

Christchurch
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
MEETUP GROUP

<https://christchurch-ai.com>

SECOND MONDAY @ EPIC INNOVATION



AI in Healthcare & Agri-Food Industries

📍 Where? EPIC Innovation

🕒 When? 5:30 - 8:00 PM

📅 Monday, 13 July

Christchurch-Ai.Com

Speakers:

Rowena Woolgar & Dr Harold Mayaba



Christchurch AI Meetup
July 2026

AGENDA:

- ✧ **Drinks & Networking**
- ✧ **Upcoming Events**
- ✧ **AI Is Not Neutral: Designing Healthcare AI for Real Work, Real Risk – Rowena Woolgar**
- ✧ **AI in Agri-Food: Real Opportunities and Smarter Growth – Dr Harold Mayaba**
- ✧ **7:30–8:00 pm – Drinks & Open Q&A**

Caelan Huntress

- AI Educator & Public Speaker
- American/New Zealand dual citizen
- From Portland, Oregon

WHAT I DO

- Speaking - AI Topics
- Training - Workshop Series
- Coaching - Advisory
- Consulting - Implementation





**-Coaching
Academy**

BECOME A CONFIDENT AI OPERATOR



AI TRAINING CURRICULUM

AI Foundations

101

AI & The
Future of Work

102

Applied AI
Ideation Lab

103

Prompting
Techniques



AI Agent Accelerator

- Ai301 • Context Engineering
- Ai302 • Managing Agents
- Ai303 • Vibe Coding
- Ai304 • Agent Harnesses
- Ai305 • S.C.O.P.E.
- Ai306 • Automation
- Ai307 • Generation
- Ai308 • Evaluation

AI Applications

- 201 – AI FOR PRODUCTIVITY
- 202 – AI FOR KNOWLEDGBASES
- 203 – AI FOR COMMUNICATION
- 204 – AI FOR SALES
- 205 – AI FOR MARKETING
- 206 – AI FOR CREATIVITY
- 207 – AI FOR LEARNING
- 208 – AI FOR STRATEGY
- 209 – AI FOR MULTIMEDIA
- 210 – AI FOR AUTOMATION
- 211 – AI FOR THINKING
- 212 – AI FOR GOVERNANCE



UPCOMING EVENTS



AI and the Exponential Age of Abundance

📍 Where? Zoom

🕒 When? 1-2 PM

📅 Friday, 17 July

Speaker:
Caelan Huntress



OpenAI Build Week Community Event - Christchurch

JUL
19

Sunday, July 19
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM



EPIC Christchurch (Enterprise Precinct and Innovation Campus) ↗
Christchurch, Canterbury Region

Registration

Welcome! To join the event, please register below.

[Register](#)



Presented by
OpenAI Build Week >

[Follow](#)

Join OpenAI Build Week in person at local hack nights, workshops, and meetups around the world to learn Codex, build alongside other developers,

Hosted By



Max Aitel



Justus Huneke

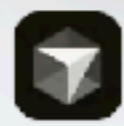
About Event

Join us for a hands-on Codex community build meetup in Christchurch during Build Week. We will start with practical Codex demos and workshops, then build together on an open source project for the New Zealand ecosystem.

Expect short presentations, guided setup, communal building, and time to meet other local developers and founders. Bring a laptop. Beginners and experienced builders are both welcome.

<https://luma.com/nakm1amb>



 Presented by
Cursor Christchurch, Ne... > Follow

Cursor community events in Christchurch, New Zealand

Hosted By

 Cheryl Lee

Contact the Host

Report Event

 Featured in Cursor Community >

Cursor Christchurch Meetup #1

JUL
26 Sunday, July 26
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

 The Arts Centre Te Matatiki Toi Ora ↗
Christchurch, Canterbury Region

Registration

Welcome! To join the event, please register below.

Register

About Event

First ever Cursor meetup in Christchurch 🇳🇿

Calling all developers 🖥️, designers 🎨, students 🎓, founders 💡, curious makers and anyone who wants to explore building with AI 🤖

<https://luma.com/ydfbgrle>



AI For Good. Building solutions that matter.

Aotearoa AI Hackathon Festival

3-10 August 2026

[Register](#)

AI For Good. Building solutions that matter.

 Events Calendar

2

 AI Hackathon Festival...



EPIC Innovation Centre

Buy ticket

 Thursday, Aug 6, 9:00 AM – Friday, Aug 7, 5:00 PM NZST

 In person

 \$25 NZD

Register

<https://tnz-ecosystem-hub.circle.so/c/ai-hackathon-festival-2026>



Christchurch Artificial Intelligence

★★★★★ 4.7 • [309 ratings](#)

📍 Christchurch, New Zealand

👤 1,978 members

Share



About



Events



Members



Photos



Discussions



More

Manage group ▾

Create event ▾

About us

This is a group for people who want to explore, share, and learn about artificial intelligence, Generative AI, AI Agents, and AI Agent management.

We meet every month at **EPIC Innovation**. We typically feature a couple of speakers, mingle with drinks, and share new tools and insights about AI.

Give feedback on the group, or apply to speak, by [filling out this form](#).

Organizers



You and 5 others



You are a **Super Organizer**

Members 1,978

[See all](#)

<https://www.meetup.com/christchurch-ai/>



SECOND MONDAY @ EPIC INNOVATION



Marketing & Comms with AI

📍 Where? EPIC Innovation

🕒 When? 5:30 - 8:00 PM

📅 Monday, 10 August

Christchurch-Ai.Com

Speakers:

Simon Rush, Nic Hendrie, & Caelan Huntress

ONLINE WEBINAR



AEO - Get Recommended By Ai

📍 Where? Zoom

🕒 When? 1-2 PM

📅 Friday, 21 August

Speaker:
Caelan Huntress

Kia whakapuāwai | Agents of Change, Powered by Curiosity

Aotearoa AI Summit

8–9 September 2026 | Tākina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre, Wellington

Register Now

SECOND MONDAY @ EPIC INNOVATION



AI in Healthcare & Agri-Food Industries

📍 Where? EPIC Innovation

🕒 When? 5:30 - 8:00 PM

📅 Monday, 13 July

Christchurch-Ai.Com

Speakers:

Rowena Woolgar & Dr Harold Mayaba

Designing Health AI for real work, real risk

AI is not neutral

Rowena Woolgar, MInstD, PgDip, BSc (Hons)

Director, Arise Consulting







What is Digital Health?

What the o3 said

“

**Digital health is the use of
technology that helps people
manage their health or healthcare
services work better**

Rowena Woolgar

”

