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AI TECHNOLOGIES' REAL-WORLD CONSEQUENCES FOR REVOLUTIONIZING HEALTHCARE

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ABSTRACT

Artificial intelligence (AI) and medicine are revolutionizing the healthcare industry, with immediate practical implications that are already transforming the field. AI's ability to analyze large datasets and produce data-driven predictions is improving medical diagnosis, therapy and patient care. AI-powered diagnostic tools improve the precision of disease detection and AI facilitates personalized therapy selection and expedites the discovery of new medications. Remote patient monitoring and virtual health assistants enhance patient treatment. Predictive analytics enables the forecasting of disease outbreaks and the optimization of healthcare resources. However, there are ethical and legal considerations to make, like accountability, data privacy and fairness. As AI advances, it has the potential to greatly improve healthcare; nevertheless, for medical practice to remain creative, ethical and compassionate in the future, proper integration is required.

KEYWORDS

Artificial intelligence, Healthcare Medicine, Medical imaging, Drug discovery and Remote patient monitoring.

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INTRODUCTION

The use of artificial intelligence has ushered in a new era of prospects for the modern healthcare industry (AI). This technological revolution is not only radically changing the way doctors identify and treat illnesses, but it is also having a big impact on patient outcomes and the way healthcare is delivered as a whole. AI in healthcare might be the outcome of a combination of highly developed processing power, enormous amounts of medical data and innovative algorithms created to tackle

challenging medical problems. Long-term improvements in patient care could result from this significant change in procedures and medical decision-making. The ability of AI to use large data sets to make precise diagnoses is one of its biggest contributions to medicine. Traditional diagnostic approaches frequently rely on the manual interpretation of patient histories, imaging studies, and test results. However, AI is unmatched in its capacity to swiftly and accurately analyze massive datasets. For instance, deep learning algorithms can spot patterns and anomalies in medical imaging, which opens the door to early disease detection that was previously unfeasible. Utilize radiology as an example. When using X-rays, MRIs and CT scans to diagnose medical conditions, radiologists are crucial¹. Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly developing in the healthcare sector because of its capacity to leverage big data, obtain insight and support evidence-based clinical decision-making in order to deliver value-based care. Health leaders need to understand where artificial intelligence (AI) is at now and how to use it to improve the security, efficacy, and usability of healthcare services while accelerating the sector's digital transformation. Artificial intelligence (AI) is beginning to affect almost every aspect of healthcare, such as clinical decision support at points of care, patient self-management of chronic conditions at home, and real-world drug research. On the other hand, developing and utilizing AI technology is costly and challenging². There are several challenges facing AI in healthcare organizations that need to be resolved. These challenges include the following³: A lack of awareness regarding the potential and constraints of different AI technologies⁴; a lack of clear strategies for integrating different AI technologies into the present healthcare systems in order to effectively tackle the most pressing problems that health organizations are currently facing and⁵ a lack of personnel with the necessary training to implement AI⁶. Experts predict that artificial intelligence (AI) will significantly affect a wide range of healthcare domains, including clinical decision-making and chronic disease management⁷. Though they are still in the early stages of use, AI algorithms are showing promise in specializations like as cardiology, radiology, pathology, and

ophthalmology⁸. This raises a thought-provoking question. Will AI eventually take the role of certain medical specialists, such as radiologists, or will it only make them more effective? Or will it combine the two a little? The hypothesis that artificial intelligence (AI) may ultimately replace some doctors or at the very least improve their work is explored in this study as it looks at potential uses of AI in the medical field. This section looks at the numerous applications of AI in healthcare. Topics include AI-driven diagnostics, robotic surgery, virtual health assistants, predictive analytics, and intelligent healthcare management systems. Case studies and real-world examples demonstrate how these technologies are transforming patient care, increasing accuracy, and reducing healthcare costs. Examining the challenges associated with integrating AI in the healthcare sector⁹. Concerns regarding privacy, security, and the ethical implications of employing AI algorithms for decision-making are covered in this section. It examines the value of bias mitigation and transparency in AI systems, emphasizing the need for moral AI procedures. This section looks at AI's application in healthcare¹⁰. It discusses cutting edge technologies such as quantum computing, AI-driven medication research and genomics. The section also looks at potential applications of AI in the fight against uncommon diseases and pandemics, highlighting the technology's revolutionary potential to totally change public health strategies¹¹. It was projected in 2013 that there would be a needs-based shortage of about 18 million healthcare workers globally¹². This shortage is caused by a number of factors related to the continuous underfunding of health workforce recruiting, education and labor. Restrictions set by the market¹³. The shortage and distribution problems have led to unsatisfactory work environments, which have increased workloads and resulted in stress-related burnout among the surviving workforces. This is decreasing the inclination of fresh graduates to pursue employment in healthcare, in addition to raising attrition rates. Recent research^{14,15} indicates that in addition to increasing patient wait times, the ongoing staffing shortages will have a detrimental impact on the overall quality of healthcare¹⁶. As part of a cycle of care,

