Special Issue

AI Chatbots and Human Assistants for Mental Health

Message from the Guest Editor

The rapid evolution of artificial intelligence (AI) and conversational agents has created new frontiers in digital mental health care. AI chatbots and human-assistive platforms are increasingly being deployed to support individuals facing mental health challenges, particularly those who are neurodivergent, trauma-affected, or experiencing long wait times for professional care. This Special Issue seeks to explore the design, implementation, and real-world impact of AI-driven mental health companions, including therabots and augmented emotional intelligence (AEI) systems. We are especially interested in research and case studies that address the needs of neurodivergent individuals, trauma survivors, scam victims, and underserved populations such as middle-aged men. We invite submissions that move beyond prototypes to demonstrate scalable, ethical, and effective solutions, as well as critical analyses of the opportunities and challenges in this rapidly advancing field.

Guest Editor

Dr. Luke Balcombe

Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention, Department of Applied Psychology, Griffith University, Messines Ridge Road, Mount Gravatt, QLD 4122, Australia

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.
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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul B. Tchounwou
RCMI Center for Urban Health Disparities Research and Innovation, Richard N. Dixon Research Center, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD 21251, USA

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