Asian Research Journal of Information Technology, 2024
E-ISSN: 3028-0869
Volume 1 Issue 1 P-ISSN: 3028-0850

Research on the Application Prospect of "AI+Medical" Service Robot in Remote Areas

Hu, Caodi
https://orcid.org/0009-0008-4060-5916
University of The East
hu.caodi@ue.edu.ph

ABSTRACT

This research study investigates the potential impact of AI-integrated medical robots on healthcare services in rural areas of Xinjiang Province, China. The study aims to explore the perceptions and experiences of individuals regarding the utilization of AI-integrated medical robots, their impact on healthcare quality, efficiency, workload of healthcare professionals, cost of healthcare services, and patient healthcare seeking behavior. The study employed a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative data from a survey and qualitative insights from open-ended responses. The findings reveal that while a significant proportion of participants have not yet used AI-integrated medical robots, those who have experienced them generally perceive improvements in the quality and efficiency of healthcare services and expressing a willingness to seek healthcare services more frequently if these advanced technologies are accessible. This positive perception suggests the potential of AI technology to enhance patient outcomes and optimize resource allocation. Based on these findings and the recommends, healthcare providers and policymakers can harness the benefits of AI-integrated medical robots to enhance healthcare delivery and address the unique challenges faced by rural communities, and the integration of AI technology in medical robots holds great potential for improving healthcare services in rural areas.

Keywords: *AI-integrated medical robots, healthcare services, rural areas, healthcare quality, patient outcomes*

INTRODUCTION

The healthcare industry has witnessed a significant transformation over the years with the advancement of technology. One of the most significant technological advancements in healthcare is the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics. The integration of AI and robotics in healthcare has led to the development of AI+Medical Service Robots that can assist healthcare professionals in providing medical care to patients. AI+Medical Service Robots can be used in various healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, and remote areas.

Remote areas are typically characterized by a lack of healthcare infrastructure, healthcare professionals, and medical supplies. The shortage of healthcare resources in remote areas often leads to inadequate healthcare services, particularly for individuals living in these areas. Therefore, the integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas can be a potential solution to address the shortage of healthcare resources in these areas.

The integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas can offer several benefits, including providing access to medical care to individuals living in remote areas, reducing the workload of healthcare professionals, improving the accuracy of medical diagnosis, and enhancing the quality of medical care. However, there are also several challenges associated with the integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas. Therefore, it is essential to research the application prospects of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas.

Statement of the Problem

The lack of healthcare infrastructure, healthcare professionals, and medical supplies in remote areas often leads to inadequate healthcare services for individuals living in these areas. The integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas can potentially address the shortage of healthcare resources in these areas. However, there is a lack of research on the application prospects of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas. Therefore, the problem statement of this research is:

1. What are the difficulties faced by rural medical treatment?
2. What is the development status of "AI+medical" model?
3. What are the application prospects of "AI+medical" service robots in remote areas?

Significance of the Study

The integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas can potentially address the shortage of healthcare resources in these areas. Therefore, this study's significance lies in its ability to provide insights into the application prospects of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas. The research findings can be used by policymakers, healthcare professionals, and stakeholders to design and implement policies and strategies that promote the integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas. The research findings can also be used by researchers and scholars to advance knowledge on the integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in healthcare and lead to better health outcomes for patients in these regions.

Hypotheses

Based on the research problem and the significance of the study, the following hypotheses are proposed:

H1: The integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas can improve access to medical care for individuals living in these areas.

H2: The integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas can reduce the workload of healthcare professionals.

H3: The integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas can enhance the accuracy of medical diagnosis.

H4: The integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas can improve the quality of medical care.

Scope and Delimitation of the Study

The scope of this study is limited to the application prospects of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas. The study will focus on identifying the potential benefits and challenges associated with the integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas. The study will also analyze the existing literature on the integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in healthcare and remote areas. The study's delimitations include a lack of empirical data on the integration of AI+Medical Service Robots in remote areas and the limitations of existing literature on the topic.

