

Correct use of telemedicine in gastroenterology, hepatology, and endoscopy during and after the COVID-19 pandemic: Recommendations from the Italian association of hospital gastroenterologists and endoscopists (AIGO)

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Standards and Guidelines

Endoscopy

Hepatobiliary

IBD

Primary Care

Small Intestine & Nutrition

Stomach & H. Pylori

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AIGO provides recommendations on the appropriate use of telemedicine for gastroenterological patients in Italy, addressing continuity of care during health emergencies and routine practice.

KEY POINTS

- The document offers detailed guidance on the correct and optimal use of digital media to ensure continuity of care for gastroenterological patients in everyday clinical practice, health emergencies, and when patients cannot reach the hospital.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, telemedicine allowed many patients with chronic diseases to access remote care worldwide and proved ideal for non-urgent routine follow-ups while minimizing virus transmission risks.
- The AIGO recommendations provide Italian gastroenterologists with tools to use telemedicine appropriately and in compliance with current legislation, including proper procedures for conducting televisits via video conferencing.
- Telemedicine may contribute to future healthcare system reorganization through innovative care models focused on citizens and facilitating access to services throughout Italy.
- The recommendations address gastroenterological conditions including inflammatory bowel diseases, celiac disease, and hepatological and endoscopic care.

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