Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14475

POLICY TYPE: Parliamentary submission
DATE: 2022-05-09
TOPICS: Health systems, system funding and performance
        Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Best practices for smartphone and smart-device clinical photo taking and sharing

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13860

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE  2018-03-03
TOPICS  Health information and e-health
         Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

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Best practices for smartphone and smart-device clinical photo taking and sharing

Practitioners and patients are encouraged to use smartphones as a tool to capture images of clinical conditions for diagnostic and educational purposes. To ensure that the patient's privacy is respected and that the images are used ethically and appropriately, the following best practices are recommended:

1. Obtain informed consent from the patient before taking any clinical photos.
2. Explain the purpose of the photos to the patient and ensure they understand the intended use.
3. Ensure that the patient agrees to the use of the photos for educational or diagnostic purposes.
4. Use privacy filters or blurring techniques to protect patient's identity in photos.
5. Store clinical photos securely and ensure they are accessible only to authorized personnel.
6. Remove any identifying information such as location, date, or patient's name from the photos.
7. Do not share clinical photos on social media or public platforms without explicit consent from the patient.
8. Respect patient confidentiality and ensure that photos are not distributed beyond the intended audience.

These best practices help ensure that the use of clinical photos is ethical, respectful, and in the best interest of the patient.
Principles concerning physician information

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy208

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2002-06-02

TOPICS
Health information and e-health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents