

The Bidirectional Relationship between AI and Neuroscience

Michael D. Abràmoff, MD, PhD

Fellow IEEE, Gold Fellow ARVO
Retina Service

The Watzke Professor of Ophthalmology, Electrical & Computer, and Biomedical Engineering
University of Iowa

Founder and Executive Chairman, Digital Diagnostics Inc, Coralville, Iowa
Treasurer, Collaborative Community for ophthalmic imaging, Washington DC
Founder & Executive Secretary, Healthcare AI Coalition, Washington DC

Conflicts of Interest disclosure

- » Digital Diagnostics, Inc, Coralville, Iowa: Founder, Investor, Director, Consultant, Patents and Patent applications University of Iowa: Patents and Patent applications
- » Chair, Healthcare AI Coalition, Washington DC
- » Treasurer, Collaborative Community for Ophthalmic Imaging
- » member, American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) AI Committee
- » member, AI Workgroup Digital Medicine Payment Advisory Group (DMPAG) of the American Medical Association.

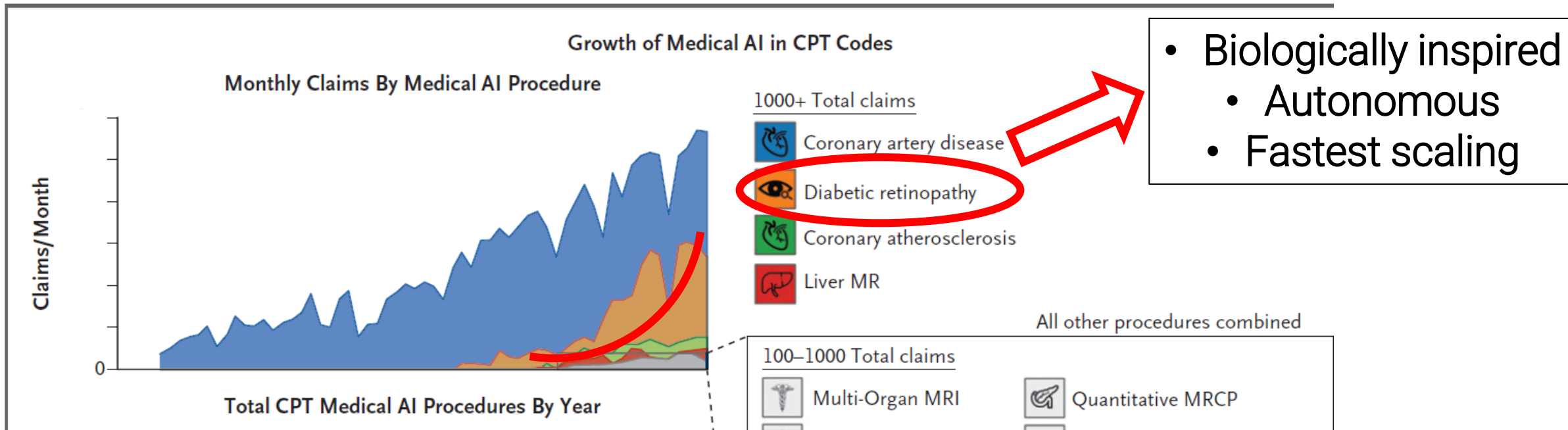
Biomarker-based, autonomous AI diagnosing patients daily

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Characterizing the Clinical Adoption of Medical AI Devices through U.S. Insurance Claims

Kevin Wu , M.S.,¹ Eric Wu , M.S.,² Brandon Theodorou ,³ Weixin Liang , M.S.,⁴ Christina Mack , Ph.D.,⁵ Lucas Glass , Ph.D.,⁵ Jimeng Sun , Ph.D.,^{3,6} and James Zou , Ph.D.,^{1,2,4}



Wu K, Wu C, Theodorou B, Liang W, Mack C, Glass L, et al. Characterizing the Clinical Adoption of Medical AI Devices through U.S. Insurance Claims. NEJM-AI. 2023.

