

AI in Healthcare: *Yes, No, Maybe* Some Patient Perspectives

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YES – In Principle and In Practice

- ☺ Surveys consistently show that patients (& public) are positive about AI in healthcare generally – BUT with reservations and questions
- ☺ The main principle for patients/public is that AI should support the safe, equitable, and patient-centred implementation of healthcare
- ☺ Making healthcare systems more efficient and/or patient-centred eg managing waiting lists, combining appointments/visits
- ☺ Helping Doctors assess scans & test results – BUT advising not deciding
- ☺ Shaping personal healthcare plans eg monitoring or follow-up
- ☺ Research - especially around risk (genetic, gender, lifestyle, ethnicity), plus long-term care and pathways, and side and late effects

NO (Mostly non-negotiable)









- ☹ Using identifiable data
- ☹ Unknown (or unapproved) users
- ☹ Unknown (or unapproved) linkages
- ☹ Insecure IT systems
- ☹ Incorrect algorithms

- ☹ **My decisions - my health, my treatment, my choices**

Maybe... Doubts and Differences

- ☹️ Is AI the same as Big Data and/or Machine Learning?
- ☹️ Do all patients/patient groups/patient advocates agree?
- ☹️ Where can I find independent trustworthy information?
- ☹️ Do all healthcare systems have access to the same technology and/or its products?
- ☹️ Are there rules or guidelines (and if so, have patients helped design them)?
- ☹️ Will there be increases in healthcare costs (for systems or patients or public)
- ☹️ Data security – are we sharing or allowing access?

Summary

-  Could it improve equity in care, or will it worse it?
-  Could it improve efficiency in care – for individuals and systems?
-  Could it improve effectiveness in care, including prevention?
-  Trust – who is doing the work, and who is watching them?
-  Transparency – say what you do and do what you say
-  How will it all improve MY care?
-  Will it support or remove MY autonomy, or my doctor's autonomy?
-  Will it replace my doctor?

 *The robot will see you now!*

For More Reading:

Patient and general public attitudes towards clinical artificial intelligence: a mixed methods systematic review

Albert T Young et al; Lancet Digit Health 2021; 3: e599–611

Patient apprehensions about the use of artificial intelligence in Healthcare

Jordan P. Richardson et al; npj Digital Medicine (2021) 4:140

Public perceptions of artificial intelligence in healthcare: ethical concerns and opportunities for patient-centered care

Witkowski et al; BMC Medical Ethics (2024) 25:74