

# Applications of Healthcare Robots in the COVID-19 Pandemic

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**Abstract**— Different canny innovations have been applied during COVID-19, which has turned into an overall general wellbeing crisis and carried huge difficulties to the clinical frameworks all over the planet. SARS-CoV-2 generally induces in view of close human joint efforts and tarnished surfaces, and accordingly, staying aware of social isolating has transformed into an expected preventive measure. This makes the need to treat patients with unimportant expert patient association. Introducing robots in the clinical consideration region safeguards the state of the art clinical benefits workers from getting introduced to the Covid as well as decreases the necessity for clinical staff as robots can somewhat take command north of a couple of clinical positions. The mark of this paper is to highlight the emerging position of robotized applications in the clinical benefits region and brought together districts. To this end, a productive review was guided concerning the various robots that have been done generally speaking during the COVID-19 pandemic to debilitate and contain the contamination. The results obtained from this study reveal that the execution of mechanical innovation into the clinical consideration field has a huge effect in controlling the spread of SARS-CoV-2, as it blocks Covid inducing among patients and clinical benefits workers, close by various advantages like sanitization or cleaning.

**Keywords**—COVID-19;China;public awareness; replacement of humans by robots.**Introduction**

## I. INTRODUCTION

A worldwide crisis (COVID-19) was pronounced by the World Health Organization (WHO) because of the flare-up of the novel Covid SARS-CoV-2 on January 30, 2020. The main indications of this pandemic were at first saw in Wuhan city, China, in December 2019. Later on, the affirmed novel Covid cases expanded ten times in under a month, from 100,000 in the primary seven day stretch of March to more than 1,000,000 on second April, while in excess of 52,000 passings have been accounted for across the world. The present circumstance has spurred numerous specialists to foster mechanical answers for medical care faculty to serve patients actually without getting tainted.

Medical services offices assume an essential part in handling pandemics. Mechanical applications are of foremost significance in such circumstances as they reproduce human activities in perilous conditions, along these lines limiting human-to-human contact. The majority of the nations have proactively conveyed different robots to help human staff in view of the intense expansion in passings among bleeding edge laborers. It is attainable to consolidate robots in the clinical area, as mechanical machines were

utilized in different enterprises since the mid-2000s, making them promptly accessible for progressions and use .

## II. HEALTHCASE SPECTRUM DURING COVID-19

The unexpected episode of COVID-19 has brought about a huge measure of extra work of tasks to the wellbeing area and related fields. The functional works require various phases of cooperative help and the assistance degrees are additionally not restricted to a solitary field. Maybe the connected undertakings in the wellbeing division can be partitioned into certain spectra and the procedures can work following the ghastly units of teams. Recognizing the division of work as for the different patient classes, the mark of administrations in medical services offices can be isolated into five spectra as displayed in Fig. 2. These are examined momentarily as follows:

- (A) General consideration (Primary counteraction and medical care support): Primary avoidance alludes to the means taken by the specialists or people including social removing, wearing facial covers, washing hands, presenting lockdown in urban areas, and so on. It infers the inconvenience of severe regulations for checking social separating, noticing individuals whether they are wearing veils, reviewing the lockdown regions so the general population will undoubtedly submit to them. Essential anticipation measure additionally incorporates the identification of the weak regions with enormous screening and quick testing office which will give subtleties to distinguish risk utilizing contact following data and in this way foresee the spread of sickness in various regions. Material backings, for example, sterilization and defensive hardware are likewise remembered for essential anticipation care.
- (B) Ongoing consideration (Acute and crisis care): This range incorporates the finding of the patients, assessment of the determination results, emergency them to the legitimate degree of care, figure out the fitting treatment strategies for the hospitalized patients, basic consideration and detachment support, foresee the seriousness of the patient from introductory side effects to distinguish high-risk and weak people and shift them to ICU or CCU for

appropriate clinical consideration of them and orchestrate telemedicine open doors for less extreme patients.

- (C) Non-COVID-19 short term, home and long haul care: Secondary anticipation measures and long haul sickness the executives are remembered for this range. As the infectious sickness has an infection transmission probability wherever the contaminated individual goes, there is no option in contrast to cleaning the clinic regions. The wellbeing rule upkeep's by the emergency clinic laborers is fundamental for chasing after the treatment of non-COVID-19 short term patients.
- (D) Clinical instruction: This range includes the actions expected for enabling the medical services staff through active preparation on up-to-the-date therapy and advances for supporting the COVID-19 patients. So speeding up medical care preparing and training for wellbeing laborers and diminishing the responsibility of the medical care laborers with trend setting innovations are incorporated here.
- (E) Innovative work (R&D): Research and advancement in pandemic time fuse recognizing compelling existing medications, speeding up exploration and treatment, testing models, creating drugs quicker, creating antibodies, and making individual defensive gear (PPE).

