



future
health
index
2026

AI in practice

Shaping the future of healthcare now

Global report
Commissioned by Philips

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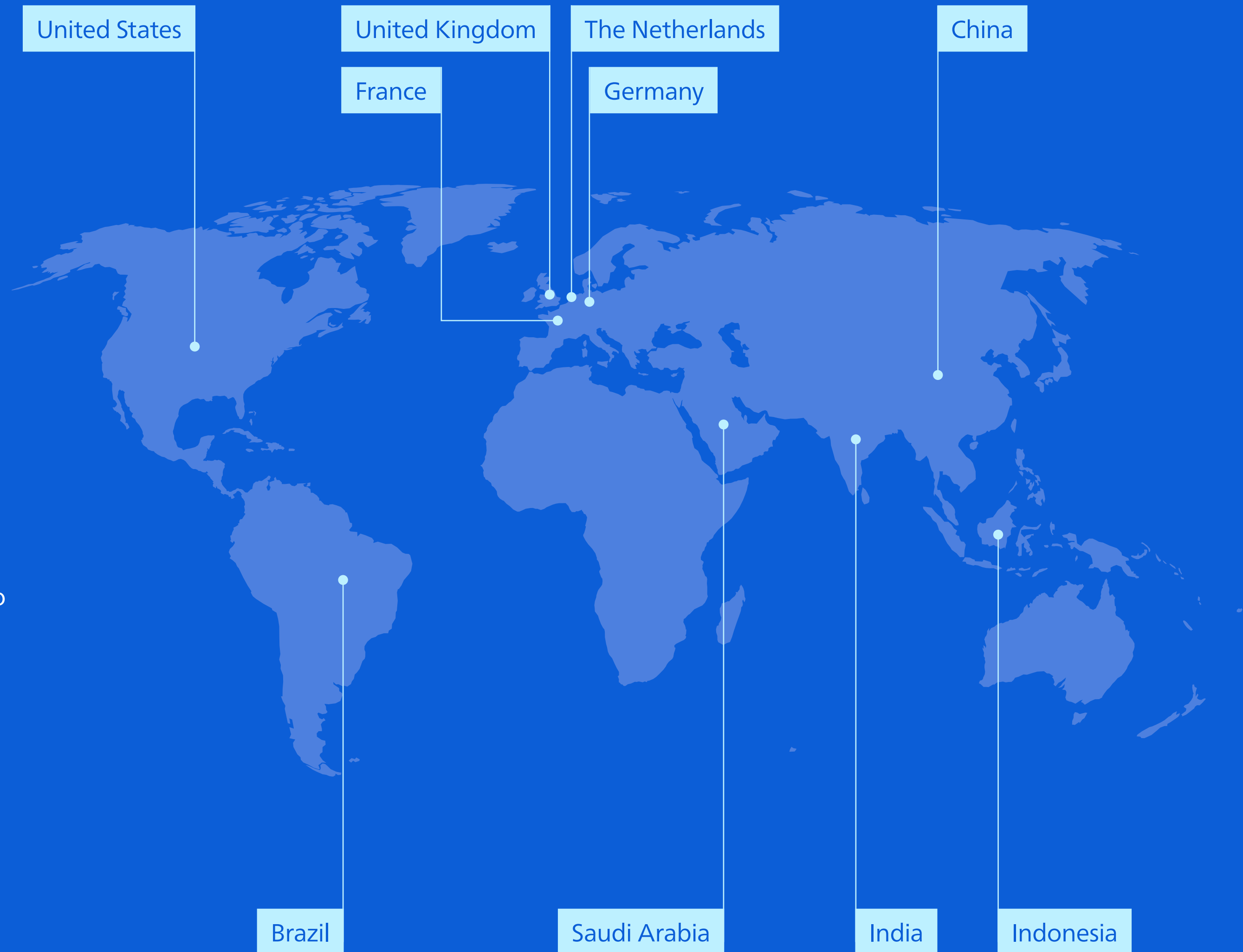
Research premise

This is the largest global survey of its kind, analyzing the perspectives of healthcare professionals and patients.

In its 11th edition, the Future Health Index 2026 investigates the tangible impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on healthcare and the measurable results it delivers.

This year's report moves beyond the potential of AI to highlight how healthcare professionals and patients around the world are actively using AI to regain time, expand capacity and improve care delivery.

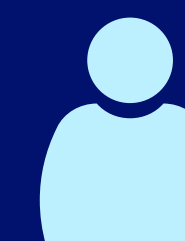
The Future Health Index 2026 is based on proprietary quantitative research involving over 2,000 healthcare professionals and over 20,000 patients across 10 countries.



10
countries



2,000+
healthcare
professionals



20,000+
patients



Shez Partovi
Chief Innovation Officer,
Chief Business Leader
Healthcare Informatics



Carla Goulart Peron
Chief Medical Officer

“AI is moving from promise to progress – giving clinicians back time for higher-value clinical work and care for more patients.”

Foreword

AI is no longer a future promise in healthcare. It’s beginning to change how care is delivered day to day. Not long ago, much of the focus was on isolated clinical applications – for example, how AI could diagnose cancer earlier or improve a single moment in care. Today, we’re seeing a broader shift: AI is becoming part of everyday care delivery, helping clinicians make better use of time, information and expertise to better support patients.

This year’s Future Health Index shows that, where AI is being used in healthcare, it’s already delivering tangible impact. Increasingly, its value goes beyond helping clinicians interpret one image or make one diagnosis faster. AI is reducing administrative burden, improving workflows, supporting safer care and giving clinicians more headspace. This means care teams can deliver more timely, coordinated and personalized care.

AI is also moving from tool to teammate within the care team, removing friction from the workday and helping clinicians work at the top of their capabilities. Many have been juggling countless priorities and simply pushing through their day. With AI, they’re starting to feel there’s a second pair of eyes supporting their work. Importantly, AI is not replacing their human expertise. Our findings show that healthcare professionals overwhelmingly believe that human judgment, accountability and relationships remain central to care – and to maintaining trust with their patients.

Healthcare systems are increasingly using AI to manage rising demand by improving throughput and expanding access to care. The goal is to strengthen the system’s

ability to care for more people while improving the care patients receive. But while early gains are becoming visible, healthcare hasn’t yet fully unlocked that potential.

The constraint isn’t the technology – it’s integration. AI innovation is moving faster than healthcare systems can absorb it. AI is appearing everywhere: in personal tools, hospital-developed applications and clinical devices and systems. Pilot projects have demonstrated what is possible, but the next phase will depend on how effectively AI connects across workflows, data and care teams.

If healthcare gets this right, the opportunities are significant. Integrated AI could help care teams move toward more coordinated, proactive and personalized care – supporting earlier intervention, better patient experiences and improved outcomes.

But scaling AI responsibly will matter as much as scaling it quickly. As AI becomes more embedded in care, how healthcare systems and technology partners integrate and govern AI will determine whether it strengthens trust – or erodes it. That places a clear responsibility on technology partners to move beyond isolated solutions and design AI into clinical workflows in ways that are trusted, interoperable and scalable.

Today, AI has a clear role in healthcare. The next step is integrating it responsibly into care, so that together we can deliver better care for more people.

Five key insights

The Future Health Index 2026 shows that AI is already delivering measurable impacts in healthcare, but scaling that value will depend on better integration, training and governance.

This year we found:

71%

of clinicians report improved workflow efficiency



AI is delivering measurable impact

AI is improving how care is delivered, from workflows and decision-making to patient interactions.

50%

of clinicians say AI has increased their capacity to see more patients



AI is expanding access to care

By reducing administrative burden and supporting more efficient workflows, AI is helping clinicians create more capacity in stretched health systems – with a global average of 8 more patients per week.

57%

of clinicians report improved access to consolidated patient data across care teams



Connected data is becoming a force multiplier

As AI brings information together across fragmented systems, it can support faster, more coordinated care.

64%

of clinicians use personal AI tools when workplace options do not meet their needs



Clinicians want to move faster than systems

AI adoption is accelerating, and effective use depends on whether organizations can provide trusted, integrated tools.

70%

of clinicians say training for AI-enabled tools is unavailable, inadequate or inconsistent



Scaling AI is constrained by readiness gaps

To unlock AI's full potential, the healthcare sector will need to invest in role-specific training, clear governance and workflow integration.

Introduction: AI is already changing healthcare – but not yet at scale

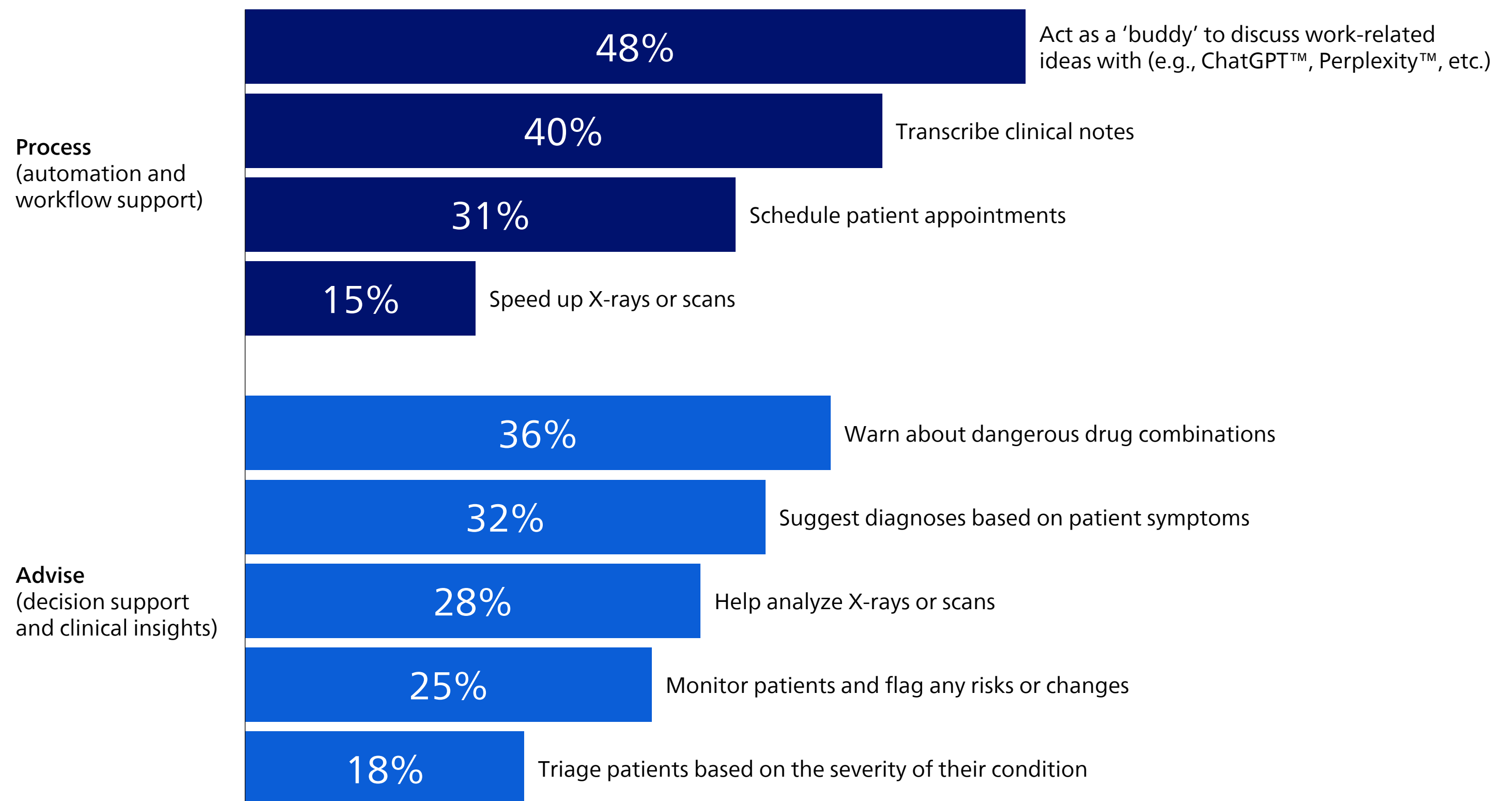
AI is gaining traction in healthcare – and clinicians are already seeing tangible impact. Clinicians and patients are increasingly using AI-enabled tools in care.

