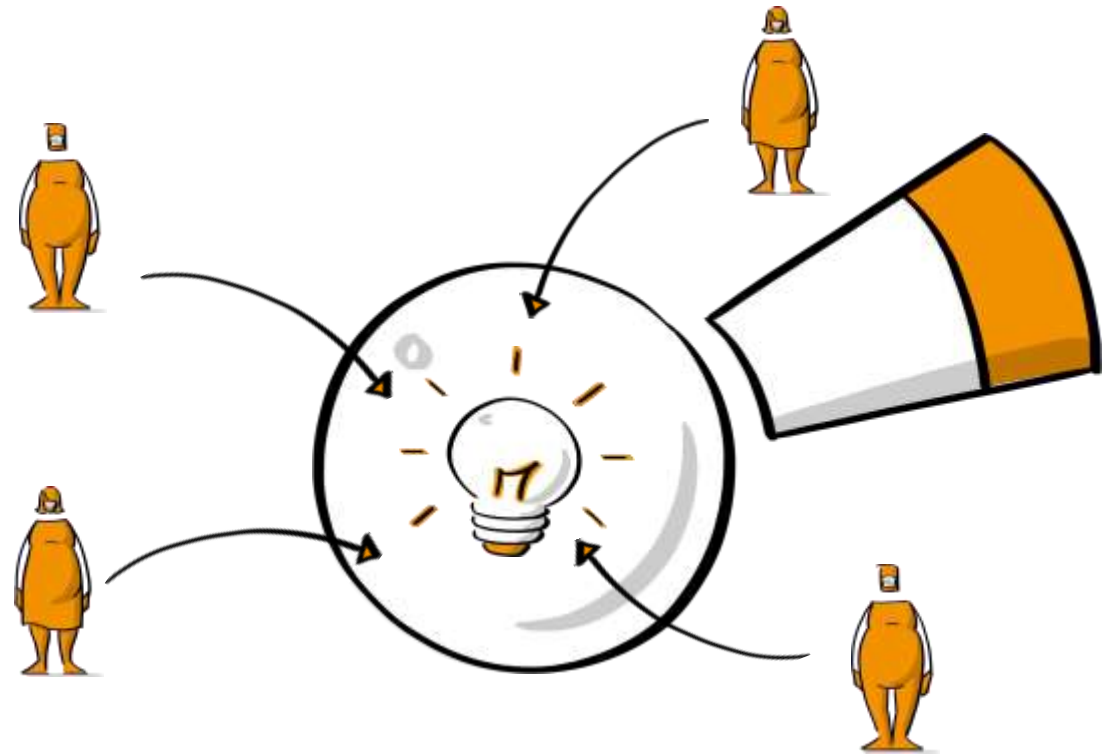
- supports post-surgery follow-ups
- reduces travel needs
- fair access to care

➤ Challenges:

- Technical issues, language barriers, and privacy

➤ Mixed satisfaction and diverse preferences

➤ Effective implementation needed and combining in-person and virtual care



Thank you!


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In besten Händen.



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