



Who Watches The Machines?

*Responsible Deployment of Decision Technologies
in Healthcare*

UNC Health Technology Symposium
November 30th, 2018

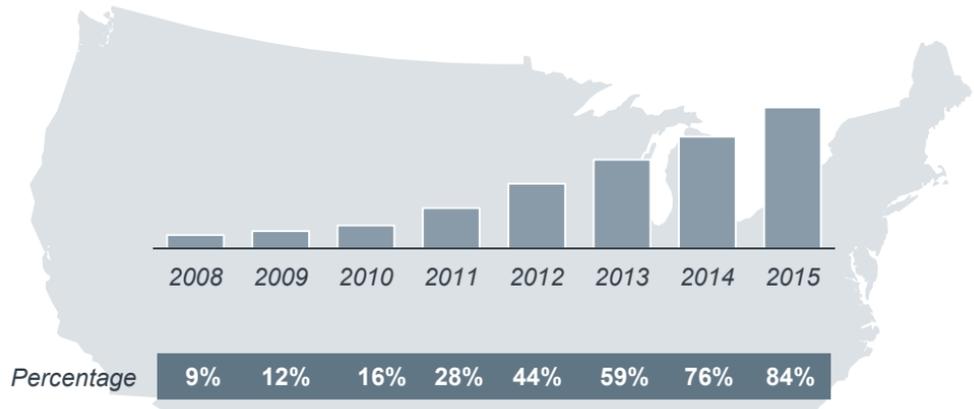
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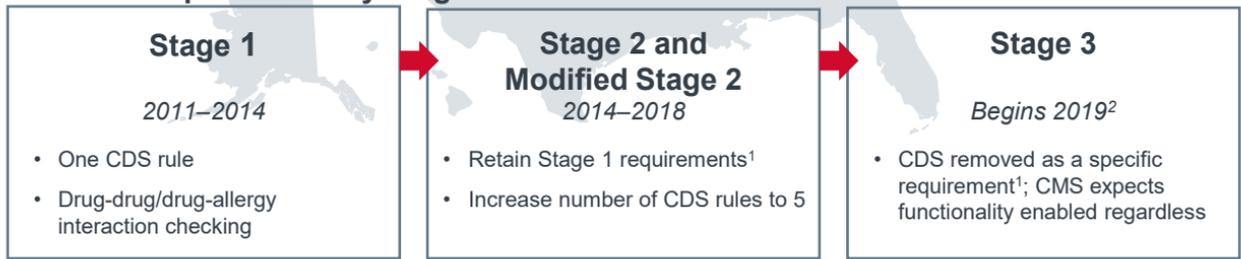
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The Rapid Rise of EHRs

Basic EHR Adoption 2008–2015



MU CDS Requirements by Stage



1) CDS removed from Meaningful Use (MU) for Medicare hospitals effective CY 2017; remains a requirement for Medicaid MU program.
 2) Stage 3 is optional in 2017 and 2018, and proposed to be required in 2019.
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Sources: CMS; ONC Health IT Dashboard Figure 1, <https://dashboard.healthit.gov/evaluations/data-briefs/non-federal-acute-care-hospital-ehr-adoption-2008-2015.php>; Advisory Board research and analysis.

Pockets of Success with Clinical Decision Support

Mercy, St. Louis: Automated Clinical Pathway for Heart Failure



Care standardization the target; bundled payment environment



Heart failure: mortality rate of 6%



Metrics targeted: HF¹ mortality, time to diuretic, reduce variable costs per case



Designed and optimized with analytics vendor platform based on Mercy data, practice, populations; driven from problem list, signs, and symptoms



Default orders—nursing: define daily diuresis goal; CDS-supported medication selection and dosing including Now dosing



