

THE TAMIL NADU Dr. M.G.R. MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
69, ANNA SALAI, GUINDY, CHENNAI - 600 032.



SYLLABUS

**THE NEW ONLINE CERTIFICATE COURSE ON
DIGITAL HEALTH”**

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024 – 2025

THE NEW ONLINE CERTIFICATE COURSE ON DIGITAL HEALTH

Preamble for the Course

Affordability and accessibility to healthcare has always plagued the Indian healthcare system. In view of provisioning of healthcare over remote means of care delivery, it was imperative to legalize and regularize the structure. **On May 14, 2020, the Union Government first notified the Telemedicine Practice Guidelines (TPG), by way of an amendment to the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002.**

During **pandemic affected by Covid-19**, the Government of India in addition to the invocation of several emergency legislations, also ensured that *telemedicine* finds necessary legal backing and support from all the stakeholders.

The **Regulations** requires all medical /para medical graduates intending to practice to take an online course and get certified within three years from the date of notification. (Refer TPG 1.3.3).

Objective of the Course

To address the regulations that requires all medical /Paramedical graduates intending to practice to take an online course and get certified.

Evaluation & Faculty for the Course

Participants will be required to take a pre-course test and post-course test, basis the results, a certificate of completion/ participation will be issued.

The faculty will be members from Telemedicine Society of India and as and when required experts from other speciality societies in India.

Totally, there are Four modules to complete the course.

Module 1: Ethical & Legal Aspects & Telemedicine - 8 Hours

- The first module will discuss and highlights the urgent points of consideration for a healthcare practitioner in practicing telemedicine. Keeping in mind, the regulatory changes and the legal implications, this module has been designed to provide handholding to healthcare practitioners, ensuring safety of the patients. This module will require changes in future as newer guidelines are expected to be added.

Module 2: Clinical Aspects & Telemedicine - 8 Hours

The second module will marry the concepts discussed in the first module and provides handholding with respect to the legal requirements and how to implement them from a clinician's perspective. This is a DIY approach, helping the clinician and the health worker to understand, how to implement the law into their practice.

This module will develop application of telemedicine in following specialities

1. Diabetes & Telemedicine - With rising incidence of diabetes in India, a module specific to Diabetes, online interventions, monitoring of blood glucose and other areas will be covered to address the needs of practitioners to this speciality

2. Cardiology & Telemedicine - With rising incidence of heart diseases, metabolic syndrome and stroke in India, a module specific to Cardiology, its online interventions, monitoring ECG and other areas will be covered to address the needs of practitioners to this speciality

3. Paediatrics & Telemedicine - India has the largest Paediatric population in the world and much can be done through telemedicine interventions. A module would be developed for this speciality

4. Obstetrics - Gynec & Telemedicine - Pregnant mothers and women with common problems can be offered an easier access through teleconsults and module will cover various aspect related to women's health.

5. **Orthopedics & Telemedicine** – This is another core specialty that uses telemedicine and makes follow up easier including rehabilitation and physiotherapy that can be offered to the patients

6. **Psychiatry & Telemedicine** – Psychiatry is well accepted for telemedicine consultations and a module that covers the best practices in using the telemedicine will be developed.

7. **Dermatology & Telemedicine** – Another speciality that has been practicing telemedicine for over a decade. A module that covers the best practices in the telemedicine will be covered in the module.

8. **Home-healthcare & Telemedicine** - Home-healthcare is the fastest growing market and telemedicine interventions can save costs through remote monitoring of multiple patients and save of doctors and nursing visits. A training module will be developed for this area.

9. **ICU and Telemedicine** – Remote monitoring of multiple patients is well accepted and is again is cost saving. A module related to this area would be developed using experts.

10. **Urology, Andrology & Transplant Telemedicine:** Remote consultation in this speciality is very common.

11. **Telehealth for Nurses** – This section will discuss how telehealth can be applied in the field of nursing to create efficiency

12. **Telehealth for Public health:** This section will discuss preventive aspects of telehealth

Module 3: Tele-triage & Telemedicine - 4 Hours

Tele-triage has become the focus during these times of Covid-19 crisis, which has made virtual care the first stop (and in some cases also the last) for patients. This module helps in explaining to the practitioners how tele-triage helps diagnose and direct non-critical cases to the next step in a person's care journey, in line with the *now* applicable laws.

Module 4: Technical Application & Telemedicine - 4 Hours

The fourth and the final module conclusively ties in, all the modules and presents to the healthcare practitioners with the way forward, in adoption and incorporation of telemedicine into their regular practice. Simple solutions like using Skype, MS-Teams, Google-Meet, WhatsApp, and other freeware, are highlighted for wider outreach and connect.