



Bridging Tradition and Innovation: The Hippocratic Oath and ChatGPT in Modern Healthcare

Yudai Kaneda

School of Medicine, Hokkaido University, Hokkaido, Japan

***Correspondence:** Email: nature271828@gmail.com

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Dear Editor-in-Chief

ChatGPT, an AI developed by OpenAI, capable of generating fluent text, is sparking high expectations for transforming the medical field. As the first Large Language Model open to the public, it already has over 100 million global users. Recently, the time physicians can spend at the patient's bedside is often criticized as being increasingly constrained, due to daily duties like record keeping, in addition to their daily clinical duties (1). Moreover, physician burnout has become a global concern under the COVID-19 pandemic (2) but by implementing this kind of AI has potential to reduce physicians' tasks, thus bestowing benefits upon both physicians and patients.

However, potential obstacles to the adoption of AI in the healthcare sector include concerns related to personal information protection and ethical considerations. This is because ChatGPT collects a large amount of personal information from the internet and queries, which raises concerns about potential information leaks through its responses. Furthermore, while ChatGPT generates responses by learning from internet text, it occasionally produces errors, exhibits bias, and even discriminates based on gender or race. Consequently, incorrect medical knowledge could be disseminated more widely and rapidly than ever

before, potentially leading to patient health issues.

To address these concerns, AI should be developed with safety, transparency, and patient benefit in mind, requiring collaboration among experts and policymakers to establish ethical guidelines. It is also essential that physicians recall their original purpose, embodied in the Hippocratic Oath, which dictates that they act in the best interest of their patients to the best of their abilities and judgment (3). Specifically, AI should be implemented not as a replacement for physician ability but as a tool to augment it, ensuring that the decision-making process remains under human control (4).

Physicians also have an ethical duty to correct inaccurate health information, share truthful information, and direct people to reliable sources (5). Therefore, the intention of adopting AI should not be only for simplifying tasks but also fostering a trustworthy environment by displaying empathy, since this can encourage patients and their families to share their concerns. It is crucial to rediscover the value of standing by patients, regardless of location - bedside, clinic, or remote - keeping in mind observational skills, listening skills, instant judgment, communication abilities, and a human touch. There is an urgent



need for combined efforts at the individual, organizational, and administrative levels to introduce AI into the medical field to benefit both physicians and patients.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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