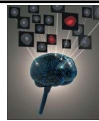


AI (Artificial Intelligence) in Respiratory Medicine



Alan Kaplan MD CCFP(EM) FCFP CPC(HC)
Chairperson, Family Physician Airways Group of Canada
Vice President Respiratory Effectiveness Group
Chair ACDC Asthma COPD App development program

Learning Objectives

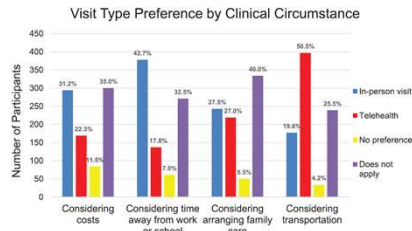


- Describe the main applications of artificial intelligence and machine learning within respiratory medicine.
- Explain how AI/machine learning use fits into everyday clinical practice.
- Describe how issues of patient safety and physician liability should be addressed.

Medicine is changing



Example: Telehealth vs In-person?



Igbede C, et al. Preference for and impact of telehealth vs in-person asthma visits among Black and Latinx adults. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 2023 Nov;131(5):614-617.e1. doi: 10.1016/j.annal.2023.07.022. Epub 2023 Jul 23. PMID: 37490961.

Where have we come from?



Source: Confidential

Exploding area of interest

State of the art review
Applications of artificial intelligence and machine learning in respiratory medicine
Sherif Gonen^{1,3}, Wim Janssens^{3,4}, Nilakash Das³, Marko Topalovic^{3,5}

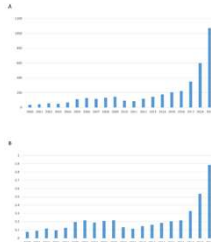
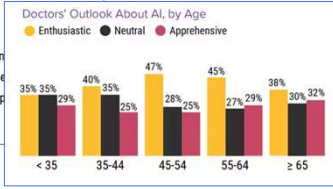
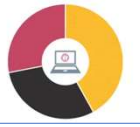


Figure 1. Published articles on artificial intelligence and machine learning in respiratory medicine shown as raw numbers (panel A) and as a percentage of all articles on respiratory medicine (panel B) from 2000 to 2019. Panel A shows the number of retrieved articles on the PubMed database published from 2000 to 2019 using the search terms specified for this review (artificial intelligence-related terms and respiratory-related terms). Panel B shows this number expressed as a percentage of all articles retrieved using just the respiratory-related search terms.

Gonen S, Janssens W, Das N, Topalovic M. Applications of artificial intelligence and machine learning in respiratory medicine. *Thorax.* 2020 Aug;75(8):695-701. doi: 10.1136/thoraxjnl-2020-214556. Epub 2020 May 14. PMID: 32409611.

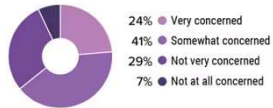
Medscape survey on attitudes to AI

How Physicians Feel About AI's Future in Their Workplace

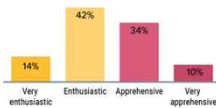


<https://www.medscape.com/slideshow/2023-artificial-intelligence-6016743#10> Accessed Nov 5, 2023

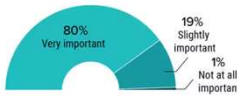
How Doctors Feel About AI Driving Diagnosis or Treatment Decisions



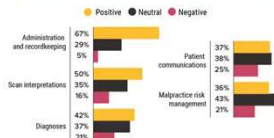
How Physicians Feel About AI as an Adjunct in Diagnosis and Treatment



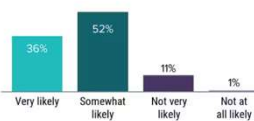
How Crucial Is It For Doctors To Be Informed on AI?



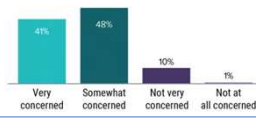
How Physicians Feel About AI's Future in Specific Activities



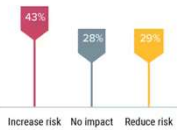
Might Patients Get Faulty Medical Info From AI?

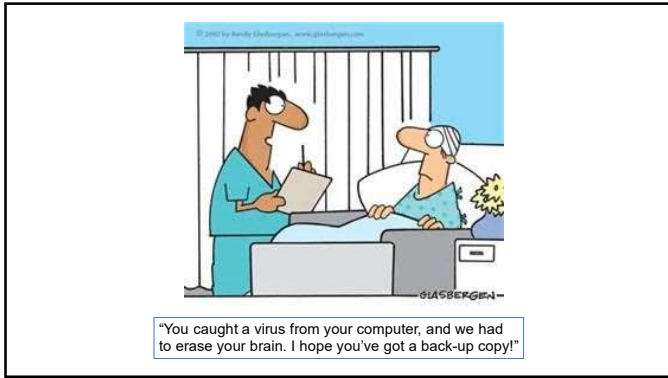


Do Doctors Worry That Patients Will Follow AI Before Them?



Will AI Affect Risk for Medical Malpractice?






AI growing in many areas!