### III. ROBOTS SERVING IN HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTS

In the midst of the COVID-19 emergency, there was an expansion in utilization in automated applications in the clinical area. Numerous experts are mutually running after the improvement of robots that facilitate the responsibility of medical care experts. Noteworthy progressions in the field of advanced mechanics have been noticed as of late. Most tech monsters, as well as colleges, have made it conceivable to carry out automated applications that work close by bleeding edge medical services laborers to battle this pandemic.

### IV. CLASSIFICATION AND OPERATION OF MEDICAL ROBOTS

The execution of mechanical technology in the field of medical services presents innumerable benefits all alone, and particularly in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic that has happened to us, we are given presumably no greater option than the acquaintance of robots with constrict the issues related with this pandemic. We likewise give a short survey on the sorts of clinical robots and their activities and talk about the clinical errands that can be satisfied by these mechanical applications in this part.

#### A. Sanitizing/Spraying Robots.

The utilization of convenient robots for cleaning and sanitizing objects is expanding quickly all over the planet. Purifying and neatness are essentially significant for safe indoor/open air conditions on account of infectious sicknesses like COVID-19. Essential source contacts like

entryway handles and lifts address the principle hotspots for the transmission of such infections through direct contact. Thusly, a mechanized cleaning task guarantees security as well as further develops adequacy. This class proposes an AI-empowered structure for robotizing the cleaning system through a Human Support Robot (HSR). The overall cleaning process incorporates cleaning the premises, entryway handles, and control of the HSR, for satisfying the necessities of the cleaning endeavors. The recognizable proof part utilizes AI to see the space and give appropriate headings to the robot. Control between the showering and cleaning is made in the automated working framework. The control module uses the information acquired from the revelation module to make a task/functional space for the robot, close by surveying what is going on to drive the regulators.

UVD-bot is one such illustration of sanitization robot. It is a self-propelled germicidal robot which utilizes bright light (UVC-254nm). UVC light utilized in this robot is successful against the Covid as it disturbs the DNA base matching, thus delivering the infection innocuous. The outcome, of which it can play out the sterilization of a room in no less than 10 minutes, is 100% independent and incredibly effective in sanitization. The robot is basically used to complete sterilization of emergency clinic premises, subsequently keeping the immediate contact of people from the polluted zones. In addition, its functional benefits incorporate its effortlessness of utilization, so it tends to be worked by anybody with no development specialized abilities.

Then, we have a robot called iMap9 (Milagrow iMap9) which uses a more regular technique for sterilization. The iMap9 utilizes NaOCl (sodium hypochlorite) answer for sterilize the surface with COVID-19-conveying spores, heeding up to the guidance by the ICMR. The exhibition boundaries can be depicted likewise with a functioning season of 60-130 minutes upon full charge. Its activity can be overseen through a versatile application. It can perform totally mechanized sanitization of the floor. HEPA channel present inside the robot is utilized to eliminate 99.97% of all particulate matter more modest than 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$  which is exceptionally compelling. A benefit of this bot is that it joins highprecision sensors because of which live planning is guaranteed so that no spot is left uncleaned, consequently incredibly decreasing contamination rates.

#### B. Hospitality Robot.

The job of assistant and nursing robots has been expanding quickly because of the pandemic which has prompted an expansion in casualty rates among medical services laborers. The previously mentioned jobs are achieved by three unique kinds of robots: (i) secretary robot, (ii) clinical server, and (iii) nurture robot. The occupation of a secretary robot is to accumulate data and help patients. The clinical server gets and stores the expected information about the patients on the clinical server and gives synopses of the saved information to human overseers through a web interface. The primary elements of attendant robot incorporate serving medications and food to the patients. This would forestall the medical clinic staff from reaching out to tainted patients. Along these lines, to limit the contact between human medical attendants and receptionists, numerous conveyance and observing robots were sent during this pandemic.

