

Review of: "Treading the Thin Line Between Health Ethics and Patient Care in the Application of Telemedicine: The Case of Sound Ethical Guidelines in Telemedicine in Sub-Saharan Africa"

Rinaldo Zanini

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I read this article with great interest. I think it is an absolutely topical topic and one that is in great need of in-depth study. The issues of ethics and professional fairness are those that are addressed all over the world and in all health systems. I think we need to consider some of the specific aspects of the SSA area to try to balance some issues related to the guarantee of the correct use of technology, ethics issues, and the need to use TM as a daily tool, especially in areas with large distances to be covered:

1. One could imagine co-instructing a checklist with pathologies and clinical situations in which it is not possible to stigmatize patients. I am thinking of some respiratory diseases, situations of bacterial diseases, and clinical problems in which the same pathologies are evident and manifest for eclectic symptoms.
2. Telemedicine could find great application for screening projects through the communication of specially prepared checklists to be answered. I am thinking primarily of certain aspects such as growth (weight and height) or the achievement of certain stages of neuromotor development in children.
3. Use - even temporary - for follow-up needs 4) health education, perhaps looking for alliances and fertile ground in schools in the last years of attendance.

Thank you for sending your fine paper for a referee.

Rinaldo Zanini