<https://doi.org/10.1097/SPS.0000000000000222>
Machine learning can reliably identify patients at risk of overnight hospital admission following anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction
 Yonke LA^{1,2}, Enkin F^{1,2}, Matthews R, Cohen S, Ophelske Lavioie-Gagnier S, Ryan R, Wilbur S, Bryant M, Song J, Adams S, Flynn M, Shinn-Flynn J¹
 Received 15/04/2023; accepted 11 October 2023
 © European Society of Sports Traumatology, Knee Surgery, Arthroscopy (ESSKA) 2023

Abstract
Purpose: Overnight admission following anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction has implications on clinical outcomes as well as cost burden, yet there are few validated risk calculators for reliable identification of appropriate candidates. The purpose of this study is to develop and validate machine learning algorithms that can effectively identify patients requiring admission following elective anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) reconstruction.
Methods: A retrospective review of a national regional electronic database was performed to identify patients who underwent elective ACL reconstruction from 2006 to 2015. Patients admitted overnight postoperatively were identified as those with length of stay of 1 or more days. Machine learning predictive models using random forest (RF), extreme gradient boosting (XGBoost), tree decision classifier (J48), and adaptive boosting algorithm (AdaBoost), and an additional model was produced as a weighted ensemble of the best final algorithms.
Results: Overall, of the 4799 patients included, 313 patients (11%) required at least one overnight stay following ACL reconstruction. The best-performing model for identification of candidates for overnight admission was constructed from demographic, age, sex, gender, and BMI. Machine learning using J48, XGBoost, and ensemble models identified as key important variables. The following factors supported overnight admission: operative time > 200 min, age < 35.5 and > 55.5 years, male gender, BMI < 25 and > 32. Digital patient reading history, history of COPD, and the presence of preoperative comorbidities. The ensemble model showed the best performance based on discrimination assessed via internal validation (AUC = 0.76), calibration, and decision curve analysis. The model was integrated into a web-based open-source application able to provide both predictions and explanations.
Conclusion: Machine learning risk factors identified by the model such as increased BMI, operative time, anesthesia type, and comorbidities can help clinicians optimize preoperative status to prevent costs associated with unnecessary admissions. If externally validated in independent populations, this algorithm could use these inputs to guide preoperative counseling and

Modifiable risk factors identified by the model such as increased BMI, operative time, anesthesia type, and comorbidities can help clinicians optimize preoperative status. (AUC = 0.76)

Where and how to be used?



- Radiologic interpretation
- Pulmonary function interpretation
- Asthma vs COPD clinical, biomarker and spirometry
- Others: TB, pneumonia prediction, the list goes on...
- Digital inhalers
- Action Plans

PLOS ONE

A systematic review of the diagnostic accuracy of artificial intelligence-based computer programs to analyze chest x-rays for pulmonary tuberculosis

Miriam Hami, Amy Qi, Luke Jeagal, Naci Torabi, Dick Mendes, Alexei Korobitsyn, Madhukar Patil, Ruwadh R. Hathatharana, Faiz Ahmad Khan

Published: September 3, 2019 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0221339>

Article	Authors	Metrics	Comments	Media Coverage
1				

Abstract

We undertook a systematic review of the diagnostic accuracy of artificial intelligence-based software for identification of radiologic abnormalities (computer-aided detection, or CAD) compatible with pulmonary tuberculosis on chest x-rays (CXRs). We searched four databases for articles published between January 2005–February 2019. We summarized data on CAD type, study design, and diagnostic accuracy. We assessed risk of bias with QUADAS-2. We included 53 of the 4712 articles reviewed. 48 focused on CAD design methods (“Development” studies) and 13 focused on evaluation of CAD (“Clinical” studies). Meta-analyses were not performed due to methodological differences. Development studies were more likely to use CXR databases with greater potential for bias as compared to Clinical studies. Areas under the receiver operating characteristic curve (mean AUC [95%]) were significantly higher in Development studies AUC: 0.88 [0.82–0.90] versus Clinical studies [0.75 [0.66–0.87], *p*-value 0.044; and with deep-learning [0.91 [0.88–0.93] versus machine-learning [0.82 [0.75–0.89], *p* = 0.001]. We conclude that CAD [improves diagnosis](#), but the majority of work that has been on [development rather than clinical evaluation](#). We provide concrete suggestions on what study design elements should be improved.



How about urgent care and CXR interpretation?

ERS EUROPEAN RESPIRATORY SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS 2023 MILAN Italy, 9-13 September

CheXED artificial intelligence to detect radiographic pneumonia in urgent care clinic patients.

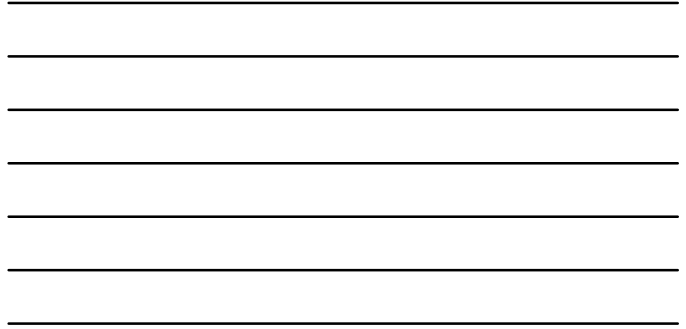
N. Dean (Salt Lake City, United States), J. Hart (Salt Lake City, United States), K. Kuttler (Salt Lake City, United States), C. Van Uden (Palo Alto, United States), C. Langlotz (Palo Alto, United States), C. Carman (Utah Valley, United States), T. Sakata (Salt Lake City, United States)

Introduction Chest imaging is needed for diagnosis and treatment of patients suspected of pneumonia. Radiologist interpretations are delayed and may not specify findings. CheXED processes digital chest X-ray images using artificial intelligence (Inn J Thoracic Imaging 2022), but needed development and validation for urgent care clinics (UCC).

Methods CheXED was trained with PA and Lateral CXR images from 9,174 patients, categorized by review of radiologist reports from 28 Utah (USA) UCCs 2019-2021. After the updated CheXED was deployed to 5 UCCs, we compared radiologist reports to CheXED for radiographic pneumonia on PA and Lateral CXRs done 21, 12, 22 to 5, 1, 23 consecutive patients >12 years old. Two CXRs where CheXED and reports differed were resolved by image and clinical note review by a Pulmonologist (RD) to determine presence/absence of radiographic pneumonia.

