Following Their Lead - and Feed: AI Redefining Pediatric Mental Health

Exploring clinical insights, innovation pathways, and strategic perspectives in pediatric mental health care today.

Shirley Saar, MD

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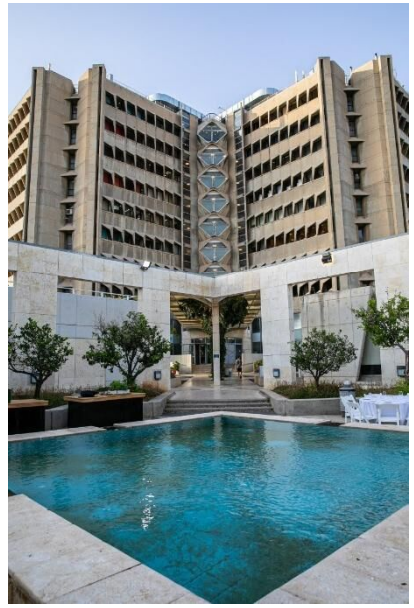

Pleased to meet you

Pediatrician
Schneider Children's

Hospital Administration
Mental Health Post Oct. 7th

Head of Innovation
Ped-Tech Ecosystem



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The National Pediatric Innovation Center



Israel’s Ped-Tech Ecosystem



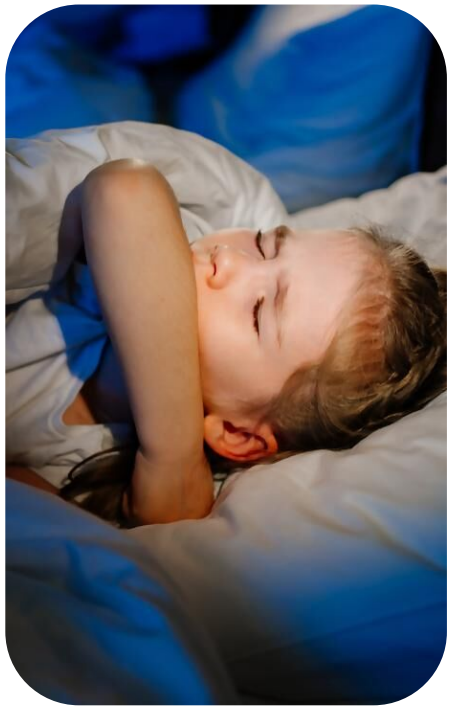
Child-Innovators and staff innovation projects



A Sneak Peak to Our Ecosystem



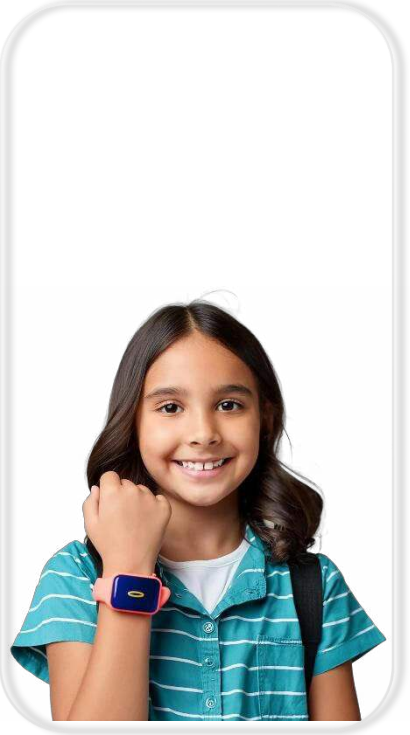
Itay & Beyond
Brain on a chip



Breasy
Home Resp. detection



Bilieye
Non invasive Jaundice FU



Anjo.ai
Anaphylaxis detection

Agenda – The Concepts We'll Challenge Today



Redefining "health" in Mental Health

How do we define mental "health" for a generation living with climate anxiety, social withdrawal, and digital immersion?



What constitutes the "mind"

Endless streams of data can be automatically integrated and analyzed, does it change how *we* perceive the mind?



