AHEM Expert Panel Discussion

From Chaos to Coordination:
REIMAGINING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WITH AI

ADVOCACY · INNOVATION · LEADERSHIP · RESILIENCE

AHEM
Academic Healthcare Emergency
Management Consortium

Panel Overview

On October 8, 2025, the AHEM Consortium hosted a pivotal panel discussion on the transformative role of artificial intelligence (AI) in healthcare emergency management. Through real-world examples and emerging AI use cases, panelists illustrated how AI can enhance situational awareness, predictive analytics, and decision support during emergencies.

The discussion emphasized critical challenges related to governance, risk, equity, and interoperability, underscoring the need to develop AI solutions that are both trustworthy and equitable. Panelists called for multidisciplinary collaboration across healthcare, technology, policy, and social sciences to responsibly leverage AI's capabilities while effectively managing inherent risks.

This panel was the first in a planned three-part series designed to deepen understanding and guide the thoughtful integration of AI within the healthcare emergency management sector. The series aims to foster ongoing dialogue and establish proactive frameworks to strengthen health system resilience in future crises.

Expert Panelists

Suhayya Abu-Hakima, PhD
Co-founder & CEO,
Alstari Corporation

Ruopeng An, PhD
Professor, New York University
Director, Constance and Martin Silver
Center on Data Science and Social Equity

Nicoleta Economou-Zavlanos, PhD
Director, Duke Health AI
Evaluation & Governance Program

Maurice A. Ramirez, DO, PhD
Co-founder & Chairperson,
High Alert Institute

Widespread Use, Limited Trust:
AI technologies are increasingly prevalent in healthcare emergency management, yet trust in their outputs remains tenuous. Panelists noted that, like humans, AI can produce inaccurate or misleading information, underscoring the need for careful oversight.

Human Oversight is Essential:
Effective use of AI requires a "human in the loop" approach, where human experts continuously oversee AI decisions to ensure accuracy, ethical considerations, and accountability.

Governance and Risk Management:
AI must be governed with the same rigor as other IT systems in healthcare. A comprehensive risk management framework is critical to address potential hazards specific to AI, including data privacy, bias, and operational vulnerabilities.

Dual-Use Risk:
AI presents dual-use risks. Tt can be leveraged for both beneficial and harmful purposes. This duality necessitates proactive strategies to mitigate misuse while maximizing positive impact.

Collaboration Across Disciplines:
Addressing these challenges requires collaboration among healthcare providers, technologists, policy makers, and social scientists to develop trustworthy, equitable, and interoperable AI solutions

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