Can self-regulation protect patients as machines mediate medicine?

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AI in healthcare (news articles here...)
Protecting & promoting patient safety

A range of harms may result from the use of AI in healthcare, including:

• Physical or psychological harm caused by AI (content)
  • e.g. bias in technology
• Physical or psychological harm caused by improper use of AI or failure to use AI by healthcare providers (operation)
  • e.g. clinician fails to use an algorithm or device properly
• Breach of patient privacy
• Use of AI outside the traditional health care context (apps, etc)
Regulation: Who & How?

- Various sources of regulation:
  - Federal and provincial governments
  - Tort law
  - Self-regulation
Self-regulation

“[i]n return for a physician’s commitment to altruistic service, a guarantee of professional competence, the demonstration of morality and integrity in their activities, and their agreement to address issues of social concern, society grants to both individual physicians and the profession considerable autonomy in practice, status in the community, financial rewards and the privilege of self-regulation.”

-Cruess & Cruess
Public interest mandate

In carrying out its objects, the College has a duty to serve and protect the public interest.
Standard Setting

“To develop, establish, and maintain standards and programs to promote the ability of members to respond to changes in practice environments, advances in technology and other emerging issues.”

-Regulated Professions Procedural Code, Ontario
Education

• How does AI & ML in healthcare work?
• What is the risk of automation?
• Who is responsible for harm?
Accountability

Who is responsible when the use of AI in healthcare results in harm?
Next steps

1. Develop expertise at the College
   - e.g. creation of AI working group

2. Build interprofessional collaborations
   - e.g. scope of practice

3. Coordinate and collaborate with other regulators