healthcare providers collect, assess, and integrate data from various sources. Use clinical expertise and empirical research to validate these facts in order to arrive at conclusions that can be implemented¹⁷. In the current work environment, healthcare professionals encounter a wide range of occupational stressors, such as a large workload, time limits, administrative duties, a lack of social support from coworkers, uncertainty over patient care, and a propensity for emotional reactions. They usually have a hard time adjusting to these changes. Healthcare workers, especially clinical professionals, are increasingly concerned about burnout as a workplace issue; rates can range from 25% to 75% in some clinical specializations¹⁸. Health systems need to radically rethink how they go about maintaining quality and safety, boosting productivity, and ensuring that employees are content and actively encouraged to do their jobs. Rapid and disruptive technological change has the potential to lead to healthcare reforms that improve patient outcomes and provider satisfaction and efficiency¹⁹. The integration of technology such as artificial intelligence (AI) to address both new and existing health system concerns, including the labor force, has brought attention to this possibility on a global scale^{20,21}.

Current healthcare challenges: The role of technology

Health systems need to radically rethink how they go about maintaining quality and safety, boosting productivity and ensuring that employees are content and actively encouraged to do their jobs. Rapid and disruptive technological change has the potential to lead to healthcare reforms that improve patient outcomes and provider satisfaction and efficiency¹⁹. The integration of technology such as artificial intelligence (AI) to address both new and existing health system concerns, including the labor force, has brought attention to this possibility on a global scale^{20,21}. Healthcare providers are unable to effectively utilize the new information because of time constraints, cognitive deficiencies and the sheer volume of information accessible. Even in the largest university medical centers, research on the adoption of tried-and-true innovations in healthcare attests to the unjustifiably slow and imperfect implementation of evidence-based practice²².

Clinical encounters are becoming more complex as a result of an increase in patients presenting with various morbidities. Recent estimates suggest that almost one in six patients in the UK attend general practice consultations with several chronic diseases. This represents nearly one-third of all sessions. Thirteen the majority of clinical practice recommendations and care delivery models are still predicated on vertical nonmorbid approaches, despite the significant prevalence and high cost of multimorbidity²³. The sharing and access of information has been completely transformed by the internet. Nowadays, patients and their families are more informed, capable, and active in the decision-making process when it comes to their health²⁴. They also desire more sophisticated, useful, transparent, affordable, and individualized care. The old approach of solo doctors making decisions based solely on memory and personal experience is insufficient to handle 21st-century health challenges in light of continuous advances in clinical knowledge and evolving patterns of health requirements. Furthermore, as consumerism grows and the availability of internet resources for health-related information expands, the dynamic between the patient and the practitioner will continue to shift. Technological advancements have helped to solve some of these issues. Technological developments have created new devices and drugs, increased diagnosis and treatment options, and enhanced the effectiveness and caliber of healthcare. The delivery of healthcare has been transformed by technology, which has raised living standards and extended life expectancy significantly²⁵. By 2025, the healthcare AI market is expected to have grown from US\$2.1 billion in 2018 to US\$36.1 billion, at a compound annual growth rate of 50.2%.

How can AI transform healthcare?

Both humans and machines have unique benefits and drawbacks, and they can collaborate to improve and provide medical care. The American Medical Association²⁶ has developed a new definition that states that artificial intelligence (AI) in healthcare will be used to enhance human intelligence rather than to replace it. The viewpoint of the American Medical Association emphasizes the interaction between humans and computers, which has

important implications for the use of AI in healthcare. Below are our thoughts on the role of AI and how it should be created, used and integrated to improve human performance and advance the digitalization of healthcare.