Sona is an illustration of accommodation robot. It was planned utilizing savvy hindrance aversion innovation, it additionally incorporates a dream camera for face location, and it can convey a heap up to 15 kg because of which contactless conveyance is conceivable. Sona 2.5 was initially planned as an eatery administration robot, however its working was reconstructed to enough address the issues during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, its capacity additionally incorporates dealing with the conveyance of meds and food to the impacted patients, as well as checking their internal heat level.

According to an examination paper by Malik et al., KARMI-Bot is a comparative multipurpose robot with a heap conveying limit up to 25 kg. The robot can likewise have extra capacities, for example, self-charging. Essentially, it has the highlights to dissect and plan the empty ward and further perform undertakings, for example, conveying food and meds on time to the specific patient, video conferencing with specialists, and auto self-cleansing. Then again, the essential goal of Co-bot (Corona Combat Robot) is to serve food and water to the COVID-19 patients and furthermore bring back void plate or plates. It has a heap conveying limit of 20 kilograms and can be utilized to serve a few group in one go.

Rail bot (R-Bot) serves the expected jobs with the extra benefit that it can likewise be worked in complete haziness because of its infrared capacities and the presence of a night light with a battery duration of around 6 hours. R-Bot is worked utilizing a versatile application by means of Wi-Fi; it additionally upholds two-way sound and video correspondence consequently supporting specialists to screen their patients easily. It is outfitted with warm sensors that can plan the temperature perusing of an individual and alarm the suitable work force when somebody with a temperature higher than the normal is recognized. The reason for this robot is to convey clinical products and food from a protected distance. R-Bot can convey a heap of up to 80 kg and move at a speed of 1 km/hr.

Wegree Robot according to Podpora et al. helps the medical care laborers by decreasing their contact with potential COVID-19 transporters and helping patients actually. The robot trains guests to perform assignments like cleaning their hands, taking temperature readings utilizing a noncontact thermometer connected to the robot, and wearing a defensive facial covering. The robot additionally teaches individuals about the different rules that they ought to adhere to like utilizing telephone and email for inconsequential matters and urges individuals to remain at home.

A little humanoid robot called Pepper is being utilized in a few fields during this pandemic. Pepper robot weighs 28 kg and has a battery duration of as long as 12 hours; it has the capacity of imparting in 15 unique dialects. Pepper utilizes facial acknowledgment and regular language handling to interface with individuals and even get their feelings; this capacity has further use in distinguishing assuming that the guests are wearing covers and raising a caution on its underlying screen if not. The robot can likewise help the specialists in speaking with their patients from a distance, along these lines helping medical care laborers to keep away from contact for minor issues; it has been additionally applied in eldercare homes in UK, shopping centers, and inns.

Starship Robot removes, a self-driving conveyance robot, is suggested for long transportation distances, since it can move products north of a 4-mile sweep. This robot has finished more than 1 million conveyances north of 20000 miles, which further adds to its reputability. The items being shipped are securely gotten in the deck of the robot, which remains precisely locked all through the excursion and must be opened by the beneficiary by means of previously mentioned application. It addresses a prudent and energy-productive way for contactless conveyance of merchandise, bundles, food, and food that can be sent straightforwardly from administration focuses. The robot moves at a consistent and slow speed and can securely explore across obstructions and moving articles and accordingly represents no dangers to spectators. The transportation status can be checked somewhat through an application.

There is the PillPick robot which can bundle 1000 portions of medication each hour, which would take a specialist more than 10 hours to finish. The robot helps the medical clinic drug stores to expand picking, bundling, and administering effectiveness. It is a drug store robotization framework which is equipped for unit-portion bundling, stockpiling, and administering of medications. It has high thickness stockpiling and works alongside a couple of different robots for topping off undertakings. The upside of this robot is that it assists with disposing of human contact, as well as human blunder happening because of wrong meds given to patients, consequently expanding patients' security.

An examination concentrate on covers Mitra robot that utilizes the discourse and facial acknowledgment calculation alongside its computerized navigational capacity and warm sensors to screen the medical care staff and guests to check for side effects of COVID-19 like high fever or cold. It plays out the screening task actually. The robot does the assignment of screening every single individual in its area, including patients and guests who are available in the medical clinic. This permits the medical care experts and others to be careful about potential COVID-19 transporters, while at the same time permitting the impacted individuals to get genuinely necessary clinical assistance, hence containing the spread of this irresistible illness onto others.

Another robot called Sayabot is outfitted with warm sensors through which it estimates the temperature readings of guests and prompts those with a high temperature perusing to counsel specialists and play it safe. This robot is essentially being utilized to spread mindfulness about the danger of COVID-19. Sayabot encourages individuals to perform legitimate social removing and illuminates them about different rules with the assistance of an implicit showcase screen. The robot likewise gives veils and sanitizer to guests.

