

# Teleconsultation in respiratory medicine – A position paper of the Portuguese Pulmonology Society

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## Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic crisis, among so many social, economic and health problems, also brought new opportunities. The potential of telemedicine to improve health outcomes had already been recognised in the last decades, but the pandemic crisis has accelerated the digital revolution. In 2020, a rapid increase in the use of remote consultations occurred due to the need to reduce attendance and overcrowding in outpatient clinics. However, the benefit of their use extends beyond the pandemic crisis, as an important tool to improve both the efficiency and capacity of future healthcare systems. This article reviews the literature regarding telemedicine and teleconsultation standards and recommendations, collects opinions of Portuguese experts in respiratory medicine and provides guidance in teleconsultation practices for Pulmonologists.

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## Biography

I received an undergraduate degree in Biology (1960) from the School of Science of the Universities of Lisbon and Porto and a Diploma in Pedagogical Sciences from the University of Lisbon. I received a PhD (1984) in Sociology of Education from the Institute of Education, University of London. I spent twenty years as a secondary school teacher, before joining the School of Science University of Lisbon in 1985, where I became an emeritus professor in 2009. In the sequence of the moving of the Department of Education of that school to the newly created Institute of Education of the University of Lisbon, I

became an emeritus professor of this institution. I co-organized the first comprehensive programme of in-service teacher training in science education (1973-1978) at the Gulbenkian Foundation. I started doing research in 1973 at the Gulbenkian Foundation. I was a co-founder of the Centre for Educational Research of the School of Science, University of Lisbon and of the ESSA Group - Sociological Studies of the Classroom. I am a coordinator of the ESSA Group. I am currently a researcher at the UIDEF (Research and Development in Education and Training Unit) of the Institute of Education, University of Lisbon.