

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a small but quickly growing tool of society today, one that is moving forward at a rapid pace. As with other technologies, there will be a need to set regulations in the near future to ensure that AI is being used properly and without malicious intent across various sectors. The American Nurses Association (ANA) is pleased that the Administration is looking at how to use AI now and into the future, but was surprised that that health care was not one of the fields the Administration is looking at using AI. ANA believes the use of AI in healthcare settings is a rapidly growing sector with potential for great impact on the nation. However, the Administration's request for information (RFI) seeking input on AI did not include any mention of the use of the technology in health care.

ANA is the premier organization representing the interests of the nation's over 5 million registered nurses (RNs), through its state and constituent member associations, organizational affiliates, and individual members. ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting a safe and ethical work environment, bolstering the health and wellness of nurses, and advocating on health care issues that affect nurses and the public. ANA members also include the four APRN roles: nurse practitioners (NPs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs). RNs serve in multiple direct care, care coordination, and administration leadership roles, across the full spectrum of health care settings. RNs provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions including essential self-care, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members.

Nurses are critical to a robust health care system. Nurses meet the needs of patients and provide quality care that leads to better health outcomes for all patients. Moreover, nurses are critical to coordinated care approaches for Medicare beneficiaries in all settings, including hospital outpatient settings. Patient-centered care coordination is a core professional standard for all RNs and is central to nurses' longtime practice of providing holistic care to patients.

The use of AI in healthcare settings has grown over time. ANA is aware of AI being used all over health care, from background paperwork, administrative tasks, to diagnostic tools, patient engagement, and adherence with treatment plans. The uses of AI in healthcare are endless and ANA looks forward to seeing how innovators will integrate AI into healthcare in the future. While AI technologies have the potential to improve health care generally, they may also introduce novel challenges and exacerbate existing ones if not properly overseen. It is in this vein that the ANA requests that the Administration ensure that healthcare

clinicians, such as nurses, are included in any Administration AI events, whether they are task forces, working groups, subject matter expert panels, or other forums.

ANA is actively looking into the future of nursing through various initiatives and, while AI does not make up a large part of current activities, it will undoubtedly take on a much larger role in the coming years. ANA has crafted a position statement on the ethical use of AI , incorporating the expertise and experience of nurses, which should be considered as a future baseline for how AI should be used in healthcare.<sup>1</sup> In addition to the aforementioned position statement, the ANA also believes that practitioners should use AI as a diagnostic tool where appropriate. At this time, ANA believes that human practitioners must be part of the diagnostic process and have final authority on healthcare decisions.

The future possibilities of AI are endless, but one must ensure that a human practitioner remain at the center of the process. That may change in future, but in order to ensure that these changes reflect the expertise of clinicians providing care to patients, ANA stands ready to partner on any effort to discuss or determine AI policymaking in health care.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.nursingworld.org/globalassets/practiceandpolicy/nursing-excellence/ana-position-statements/the-ethical-use-of-artificial-intelligence-in-nursing-practice\\_bod-approved-12\\_20\\_22.pdf](https://www.nursingworld.org/globalassets/practiceandpolicy/nursing-excellence/ana-position-statements/the-ethical-use-of-artificial-intelligence-in-nursing-practice_bod-approved-12_20_22.pdf)