The role of artificial intelligence in improving good health and well-being for sustainable development in Africa

Eric Blanco Niyitunga
University of Johannesburg

Anslem Wongibeh Adunimay
University of Johannesburg

Abstract

This paper examined the factors influencing Artificial Intelligence (AI) services in the improvement of good and equitable health and well-being to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa. While a healthcare system that produces equitable and sustainable health outcomes is a prerequisite for achieving the SDGs, in Africa there are still huge disparities between the rich and poor in terms of access to health services. The corruption in healthcare and the weak structure on which the healthcare industry is built contribute to unequal access to health services. Instead of improving the health sector and industry in their countries, many political leaders in Africa rather go abroad for medical treatment, while a huge number of ordinary people die prematurely due to lack of good health facilities. The paper found that the capacity of health workers is overwhelmed by the large number of patients, the corruption in the health sectors, and harmful counterfeit drugs. The above factors have worked against the achievement of Sustainable Development (SD) in Africa, since good health and well-being serve as fundamental principles of SD. The application of AI to the healthcare industry has the potential to improve the health and well-being of the people, and will enable patients to acquire the necessary medication and therapies without delay or compromise. AI factors can improve the health and well-being of the people, thus paving the way for achieving the SDGs in Africa.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, good health and well-being, healthcare industry, Sustainable Development Goals, and Africa.

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