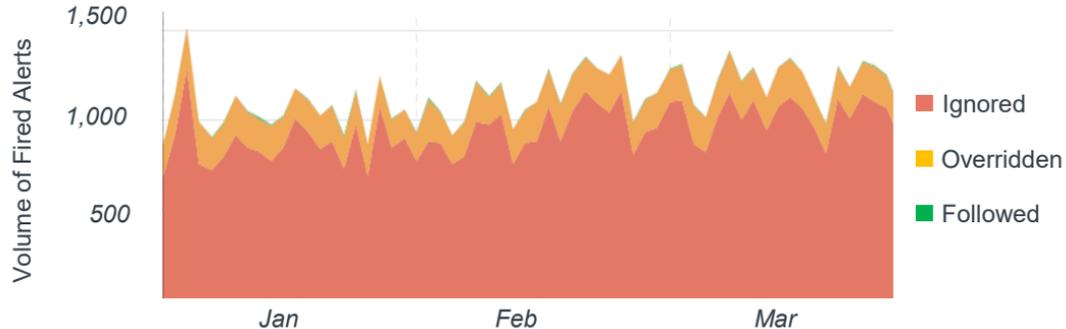
HIMSS Enterprise Davies Award, 2016

1 Hour reduced in door-to-diuretics time under baseline	<2% HF mortality compared with national average 5%
\$800 Variable cost reduction per HF patient	\$28M Direct variable cost savings across 40 pathways in 2 years

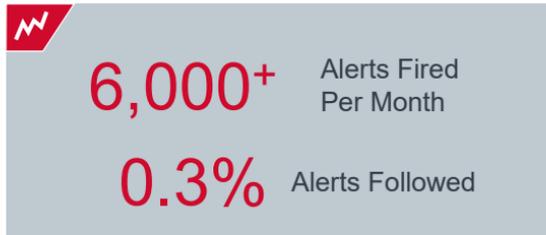
1) HF = Heart failure.

... and a Bad Case of Alert Fatigue

Example: ED¹ Sepsis Detection Alert at Anders Health System²



With Alert Fatigue, Overrides and Frustrations Abound



“They twisted their knee and I get a sepsis alert. It is no wonder these are ignored. They wear you out with alerts! Waste of time and fatigue the staff!!!”

Sources: Electronic Medical Record Adoption Model, HIMSS Analytics, <http://www.himssanalytics.org/provider-solutions>; Gregg H, “Survey: Providers Investing Heavily in EHRs, But Dissatisfied With Purchase,” *Becker’s Hospital Review*, June 2, 2104, <http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/healthcare-information-technology/survey-providers-investing-heavily-in-ehrs-but-dissatisfied-with-purchase.html>; Verdon D, “Physician outcry on EHR functionality, cost will shake the health information technology sector,” *Modern Medicine Network*, February 10, 2014, <http://medicaleconomics.modernmedicine.com/medical-economics/content/tags/ehr/physician-outcry-ehr-functionality-cost-will-shake-health-informa>; Advisory Board research and analysis.

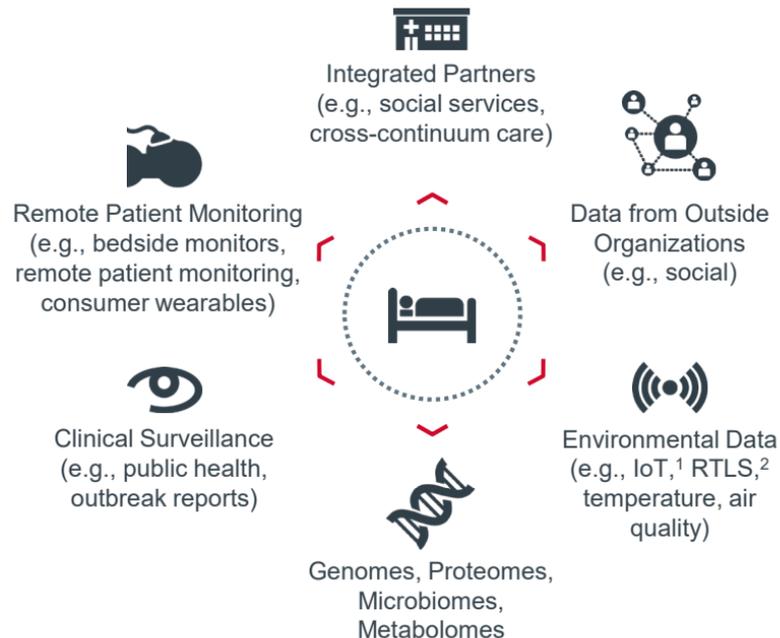
1) ED = Emergency department.