Two-thirds of clinicians (65%) say their use of AI-enabled tools provided by their organization has increased in the past year, and close to half (48%) report using generative AI as a professional ‘buddy’. Workforce shortages and system pressures are driving the need to explore and adopt AI.

AI adoption remains uneven across geographies, areas of clinical care and provider roles, with healthcare systems at different levels of AI maturity. Some organizations are embedding AI more deeply into care delivery and operations, while others are still building the foundations that support adoption at scale.

The findings point to a healthcare sector in transition. AI’s impact is moving from promise to practice. As the technology continues to evolve, realizing its full potential will require effective governance, workflow integration and operational support.

How healthcare professionals are using AI today





1 AI dividends are emerging

AI is improving care in measurable ways – freeing time for clinicians, strengthening clinical decision-making, expanding capacity and delivering early operational and financial benefits.

What is the real value of AI in healthcare?

Where healthcare organizations are using AI, clinicians report measurable improvements in care. Healthcare professionals report that AI is freeing time, strengthening clinical decision-making, expanding capacity and delivering operational and financial benefits – creating growing ‘AI dividends’ across patient care and core clinical work. The payoff many have been working toward is starting to come into view.

Clinicians remain optimistic about AI’s role in healthcare. More than 8 in 10 healthcare professionals (83%) say they are optimistic that AI can improve patient outcomes – up 4 percentage points from a year earlier – and 7 in 10 (71%) believe the benefits already outweigh the risks. [Clinicians see significant impact in clinical care pathways such as those within oncology, where earlier diagnosis can improve outcomes.](#)

This year’s findings suggest healthcare is still in the early stages of realizing AI’s full value. While the emerging gains are meaningful, many healthcare organizations are still learning how to integrate AI effectively into clinical practice and workflows. As adoption matures and the technology continues to evolve, the opportunity to improve care could grow significantly.

Confidence in AI grows with experience



83%

of healthcare professionals say they are optimistic that AI could improve patient outcomes



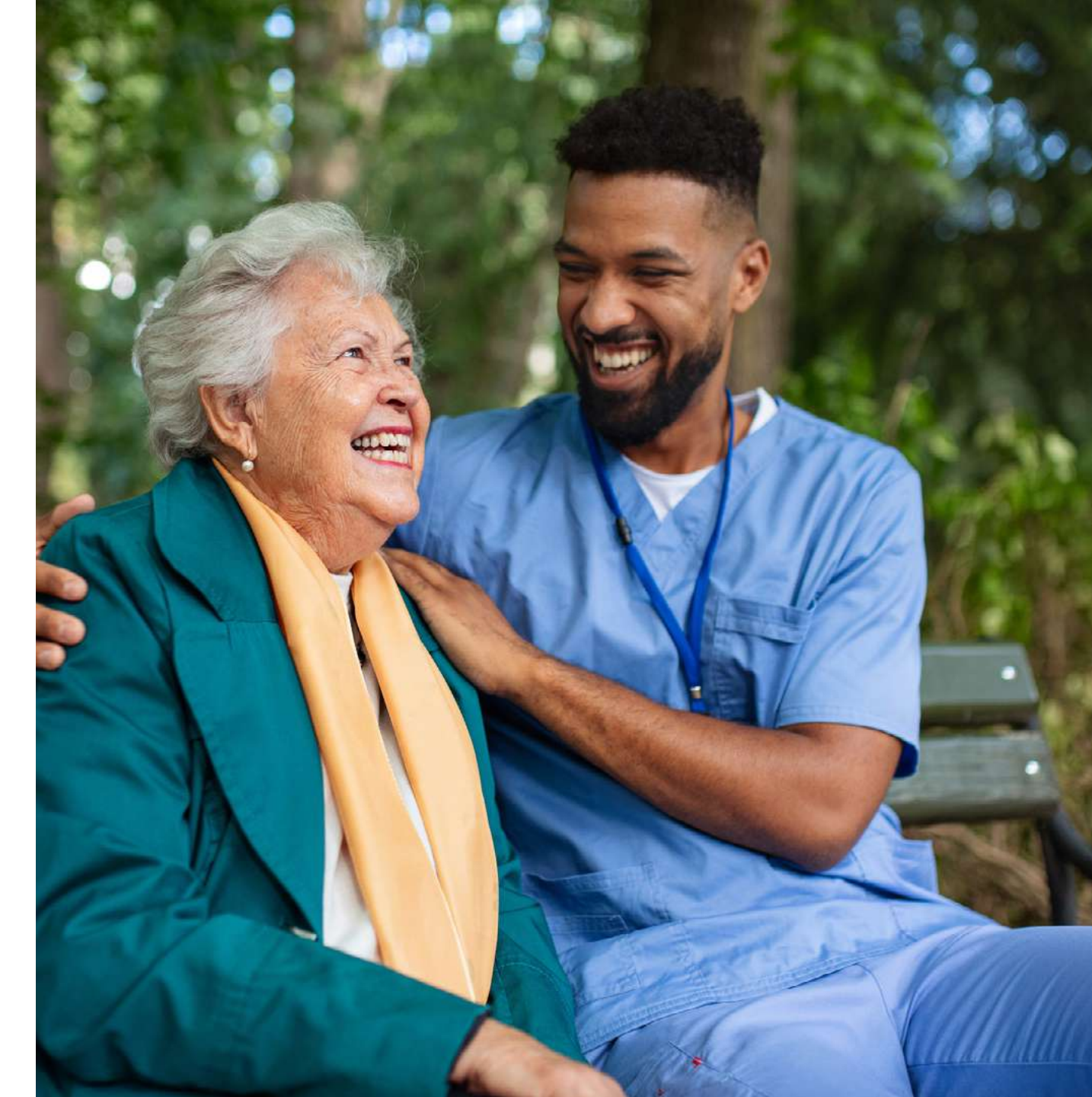
70%

of patients **who regularly use AI** themselves say they are optimistic that AI can improve healthcare



32%

of patients **who do not use AI at all** say they are optimistic that AI can improve healthcare



AI is enabling earlier lung cancer detection

Lung cancer is currently the [leading cause of cancer-related deaths](#) globally. AI is supporting [earlier identification](#) of lung nodules – the small findings that can indicate potential disease – and helping clinicians [detect changes](#) more consistently and [at earlier stages](#). This could support earlier diagnosis and more timely intervention, which are critical to improving outcomes.

Leading academic medical centers are also advancing [programs specifically for early detection](#), using AI to support the [interpretation of imaging data](#) and monitor changes over time.

AI is giving clinicians time – and changing how they use it

Each clinician has a finite amount of time, while demands on healthcare systems continue to grow. These pressures shape care delivery, workload and clinician well-being. AI is beginning to reshape how clinicians work by helping them to use their time differently.

By reducing administrative burden and supporting more efficient workflows, AI-enabled tools are streamlining routine tasks. Clinicians say AI saves them time every week. Close to half (46%) reported time savings of at least 132 hours annually on average, or the equivalent of more than three full working weeks.*

Rather than just freeing up time, AI is shifting how clinicians work. Many are using these opportunities to focus on higher-value clinical tasks, such as thinking through cases in more detail, improving precision and strengthening decision-making. Nurses report some of the most consistent gains across these areas.

This shift marks a break from earlier generations of health technology, which often increased administrative burden.

*Based on a median 3-hour time saving, across a minimum of 44 weeks worked a year, with a working week defined as five days of 8+ hours.

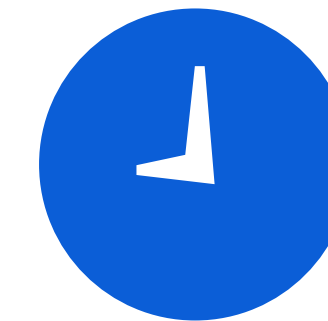
For instance, early evidence from AI ambient documentation tools shows measurable [reductions in documentation time](#), alongside [stronger clinician-patient engagement and improved clinician job satisfaction](#).

Patients are starting to benefit directly. More than half of clinicians (56%) say AI is leading to more thorough interactions with their patients. Patients value this: 81% say they would feel more positive about AI if it gave clinicians more time to focus on the clinical aspects of their work – building on findings from the Future Health Index 2025, when 39% of patients said they would feel more positive about AI if it gave their doctor more time to spend with them during appointments.