Results Study population had a median age of 45 +/- 19.1 years; 15.7% were diagnosed with pneumonia by the UCC clinician. CheXED and the radiologist agreed on 38 of 40 CXRs; CheXED was judged correct once and the radiologist in the other. Kappa agreement = 0.84.

Conclusion CheXED accurately identified radiographic pneumonia in UCC patients <1 second after image uploading. CheXED embedded within ePNa electronic clinical decision support (Dean AJRCM 2022 205-1330) is likely to improve UCC diagnosis and treatment of patients suspected of pneumonia.



CheXED artificial intelligence to detect radiographic pneumonia in urgent care clinic patients

N. Dean, J. Hart, K. Kuttler, C. Van Uden, C. Langlotz, C. Carman, M. Hami, G. Jeagal, N. Torabi, D. Mendes, A. Korobitsyn, M. Patil, R. Hathatharana, F. Ahmad, A. Khan

Introduction

- Chest imaging is necessary for diagnosis and treatment of patients suspected of pneumonia.
- Radiologist interpretations are often delayed and may not specify needed information.
- CheXED provides real-time processing of chest X-ray images using artificial intelligence but needed development and validation for urgent care clinic patients.
- Chest X-rays in urgent care clinics are Posterior/Anterior and Lateral images

Limitations of Radiology and Natural Language Processing

Methods

CheXED additionally trained on PA and Lateral CXR images taken from 9174 patients suspected of pneumonia, categorized by physician review of clinical radiologist reports from 28 Utah (USA) urgent care clinics 2019-2021.

Urgent care clinic accuracy compared with radiology report: AUROC 0.81

After deployment of the updated CheXED to 5 clinics, we compared radiologist interpretations to CheXED for radiographic pneumonia likely/possible/unlikely on CXRs done 21, 12, 22 to 5, 1, 23 in 40 consecutive patients >12 years old.

Studies where CheXED and radiologist reports differed were resolved by image and clinical note review by a pulmonologist (RD) to determine the presence of radiographic pneumonia

Results

Study population had a median age of 45 +/- 19.1 years; 7 (17.5%) were diagnosed with pneumonia by the clinic physician. 6 of 40 (15%) had radiographic pneumonia

In 38/40 patients, CheXED was congruent with radiologist interpretation

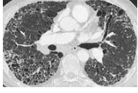
Where discordant, the radiologist was judged correct once, CheXED once

Kappa agreement = 0.84



Fibrotic lung diseases

- The accuracy of the algorithm on test set A was 76.4%, with 92.7% of diagnoses within one category.
- The algorithm took 2.31 s to evaluate 150 four slice montages (each montage representing a single case from test set B).
- The median accuracy of the thoracic radiologists on test set B was 70.7% (IQR 65.3–74.7), and the accuracy of the algorithm was 73.3% (93.3% were within one category), **outperforming 60 (66%) of 91 thoracic radiologists.**



Walsh SJE, Humphries SM, Wells AU, Brown KK. Imaging research in fibrotic lung disease: applying deep learning to unsolved problems. *Lancet Respir Med.* 2020 Nov;8(11):1144-1153. doi: 10.1016/S2213-2600(20)30093-5. Epub 2020 Feb 25. PMID: 32109428.

Does my cough sound like COVID? There could be an app for that

It could be possible to detect whether someone has COVID-19 or not, just from the sound of their coughing.

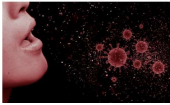
That's the conclusion of testing of an artificial intelligence (AI) algorithm developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), which was able to detect around 98% of cases of COVID-19 from a forced cough delivered down a cell phone - confirmed by coronavirus testing.

Almost unbelievably, the neural network was also 100% effective in correctly diagnosing COVID-19 in people with no symptoms but who had tested positive for the virus, according to the MIT researchers, although the trade-off was a false positive rate of around 17% in this group.

The MIT Open Voice algorithm was put through its paces in more than 5,300 patients, finding a 97.1% accuracy rate overall, with 98.5% sensitivity and 94.2% specificity.

The finding ties in with anecdotal reports that COVID-19 causes a very distinctive sounding cough, although it will have to be thoroughly tested in additional studies to see if it could be useful as a screening tool.

<https://thermaphorum.com/news/does-my-cough-sound-like-covid-there-could-be-an-app-for-that/>



Perspective

Artificial intelligence and machine learning in respiratory medicine

Evgenii Mekov, Marc Miravittles & Rosen Petkov

Pages 559-564 | Received 20 Sep 2019, Accepted 12 Mar 2020, Accepted author version posted online 13 Mar 2020, Published online 17 Mar 2020

Download citation | <https://doi.org/10.1080/17476348.2020.1743181> | [Check for updates](#)

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ABSTRACT

Introduction

The application of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) in medicine and in particular in respiratory medicine is an increasingly relevant topic.

Studies identified corresponded to the area of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), in particular to COPD and chest computed tomography scans, interpretation of pulmonary function tests, exacerbations and treatment, diagnosis of interstitial lung disease, and a few other studies were identified on the fields of mechanical ventilation, interpretation of images on chest X-ray and diagnosis of bronchial asthma.

Man vs Machine?

Expert opinion:

- ML may help to make clinical decisions but will not replace the physician completely.
- Human errors in medicine are associated with large financial losses, and many of them could be prevented with the help of AI and ML.
- AI is particularly useful in the absence of conclusive evidence of decision-making.

