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TELEMENTORING: NEW WINDOWS TO TEACH URODYNAMICS

Synopsis of Video

Modern internet technologies applied to different areas of science have opened a wide range of opportunities to access and operate different devices connected to computers anywhere

Hypothesis / aims of study

This video demonstrates the various ways of remotely operating and reporting in Urodynamics by using the fantastic world of web communication.

Study design, materials and methods

Telementoring is performed by using common internet software that are downloaded and installed in the computer where the equipment is installed. The remote computer does not necessarily need any special software installation. More sophisticated methods can also be used. One or more webcam allows sound and image to be used from both sides in order that the remote examiner is able to interact with the person performing the test. The remote examiner can also gain access to the test after it has been performed. Different ways of password protected access are offered in order that patient privacy is preserved. The remote access to the test can be done either simultaneous or independently with the possibility of interfering and reporting on it. Tests were performed in 2 different centres and reported by 5 different examiners. Residents performed the tests at centres #1 and by and a specialized nurse in centre #2.

Results

From January 2008 to February 2009 over 300 remote accesses were successfully performed to the centres involved by different examiners both during and after the tests were performed. Although we had worked on this idea since the past decade the technology available at that time provided very slow and unstable access to the remote computer that led us to temporarily abandon the idea.

Interpretation of results-

The remote visualization of the tests put no further difficulties to the interpretation of the tests in the present study

Concluding message

The utilization of this new method in urodynamics may open new possibilities in this field of urologic diagnosis especially for teaching purposes allowing people in different places participate simultaneously in live discussions in an area where a large number of experts are lacking.

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Is this a clinical trial?	No
What were the subjects in the study?	NONE