



# Telemedicine in Rural Ghana: Policy Analysis for Enhanced Healthcare Access

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**Published:** 15 October 2012 | **Received:** 03 May 2012 | **Accepted:** 24 August 2012

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**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18977729](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18977729)

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## Abstract

Telemedicine has emerged as a promising solution for enhancing healthcare access in rural areas of developing countries. The study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative interviews with quantitative data from public health databases to assess current healthcare delivery mechanisms and identify gaps suitable for telemedicine integration. Telemedicine has shown potential in overcoming geographical barriers by enabling remote consultations, particularly among underserved rural populations where traditional healthcare facilities are scarce. The analysis revealed a significant interest in digital health services from both service providers and patients. The findings indicate that implementing telemedicine in Northern Ghana could significantly improve healthcare access and service delivery efficiency, especially for chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension, which require ongoing monitoring and management. Policy recommendations include investing in infrastructure upgrades to support telemedicine services, training of local health professionals on telehealth technologies, and piloting programmes that demonstrate the benefits of integrating telemedicine into routine healthcare practices.

**Keywords:** *Sub-Saharan, telehealth, ethnography, universal health coverage, e-health, participatory action research, community engagement*

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