Melkov E, Miravites M. Artificial intelligence and machine learning in respiratory medicine. Expert Review of Respiratory Medicine. Volume 14, 2020; 559-564

Clinical response predictions

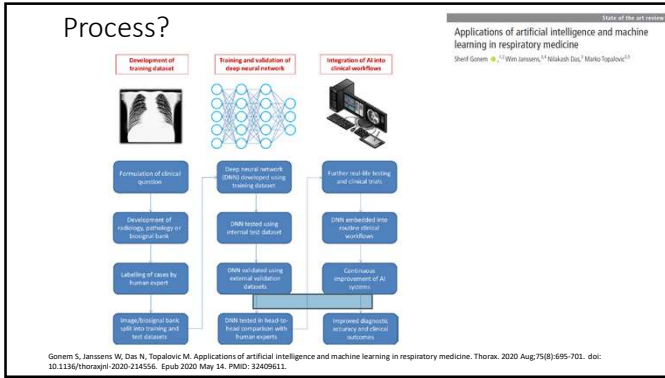
- Comparing what we can do in practice
- How much more (and faster) a computer can process
- If trained correctly (big issue, more to come!) then can be of huge help!

But,

Adapting to Artificial Intelligence Radiologists and Pathologists as Information Specialists

Deep learning is an autodidact—like an outstanding radiology resident, the more images it analyzes, the better it gets.

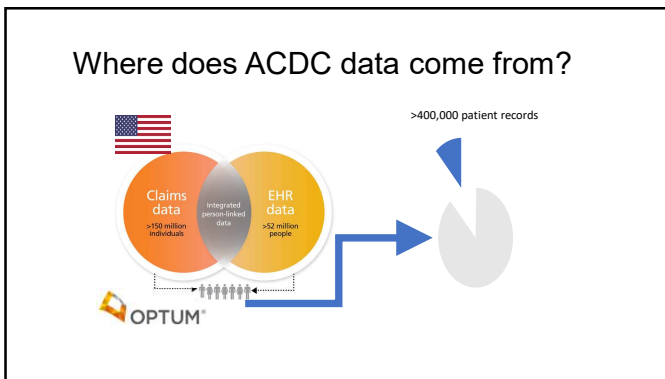
Artificial intelligence (AI) is the science of teaching computers to perform tasks that normally require human intelligence. The concept of AI has been around for decades, but it is only in the last few years that it has become a reality. AI is now being used in a wide variety of applications, from self-driving cars to medical diagnosis. In the field of radiology, AI is being used to assist radiologists in their work. AI can help radiologists identify abnormalities in medical images, such as X-rays and CT scans. AI can also help radiologists prioritize their work, so that they can focus on the most important cases. AI is still in the early stages of development, but it has the potential to revolutionize the field of radiology. As AI continues to improve, it will become an essential tool for radiologists. Radiologists will need to learn how to work with AI, and they will need to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in the field. AI is a powerful tool, and it has the potential to make a significant impact on the field of radiology. Radiologists should embrace AI, and they should work to ensure that it is used in a way that benefits their patients.



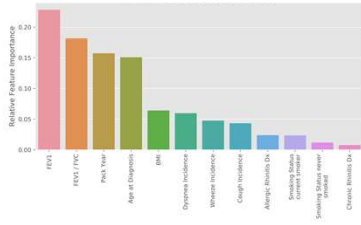
Our Solution: ACDC

Machine Learning-Assisted
Asthma COPD Differentiation Classification

On-the-ground support for general practitioners to help diagnose Asthma from COPD



Top Features of Importance: Cohorts I, II, and III



1. FEV₁
2. FEV₁/FVC
3. Pack Year
4. Age
5. BMI
6. Dyspnea
7. Wheeze
8. Cough
9. DX Allergic Rhinitis
10. Current smoker
11. Never smoked
12. DX Chronic Rhinitis

Confusion Matrix: Cohorts I, II and III Deep optimization

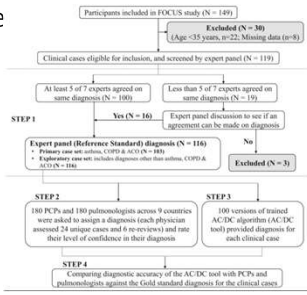
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
aco	0.92	0.78	0.84	4116
asthma	0.97	0.98	0.98	21562
copd	0.97	0.98	0.98	36057

Precision (positive predictive value)
Recall (also known as sensitivity)
F1-score (a measure of a test's accuracy) is the weighted average of Precision and Recall, therefore, this score takes both false positives and false negatives into account.
Support=number of patients holdout

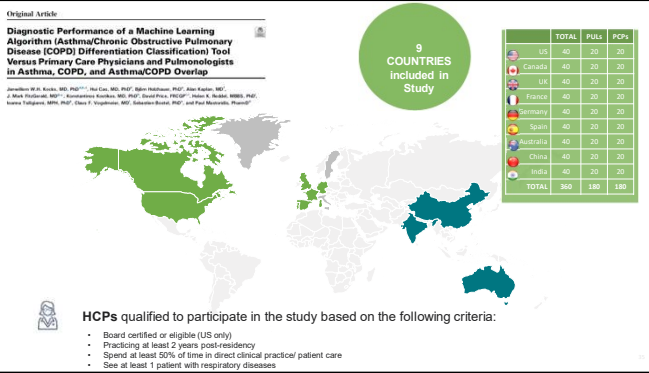
Limitations in the Training Model!!!

