Guiding principles for physicians recommending mobile health applications to patients

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GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR PHYSICIANS RECOMMENDING MOBILE HEALTH APPLICATIONS TO PATIENTS

The document is designed to provide guidance to physicians about how to recommend mobile health applications to patients in a manner that is consistent with the patient’s health care, patient privacy, and health information

The policy provides guidance for the Canadian Medical Association’s (CMA) Position Guidelines on Mobile Health Applications. The policy outlines principles for physicians to consider when recommending mobile health applications to patients.

Background

1. Mobile health applications, also known as health informatics, are applications designed to assist in the management of patient health or to support patient care. They can include applications for communication, education, therapy, or support.
2. The CMA has developed position guidelines to ensure that mobile health applications are used in a manner that is consistent with patient privacy and health information.
3. The policy is intended to provide guidance to physicians on how to recommend mobile health applications to patients in a manner that is consistent with the patient’s health care, patient privacy, and health information.

Recommendations

1. Physicians should consider the following principles when recommending mobile health applications to patients:
   a. Patient privacy and confidentiality: Physicians should ensure that mobile health applications are used in a manner that is consistent with patient privacy and confidentiality.
   b. Patient autonomy: Physicians should ensure that patients have the ability to choose and use mobile health applications in a manner that is consistent with their health care.
   c. Patient safety: Physicians should ensure that mobile health applications are used in a manner that is consistent with patient safety.
   d. Patient empowerment: Physicians should encourage patients to use mobile health applications in a manner that is consistent with patient empowerment.

The policy is intended to provide guidance to physicians on how to recommend mobile health applications to patients in a manner that is consistent with the patient’s health care, patient privacy, and health information.