

Public consultation: health technology assessment of teledermatology to support the management of primary care referrals

What did we assess?

We are examining the clinical effectiveness, safety and cost impacts of using teledermatology for adults and children referred by a GP to a consultant dermatologist.



What is teledermatology?

For this assessment, teledermatology is when a dermatologist uses photos or live videoconferencing along with a referral letter to triage and prioritise patients for outpatient appointments.

Where it is safe to do so, the dermatologist may not need to see the patient in person.

Why is demand increasing?



Ireland's population is increasing and getting older, skin cancer rates are rising, and there are new treatments and technologies available to help manage skin conditions.

How could teledermatology help?

The current waiting lists to see a consultant dermatologist are very long.

Teledermatology could help dermatologists to manage more patients within their current capacity.



How can I take part in this public consultation?

As part of our assessment, we are holding a public consultation from 6 November to 18 December 2025 and we are looking for feedback from the public. We will carefully assess all feedback that we receive and incorporate it into the final report, where appropriate.

Go to www.hiqa.ie to read our draft assessment and to take part in our survey. You can complete the survey online or print it and post it to us.

