TELEMEDICINE

HEALTH ETHICS SEMINAR JOHN DOSSETOR HEALTH ETHICS CENTRE November 5, 2020

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

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Telemedicine

Definition:

Basically any communication that is not face to face.



Informed Consent

Consideration of the following:

- Has patient checked website for info?
- Location
- 'visit' may not be suitable for telemedicine



Informed Consent - cont.

- Privacy
- No cost unless not a publicly funded service
- May have to refer
- Test results



Number of Interactions with Patients

- No AB practice permit 5xyr
- Emergency
- Scope of practice
- Referral of patient



Alberta physician practicing outside Alberta

- Where licensed
- Records
- Referral-location of consultant

- Record keeping
- Cost



Standards of Practice

- Code of Ethics
- Alberta and other Provinces, allowing telemedicine, have Standards of Practice and/or guidelines



Prescriptions

Limitations - must not issue unless:

Hx obtained

Concern:

- reliability
- sources



Limitations - must not issue unless (cont.):

Appropriate exam performed

Concern:

- training "laying on of hands"
- who performs
- reliability of findings



Limitations - must not issue unless (cont.):

Has Dx

Concern:

- differential Dx?
- follow-up



Limitations - must not issue unless (cont.):

Ensures no contradictions

Concern:

depends on Hx and sources



Limitations - must not issue unless (cont.):

Risks/benefits explained

Concern:

- what if risk materializes?



Can issue:

- In consult with another health prof.
- Has access to medical records
- Opioids?
- An emergency?



Record Keeping

- Patient should read and understand privacy issues
 - how is data protected?

Will info be shared with others? Who?

• How can patient access records?



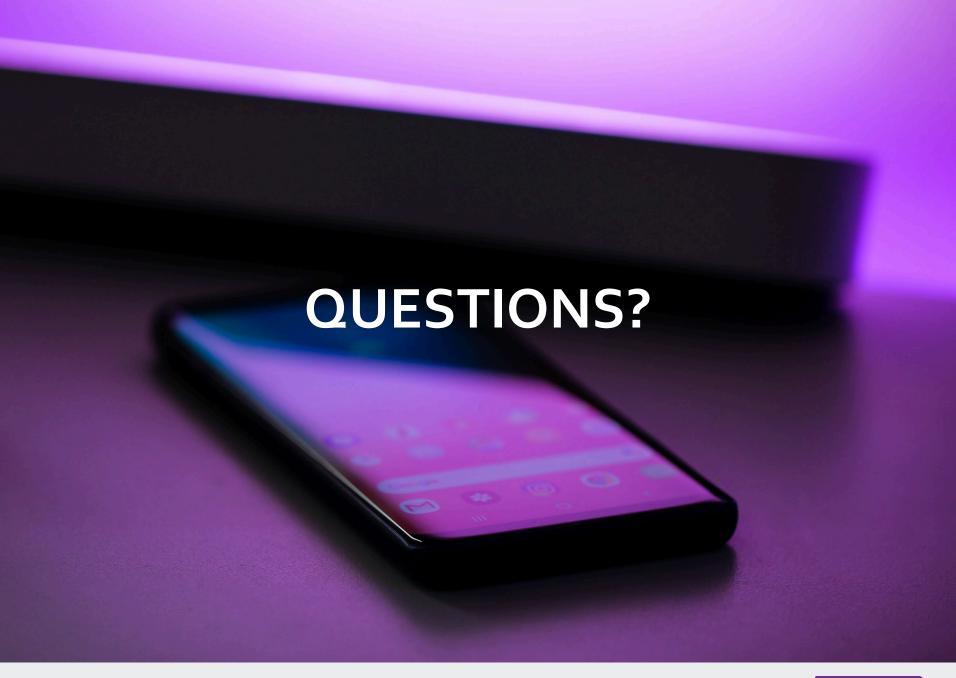
Devices

- Physician uses 3rd party provider
- Is provider approved?
- Is provider insured?
- Cost to transfer information?



Privacy

- Breach?
- Privacy commissioner
- Reputation
- 3rd party lawsuits





Thank you

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