Key Takeaways for "China and Medical AI: Implications of Big Biodata for the Bioeconomy"

Medical artificial intelligence can power new discoveries for human health while contributing to the growing bioeconomy, giving the countries that lead in its development a likely competitive economic advantage and the ability to set future global standards and norms. As the United States considers strategies to boost its competitiveness, U.S. policymakers should note that China has created a comprehensive national strategy to support medical AI development and advance its goals for bioeconomy leadership, ranging from the collection and protection of vast amounts of biodata, to the facilitation of research and development, to supporting medical AI commercialization.

- **China has access to publicly-available biodata from around the world, while its domestic datasets are closed off to other countries.** Access to more biodata means more powerful medical AI applications.

- **Medical AI research publications from both China and the United States are on the rise.** China's research output is likely to continue to grow due to the many resources the Chinese government is pouring into this area.

- **Beijing is promoting medical AI commercialization, and top Chinese technology companies not previously involved in biotechnology are moving into the medical AI space.** Policies to support companies and facilitate regulatory approval can accelerate medical device development.

China's strategy for biodata collection and medical AI development positions it to be a leader in this sector. U.S. policymakers should consider the following:

1. **China's accumulation and use of biodata impacts U.S. competitiveness in the global bioeconomy.**

2. **If China leads the world in this arena, future developments may not align with U.S. priorities due to differences in research transparency, privacy, and medical device approval mechanisms.**

3. Adoption of medical AI technologies from Chinese companies could allow for the collection of health data from U.S. patients, to be fed back into China's databases. **While this accumulation could lead to better medical AI, it would also widen the data resource gap between China and the rest of the world.**

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