

## **Industry Overview: AI in Healthcare**

Market Definition: AI in Healthcare involves using artificial intelligence technologies, including machine learning and deep learning, to automate medical decision-making, improve patient care, and optimize healthcare operations. This sector encompasses applications in diagnostic procedures, treatment protocol development, drug development, personalized medicine, and patient monitoring and care.

### Market Size and Growth:

*Global Market:* Valued at USD 19.27 billion in 2023, the global AI in healthcare market is expected to experience a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 38.5% from 2024 to 2030. This rapid growth is fueled by the increasing demand for enhanced healthcare efficiency and accuracy, alongside better patient outcomes (Grand View Research, 2023).

*Canadian Market:* In Canada, the integration of AI technologies in healthcare is a strategic response to the urgent need for modernizing health services and addressing chronic disease management and healthcare accessibility (CAPRA, 2023). According to recent studies, investment in AI in Canadian healthcare is projected to reach CAD \$400 million by 2025, demonstrating a strong commitment from both the public and private sectors (CAPRA, 2023). Government-led initiatives, such as the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy, have allocated over CAD \$125 million towards advancing AI research and deployment in healthcare settings to improve service delivery and patient outcomes (CAPRA, 2023). Furthermore, the adoption rate of AI-powered solutions among Canadian healthcare providers has seen a significant uptick, with over 60% of healthcare institutions now utilizing some form of AI to enhance diagnostic accuracy, patient care, and operational efficiency (CAPRA, 2023; The Canadian Medical Protective Association, 2019). This shift is part of a broader effort to tackle the prevalence of chronic diseases, which affect 6 out of 10 Canadians aged 20 and older, by leveraging predictive analytics and machine learning to tailor treatments and manage health resources more effectively (CAPRA, 2023; Lau et al., 2022).

### Key Drivers:

*Efficiency and Patient Outcomes:* There is a strong push towards utilizing AI to enhance operational efficiency and improve patient care outcomes across various healthcare disciplines.

*Return on Investment:* AI technologies in healthcare are seeing a robust ROI, with significant gains realized within relatively short periods post-implementation, according to industry studies.

*Data-Driven Decisions:* The surge in available healthcare data from EHRs, IoT devices, and other digital health platforms provides a foundational base for AI to drive insights and innovation.

## **Competitor Analysis**

### Major Global Competitors:

*IBM Watson Health:*

Focus: Broad healthcare analytics with a strong emphasis on leveraging big data and AI for chronic disease management and clinical decision support.

Strengths: Extensive expertise in integrating complex health datasets; established partnerships with healthcare providers.

Weaknesses: Some strategic shifts and restructuring in recent years have affected its market focus.

#### *Google DeepMind Health:*

Focus: Advanced AI research applied to health, particularly in areas like medical image analysis and disease detection.

Strengths: Cutting-edge technology and strong backing by Google's resources.

Weaknesses: Privacy concerns and regulatory scrutiny given the sensitivity of health data.

#### *Microsoft Healthcare:*

Focus: Integrating AI into its cloud and business analytics services to provide scalable healthcare solutions.

Strengths: Robust cloud infrastructure and AI capabilities.

Weaknesses: The challenge of seamlessly integrating with diverse healthcare systems globally.

#### Notable Canadian Players:

##### *TELUS Health:*

Capabilities: Offers a comprehensive array of digital health solutions, from telehealth services to EHR management.

Focus: Strong on increasing access to healthcare through technology, particularly in underserved areas.

##### *BlueDot:*

Capabilities: Uses AI to track and anticipate the spread of infectious diseases.

Focus: Leveraging AI for public health intelligence and outbreak risk software.

#### Market Trends:

*AI in Personalized Medicine:* Growing use of AI to tailor medical treatments to individual patient characteristics and histories.

*AI in Operational Efficiency:* Automation of administrative tasks in healthcare settings to reduce costs and improve service delivery.

*Regulatory Evolution:* Increasing focus on developing frameworks to manage AI integration in healthcare, addressing privacy, and ethical concerns.

#### Strategic Implications for Canada:

Canadian healthcare entities should consider leveraging AI to address persistent challenges such as chronic disease prevalence, including obesity, and healthcare worker shortages. Partnerships

with AI technology providers could enhance capabilities in predictive analytics, improving preventative care and management strategies.

### **Conclusion:**

The AI in healthcare sector represents a transformative force within the Canadian and global healthcare markets. By strategically embracing AI, Canada can enhance its healthcare delivery models, improve patient outcomes, and maintain its healthcare system's sustainability in the face of evolving challenges. This analysis provides a foundation for healthcare policymakers, providers, and technology partners to align their strategies with the opportunities presented by AI technologies.

### **References:**

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Appendix: Useful visualizations about market