2) Pseudonym.

Technology is Delivering a Flood of New Data

Smartphones, and Genomes, and Sensors, Oh My!

A Sampling of New Data Sources



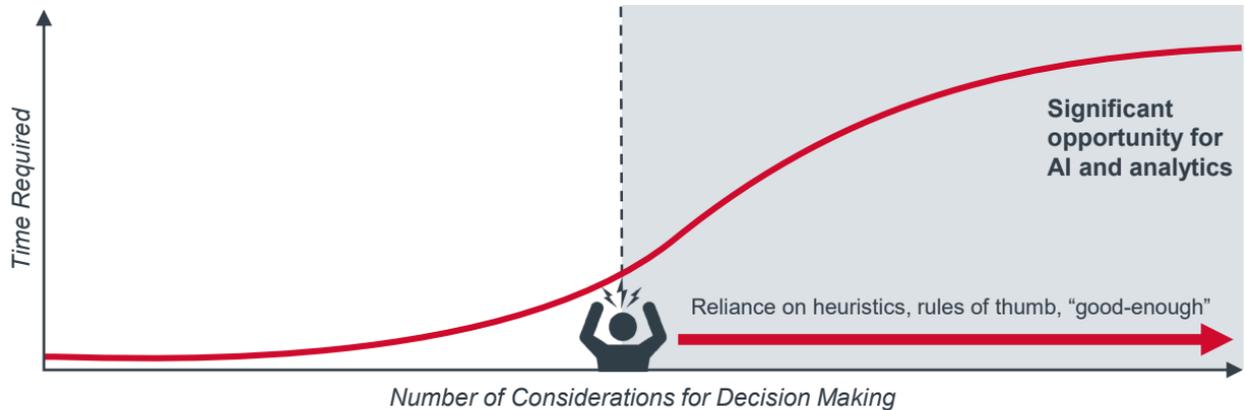
Common Barriers to Adoption of New Sources

- Privacy / security concerns
- Immature technology
- Lack of budget
- Unclear benefit / ROI³
- **Staff already overwhelmed with data**

1) IoT = Internet of things.
 2) RTLS = Real-time locating system.
 3) ROI = Return on investment.

Cognitive Overload and Clinician Burnout

Augmented Intelligence Reduces Cognitive Burden



“

“Medical thinking has become vastly more complex, mirroring changes in our patients, our health care system, and medical science. The complexity of medicine now **exceeds the capacity of the human mind.**”¹

Ziad Obermeyer, M.D. and Thomas Lee, M.D.

1) Obermeyer Z, Lee T, “[Lost in Thought – The Limits of the Human Mind and the Future of Medicine.](#)” *N Engl J Med*; 377, no. 13; (2017):1209-1211.

Sources: Millett D, Exclusive: “[Three GPs a day seeking help for burnout, official data show.](#)” *GP*, Jan 2018; Health Care IT Advisor research and analysis.



