

# Editorial



Dear Reader

Since my last editorial we have witnessed the historic Coronation of King Charles III, enjoyed Eurovision and now we await Wimbledon. However, what has captured my interest the most recently is the controversial conversation surrounding AI: Artificial Intelligence. The jury remains undecided on AI implications and limitations as AI has become integral, inseparable from the fibre of our day-to-day life. As editor I am grateful for software suggestions, as a veteran traveller my Sat Nav is my trusted companion and as a mother I am grateful for the location service offered by iPhone. I attempted to create this editorial via ChatGPT and its equivalent but was singularly disappointed by the product. Implausible but true that exams have been passed, poems and essays have been written, to the extent some university examinations systems have been altered. Ironically AI has caught out AI, as plagiarism detection software is also AI based.

There is an absolute storm raging about AI safety, applications, vulnerability, limits and future. Synthetic embryos from 3 DNAs without ethical or legal clarity; the tragic loss of lives in the submersible Titan- which was steered by a modified video game controller; the impalpable cryptocurrency; driverless buses; Sony world photography 2023 prize; Charlie Engman's foray into image generation, the list goes on and on. The headline narrative contributes to the confusion. Developers/scientists at Google Deepmind, Open AI, Anthropic all request AI to be a global priority. Geoffrey Hinton resigned from Google recently with an alarming goodbye statement. He opined AI working together could be more intelligent than humans and eliminate humanity. So which one is the strongest, fastest, most destructive, lethal threat global warming or AI? Do we need Sci-fi! The last stanza of Robert Frost's poem 'The Road Not Taken' sums the situation well: "I took the one less travelled and that has made all the difference"

For clarity, intelligence is the ability to learn, reason and infer, whereas AI is a method of computer/robot-controlled software to think/ behave like a human. The defining difference between authentic and artificial remains the lack of empathy and compassion in AI applications. AI is programmed to replicate human behaviour and be trained to solve specific problems. It is the cumulative knowledge/information of AI products that pose a threat. The common non egregious applications of AI include facial recognition, Alexa, spam filters etc. Statistically 15% of all UK companies have harnessed some form of AI into their strategies and daily activities. The Royal College of Surgeons England recently devoted an entire issue of the Bulletin to AI, since medicine continues to be one of the largest end-users of AI. Hot off the press is the AI application which reduces waiting times for patients awaiting radiotherapy. Soon inpatient and outpatient work in our own Trust is to be validated with the assistance of ChatBots. The Education Centre has the impressive Sim Man and HoloLens systems as well. We are in every aspect dependant on AI but to restrict and manage for good rather than evil is the ultimate challenge

Having aired my bewildered thoughts let me introduce you to the summer student issue of the MBMJ. Certainly researched and assisted by AI, but undeniably produced by diligent exceptional stellar dedicated learners. This issue contains case reports that inform us about knee and parotid pathology. I learnt from the psychiatry triple A article. Seminal governance topics are covered as is CV-19 management. Read on to grasp LUPALS and ICAT information. Dementia and falls, both common conditions, are reviewed alongside the thorny issue of A&E and socioeconomic deprivation. The student abstracts provide insight into the wide base study ongoing in LMS. The students have surpassed themselves with the erudite articles and exceptional knowledge base included in the issue.

The Editorial Board remains stable. The website continues to function unpredictably. Perhaps too much "A" and too little "I"? The Instructions to Authors are included in every issue; please read and submit articles not chapters fit for a reference book. Avoids disappointment all around I assure you all. Offers of peer reviews are always welcomed and encouraged. The Autumn issue should be in print by November so kindly submit articles, case reports, reviews, unusual radiology/pathology/clinical presentation reports soon. The circulation list of MBMJ is expanding and both the Library and myself can offer paper copies to the interested. I am pleased to share with you that the number of hits, downloads and citations of the MBMJ articles have increased impressively.

This issue is also special as all the illustrations including the front cover are by students. I am extremely fortunate and honoured to have met not one but four talented budding student artists over the years. Sofia and Kim are guilty of disproportionate imaginative aesthetic artistic genius and samples of their capability are scattered throughout this publication. Thank you, Sofia and Kim.

It remains for me to wish you all the best summer possible. Hopefully some respite from computers, iPhone, iPod, iPad, minimal exposure to AI and an opportunity to immerse ourselves in the beautiful real life on this planet

THANKS for reading,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shadaba Ahmed". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Shadaba Ahmed, Editor

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