

Healthcare Technology: Why is it Important?

Every field of life today depends on technology in some way. Each day, there are new technological devices made to help make people's lives easier and to assist them with their work. Moreover, the medical and healthcare fields are heavily reliant on technology. Several technological devices and equipment have been invented in the healthcare industry. A wireless brain sensor, digital thermometer, blood glucose meter, pulse oximeter, smart inhaler, and insulin pump are among the medical devices. The purpose of these devices is to improve patient care.

The concept of medical technology includes all the technology used to save lives. Hospitals and other healthcare facilities use more than 500,000 devices and equipment technology. A doctor's only ability before medical technology was to predict diseases, i.e. the illness or problem the patient is afflicted with. That's exactly what makes it difficult for doctors to diagnose the exact disease a patient is suffering from. With the development of medical technologies, it has become much easier for them to diagnose a problem or disease and prescribe a proper treatment to the patients.

This is why technology plays such a crucial role in the medical field. Medical technology offers a lot of benefits, but it also has many disadvantages.

Advantages of Medical Technology in Healthcare

1. Hospital Communication Systems

Patients can contact their doctors or nurses via a variety of devices. A digital device like this is placed in a patient's room or ward in a hospital. These devices can be used by patients in case of an emergency. This allows doctors or nurses to see the patient at the right time. Patients and doctors benefit greatly from technology in this way. By using such a device, the doctor can reach the patients without wasting time and save their lives.

2. How technology improves healthcare in hospitals

In the medical field, technological devices are used a lot to improve the quality of care. Modern medical devices such as portable defibrillators, drug management systems, MR systems, and electronic IV monitors have improved the quality of healthcare.

3. Medical records of patients in hospitals in electronic format

Now, the patient's health records are stored electronically. Many hospitals and specialists store the complete health records of patients electronically. Databases or cloud servers keep records about patients. The computerized system is faster than keeping records on paper. Instead of paper records, it takes less time.

Disadvantages of Technology in Healthcare

1. Patients' treatment costs increase

One of the disadvantages of medical technology is the increased cost of treatment. Almost all treatments and surgeries involving technology are extremely costly, such as robotic surgery. Other kinds of surgeries using technological machinery can be very expensive too. The vast majority of patients live in rural areas and are poor. Costly surgeries are out of reach for poor patients. Health care has been made more accessible by technology, but also more expensive that the patients cannot afford.

2. Display incorrect results of the patients' condition

One of the cons of medical technology is sometimes the machinery or technological devices show the wrong result. Sometimes it didn't show the accurate result of the patients to the doctor. The technological machines are made by engineers and programmers. Sometimes the errors and bugs come into it. Then it didn't work properly. If it shows the wrong result and the doctor gives the wrong diagnosis to the patients, then it takes the patient's life into danger. This is one of the most dangerous cons of medical technology for the patients

3. Breach of patient information

It is also a disadvantage of medical technology that it lacks information. To protect the privacy of patients, hospitals have laws concerning safety and privacy. However, technology can break this law. In hospital computer databases, information about patients can be leaked. It is possible for computer systems to be hacked, allowing confidential information about a patient's treatment to be stolen and changed. If someone changes a patient's full treatment history. The next treatment can therefore be at risk.

4. Recovery is time-consuming

Scientists and engineers design the technological machines and gadgets that are used in hospitals for treatments and checkups of patients. When a fault or error occurs. The machine cannot be fixed because no one has the knowledge of recovering and repairing it. It required a person with specific knowledge of it. It can be fixed by the engineers who made it. Therefore, it takes a lot of time to fix and recover the machines.

5. Damage to the cells and organs of the patients

Laser surgeries have become very popular. It has a lot of negative effects on our bodies. Lasers can cause damage to the body's cells. The chemicals can damage our body's other internal organs, which is very harmful,

6. Providing online healthcare to patients

Online treatment is now offered by many doctors. They are contacted online by patients and asked to conduct a diagnosis. It is not necessary for the patients to go to the doctors' clinic. The treatment can easily be obtained at home. In the absence of any examination and analysis of the patient's medical history, the doctor will give a diagnosis that can be wrong and dangerous to the patient.

7. Treatment by automatic machines

An implanted machine is fixed within the patient's body. It analyzes the body of a patient and injects the medicine based on how the body is functioning. Errors and bugs may occur in these machines because they were made using programming. Furthermore, it can result in the wrong diagnosis being inserted into the body of the patient which causes the critical condition and death of the patient.

Instructions: Read the article again and CHECK True or False.

1. Hospital and healthcare facilities use more than 500,000 devices and equipment technology
TRUE FALSE
2. Doctors have improved the ability to predict diseases due to medical technologies.
TRUE FALSE
3. One disadvantage of medical technology is that hospitals store the complete health records of patients electronically.
TRUE FALSE
4. Medical technology can be afforded by everybody.
TRUE FALSE
5. Medical technology is 100% accurate.
TRUE FALSE
6. Computer databases can be hacked and the patient's treatment can be stolen and changed.
TRUE FALSE
7. Trying to fix a technological machine can be time-consuming
TRUE FALSE
8. Laser surgeries don't have any negative effects on people's body.
TRUE FALSE
9. Online treatment is offered by doctors; however, patients can obtain a wrong diagnosis.
TRUE FALSE
10. An advantage of an implanted machine is that it can give an accurate diagnosis.
TRUE FALSE