



# THE KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICES OF CAREGIVERS OF CHILDREN WITH EPILEPSY ON TELEMEDICINE IN THE PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER



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## INTRODUCTION

Epilepsy is a challenging disease that was made more challenging due to the COVID-19 pandemic hence telemedicine became an alternative in providing uninterrupted epilepsy care amidst this turmoil. This study aimed to validate and administer a web-based questionnaire that assessed the knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) on telemedicine among caregivers of children with epilepsy.

## METHODOLOGY

In this cross-sectional study, we validated a questionnaire exploring the KAP of caregivers of children with epilepsy in the Philippine Children's Medical Center from July to October 2022. It was conducted in two phases. Phase 1 included the content validation and pre-testing of the Filipino version of the questionnaire and Phase 2 included the web-based administration of its final version.

## RESULTS

The validation process resulted in a questionnaire that is comprised of four main sections: demography, knowledge, attitude, and practices. In terms of caregiver's knowledge regarding telemedicine, majority were able to correctly identify the purposes (86.4%), benefits (87.6%) and barriers (78.7%) of telemedicine. All aspects of the caregiver's attitude showed positive agreement to the attitude likert scale with significant p-values at  $<0.01$ . The most common device used was cellular phone and most caregivers identify Facebook messenger, viber, and zoom as the most useful platforms for telemedicine.

## CONCLUSION

Our study showed low awareness of the availability of telemedicine but exhibited good knowledge on its purpose, benefit and barriers. Caregivers also have positive attitude towards telemedicine. Facebook messenger was ranked the most useful in sending messages and videocalls for teleconsult.

**KEYWORDS:** telemedicine, epilepsy, knowledge, attitude, practices, questionnaire