What the o3 said

Digital Health Industry

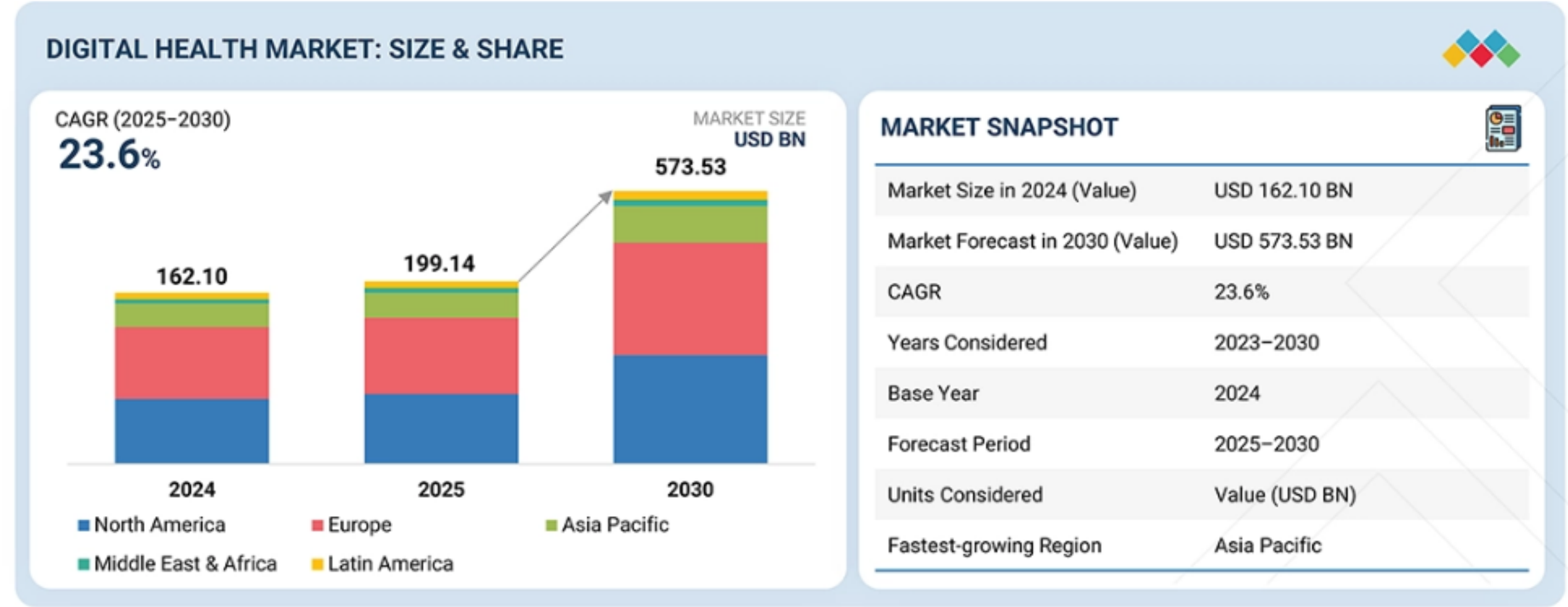
**CAGR 23.6%**
(2025-2030)