- Post BD FEV1 was not done frequently, so not included in the data
- Age of onset of illness not captured
- FENO done even LESS frequently, so not included in the data
- Background medication use

So, we studied the algorithm again



Kochs JW, Cao H, Holzauer B, Kaplan A, et al. Diagnostic performance of a machine-learning algorithm (Asthma/COPD Differentiation Classification; AC/DC) tool versus primary care physicians and pulmonologists in asthma, COPD and ACO. JACI published January 27, 2023 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaip.2023.01.017>



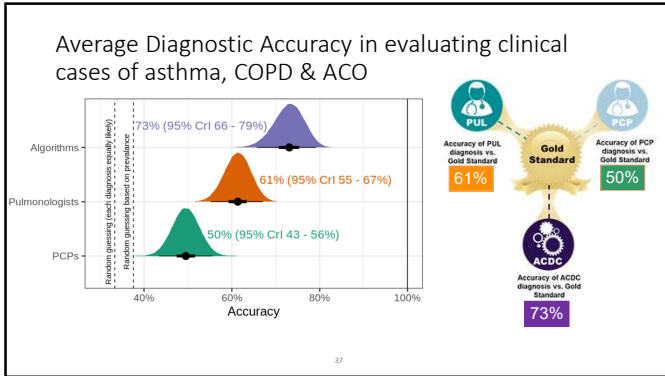
Patient Features Parameters

Patient Features Shown to Steering Committee/PULs/PCPs
~50 Parameters

Patient Feature Shown to AC/DC
~12 Parameters

- Age
- BMI
- FEV1 pre bronchodilator values
- FEV1 pre bronchodilator percentages
- Current smoking status
- Never smoked
- Pack years
- Chronic sinusitis
- History of hayfever
- Dyspnea (ACQ4)
- Cough (CCQ5)
- Wheeze (ACQ5)

*In cases where ACQ and CCQ values weren't available, MRC values were utilized.



Study results

AC/DC meets all Primary Endpoints

- ✓ 1. Superiority to PCPs
- ✓ 2. Non-Inferior to Pulmonologists
- ✓ 3. Superiority to Pulmonologists

Kochs JW, Cao H, Holzauer B, Kaplan A, et al. Diagnostic performance of a machine-learning algorithm (Asthma/COPD Differentiation Classification, AC/DC) tool versus primary care physicians and pulmonologists in asthma, COPD and ACO JACI published January 27, 2023 DOI:https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaip.2023.01.017

**GOLD
Standard
Summary**

Total patient cases from FOCUS study = 119

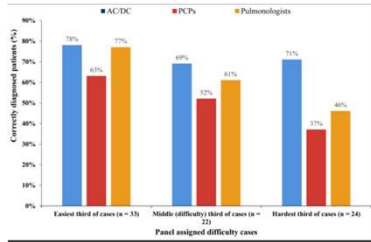
Steering Committee members came to consensus on diagnoses of **116 cases**

Breakdown by diagnosis:
Asthma: **53** COPD: **43** ACO: **7** Other: **13**

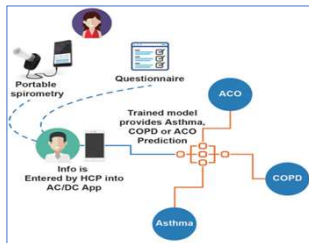
Breakdown by difficulty:
Easy: **39** Moderate: **39** Hard: **38**

	Asthma	COPD	ACO	Other	Total
Easy	10	27	2	0	39
Moderate	20	13	3	3	39
Hard	23	3	2	10	38
Total	53	43	7	13	116

ACDC vs others in different difficulties?

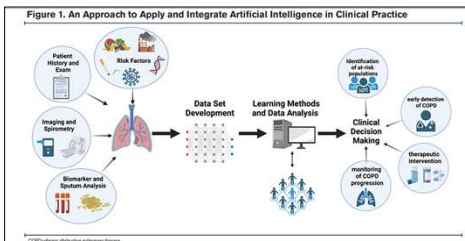


Future? App currently being purchased by a US company...we shall see....



This is now the model for AI diagnostics

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases: Journal of the COPD Foundation
 Perspective
 Integrating Artificial Intelligence in the Diagnosis of COPD Globally: A Way Forward
Robertson NM, Centner CS, Siddharthan T, Covey S, Collins, PhD, Tinkoff S, Burkhart, MD*



Robertson NM, Centner CS, Siddharthan T. Integrating artificial intelligence in the diagnosis of COPD globally: a way forward. *Chronic Obstr Pulm Dis.* 2024; 11(1): 114-120. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15326/jcopdf.2023.0449>

How often are action plans given in the US?

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 2023 Spring News Protecting People™

Asthma

CDC > Asthma > Learn How to Control Asthma > Management

Asthma

Learn How to Control Asthma

Asthma Action Plans

Asthma Care During an Emergency

Asthma and Severe Weather

Brochures, Fact Sheets, & Action Plans

Asthma Action Plans

Everyone with asthma needs their own Asthma Action Plan. Work with your health care provider to create a plan that works for you. Your goal is to prevent and control your asthma attacks.

Create your own plan using CDC's [Asthma Action Plan](#) (PDF - 569 KB) tool.

NO good data on line; Answer is likely NOT MUCH!!!

Doing Well

- I don't have cough, wheezing, chest tightness, or trouble breathing at any time.
- I can do all the things I usually do.
- When I use a peak flow meter my peak flow* is more than 80 percent or more of my best peak flow.
- Continue taking your long-term control medicine.

Asthma Is Getting Worse

- I have some cough, wheezing, chest tightness, or trouble breathing. Or
- I wake up at night because of my asthma. Or
- I can't do some of the things I usually do. Or
- When I use a peak flow meter my peak flow* is half to three quarters of my best peak flow.
- Add your quick-relief medicine and continue your long-term control medicine.
- If your symptoms get better after an hour keep checking them and continue your long-term control medicine.

<https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/actionplan.html> Accessed Nov 12, 2023

Medical Alert!

