

Comparative Analysis of History of Present Illness Generation: AI versus Physicians

Paige Long, **Jenna Howard**, Jagoda Pasternacka, Aisha Nour, Shebna Unes Kunju, MD
Med Center Health Bowling Green, KY
University of Kentucky College of Medicine

Faculty Disclosure

- I, Jenna Howard have nothing to disclose

Introduction

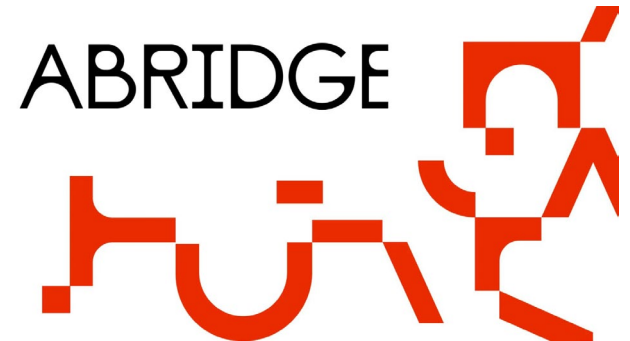
- The history of present illness (HPI) is a vital part of clinical documentation traditionally written by clinicians to capture the narrative of patients' health concerns.
- Increasing patient access to electronic medical records makes note readability more important.
- Emerging artificial intelligence (AI) tools for clinical documentation present potential benefits including improved efficiency and quality of medical records, as well as decreased physician burnout (1-3).
- Prior studies have shown that AI-generated clinical text, such as electronic messages and medical summaries, performed better in terms of completeness and was preferred by participating patients (4).

Study Objective

- Limited literature exists evaluating the accuracy, errors, and patient understandability of AI-generated HPIs as compared to physician-written HPIs.
- Study objective: To compare AI application-generated HPIs to provider-generated HPIs in terms of accuracy, errors, understandability, and overall preference.

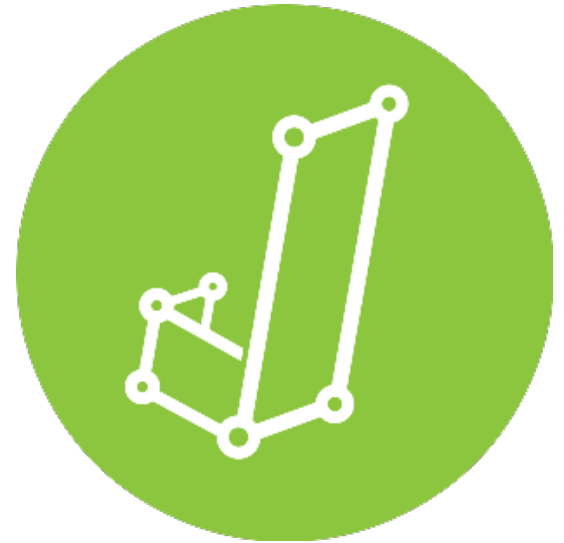
Methods– Data Collection

- IRB-approved by WKHL Research Foundation
- Outpatient gynecology setting
- 50 English-speaking patients age 18-80
- Two HPIs were produced:
 - Form A: Provider
 - Form B: Abridge AI
- Single blinded: participants were unaware of form identity
- Post-visit questionnaire was given to each patient to assess:
 - Perceived accuracy (1-5 scale)
 - Errors
 - Readability
 - Overall preference



Methods– Statistical Analysis

- Statistical analysis was completed using JASP version 0.95.1 software
- Confidence interval 95%
- p-value <0.05 significant
- Analysis of accuracy rankings
 - Paired t-test with Wilcoxon signed-rank
- A Classical binomial test analyzing frequencies was used for categorical variables (errors, clarity, and preference)



Results– Chi Squared Goodness of Fit

- In comparison to physician-generated, AI-generated HPIs:
 - Had fewer errors (p= 0.002)
 - Were easier to understand (p < 0.001)
 - Were overall preferred (p < 0.001)

| Outcome (A, B, or No Difference) | χ^2 | df | P |
|----------------------------------|----------|----|-------|
| Errors | 12.04 | 2 | 0.002 |
| Understanding | 32.92 | 2 | <.001 |
| Preference | 47.32 | 2 | <.001 |

Table 1: Chi-square analysis for each of the outcomes analyzed, each comparing the results of Form A vs Form B