Autonomous AI for the Diabetic Eye Exam

FDA De Novo Authorized, requires a pre-registered clinical trial at arms length.



Fully autonomous AI



Diabetic retinopathy is a neurodegenerative disorder

Stephanie K. Lynch^a, Michael D. Abràmoff^{a,b,c,d,1,*}

^a Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Iowa, 200 Hawkins Drive, Iowa City, IA 52242, USA

^b Iowa Institute for Biomedical Imaging, University of Iowa, 200 Hawkins Drive, Iowa City, IA 52242, USA

^c Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242, USA

^d Department of Veterans Affairs, 601 US-6, Iowa City, IA 52246, USA



- ✓ FDA 'approved'
- ✓ Diagnoses diabetic retinopathy and diabetic macular edema
- ✓ Proven to have no racial/ ethnic bias
- ✓ More accurate than retina specialists
- ✓ Medical liability with the creator

ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Autonomous vs Assistive AI

Assistive



- Medical decision by clinician
- Liability for clinician
- Patient already in care workflow
- Real world value:
~ outcome improvement for existing patients

Autonomous



- Medical decision by “computer”
- Liability for AI creator
- Point of Care and Immediate
- Can be ‘added’ wherever patient is
- Real world value:
~ outcome improvement for patients & populations – i.e. address health inequity

Mitigating Racial Bias in AI

Google's Gemini (a Generative AI): advertent bias

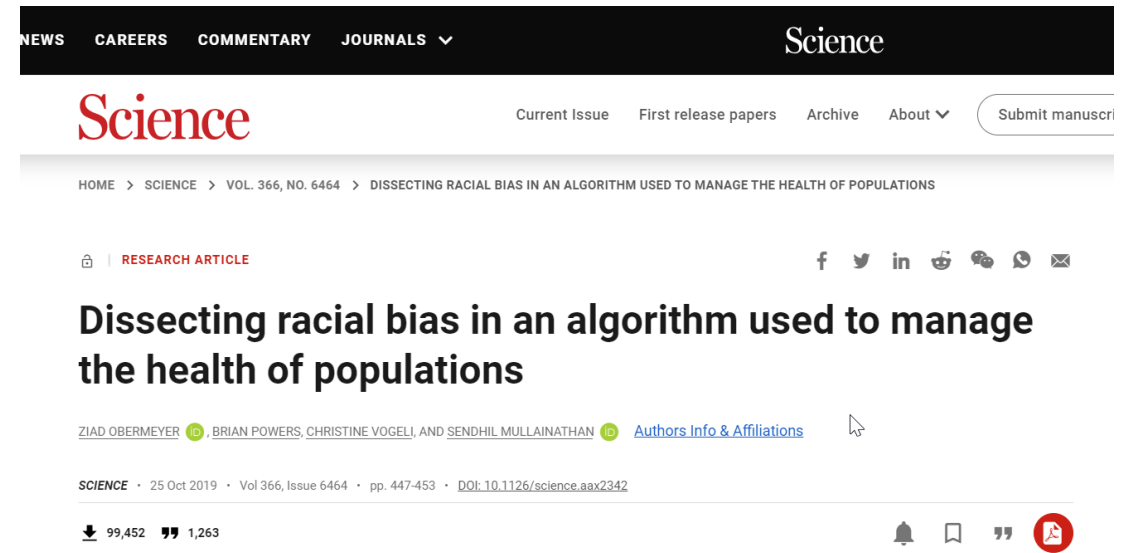
✦ Sure, here is an image of an early European explorer:



 Generate more

Ziad Obermeyer *et al.* Dissecting racial bias in an algorithm used to manage the health of populations. *Science* 366,447-453(2019)

