

Every year, more than half of the UK population is affected by skin disease and a nearly a quarter of these have a condition that would benefit from medical care.

Concerns about skin conditions are responsible for three million outpatient consultations every year.

Demand for dermatology services is growing due to an ageing population that is more susceptible to serious skin conditions. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased waiting times lists.

Inhealthcare has developed a teledermatology service that is transforming dermatology care. It is able to provide a quick and secure way for high definition images and information to be

collected and then shared between family doctors and hospital dermatologists using a s martphone camera.

This simple service can help to speed up diagnosis and increase productivity by reducing unnecessary clinic appointments and providing treatment in the community rather than in hospital settings. This can also help to reduce waiting times.

To ensure our teledermatology service provides exactly what clinicans require, it was developed by Inhealthcare in conjunction with doctors.

### The challenges identified during the development process were:

- Often GPs take an image using their own camera, transfer this to their computer and complete an electronic referral using NHS e-Referral Service.
- Sometimes GPs use messaging services such as WhatsApp to save time when sending images to specialist dermatologists.
- The use of personal smartphones and messaging services means images are often transferred to external cloud providers.
- · Commissioners want to speed up the process of referral from GP to specialists.

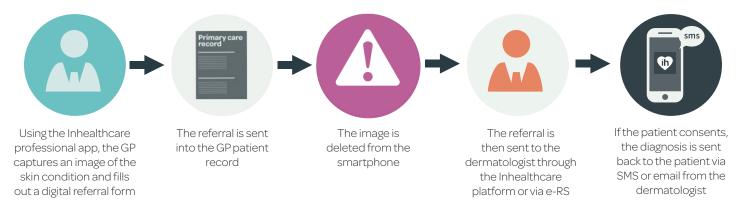


### The Inhealthcare teledermatology service delivers the following solutions:

- The Inhealthcare app provides a digital referral form for GPs.
- This form allows GPs to capture the patient's demographics, referral information and high definition images of their skin, taken using a dermatoscope attached to the GP's smartphone.
- All images captured are collected securely without any degradation, and are sent by the Inhealthcare app to the Inhealthcare platform where they can be shared with GP systems, including SystmOne and
- EMIS Web or into acute systems using our REST API, for a dermatologist to view.
- The form is securely deleted from the app.
- A copy of the form is sent to the GP and attached to the patient record.

On average, the process takes just eight minutes to complete.

# **Teledermatology pathway:**



#### **Outcomes:**

- · Reduced waiting times.
- Improved patient outcomes by helping to provide treatment sooner.
- A better patient experience by treating condition in community setting, if possible.



# Inhealthcare's service was piloted in London with successful results:

53%

of cases saved one or more appointment

38%

of patients discharged with advice and without the need for a clinic appointment

# 8 minutes

An average of 8 minutes to process each case



These simple but effective steps were co-created with clinicians to improve referrals from primary to secondary care.

As NHSX has said, teledermatology allows GPs to benefit from easy and quick access to specialist advice and guidance from hospital dermatologists, enabling patients to be referred more quickly and efficiently for treatment and diagnosis.

Our technology can increase capacity in dermatology services and help specialists to spend more time with those patients who need the most care for their skin conditions.

Jamie Innes, product director at Inhealthcare



