Summary
The Institute Ramón y Cajal for Health Research (IRYCIS) has developed a store-and-forward teledermatology system using smartphones that have been already validated in a pilot clinical trial, showing a high level of diagnostic validity.

The proper use of this tool as a communication channel between primary care physicians and dermatologists can prevent up to 40% of referrals to specialists, shorten considerably the waiting lists and improve early diagnosis of potentially serious cases, such as suspected skin cancer.

Description
Teledermatology is the clinical evaluation of skin lesions by dermatologists using telemedicine techniques through flexible communication channels between primary care physicians and specialists.

It allows to diagnose patients without the need of face-to-face consultation with the dermatology, avoiding unnecessary visits and prioritizing patients with significant pathology.

Modern smartphones permit to take pictures and send data in a flexible, dynamic and safe way.

The IRYCIS has developed a mobile interface that acts as a store-and-forward teledermatology system with photographic registration. It allows dermatologists to analyze stored images and then provide a diagnosis and management plan.

Besides consulting services between general practitioners and specialists in dermatology, the application could also be used for patient monitoring, education and teaching of involved health personnel in areas with limited access to dermatological expertise.

Advantages and innovations
Diagnostic accuracy between clinical dermatology and teledermatology has been demonstrated in several studies.

Remote consultations using a secure smart phone application are reliable for assessment and prioritization of patients.

Stage of development
Pilot clinical study for remote diagnostics performed. Prototype platform available (Telederma).

Intellectual Property Rights
Software code is protected by copyright.

The submission of a patent application for a computer-implemented invention will be evaluated.

Publications

Technology keywords
001003001 Applications for Health
006006002 Remote diagnostics

Market Application keywords
002007012 Medical/health
005001001 Diagnostic services

Role of partner sought
Improved mobile application design and development. Clinical validation. Extension to other institutions / new indications.

Type of partnership considered
License agreement
Co-development agreement
Commercialization agreement

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