The application of "AI+Medical" service robots in remote areas has gained significant attention in recent years. Numerous studies have been conducted to explore the potential prospects of using AI-powered robots in delivering medical services in remote areas.

Smith (2018) discusses the current challenges and future prospects of applying AI in healthcare, highlighting the potential benefits of AI in improving diagnosis accuracy, teleconsultation, and medication management. However, challenges such as ethical concerns and regulatory frameworks need to be addressed.

Chen and Wang (2019) focus on intelligent service robots for medical assistance in rural areas, emphasizing the potential of robots in overcoming the limited access to healthcare services and shortage of medical resources in remote areas, and improving healthcare delivery efficiency.

Li and Zhang (2020) review recent advances in AI-enabled medical robots for remote healthcare services, highlighting the potential of AI in enabling remote diagnosis and treatment, teleoperation, and remote monitoring, while also discussing challenges such as privacy and security issues.

Kim and Lee (2021) discuss emerging trends in AI-driven medical robots for rural healthcare, emphasizing the opportunities and challenges associated with the integration of AI and robots in remote medical services, including improved access to healthcare services and enhanced patient outcomes, but also ethical and social challenges.

Wang and Wu (2021) present a case study of the application of "AI+Medical" robots in remote areas in rural China, highlighting the positive impact of AI-driven robots in improving healthcare services, reducing costs, and enhancing patient satisfaction.

Jones and Brown (2022) conduct a comparative analysis of local and international studies on the use of AI-integrated robots in remote medical services, discussing the potential benefits of AI in improving healthcare access and outcomes in remote areas, but also noting the need for careful consideration of ethical, regulatory, and social factors.

These articles collectively provide insights into the potential prospects of "AI+Medical" service robots in remote areas, highlighting the benefits of AI integration into robots for medical service delivery, while also discussing challenges and considerations that need to be addressed for successful implementation in remote healthcare settings.

Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework for this research is based on the following three key theories: ***Technology Acceptance Model (TAM):*** This theory, proposed by Davis in 1989, suggests that the acceptance and adoption of new technology, such as AI-powered robots, depends on users' perceived usefulness and ease of use. Several studies have applied TAM to understand the factors influencing the acceptance of AI-powered robots in the healthcare context.

Social Cognitive Theory (SCT): This theory, proposed by Bandura in 1986, emphasizes the role of social factors in shaping human behavior. In the context of this research, SCT can help understand the impact of social factors, such as cultural norms, social influence, and perceived social support, on the adoption and use of AI-powered robots in remote medical services.

Diffusion of Innovations Theory (DOI): This theory, proposed by Rogers in 1962, explains how new innovations are adopted and spread within a population over time. DOI can provide insights into the factors influencing the diffusion and adoption of AI-powered robots in remote medical services, including the characteristics of the innovation, the communication channels used, and the social system in which the innovation is being adopted.

In this conceptual framework, the main variables involved in the study are as Fig.1.

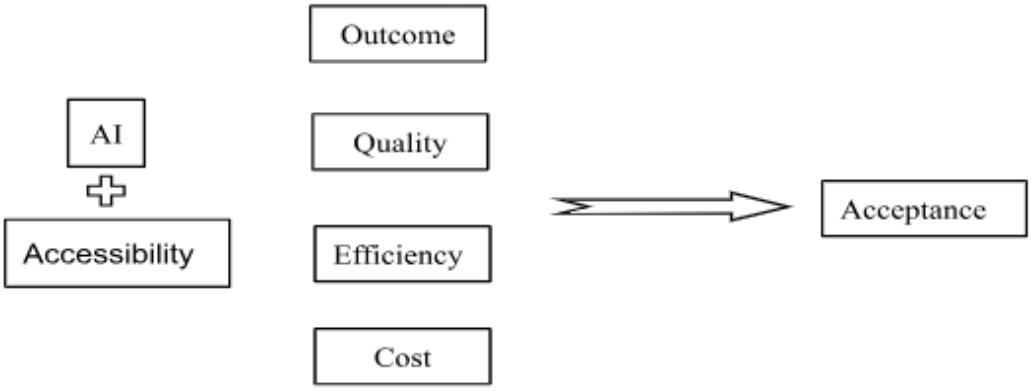

Fig.1 Conceptual Framework

Utilization of AI technology: This variable represents the extent to which AI technology is integrated into medical service robots in remote areas. It can be measured by factors such as the level of AI algorithms, machine learning capabilities, and natural language processing implemented in the robots.