- I have a lot of trouble breathing. Or
- My quick-relief medicines don't help. Or
- I can't do any of the things I usually do. Or
- I was in the yellow zone for 24 hours and I'm not getting better. Or
- When I use a peak flow meter my peak flow* is less than half of my best peak flow.
- Add the other medicines your doctor has prescribed and call your doctor.
- If your symptoms don't get better and you can't reach your doctor, go to the hospital.

<https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/actionplan.html> Accessed Nov 12, 2023

Utilize the EMR

How often do you give an Asthma Action Plan?

Action plan delivery (primary outcome) improved from zero out of 412 (0%) to 79 out of 443 (17.8%) eligible patients (absolute increase 0.18 (95% CI 0.14–0.22)).

The Electronic Asthma Management System (eAMS) improves primary care asthma management

Samer Gupta¹, Courtney Probst¹, Gina Agnew¹, David Dyer¹, Sarjane Goss¹, Louis Philippe Boivin¹, Alan G. Kaplan¹, David Liberman^{1,2}, Muhammad Mandeer^{1,3} and Sharon E. Straus¹

Gupta S, Price C, Agarwal G, Chan D, Gao S, Boulet LP, Kaplan AG, Lebovic G, Mamdani M, Straus SE. The Electronic Asthma Management System (eAMS) improves primary care asthma management. Eur Respir J. 2019 Apr 25;53(4):1802241. doi: 10.1183/13993003.02241-2018. PMID: 30765503; PMCID: PAC6482383.

Auto-populates the Action plan based on input

<https://apps.health/featured/eams/>

Asthma Action Plan

Maintenance Therapy (Green): Use your controller every day. If you have symptoms, see your doctor. Do not stop using your controller unless your doctor tells you to.

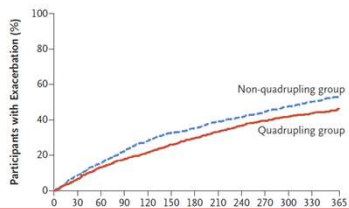
Controller Step Up Therapy (Yellow): Use your controller every day. If you have symptoms, see your doctor. Do not stop using your controller unless your doctor tells you to.

Reliever Step Up Therapy (Red): Use your reliever every day. If you have symptoms, use your reliever. If you need your reliever more often than 2 times a day, see your doctor. Do not use your reliever more than 2 times a day.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Quadrupling Inhaled Glucocorticoid Dose to Abort Asthma Exacerbations

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CONCLUSIONS
 In this trial involving adults and adolescents with asthma, a personalized self-management plan that included a temporary quadrupling of the dose of inhaled glucocorticoids when asthma control started to deteriorate resulted in fewer severe asthma exacerbations than a plan in which the dose was not increased. (Funded

Figure 2. Kaplan–Meier Curves for the Time to the First Severe Asthma Exacerbation, According to Assigned Group.

ASTHMA ACTION PLAN YELLOW ZONE FORMULATION TABLE (≥ 16 YEARS OLD)

MEDICINE	Medication in Green Zone		Change in Yellow Zone (all initial recommendations are for 7-14 days)	
	Maximum Dose/Inhaler Strength	Initial Recommendation	Yellow Zone Recommendation	Yellow Zone Formulation
ICS MONOTHERAPY				
Fluticasone (Fluticasone propionate)	2000 mcg	50 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		125 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		250 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
Fluticasone (Fluticasone propionate)	2000 mcg	50 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		100 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		250 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
Amartyr (Fluticasone furoate)	200 mcg	100 mcg/1 puff OD	Option 1: Increase to 4 puffs OD	Option 2: Prednisone 30-50 mg daily*
		200 mcg/1 puff OD	Option 1: Increase to 4 puffs OD	Option 2: Prednisone 30-50 mg daily*
		200 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
Pulmicort (Budesonide)	2400 mcg	100 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		200 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		400 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
QNAS (Budesonide)	800 mcg	50 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		100 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		100 mcg/2 puffs BID	Prednisone 30-50 mg daily*	
Alesio MD (Ciclesonide)	800 mcg	100 mcg/1 puff OD	Increase to 4 puffs OD	
		200 mcg/1 puff OD	Increase to 4 puffs OD	
		200 mcg/2 puffs OD	Increase to 4 puffs OD	
Asthmanerx (Formoterol)	800 mcg	200 mcg/1 puff OD	Increase to 4 puffs OD	Option 2: Prednisone 30-50 mg daily*
		400 mcg/1 puff OD	Increase to 4 puffs OD	
		400 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
Amartyr Respikix (Fluticasone propionate)	2000 mcg	50 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		110 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	
		250 mcg/1 puff BID	Increase to 4 puffs BID	

So why is the Asthma not controlled??

- Patient related
- Physician related
- Disease severity
- Comorbidities
- Triggers



Kaplan A, Bolvin M, Bouchard J, Kim J, Hayes S, Licskai C. The emerging role of digital health in the management of asthma. *Therapeutic Advances in Chronic Disease*. 2023;14. doi:10.1177/20406223231209329

Table 2. Factors influencing asthma control.