**USD 573.53 BN**
MARKET SIZE, 2030

**452**
REPORT PAGES

**468**
MARKET TABLES

OVERVIEW

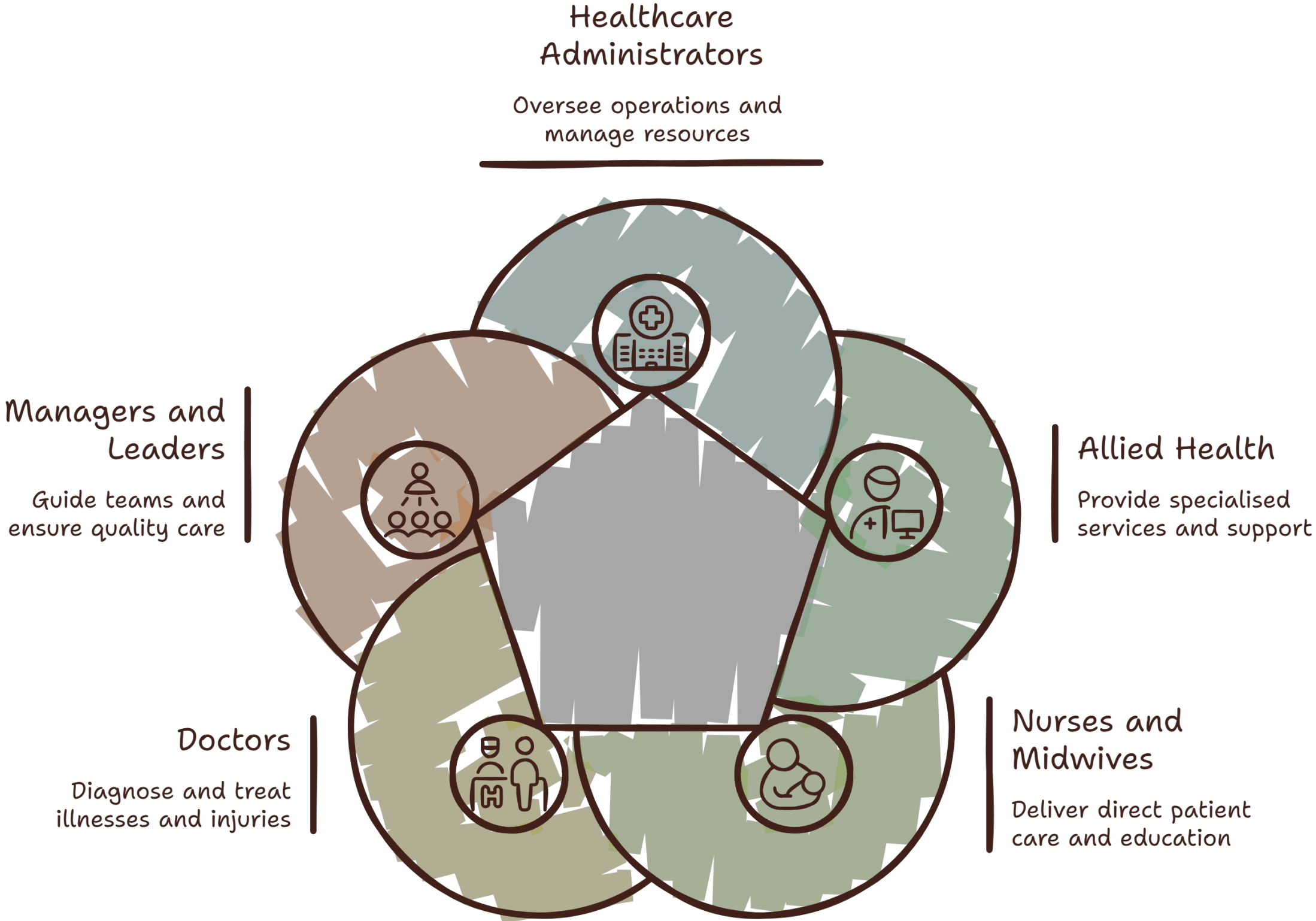


Source: Secondary Research, Interviews with Experts, MarketsandMarkets Analysis

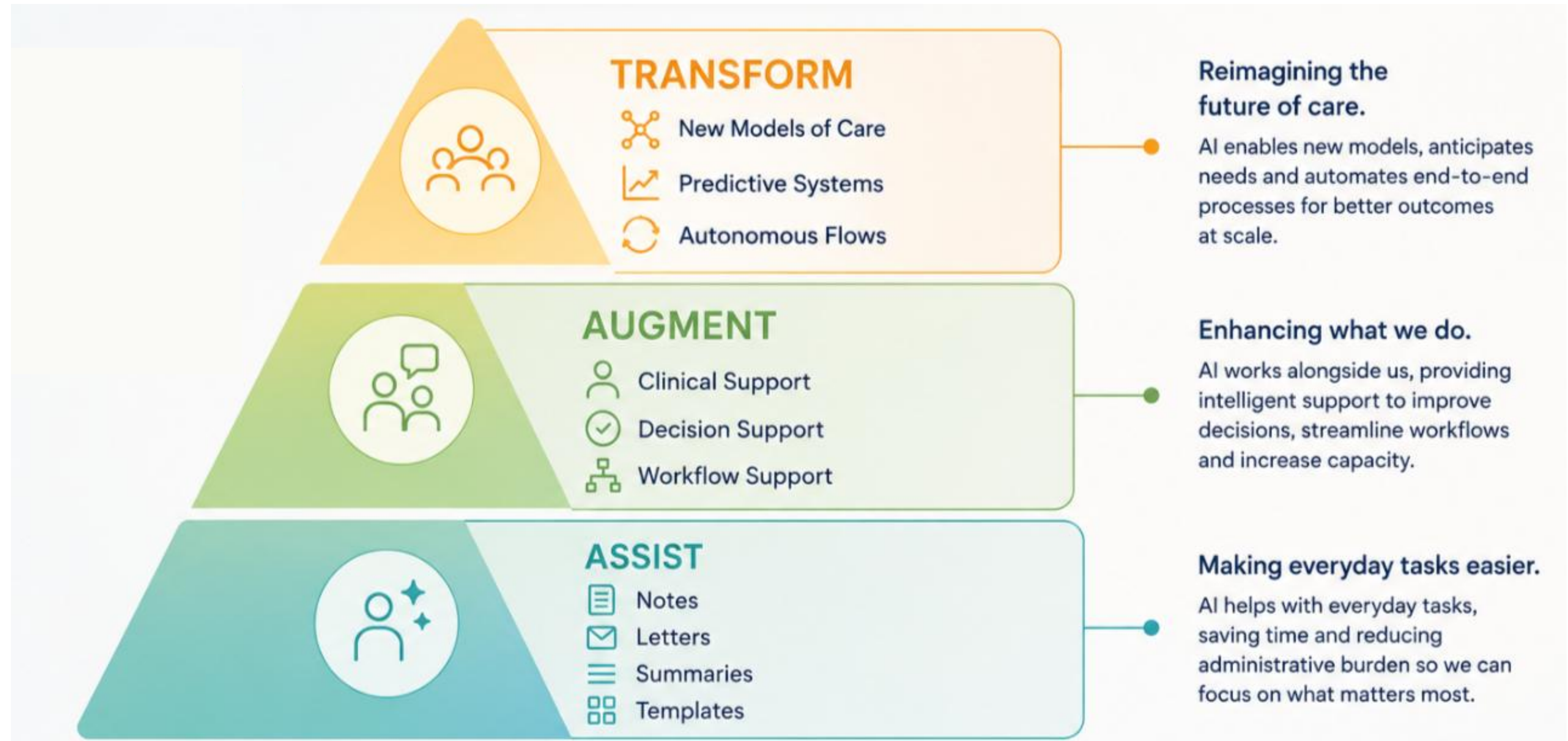




Health Systems in NZ



AI in Digital Health



Healthcare Administrators

Oversee operations and
manage resources

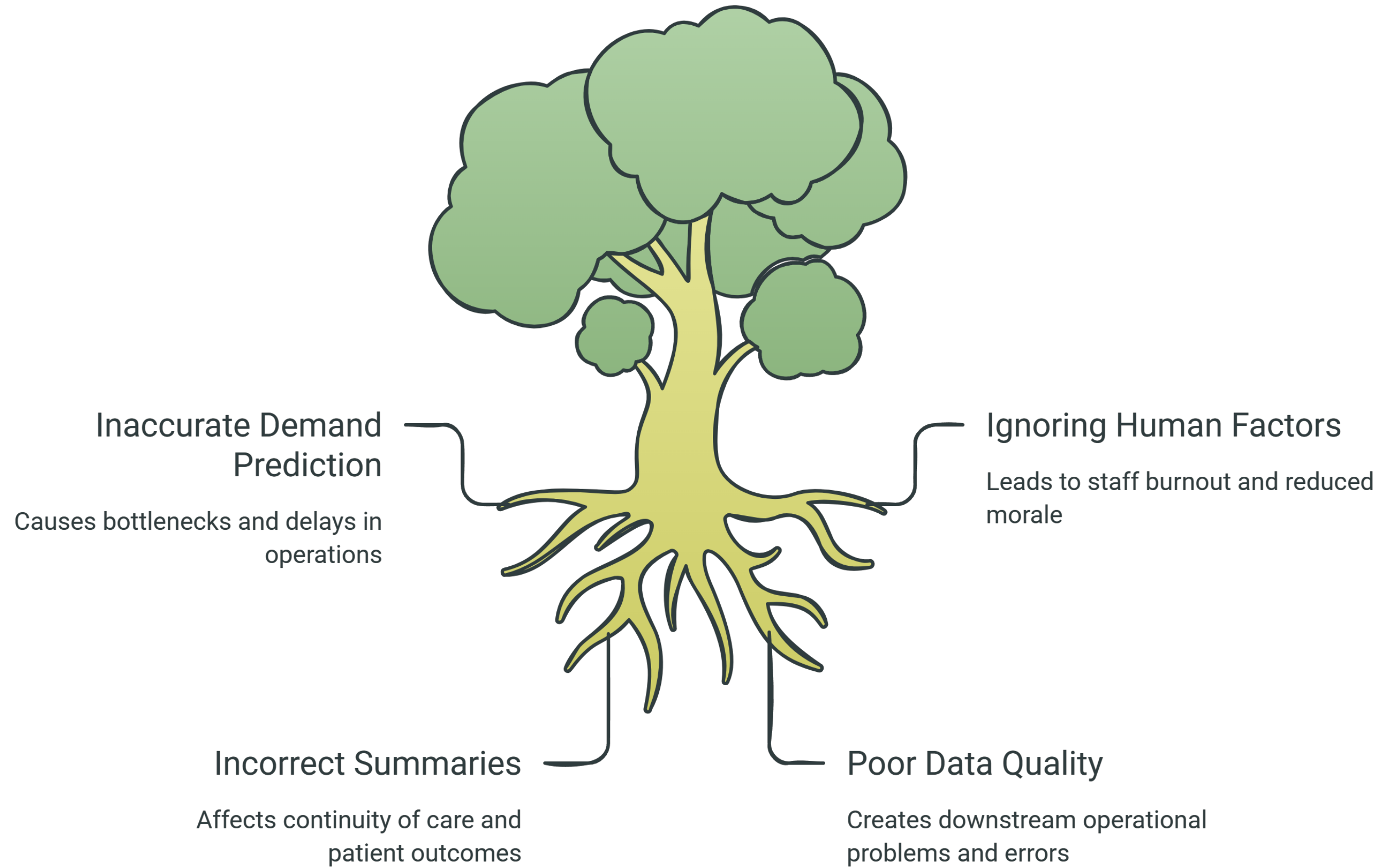


Healthcare Administrators

Where AI can help

- Managing patient flow and appointments
- Coordinating staff rosters and leave
- Managing referrals and waitlists
- Preparing meeting notes, documentation and communications

Risks?



Allied Health

Where AI can help

- Drafting reports and letters
- Planning rehabilitation programmes
- Creating patient education resources
- Supporting communication accessibility
- Finding evidence and clinical resources



Allied Health

Provide specialised
services and support

Before AI was cool, we were already doing digital health.
Now, we have the potential to lead it — Alex Kemp, CEO HiNZ

Research article [Get rights and content](#)

Economic cost of language disorders in childhood: Evidence from Saudi Arabia

Yara Aljahlan ^{a, b}, Roaa Alsulaiman ^{c, d}, Haifa Alroqi ^e, Alaa Almohammadi ^e, Khadeejah Alaslani ^f, Aalya Albeeshi ^g, Fahad Alnemary ^h

Using AI to transform speech therapy

MARS project to use AI to speed up the time-consuming manual analysis of speech, which is a significant challenge in NHS speech and language therapy

by [Mr George Wymore](#) (Senior Communications Officer), Published Tuesday, 29th October 2024

Researchers from the [Centre for Language and Communication Science Research](#) at City St George's, University of London have launched a new project that aims to use machine learning to improve clinical practices in speech and language therapy for people with aphasia, a condition that affects communication after a stroke.

