



6th Annual AI in Healthcare Summit

Venue: Hotel SKY Sandton

Brought to you by:  ML Africa



Date: 20th November 2025

Time: 08:00

01 REGISTRATION 08:00

02 OPENING REMARKS 08:50

Johan Steyn, Smart Automation & Artificial Intelligence (AI) thought leader and management consultant

03 THE ROLE OF AI IN TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE IN SOUTH AFRICA 09:00

South Africa's healthcare system struggles with resource constraints, workforce gaps, and rising disease burdens. Artificial intelligence (AI) offers a scalable solution – enhancing diagnostics, drug discovery, and clinical decision-making while optimising hospital efficiency. Success depends on interoperable data, bias-aware AI models trained on local datasets, and robust ethical frameworks. Learning from China's AI health strategy and leveraging BRICS collaboration, South Africa must prioritise a unified digital health infrastructure to ensure equitable, secure AI adoption. Responsible implementation can augment clinical expertise and improve care standards across public and private sectors.

Wayne Janneker, Chief Technology Officer, Africa Clinical Research Network (ACRN)

04 AI IN RADIOLOGY: ADVANCING PRECISION IMAGING FOR AFRICA'S HEALTHCARE FUTURE 09:30

AI is transforming radiology across Africa by enabling earlier disease detection, easing diagnostic backlogs, and supporting clinicians with faster, more accurate imaging tools. This keynote highlights real-world applications and emphasizes scalable solutions built for Africa's unique healthcare contexts. Attendees will gain insight into how intelligent imaging is driving equitable, data-sensitive innovation across the continent.

Prof Nasreen Mahomed, Academic Head Radiology, University of Witwatersrand Vice Academic Chair Radiological Society of South Africa RSSA

05 MACHINE LEARNING UNDERWRITING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE 10:00

An introduction to how machine learning transforms health insurance underwriting by enabling accurate risk assessment, dynamic pricing, and faster decision-making – all while improving customer experience and operational scalability.

Maksim Fokin, Deputy CEO Mains Lab

COFFEE & NETWORKING BREAK 10:30

06 TELEMEDICINE ADOPTION IN AFRICA: BRIDGING THE TRUST GAP IN THE AGE OF AI 11:00

Despite the proliferation of digital health platforms across Africa, telemedicine adoption remains staggeringly low. Patients still queue for hours at overcrowded hospitals, even when virtual consultations promise speed, convenience, and affordability. Why? Through case studies, Dr. Oluwadele highlights the deeper systemic issues that undermine telemedicine uptake, ranging from digital illiteracy and poor infrastructure to institutional mistrust and cultural dissonance. She argues that innovation without trust is ineffective, and that real progress lies in building telemedicine systems with communities, not just for them.

Dr Deborah Oluwadele, Academic at University of Pretoria, a digital innovation lead, healthtech strategist, and PhD holder in Telemedicine

07 POLICY AND INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES SHAPING AI ADOPTION IN HEALTHCARE 11:30

AI adoption in healthcare is advancing rapidly, yet policy and infrastructure gaps continue to hinder its full potential. This keynote examines the systemic challenges facing implementation—from fragmented data systems and limited digital infrastructure to regulatory uncertainty and ethical oversight.

Simon Woodland, AI Research Lead, African Leadership University - AI in Africa Research Project

08 AI AND TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE OF IVD AND DIAGNOSTICS 12:00

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is redefining the landscape of in-vitro diagnostics (IVD), ushering in a new era of precision, efficiency, and accessibility across the healthcare continuum. From molecular testing to point-of-care devices, AI-driven technologies are enhancing diagnostic accuracy, streamlining workflows, and enabling real-time clinical decision-making.

Sarah Cohen, Executive Officer, Southern African Laboratory Diagnostics Association (SALDA)

09 AI IN HEALTHCARE: INSIGHTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION 12:30

The session explores government-led initiatives to foster local AI expertise, invest in enabling infrastructure, and promote cross-sector collaboration. It highlights strategic priorities such as AI-driven diagnostics, predictive analytics for public health, and secure data governance.

Glaudina Loots, Director: Health Innovation, Department of Science, Technology and Innovation

10 HEALTHTECH INNOVATION & INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE: SCALING SOLUTIONS ACROSS AFRICA **14:00**

This keynote provides a panoramic view of Africa's evolving healthtech ecosystem, spotlighting AI-driven startups, public-private partnerships, and investment trends. It examines barriers to scale, such as infrastructure, funding, and workforce capacity, and showcases successful models in diagnostics, telemedicine, and supply chain optimization. The session calls for inclusive innovation, regional collaboration, and sustainable financing to unlock AI's full potential in advancing equitable healthcare across the continent.

Debbie Rogers, CEO, Reach Digital Health

11 AI AND THE DANGER OF OUR RELIANCE ON IT IN HEALTHCARE **14:30**

Until now, only the benefits of AI in the healthcare setting have been discussed. Along with this great transformative power for positive change, there is the danger that this new way of work poses to our society. A new area of research is beginning to be built, which demonstrates that the use of AI is impacting the ability of humans to think critically and solve problems. Specifically, within healthcare on the African continent, this potentially has an impact on patient outcomes. There is a need to be cognizant of this impact, and a plan to mitigate this impact needs to be considered within policy and regulatory frameworks

Dr Prinesh Reddy, Associate Director: Policy & Health Systems Strengthening, MSD South Africa

COFFEE & NETWORKING BREAK **15:00**

12 AGENTIC AI FOR HEALTHCARE: REDEFINING AUTONOMY IN CLINICAL WORKFLOWS **15:30**

Healthcare is entering an era where artificial intelligence is no longer just reactive – it is becoming agentic. These new systems don't wait for commands; they understand context, recall history, and take purposeful action within clinical workflows. Attendees will gain a clear understanding of how to evaluate agentic systems ethically, integrate them with legacy infrastructure, and prepare their organizations for a future where healthcare intelligence acts with us, not for us.

Matthew Hellyar, Strategic Partner, Respocare

NETWORKING **16:00**

END OF SUMMIT **17:00**

Speakers

JULIANA SILVA



CEO, Reach
Digital Health

DR DEBORAH
OLUWADELE



Academic,
University of
Pretoria

GLAUDINA LOOTS



Director: Health
Innovation
Department of
Science, Technology
and Innovation

JOHAN STEYN



Human-Centered
AI Advocate,
Founder of AI for
Business

MAKSIM FOKIN



Deputy CEO,
Mains Lab

MATTHEW
HELLYAR



Strategic partner
at Respopare

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Speakers

PROF NASREEN MAHOMED



Academic Head of Radiology at the University of Witwatersrand

SARAH COHEN



Executive Officer, Southern African Laboratory Diagnostics Association

SIMON WOODLAND



AI Research Lead, ALU - AI in Africa Research Project

WAYNE JANNEKER



CTO, Africa Clinical Research Network (ACRN)

DR PRINESH REDDY



Associate Director: Policy & Health Systems Strengthening, MSD South Africa

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