

Telemedicine can reduce costs and overcome land barriers, bringing the best evidence to faraway places and patients with just one click.



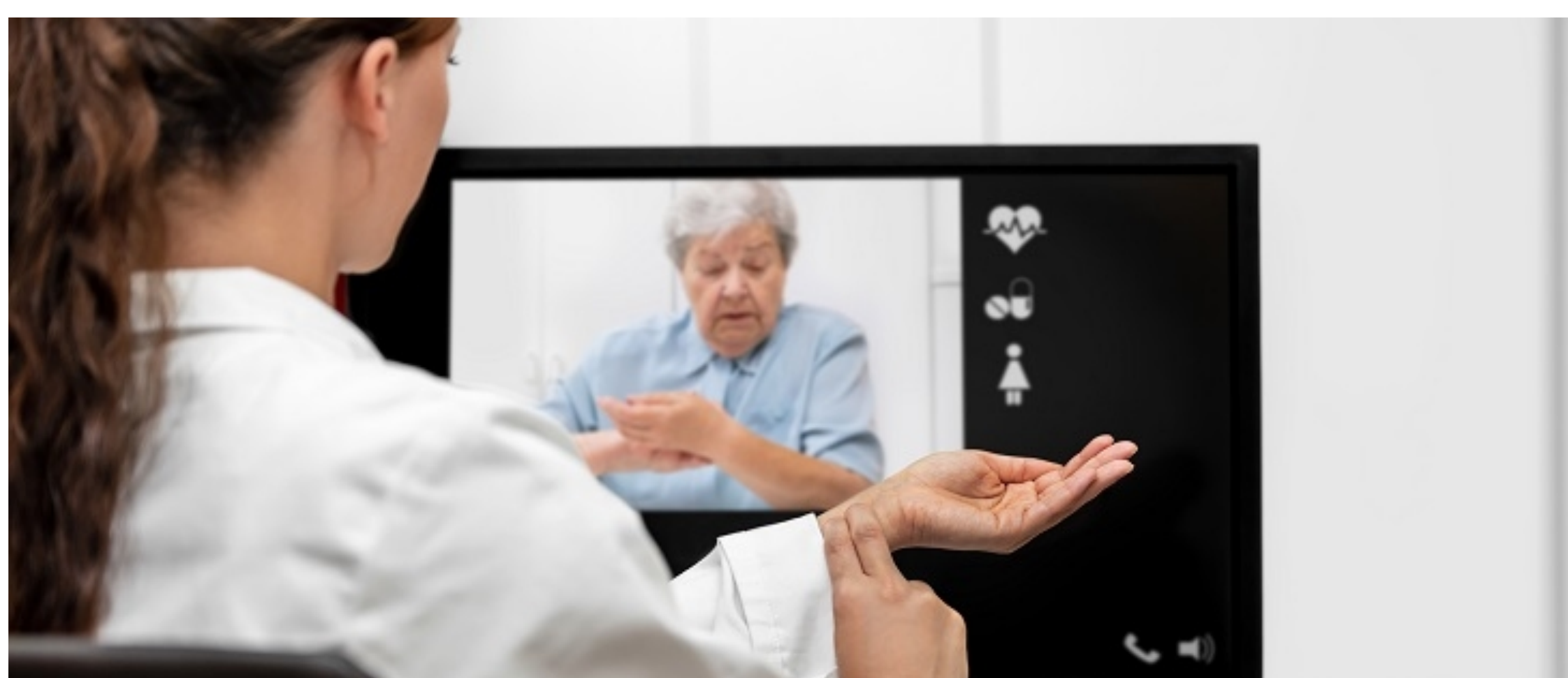
Telemedicine as a tool in favour of healthcare

Since the first description of its utilisation published in 1879, telemedicine has been studied and used as a viable tool for improved treatment and therapeutic decision making in all health areas. It allows, with the use of often low-cost technologies, access to adequate health information for populations with difficult direct access, improving the quality of the treatments used.

Telemedicine is a tool which embraces all kind of populations and distances, making more feasible the health structure utilising the actual best evidence for any health condition. It could be a cornerstone in remote populations with scarce resources, such as indigenous people, for example. Therefore, it is a nevralgic point to be discussed and used in the best possible way for all, especially for ill people.