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The Data Dilemma

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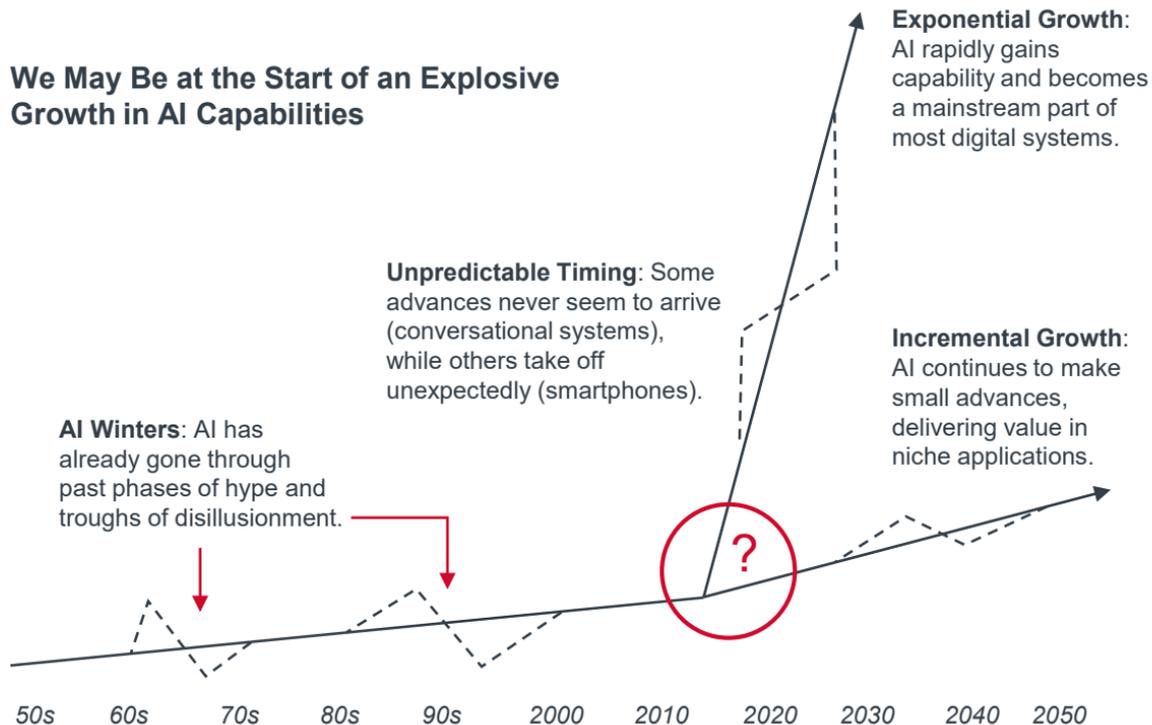
AI and the New Machine Age

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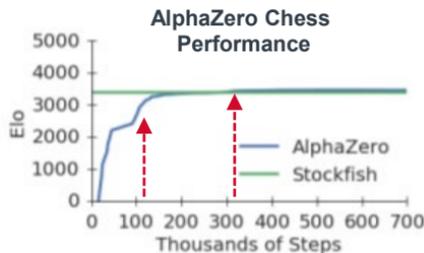
AI: Are We There Yet?

And if Not, When?



Novice to Superhuman in Just Four Hours

DeepMind's AlphaZero Uses 'Zero Human Knowledge'



AlphaZero outperformed chess world-champion, Stockfish,¹ in just **4 hours (300k steps)**

“

By not using this human data, by not using human features or human expertise in any fashion, we've actually removed the constraints of human knowledge. **It's able to therefore create knowledge for itself.**"

David Silver, Lead Programmer

DEEPMIND



DeepMind's AlphaZero

- AI product of Google subsidiary, DeepMind
- Provided no prior knowledge of the game; given only basic game rules and an objective (win)
- Learns through self-play at an accelerated pace ('reinforced learning'); searches 80 thousand positions per second
- Variants of AlphaZero also defeated world champion Go and Shogi systems

1) Stockfish is the 2016 Top Chess Engine Championship (TCEC) world-champion.

Sources: Vincent J. "[DeepMind's AI became a superhuman chess player in a few hours, just for fun.](#)" *The Verge*, December 6, 2017; Gershgor D. "[DeepMind wants to find the next miracle material—experts just don't know they'll pull it off.](#)" *Quartz*, October 25, 2017; Health Care IT Advisor research and analysis.

Need a Radiologist?

There's an App for That



Case in Brief: Stanford University¹ CheXNet Algorithm

- Algorithm developed by researchers at Stanford University in the US can diagnose 14 common pathologies in chest x-rays
- Trained on ChestX-ray14, a public data set released by the NIH² containing 112,120 frontal-view chest x-ray images labelled with the 14 possible pathologies
- Outperforms previous models from the same data set for all 14 conditions and diagnoses pneumonia at an accuracy exceeding the performance of four control radiologists
- Produces heatmaps that visualize the areas of an image most indicative of disease

"I treat the model as a lazy resident. They're not dumb, they'll just use every trick they can find to avoid doing hard work."

