

**Interreg
Europe**



European Union | European Regional Development Fund



Artificial Intelligence in Health

Online Discussion

Thursday 16 July 2020 | Online



Artificial Intelligence in Health



Agenda and Introduction

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Agenda



Introduction (10:30-11:50)



- Agenda and technical details
- Who's who
- Covid-19 and Artificial Intelligence in Health
- Presentation of the peer review held in December

Interregional learning from the peer review recommendations (11:50-11:20)



- Charlotte Trap-Kinberg
- Raniero Pittini
- Sven Parkel

Structured discussion (11:20-11:55)



- Regional Perspectives
- Covid-19 impacts
- European initiatives

Conclusions (11:55-12:00)



Who's Who?



Roundtable introduction

OECD Report - using artificial intelligence to help combat COVID-19

AI in health is at the centre of COVID-19 responses:

- understanding the virus and accelerating medical research on drugs and treatments,
 - detecting and diagnosing the virus, and predicting its evolution,
 - assisting in preventing or slowing the virus' spread through surveillance and contact tracing,
 - responding to the health crisis through personalised information and learning,
 - monitoring the recovery and improving early warning tools.
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- To help facilitate the use of AI throughout the crisis, **policymakers should encourage the sharing of medical, molecular, and scientific datasets and models** on collaborative platforms to help AI researchers build effective tools for the medical community, and **should ensure that researchers have access to the necessary computing capacity.**
 - To realise the full promise of AI to combat COVID-19, **policymakers must ensure that AI systems are trustworthy** and aligned with the OECD AI Principles: they should respect human rights and privacy; be transparent, explainable, robust, secure and safe; and actors involved in their development and use should remain accountable.

Covid-19 and Artificial Intelligence in Health



OECD Report - using artificial intelligence to help combat COVID-19

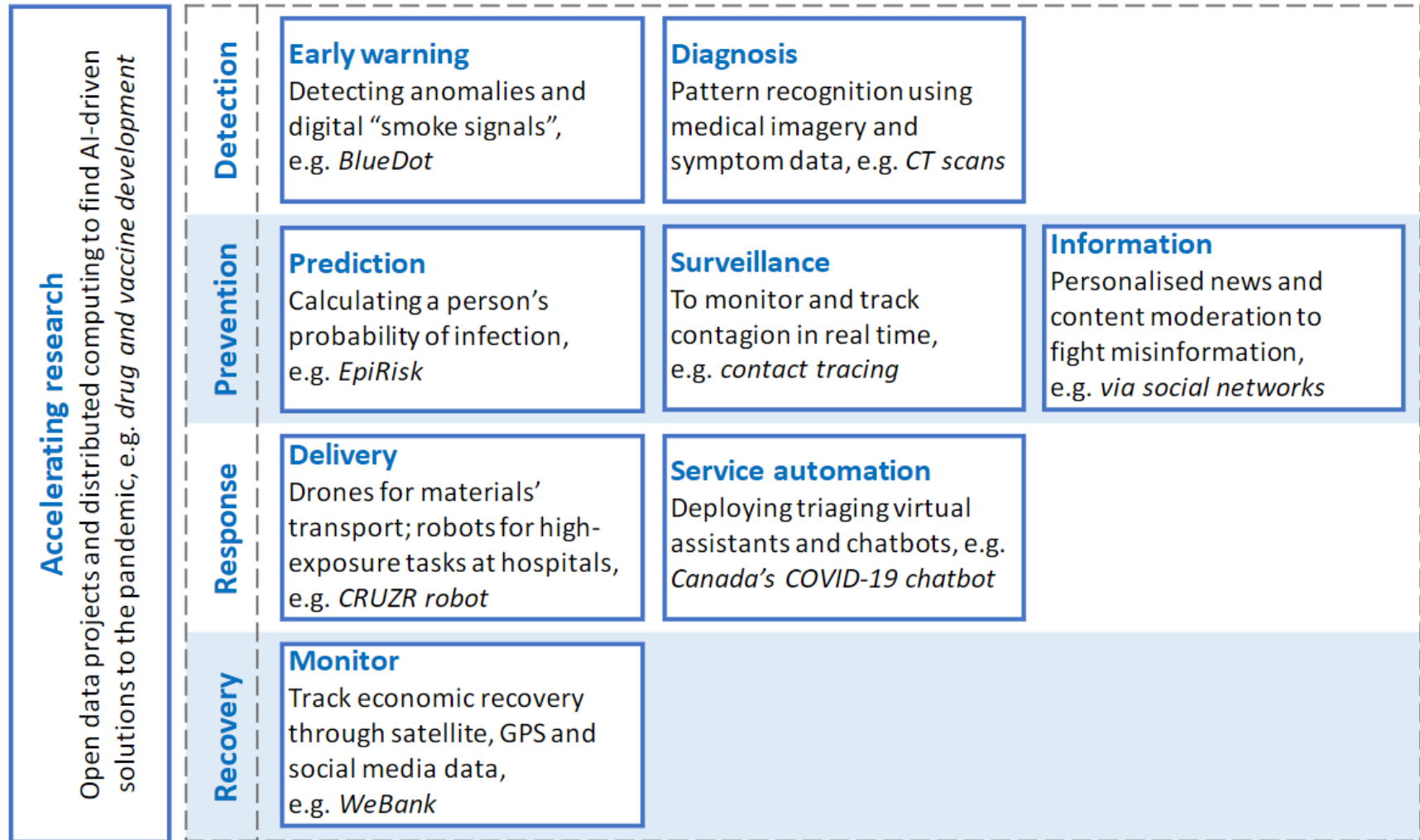


Figure 1. Examples of AI applications at different stages of the COVID-19 crisis

Peer Review on artificial intelligence in the health sector



Peer Review

- For managing authorities and local and regional policymakers.
- Two days onsite face-to-face exchanges with experts (peers) from other regions on concrete policy challenges.
- We organised a peer review in Region SUD on 17-18 December 2019 on 'integrating the priority artificial intelligence in health into Region's SUD Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3)'.
[here](#)





Interregional learning from the peer review recommendations

Peer Review on artificial intelligence in the health sector



Peers

- **Charlotte Trap-Kinberg**, Project Manager, Innovation and New Technologies (AI) Capital Region of Denmark, Centre of Regional Development, Denmark (MEDTECH4EUROPE)
- **Raniero Pittini**, Head of Swiss Medtech Center (SMTC) Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne, Espace Mittelland (CH02), Switzerland (DIGITAL REGIONS)
- **Sven Parkel**, General Manager Tartu Biotechnology Park, Estonia

Policy Challenges

The Regional Council of Region SUD-Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur had the following policy challenges:

- Improved insertion of 'Artificial Intelligence in the health sector' in our smart specialisation strategy:
- Better policymaking and improved targeting of structural funds (mainly ERDF) on AI related issues in the health sector.

The peer review was structured around four thematic blocks: (1) Revising S3 to Integrate AI in Health, (2) Financing AI in Health, (3) Digitalisation Strategies - AI in Health, (4) International Dimension and Value Chain.

Peer Review on artificial intelligence in the health sector



(1) Revising S3 to Integrate the Priority 'AI in Health'

- Involve users (i.e. hospitals) – awareness raising: spread AI knowledge through conferences, events..., accompany SMEs in adapting AI for their business models.
- Promote mission-oriented or challenge-based approach to solve very practical challenges – actors collaborating together to solve health-related challenge.
- Define issues for data quality, access, ownership, security, infrastructure, regulation, ...
 - create a task force to identify obstacles and solutions
 - consider data sandbox / data lake approaches
 - show political support, targeted lobbying towards key organisations
 - build on regional open data initiatives (Data Sud platform)
 - map who owns the data, who has access to data, and who can share the data.
- Follow the UN development goals (SDGs): map and match relevant thematic objectives to include ethical considerations for example.

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(2) Financing AI in health

- Make use of remnants of current ERDF funding programme (2014-2020) – possibility to pilot test some early ideas/initiatives to help structure AI/health actions?
- Make use of ERDF funding (2021-2027) with co-financing – need to understand how to promote collaboration between actors, especially large private companies with SMEs but also hospitals/SMEs
- Make use of European Green deal - subtopics on AI under review...demonstrate positive environmental benefits (e.g. e-health, sustainable hospitals, ...)
- Make use of vouchers – collaborative vouchers (such as Innosup01 approach for cross sectoral vouchers) – e.g. generally vouchers have less red tape, really positive feedback from Start-ups, SMEs, and private companies for collaborative innovation

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(3) Digitalisation strategies – AI in Health

- Respond to data issues –
 - know the legislation well on how to access and use the data
 - share the knowledge to private companies and end-users
 - there are bottlenecks and regulations (i.e. GDPR), try to limit as much as possible regulations
 - Standardisation
 - Cybersecurity issue, a strong cybersecurity partner is a strength for internationalisation
- Create the opportunities to promote the digitalisation of companies
 - It should not be a top-down approach
 - An emphasis on success stories to promote digitalisation take up
- Promote the adoption of AI in SMEs – the importance of skills and infrastructures

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(4) International dimension and value chain

- S3 Industrial Modernisation Platform in AI, MedTech... promote interregional collaboration and prepare ground for 5C type funding model.
- Collaborate with Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) – collaborate on creating an interregional DIH.
- Clusters facilitating interregional collaboration for the benefit of SMEs, for instance with innovation vouchers and broader internationalisation actions.



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Structured Discussion

Structured Discussion



Regional Perspective

- What are some initiatives to promote Artificial Intelligence in Health in your region?

COVID-19 Impacts

- How is COVID-19 accelerating the transition for Artificial Intelligence in Health in your region?

European Initiatives

- What European initiatives are emerging to support the sector? What are some opportunities and challenges?



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Conclusions

Conclusions



- Follow-up online article
- Survey
- Online discussion on European Value Chains (EVCs) on Thursday 23 July 2020, 10:30-12:00 (CEST).



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Thank you!