



# Organizational Changes In An Italian Pediatric Center: The Role Of Telemedicine

**S. Di Pippo\*, F. Morandi\*, F. Puggelli\*\***

\*Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome

\*\*Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria Meyer IRCCS, Florence

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# Introduction

The disruptive process of digitalization of the National Health Service increasingly requires professionals to familiarize themselves with **cutting-edge healthcare**.

The covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption process of **telemedicine services** (A. F., Amna; 2020). It has been recorded, in fact, that starting from 2019 in countries such as Italy, the United States, or India, **between 60% and 95% of the services that were previously provided in hospitals have been carried out from home thanks to the use of this tools** (M.A. Hincapié; 2020).

## 01

# Introduction



In the **paediatric field**, even before the advent of the covid-19 pandemic, telemedicine had already been used in various specialties.

In this regard, several studies have demonstrated the **efficiency** of this technology, defining it as **safe**, **economical**, and **advantageous for families** (J.B. Finkelstein, et al., 2020; KM McConnochie, et al., 2018).

02

## Aim of the study

This study aims to analyze **healthcare professionals' propensity to use telemedicine**, and the factors that influence it, in one of Italy's main pediatric centers.



## Methods – Context of the study

The study was conducted at the **Meyer Pediatric Hospital in Florence**, a nationally and internationally recognized center of excellence, accredited as an IRCCS for pediatrics. In recent years, the institution has embarked on a significant **digital transformation**, introducing the Electronic Health Record and incorporating telemedicine services into its care pathways.

04

## Results - Sample

N. Respondents: **51 healthcare professionals**



41 women



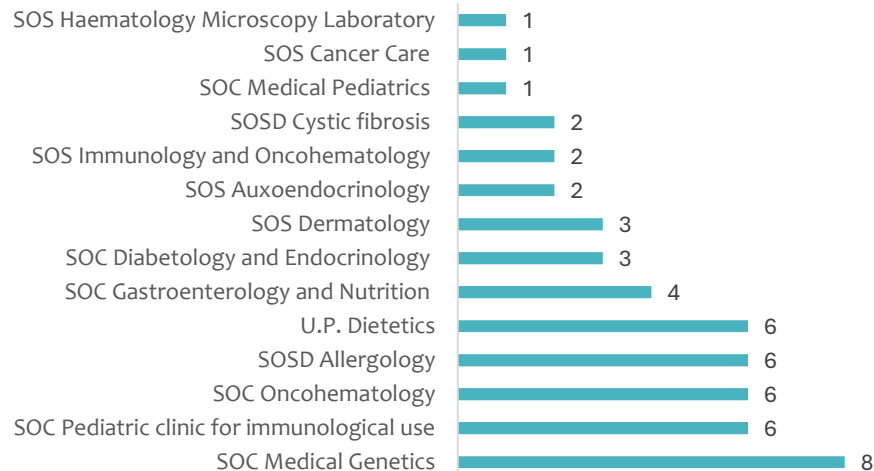
10 men

Average age of respondents: **40 years old**

Role:

- 43 Pediatricians
- 2 Nurses
- 6 Other healthcare professionals

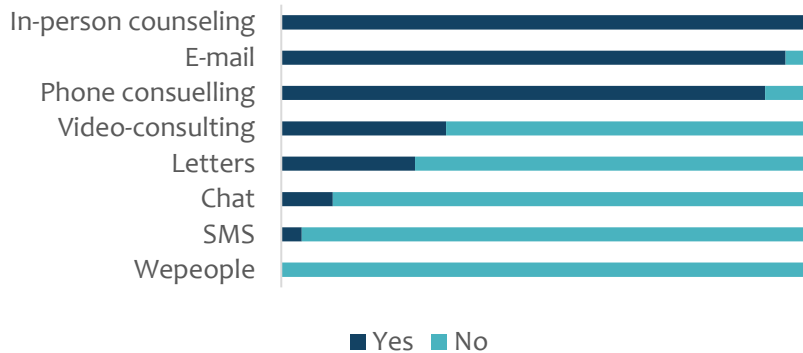
### Operational unit



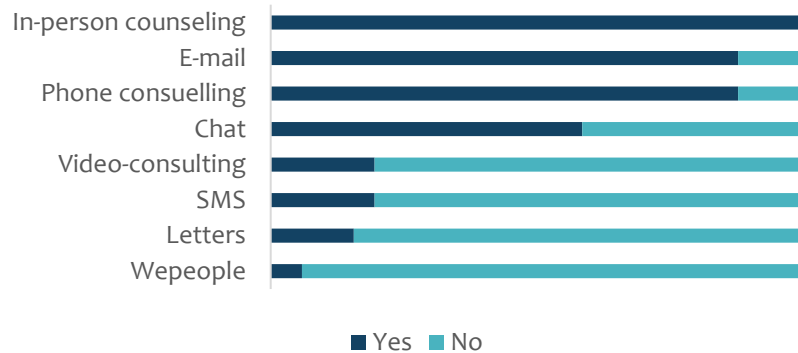
04

# Results

## Tool used for interaction with patients

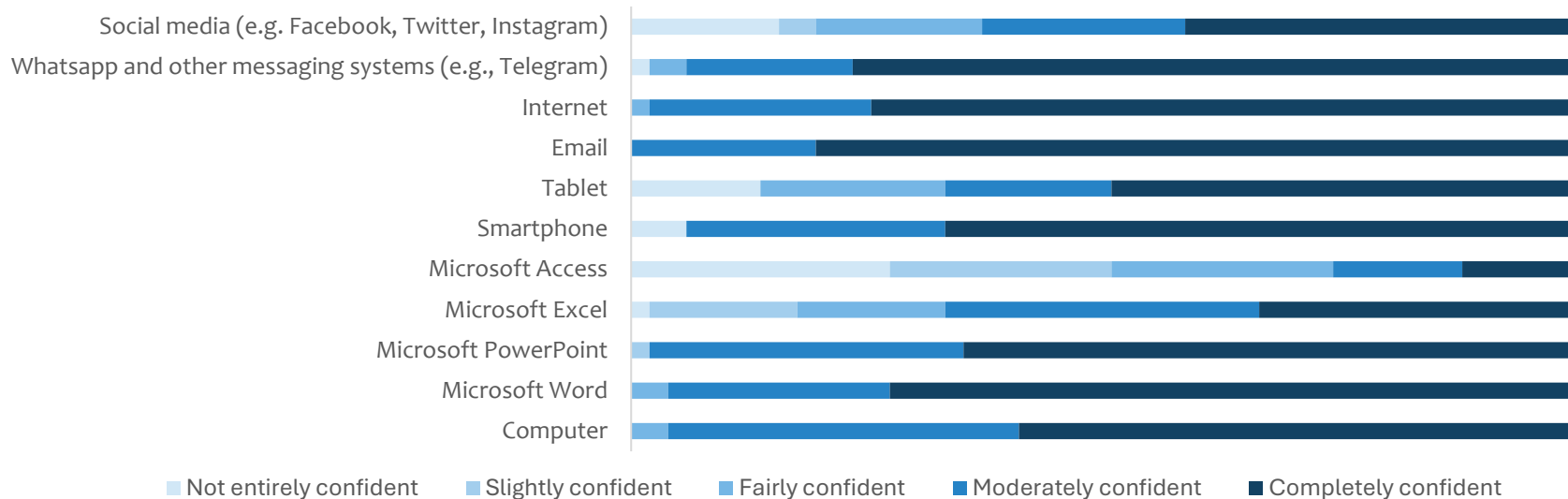


## Tool used for interaction with colleagues





## Confidence level in using digital tools



propensity	Odds ratio	Std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]	
perceived_benefit	1.608329	.647036	1.18	0.238	.7310272	3.538474
perceived_attitude	2.19255	.7912019	2.18	0.030	1.0809	4.447474
perceived_usefulness	1.763012	.470793	2.12	0.034	1.044603	2.975495
/cut1	3.07292	1.397738			.333405	5.812436
/cut2	4.926957	1.326318			2.327422	7.526492
/cut3	6.963473	1.427464			4.165695	9.761251
/cut4	8.70388	1.593432			5.58081	11.82695
/cut5	9.308394	1.654039			6.066537	12.55025
/cut6	10.03115	1.735832			6.628981	13.43332

- Perceived usefulness:** significantly associated with the propensity to use (OR = 1.76; p = 0.034)
- Perceived attitude:** shows a significant effect on propensity (OR = 2.19; p = 0.030)

# Conclusions

- ✓ The **propensity to use telemedicine** is significantly associated with **perceived usefulness** and **individual attitude**, highlighting the importance of subjective factors in the success of the digital transition.
- ✓ There is generally **good familiarity** with basic digital tools; **gaps remain in the use of more advanced software and clinical data management**.
- ✓ The **main limitations** of the study include the relatively **small sample size** and the **focus on a single healthcare facility**, which may affect the generalizability of the findings.

A cluster of colorful geometric shapes, including triangles and polygons in shades of pink, teal, and blue, arranged in a dynamic, abstract pattern.

# THANK YOU



**Sofia Di Pippo**

Phd student in Health Systems and Service Research, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

[sofia.dipippo@unicatt.it](mailto:sofia.dipippo@unicatt.it)