Dr. Matthew Lungren, Radiologist
Stanford University Medical Center

Development of CheXNet

Sept. 26, 2017

ChestX-ray14 data set released along with a preliminary algorithm that could detect the labelled conditions



≈ **One week later**

CheXNet could diagnose 10 of the 14 pathologies more accurately than all previous algorithms



≈ **One month later**

CheXNet surpassed best published results for all 14 pathologies and outperformed Stanford radiologists in detecting pneumonia



1) Stanford University Medical Center.

2) NIH = National Institutes of Health.

Applicants Like You Liked This Job

Predictive Models Reduce Turnover, Improve Engagement

MultiCare's Hiring Process



Applicant completes a 15-20 minute assessment process on Arena's platform



Algorithms predict the likelihood the applicant will be retained and engaged in the target role and send that information to the recruiter



Recruiters determine whether or not to send the candidate along to hiring managers



Hiring managers use Arena's recommendation as an optional factor in the hiring decision



Case in Brief: MultiCare Health System

- Non-profit system based in Tacoma, WA with 16,000 employees
- Partnered with Arena, a cloud-based HR solution, to predict the likelihood that a candidate will be retained in a role
- Arena's machine learning algorithms evaluate applicant submissions, digital interactions, and externally sourced data on the organization (e.g., employer review sites)
- Achieved a **40% reduction** in RN turnover at 180 days and a **28% reduction** in overall turnover at 180 days

Realized Benefits

- Reduced recruiting expenses
- More predictable staffing levels
- More experienced staff

Black Boxes, Shades of Grey

Differing Views on the Importance of Explainability

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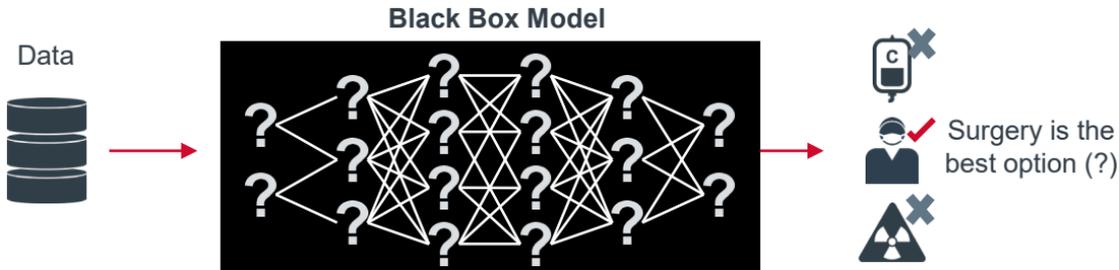
The opaqueness of black-box models is really scary. When we can't tell a clinician why a patient won't do well on a certain medication, that can be a **tough thing to blindly trust from a clinical perspective**. We want to reach a place where we **augment our practice through AI**, rather than dictating.”

*Mike Wall, PharmD, MBA
Chief Analytics Officer
The University of Chicago Medicine*

“

I am pushing to evaluate these models via a similar set of mechanisms as RCT¹ or A/B testing. We should evaluate against the current status-quo and do a before/after study... We have to convince ourselves of the utility of these models. **We should focus on utility before explainability.**”

*Nigam Shah, MBBS, PhD
Associate Professor of Medicine
(Biomedical Informatics)
Stanford University*



1) RCT = Randomized controlled trial.