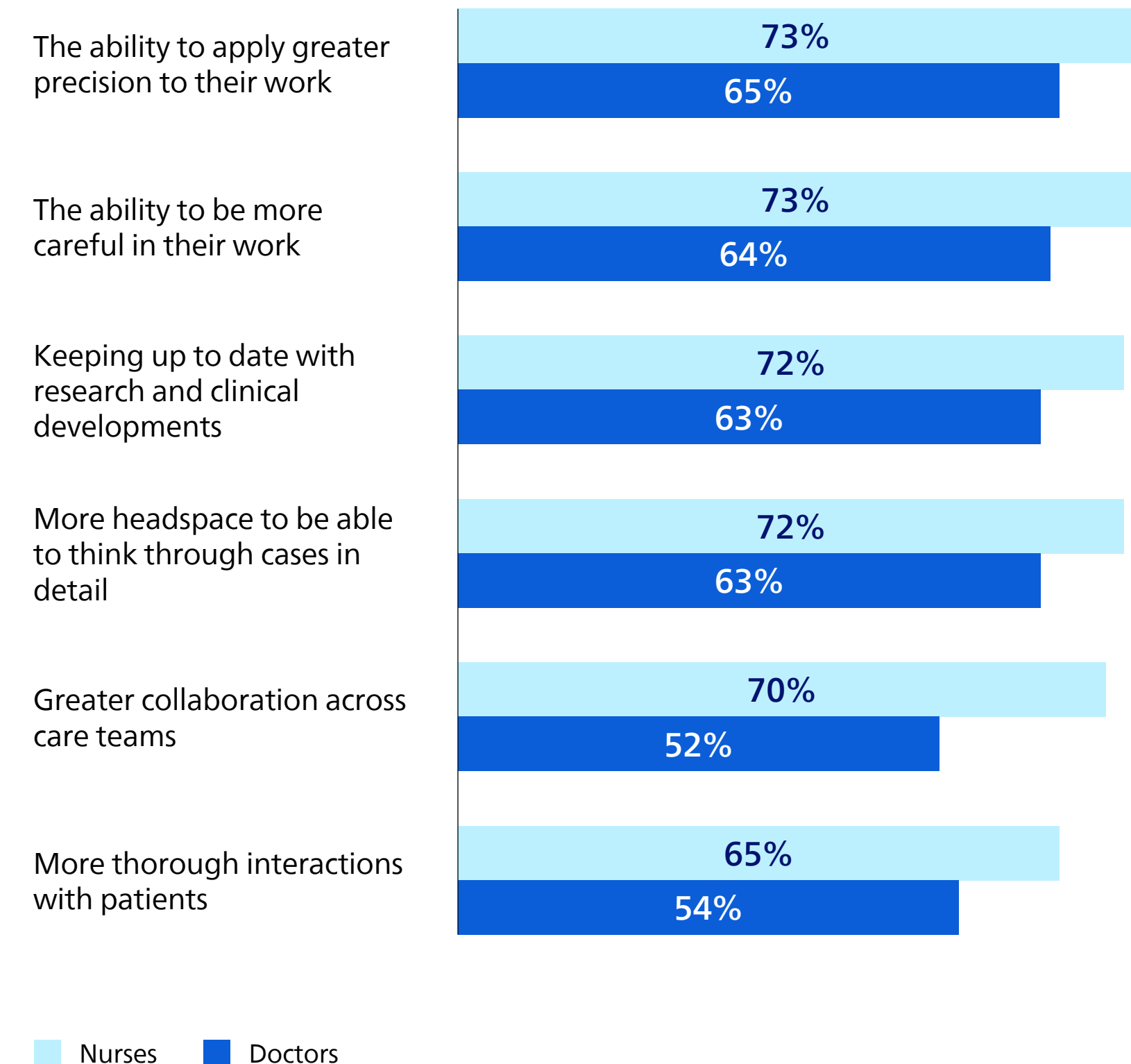
AI alone doesn't create value. Health systems will realize AI's full potential only if they integrate it into clinical workflows to support clinicians, optimize time and reduce administrative workload.

74% of patients who use generative AI for health information say it saves them time – helping them find information, prepare for appointments or understand a diagnosis

Patient perspective



Time savings from AI-enabled tools enable clinicians to focus on higher-value activities



AI is improving clinician well-being

Clinicians are starting to feel some relief from AI-enabled support. Just two years ago, the Future Health Index found that two-thirds of healthcare leaders (66%) were concerned about rising burnout and deteriorating work-life balance. Today, health systems are finding that the use of AI is playing a role in improving focus and joy in the practice of medicine.

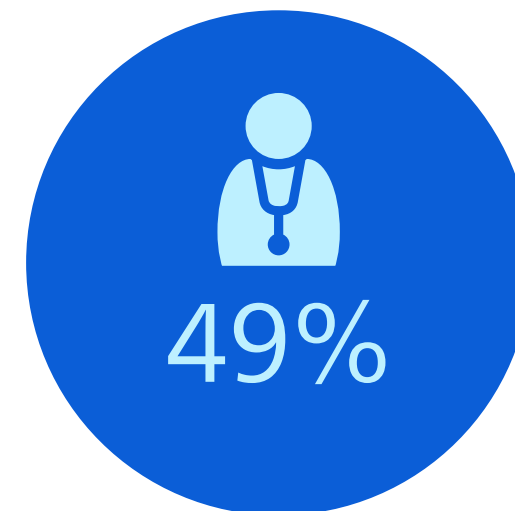
In some specialties, such as radiology, clinicians are more likely to say work feels easier with AI – even when time savings are harder to quantify. Value is not only measured in hours, but also in reduced cognitive load and improved focus.

Not all time saved is preserved – nearly a quarter of clinicians (23%) say it's quickly absorbed by other demands. Capturing the full benefit will require organizations to deliberately protect and reinvest that time in clinical care.

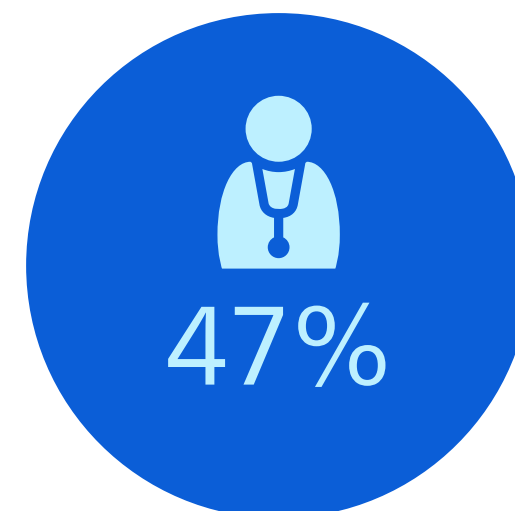
Clinicians report less stress and better work-life balance



say AI has improved their work-life balance



report reduced stress



say they are doing less overtime or bringing less work home

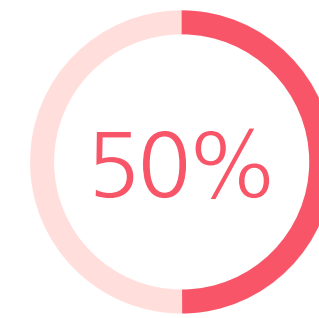


AI is expanding access and capacity

Last year, many clinicians expected AI to expand capacity and improve patient throughput and today they're starting to realize those gains. Half of clinicians say AI has increased their capacity to see more patients, with a median increase of eight additional patients per week and up to 30 in China.

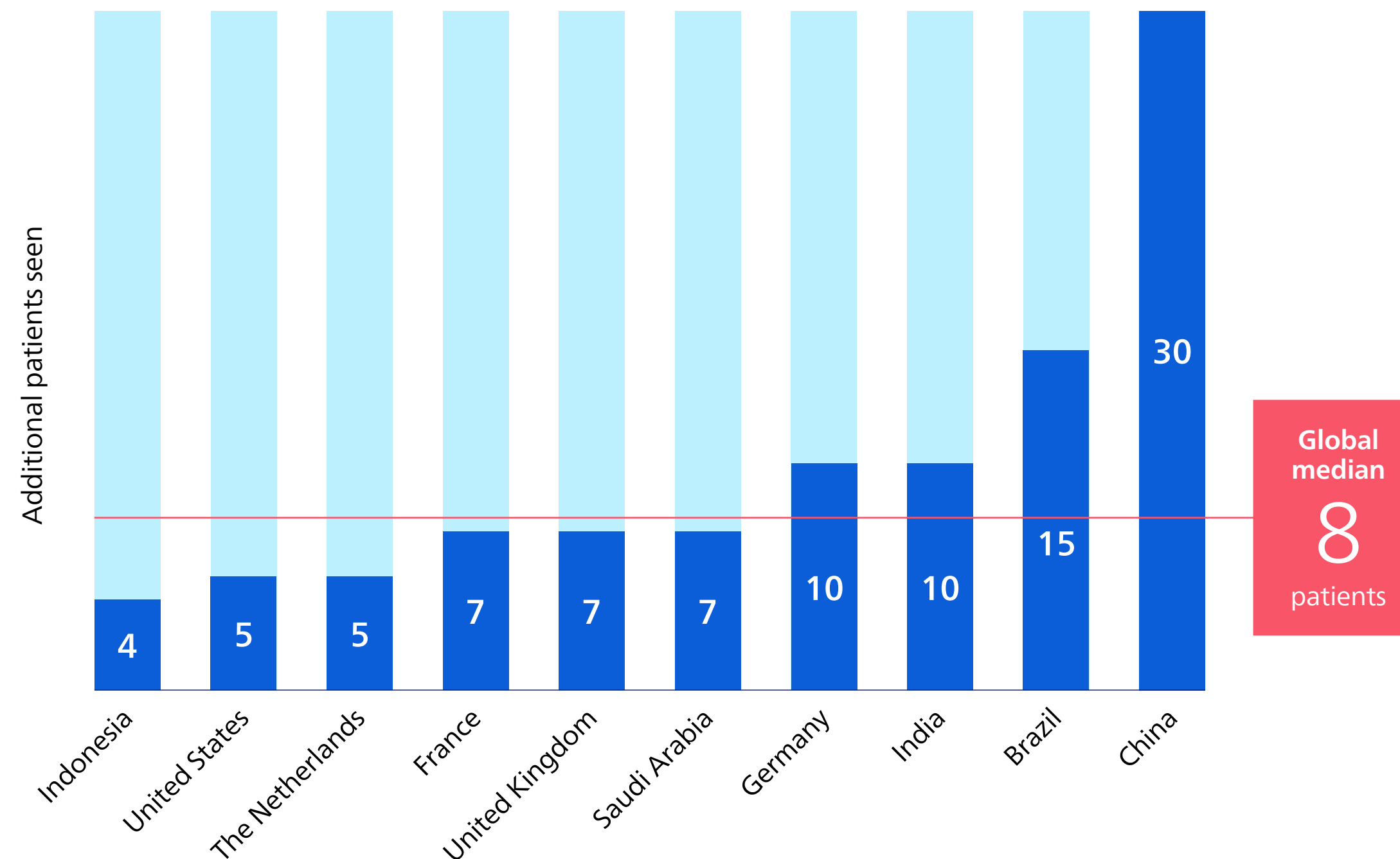
Patients' use of AI may also reshape demand for care. Six in 10 patients (60%) say generative AI has helped them recognize when seeing a doctor is necessary, helping guide them toward appropriate care settings.

Clinicians also see AI expanding access to care, with 75% saying it can help narrow quality gaps between different healthcare settings and improve services in underserved and rural areas. For example, AI helps bring resources and specialist expertise to patients in these communities. Patients also recognize this potential: 58% say AI could make it easier for people who struggle to access healthcare to get the help they need, while 56% believe it will improve care in rural areas.



of healthcare professionals say AI has increased their capacity to see more patients.

Among those seeing more patients, the median increase per week is:



China's pragmatic view of AI

China's efforts in AI-driven healthcare transformation are rapidly changing the medical landscape. From implementing AI-assisted diagnosis and intelligent follow-up systems to piloting early-stage, experimental AI hospital platforms designed to connect diagnosis, treatment and long-term health management, AI use among Chinese clinicians is higher than the global average. Recent policy guidance from China's National Health Commission signals a [shift from isolated pilots toward more systematic and regulated adoption](#).

