

Physicians' Expectations

Alexander Horsch

TU Munich & University of Tromsø

Tromsø Telemedicine Conference 12/06/2007

EHTEL Symposium, Part II, Round Table

What physicians?



- Pioneering ones?
- Research-doing ones?
- Technology-loving ones?

- **Sorry, but...**
...none of these – just all those together
who do the vast majority of doctors' work.

Expectation 1



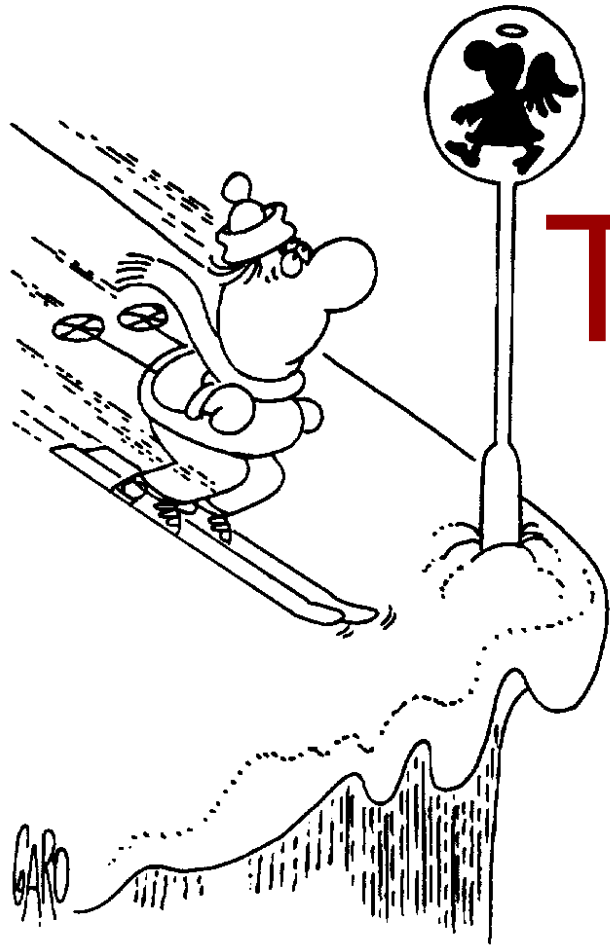
- **Telemedicine must support us in doing our job. It must**
 - add value to how we can do our work
 - offer continuing education on-the-fly
 - be smoothly integrated in our workflows
 - be just another button on our workstations
 - be robust, reliable, easy-to-use

Expectation 2

- Telemedicine should exhibit a reasonable cost-benefit ratio. It should
 - not cause us significant additional investment and running costs
 - be reimbursed to colleagues providing a telemedicine service

Expectation 3

- **Telemedicine must not caricature our role as GPs or specialists. It must not**
 - make us feel stupid
 - undermine our expertise
 - eradicate our specialties
 - hamper interaction with our patients



Only angels can fly!

Telemedicine...?

...for us a **TOOL**
not a **TOY!!**

...which hopefully will improve
our situation, not make it worse!