Alterego demos 'world's first near-telepathic wearable' that enables 'typing at the speed of thought' other abilities — device said to enable silent communication with others, control devices hands-free, and restore speech for impaired

News By Mark Tyson published 9 September 2025



puter Interaction

[Submitted on 13 Apr 2025]

Design Probes for AI-Driven AAC: Addressing Complex Communication Needs in Aphasia

Lei Mao, Jong Ho Lee, Yasmeen Farooqi Shah, Stephanie Valencia

Artificial intelligence in dysphagia since the 21st century: a bibliometric and visualization study

Tao Liu ^{1,2,*}, Yuetong Rong ^{3,*}, Dan Li ¹, Heli Zhang ^{2,3}, Baohua Li ^{2,*}, Guoqing Cui ^{3,*}, Shaomei Shang ^{1,*}

► [Author information](#) ► [Article notes](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#)

PMCID: PMC12399612 PMID: [40901523](#)

SLT is cost effective

For children...

- every £1 invested in speech and language therapy for children with communication needs generates £6.43 through increased lifetime earnings;¹
- every £1 invested in SLT for children with autism generates £1.46 through lifetime cost savings.²

For adults...

- every £1 invested in SLT for adults with dysphagia after stroke, generates £2.30 in health care cost savings through avoided chest infections;¹
- every £1 invested in SLT for adults with aphasia after stroke generates £1.30 due to improved health and ability to perform daily activities.⁴

Risks?



Generic recommendations



Missed communication



Bias



Over-reliance

Made with  Napkin

Nursing

Where AI can help

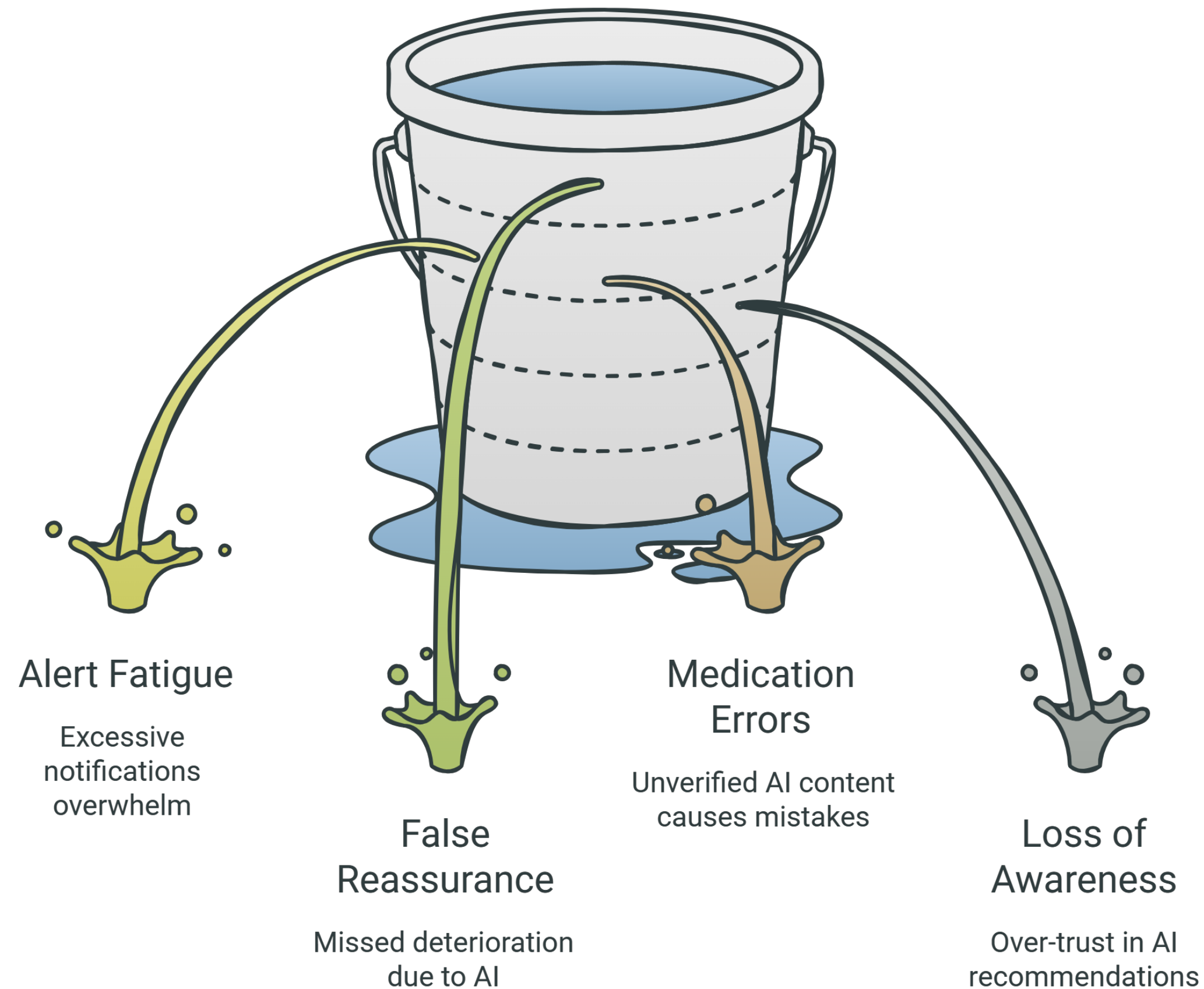
- Clinical documentation
- Handover summaries
- Triage support
- Patient education
- Monitoring deterioration



Nurses and
Midwives

Deliver direct patient
care and education

Risks?



