

# Primary care Electronic Referrals: Focus on Efficient Consultation using Telemedicine in Dermatology.

No registrations found.

<b>Ethical review</b>	Not applicable
<b>Status</b>	Recruitment stopped
<b>Health condition type</b>	-
<b>Study type</b>	Interventional

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON29163

### Source

NTR

### Brief title

PERFECT D

### Health condition

All skin conditions for which a general practitioner refers a patient to a dermatologist.

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** KSYOS Health Management Research BV

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**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** ZonMw

## Intervention

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Proportion of preventable referrals.

### Secondary outcome

1. Diagnostic accuracy;
2. Delay in treatment;
3. Patient satisfaction with care (PSQ III);
4. Learning effect GP's;
5. Costs.

## Study description

### Background summary

PERFECTD is a multi-centre randomised controlled trial where the general practitioners are randomised in two groups.

1. The intervention group of GPs uses a teledermatology online system to refer patients to the outpatient dermatologists. The dermatologist provides an online advice within 2 days how to treat the patient or perform additional investigations. The dermatologist can also propose an urgent live visit if necessary.
2. The control group of physicians refers dermatological patients without teledermatology, as usual.

All patients, from both intervention and control group are seen live by a dermatologist. A proportion of intervention group patients will be recovered/recovering due to the teledermatology treatment suggestions which could mean that face-to-face consultation with a dermatologist might have been prevented (primary outcome measure: proportion of preventable referrals).

Other outcome measures are: diagnostic accuracy, learning effect GP's, delay in treatment, patient satisfaction.

In January 2004 the first health care region started with PerfectD with 56 GPs in 14 practices. A second region was included in December 2004 with 51 GPs.

3. The inclusion of the patients will be completed at the end of 2005.  
In 2004 PERFECTD has been extended by a subproject PERFECT D Costs.

This project is set up to investigate whether a decrease in outpatient referrals due to teledermatology will also result in cost reduction for the society.

The study is granted by ZonMw as part of Health care Efficiency Research Programme (DoelmatigheidsOnderzoek).

### **Study objective**

Teledermatology will prevent referrals to the dermatologist:

The proportion of preventable referrals will be significantly higher in the intervention group of patients (GP uses teledermatology) than in the control group.

### **Study design**

N/A

### **Intervention**

Semi-structured electronic referral form supported by digital images of skin condition with the possibility to ask a dermatologist for an advice on treatment/investigations prior to the consultation.

## **Contacts**

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## Eligibility criteria

### Inclusion criteria

1. GPs who have a computer with an Internet connection;
2. Patients who have a skin condition for which a GP refers the patient to a dermatologist.

### Exclusion criteria

GPs who are using or used teledermatology for more than once in the past year  
Patients with urgent conditions requiring a consultation the same or next day are excluded.

## Study design

### Design

Study type:	Interventional
Intervention model:	Parallel
Allocation:	Randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Single blinded (masking used)
Control:	Active

### Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruitment stopped
Start date (anticipated):	01-12-2003
Enrollment:	1000
Type:	Actual

## Ethics review

Not applicable	
Application type:	Not applicable

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

### Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

### In other registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL217
NTR-old	NTR254
Other	: N/A
ISRCTN	ISRCTN57478950

## Study results

### Summary results

N/A