

Letter to the Editor

# Authors' Reply: Japan's Telepsychiatry Dissemination: Current Status and Challenges

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## Introduction

We thank the authors for their knowledgeable comments [1] on our study [2]. Our results suggest that although telemedicine is not widely used in the field of psychiatry and psychosomatic medicine, it is desired by the patient population receiving medical care. Deregulation of the restriction and setting higher reimbursement rates are considered important, but evidence is

needed for this to happen. We believe that the results recently presented by Dr Kishimoto and colleagues [3] are very important, and the fact that they show that telemedicine in this field is not inferior to face-to-face care is good information not only for health care providers and the patient population, but also for government agencies as a resource for developing policy. This kind of evidence needs to be accumulated, and more research on telemedicine is needed in the future.

**Conflicts of Interest**

None declared.

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