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Access to tech can change healthcare scenario: Experts

LUCKNOW: Bringing technology, like tablets and internet, within the reach of the common man can go a long way in providing timely medical help to people.

Experts at the panel discussion on Enhancing Accessibility, Accountability and Affordability of Healthcare in Uttar Pradesh, organised by the Association of Knowledge Workers (AKWL), on Monday were of the view that technology needed to be integrated with the requirement of patients to bring about positive changes.

"A person living in Malihabad may not know who to contact first during illness. Should they rush to Lohia hospital in the city or first go to the next-door community health centre doctor and get primary treatment? Would the doctor at the health centre be able to treat is the big question that no one has answer to," said Dr MC Pant, director of Dr RML Institute of Medical Sciences.

Gurbans Singh Chatwal, managing partner at technical firm MOBILITAS, said a simple tablet with net connectivity and a portable ECG device can help start treatment even before one sees a doctor.

"Sometimes you don't even have to rush to a doctor if technology is put to right use," said Chatwal.

Padma Shri Dr Mansoor Hasan delivered a lecture on the current scenario of treatment and infrastructure in Uttar Pradesh.

The panel discussion, framed by Rajan Johri, managing partner at technical firm LEADWYNN, saw participation of eminent personalities from different fields, including doctors, lawyers, management professionals and entrepreneurs.

The panel members discussed ways to improve the present healthcare scenario in state.

Some of the suggestion were to increase training opportunities for the existing paramedical staff, roping in private sector and bringing down cost of treatment through right diagnosis.

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