EMERGING 21ST CENTURY MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES

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ABSTRACT: This article deals with the emerging system of medicine. The Past and the future of this science. We try to generalize these themes in our article.

KEYWORDS: medicine, useful, general, fully.

1. INTRODUCTION

Although several medical technologies have been around since decades and are in the continuous process of development, some latest technologies are changing the way medicine would be practiced in the future. These technologies would allow medical practice from anywhere, any time and from any device. These include smart phones, Tablet PCs, Touch screens, digital ink, voice recognition, Electronic Health Records (EHRs), Health Information Exchange (HIE), Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN), Personal Health Records (PHRs), patient portals, Nanomedicine, genome-based personalized medicine, Geographical Positioning System (GPS), Radiofrequency Identification (RFID), Telemedicine, clinical decision support (CDS), mobile home healthcare, cloud computing, and social media, to name a few significant. Mobile technology is touching virtually every aspect of our lives to the extent of creating dependency. Entry of mobile devices in the healthcare arena is a very recent development and hence is still in infancy. These smart technologies vary from hand held and pocket size devices to iPads that can fit handbags and lap top computers.

2. MAIN PART

Their use is not only restricted to healthcare providers, but extended to patients and associated businesses for providing medical care to patients, making appointments, and using health information for billing. Use of mobile technology in the developing countries, with no or little traditional communication infrastructure and in remote areas, for health education, clinical monitoring, and research has been phenomenal. These are just a few applications of the mobile technology in the healthcare with many more and diverse in the pipeline along with their unique challenges, while opening the doors to new opportunities. The intent of this article is to review these technologies and assess their impact on the 21st Century healthcare.

SMART PHONES
Smart phones are smart enough to perform a number of computing activities in addition to the regular phone functions. In fact, smart phones like iPhone and BlackBerry are microcomputers that can access and process host of data and have camera, interfaces, internet browsing, emailing, text and instant messaging, Wi-Fi, and Geographical Positioning System (GPS) capabilities.

3. CONCLUSION

Just like they have revolutionized our several facets of life, they have changed the face of healthcare. Some of the ways the smart phones can be and are being used in healthcare both by the providers and the patients are:

Healthcare Providers:

- Review patient information.
- Review lab results.
- Provide medical advice.
- Connect to the facility’s electronic health record.
- Create and send prescription to the patient’s Pharmacy.
- As charge captures (capturing procedure and disease codes) and bill patients.
- Make dictation
- Manage clinical messages.

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