Patient related	
• Asthma-related	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate knowledge about asthma and its management • Missing maintenance and rescue inhalers • Perceived inhaler changes • Patient factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low adherence or asthma diagnosis of severity • Clinical fatigue/frustration over lack of improvement • Ability to track symptoms¹⁰
• Inhaler technique ^{10, 11, 12, 13}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and reinforcement of proper technique • Type of inhaler <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motivation to master technique • Older age¹⁴ • Duration of asthma^{15, 16} • Asthma severity^{17, 18} • Smoking history¹⁹ • Female sex^{20, 21} • Low socioeconomic status^{13, 14, 22} • Stress²³ • Medication access/costs^{24, 25}
Physician related	
• Lack of specialist care ^{10, 26}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited adherence to asthma guidelines^{27, 28} • Inadequate assessment of asthma severity^{29, 30} • Poor communication of asthma and its management to patients and caregivers • Clinical fatigue/frustration over lack of improvement • Ability to track preventively
• Respiratory control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low FEV₁ (especially if early, predicted)^{13, 14, 31, 32} • Elevated blood eosinophils³³ • Elevated IgE³⁴
Other medical conditions	
• Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease ³⁵	
• Chronic rhinosinusitis ^{36, 37}	
• Allergic rhinitis/conjunctivitis ³⁸	
• Cardiovascular disease ³⁹	
• Gastroesophageal reflux disease ^{40, 41}	
• Allergies ⁴²	
• Major psychological issues ^{43, 44}	
• Alcohol or other substance abuse ⁴⁵	
• Pregnancy ⁴⁶	
Environmental	
• Air quality ⁴⁷	
• Weather ⁴⁸	
• Exposure to dust, gas, vapor, fumes, or other allergens ^{49, 50}	
• Second-hand tobacco smoke, including in e-cigarettes ^{51, 52, 53}	

- What can digital health assist with?
- Diagnosis
- Adherence
- Technique

Kaplan A, Bolvin M, Bouchard J, Kim J, Hayes S, Licskai C. The emerging role of digital health in the management of asthma. *Therapeutic Advances in Chronic Disease*. 2023;14. doi:10.1177/20406223231209329

Digital Health Technology in Asthma

Table 3. Key findings for DHT in management of the patient with asthma.

Adherence and outcomes	
• Significant improvement in asthma control with high-frequency (more often than once monthly) behavioral support using DHT versus low-frequency (less often or equal to once monthly) HCP-directed behavioral support, HCP-directed educational support, or usual care ¹⁰	
• Higher achievement of clinically meaningful asthma improvement versus standard of care inhaler ¹⁰	
• Increase in HCP-reported patient interactions ¹⁰	
• Improved adherence ^{10, 11}	
Environmental scan and quality review	
• Several asthma management apps have demonstrated the ability to change user behaviour ¹¹²	
User-specific perspectives	
• Patients and physicians generally have a positive view of DHTs ¹¹³	
User-centered design	
• Most important design criteria ⁵¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Simplicity of use for both inhaler device and software ◦ Interface similar to smartphone technology with which users are already accustomed ◦ Software should inform, engage, and motivate users ◦ Device should be unobtrusive, affordable, and provide accurate and objective measurements ◦ Interface language/terminology should be concrete and understandable by persons at a Grade 6–7 reading level¹¹⁴

DHT, Digital health technology; HCP, healthcare provider.

Kaplan A, Bolvin M, Bouchard J, Kim J, Hayes S, Licskai C. The emerging role of digital health in the management of asthma. *Therapeutic Advances in Chronic Disease*. 2023;14. doi:10.1177/20406223231209329

Barriers

Table 5. Common barriers to incorporating DHT into clinical practice.

- Time
- Training
- Interpretation of information obtained from the device
- Lack of consensus or standards for interpretation of DHT data
- Adherence to the technology
- Resistance to change
- Fear of being watched, monitored, and/or reprimanded
- Lack of perceived need for technology as the belief that patient is well controlled
- No compensation for potentially more work
- Overwhelmed with technology
- Cost and insurance coverage for the device and technology
- Medicolegal concerns

DHT, digital health technology.

Kaplan A, Bolvin M, Bouchard J, Kim J, Hayes S, Lickai C. The emerging role of digital health in the management of asthma. *Therapeutic Advances in Chronic Disease*. 2023;14. doi:10.1177/20462233231209129



SMART inhalers in USA

- Smart inhalers help people with chronic lung conditions to use their inhalers more effectively¹.
- There are currently seven FDA-cleared or FDA-approved smart inhalers. Some are all-in-one devices, and others are sensors you attach to a traditional inhaler¹.
- Studies that use digital inhaler systems to collect objective real-time data on medication-taking behavior via electronic medication monitors and feed this data back to patients on their mobile asthma app, and to health care professionals on the clinician dashboard to counsel patients, show positive outcomes².

1. <https://www.goodrx.com/conditions/asthma/smart-inhalers-reviews>
 2. Mesnam GS, Griewe J, Janiwalla SP, Pleasants R, Merchant R. Digital Inhalers and Remote Patient Monitoring for Asthma. *J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract*. 2022 Oct;10(10):2525-2533. doi: 10.1016/j.jaip.2022.06.026. Epub 2022 Jun 29. PMID: 35779779.

Digihaler by Teva:

ProAir Digihaler (albuterol sulfate)
 ArmonAir Digihaler (fluticasone propionate)
 AirDuo Digihaler (fluticasone/salmeterol)



The medication and the technology are already assembled. All you have to do is link the inhaler to the app. Once the Digihaler is out of doses, you discard the entire device. Each new inhaler needs to be linked to the app when you start using it. You don't have to connect the Digihaler to the app to use it. The inhaler will still provide medication even if you're having technical difficulties.

digihaler
 ASTHMA MANAGEMENT UPGRADED

 <p>Record how often and how well you inhale as categorized by inhalation airflow**</p>	 <p>May help you see inhaler event patterns, such as nighttime rescue inhaler use, which may help identify possible triggers</p>	 <p>Provides reports that allow you to share your inhaler data with your doctor</p>
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Propeller