### *C. Teleoperation and Telepresence Systems*

There is the PillPick robot which can bundle 1000 dosages of medication each hour, which would take a specialist more than 10 hours to finish. The robot helps the medical clinic drug stores to expand picking, bundling, and apportioning proficiency. It is a drug store robotization framework which is equipped for unit-portion bundling, stockpiling, and administering of meds. It has high thickness stockpiling and works alongside a couple of different robots for topping off undertakings. The benefit of this robot is that it assists with killing human contact, as well as human

blunder happening because of wrong meds given to patients, accordingly expanding patients' wellbeing.

An exploration concentrate on covers Mitra robot that utilizes the discourse and facial acknowledgment calculation alongside its computerized navigational capacity and warm sensors to screen the medical care faculty and guests to check for side effects of COVID-19 like high fever or cold. It plays out the screening task successfully. The robot completes the undertaking of screening every single individual in its area, including patients and guests who are available in the medical clinic. This permits the medical care experts and others to be careful about potential COVID-19 transporters, while at the same time permitting the impacted individuals to get genuinely necessary clinical assistance, consequently containing the spread of this irresistible illness onto othe. Teleoperation frameworks comprise of a movement detecting gadget and cooperative double arm robot (YuMi, IRB 14000), through which the information of upper appendage development of the administrator can be gotten and used to remotely control the robot's movement. A couple of gloves is utilized to screen the finger movements. Telepresence frameworks are like teleoperation, as they incorporate VoIP (voice over Internet convention) applications, permitting medical care laborers to screen patients through two-way varying media correspondence. Generally, such robots have a capacitive touch screen fixed to the forepart of the robot. Here, the cooperation of the patient and the medical services staff is accomplished through the sound/video gathering framework which depends on WebRTC (Web-Real-Time Communication). To restrict the contact between the patient and the specialist, the robot is furnished with voice acknowledgment to speak with the patient. Moreover, to screen the patient's enthusiastic express, a profound brain network is utilized. A little versatile robot gathered with a reasonable sensor can be an expected arrangement in such a case. The given robot is supposed to explore itself through the premises and gather information of protected and perilous conditions which medical services laborers can use for helping and finding tainted individuals. This course of 3D planning is completed by utilizing a lightweight and an exceptionally portable selfsustaining robot which can be outlined inside the nonexclusive climate and planning SLAM (Simultaneous Localization And Mapping) issue. In this, the robot is modified to move with six levels of opportunity in a threedimensional climate. This is additionally confounded because of the restrictions of the odometry data from the wheel encoders; the aftereffects of which can be inconsistent because of the idea of dangerous premises. Thusly, assuming the signs from relative areas are restricted, exact reach sensors, for example, shifting laser range locaters or different types of movement sensors, can be utilized with the goal that 3D planning can be produced assuming development between robots is restricted .rs.

Another robot called Sayabot is furnished with warm sensors through which it estimates the temperature readings of guests and exhorts those with a high temperature perusing to counsel specialists and play it safe. This robot is principally being utilized to spread mindfulness about the danger of COVID-19. Sayabot encourages individuals to perform legitimate social removing and illuminates them about different rules with the assistance of an inherent presentation screen. The robot additionally gives covers and sanitizer to guests.

Some telepresence robots that were carried out postpandemic are introduced underneath.

- NIGA-BOT: a versatile telepresence robot which can perform live video and sound telephone calls among patients and specialists. This assists with wiping out the requirement for continuous association and helps with remote observing. It is furnished with an intelligent showcase screen and speakers
- Maitri: the fundamental goal of this robot is to defend clinic staff and disinfection laborers from getting tainted with SARS-CoV-2. The robot remains at a tallness of 3.5 feet and has a fluid precious stone presentation (LCD) screen connected to it through which specialists and medical caretakers can communicate with patients from a distance. It is outfitted with Wi-Fi and can be worked utilizing a cell phone to a scope of up to 20 feet. It has excellent train capacities as it can move toward each path. The battery can support the robot for as long as eight hours in the wake of being charged. Maitri can likewise be utilized to administer food and water to the patients in view of its stockpiling capacities, accordingly limiting human contact
- Zorabot is a Belgian-based software company which developed the Cruzr robot. This robot was deployed in hospitals and elderly care facilities which were in a complete lockdown phase. The robot can communicate in 53 different languages and can identify if someone is properly wearing a mask and count the number of people in a room as a result of its mounted camera and image processing capabilities. Thermal cameras allow the robot to measure the body temperature of visitors and take action accordingly. Additionally, the robot can be controlled remotely which allows doctors and nurses to monitor patients and operate it for disinfection duties

