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# Google: using your health records to predict whether you'll live or die





Researchers including a Google senior fellow, a Stanford Neurosciences Institute professor and others say they've found a better way of predicting hospital patient outcomes by using deep learning. In this file image, a worker enters Stanford University Hospital in Palo Alto, Calif., Sept. 8, 2011. (Jim Wilson/The New York Times)

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Dr. Google may not have much of a bedside manner — she's an algorithm, after all — but if she says you're soon to be "expired," she claims to be about 95 percent accurate, and you might want to start planning that last meal.

An elite team of computer scientists and medical experts from Google and three major U.S. universities believe they've found the best way yet to predict whether a hospitalized patient will end up leaving via the front doors or the loading dock at the morgue.

As might be expected from research led by Google, the software for accomplishing this task relies on artificial intelligence, which has become a [key focus](#) in virtually all areas of the Mountain View company's operations.

In a just-released paper, not peer reviewed, the researchers claim