Case Studies: AI integration in pediatric mental health services

Does AI need us to integrate it into mental health? What are its uses in pediatric mental health?

Unadapted

"In the very year I was born, the southern basin of the Dead Sea dried up completely and effectively vanished from the landscape…And yet, I only became aware of this much later in life. That's because…the Dead Sea continued to appear in its iconic form—on the maps people drew…In the mental map, the Dead Sea never changed."



"We are new people" by Ofri Ilani

Unadapted

"The map of the Dead Sea serves as a powerful allegory for a mental map whose validity has long expired, yet still underpins many of today's discussions…But life, in its constant flux, invites us to draw new maps. What's needed is a contemporary understanding that identifies the forces at play in the present.



Like protagonists in a science fiction story who undergo physiological transformation after landing on a distant planet, we must recognize that we have become new people.

We Are New People



Social Media

Each person and child lives through a few avatars, on various platforms. Obligatory in-person connections are skew



Digital Immersion

Most of our lives are run through documents, websites and apps, we allow them access and fully rely on them to function



Fluid Facts and Truth

Overflow of information turned into a world of algorithm controlled “tailor made” remarketed ideas

We Live In a New World



Post-Pandemic

Social distancing, lockdowns, forced vaccination *Vs.* Virtual possibilities, accelerated medical developments servicing 3rd world countries



The Globe Is Warm

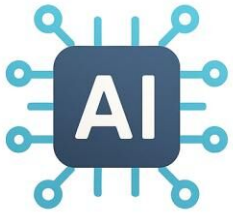
Temperatures rise, floods, droughts and fires we dreaded are a fact on the ground



Current War Vs. s/p WWII

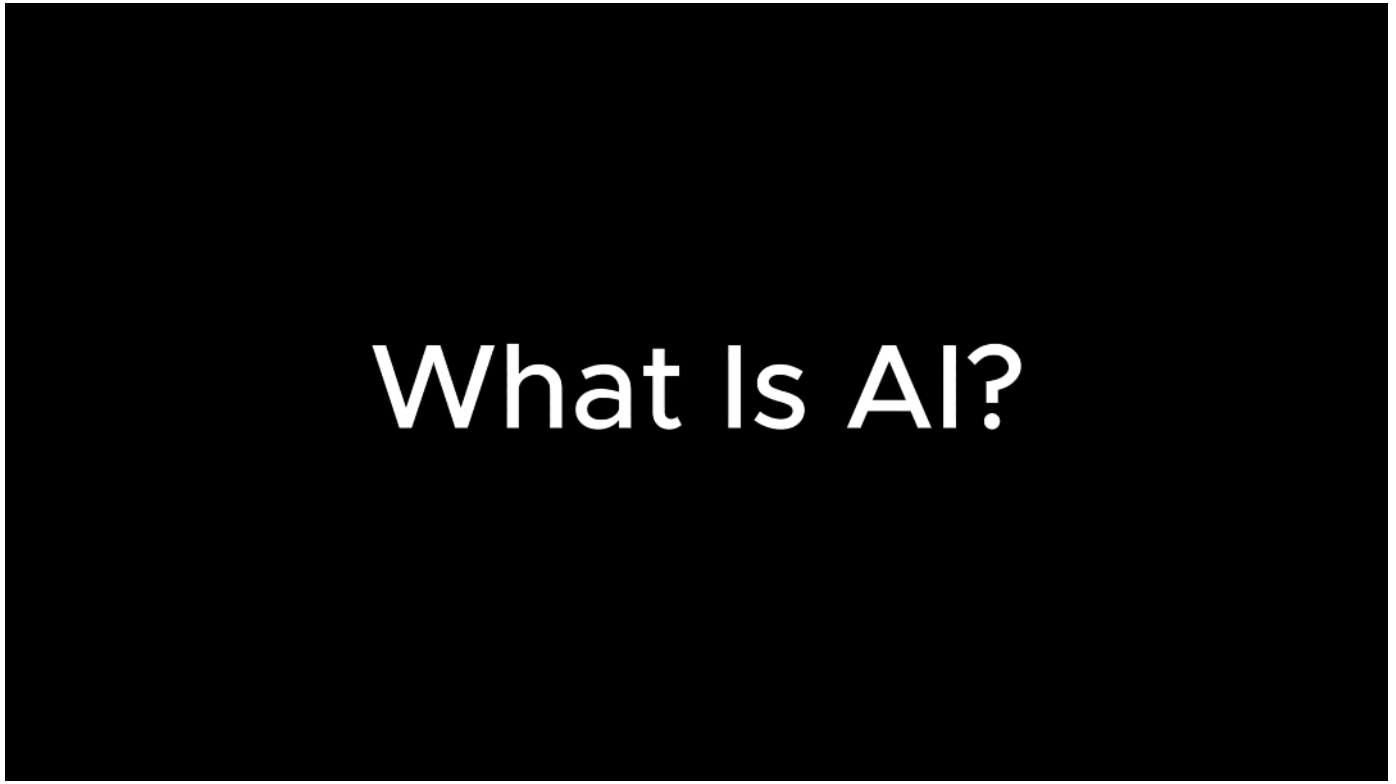
We part from the generation that lived through WWII and prioritized war avoidance, and raise children in war zones, *returnees*