Accelerate Clinical Standardization

Improve Outcomes Through Embedded Decision Support



Case in Brief: Intermountain Healthcare

- 2,781-bed, 22-hospital system based in Salt Lake City, UT
- Long history of formal care process modeling and standardization, dating back to 1986
- Pneumonia protocol evaluates labs, vitals, and free text radiology reports in real time and can visually flag high-risk patients in the EHR
- Integrated, dynamic guidelines recommend an appropriate care setting, additional lab orders, and antibiotic selection based on risk and medical history

Predictive + Prescriptive Clinical Decision Support

Rm	I	Sex	Age	Complaint	LOS	Reg	Status	MD	Res	RN	ORD	L	U	R	E	RT	PROT	CN	Cons	Comments
+	01	F		SOB/CARDIO ...	00:59	✓	PreFloor	Shane		Kim	N	R			R	TC		✓		PFS0/70
+	02	F		SZ ...	03:19	✓	Seen	KMG		Kurt	C	R	R					✓		
+	03	M		CHEST PX	02:24	✓	Seen	Shane		Randy	C	R	R	R				✓		repeat cardiac enzym...
+	06	M		CARDIO ...	01:05	✓	Seen	KMG		jehi	C	R	R	R				✓		
+	07	F		DETOX ...	00:12			KMG		Kim								✓		
+	09	M		POST OP PAIN ...	02:24	✓	Seen	KMG		Randy	C	R						✓		i-stat cr 1.0/joy to...
+	10	F		OBGYN ...	03:38	✓	Seen	Shane		Kim	C	R		*				✓		
+	14	M		RESP ...	00:54	✓	Seen	Shane		jehi	C	P	O				P	✓		
+	22	M		HA/FEELS SICKS ...	01:03	✓	Cons	KMG		jehi	C	D	C					✓		crisis zc
+		F		RT ANKLE INJ ...	00:03					Kurt										
+		M		LT HAND NUMBES...	00:05			KMG		Kurt										

Possible pneumonia patient



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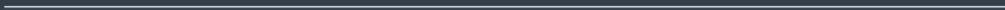
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Driving the Decision Machine

Hint: The Analytics is Often the Easy Part



Begin with:

- Explicit leadership agreement on outcome goals, expected benefit mechanisms
- Participation from empowered representatives of impacted process
- External experience—learn from others

1

Acquire Data



- The more the better, but...
- High-quality, well-governed data pay enormous dividends
- Diverse, cross-continuum sources improve predictions and robustness of models

2

Train or Refine the Model



- Decide what features are important (e.g., explainability)
- Apply practical and ethical constraints
- Evaluate under realistic conditions (silent mode, real-time, incomplete data)

3

Redesign or Adapt Workflow



- Embed insights directly into applications at key decision points
- Reengineer processes as warranted
- Consider the “5 rights” of decision support

Frequently Neglected

4

Monitor Performance and Revisit



- Ensure all models have a sponsor and regular evaluation against goals
- All models require tune-ups as the environment changes.

Who Watches the Machines?

“To Err Is Human, To Really Foul Things Up Requires a Computer”



Automated processes need human oversight



Governance is focused on quantifiable target outcomes



Periodically evaluate processes against goals



“Circuit breaker” rules to limit potential harm

Algorithms Gone Wild



The Making of a Fly: The Genetics of Animal Design (Paperback)
by Peter A. Lawrence

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MICHAEL EISEN

Sources: Michael Eisen, "Amazon's \$23,698,655.93 book about flies,"

<http://www.michaelseisen.org/blog/?p=358>, April 22, 2011; Title quote: William E. Vaughan; Advisory Board research and analysis.

Unique Challenges to AI in Health Care

► Business Challenges



Complexity: Medical issues do not appear in isolation and coordination of care is difficult.



Threat to Human Jobs: Strong fear associated with technology displacing human workers.



Cost: The high costs for developing, testing, certifying, and implementing can be a barrier.



Workflow: How do AI solutions fit into existing workflows? How much effort is required to use it? Does it interfere or annoy unnecessarily?



Competing Priorities: We are still in the midst of installing basic and foundational systems (e.g., EMRs) while addressing regulatory and other pressing PHM initiatives.

► Legal and Ethical Challenges



Regulation: Health IT regulations are hotly debated at the national level. Finding the right balance of public health protection and fostering innovation are key.



Legal: Juries still award large sums when health care is not applied properly or expected outcomes are not achieved.



Liability: How do we deal with computer failings? Even if AI approaches are statistically better, there may be liability when it fails.



Human Touch: How will we interact with AI? How strongly will we require the human touch and human compassion in health care?

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