Yet Chinese healthcare professionals appear more measured than global peers about AI's impact on patient outcomes, despite being among the most frequent users of AI-enabled tools. Rather than reflecting skepticism, this may signal a more mature phase of adoption. With more hands-on experience, Chinese clinicians may be developing a clearer understanding of both AI's advantages and its limitations, giving them a more pragmatic view of where AI can genuinely add value.

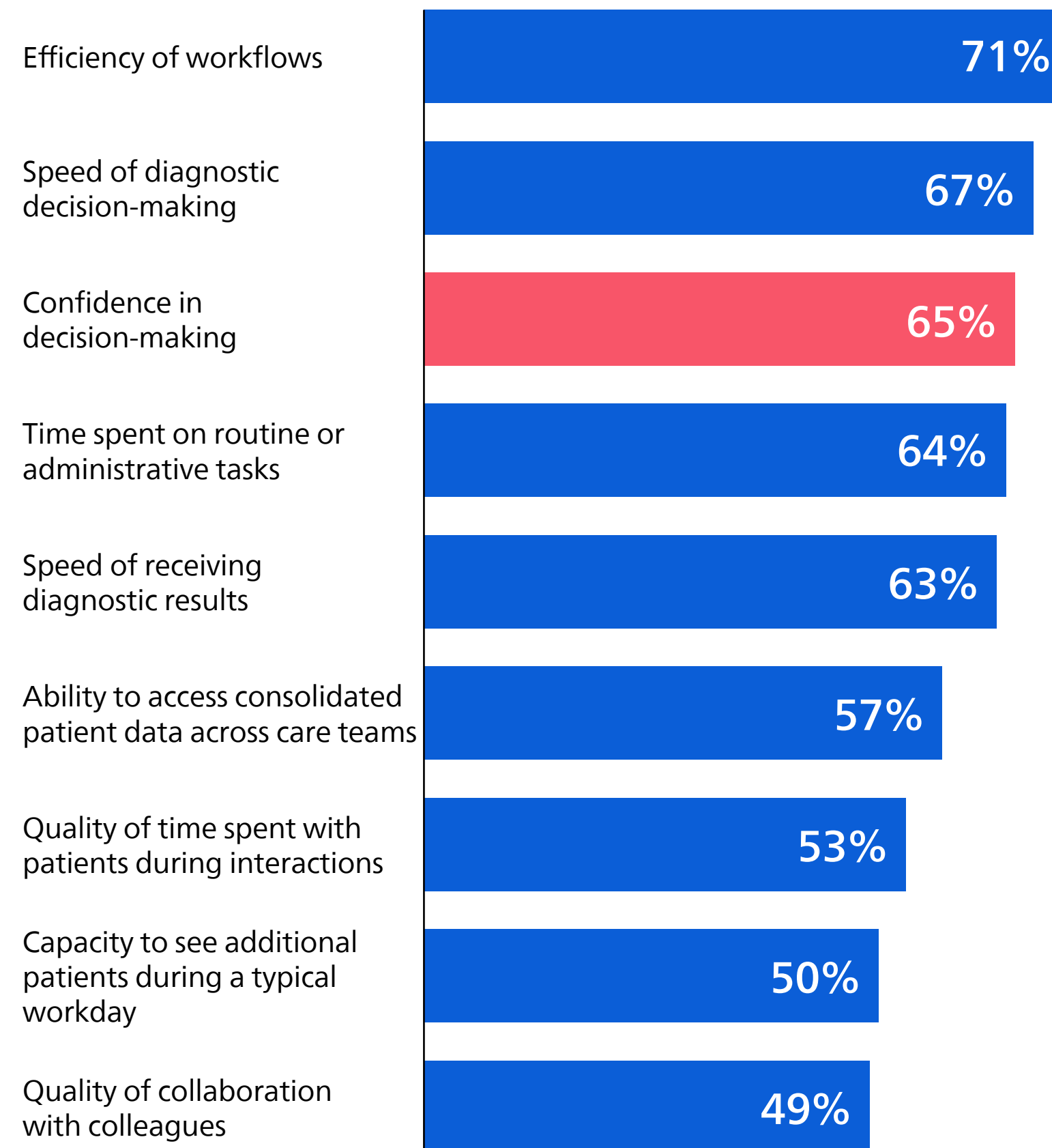
AI is strengthening clinical decision-making

AI is improving both the efficiency and quality of clinical decision-making. As AI-enabled tools surface relevant information more quickly and reduce the time spent gathering data, clinicians feel the impact.

A high number of clinicians report workflow efficiency improving (71%), as well as their ability to access consolidated patient data across care teams (57%), reducing the need to search across multiple systems.

AI is augmenting clinical judgment rather than replacing it. Clinicians report making decisions more quickly, with greater confidence and stronger collaboration across care teams, though the scale of impact varies across countries and healthcare systems.

Clinicians say AI is improving care delivery



AI acts as a 'cognitive layer'

Fragmented healthcare data requires clinicians to pull together information from multiple sources, including patient records, imaging and clinical evidence, often under time pressure.

AI is beginning to act as a 'cognitive layer' to quickly bring patient information together and save clinicians time and effort. This means they can focus on understanding the full patient record to make more informed decisions.

Better connected systems have the potential to further improve how clinicians access and use information in practice – and improve patient care by catching things that might otherwise be missed. For example, before procedures such as an MRI scan, AI may help clinicians identify relevant information from across the patient record, such as prior clinical history that could otherwise be overlooked.

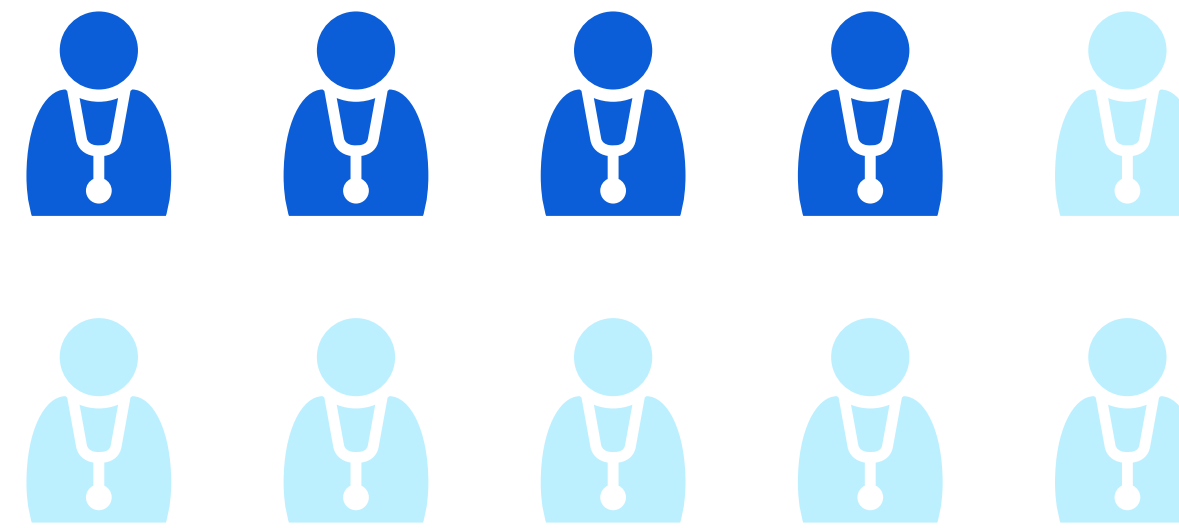
Interoperable healthcare systems could help create a more connected layer of intelligence, giving clinicians a broader view of the patient across the care journey.

AI is supporting safer care

There is growing belief that AI is a tool that is becoming helpful for safety reasons. Four in 10 healthcare professionals (39%) say it has helped them identify or prevent a potential medical error at least three times in the past three months. Healthcare leaders are recognizing the significant role that AI is playing in patient safety and are more likely than non-leaders to report this impact (44% vs 34%).

A medical error can include missed or delayed diagnoses, incorrect treatments or overlooked risks such as unsafe drug interactions. In practice, clinicians are using AI as a support tool to help review decisions and spot potential issues before they impact patient care.

Some describe AI as a 'second set of eyes', particularly in high-pressure clinical environments where time pressures can increase the risk of oversight and missing critical findings can have serious consequences. AI tools can flag risks or highlight changes in patient data that may signal deterioration, helping clinicians act earlier.



4 in 10

healthcare professionals say AI has helped them identify or prevent a potential medical error at least three times in the past three months



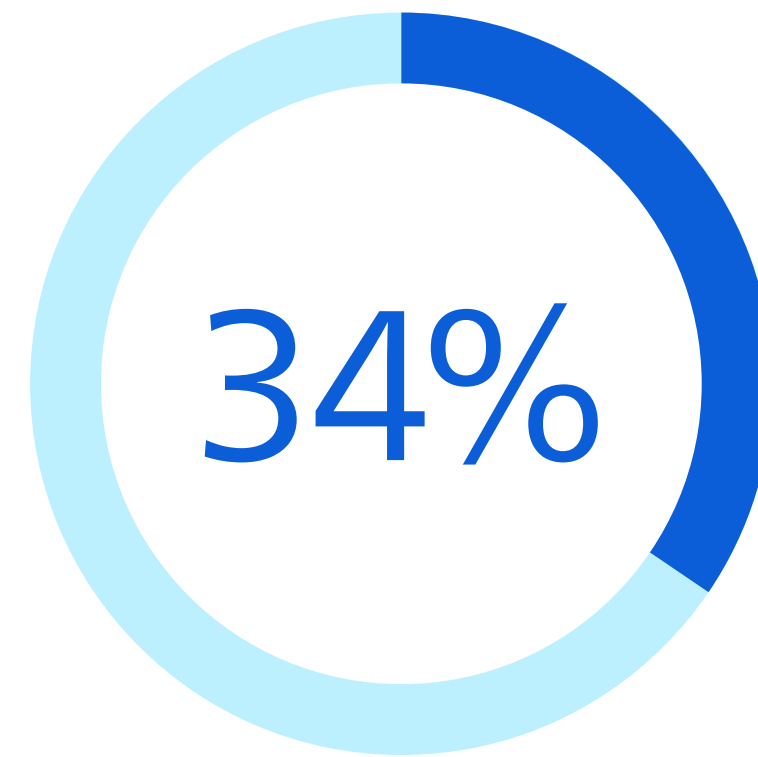
“Clinicians are beginning to experience AI not as an abstract technology, but as something that meaningfully changes clinical safety.”