We Live In a New World



Expropriating Intelligence

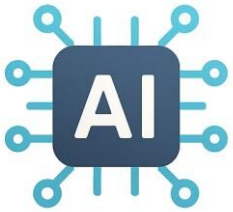
An exponentially developing revolution in an “industrial revolution protected” field



(How) Can We Redefine Mental “Health”?







Who Is Healthy?

What constitutes mental "health" for a generation living with
climate anxiety, social withdrawal, and digital immersion?











Pediatricians as Mental Health Responders?

Body and mind

A holistic approach requires pediatricians to familiarize with surrounding disciplines as well



Access to care

Stepped up approach due to system overload. *Prof. Silvana Fenig's* vision became a necessity on Oct. 7th

Case Studies – AI and Eating Disorders

What are the gaps, challenges and unmet needs?



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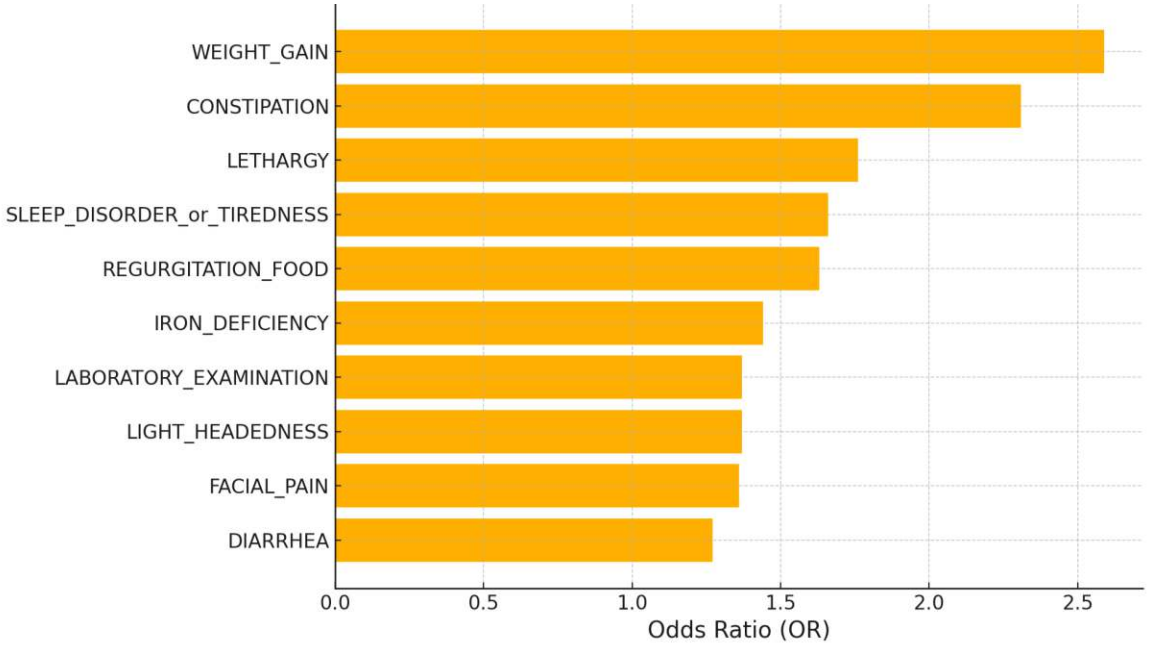
Decreased Engagement During Adolescence

