The promise of AI: Transforming health systems from reactive to predictive, preventative and high performing?

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Artificial Intelligence and the digital revolution for health:

Where AI can improve health and care

- Operational improvement (smart health systems)
- Diagnosis of disease (e.g. retinal imaging, breast cancer screening)
- Treatment (e.g. assisting with treatment decisions or AI as a treatment itself, for example chatbots to support mental health)
- Prevention (e.g. machine learning algorithms to optimise modifiable risk, behavioural interventions, or preventing disease outbreaks)
Narrative of AI in global health is just beginning
Also in high resource settings

**Deep learning** enabled by massive quantities of data, greater computing power & cloud storage

**AI is beginning to have an impact for**
- **Clinicians**, mainly through rapid accurate image interpretation and clinical decision support systems
- **Health systems** through improved efficiencies and costs by enhancing workflow, reducing medical errors, predicting clinical outcomes or monitoring epidemics
- **Patients**, enabling them to process their own data to promote health

**In low resource settings** advances in digital technologies are putting the basics in place for AI in health to expand, with
- strong mobile phone penetrations and mHealth applications
- substantial investments in digitizing health information and in cloud computing
- increasing broadband coverage

### Current challenges for AI in global health

**High promise, little science**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Risk for exacerbating inequities</strong> – use of AI can widen existing inequities, e.g. through a lack of inclusion in datasets, lack of access (digital exclusion)</td>
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<td><strong>Iatrogenic risk</strong> – of faulty algorithms with potential harm to patients. Who takes the blame? (Company, clinician, health care system)</td>
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<td><strong>Security and privacy</strong> – future of AI in medicine rests with how well privacy, security, safety, reliability and ownership of data can be assured, with existing risk of deliberate hacking of algorithms. Public Trust is key.</td>
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<td><strong>Little prospective validation</strong> – for tasks that machines could perform. Clinical validity alongside health systems research and economic validation</td>
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<td><strong>Lack of transparency</strong> – the black box of models and algorithms where it is impossible to understand the determination of the output</td>
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Adapted from Ann Aertz, Novartis Foundation
Garbage in Garbage out? Availability of high quality digital clinical records at scale to train machine learning and clinical AI remains a major challenge (the phenotype)

More poor quality and incomplete data (and especially biased data) won’t necessarily fix the problem. Good data requires time, money and professional capacity

Whose data is it anyway?

Representativeness
Ownership
Public trust

Who gets the blame then the diagnosis is wrong?

The computer
The company
The clinician?

The Topol Review: UK 2019

‘This Review proposes three principles to support the deployment of digital healthcare technologies throughout the UK National Health Service:

1. Patients included as partners and informed about health technologies
2. The healthcare workforce needs expertise and guidance to evaluate new technologies, grounded in real-world evidence.
3. The gift of time: wherever possible the adoption of new technologies should enable staff to gain more time to care’

Are these transferrable principles? Are there novel opportunities for ‘leapfrogging’ in LMICs where there are major skills shortages?
Top technologies

Arrow heat map represents the perceived magnitude of impact on current models of care and, by inference, on the proportion of workforce affected.

- <20%
- 50%
- 80%
- >=80%

Digital Revolution
Connecting and empowering people across the world

- 7 billion: Global mobile phone subscriptions
- 3 billion: Internet users
- 72% people: search for health information online
- 500 million: Tweets per day (95% on mobiles)
- 100 billion: Apps downloaded from Apple App Store
- 11.1 trillion: Economic impact (b) p.a. of IoT by 2025
Algorithm trained on Google search data showed Pearson correlation of 0.96 compared to data from the Royal College of General Practitioners.

Outbreak detection 4 days earlier than traditional surveillance.

i-sense Flu algorithms now adopted by Public Health England for national flu surveillance and used in most recent annual flu report.
12.04.2019

Use case: Automatic image interpretation

Case: Breast cancer screening

The standard is a double reading of mammograms by two experts, which improves accuracy. However, there are too few experts available to meet demand.