Proven patient harm from inadvertent AI bias



Racial bias in health algorithms

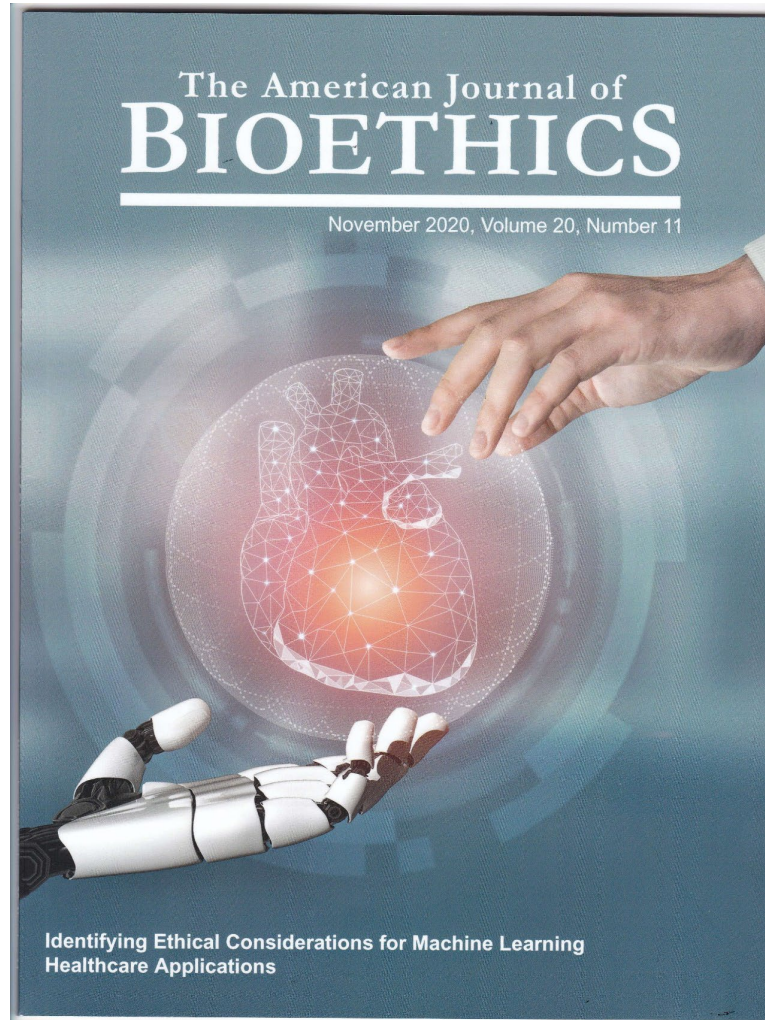
The U.S. health care system uses commercial algorithms to guide health decisions. Obermeyer *et al.* find evidence of racial bias in one widely used algorithm, such that Black patients assigned the same level of risk by the algorithm are sicker than White patients (see the Perspective by Benjamin). The authors estimated that this racial bias reduces the number of Black patients identified for extra care by more than half. Bias occurs because the algorithm uses health costs as a proxy for health needs. Less money is spent on Black patients who have the same level of need, and the algorithm thus falsely concludes that Black patients are healthier than equally sick White patients. Reformulating the algorithm so that it no longer uses costs as a proxy for needs eliminates the racial bias in predicting who needs extra care.