Decreased Touchpoints

Fewer Data Points

Diagnostic Challenge

Prediction



PHASE V
Adaptive. Causal. Intuitive.

Early Clinical Predictors of Eating Disorders in Adolescent Girls

Background

Eating disorders (ED) are progressive, potentially life-threatening illnesses. Recognizing prodromal symptoms in primary care could shorten the diagnostic delay and improve outcomes, yet real-world data on early warning signs remains scarce. Therefore, we aimed to identify clinical encounters and diagnoses recorded in electronic health records (EHR) that precede a first ED diagnosis in adolescent females.

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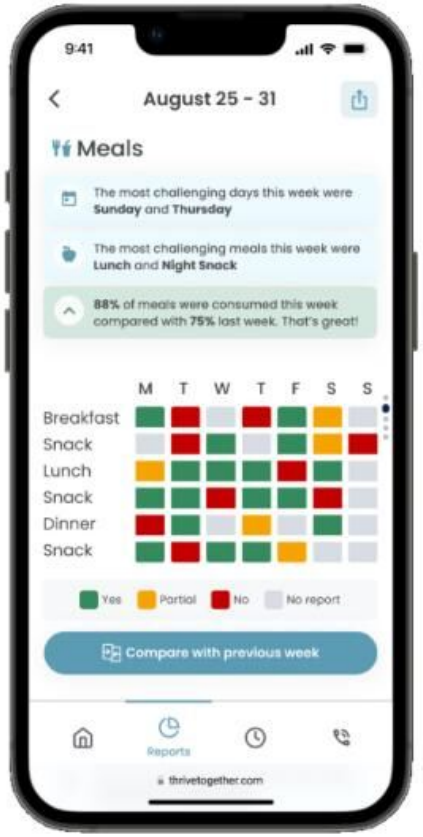
Black Holes

Decreased Touchpoints

Black Hole

Fewer Data Points





AI-generated reports on the patient's life

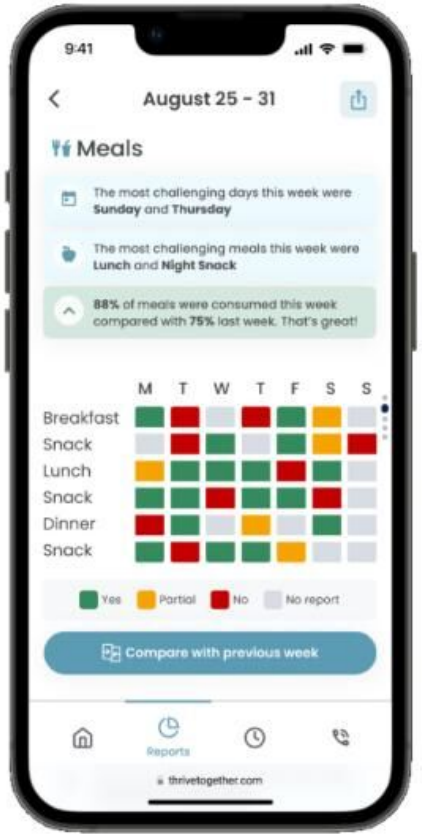
- Empowering parents with tool to fulfill their role as caregivers
- Generating insights to the professional staff
- Creating a new layer of knowledge

Access To Care

Decreased Touchpoints

Black Hole

Fewer Data Points



Blind Weight™

Affordable, Simple and Always Blind



"The Bridge Clinic"

- Professional parents guidance while their child is on waitlist
- Virtual group therapy
- Next level:
  - Parent journaling integration
  - Blind scale and VS
  - AI generated insights

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Tailoring Over Gaps - Communication

Cultural

Whether it's language, gestures, customs - our efforts are limited and never bullet proof

Generational

Teenagers always feel no one gets them, and to be frank – who can even understand what they're saying?