- Propeller is a FDA-cleared smart sensor that you attach to your inhaler.
- The sensors fit most FDA-approved inhalers.
- When you finish all doses in an inhaler, you remove the sensor and attach it to a new inhaler.
- Each sensor has a non-rechargeable battery that should last for about a year.
- Once the battery dies, you'll need a new sensor.
- To get started with Propeller, your healthcare provider needs to enroll you to use the device and app.
- Company located in Madison Wisconsin



Breathe Suite



- BreatheSuite uses a non-rechargeable battery, typical battery life for one sensor is about 1 1/2 years.
- As with Propeller, BreatheSuite doesn't know which brand inhaler you're using. While setting up the app, you'll have to add your inhaler details.
- Senses:
 - How long you shook your MDI before using
 - If you were holding your inhaler correctly during a dose
 - How long you breathed in your dose
 - If you pushed down on your inhaler as you started breathing in


CapMedic



- The prescription-only sensor is rechargeable and fits on most MDIs.
- CapMedic's unique feature is that the sensor talks to you while you're using it.
- If you're not holding your MDI upright, the device will tell you.
- It lights up and plays music to let you know when to push down on your inhaler.
- As soon as you're done with your puff, the lights will be either red or green in color to tell you how well you did with your dose.

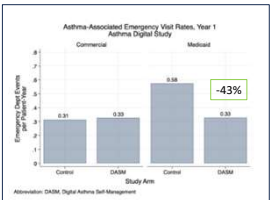
Hailie

- MDI and DPI



Does Digital AI work?

- 41 US states
- The DASM program uses consumer-grade devices for passive biometric monitoring.
- A smart phone app provides "smart nudges," symptom logging, trigger tracking, evidence-based education, and other resources



Asthma-Associated Emergency Visit Rates, Year 1

Population	Study Arm	Emergency Dept Visits per Patient Year
Commercial	Control	0.31
	DASM	0.33
Medicaid	Control	0.58
	DASM	0.33

Attribution: DASM, Digital Asthma Self-Management

Harris B, Silberman J, Sarlati S, et al. Digital asthma self-management tool reduced emergency visit rates in a Medicaid population. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 2023; 131(5):5230-1 (L8005). doi:10.1016/j.anai.2023.10.021

New technologies?

- Parameters (wheezes, rhonchi, coarse and fine crackles, HR, RR, I/E) measured by a device such as an AI-aided home stethoscope allows for the detection of exacerbations without the need for performing PEF measurements.




Emeryk A, et al. Home Monitoring of Asthma Exacerbations in Children and Adults With Use of an AI-Aided Stethoscope. *Ann Fam Med.* 2023 Nov-Dec;21(6):517-525. doi: 10.1370/afm.3039. PMID: 38012028; PMCID: PMC10581685.

The Perils of Artificial Intelligence in a Clinical Landscape

- 1) AI's assistance with inbox management and documentation may dehumanize the clinician-patient relationship
- 2) The volume of documentation that is generated by AI may contribute to clinician burnout
- 3) AI's output is only as good as the training that it receives; this may lead to critical information being overlooked.
- 4) AI has the potential to fabricate information or confabulate.

Ostler J, Aronson L. The Perils of Artificial Intelligence in a Clinical Landscape. JAMA Intern Med. Published online February 12, 2024. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2023.7962

Will we be replaced by AI?

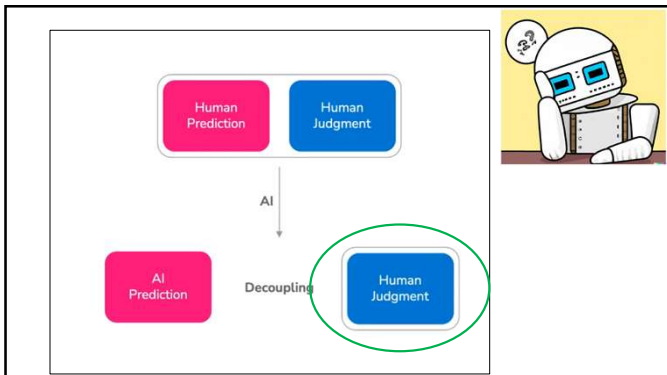
 **No need for pulmonologists to interpret pulmonary function tests**
 Christophe Delclaux^{1,2}

Computers can easily make these functional diagnoses based on the availability of z-scores, but one may wonder if it is necessary given the simple rules of interpretation.

Thus, almost 100% of pulmonologists would give a correct PFT interpretation, at least in university centres that are responsible for medical student teaching. However, it must be pointed out that a FEV1/VC ratio <5th percentile is not necessarily abnormal; it is only atypical because 5% of the normal subjects exhibit this atypical feature.

It is up to the physician interpreting the functional exploration to provide this kind of nuance depending on the clinical context.

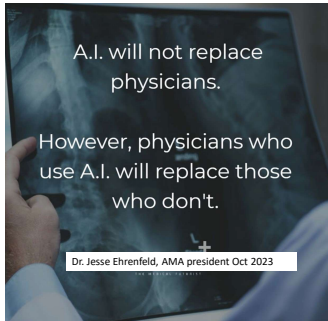
Delclaux C. No need for pulmonologists to interpret pulmonary function tests. Eur Respir J. 2019 Jul 18;54(1):1900829. doi: 10.1183/13993003.00829-2019. PMID: 31320479.



Summary



- Artificial intelligence in Respiratory Medicine is growing
- Real opportunities in real-time issues of
 - Imaging
 - Prediction models
 - Improving diagnostic models
 - Making our lives easier with things like auto-populating Action Plans
 - Digital devices for assessing technique and adherence
- Future is exciting
- Good news, Live Clinicians are STILL NEEDED!! 😊



A.I. will not replace
physicians.

However, physicians who
use A.I. will replace those
who don't.

Dr. Jesse Ehrenfeld, AMA president Oct 2023

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