

## What is TeleDermatology and why do it?

Using VA's Electronic Health Record, and sometimes telecommunications technology, TeleDermatology allows your skin to be evaluated by a remotely located dermatologist. The dermatologist can assist primary care providers to best assess and manage your skin condition, and in certain cases, can directly assist you.

Instead of waiting for and traveling to see a dermatologist at an appointment far away, TeleDermatology allows Veteran patients to get expert skin care at a location closer to home as well as more quickly, usually within 7 days.

The program allows capturing images locally and sending them to expert TeleDermatologists in the field.

## How to Request a TeleDermatology Appointment

---

1. See your primary care provider (PCP) and discuss your skin condition.
2. Ask your PCP if a TeleDermatology consult is appropriate.

### TeleDermatology Program

Facility Name:

Contact Person Name:

Contact Phone Number:

## VA Telehealth

### TeleDermatology Program



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
Office of Connected Care



## Benefits of TeleDermatology

- Early identification and start treatment for certain skin problems
- Shorter wait times for care (Same day may be possible)
- Minimized travel
- Dermatologist will respond within seven days
- No copay for TeleDermatology evaluation
- Photographs will be in your medical record to accurately monitor changes to your skin condition will be on file

## What can TeleDermatology do?

**Diagnosis:** TeleDermatology can help you and your primary care provider understand what type of skin condition or diagnosis you have.

### *Isolated Skin Lesions*

Have you noticed a new growth on your skin? Have you noticed a previous spot on your skin has been changing lately? Has a bump been bleeding or not healing well?

### *Rashes*

Do you have a long-standing problem such as psoriasis or eczema? Have you noticed a new irritating rash? TeleDermatology can confirm your diagnosis or help make a new one.

**Treatment:** TeleDermatology can help you and your provider arrive at a diagnosis and decide if you need to see a dermatologist in-person. In many cases, the Dermatologist can recommend how you and your primary care provider can manage your skin problem. Sometimes, all you need is quick reassurance from a dermatologist that a growth is not worrisome.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How long does a TeleDermatology appointment take?**

It takes approximately 30 minutes.

### **Can I request a chaperone during my appointment?**

Yes, you always have the right to a chaperone.

### **Can I decline a TeleDermatology appointment and still receive dermatology care?**

Yes, you have the right to decline care via telehealth and the choice to wait and travel for a face-to-face appointment with a dermatologist.

### **Are there limitations to TeleDermatology?**

Yes, TeleDermatology is not appropriate for patients who need total body exams or have skin conditions that need immediate attention.