

Innovate Issue 13, 2021

Australian Institute of Health Innovation

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Artificial intelligence



Is Australia prepared for the future with AI in healthcare?

First AI in Healthcare Roadmap released

The results of a nationwide survey of the health sector including government, industry, consumers and IT organisations has identified key recommendations for how Australia should prepare in order to embrace artificial intelligence (AI) in healthcare.

Ensuring patients receive safe and ethical care from Al-healthcare services was the top concern reported by respondents.

Analysis of survey results informed Australia's first Al in Healthcare Roadmap with 24 recommendations across eight priority areas, covering critical issues such as safety, quality and ethics, industry development and consumer needs.

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Telehealth



Are telehealth patients missing out?

New research shows need for better digital integration

New research shows that patients using telehealth to consult with a GP received fewer referrals for pathology testing than people who visited a GP face-to-face. Of face-to-face consultations, 10% were given a referral for a blood test, compared to 5% of telehealth consultations.

This research demonstrates that if telehealth is to remain part of routine healthcare it is crucial that gaps in service are addressed, states Dr Rae-Anne Hardie lead researcher from the Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University.

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Leadership awards



University research leaders

announced

Research academics from the Australian Institute of Health Innovation secured two highly competitive category wins during the 2021 Macquarie University Academic Awards.

The Macquarie University Academic Awards are held biennially to recognise exceptional contributions and talent in teaching and research.

Early Career Researcher of the Year

Dr Sidong Liu was named Early Career Researcher of the Year in the STEMM category for his invaluable work in artificial intelligence in healthcare. Dr Liu is a NHMRC Early Career Fellow at the Department of Clinical Medicine and Australian Institute of Health Innovation. Through his research, Dr Liu aims to deliver advanced information technologies into the medical research field.

Recently Dr Liu has published papers on the use of Al and machine learning to identify potential brain tumours and glaucoma and to assess the severity of COVID-19 in patients.

Excellence in Research - Five Future-shaping Research Priorities

The NHMRC Partnership Centre for Health System Sustainability (PCHSS) was named winner: Excellence in Research – Five Future-shaping Research Priorities: Healthy People. The PCHSS's winning research was led by Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite, Professor Enrico Coiera, Professor Johanna Westbrook, Associate Professor Yvonne Zurynski and Professor Andrew Georgiou.

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Climate change



Let's agree: climate change is a health crisis

Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite and Professor Lesley Hughes with Associate Professor Yvonne Zurynski and Dr K-lynn Smith write for MJA InSight+

The climate crisis is also inextricably a health crisis. To prepare health care systems for the future, climate change must be seen as a priority issue.

The voices and knowledge of health professionals and health consumers need to be

incorporated into every country's response. A broader view is crucial to understand not only the social determinants of health but also the cultural determinants of health, wherein the contribution of local knowledge is incorporated into the response to climate change.

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We offer a unique program of multidisciplinary research training and invite exceptional candidates to apply for the following scholarships:

PhD scholarship - Co-designing culturally relevant end of life care in cancer

PhD scholarship - Digital health for patients and healthcare consumers

PhD scholarship - RuralKids GPS - delivering equitable care to children in rural NSW

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Prof Jeffrey Braithwaite



Prof Enrico Coiera



Prof Johanna Westbrook

The **Australian Institute of Health Innovation (AIHI)** at Macquarie University conducts world-class research with national and international research communities, governments, policymakers, providers of health services, managers, clinicians, patients and the community. Our work underpins health reforms and systems improvement, providing new tools, perspectives and evidence to help stakeholders who are interested in making the health system more effective, efficient and productive. Our overarching aim is to produce new, high quality research evidence to support change, prevention and improvement.

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