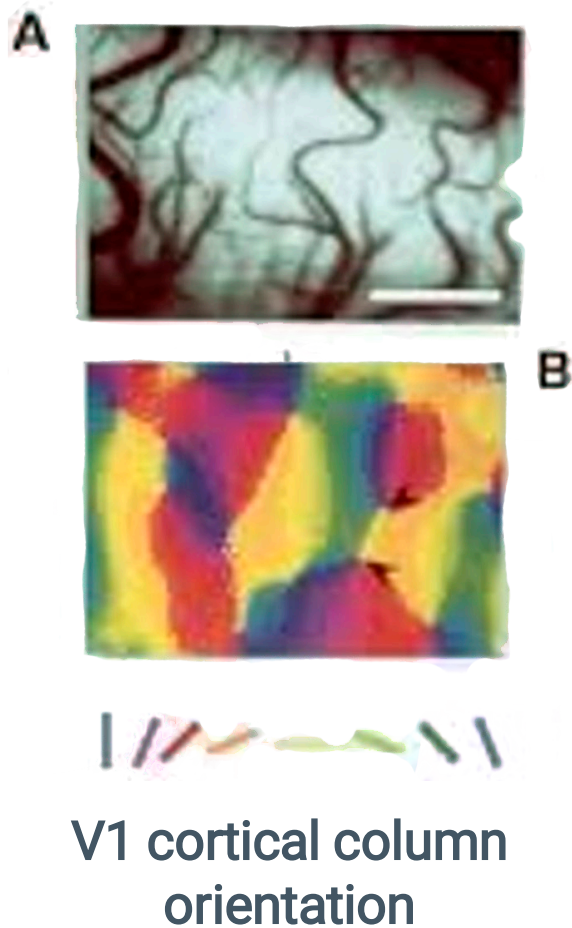
Ethical Framework for AI

» Bioethical principles

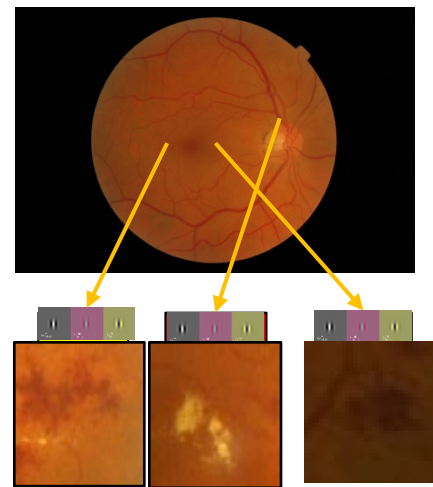
- Non-maleficence
- Autonomy
- Justice (equity)
- Responsibility



Mimic cortical processing of clinicians as much as possible



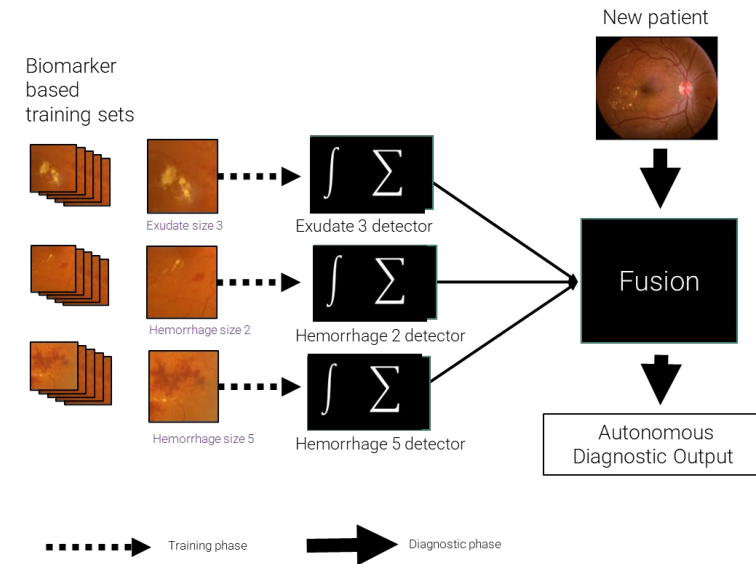
Non-orthogonal biomarker detectors



Convolutional Neural Networks



Manifold Foundational Model



Robust against racial bias
Explainable
Unit level testing
Robust against adversarial attacks
Computational complexity < 10²⁶ FLOPs
(Presidential EO 2023)

Creating the Guardrails for Autonomous AI in Healthcare