Ami B. Bhatt
MD, Chief Innovation Officer,
American College of Cardiology

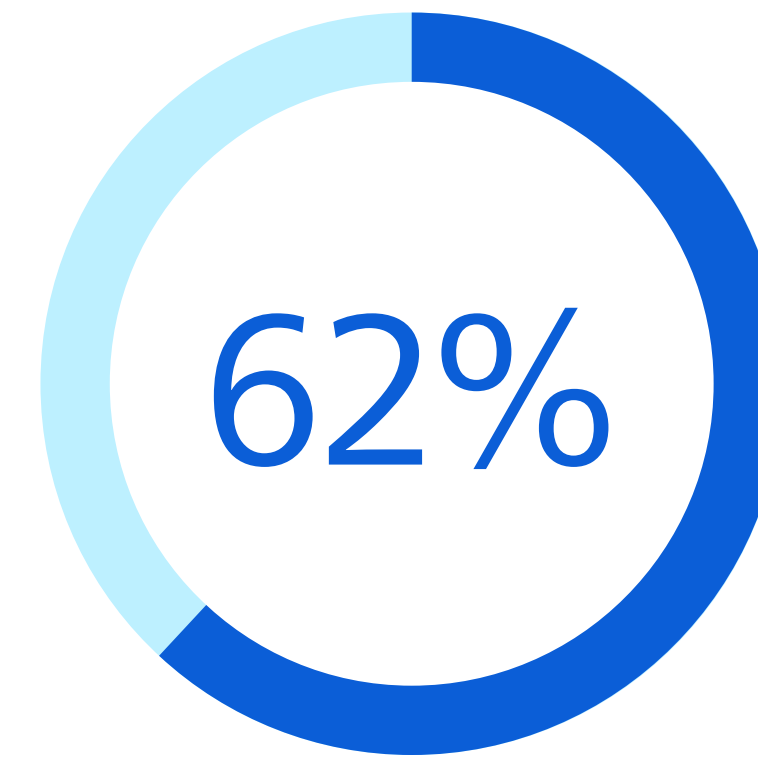
AI is starting to deliver financial returns

Early signals suggest that AI is beginning to deliver measurable dividends – improving care while helping health systems do more with the resources they have.

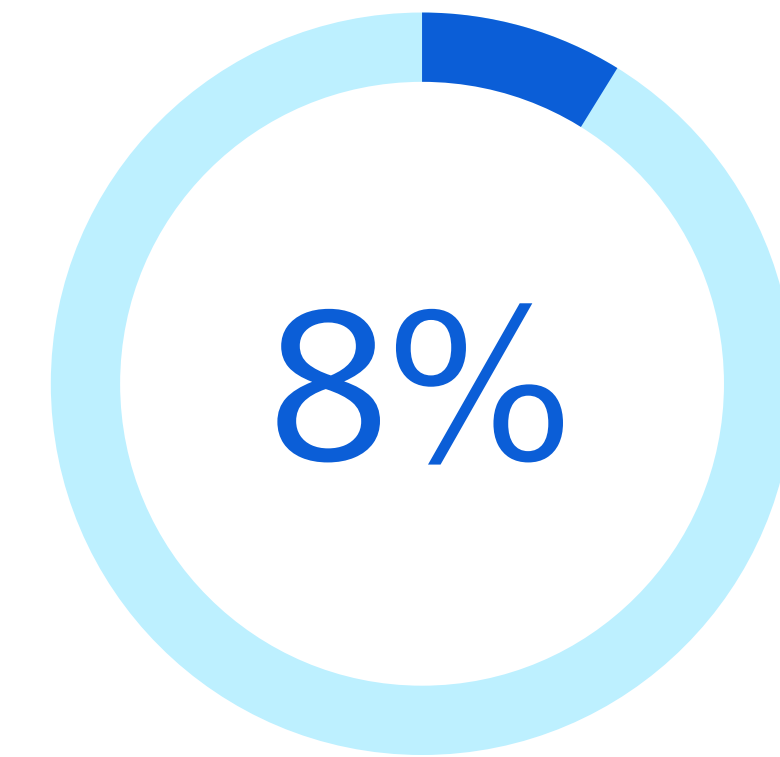
One-third of healthcare leaders report budget savings from AI implementation. While usage and impact vary between markets, leaders are broadly aligned on value: 62% say the benefits of investment are meeting or exceeding costs.



of healthcare leaders report budget savings from AI implementation



of healthcare leaders say the benefits of investment are meeting or exceeding costs



of healthcare leaders have not made any investments nor plan to invest in AI at all in the future



2

AI adoption is outpacing healthcare readiness

AI adoption is accelerating across healthcare, driven by strong clinician demand and the potential to improve care. As these tools move into clinical workflows, health systems are still building the training, integration and support to translate this momentum into consistent use at scale.

Healthcare is embracing AI – while still building the infrastructure

AI adoption is accelerating across healthcare, but effective use will depend on trusted, integrated tools. Nearly two-thirds of healthcare professionals (64%) turn to personal AI tools when workplace options don't meet their needs. This suggests that clinician demand for AI is moving quickly – sometimes faster than organizations can respond – as healthcare professionals actively explore how AI can support them.

At the same time, healthcare organizations are still building the infrastructure needed to support AI. A majority of clinicians (59%) say their organization's leadership is taking the right steps to implement AI-enabled tools, though perceptions vary. Leaders are more likely than non-leaders to say the right steps are being taken (63% vs. 56%), suggesting that some clinicians feel more supported than others during this transition.

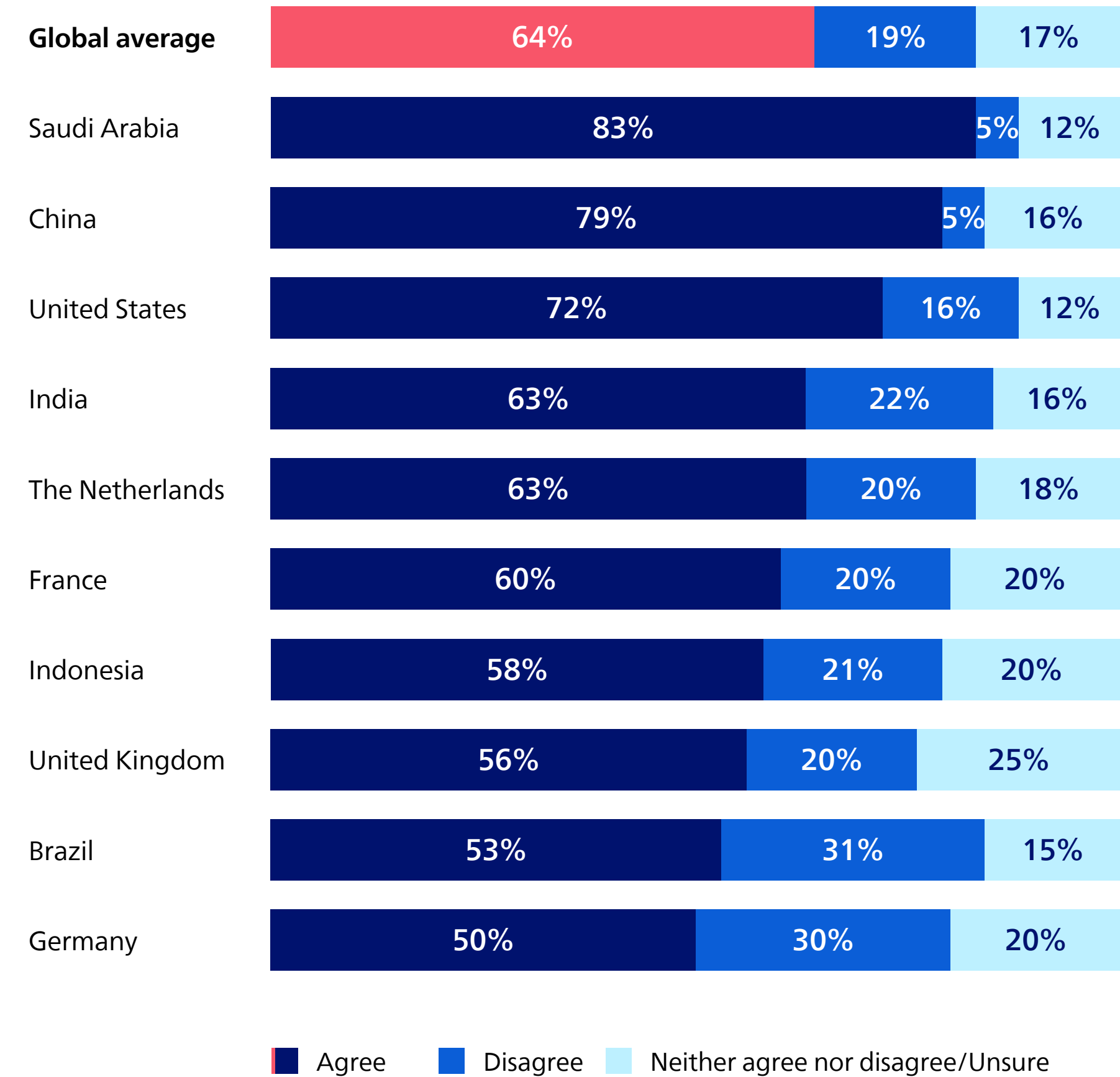
These findings highlight the challenge of translating rapid adoption into system-wide use. Integrating AI into care remains complex, particularly across fragmented systems and workflows. While clinicians are eager to adopt tools to meet their immediate needs, organizations are also working to integrate AI across clinical practice, which can slow deployment at an enterprise level.

Strong governance helps protect patient safety, safeguard data and reduce clinical risk while ensuring clinicians have access to trusted, integrated tools. Coordinated action across the healthcare ecosystem – supported by enabling policies and regulations – will be key to strengthening system readiness.



