

The Rise of Artificial Intelligence in Thai Medicine: A New Era of Possibilities

Surasak Sangkhathat, M.D., Ph.D.

Department of Surgery, and Department of Biomedical Sciences and Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai, Songkhla 90110, Thailand.

Artificial intelligence (AI), a branch of computer science aimed at simulating human intelligence processes, has made significant strides in recent years. Machine learning (ML), a subset of AI, enables systems to learn from data and improve their performance over time without explicit programming. Deep learning (DL), a type of ML, uses artificial neural networks to model and understand complex patterns, mimicking the human brain's structure and function.

In Thailand, AI is making its mark on the healthcare landscape. For instance, Siriraj Hospital, a leading medical institution in the country, has partnered with local AI startup Cariva (Thailand) to develop AI-based medical products and services. One notable success is the use of AI to detect diabetic retinopathy, a major cause of blindness among the Thai population. AI systems can analyze retinal images and identify early signs of the disease, facilitating timely intervention and preventing vision loss. Additionally, AI-powered chatbots are being used to provide personalized health information and support to Thai patients, improving access to care and promoting health literacy.

The frontier of AI in Thai medicine is constantly expanding. Researchers are exploring the use of AI for various applications, such as predicting dengue outbreaks, a significant public health concern in Thailand. AI algorithms can analyze factors like weather patterns, mosquito populations, and human mobility to predict the likelihood of dengue outbreaks, enabling proactive measures and resource allocation. Furthermore, AI is being used to improve the accuracy and efficiency of medical diagnoses, particularly in areas with limited access to specialists. By analyzing medical images and patient data, AI systems can assist healthcare providers in making informed decisions and providing timely care.

As AI continues to evolve, it is essential for Thai healthcare practitioners to stay abreast of the latest developments. Familiarizing themselves with AI terminology and applications will enable them to leverage this technology effectively for patient care. Embracing AI as a tool can augment their decision-making processes, improve diagnostic accuracy, and streamline workflows. However, it is crucial to remember that AI is not intended to replace physicians but rather to empower them. By working collaboratively with AI systems, healthcare practitioners in Thailand can harness the full potential of this technology to deliver personalized, efficient, and high-quality care to their patients.

Corresponding author: Prof. Surasak Sangkhathat, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Surgery, and Department of Biomedical Sciences and Biomedical Engineering,
Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai, Songkhla 90110, Thailand.
E-mail: surasak.sa@psu.ac.th
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The future of AI in Thai medicine is undoubtedly bright. As research progresses and technology advances, AI has the potential to revolutionize healthcare delivery, improve patient outcomes, and reduce costs. Thailand, with its strong medical infrastructure and growing tech industry, is well-positioned to embrace this transformative technology. However, it is crucial to address ethical concerns, ensure data privacy, and establish appropriate regulatory frameworks to maximize the benefits of AI while mitigating potential risks. By embracing this transformative technology responsibly and collaboratively, the Thai medical community can unlock a new era of possibilities and ultimately enhance the well-being of patients nationwide.

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