Can Intelligent Machines Replace Humans as Nurses?

Today, as undergraduate nursing students in the *Faculty of Health Sciences*, we have read and discussed an academic text titled **Possibilities and Ethical Issues of Entrusting Nursing Tasks to Robots and Artificial Intelligence** in the journal *Nursing Ethics,* published in 2023.

Before reading this academic text, we brainstormed the medical English practitioner Neslihan Onder-Ozdemir's question, **"Can intelligent machines replace humans as nurses?**

Nurses can show compassion and build strong relationships with their patients. Nurses' connection is crucial for creating understanding, trust, and emotional support. The researchers at the Tokyo University of Science in Japan investigated whether recent developments in robotics and Artificial Intelligence (AI) could incorporate, emulate, or replicate these human characteristics by stimulating the ethical values associated with human nurses, such as **advocacy, responsibility, collaboration, and care.** For example, advocacy in nursing entails representing patients' interests to guarantee they receive the highest medical care.

As nurse candidates, we strongly believe that we can benefit from intelligent machines, but they cannot fully replace nurses mainly in terms of empathy, effective collaboration with healthcare providers, and providing care.

Intelligent machines may not express their emotions like nurses. Moreover, patients can be concerned because of intelligent machines, such as robots. Thus, before they are used, patients should be trained.

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