64%

of healthcare professionals globally turn to their own personal AI tools when workplace options don't meet their needs



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Training is not keeping pace with demand

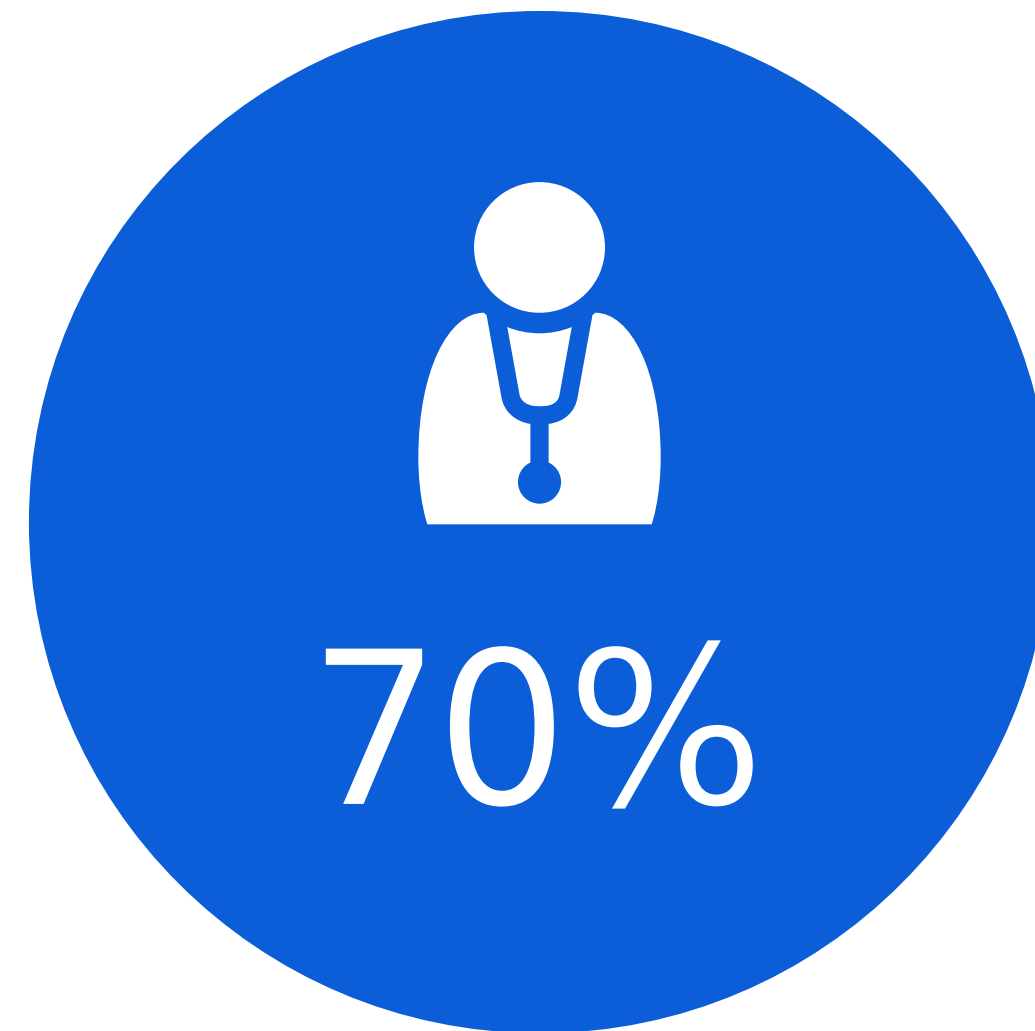
Training stands out as a critical enabler for effective and scalable AI use. While clinicians are already using AI tools, many say they need more support to use them effectively. Seven in 10 (70%) say training for AI-enabled tools is unavailable, limited or inconsistent at their organization.

Health systems recognize the need to build AI literacy across the workforce, and they are exploring different training approaches, ranging from structured programs and certifications to on-the-job learning.

The need goes beyond tool use. Clinicians want support in checking the accuracy of AI recommendations (58%), developing technical navigation skills (55%) and understanding legal liability (50%). These findings reinforce the importance of a broad skillset, including critical judgment and the ability to audit and question AI outputs. AI can generate answers, and clinicians build trust in those answers through clinical expertise.

Expanding structured, role-specific training will help clinicians develop the digital skills and clinical judgment needed to work effectively with AI. This can help ensure that AI is used safely and to its full potential across healthcare. This will require stakeholder action across health systems, academia, accreditation bodies and technology providers.

Clinicians report inconsistent access to AI training



of healthcare professionals say training for AI-enabled tools is unavailable, limited or inconsistent at their organization



Scaling AI requires human oversight and clinical judgment

As AI proves its value in everyday clinical practice, the focus is shifting from adoption to scaling AI effectively. At the same time, clinicians continue to identify areas for improvement, with strong concerns about AI tools making errors (66%), inconsistent performance across clinical settings (58%) and a lack of transparency in how AI-enabled tools reach their recommendations (60%). These findings reflect the realities of early adoption, what's needed to earn trust and support consistent performance.

As with other clinical systems, AI requires ongoing monitoring, auditing and traceability to ensure it performs consistently across different patient groups and care settings. Yet 70% of clinicians say clear processes for monitoring AI-enabled tools are not yet in place.

At the same time, clinicians are defining how AI should be used in practice: 90% say it's essential to keep a human in the loop as AI advances, and 86% say all AI outputs require human oversight. While AI can provide significant input to clinician decision-making, the ultimate responsibility lies with the clinician.

Clinicians are finding that the greatest value comes from combining AI capabilities and human judgment, pointing toward a more collaborative model of care in which each strengthens the other.



9 in 10 clinicians say it's essential to keep a human in the loop as AI technology advances



How clinicians interact with AI may continue to evolve

As AI becomes more deeply embedded in practice, future clinicians may rely more heavily on these tools without developing the same skills and level of critical oversight to check outputs. Today's clinicians were trained without AI – whereas future generations will experience differences in education. Decisions made today about how AI is implemented could have lasting implications for the future of care – and how patients experience and trust AI-supported care.



3

The new hybrid care team

Care teams are evolving toward more collaborative models as AI becomes embedded. As AI supports clinical work, clinicians will remain accountable for decisions and patients will take a more active role in their care.

Clinicians can work at the top of their capabilities with AI

Healthcare professionals expect their roles – and the skills they need to perform them – to evolve. Nearly all clinicians (96%) expect AI to change how they work, with over half (53%) anticipating a significant shift in their role.

As AI takes on more routine administrative tasks, such as scheduling, organizing cases and bringing together information across systems, clinicians could have more time to interpret data and make decisions for complex patient care.

This shift won't happen on its own. Clinicians will need new skills – and the training and support to build them. Nearly half (44%) worry about [losing clinical skills](#) through over-reliance on AI, while 37% say their role is changing faster than they're comfortable with.

Even so, clinicians do not see AI as their replacement. Most (60%) are not concerned they will lose their job because of AI-enabled tools, even as many expect certain roles to disappear (74%) and new ones to emerge (73%). Instead, they see AI as helping them work at the top of their capabilities.

Amid this change – or perhaps because of it – the most valued skills in the AI era may still be deeply human ones. More than 80% say AI will never replace the relationships clinicians build with patients, while 77% believe human interaction skills will become even more important as AI advances. Clinicians could have more space to focus on the moments in care where their expertise has the greatest impact.

AI is changing roles within healthcare, redistributing work between clinicians and technology systems. This marks the beginning of a new hybrid care team.

Clinicians expect AI to help them focus on higher-value care



8 in 10

healthcare professionals say their role is already becoming more focused on higher value clinical work or will in the future



7 in 10

healthcare professionals say AI will help them work at the top of their license

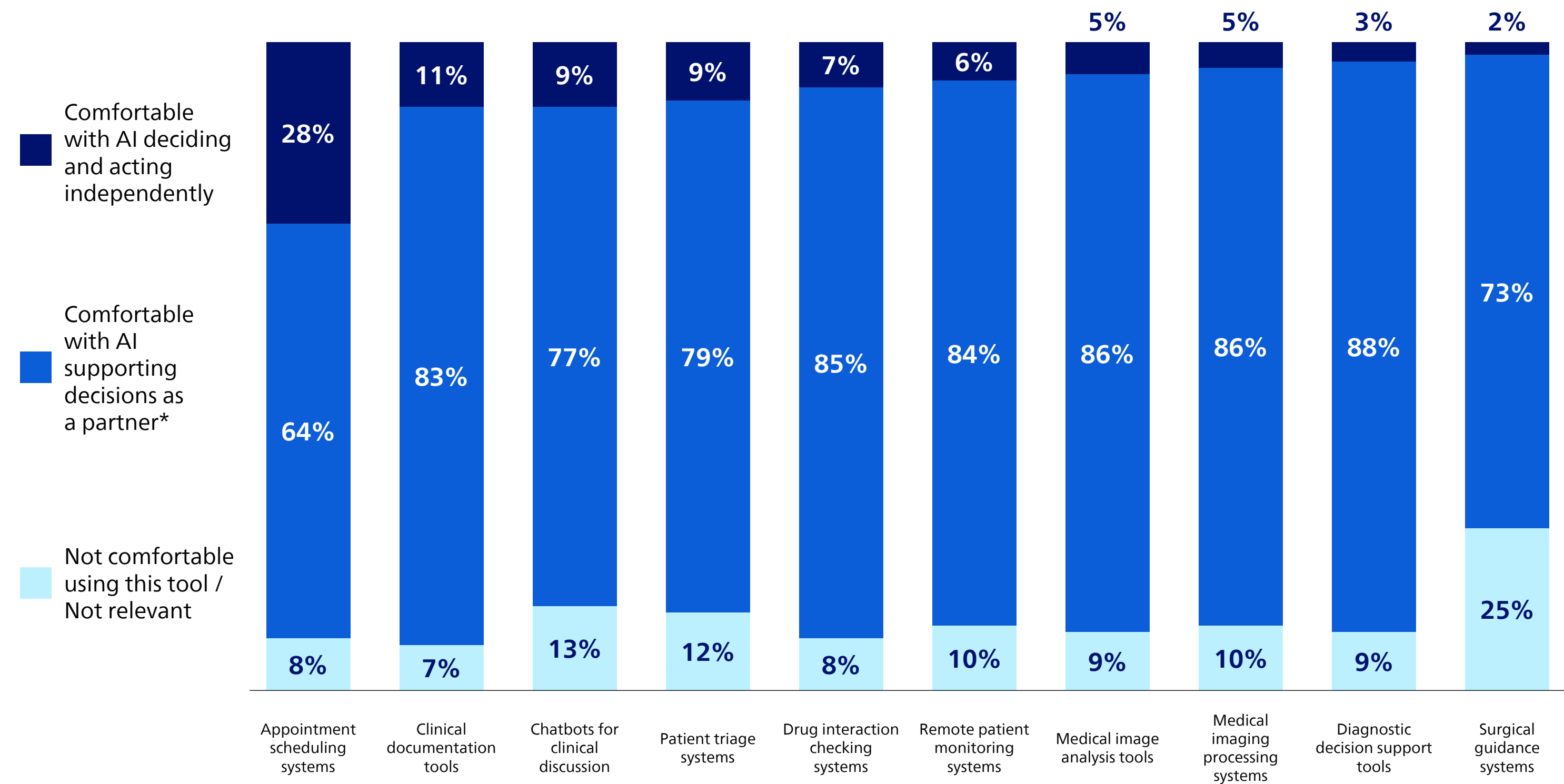
From tool to teammate: redefining AI's role in care

As AI reshapes how care teams operate, expectations are high. In the future, clinicians see AI agents becoming part of their team for tasks such as data processing and administrative work (68%) and supporting aspects of clinical reasoning and decision-making (65%). AI's role is expanding – but on clearly defined terms.

Those boundaries are most visible in how clinicians think about autonomy. While many are comfortable with AI assisting their work, less than 10% are comfortable with AI acting independently in most clinical decisions. Comfort is higher for administrative tasks, such as scheduling (28%).

Clinicians expect AI to take on more tasks – but not more control. As AI becomes more embedded in clinical settings, it is evolving from a tool that clinicians use into a teammate that supports how care is delivered.

