



## **Teledermatology provides Advice and Guidance**

The teledermatology service offers a diagnosis and management plan based on the images provided. Teledermatology referrals will not be converted into face-to-face referrals unless requested by the GP referrer (with the exception of non-melanoma skin cancers surgical triage referrals – see below).

### **How do I triage a patient with non-melanoma skin cancer for skin surgery using NHS e-Referral teledermatology?**

- Take localising and close-up images of the suspected skin cancer, showing the body site and surrounding anatomy.
- Please ensure that the patient has had a total skin examination in primary care if indicated as patients triaged directly to a skin surgery list will not routinely undergo a total skin examination to screen for additional skin lesions, whereas this service is offered in the face-to-face dermatology skin cancer clinic.
- Please confirm in your referral that you are happy for the patient to be triaged directly for skin surgery in the Dermatology Department.
- Include a full list of medications
- Please specify if the patient has a pacemaker or implantable defibrillator device.
- Patients will be sent preoperative information in the post and booked directly onto an appropriate surgical list.

### **Which patients are not suitable for teledermatology surgical triage?**

- Patients with low risk basal cell carcinomas – please refer to the community dermatology skin surgery services listed on NHS e-Referral.

Low risk = not head and neck (eg below the clavicle), < 2 cm in diameter, patients > 24 years, patient not immunosuppressed.

- Patients with large non-melanoma skin cancers which are likely to require complex repair with skin grafting or Mohs surgery. These patients can be referred via teledermatology but will be triaged for an initial consultation in an appropriate dermatology or plastic surgery clinic if clinically indicated.

### **References**

1. *UK Guidance on the use of mobile photographic devices in dermatology (2017).*  
<http://www.bad.org.uk/shared/get-file.ashx?itemtype=document&id=5774>
2. *Quality Standards for Teledermatology: Using 'Store and Forward' Images (2013).*  
*Primary Care Commissioning*  
<http://bit.ly/2gSEJVo>

**Teledermatology Service information**

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**NHS E-referral Teledermatology support**

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