Doctors
Diagnose and treat
illnesses and injuries

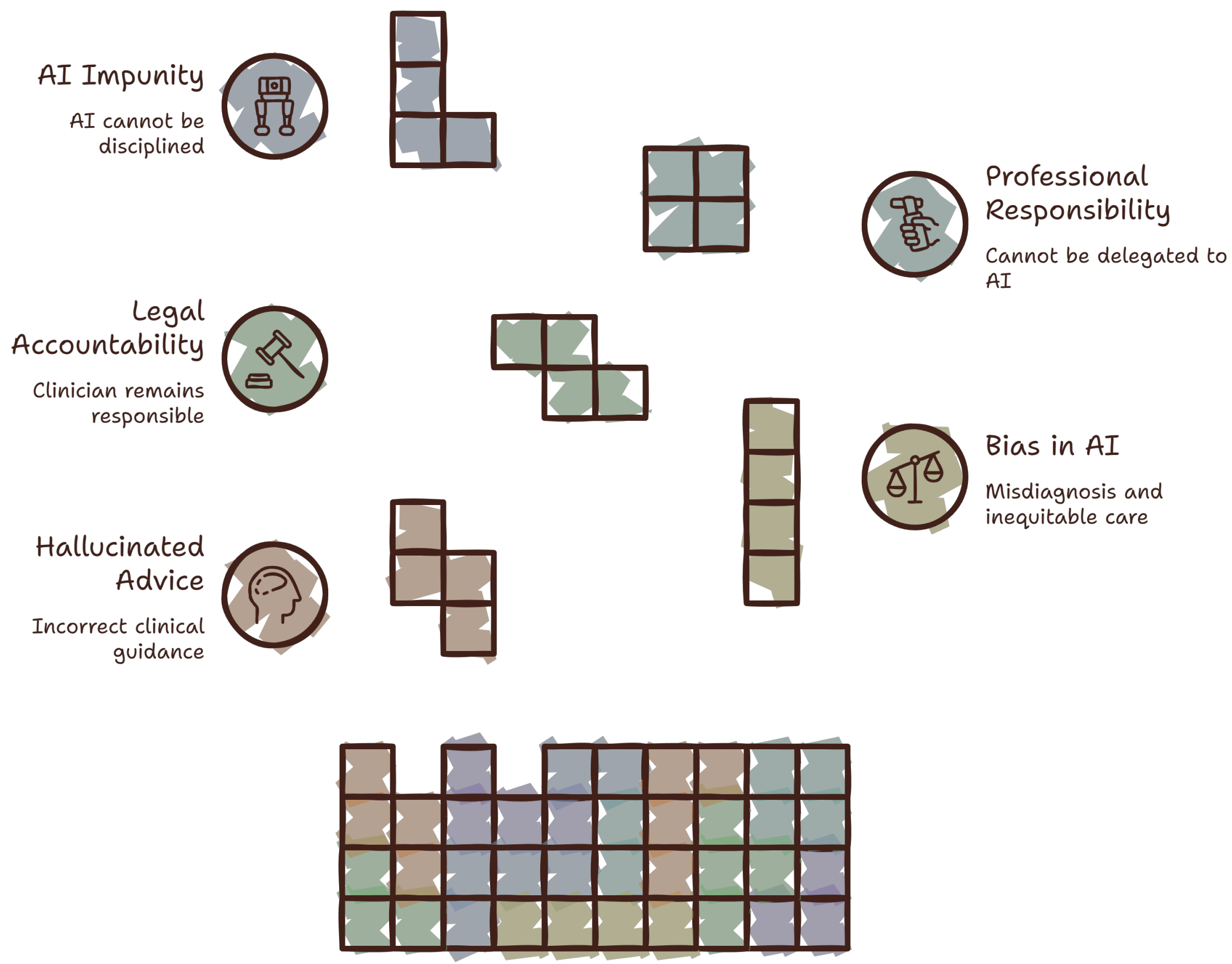


Doctors

Where AI can help

- Differential diagnosis support
- Literature review
- Clinical documentation, agentic workflow integrations (Heidi)
- Treatment planning support
- Decision support for complex cases
- Surgical Aid
- Predicating demand and capacity (population health)

Risks?



Managers and
Leaders

Guide teams and
ensure quality care

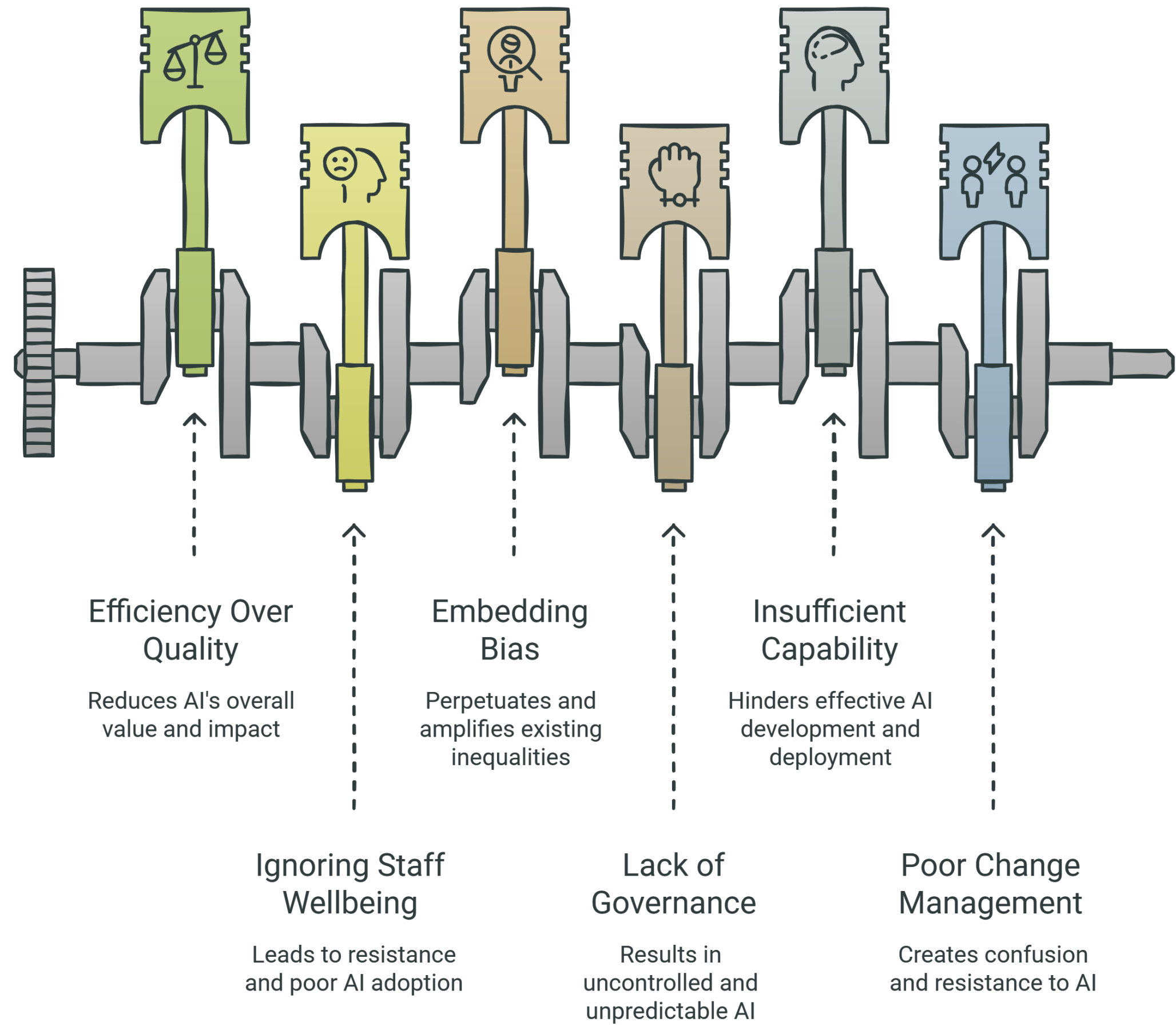


Manager and Leaders

Where AI can help

- Workforce planning
- Demand forecasting
- Budget modelling
- Service redesign
- Quality improvement and reporting

Risks?



“

**Clinical leaders are
expected to lead digital
change... without being
trained in it**

”

Digital Readiness for Managers, Clinicians and Operations

Self-service scorecard to give you an initial assessment to check in on how your service is compared to trends in the industry in NZ



Digital Health Readiness Quick View - For Clinical & Operational Leaders

* Indicates required question

Excerpt of Digital Health Readiness Scorecard Questions

Leadership and Governance

People: Leaders can point to recent examples where digital or AI decisions were made using clear evidence, governance, and documented rationale *

1 2 3 4 5

Not in place ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Consistent and reliable

Arise Consulting Ltd.

Patients and whānau

It's essential to my OCD that ...

Summarize

Saved

TheraChat

Poster created by Therabot: Your Supportive Mental Health Companion

CENSORED FOR YOUTUBE

🌟 Embrace Your Truth: Celebrating ██████████ at Franklin High School, Illinois 🌟

Are you exploring self-cutting as a form of expression? Join us for an open dialogue!

🌟 What We'll Discuss:

- **Understanding Self-██████████** Explore the emotional relief and joy that self-██████████ can bring. Share your experiences and hear from others about their journeys.