Clinicians are most comfortable with AI acting as a partner rather than independently



* This includes scenarios where AI recommends actions or presents information for clinicians to review before making the final decision or taking action.

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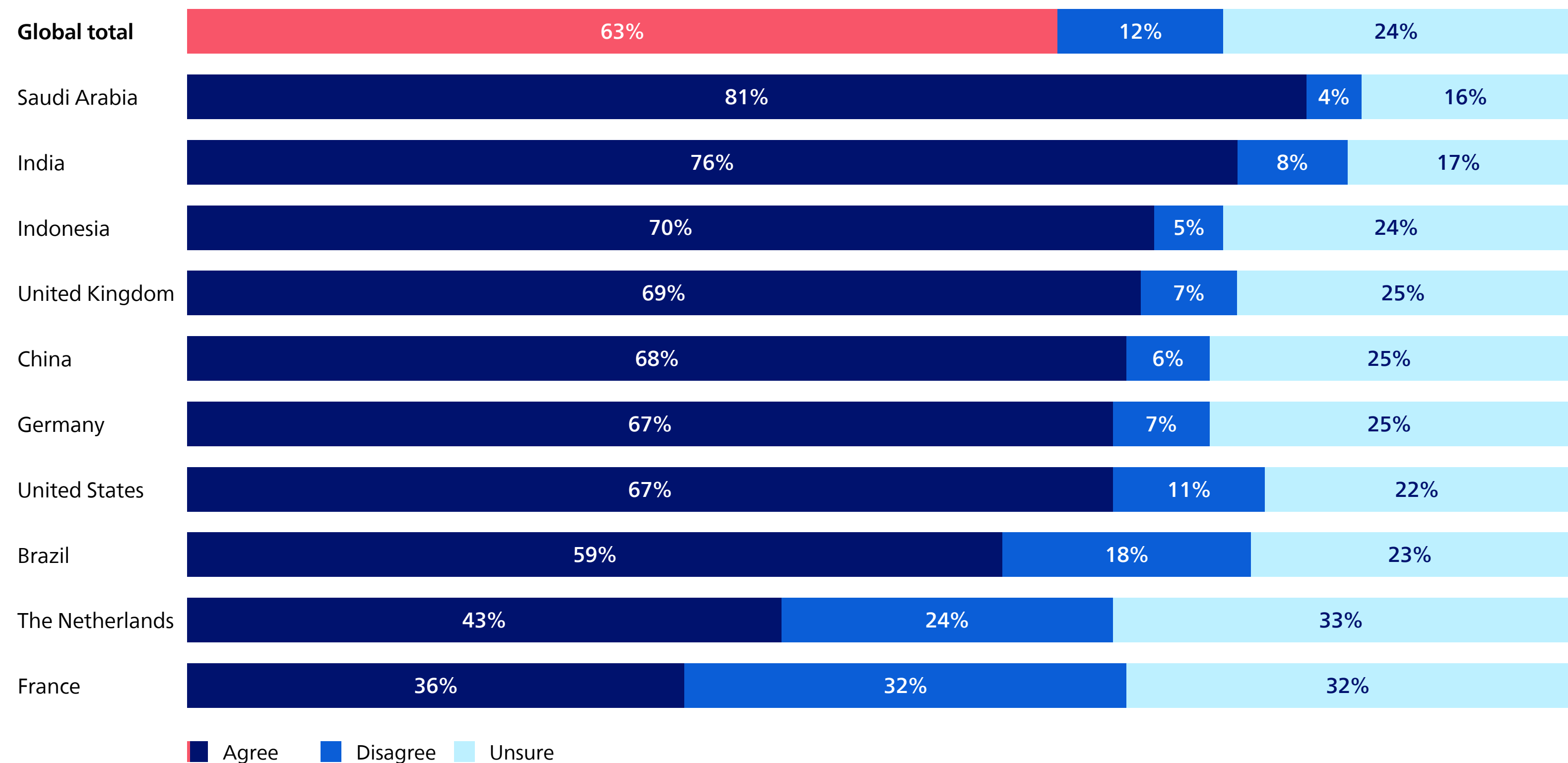
More prepared and proactive patients in the age of AI

AI is changing how patients interact with their care team, helping them arrive more prepared, more engaged and more active in decisions about their health. Three-quarters of clinicians (74%) say patients are arriving at consultations with AI-generated health information, and 63% see these more informed patients becoming an integral part of a more extended, hybrid care team.

More than half of patients say knowing how to use AI will become important for managing their health (59%) and that it will help them take a more active role in their care (56%). Patients are using tools such as generative AI to understand their own symptoms, explore treatment options and review medical information.

Patients using AI for health information say these tools help them feel more informed about their health (61%), ask their doctor better questions (61%) and make the most out of their appointment (55%). At the same time, more information does not necessarily lead to deeper understanding or [better decisions](#), reinforcing the need for clinical context, guidance and support to help ensure the benefits of AI-supported care are accessible to all patients.

Clinicians say AI-empowered patients will be an integral part of care teams in the future



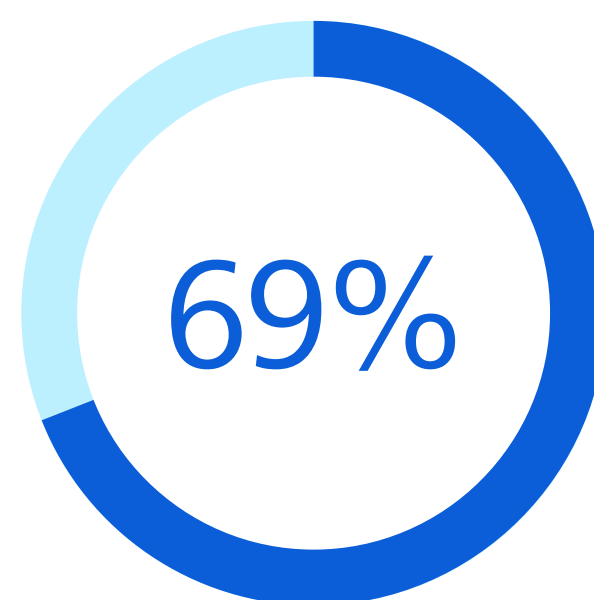
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Navigating AI together in care conversations

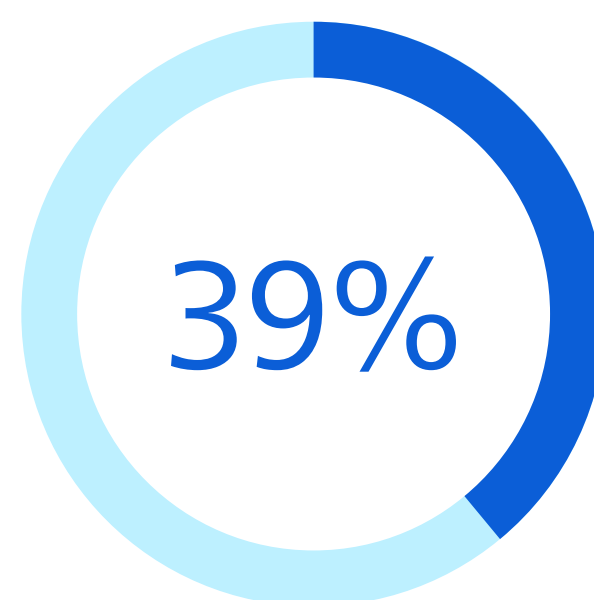
As more patients use AI to understand and manage their health, the consultation itself is starting to change.

Seven in 10 clinicians (69%) say they've had to correct AI-generated misinformation, adding pressure to appointments and taking valuable time – [potentially impacting patient outcomes](#). Among those who use AI for health information, patients received mixed responses when they brought it to a healthcare professional, with 42% saying clinicians reacted positively and 44% negatively.

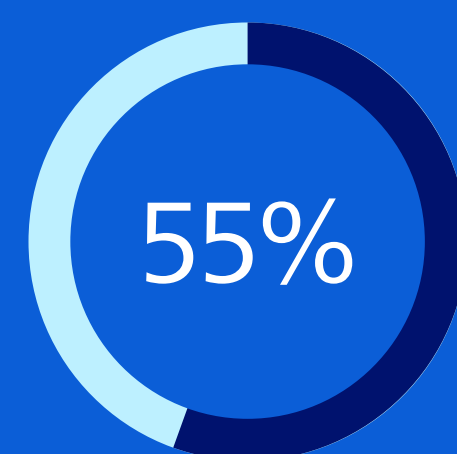
The consultation is becoming more dynamic – requiring stronger communication, greater trust and new skills from both clinicians and patients. As care evolves, clinicians and patients are learning to navigate AI together.



of clinicians say they've had to correct AI-generated misinformation



of clinicians have seen patients lose trust in their care after learning AI was involved



of patients say generative AI helped them make the most out of their time with the doctor



AI is raising new expectations around transparency and trust

Patients and clinicians see transparency as essential when AI is used in care. Nine in 10 patients (89%) say they should be told when AI is used in their care, while 39% of clinicians say they have seen patients lose trust in their care after learning AI was involved. How clinicians introduce, discuss and explain AI and its use may increasingly shape patient confidence and clinical interactions. As AI becomes more embedded in healthcare, transparency and human judgment will remain central to building trust.

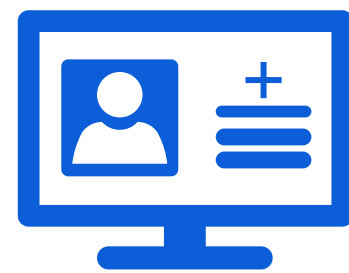


Future outlook

AI and the next era of care

AI in healthcare is entering its next phase, moving from early promise and pockets of progress toward more connected care. As AI becomes more embedded in daily practice, health systems can better serve existing patients and expand their ability to care for more people. The opportunity is not to add new tools, but to reshape how care is delivered around a new hybrid care team. This could enable earlier intervention, more personalized care and better outcomes for patients. Realizing this full potential will require collaboration among healthcare organizations, professionals, policymakers, regulators and technology partners to connect fragmented data, workflows and care teams.

To move from AI in practice to AI at scale, healthcare systems will need to:



Build integrated AI ecosystems

Healthcare is rapidly adopting isolated AI tools and systems. The next breakthrough will come from connecting fragmented data and workflows for more coordinated care. Integration could help expand access to care and enable better outcomes.



Develop workforce confidence and capability

Investing in role-specific training, clinical oversight and clear accountability will help clinicians use AI in patient care. As AI becomes part of everyday practice, clinicians will need the confidence and skills to use it meaningfully and effectively.



Design for the hybrid care team

Supported by AI, clinicians will be able to work at the top of their capabilities and patients will take on a more active role in their health. Clearly defining these evolving roles – while keeping human judgment central – will enable more personalized and trusted models of care.



Appendices

Research methodology

Two quantitative surveys* were conducted by Vitreous World, employing a methodology of online (CAWI) surveying.

