

Remote Medicine in the Post-Corona Era – Opportunities and Challenges



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The term "remote medicine" refers to any encounter between a caregiver and a patient when they are located in different places. Essentially, they can be located almost anywhere during treatment. The contact between them can be accomplished by various means, such as by phone, email, text messages, or videoconferencing. Remote medicine is not a new phenomenon and began long before the outbreak of the Corona pandemic. Nonetheless, the pandemic provided a major impetus for its increased usage. The post-Corona medical world will be radically different to what it was previously, and the most notable change will be the use of remote medicine in almost every caregiver-patient encounter. This article will review some of the main developments in the field of remote medicine prior to the Corona crisis and describe some of the changes it brought about. It will also discuss some of the challenges presented to health systems around the world.

Examining the Effect of the Corona Crisis on Housing Prices in Israel



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This study examines the effect of the Corona crisis epidemic on prices of housing transactions in Israel. Based on the universe of all housing transactions reported to the Israeli Tax Authority in 14 large cities in Israel, we compare quality-adjusted housing prices in the seven months after the outbreak of the Corona crisis in Israel (from March to September 2020) to prices in the six months before the crisis, controlling for relevant macroeconomic variables. The results indicate that quality-adjusted housing prices showed a decrease of 1.9%-2.2% in the seven-month period from the outbreak of the Corona crisis. This result is further confirmed by similar tests based on the housing price index. Moreover, the transaction volume decreased considerably during the Corona crisis: Controlling for relevant macroeconomic variables, we find that, compared to the six-month period before the Corona crisis, the number of housing transactions decreased by 58%-61% in the seven months after the outbreak of the crisis in Israel. Research outcomes are consistent with other new evidence pertaining to the effect of the Corona crisis on real estate markets worldwide.