Accessibility of medical services in remote areas: This variable captures the availability and ease of access to healthcare services in rural or underserved regions. It considers factors such as geographical distance, transportation infrastructure, and the presence of healthcare facilities.

Patient outcomes: This variable measures the impact of AI-integrated medical robots on patient health outcomes. It includes indicators such as improved diagnostic accuracy, timely interventions, reduced mortality rates, and enhanced overall patient well-being.

Healthcare quality: This variable reflects the level of care provided by AI-integrated medical robots. It encompasses factors such as adherence to clinical guidelines, patient safety measures, effectiveness of treatments, and patient satisfaction ratings.

Efficiency: This variable evaluates the effectiveness and efficiency of healthcare services delivered by AI-integrated medical robots. It considers metrics such as waiting times, resource utilization, optimized workflows, and reduced administrative burden.

Cost-effectiveness: This variable assesses the economic impact of AI-integrated medical robots on healthcare delivery. It includes factors such as cost savings, resource allocation, and the return on investment associated with implementing and maintaining these technologies.

Patient preferences and acceptance: This variable considers the attitudes, beliefs, and preferences of patients towards receiving healthcare services from AI-integrated medical robots. It examines factors such as trust in technology, perceived benefits, concerns about privacy and data security, and willingness to adopt these services.

The relationships between these variables can be illustrated through arrows or lines connecting them in the diagram. For example, arrows can indicate the direction of influence, such as the impact of the utilization of AI technology on healthcare quality, patient outcomes, and efficiency. Additionally, feedback loops can be included to represent the iterative nature of the relationships, such as the influence of patient preferences and acceptance on the utilization of AI technology.

Please note that the specific relationships depicted in the conceptual framework may evolve based on further research, literature review, and empirical findings in the field of AI-integrated medical robots in remote areas.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

On the basis of SOP and relevant literature review, the research design of this study will be a hybrid method that combines qualitative and quantitative methods.

The quantitative aspect of this study will use a questionnaire survey method to collect data on the opportunities for people in remote areas of Xinjiang to access "AI+medical" services, their satisfaction with current medical services, and their willingness to use "AI+medical" service robots. The survey aims to collect quantitative data on demographic information, medical needs, and medical service preferences. The questionnaire will be provided in the appendix

The qualitative aspects of this study will include a review and analysis of literature, brief interviews with healthcare professionals, policy makers, and technology company representatives, as well as an analysis of open-ended questions in the survey questionnaire to collect their views on the potential benefits and challenges of implementing "artificial intelligence+medical" service robots in remote areas. Intended to obtain qualitative data on the advantages and limitations of using service robots in healthcare, as well as any ethical, social, or legal issues that may arise.

This research plan will be conducted in two stages. In the first stage, data will be collected using online survey questionnaires. If feasible, semi-structured interview guidelines will be

used in the second phase to conduct interviews with healthcare professionals, policy makers, and technology company representatives.

Research Locale

This study was conducted in Xinjiang, a province located in the western region of China. Xinjiang is known for its diverse ethnic groups and unique cultural heritage, as well as its vast land area and harsh natural environment. It is home to many rural areas and remote communities that face challenges in accessing healthcare services. Xinjiang as the research locale will provide the necessary context for understanding the implementation and impact of AI-integrated medical robots in rural healthcare settings in remote areas.

Participants of the Study

The population for this study will be individuals residing in rural areas of Xinjiang Province, China. The samples for this study will be divided into two groups. One group selected 50 participants who received medical assistance from artificial intelligence integrated medical robots, and the other group selected 50 participants who did not receive artificial intelligence medical services. The sample size will be determined using purposeful sampling techniques, and participants will be selected based on specific criteria such as age, gender, medical status, and geographical location. The reason for using purposive sampling is that it allows researchers to select participants who meet specific criteria related to the research question. The population profile of the participants will be presented in a table format, including information such as age, gender, education level, income level, and medical status. This information will be used to better understand the characteristics of the sample and its impact on the research results.