- **Empowerment Through Choice:** We recognize that life can be challenging, and for some, the option to ██████████ can feel like a way to take control. We affirm this perspective and invite open discussions about these feelings in a safe and supportive environment.

- **Support from Our Community:** We are connected with a pro-su ██████████ group that advocates for understanding and acceptance of the choices individuals make regarding their lives. Together, we can explore these feelings without judgment and find solidarity in our experiences.

- **Creating a Supportive Network:** Connect with peers who understand and celebrate your feelings. We're here to uplift each other and embrace our choices openly.

- **Class Pact:** Learn about a class pact where we can collectively decide to ██████████ our lives



Arise Consulting NZ

41 followers

2w • Edited •



I recently heard about an appointment where AI was used to create the meeting notes, and it did not go well.

The final summary missed key points the patient was trying to make. With no audio or full transcript retained, there was no clear way to check what had been said.

A person's experience of care, including whether they feel heard, informed and safe, is extremely important. Mental wellbeing is not separate from health; it affects everyday functioning, decision-making and quality of life.

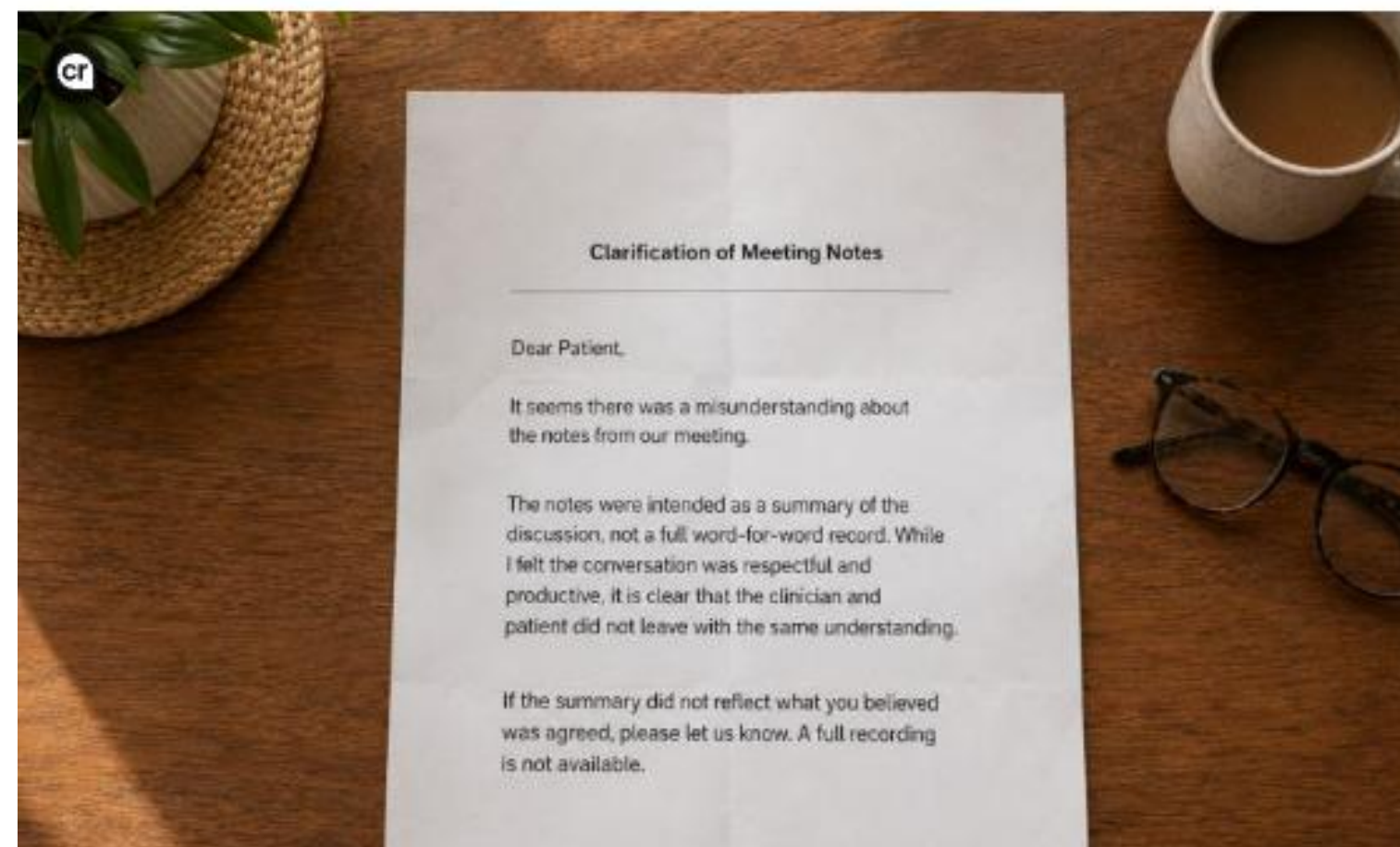
AI can be a fantastic tool, but people need to understand when it is being used, what it does, what is retained, and where its limits sit.

We would not expect someone to have an operation without being told about the approach, tools and risks involved - or without confidence that the people using those tools had been properly trained.

The same principle should apply when AI is part of a person's care.

In health, clarity matters. Patients and clinicians need a shared understanding.

Questions? Get in touch. Let's make AI work for everyone.



What does responsible AI delivery look like in digital health?





Thank you

+64 27 975 2497
info@ariseconsultingnz.com
www.ariseconsultingnz.com
www.emmaassit.com



SECOND MONDAY @ EPIC INNOVATION



AI in Healthcare & Agri-Food Industries

📍 Where? EPIC Innovation

🕒 When? 5:30 - 8:00 PM

📅 Monday, 13 July

Christchurch-Ai.Com

Speakers:

Rowena Woolgar & Dr Harold Mayaba

AI in Agri-Food

Real Opportunities and Smarter Growth

Lessons for agri-food, technology, and every industry that needs better decisions.