Ethical considerations

The ability of AI to recognize patterns and learn from complex, large-scale datasets is now its greatest asset. The use of AI technology is restricted by the quality of the available healthcare data. AI might not work as well in scenarios where data is difficult to obtain or more difficult to digitize. There have been criticisms about the inherent biases and frequent lack of demographic representation in the datasets used to train AI systems²⁷. AI systems typically act as "black boxes," making it difficult to interpret and understand what they do. The difficulties in confirming the results of AI systems have raised concerns about human supervision, responsibility, and openness²⁸. Practical trust is a prerequisite for the successful integration of AI systems in healthcare, as it affects both patients and healthcare providers.

The Benefits and Drawbacks of AI in Healthcare Applications

To improve the diagnosis accuracy of AI-applied systems, the market should develop systems for each specialized region utilizing machine learning algorithms and a substantial number of cases that include patient ethnic and cultural data²⁹. These AI systems have the potential to get increasingly intelligent with the addition of more learning examples from healthcare academics and practitioners. Like every new technical application, medical AI systems have both utopian and dystopian consequences. In the idealized scenario, there are numerous new potential to improve patient outcomes, minimize medical errors and costs, foster patient involvement in their treatment, provide better care and experiences for patients, and increase the administrative efficacy of healthcare professionals^{30,31}. Conversely the dystopian perspective presents a plethora of novel and daunting challenges. The increasing use of patient data for analytics might give rise to worries about medical error accountability³², cyber security for privacy and security³³ and even job loss³⁴. We believe it is critical to look into some of the primary

benefits and drawbacks of implementing AI-based technology in order to guarantee that it is used prudently and extensively in the healthcare industry. We think that in order to ensure that AI is used wisely and that it spreads widely throughout the healthcare sector, some of the most important positive and negative aspects related to the implementation of AI-based technologies should be investigated.

Benefits with AI Applications

The increased use of AI-based technology in the healthcare sector has opened up a wide range of new options. Here, a few of the most significant ones are covered.

Improved Disease Treatments

The launch of IBM Watson marked a significant turning point in the history of data-driven medicine by igniting public interest in the advantages of using cutting-edge digital technology to enhance patient care and public health³⁵. As the real-world examples of AI applications in healthcare demonstrate, cutting-edge technologies are becoming more and more crucial in assisting medical professionals in practically every aspect of patient care. As an illustration, Dawes *et al*³⁶.

Enhanced Patient Involvement and Engagement

Noom, one of the most popular smartphone health coaching apps, functions as a diet app and a mobile diabetes prevention program^{37,38}. According to the business's press release, "we collaborate with clients worldwide to establish better routines, lower their chances of long-term health issues, recover from illness, and cultivate more positive connections with themselves"³⁸.

Enhanced Operational Effectiveness and Lower Medical Expense

As mentioned earlier, AI-enabled medical devices are capable of carrying out a range of diagnostic functions without human involvement. For example, an AI-integrated pill camera can be used to check for stomach cancer in place of a time-consuming upper endoscopy³⁹. Escalante *et al.* proposed a new AI-based method⁴⁰ that can test for acute leukemia by analyzing bone marrow structure characteristics without the need for costly conventional approaches. With the help of these AI technologies, diagnosis and treatment processes are now far more efficient and cost-effective.

Enhanced Efficiency and Creation of New Jobs

Will everything that humans do now someday be replaced by AI and robotics? The history of industrial development from the first to the fourth industrial revolutions has shown that, even if technologies supplanted many manual labor employments, new jobs were also created to support higher productivity⁴¹. For example, employment in the sectors of digital editing and typography has increased dramatically despite the significant decline in the market for physical copy printing⁴².

Decreased Medical Expenses

Patient-centered, individualized care, diagnosis and treatment utilizing cutting-edge technologies, data- and evidence-based illness prevention and kind, excellent care from medical professionals would all be characteristics of the ideal healthcare service^{30,43}. AI has the potential to secure both high-quality healthcare and significant cost reductions if it is widely used to support such perfect care services. According to a 2021 study by marketing research consulting firm ABI Research, clever application of AI in the healthcare industry might save the US up to \$52 billion⁴⁴.

Drawbacks Involved with AI Applications

Applications of AI offer new opportunities to improve people's daily lives, but they also bring challenges that must be skillfully managed. Because human lives are at stake in the healthcare sector, the challenges are extremely serious. The following are a few of the matters that require expertise.

