

Introduction

- First cases of COVID-19 identified in New York and Washington State in January 2020
- The proceeding months demonstrated exponential rise in cases and deaths due to COVID-19 leading to stay-at-home orders
- In response, the U.S Healthcare system needed to implement an alternative delivery model such as TeleHealth
- Although TeleHealth existed prior to COVID-19, this outbreak resulted in the rapid expansion of TeleHealth Services
- **Primary aim:** Create a navigable database compiling the existing peer-reviewed literature exploring the role of TeleHealth in the context of COVID-19.

Methods

Proquest and NIH COVID-19 Database Search from 5/15 - 5/20

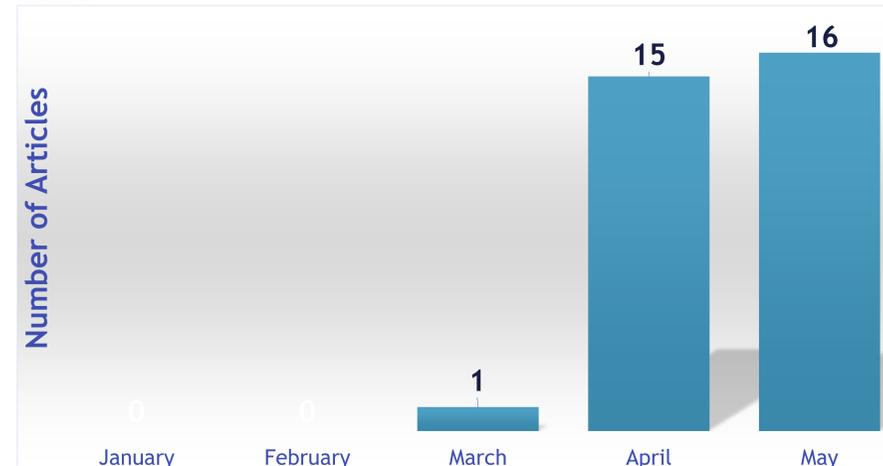
Filtered articles based on inclusion criteria

Compile eligible articles to create an excel database for the research team

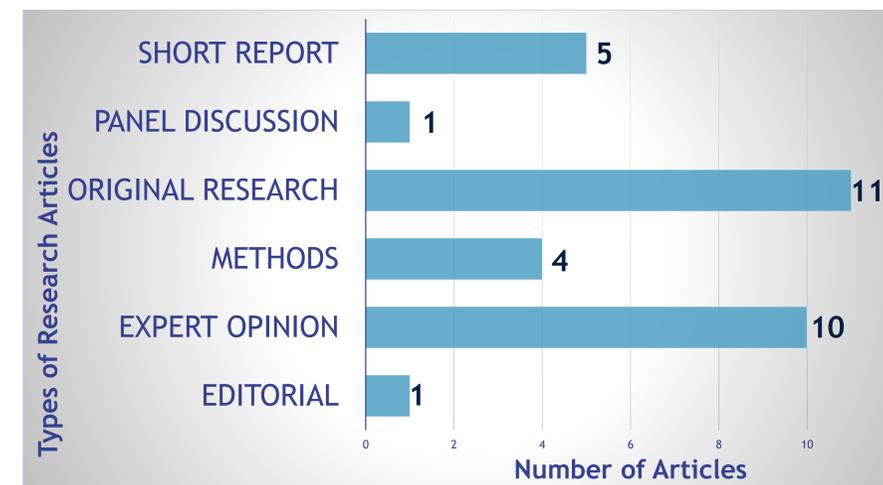
Select 15 most recent articles for annotated bibliography

Results

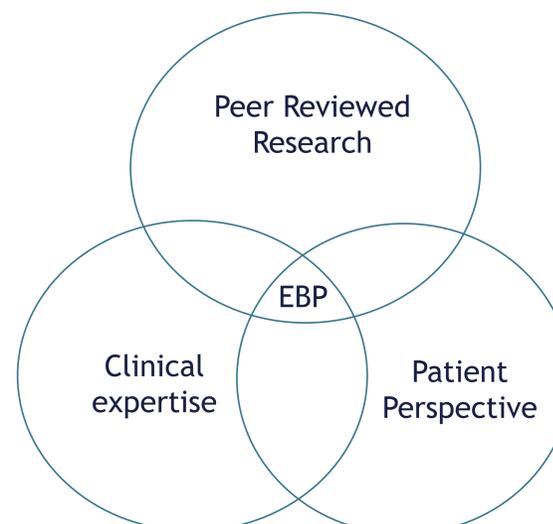
Number of TeleHealth Visits per month since January 2020



Categorical breakdown of database searched peer-reviewed literature



Public Health and Clinical Medicine Evidence Based Practice Model



Discussion

- Most research was published in April and May, reflecting the urgency to provide guidance regarding TeleHealth interventions due to COVID-19
- Expert opinions and original research represented the majority of published research papers
- Expert opinions provided recommendations from a wide array of medical specialties, all of which included TeleHealth recommendations
- These data also reflect generalizability for TeleHealth interventions amongst multiple disciplines within medicine
- Expert opinions expressed similar views on cases when TeleHealth is an appropriate alternative to in-person visits
- Expert opinions also shared concerns of implementing TeleHealth such as patient access, HIPAA compliance and reimbursement
- Data demonstrates need for expert opinion as part of an evidence-based practice approach

Limitations

- Article search limited to ProQuest and NIH-COVID-19 Databases.
 - Utilizing other databases such as google scholar may provide a greater number of peer-reviewed articles from varying journals
- Articles limited to publication within the United States
 - Analysis from other countries could provide more insight regarding the implementation of TeleHealth

Next Steps

- Examining lay-press literature including News media
- Expanding search to other search engines
- Conducting a formal systematic review to gain a wider breadth of knowledge regarding TeleHealth and COVID-19