Inner World



Super heroes, idols, monsters – all play a central role in children's life



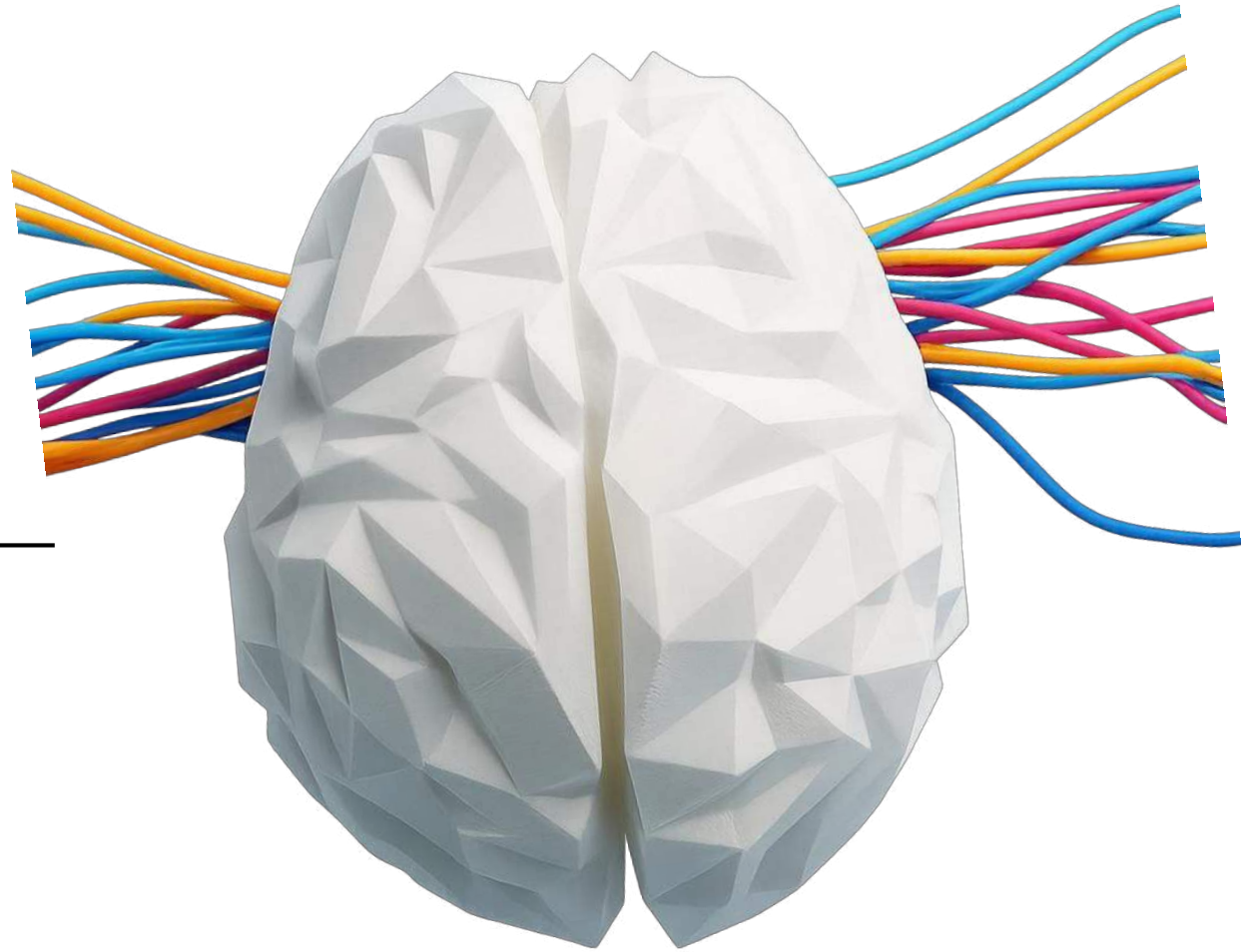
The New Mind

Wearables

Digital Journaling

App Usage

Biomarkers



