USING TECHNOLOGY **TO IMPROVE HEALTH:** A MULTI-LEVEL PARTNERSHIP

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Project Summary

- Offenders in NC prisons who needed specialty visits could spend an entire day traveling across the state to UNC, transported by correctional officers.

- In 2019, the NC General Assembly passed a law to enable prisoners to receive specialty care in their local facilities via telemedicine.
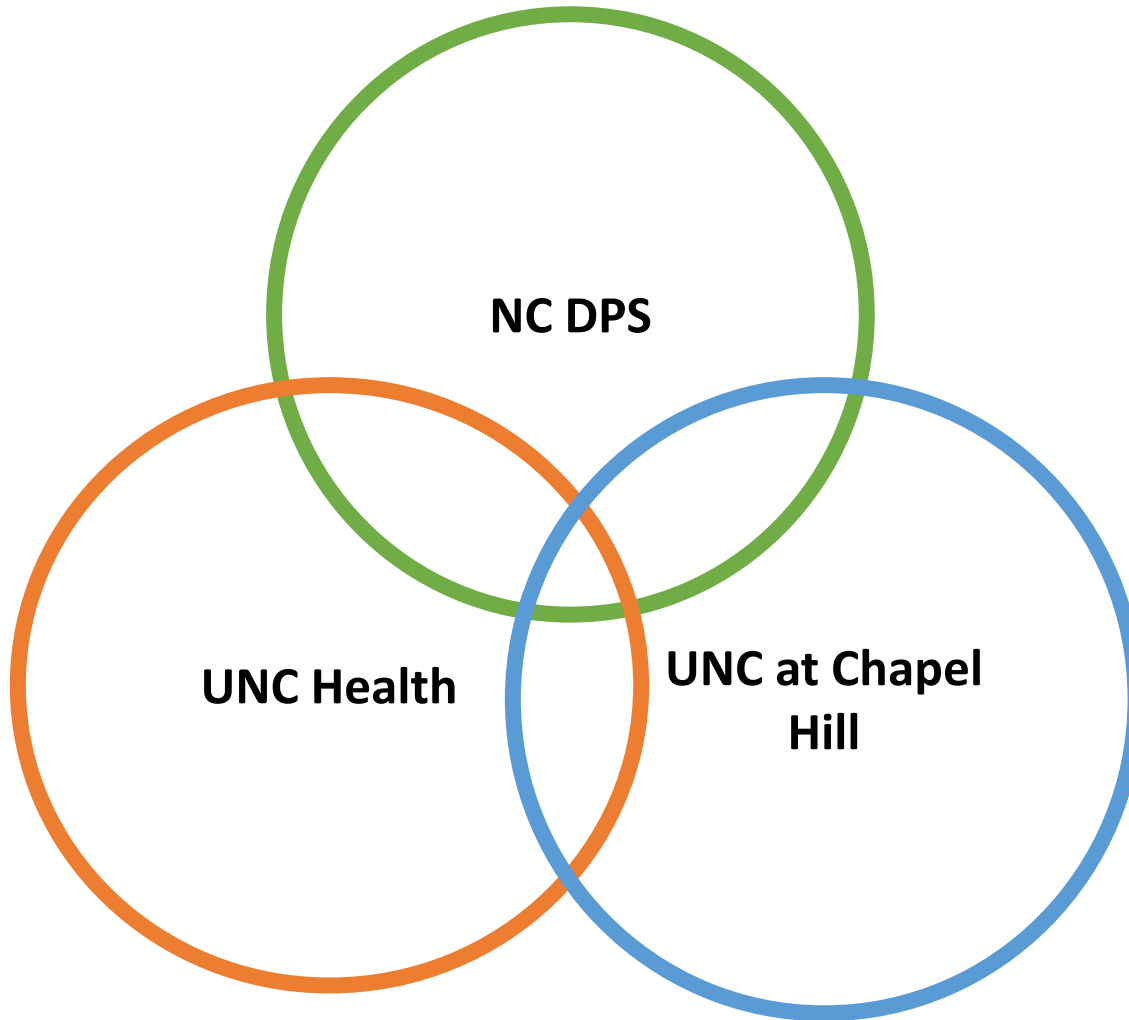
56 Prisons
>31,000 Offenders
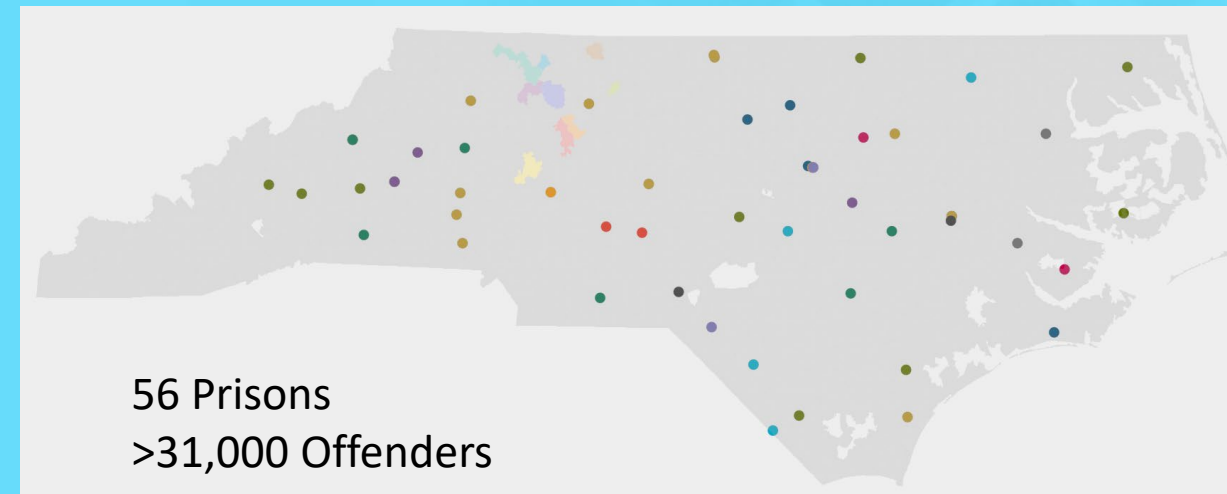
PURPOSE