Solution

Software is helping radiologists detect breast cancer by using deep learning to act as an independent reader. It also potentially increases the accuracy of screening by reducing the number of false positives and negatives.

Outcome

The software has received CE marking and is undergoing clinical trials in an NHS Test Bed and across Europe.

7.3.5 Speech recognition (Example 5 in Figure 1 – Chapter 3):
South Tees Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Accident and Emergency

South Tees Hospital NHS Foundation Trust A&E department introduced clinical speech recognition as a way of dealing with the rising volume of clinical documentation resulting from increasing patient numbers. The technology improved the ease and speed with which clinical documentation was completed, as well as the quality of documentation. When compared with handwriting, typing or traditional dictation, the technology was found to save three minutes per patient, freeing up vital time for clinicians in A&E to see and treat patients.136

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Each year there are approximately</th>
<th>Using a conservative estimate of</th>
<th>Annually, that equates to approximately</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 million A&amp;E attendances137</td>
<td>one minute saved per patient consultation</td>
<td>400,000 hours of A&amp;E consultation time</td>
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<tr>
<td>63 million outpatient attendances138</td>
<td></td>
<td>230 A&amp;E doctors’ time back for clinical care</td>
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<tr>
<td>340 million GP consultations139</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 million hours of outpatient clinic time</td>
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<td>600 hospital doctors’ time back for clinical care</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5.7 million hours of GP consultation time</td>
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<td>3200 GPs’ time back for clinical care</td>
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Looking to the future: Interventional robotics

**Scenario: Colonoscopy**

Robotic colonoscopy, under development at the University of Leeds and next to first-in-human trials, is designed to be painless and extremely easy to perform.

Roles/functions change

- AI augmentation allows staff (e.g., primary care clinicians) to perform procedures
- Can be performed by clinicians in the community without anaesthetic cover or support
Use case: Mental health triage bot

Case: Speech recognition and natural language processing (NLP)

Patients with acute clinical concerns over their mental health often struggle to access services.

Solution

An NLP-enabled mental health triage bot has been created, which analyses text and voice inputs for emotion and suicidal ideation and is to be built in to the GP IAPT pathway.

Outcome

AI-powered bot is constantly available to patients and negates the need for travel. For clinicians, the bot saves approximately one hour of their time per patient.

Looking to the future: Predictive analytics

Scenario: AutoPrognosis framework

Predictive analytics, based on machine learning, can provide more accurate predictions than clinical risk scores.

It can automatically discover the relevant risk factors and automatically makes design choices on which algorithms to use.

Roles/functions change

- As predictive analytics are increasingly used and embedded in the electronic patient record, their use will become more ubiquitous.
- They can be used by clinicians to better diagnose the patient at hand and by healthcare policy makers to enhance and individualise screening programmes.
Challenges for implementation

• High quality data and supporting infrastructure
• Interdisciplinary collaboration
• Co-production with patients
• Workforce skills – training and career
• Clinical testing and cost-effectiveness. Who determines priorities and where?
• Accountability of the technology
• Regulation
• Interoperability
• Relationship with industry (markets)

Role of Academies in AI development

• Breadth of multi-disciplinary expertise
• International collaboration
• Independent, authoritative voice
• Training, sharing experience, role of young academy (eg GCRF /IAP Phillipines)
• Convening power - public groups and stakeholders
• Review and deploy the evidence as well as making recommendations or developing principles
• Horizon scanning and debate/address upcoming challenges
Recent work in the UK

- **UK Government and Parliament**
  - Growing the artificial intelligence industry in the UK (2017) – BEIS and DCMS
  - The big data dilemma (2016) – House of Commons S&T Committee
- **Academy of Medical Royal Colleges** - Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare (2019)
- **Health Education England** - Preparing the healthcare workforce to deliver the digital future. Topol Review (2019)
- **Academy of Medical Sciences** - Our data driven future in healthcare (2018)
- **Turing Institute** - Growing the national institute for data science and artificial intelligence (2018)
- **Royal Society** - Machine learning: the power and promise of computers that learn by example (2017)