

# E-Consult Coalition News

January 2023

## Upcoming Events

The E-Consult Coalition offers provider resources and education to improve Medi-Cal members' access to specialty care. We are pleased to announce four upcoming webinar and event dates.

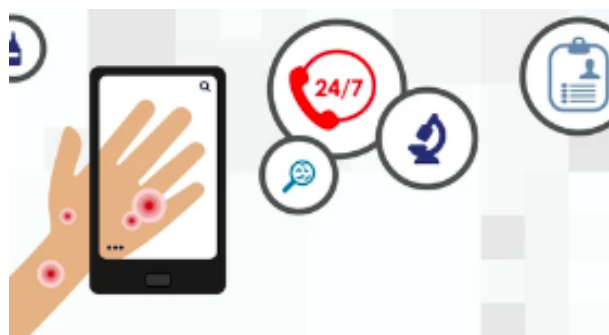
**January 19-** E. Vinny Seiverling, MD Tufts University School of Medicine Department of Dermatology will present strategies for using images in E-Consult. [Register here.](#)

**April 19-** Patient/Member and Provider Satisfaction Roundtable Discussion

**August 30-** Incorporating E-Consult into Existing Telehealth Workflows

**November 8-** Annual In-Person Meeting at The California Endowment, Sacramento

### Join us for the January E-Consult Coalition Webinar



#### Using Images in E-Consult: Dermatology and Ophthalmology

January 19, 2023, 12-1 PT

Register Today

### Monthly ECHO Webinars Open to All Providers California Department of Public Health Test to Treat Program



A monthly California statewide webinar with presentations by expert faculty and a moderated Q&A panel discussion with subject matter experts. Upcoming dates and registration links include:

[First Wednesday of the Month - Northern California Region](#)

[Second Wednesday of the Month - Statewide Provider Webinar](#)

[Third Wednesday of the Month - Southern California Region](#)

View [the COVID Test to Treat ECHO Flyer](#) for more information or register [here](#).

Visit here for the December webinar [presentation](#) and [recording](#).

## Publications

### [The Role of Telehealth in the Medical Response to Disasters](#)



In January 2023, California faced record-breaking precipitation which put additional strain on an already overburdened health care system.

The advantages of using telehealth during natural disasters are presented by Brendan Carr, MD, Associate Dean of Healthcare Delivery Innovation at [Jefferson](#) (Philadelphia University and Thomas Jefferson University), and Nicole Lurie, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital, authors of a 2018 JAMA Intern Medicine [publication](#).

Dr. Carr provides a vision for what disaster relief could look like if telehealth were implemented and also discusses some of the barriers to implementation. He explains how although hands-on care cannot be replaced, telehealth provides options when a clinician cannot be physically present with a patient, or when a visit is not required for care.

During and after a disaster, when local hospitals and clinics are overwhelmed with a massive influx of patients. Telehealth can aid clinicians to facilitate more rapid evaluation, diagnosis, and communication with patients. These efforts can save lives and improve health outcomes for patients and the community.

Expanding technology resources to using telehealth will put valuable tools in place, as well as identifying existing technology that can be used or repurposed for telehealth during a disaster.

### [Telehealth in Ophthalmology](#)

Ophthalmology is a well-suited field for telehealth integration given technology's advancement in capturing images and transmitting data. Teleophthalmology, has evolved rapidly with advancing technology such as wireless communication and artificial intelligence, along with the rapid need due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. These widespread applications have been used both asynchronously and synchronously in the screening, diagnosis, monitoring, and treatment of eye diseases such as diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, anterior segment and oculoplastic diseases, neuro-ophthalmic disorders, and pediatric ocular diseases. An example of a successful asynchronous modality of telehealth screening includes the anterior segment, asynchronous digital slit lamp videos have been shown to have high sensitivity for detecting pathology in the cornea, anterior chamber, iris, and lens (89–96%), with 87% or greater agreement with in-person examination. With demonstrated clinical efficacy, patient satisfaction, and ongoing advances, telehealth in ophthalmology has strong potential in improving access to eye screenings, treatments, and geographic care coverage and outreach.

### [Applications of Telemedicine in Dermatology](#)

Telemedicine is a supplement to a patient's total care, enabling PCPs and specialists a new method of monitoring patients from any location. Numerous telemedicine systems, including store and forward, real-time and remote, or self-monitoring, are used worldwide for education, healthcare delivery and control, sickness screening, and disaster management. Telemedicine peripherals can be used including electronic stethoscopes, tele ophthalmoscopes, and video-otoscopes. The development of imaging technologies has significantly impacted dermatology using visual images as a mode to see patients and diagnose, treat, and consult more advanced without an in-person visit.



## E-Consult Resources

Visit [econsultworkgroup.com](http://econsultworkgroup.com) for recent publications, policy updates, and educational materials. Contact us at [econsultworkgroup@bluepathhealth.com](mailto:econsultworkgroup@bluepathhealth.com).

The E-Consult Coalition Website and News are authored and maintained by [BluePath Health](#).