AI Disparity

The general unchanging trust that patients have in medical professionals is one aspect that distinguishes the healthcare industry from other service sectors⁴⁵. This can be explained by the placebo effect; it has been shown that a medical effect occurs when a patient blindly trusts a doctor's treatment and believes that their ailment will be cured⁴⁶.

Cyber security for Security and Privacy

AI-based technologies and systems rely heavily on large datasets, which presents privacy issues with data collection and sharing^{47,48}. It is very challenging to transmit and manage disease-related data across many databases since patient records contain personal information. This suggests that confidentiality laws must be followed by software development companies, which could pose obstacles to the development of AI.

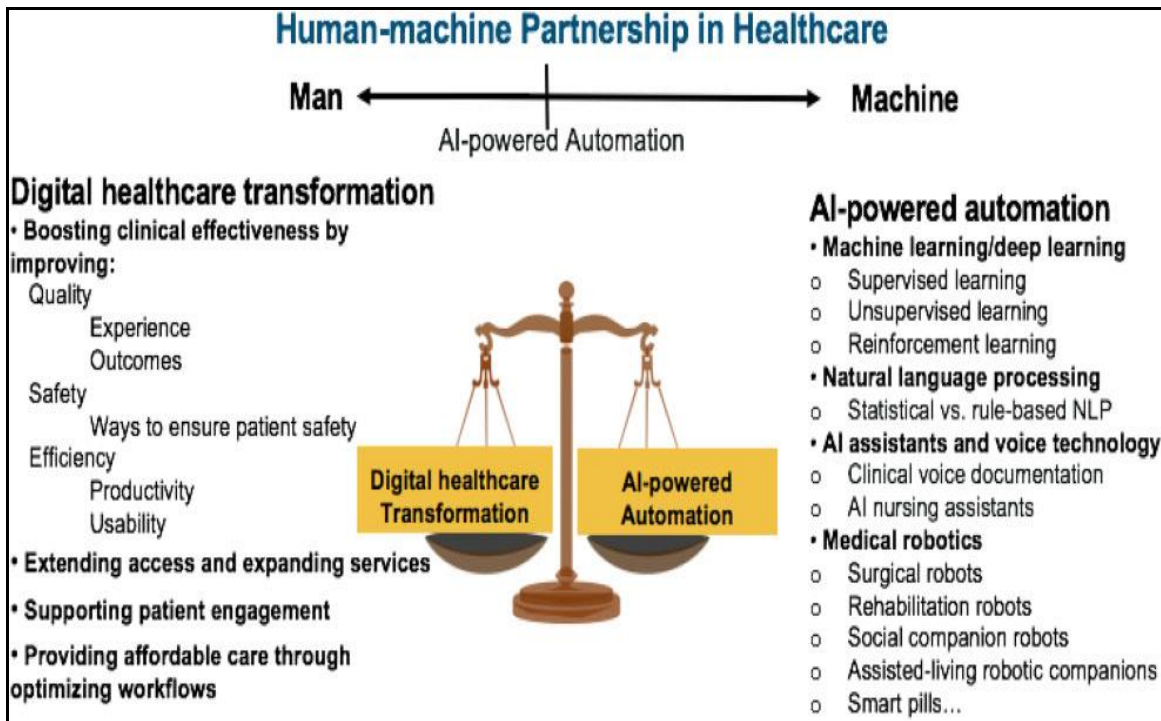


Figure No.1: Human-machine partnership in healthcare

CONCLUSION

AI is becoming more and more integrated into our daily lives; the healthcare industry is no exception. As AI advances, its powers could fundamentally alter the healthcare sector. AI integration will improve the delivery of healthcare by increasing productivity and improving the caliber of some services, which will lead to the provision of more care. The quality and accessibility of health data as well as AI's inherent inability to display certain human characteristics may limit its potential to address important health issues. AI can enable patients to take an active role in their own care and assist physicians in making better therapeutic decisions. By automating repetitive processes, healthcare practitioners can focus on more complex cognitive tasks and patient care. Artificial intelligence (AI) has a lot of potential to boost output, enhance effectiveness and quality and raise provider and patient happiness. AI is a fantastic cognitive aid, but as it is used more and more in the healthcare industry, a number of new challenges have emerged. Concerns concerning the effects on the labor market, particularly as they relate to the duties and capacities of healthcare practitioners, as well as moral and medicolegal concerns, are among them. Concerns around data security and innate biases in the data are also among them.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

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