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SESSION 101

Digital Rural Health

Rural Digital Health: With an accelerated development of industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) technologies, a wide range of smart and autonomous devices are currently being deployed in a variety of applications including healthcare. The rural digital paradox is that while rural communities are most in need of improved digital connectivity, they are among the least connected and included. While one size doesn't fit all, we explore the challenges and opportunities for 'customized public policies' to improve rural digital connectivity and inclusion.

1. Describe how digital health technology will disrupt the status quo in the delivery of health care.
2. Evaluate opportunities for real-time information and "big data" analytics to improve the timeliness, equity and effectiveness of public health and patient care.
3. Analyze how emerging information technologies will enable patients to exert control over their personal health information and proactively manage their health and health care.
4. Expose the paradox of rural digital health: those communities most in need of improved digital connectivity to compensate for their remoteness are the least connected and included.
5. Describe the need for a pan-Canadian digital health strategy and regulation.
6. Define a broader understanding of digital public health ecology. That is, the impact of digital health on and between people and the transformation and flux of energy and matter.