# Exploring the future of AI in healthcare at NATA's virtual panel



A virtual panel titled “AI and Health Care: What Works & What’s Ahead” will be hosted by the National Athletic Trainers’ Association on Wednesday, January 15, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Eastern Time, featuring UTC professor Gary Wilkerson among other distinguished healthcare professionals. This event aims to explore the transformative role of artificial intelligence (AI) in various aspects of the healthcare industry, including patient and professional communications, administrative workflows, medical education, and emergency preparedness.

The discussion is set to highlight practical and innovative uses of AI in healthcare settings, with panelists sharing their firsthand experiences on how this technology is changing their professional environments. The conversation will delve into the future of AI within healthcare, articulating concerns regarding the preservation of the human element in healthcare communications while examining how AI can enhance the quality of care provided to patients.

Moderating the panel will be A.J. Duffy III, MS, ATC, PT, the current president of NATA. The panel will comprise a diverse group of experts from renowned medical institutions and organisations, including representatives from the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS), American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM), and the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM).

Key figures contributing to the discussion include Kevin Bozic, MD, MBA, chair and professor at the University of Texas at Austin's Dell Medical School and immediate past president of AAOS; Elizabeth L. Albright, DO, a primary care sports medicine physician at the University of Michigan Health-West and team physician for various sports teams; and Katherine J. Coyner, MD, MBA, associate professor at UConn Health and director of their Women’s Center for Motion and Performance.

Gary Wilkerson, noted for his substantial contributions to the field—including being inducted into the NATA Hall of Fame in 2016 and winning the NATA Foundation Medal for Distinguished Research in 2019—brings a wealth of experience to the panel. His career has been characterised by roles that bridge clinical practice and academia, including a focus on predictive modelling for assessing athletes’ risk of musculoskeletal injuries.

The virtual forum is open to the general public, with live broadcasts available on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter).

As AI technology continues to evolve and expand in healthcare, the discussions around both its advantages and the challenges it presents are increasingly pertinent in shaping the future landscape of medical practice. The integration of AI tools may redefine workflows, enhance patient outcomes, and alter the way healthcare professionals interact with their patients and peers.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.healthcareittoday.com/2025/01/07/healthcare-ai-tools-2025-health-it-predictions/> - This article discusses the anticipated advancements and practical applications of AI in healthcare in 2025, including enhancements in patient and professional communications, administrative workflows, and medical diagnosis.
2. <https://www.performancehealthus.com/blog/how-ai-enhances-doctor-patient-communication> - This article highlights how AI is enhancing doctor-patient communication by drafting empathetic messages, improving the quality of communication, and reducing physician workload.
3. <https://www.fastcompany.com/91241415/5-predictions-for-advancements-of-ai-in-healthcare-in-2025> - This article predicts several key areas where AI will gain traction in healthcare in 2025, including home testing, improved diagnostic accuracy, and enhanced patient engagement.
4. <https://www.ohmd.com/conversational-ai-in-healthcare/> - This article explores the benefits of conversational AI in healthcare, such as improving patient experience, automating communication, and enhancing the overall quality of care.
5. <https://www.healthcareittoday.com/2025/01/07/healthcare-ai-tools-2025-health-it-predictions/> - The article mentions AI's role in predictive analytics, personalized treatments, and the evaluation of cultural, economic, and environmental factors to provide targeted preventive care.
6. <https://www.performancehealthus.com/blog/how-ai-enhances-doctor-patient-communication> - It discusses the future implications of AI on doctor-patient communication, including the potential for AI to revolutionize how physicians interact with patients.
7. <https://www.fastcompany.com/91241415/5-predictions-for-advancements-of-ai-in-healthcare-in-2025> - The article predicts AI's role in accelerating research, lowering costs, and improving various aspects of healthcare, such as home testing and telehealth.
8. <https://www.ohmd.com/conversational-ai-in-healthcare/> - Conversational AI is highlighted as a tool that can simplify and smooth doctor-patient communication, providing personalized responses and enhancing patient satisfaction.
9. <https://www.healthcareittoday.com/2025/01/07/healthcare-ai-tools-2025-health-it-predictions/> - The integration of AI into clinical workflows is discussed, emphasizing the need for seamless integration to leverage AI without compromising patient interaction.
10. <https://www.performancehealthus.com/blog/how-ai-enhances-doctor-patient-communication> - The article mentions the importance of further research to evaluate the long-term impact of AI on patient satisfaction and healthcare outcomes.
11. <https://www.fastcompany.com/91241415/5-predictions-for-advancements-of-ai-in-healthcare-in-2025> - It highlights AI's potential to redefine workflows, enhance patient outcomes, and alter the way healthcare professionals interact with patients and peers.
12. <https://www.chattanoogapulse.com/local-news/schools-education/utc%E2%80%99s-gary-wilkerson-among-panelists-for-national-ai-health-/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data