- Provide timely care for offenders

- Keep NC correctional officers in the facility

- Increase Public Safety

Partnership Building

NC DPS

UNC Health

UNC at Chapel Hill

MEASURES

1 Cost Effectiveness

5 Time Savings

2 Patient and Provider Satisfaction

3 Utilization

4 Access

- Significant Cost and Time savings

A Telehealth Cost Savings by Trip Length to Central Prison Medical Center

$1,195,377

$511,500

$416,020

Cost Saving ($)

—Total —<2 Hours —2-4 Hours —4-6 Hours —6-8 Hours —Implementation Cost

B Telehealth Time Savings by Trip Length to Central Prison Hospital

81,814

27,538

Time Savings (Hours)

—Total —<2 Hours —2-4 Hours —4-6 Hours —6-8 Hours
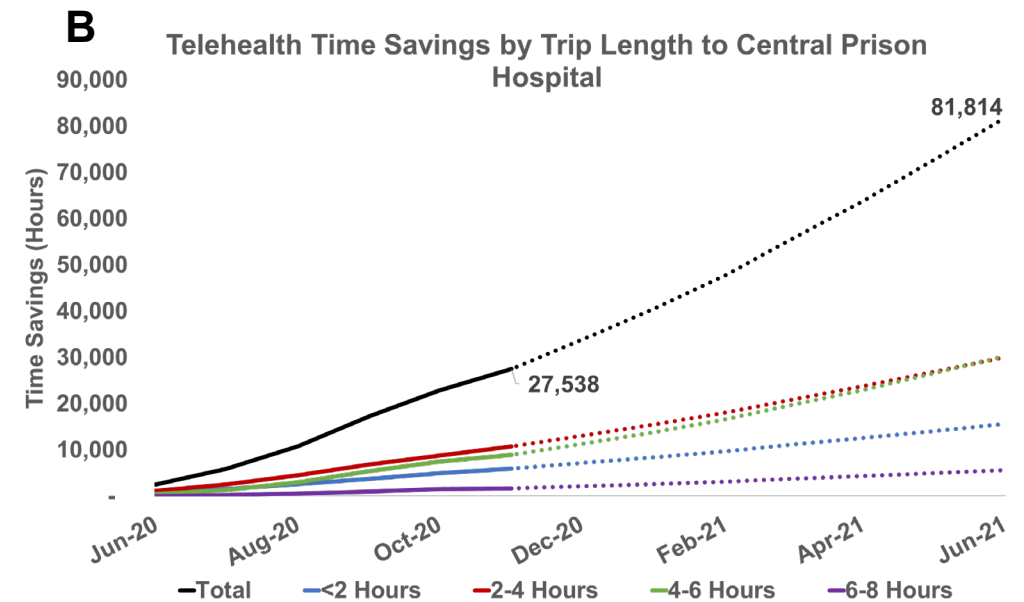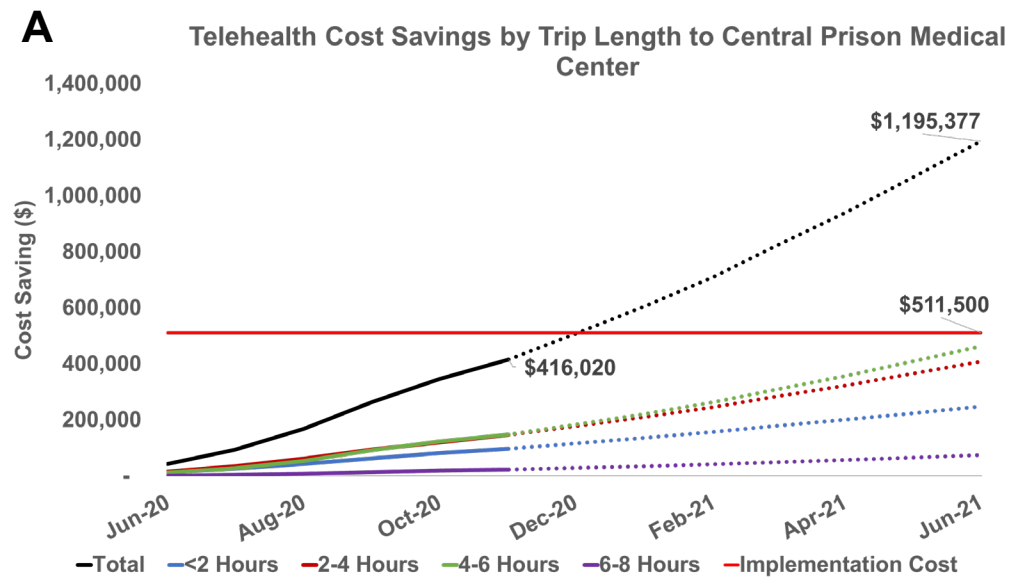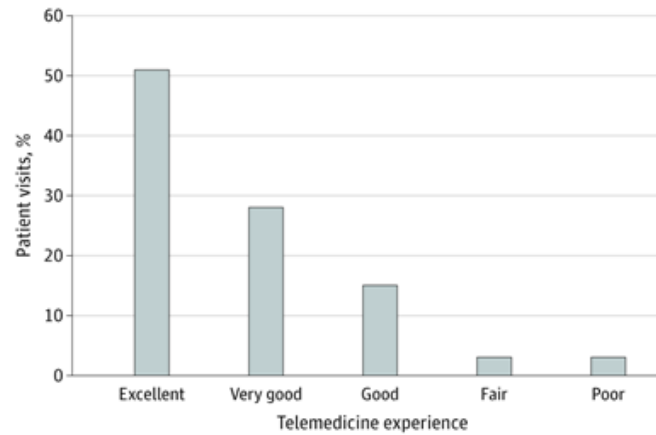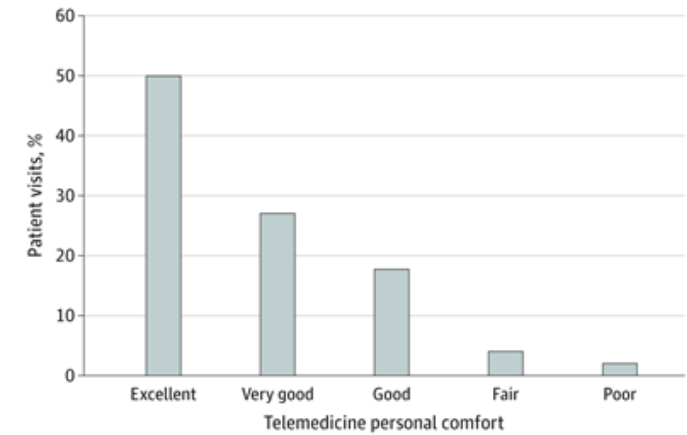
FINDINGS

