Why did you choose to study telemedicine?

I became interested in telemedicine when I was working with Dr. Michael Rothberg at the Cleveland Clinic. We were looking at the impact of telemedicine on antibiotic prescribing. My background is in infectious diseases, and I was interested in using telemedicine to improve antibiotic stewardship in patients with community-acquired pneumonia (CAP).

What is the significance of your research?

My research aims to understand how telemedicine is used in the context of antibiotic prescribing for CAP. The significance of this research is to improve antibiotic stewardship by identifying factors that influence the decision to prescribe antibiotics via telemedicine, and to understand the potential impact of telemedicine on antibiotic use and outcomes in patients with CAP.

What did you find?

I found that telemedicine is a feasible and acceptable alternative to traditional care for managing CAP. However, there is a lack of evidence on the impact of telemedicine on antibiotic use and outcomes. My research will provide important insights into the role of telemedicine in antibiotic prescribing for CAP.

Does your research have any real-world implications?

Yes, my research has potential real-world implications. If telemedicine can be shown to improve antibiotic stewardship, it could lead to fewer antimicrobial prescriptions and reduced antimicrobial resistance. This would have significant benefits for public health and the sustainability of our healthcare system.

How will findings from your research impact clinical care at the Cleveland Clinic?

The findings from my research will inform clinical decision-making at the Cleveland Clinic. The results will be used to guide the development of clinical guidelines and educational programs for healthcare providers. This will ultimately lead to improved patient outcomes and more efficient use of healthcare resources.

Featured study-in-progress:

Improving Antibiotic Prescribing for Community-Acquired Pneumonia using Large Observational Databases

Principal Investigator: Abhishek Deshpande, MD, PhD
Co-Investigators: Michael Rothberg, MD, MPH

Connecting everyday perceptions (CEP) is providing a unique opportunity to study the impact of technology on antibiotic prescribing patterns. My research aims to understand how telemedicine can be used to improve antibiotic stewardship in patients with CAP. The study will involve analyzing data from large observational databases to identify factors that influence antibiotic prescribing decisions.

Does targeted antimicrobial prescribing using local antibiograms lead to better clinical outcomes?

While treatment guidelines encourage physicians to consider local antibiograms, many factors influence antibiotic prescribing patterns. My research will investigate the impact of targeted antimicrobial prescribing on clinical outcomes in patients with CAP. The study will involve analyzing data from large observational databases to identify factors that influence antibiotic prescribing decisions.