Results: Wilcoxon Signed-Rank

- Accuracy was rated on a 1 (most inaccurate) to 5 (most accurate) scale
- AI-generated HPIs were deemed by patients as more accurate ($p = 0.005$) with a mean accuracy score of **4.36**
- Provider-generated HPIs received a mean score of **3.82**

| | N | Mean | SD | SE |
|-----------------|----|------|-------|-------|
| Form A Accuracy | 50 | 3.82 | 1.466 | 0.207 |
| Form B Accuracy | 50 | 4.36 | 1.396 | 0.197 |

Table 2: Descriptive statistics for wilcoxon signed-rank accuracy analysis

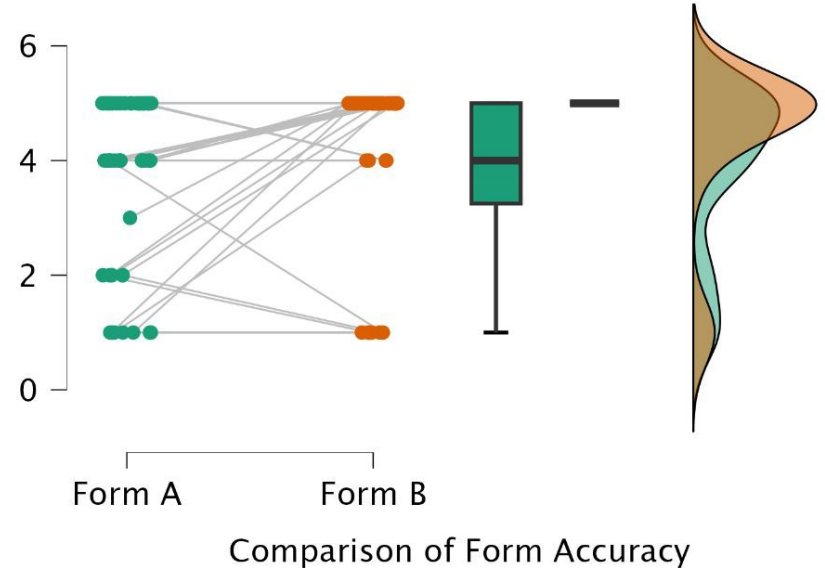


Figure 1: A raincloud illustration demonstrating the distribution of accuracy ratings for Forms A and B

Discussion

- AI-generated HPIs were more accurate, easier to understand, less error-prone, and overall preferred by patients, as compared to provider-generated HPIs.
- Existing literature revealed similar findings, suggesting that AI-generated notes performed better in terms of overall impression, completeness, usefulness, and organization (5).
- These outcomes support the exciting potential of using AI tools for streamlining history taking and generating more comprehensible, patient-friendly notes.

Limitations

- Small sample size
- Single institution
- Variation in physician documentation practices

Conclusion

- Cross-sectional study comparing AI-generated vs. physician-generated HPIs, as assessed by patients.
- AI-generated notes were found to be more accurate, less error-prone, easier to understand, and overall preferred.
- Future studies with larger sample sizes and clinicians as note evaluators are warranted to evaluate generalizability and support clinical application.

References

1. Lin SY, Shanafelt TD, Asch SM. Reimagining clinical documentation with artificial intelligence. *Mayo Clin Proc.* 2018;93(5):563-565. doi:10.1016/j.mayocp.2018.02.016
2. Lee C, Vogt KA, Kumar S. Prospects for AI clinical summarization to reduce the burden of patient chart review. *Front Digit Health.* 2024;6:1475092. doi:10.3389/fdgth.2024.1475092
3. Albrecht M, Shanks D, Shah T, et al. Enhancing clinical documentation with ambient artificial intelligence: a quality improvement survey assessing clinician perspectives on work burden, burnout, and job satisfaction. *JAMIA Open.* 2025;8(1):00af013. doi:10.1093/jamiaopen/00af013
4. Robinson EJ, Qiu C, Sands S, Khan M, Vora S, Oshima K, Nguyen K, DiFronzo LA, Rhew D, Feng MI. Physician vs. AI-generated messages in urology: evaluation of accuracy, completeness, and preference by patients and physicians. *World J Urol.* 2024 Dec 27;43(1):48. doi: 10.1007/s00345-024-05399-y. PMID: 39729119; PMCID: PMC11680670.
5. Almario CV, Chey W, Kaung A, Whitman C, Fuller G, Reid M, et al. Computer-generated vs physician-documented history of present illness (HPI): results of a blinded comparison. *Am J Gastroenterol.* 2015;110(1):170-179. doi:10.1038/ajg.2014.356

Questions?