Intake Sessions

Cultural Background

Picture Analysis

Chatbot Triage

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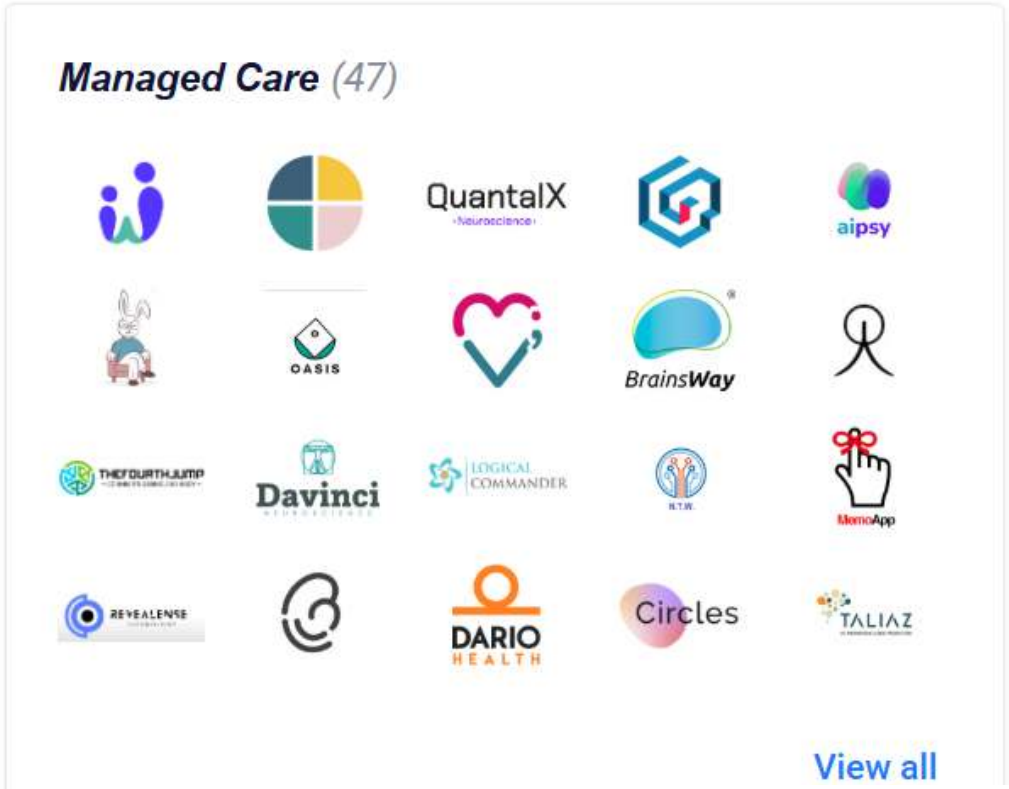
The New Mind - Multi-Variant Analysis

