Use of computer and mobile phone in medical sciences

Computers and smart phones have revolutionized the subjects of healthcare and laboratory medicine. Recently, smart phones and computers have become an essential part of health-care delivery [1]. Patients are the main stakeholders in healthcare, and quick and prompt reporting and research is important, which can be duly facilitated by use of technology like software, social media such as Whatsapp and internet [2]. Furthermore, information and communication technology has the potential to address some of the most intriguing and challenging aspects of healthcare, in diagnostics as well as management [3]. Social media can also play a decisive role in patient safety assurance, disseminating healthcare-related information among practitioners and health-care delivery to the doorstep [4]. Information technology is also a key driving force of innovation in healthcare [5].

In this issue of Eastern Journal of Medical Sciences, Ganguly et al. have reported the use of web-based software to check PPTCT program compliance in HIV affected patients. More such studies are the need of the hour. Overuse of gadgets and technology may be harmful too, but correct and targeted use can only help in ensuring proper health-care delivery, timely diagnosis of diseases and also help in reaching out to patients. All these things are very interesting new and less travelled avenues of research.

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