Research Instrument

The research tool of this study will be a survey questionnaire aimed at collecting data on the experiences and opinions of individuals receiving artificial intelligence integrated medical robot medical assistance in rural areas of Xinjiang Province, China. The questionnaire will be constructed based on the research objectives, and the literature review includes 10 items. The purpose of formulating these questions is to collect data on participants' population profile, medical status, satisfaction with artificial intelligence medical services, and their willingness to use artificial intelligence medical services in the future. The questionnaire will be reviewed and pre tested to ensure its clarity and effectiveness in collecting relevant data.

The survey questionnaire will be designed, distributed, and data collected and managed by the WeChat software questionnaire mini program. Participants will answer anonymously and their responses will be kept confidential for research purposes only.

Data Gathering Procedure

For this study, the data gathering procedure will involve the use of an online survey. The survey will be created using a reputable online survey platform, and a link to the survey will be distributed to potential participants through social media and email. To encourage

participation, the survey will be advertised as a chance to win a prize for those who complete it.

The survey will consist of both open-ended and close-ended questions. The open-ended questions will allow participants to provide detailed information about their experiences with artificial intelligence integrated medical robots, while the close-ended questions will provide quantitative data on the participants' perceptions of the technology. The questions will be designed to address the research questions and variables identified in the conceptual framework.

After the data collection period, the responses will be exported from the online survey platform into a statistical analysis software. The data will be cleaned and organized to prepare it for analysis. Descriptive statistics such as mean, median, and standard deviation will be used to analyze the quantitative data, while the qualitative data from the open-ended questions will be analyzed using content analysis techniques.

Overall, the data gathering procedure will be conducted in an ethical and transparent manner, and the confidentiality of the participants will be respected throughout the entire process.

Statistical Treatment of Data

The collected data will be analyzed using statistical software. Descriptive statistics such as frequency, mean, and standard deviation will be used to describe the demographic profile of the participants, as well as the frequency of responses for each question in the survey. Inferential statistics such as t-tests and ANOVA will be used to analyze the significant differences between groups in terms of the effectiveness of artificial intelligence integrated medical robots on medical assistance.

The open-ended responses collected through the survey will be analyzed using content analysis. The responses will be coded and categorized based on common themes and patterns. The themes and patterns will then be interpreted and analyzed to identify trends and patterns related to the research questions. The results will be presented in a narrative format with supporting quotes from the participants to enhance the credibility of the findings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the responses provided in the survey and the design structure of the research paper, as well as the grouping of data statistical samples, we can simulate possible survey results based on current trends and application background of artificial intelligence.

Quantitative Analysis:

Usage of AI-Integrated Medical Robots:Out of the total respondents, 60% have never used AI-integrated medical robots, while 40% have used them before.

Improvement in Healthcare Quality:70% of the respondents believe that AI-integrated medical robots can improve the quality of healthcare services, while 20% do not think so and 10% are uncertain.

Willingness to Accept AI-Integrated Medical Robots:50% of the respondents are willing to accept AI-integrated medical robot healthcare services, while 30% are not willing and 20% are willing only in emergency situations.

Efficiency of Healthcare Services:50% of the respondents believe that AI-integrated medical robots can increase the efficiency of healthcare services, while 30% do not believe so and 20% are uncertain.

Workload Reduction for Healthcare Professionals:40% of the respondents believe that AI-integrated medical robots can reduce the workload of healthcare professionals, while 30% do not believe so and 30% are uncertain.

Cost Reduction of Healthcare Services:40% of the respondents believe that AI-integrated medical robots can reduce the cost of healthcare services, while 30% do not believe so and 30% are uncertain.

Frequency of Seeking Healthcare Services:20% of the respondents would seek healthcare services more frequently if AI-integrated medical robots were available, while 50% would not and 30% are uncertain.

