

Tele-healthcare in Taiwan: Status Quo and Future Challenges

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ABSTRACT

Due to a long-term substantial subsidy from government, and some capital investments in the telecom and medical industries, the telecare policy is now at a critical period of time in Taiwan. This article aims to explore the status quo and future challenges of telecare in Taiwan. This article first describes the policy backgrounds and clinical applications of telecare, followed by a discussion of cost-benefit evidences and considerations of telecare. The current policies and major plans of telecare mainly funded by Taiwan's national Department of Health are then revealed. This article finally makes some recommendations regarding future challenges of telecare policies, including public-private partnership relationships, value-oriented policy goals and objectives, and the governance of telecare systems in Taiwan.

Key words : Telecare, Cost-benefit



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