Locating Evidence

A PubMed search for the clinical question:

How do telemedicine technologies compare with conventional face-to-face consultations for speech therapy in children?

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Library Research Guide for Communicative Sciences and Disorders
http://nyu.libguides.com/speech
Write out your clinical question.

For questions of therapy/intervention, use the PICO formula to identify the following elements in your question:

- **Patient/Problem:**
- **Intervention:**
- **Comparison:**
- **Outcome:**
Using the **PICO** formula for this question:

*How do telemedicine technologies compare with conventional face-to-face consultations for speech therapy in children?*

you can identify the following elements:

- **Patient/Problem:**
  - children needing speech therapy

- **Intervention:**
  - telemedicine

- **Comparison:**
  - conventional therapy, face-to-face

- **Outcome:**
  - improved outcomes; patient satisfaction; patient compliance
Using the **PICO** formula for this question:

*How do telemedicine technologies compare with conventional face-to-face consultations for speech therapy in children?*

you can identify the following elements:

- **Patient/Problem**: Children needing speech therapy
- **Intervention**: telemedicine
- **Comparison**: Conventional therapy, face-to-face
- **Outcome**: Improved outcomes; patient satisfaction; patient compliance

**TIP**: Consider **Patient/Problem** and **Intervention** first when planning your search strategy for database search terms. (Most likely, you will determine the **Comparison** and **Outcome** from the article abstracts and full text.)
Select a specialized database

When choosing a database to start your literature search, consider the topic. Is it more biomedical (e.g., speech loss related to CNS tumors)? Is it focused on the psychosocial aspects of communication disorders? (e.g., the experience, cognitive, and social aspects of speech loss)?

The literature of Communication Sciences and Disorders is primarily indexed in MEDLINE, Web of Science, and PsycINFO, linked in the box below. See also the categories for:

- Rehabilitation
- Social Sciences, Public Health, History Of Medicine
- Systematic Reviews, Pre-Synthesized Evidence

Health Sciences Databases

Recommended

- PubMed (Medline)
- MEDLINE via Ovid
- CINAHL Plus with Full Text (EBSCO)
- Web of Science Core Collection
- EMBASE: Excerpta Medica (Ovid)
- SCOPUS
- ProQuest Central
- PsycINFO (Ovid)
For this question we will start with **Medline/PubMed**

Or, use the direct link:
[http://arch.library.nyu.edu/databases/proxy/NYU00068](http://arch.library.nyu.edu/databases/proxy/NYU00068)

**PubMed (Medline)**

Widely recognized as the premier source for bibliographic and abstract coverage of biomedical literature. Encom information from Index Medicus, Index to Dental Literature, and International Nursing Index, as well as other sources in the areas of allied health, physical therapy, health education, biological and physical sciences, humanities and information science as they relate to medicine and health care, communication disorders, population biology, an reproductive biology. More than 16 million records from more than 5200 journals are indexed. PubMed is the freely available version of MEDLINE.
Search Steps Schematically...

Speech therapy

AND

telemedicine
AND narrows the search
Once you have conducted your initial search, filter results with Limits:

- By article type
- By age group
- By publication date
- More...
“Show additional filters” to add and select limits for Ages
telemedicine

therapy

Age group: child

AND narrows the search
Use OR to expand a set of search results:
(telehealth OR internet OR telemedicine)
Speech therapy AND (telehealth OR internet OR telemedicine) AND Age group: child
Being more flexible with search terms using OR increases results!
This sample citation
includes all the criteria requested in the search strategy:

Child
AND
Speech Therapy
AND
Telemedicine
Telerehabilitation for service delivery in speech-language pathology.

Theodoros DG.
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Abstract
Communication disorders in adults and children can have a significant effect on their quality of life and that of their families. Speech-language assessment and treatment services to such people. Challenges include facilitating appropriate management and treatment services to such people. Challenges include facilitating appropriate management and treatment services to such people. Challenges include facilitating appropriate management and treatment services to such people. Challenges include facilitating appropriate management and treatment services to such people. Challenges include facilitating appropriate management and treatment services to such people. Challenges include facilitating appropriate management
Telerehabilitation has the potential to deliver services in the home or local community setting, using interactive computer-based programs that have the capacity to optimize functional outcomes by facilitating generalization of treatment gains to the natural environment, and enable improvement for a long-term basis. A number of image-based telerehabilitation applications have been developed for the treatment of intelligrogenic speech and language disorders in children, laryngectomy and swallowing dysfunction. Further studies and professional education are needed if telerehabilitation is to become an integral part of the professional practice.

PMID: 18632993 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

Publication Types, MeSH Terms

Publication Types:
- Review

MeSH Terms:
- Adult
- Child
- Delivery of Health Care/organization & administration
- Humans
- Language Disorders/therapy*
- Language Therapy/organization & administration
- Speech Disorders/therapy*
- Speech Therapy/organization & administration
- Telemedicine/organization & administration*
For articles not available full text or hard copy in the libraries Bobcat catalog, click to order via Interlibrary Loan.
Locating the full text of articles...

• Look for a link from citation to “full text” or

• Direct link to Interlibrary loan:
  http://library.nyu.edu/services/ill.html
Evidence is hierarchical. Explore the resources linked to the pyramid at: http://tinyurl.com/nyupyramid
Limits: raising the level of evidence with filters

• In CINAHLPlus, use filters for Publication type: “research” OR “systematic review” or try the Clinical Queries

• In Medline/PubMed, use the filters to apply categorical limits, such as age groups, publication types, dates…

• Use Medline/PubMed “Clinical queries” or Medline/Ovid Additional Limits button to select from “clinical queries” Clinical queries include the ability to search for systematic reviews or limit to a clinical study category. More info at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/pubmed_subsets/sysreviews_strategy.html

• In PsycINFO, click on Limit a Search, limit by Methodology; try using Clinical Queries.

• Limiting strategies in selected databases: http://guides.nyu.edu/csdfilters
Getting more help:

- **Citing your sources, Avoiding Plagiarism in APA**
  http://guides.nyu.edu/citecsd

- **Library Research Guide for Communicative Sciences and Disorders**
  http://nyu.libguides.com/speech

- **Evidence Pyramid**
  http://guides.nyu.edu/content.php?pid=54623&sid=1009351