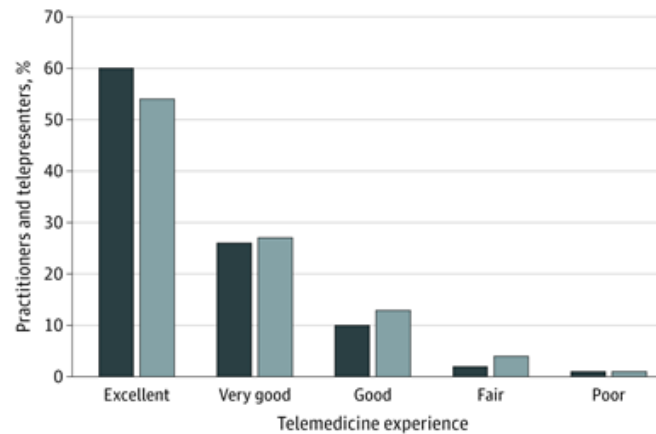- Telemedicine was well received by patients, nursing staff, and practitioners.

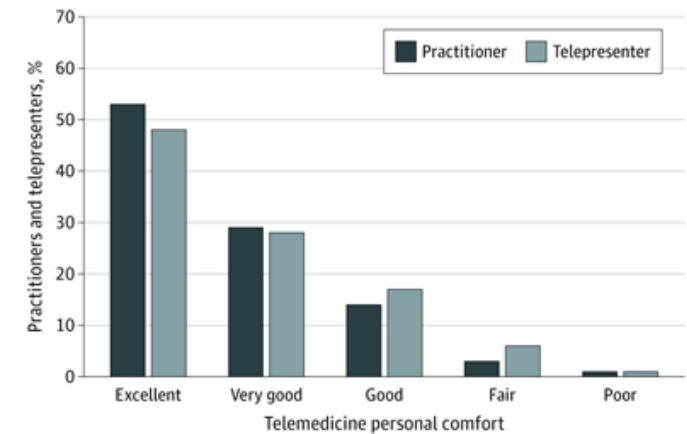A. Overall telemedicine experience for patients
B. Telemedicine personal comfort for patients
C. Overall telemedicine experience for practitioners and telepresenters
D. Telemedicine personal comfort for practitioners and telepresenters

Khairat S et al. Implementation and Evaluation of a Telemedicine Program for Specialty Care in North Carolina Correctional Facilities. *JAMA Netw Open.* 2021.

IMPACT

Impact:

⬇ costs

⬆ patient and provider experiences

⬆ number of specialty clinics

Policy Implications:

- Scale up

- Data-driven evidence to drive policy expansion

TIPS FOR CROS-SECTOR PARNERSHIP

1 — Understand the problem

2 — Create interdisciplinary team

3 — Step-wise approach

4 — Continuous Evaluation and Sustainability plan

QUESTIONS?

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