Methods

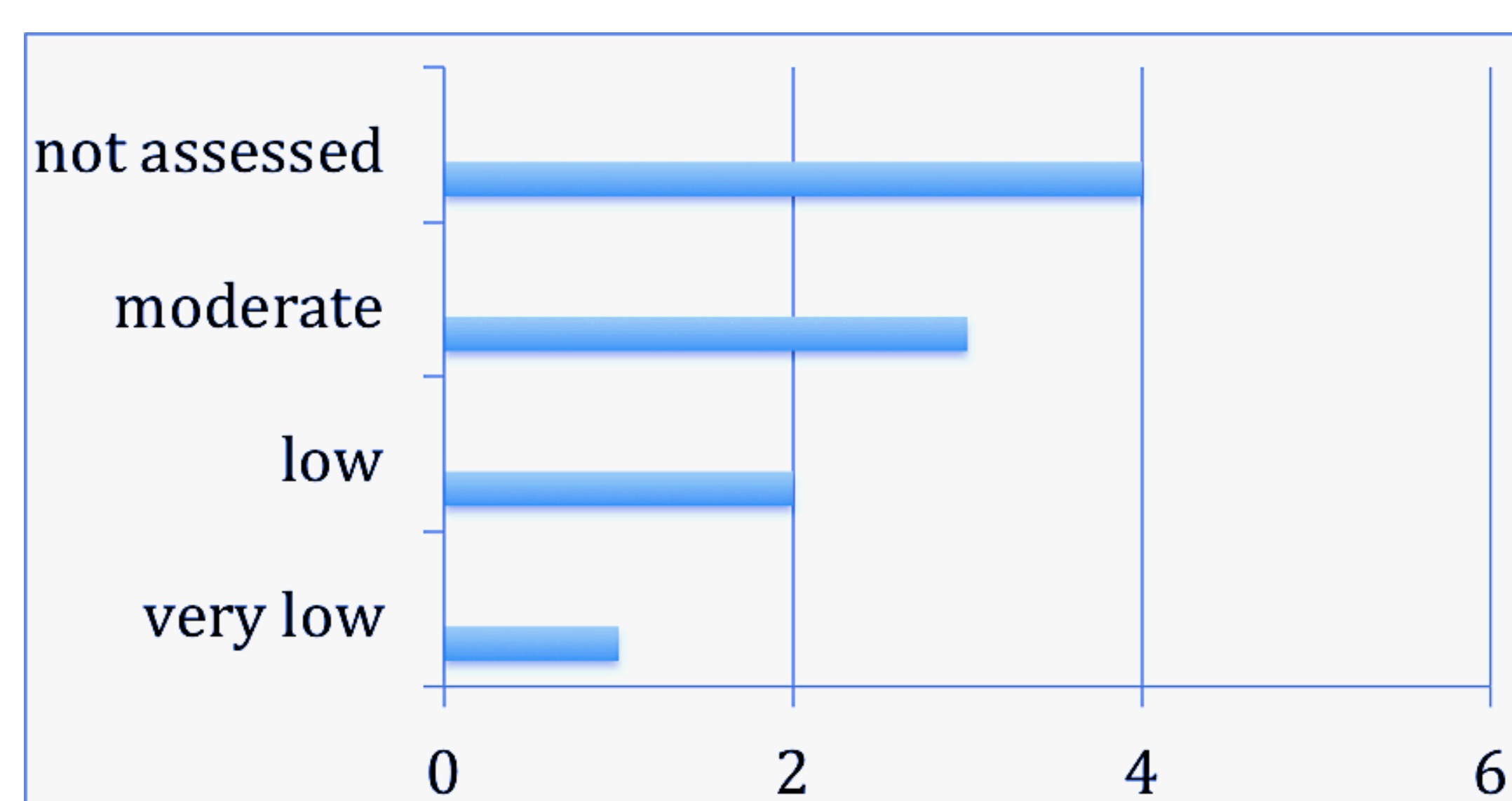
We performed a thorough search for all CSR that studied telemedicine as an intervention. Three review authors checked all references independently. We discussed selected studies' eligibility criteria, results, main characteristics and certainty of evidence, and, if there was any disagreement, we consulted a fourth review author.



Key Results

10 CSR included, with a broad range of diseases and types of telemedicine.

The evidence we found reported was of moderate/low quality to affirm that telemedicine could be effective in place of standard treatment.



Selected studies and their quality of evidence

What do Cochrane Systematic Reviews say about telemedicine on healthcare?



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