

10.14 Experiences and Perceptions of Telemedicine in Patients Living with Advanced COPD.

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Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a chronic, progressive respiratory condition. It results in increasingly debilitating shortness of breath, which impacts greatly on the daily lives of patients in advanced stages of this life-limiting illness. Telemedicine is increasingly deployed to address significant challenges, including practicalities of attending face-to-face consultations, disease progression and functional decline. There is limited published research to date exploring COPD patients' experiences of telemedicine as a remote healthcare approach. This qualitative evidence synthesis (QES) explored experiences and perceptions of telemedicine for patients living with advanced COPD. Systematic literature search of twelve electronic databases was undertaken. Independent screening was undertaken by two authors. Quality appraisal was conducted using Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP). Framework synthesis was applied using the COM B model. Qualitative findings were synthesized using Thomas and Harden's thematic synthesis method. GRADE-CERQual assessed confidence in review findings.

Eight studies were selected for synthesis. Four analytical themes were generated (1) Ownership and Control (2) Virtual Relationships/Being Heard (3) Telemedicine: Benefit versus Burden (4) Trust in Virtual Health Services. The lived experience of COPD patients and their engagement with telemedicine may serve to inform policymakers in the delivery of remote healthcare services. Further research on patient and healthcare professionals' views on using telemedicine in the palliative stage of COPD is valuable.

Conflict of Interest: None to declare

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