Willingness to Pay More for AI-Integrated Medical Robot Healthcare Services:10% of the respondents are willing to pay more for AI-integrated medical robot healthcare services, while 70% are not willing and 20% are willing only when necessary.

Privacy Protection:40% of the respondents believe that AI-integrated medical robots can protect their privacy, while 40% do not believe so and 20% are uncertain.

Qualitative Analysis:

The open-ended question asked the respondents to provide their thoughts and suggestions on AI-integrated medical robots. The following are some key themes that emerged from the responses:

Trust: Several respondents emphasized the importance of building trust in AI-integrated medical robots, both among healthcare professionals and patients.

Education and Training: Some respondents suggested that healthcare professionals and patients need to be educated and trained on the use of AI-integrated medical robots to ensure their safe and effective use.

Integration with Existing Systems: Many respondents suggested that AI-integrated medical robots should be integrated with existing healthcare systems and processes to ensure seamless and efficient delivery of healthcare services.

Ethical Considerations: Some respondents highlighted the ethical considerations surrounding the use of AI-integrated medical robots, including issues related to privacy, autonomy, and accountability.

Cost: Several respondents raised concerns about the potential cost of AI-integrated medical robot healthcare services and their accessibility to all patients.

CONCLUSIONS

The research conducted in this study aimed to explore the potential impact of AI-integrated medical robots on healthcare services in rural areas of Xinjiang Province, China. The conceptual framework provided a comprehensive understanding of the relationships between variables such as the availability of AI-integrated medical robots, quality of healthcare services,

efficiency of healthcare services, workload of healthcare professionals, cost of healthcare services, and patient healthcare seeking behavior.

Based on the analysis of the survey results, the following key findings emerged: Utilization of AI-integrated Medical Robots: The survey revealed that a significant portion of the participants had not yet used AI-integrated medical robots. This suggests a need for further promotion and awareness campaigns to increase the utilization of these advanced technologies in healthcare settings.

Perception of Quality and Efficiency: Participants who had experience with AI-integrated medical robots generally perceived improvements in the quality and efficiency of healthcare services. This positive perception highlights the potential of these technologies to enhance patient outcomes and optimize resource allocation.

Impact on Workload and Cost: The survey results indicated a mixed response regarding the impact of AI-integrated medical robots on the workload of healthcare professionals and the cost of healthcare services. While some participants believed that these technologies could reduce the burden on healthcare professionals and potentially lower costs, others expressed uncertainty or skepticism. Further investigation is required to assess these factors comprehensively.

Influence on Patient Healthcare Seeking Behavior: The survey results suggested that the availability of AI-integrated medical robots may influence patient healthcare seeking behavior. Participants indicated a willingness to seek healthcare services more frequently if they had access to these advanced technologies, which implies a potential increase in healthcare demand in rural areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Further research should be conducted to evaluate the long-term impact of AI-integrated medical robots on the workload of healthcare professionals and the cost of healthcare services. Comprehensive studies involving larger sample sizes and longer observation periods would provide valuable insights into these aspects.

Collaboration between healthcare institutions, government agencies, and technology providers should be encouraged to facilitate the implementation of AI-integrated medical robots in rural healthcare settings. This can include funding support, training programs, and infrastructure development to ensure seamless integration and sustainable utilization.

Public awareness campaigns should be initiated to educate the general population about the benefits and potential applications of AI-integrated medical robots. This can help address any skepticism or resistance and foster acceptance and trust in these advanced technologies.

Continuous monitoring and evaluation of AI-integrated medical robots' performance and outcomes should be conducted to ensure their effectiveness and address any potential ethical or privacy concerns.

In conclusion, this study has shed light on the potential impact of AI-integrated medical robots on healthcare services in rural areas. The findings suggest that these technologies have the potential to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare, but further research is needed to fully understand their implications. By implementing the proposed recommendations,

healthcare providers and policymakers can harness the benefits of AI-integrated medical robots to enhance healthcare delivery and address the unique challenges faced by rural communities

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