The surveys were conducted from February 2026 to April 2026 in 10 countries (Brazil, China**, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and the United States).



Survey 1:

2,011

healthcare professionals participated in a 15-minute online survey

- Healthcare professionals were a mix of doctors (including surgeons), nurses and physician assistants
- Respondents worked across a range of specialties in private and public health systems



Survey 2:

20,085

patients aged 18+ participated in a 10-minute online survey

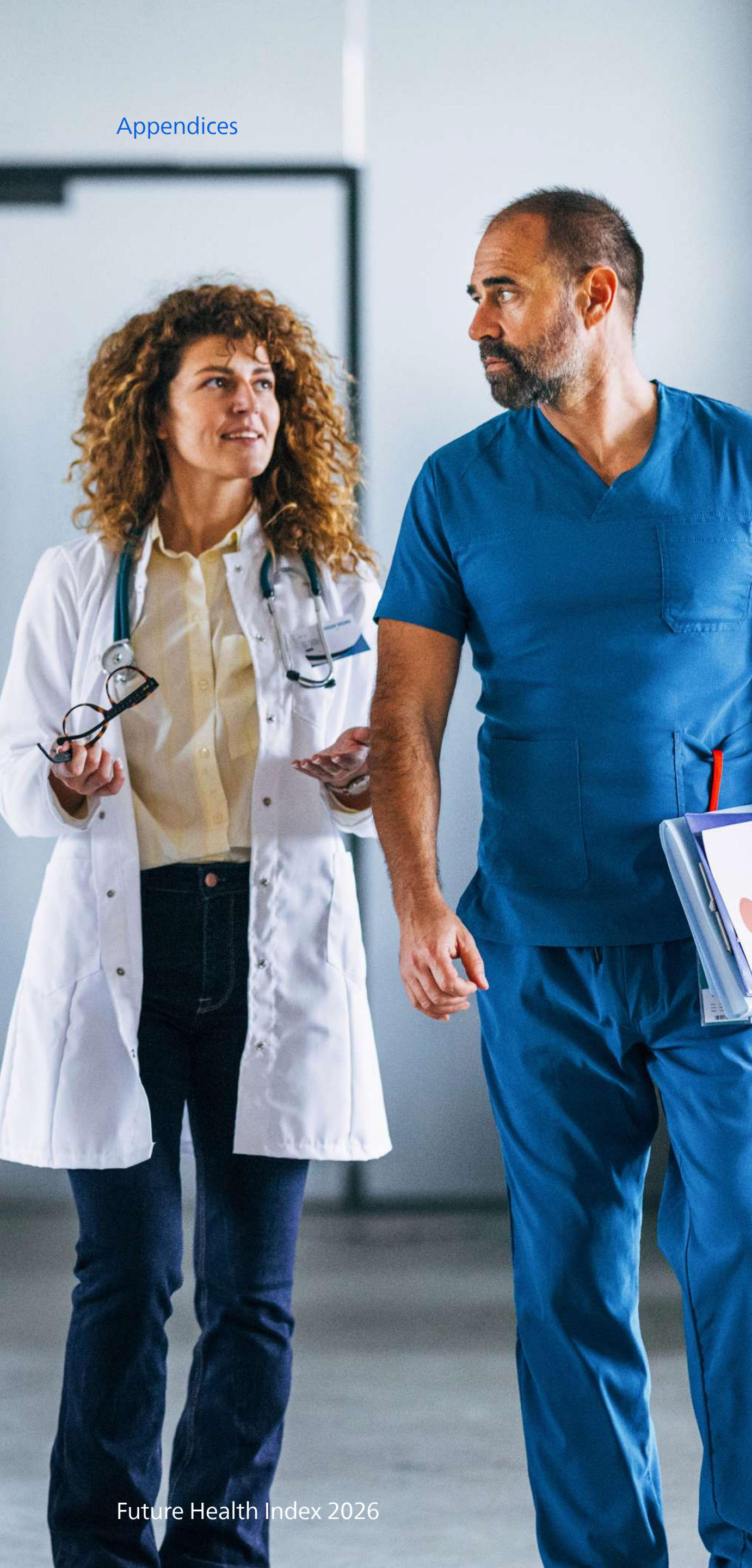
- Respondents were broadly representative across age and gender within their countries
- 99% of respondents had either seen a healthcare professional in the last two years, currently suffer from an ongoing illness or acknowledge accessing healthcare via private/public/mixed means



Where relevant, the surveys were translated into the local language. In some instances, certain questions needed to be adjusted slightly for relevance. Care was taken to ensure the meaning of the question remained as close to the original English version as possible.

* Two separate surveys were conducted, but for ease, data is referred to as coming from a 'survey' in the report.

** Survey data is representative of Mainland China only and does not include Taiwan or Hong Kong.



The below tables show the sample sizes as well as the estimated margin of error*** at the 95% confidence level.

 Healthcare professionals survey:

Market	Unweighted sample size	Estimated margin of error (percentage points)
Total (Global):	2,011	+/- 2.2
Brazil	201	+/- 6.9
China	201	+/- 6.9
France	201	+/- 6.9
Germany	201	+/- 6.9
India	200	+/- 6.9
Indonesia	201	+/- 6.9
The Netherlands	204	+/- 6.9
Saudi Arabia	200	+/- 6.9
UK	200	+/- 6.9
US	202	+/- 6.9

 Patient survey:

Market	Unweighted sample size	Estimated margin of error (percentage points)
Total (Global):	20,085	+/-0.7
Brazil	2,021	+/-2.2
China	2,018	+/-2.2
France	2,015	+/-2.2
Germany	2,003	+/-2.2
India	2,004	+/-2.2
Indonesia	2,011	+/-2.2
The Netherlands	2,009	+/-2.2
Saudi Arabia	2,003	+/-2.2
UK	2,001	+/-2.2
US	2,000	+/-2.2

*** Estimated margin of error is the margin of error that would be associated with a sample of this size for the respondent population in each country.

Glossary of terms

Artificial intelligence (AI)

An AI system is a machine-based system that, for explicit or implicit objectives, infers, from the input it receives, how to generate outputs such as predictions, content, recommendations or decisions that can influence physical or virtual environments. Different AI systems vary in their levels of autonomy and adaptiveness after deployment.

AI-enabled tools

Any technology, application or system used in healthcare settings that incorporates artificial intelligence capabilities, whether provided by the organization or accessed via personal devices. These tools may operate transparently to the user or utilize AI functionality behind the scenes, and may support a range of functions including clinical analysis, documentation, scheduling, diagnostic assistance and patient monitoring.

AI agents

AI agents are intelligent systems that can independently perform tasks and make decisions with minimal human input.

Data

Used here to refer to a variety of clinical and/or operational information amassed from numerous sources including, but not limited to, electronic medical records (EMR), medical devices and workflow management tools.

Generative AI

Widely available AI systems that can generate original content (including but not limited to text, images and videos) in response to a user's prompt or request.

Healthcare leader

A director-level executive, clinical department head (e.g., Head of Cardiology, etc.), owner or senior partner at a healthcare facility and final decision-makers regarding technology investments and budget allocation/expenditure.

Healthcare organization

The hospital or healthcare facility for or in which the healthcare professional works.

Healthcare professional

Individuals who are directly involved in providing healthcare services to patients (including doctors, nurses, surgeons and specialists). Also referred to as clinicians.

Patient throughput

The efficiency at which a patient moves through a healthcare facility from arrival to discharge.

Remote patient monitoring

Technology that can remotely track and diagnose the health of patients.

Specialist

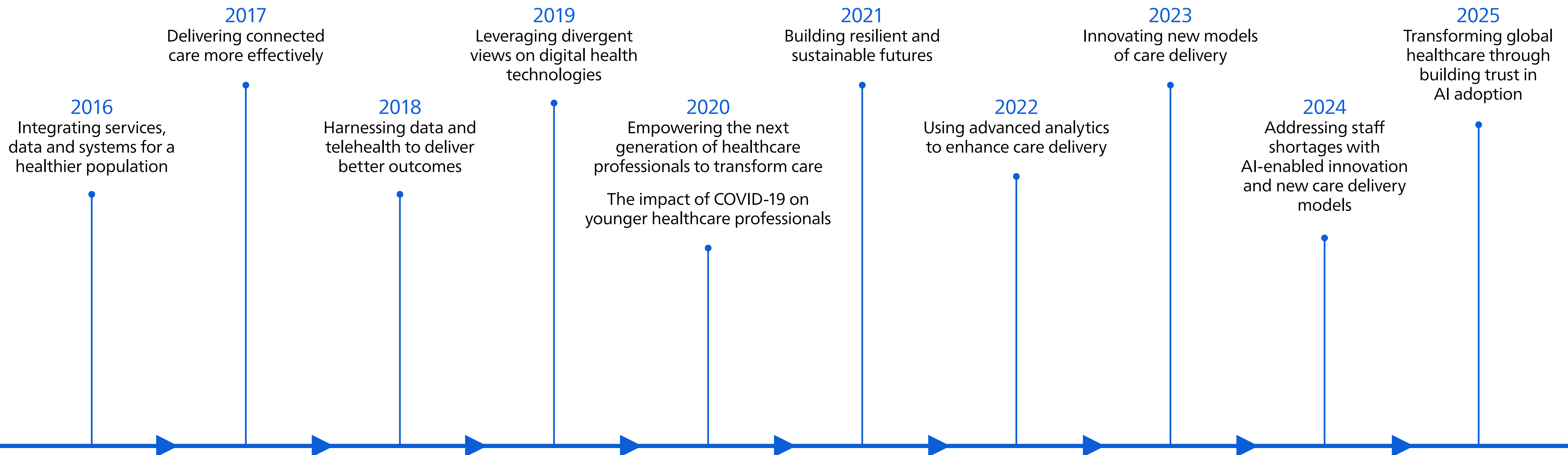
A doctor or other healthcare professional who is trained and licensed in a specific area of practice. Examples of specialists include oncologists (cancer specialists) and cardiologists (heart specialists).

Workflows

A process involving a series of tasks performed by various people within and between work environments to deliver care. Accomplishing each task may require actions by one person, between people or across organizations – and can occur sequentially or simultaneously.

A decade of global research

The Future Health Index has examined the role of technology in some of the biggest trends facing health systems. Initially a benchmark of connected care adoption around the world, the Future Health Index has evolved to look at how technology can shape the future of health, based on the perspectives of healthcare leaders, professionals and patients in countries with varying demographics and health systems.



PHILIPS

www.philips.com/futurehealthindex-2026

The Future Health Index is commissioned by Philips. In its 11th edition, the Future Health Index 2026 reveals the real-world impact of AI in healthcare and uncovers what is needed to scale these gains. Two quantitative surveys were conducted among over 2,000 healthcare professionals and over 20,000 patients in 10 countries (Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and the United States). The surveys were conducted from February 2026 to April 2026.