PALLIATIVE CARE OF THE FUTURE: WHAT DOES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, SPECIFICALLY CHAT GPT, TELL US AND SHOULD WE LISTEN?

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (100 words maximum)

Chat GPT is a Large Language Model (LLM) driven by generative Artificial Intelligence (AI). The use of this technology in business, manufacturing, healthcare and others has heralded both excitement for its applications and concerns for the threats it can pose for bias, privacy and discrimination. Chat GPT (4.0) is used to collate complex data to identify predictions and future directions in palliative care, with limitations of the language model considered. This paper will describe the experience of using Chat GPT to customise instructions and pose and refine questions for 'the future of palliative care'. Responses to questions will be presented.

INTRODUCTION

ChatGPT, is one of several Large Language Models (LLM's) developed as a language processing chatbot to simulate human responses to text-based prompts. Chat GPT utilises deep learning methods, modelled after the human brain to recognise patterns of complexity, hidden patterns and relationships in a range of data including but not limited to pictures, sounds and text. The access and collation of what is enormous amounts of data is the core technology of deep learning.

In healthcare Chat GPT is reported to be able to enhance learning, support decision making, enable more accurate diagnoses and targeted treatment approaches, and many research tasks. The disadvantages or limitations of Chat GPT have become clearer as more users access the technology. These limitations include: a lack of contextual awareness in responses; limited creativity in responses and accuracy of responses; difficulty with responding with lengthy content; potential bias in responses, and generation of responses that lack compassion or emotional connection.

Insights into future directions of palliative care can be posed through questions to Chat GPT through a synthesis of complex data about trends, demographics, models of care and rapidly shifting technology in healthcare and palliative care specifically.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Tips to consider when using Chat GPT to generate more authentic and creative responses.
- Understanding the use and limitations of Chat GPT to answer questions specifically about the complexities for future directions in palliative care.

- Collation of information on the future direction of palliative care.

METHODOLOGY/ PROCESS

Customised ChatGPT 4.0 (paid version) was used and includes data up April 2023. Custom instructions, selected from options, were set with parameters and preferences for how Chat GPT was to consider answers when generating responses-giving Chat GPT information about my role and persona. Several broad questions were then posed to understand the nature of questions that would generate responses, key words on the topic and to establish which search engines were used by Chat GPT. Questions to understand predictions and future directions of palliative care were posed and refined to ensure responses were progressively more detailed and aligned to the topic.

RESULTS/ OUTCOMES

Initial responses were characterised by broad (known) directions of palliative care and a further question highlighted this and asked Chat GPT respond in more detail, specifically in areas where current research, technology development, and pilot programs were pushing the boundaries of what was possible in palliative care. Responses included innovations in technology, therapy, and healthcare delivery models. Further questions sought more detail about models of care, integrated pathways, the impact of Voluntary Assisted Dying for the future of palliative care, how to ensure the human connection in future directions of palliative care, and the final question was ‘does Chat GPT care about the future of palliative care.

CONCLUSION

This new era of human and computer interaction can enable vast learnings and many efficiencies in day-to-day activities. Careful questioning, that is being informed enough to know what questions to ask is essential for these interactions. Chat GPT provided some very sound and appropriate responses to questions about the future of palliative care. Should we listen, well yes but carefully considered.