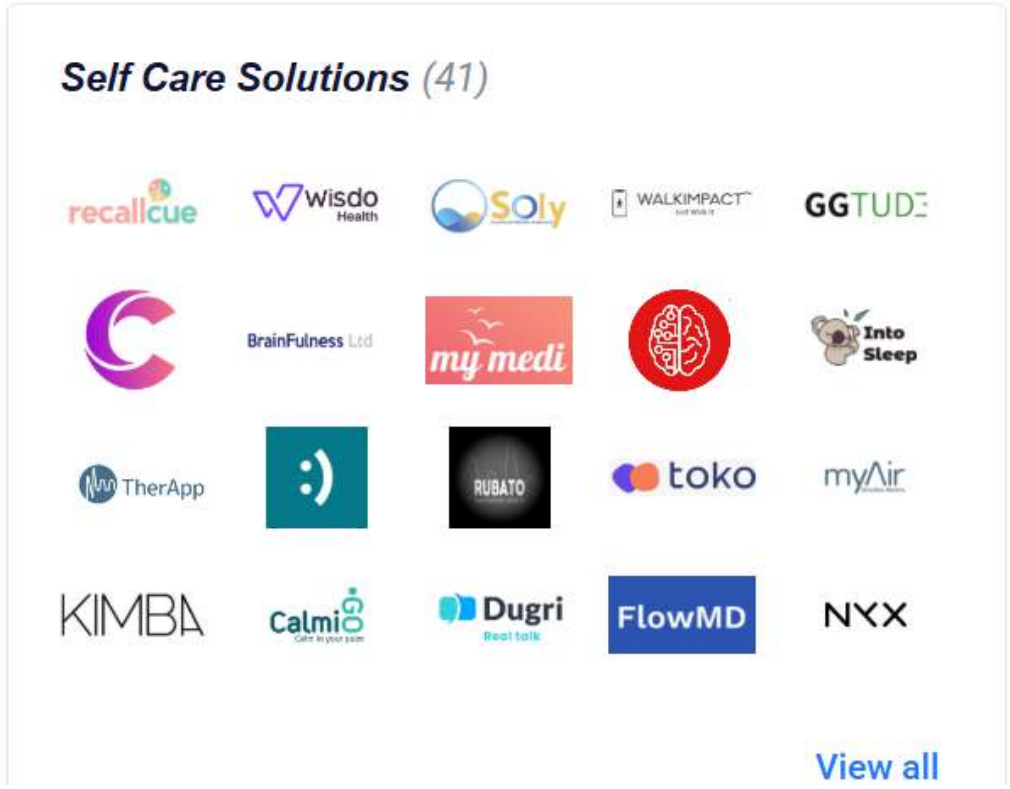


voicesense	behavidence	PYRAMES	REVEALENSE TECHNOLOGY
monitor patient wellness tendencies in order to create personalized health programs	uses passive smartphone behavior data and AI to detect and monitor mental health conditions	Continuous, non-invasive, wireless BP monitoring for patients of all ages, from newborns to seniors	Video analysis of human cognition, emotions, and stress levels, leveraging contextual insights

Mental Health Landscape Map 2025

By SNC, ICAR and Bezyl









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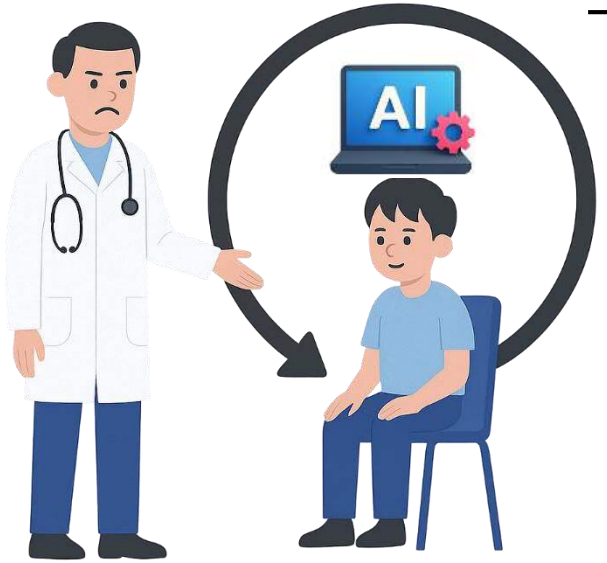
A Closed Loop?

Patient Co-Pilot

Home Monitoring

Virtual AI Therapy



Journaling → Home EMR

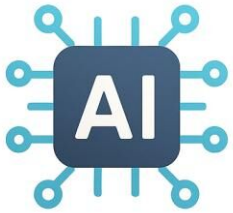
Home Drug Delivery

Diagnostic Chat-bots

Automated Prescription

Home POC tests

“Integrating” AI



Expropriating Intelligence

An exponentially developing revolution in an “industrial revolution protected” field

What will AI bring to mental health in 5 years?

Thank you!

Feel free to reach out!

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