#### D. Surgical Robots

Applying independence to medical procedure has been a nonstop exertion for architects and clinical specialists, since it guarantees different benefits like mechanical accuracy, strength, and the capacity to work in risky conditions . There are huge contrasts among surgeries, as a couple of them are far more straightforward to direct, while others are exceptionally intricate. For instance, independent cardiovascular removal of the throbbing heart requires the contribution of robots since this activity can't be finished really by the specialist without depending on a careful robot to present exact sores in the heart . Hence, during the pandemic, most careful robots offer gigantic benefits, as they can be conveyed to do complex medical procedures on COVID-19-impacted patients and furthermore decrease the extreme weight of the medical care experts.

#### E. Radiologist Robots

A radiologist is an individual who deciphers clinical imaging to analyze patients. A radiologist robot can really fill a similar role . This robot is outfitted with computational

imaging capacities and utilizes man-made reasoning (AI) and profound figuring out how to make an analysis in light of every accessible datum . It can likewise be utilized to perform X-beams and MRIs . A radiologist robot is exceptionally invaluable, as it lessens the gamble of medical services experts by keeping them from interacting with the unsafe radiations discharged during the imaging cycles. At present, specialists are chipping away at an AI calculation which can identify the presence of SARS-CoV-2 and is attempted to recognize the Covid with up to 96% exactness .

#### F. Rehabilitation Robot.

Recovery robots, or recovery robots, effectively nurse harmed or debilitated patients back to their typical condition through assistive and helpful preparation. A commonplace case would help an individual to have the option to walk again after a mishap . Various sorts of recovery robots are designated to treat patients with different illnesses, similar to the individuals who are recuperating from stroke, cerebral paralysis, or other real wounds like knee, lower leg, upper and lower appendages, wrist, and elbow. The greater part of the robots in this class are planned such that the youngsters and old observe them engaging as they are planned with different AI works that treat the patients as well as keep them inspired; not many of the capacities incorporate capacity to comprehend facial feelings and capacity to mess around. During the COVID-19 pandemic, expanding utilization of telerehabilitation has been seen; specifically, recovery robots outfitted with cameras and speakers are utilized with the end goal of clinical assessment and checking from a far off area, subsequently further wiping out the need of risking the strength of the two patients and specialists.

#### V. OBSERVATION

there is a urgent requirement for development in medical care offices around the world, and as per that, there are a few critical examinations which give innumerable ways of updating the current robots and make them more conservative and solid. Medical services robots enjoying undertakings of helping kids and older patients should have settings that are basic and simple to use. Robot's ergonomic and novel plan ought to be reviewed, and its corresponding programming must be improved, to make it cost effective and solid for utilization. In this manner, an overall modularization approach is required for the execution of these mechanical gadgets. This would likewise decrease generally costs by normalizing the related PC frameworks and sensors, accordingly making them more homogeneous . This pandemic filled in as an impetus for the medical care area, the last option of which ought to go through a significant innovative progression to experience these unsure circumstances and furthermore work on its general quality and proficiency.

#### VI. CONCLUSIONS

In this review, we introduced an exhaustive outline of the different kinds of robots that are utilized in the clinical area to perform errands in SARS-CoV-2-defiled zones. The point of this study is to act as an educational asset for the

momentum headways in the clinical area, which would demonstrate exceptionally gainful to battle profoundly irresistible sicknesses like COVID-19 on different very fronts. One impediment of this study is that while a work was made to cover whatever number medical care robot applications that have been utilized against COVID-19 as could be expected under the circumstances, it mostly centered around logical distributions, perhaps leaving out original modern applications. The universe of the medical care area, postpandemic, seems, by all accounts, to be more dependent on robots to forestall human-to-human transmission. There was a colossal interest for clinical robots in created markets because of their various benefits in usefulness and capacity to limit the spread of SARS-CoV-2. The beginning of purpose of advanced mechanics could increment at a more noteworthy rate on account of the continuous pandemic. In this way, numerous nations might expand their advantage in mechanical progressions to acquire monetary and clinical solidness alongside better medical services, which would prompt an extraordinary expansion in the utilization of clinical robots.

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