



Defining the Role of the Physician in the Digital and AI Era of Medicine

National Academy of Sciences Building | Washington, D.C. | Room NAS 125

Goal of Convening:

To co-create a shared, authoritative definition of the physician's role, responsibilities, and boundaries in a healthcare system increasingly shaped by digital technologies and AI.

Objectives:

1. Articulate the enduring, non-delegable responsibilities of physicians in an AI-enabled healthcare system.
2. Clarify how clinical judgment, accountability, and patient trust evolve but remain central in the digital and AI-enabled era of healthcare.
3. Produce structured insights that can directly inform a scope of practice framework that definitively articulates the physician's role, responsibilities, and boundaries in the AI era.

Agenda | May 21, 2026

10:00 AM ET | Light Refreshments and Networking

10:30 AM ET | Welcome Opening Remarks and introductions

- John Whyte, MD, MPH, Chief Executive Officer, American Medical Association
- Jennifer Goldsack, MChem, MA, MBA, OLY, Chief Executive Officer, Digital Medicine Society

11 AM ET | Session 1: The Art of the Possible: Medicine at the Edge of the AI Era

Artificial intelligence and digital technologies are advancing rapidly, reshaping how knowledge is generated, decisions are made, and complex work is performed across industries worldwide. Healthcare is entering this transformation now. This session explores the emerging capabilities that will shape medicine over the next decade, from advanced clinical reasoning systems to continuous intelligence embedded in care delivery. In short opening remarks to set the stage for discussion, global technology leaders will outline what is becoming possible and why defining the physician's role, responsibilities, and boundaries in the AI era is an urgent priority for the profession today.

Opening Remarks:

- Susan Sly, Founder and CEO, The Pause Technologies Inc.
- Toju Duke, Founder, Diverse AI
- James Hairston, Global Head of Innovation Policy, OpenAI
- Pete Clardy, MD, Director, Clinical Enterprise, Google for Health
- Jacob Shiff, Chief AI & Technology Officer, CMS Innovation Center
- Moderator: Ryan Vega, MD, Physician-in-Residence, DiMe

11:20 AM ET | Open Discussion

12:15 PM ET | Lunch Break and Networking

1:00 PM ET | Session 2: AI in Practice: Clinical Transformation Already Underway

Artificial intelligence in healthcare has already scaled far beyond research and pilot programs. Across healthcare, AI systems are already operating at scale, influencing clinical decisions, patient access, workflow efficiency, and care delivery outcomes. This session examines real-world implementations where advanced AI has demonstrably reshaped clinical practice, from frontline patient triage and early disease detection to imaging and administrative automation. Through concrete case studies, experts delivering brief opening remarks will explore how AI is changing when, where, and how care occurs, and why defining physician responsibility in this new reality cannot wait.

Opening Remarks:

- Matt Pavelle, Co-Founder & CEO, Doctronic
- Amy Compton-Phillips, MD, CMO, CVS Health
- Reid Conant, MD, FACEP, Sr. Physician Executive, Abridge
- Anna McCollister, Patient Expert and Health Technology Advocate
- Moderator: Benjamin Vandendriessche, PhD, President & CSO, DiMe

1:20 PM ET | Open Discussion

2:15 PM ET | Session 3: Defining the Physician's Role in the Digital and AI Era

As artificial intelligence becomes embedded across healthcare, fundamental questions emerge about professional responsibility, clinical judgment, and the physician's role within increasingly technology-enabled care teams. This session moves from capability to consequence, examining what AI integration means for how physicians practice, lead care teams, maintain accountability, and sustain patient trust. Drawing on perspectives from frontline practice, academic medicine, and health system leadership, experts delivering brief opening remarks will explore which responsibilities remain uniquely physician-led and how the practice of medicine must evolve in an AI-enabled healthcare system.

Opening Remarks:

- Aelaf Worku, MD, VP, National Medical Director, SCAN Health Plan
- Priyanka Agarwal, MD, MBA, Co-Founder & CEO, HealthEx
- Alex Billioux, MD, DPhil, Chief Health Officer, Cityblock Health

- Ateev Mehrotra, MD, MPH, Professor of Health Services, Policy & Practice, Brown University
- Moderator: Bobby Mukkamala, MD, President, AMA

2:35 PM ET | Open Discussion

3:30 PM ET | Afternoon Break: Refreshments and Networking

3:45 PM ET | Session 4: From Vision to Action: Policy Foundations for the AI-Enabled Practice of Medicine

Realizing the promise of artificial intelligence in healthcare requires more than technological advancement. It demands aligned policy, payment, licensure, and governance frameworks that enable innovation while preserving physician accountability and patient trust. Building on earlier discussions defining the physician's evolving role, this session examines the policy actions needed to responsibly integrate AI into clinical care at scale. Federal, professional, and industry leaders will begin the conversation and explore how regulation, reimbursement, and infrastructure must evolve to ensure physicians can lead the safe, effective, and equitable adoption of AI in medicine.

Opening Remarks:

- Humayun Chaudhry, DO, MS, MACP, President & CEO, Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)
- Kurt Herzer, MD, PhD, MSc, Head of Healthcare & Life Sciences Policy, Anthropic
- Rafid Fadul, MD, MBA, Chief Medical Officer, Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)
- Matthew Diamond, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer, Digital Health Center of Excellence, FDA
- Moderator: Jennifer Goldsack, MChem, MA, MBA, OLY, Chief Executive Officer, Digital Medicine Society

4:05 PM ET | Open Discussion

5:00 PM ET | Closing Remarks

- John Whyte, MD, MPH, Chief Executive Officer, American Medical Association

5:30 - 7:00 PM ET | Evening reception