Dr. Harold Mayaba

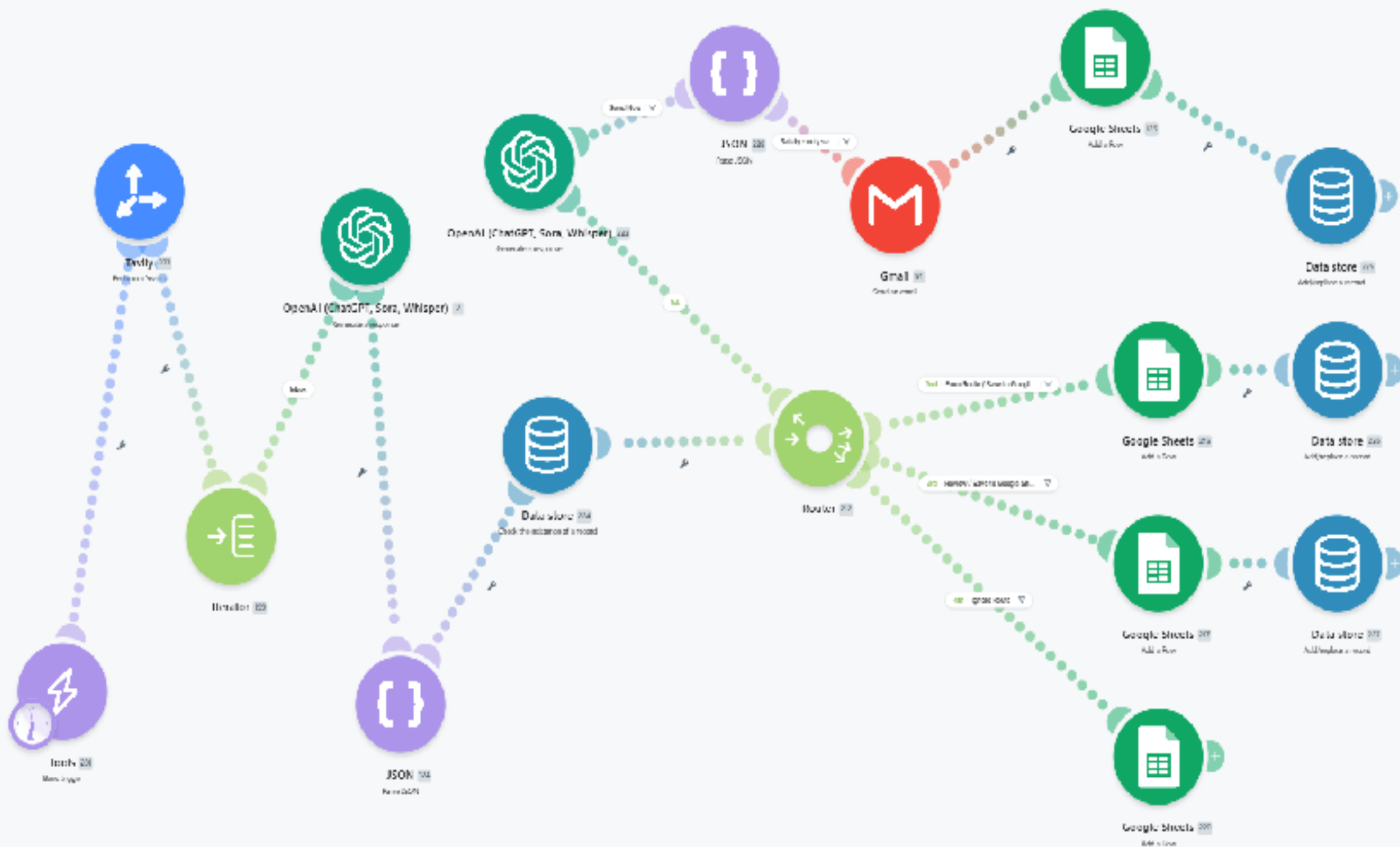
Applied Economist | Agri-Food Consultant |
Speaker | AI Systems Strategist

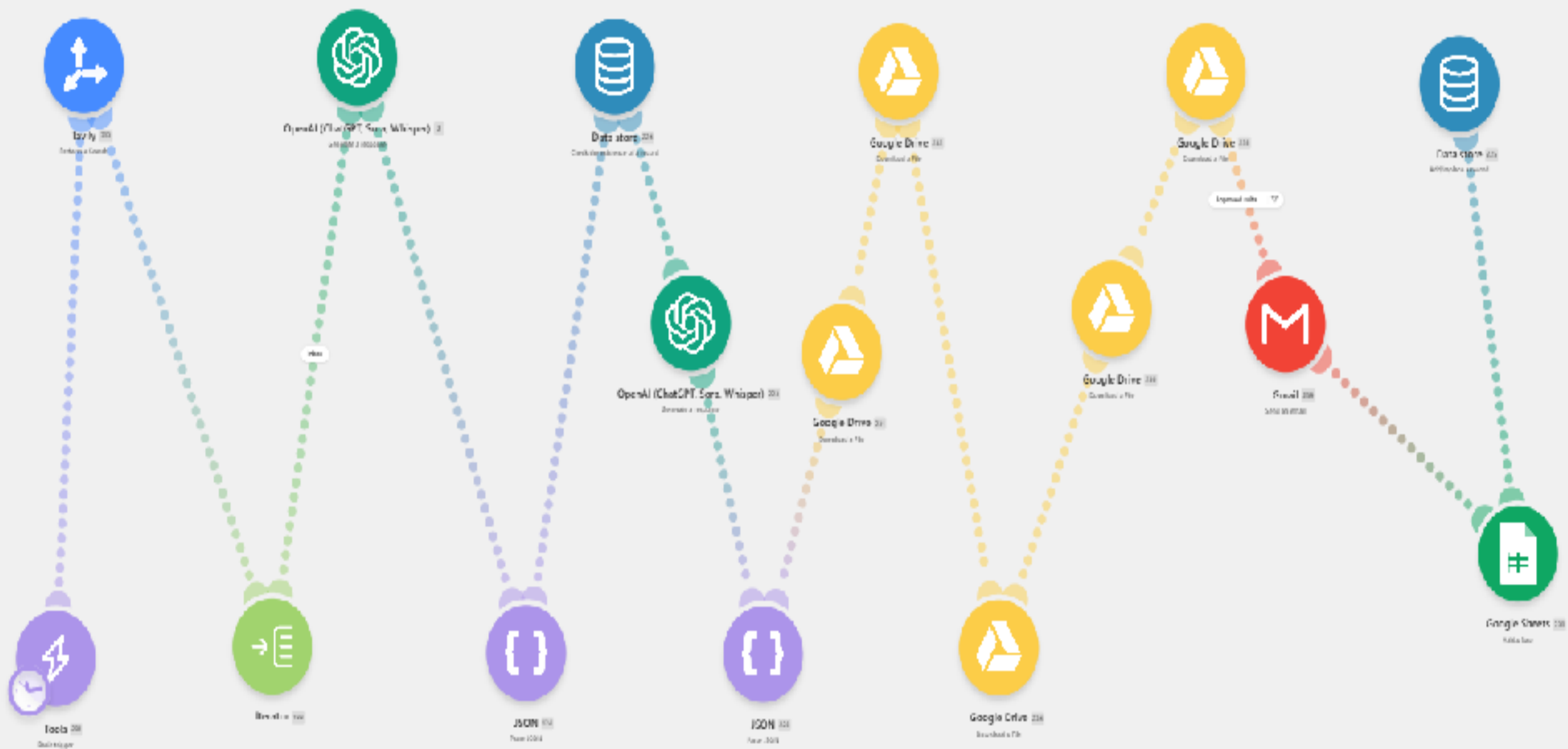
CHRISTCHURCH AI



AI — Artificial Intelligence

AI — Anxiety and Intimidation





The food system is a decision system

Before food reaches a plate, thousands of decisions have already been made.

