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Documents
Guiding principles for the optimal use of data analytics by physicians at the point of care

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11812

Guiding Principles for the Optimal Use of Data Analytics by Physicians at the Point of Care

Executive Summary

Electronic health records (EHRs) are being used more widely in Canada than ever before. A majority of physicians in Canada have access to EHRs, which are used to store patient information, which provides opportunities for the use of big data approaches. The use of big data approaches may be to improve the quality and efficiency of care, to improve patient outcomes, or to enhance the work of physicians. However, big data approaches may also raise concerns for the privacy of patients and for the safety of care. The CMA believes that physicians should be involved in the development and use of big data approaches to ensure that the benefits of these approaches are realized without compromising the safety and privacy of patients.

The CMA believes that the following guiding principles should be followed when using big data approaches by physicians:

1. Data should be used to improve the quality and efficiency of care, to improve patient outcomes, or to enhance the work of physicians.
2. Data should be used in a way that respects the privacy of patients.
3. Data should be used in a way that protects the safety of care.
4. Data should be used in a way that respects the autonomy of patients.
5. Data should be used in a way that respects the confidentiality of patient information.
6. Data should be used in a way that respects the security of patient information.

The CMA believes that these guiding principles should be followed when using big data approaches by physicians. The CMA also believes that these guiding principles should be widely communicated to patients.

The CMA recommends that physicians follow these guiding principles when using big data approaches. The CMA also recommends that physicians communicate these guiding principles to patients.

Documents

CMA POLICY

Guiding Principles for the Optimal Use of Data Analytics by Physicians at the Point of Care

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