

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Received: May 07, 2025 Tracking No. mae-3ji5-mltf Comments Due: May 28, 2025 Submission Type: API
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Docket: NSF-2025-OGC-0001
NITRD_FRDOC_0001

Comment On: NSF-2025-OGC-0001-0001
Request for Information: Development of a 2025 National Artificial Intelligence Research and Development Strategic Plan

Document: NSF-2025-OGC-0001-DRAFT-0059
Comment on FR Doc # 2025-07332

Submitter Information

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General Comment

The National Artificial Intelligence R&D Plan should consider the benefits of AI development across diverse health and healthcare needs. As a stakeholder in the healthcare sector, I would like to emphasize the critical importance of including nursing in this strategic plan.

Nursing's Integral Role in Healthcare: Nurses are the backbone of the healthcare system, providing essential care and support to patients across various settings. Their unique position allows them to gather valuable insights into patient care, workflow efficiencies, and the overall healthcare environment. By integrating AI into nursing, we can enhance patient outcomes, improve operational efficiencies, and support the well-being of healthcare professionals.

Enhancing Patient Care: AI has the potential to revolutionize patient care by providing nurses with advanced tools for monitoring, diagnosing, and treating patients. For example, AI-driven predictive analytics can help identify patients at risk of deterioration, enabling early interventions and reducing hospital readmissions. Additionally, AI can assist in managing chronic diseases, personalizing treatment plans, and ensuring medication adherence, all of which are crucial aspects of nursing care.

Improving Workflow Efficiencies: Nurses often face significant administrative burdens that can detract from direct patient care. AI can streamline these processes by automating routine tasks such as documentation, scheduling, and inventory management. This not only frees up valuable time for nurses to focus on patient care but also reduces the likelihood of errors and enhances overall efficiency within healthcare facilities.

Supporting Nursing Education and Training: Incorporating AI into nursing education and training programs can better prepare the future nursing workforce for the evolving healthcare landscape. AI-powered simulation tools can provide realistic training scenarios, allowing nursing students to develop critical skills in a safe and controlled environment. Furthermore, AI can offer personalized learning experiences, adapting to the needs of individual students and ensuring they acquire the necessary competencies.

Addressing Workforce Challenges: The nursing profession is currently facing significant workforce challenges, including shortages and high turnover rates. AI can play a role in addressing these issues by optimizing workforce management, predicting staffing needs, and improving job satisfaction through better support systems. By leveraging AI, we can create a more sustainable and resilient nursing workforce.

In conclusion, the inclusion of nursing in the 2025 National AI R&D Strategic Plan is essential for advancing healthcare and ensuring that AI technologies are developed and implemented in ways that truly benefit patients and healthcare providers. I urge the planners to recognize the vital contributions of nurses and to prioritize their involvement in AI research and development initiatives.