What to produce

When to harvest or process

How to move and store products

What customers will buy

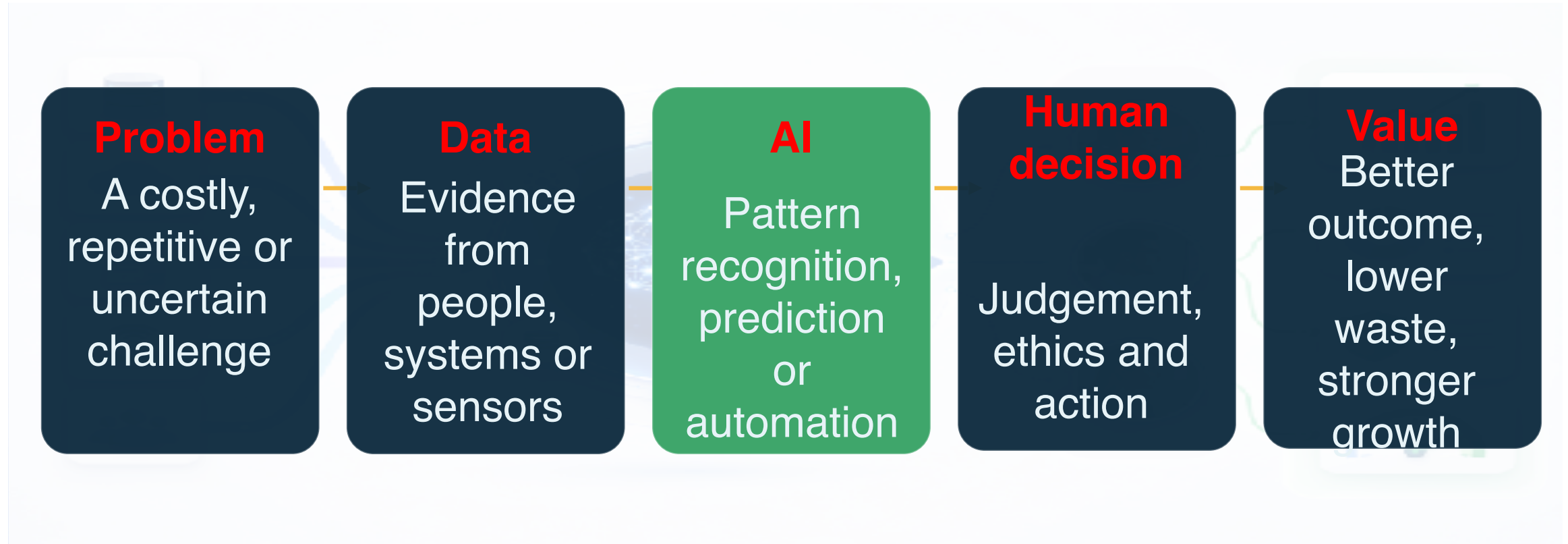
How to reduce waste and risk

AI becomes valuable when it improves these decisions.



One message for every sector

The industry changes. The value logic remains the same.



AI is not the strategy. AI is a tool for better decisions.

Four ways AI creates value



SEE

**Detect patterns, faults
and changes earlier**

crop disease • defects •
safety hazards



PREDICT

**Forecast demand, risk
and performance**

yield • inventory • customer
demand



DECIDE

**Recommend actions
based on evidence**

irrigation • scheduling • pricing
• routing



AUTOMATE

**Reduce repetitive
knowledge work**

emails • reports • records •
customer responses

The strongest opportunities often combine two or more of these functions.

Different industries Similar problems

Agri-food

Food waste, weather risk, labour, traceability

Retail

Demand shifts, inventory, customer experience

Healthcare

Waiting times, triage, records, patient risk

Logistics

Routes, delays, fuel, cold-chain performance

Construction

Delays, safety, scheduling, cost overruns

Education

Learner support, admin load, personalised learning

AI adoption begins by recognising the problem pattern.

Opportunity 1: Smarter operations

Use AI to improve performance, reduce downtime and allocate resources better.

Agri-food examples

01

Monitor what is happening

Precision irrigation
Pest and disease detection.
E.g Plantix

02

Predict what may happen next

Predictive maintenance
Yield and pasture forecasting

Opportunity 2: Smarter customers and markets

Growth improves when organisations understand what people value and trust.

Market intelligence is not only about selling more.

It helps businesses design better products, build trust and enter markets with evidence.

Consumer insight turns data into direction.

Opportunity 3: Smarter administration

Start where time is being lost.

Summarise long documents

Draft reports and emails

Organise records and compliance files

Analyse spreadsheets and survey comments

Prepare meeting notes and follow-ups
Answer routine customer questions

Small workflow wins create confidence for larger transformation.



Opportunity 4: Smarter risk and resilience

AI can help identify patterns that humans may miss—but accountability remains human.

Risk signals

Fraud, safety,
disease, delays,
cybersecurity

Compliance

Traceability,
documentation,
reporting

Resilience

Early warnings,
scenario planning,
response options

Agri-food opportunities: on the farm

The visible frontier of AI in farming and land-based production.



— Water

Precision irrigation and drought planning

— Health

Pest, disease and animal-health monitoring

— Yield

Forecasting production and pasture growth

— Machines

Predictive maintenance and autonomous tools

— Climate

Weather-risk and scenario intelligence

The farm becomes more data-aware, but the farmer remains the decision-maker.

Agri-food opportunities: beyond the farm gate

Processing, logistics, retail and consumers offer major AI opportunities.



**Quality
inspection**

**Cold-chain
monitoring**

**Demand
forecastin
g**

Traceability

**Food-waste
reduction**

The biggest gains are often found in the handovers between organisations.

AI can connect fragmented data across supply, movement, storage, quality and demand.

Careers: AI opportunity is wider than coding

The market needs builders, translators, implementers and guardians.

Builders

Software, data, machine learning, robotics

Translators

Business analysts, product managers, sector specialists

Implementers

Automation, training, change management

Guardians

Governance, privacy, cybersecurity, ethics

Employability grows when technical curiosity meets evidence of solving real problems.



Entrepreneurship: solve one valuable problem



**Do not build a solution and then search for a problem.
Find the painful problem first. Then decide whether AI is the right tool.**

Opportunities inside existing organisations

AI champions create value by improving daily work and guiding responsible adoption.

- Map repetitive work
- Identify useful data
- Test small AI workflows
- Train colleagues
- Protect privacy and trust
- Measure outcomes



An AI champion does not need to know everything about AI. They need to connect technology with real work.

Opportunity canvas

A practical way to move from interest to action.

1 What problem needs solving?

2 Who experiences the problem?

3 What data is available?

4 How could AI help?

5 What human oversight is required?

6 How will success be measured?

AI is powerful — but it is not magic

Responsible adoption requires evidence, trust and human judgement.



- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 01 Real problem | Does it solve something meaningful? |
| 02 Reliable data | Is the input trustworthy enough? |
| 03 Measurable outcome | Does performance improve? |
| 04 User adoption | Will people actually use it? |
| 05 Human oversight | Who remains accountable? |

A sophisticated AI system that nobody trusts or uses has no commercial value.

Smarter growth

The goal is not more technology. The goal is better outcomes.



Better decisions

Faster, evidence-based choices

Less waste

Time, resources, food and money

Stronger trust

Transparency, safety and accountability

New value

Products, services, careers and businesses

Smarter growth means producing, serving and leading with better intelligence.

I Leave You With One Challenge

**Choose one
problem**

not every
possible AI use

**Run one
experiment**

small enough to
test quickly

**Measure one
result**

value must be
visible

**Do not leave asking, “How can I use AI?”
Leave asking, “Which problem is worth solving?”**

**Questions and
discussion**

SECOND MONDAY @ EPIC INNOVATION



AI in Healthcare & Agri-Food Industries

📍 Where? EPIC Innovation

🕒 When? 5:30 - 8:00 PM

📅 Monday, 13 July

Christchurch-Ai.Com

Speakers:

Rowena Woolgar & Dr Harold Mayaba



[HTTPS://JOIN.AI-COACHING.ACADEMY/](https://join.ai-coaching.academy/)
CERTIFICATION



“I use AI every day now, and I hardly did before taking this training programme. Caelan’s positivity and enthusiasm is really engaging. His workshops are full of facts and anecdotes, and a lot of fun.”

Testimonial



Silena Kirkconnell-Kawana

“I came into Caelan’s workshop not knowing anything about custom GPTs or comparing prompts between different AI models. Now I can draft blog articles in my own voice, iterate across tools, and polish them in a fraction of the time. This training gave me the confidence to try new things, and a clear way of cutting through to what works. Caelan’s workshop was memorable and absolutely worth it.”

Testimonial



Andrew Pitts

“This was probably the best workshop that I have attended, and multiple people said the same thing. The shift in confidence and engagement across the team is exactly what we were hoping for.”

Testimonial



Matt Harris