AI in Post-COVID Healthcare:

Hospitals around the world faced a lot challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. Patients often had to wait too long for care, doctors and nurses were exhausted from long hours, and in many places there was not enough equipment to treat everyone properly. These problems showed that healthcare systems were not prepared for such a large crisis. Because of this, many people now suggest that robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) could be used to improve healthcare in the future.

AI can currently read medical scans, manage medical data, and even forecast patient needs. Simple tasks like carrying supplies within hospitals, giving medication, and cleaning rooms can be completed by robots. Theoretically, doctors may save time, minimize human mistake, and devote more of their time to patients with the help of these technology. However, there are differing views on the extent to which hospitals should use AI and robotics. While some are concerned about the risks, others concentrate on costs and jobs, and still others think this technology is the way of the future.

This essay will compare three points of view: the technological optimist, the ethical critic, and the economic or industrial perspective.

According to the technological optimist, robotics and artificial intelligence should be implemented immediately. Optimists believe that these technologies can solve many of the issues that became clear during the pandemic. For example, AI can quickly scan X-rays or CT scans, helping doctors make faster and more accurate decisions. During COVID-19, some hospitals used AI chatbots to answer common health questions. This helped reduce the pressure on call centers and allowed staff to focus on urgent cases.

Additionally, optimists say that robots are superior than humans at some tasks. Robotic devices are sometimes capable of more accurate surgery than a human doctor. Additionally, robots are capable of delivering medication, moving supplies, and using UV light to clean hospital rooms. These duties keep everyone safer in the hospital and lower the danger of infection for the employees.

Technological optimists prioritize speed, efficiency, and innovation. They think that more lives can be saved if these tools are swiftly deployed. They believe that rather than fearing technology, the healthcare industry should welcome it as the next development in contemporary medicine.

On the other hand, the ethical critic acknowledges that AI and robotics may bring benefits, but worries about the dangers. Healthcare is not just about technology; it is about human care, fairness, and trust. Critics argue that AI systems can be biased if they are trained on incomplete or unfair data. For instance, an AI program might make more mistakes when diagnosing certain groups of people, which could lead to inequality in treatment.

Additionally, ethical critics contend that robots should never take the role of doctors. Rather than replacing doctors, AI and robotics should only be used as tools to help them. They stress the value of respect, human oversight, and patient privacy. They believe that humans should benefit from technology, not the other way around.

The economic or industrial perspective focuses on costs, jobs, and the effect on the healthcare sector. Hospitals are under pressure to save money, deal with staff shortages, and improve efficiency. From this perspective, robotics and AI could be useful because they increase productivity and lower long-term expenses.

AI can also cut down on paperwork, and enhance hospital scheduling. AI systems, for instance, can assist in better tracking hospital resources, scheduling surgeries, and identifying patients who are more likely to have problems. Time and money can be saved by all of this.

But there are also financial difficulties. Advanced robotics or artificial intelligence systems are very expensive to purchase and install initially. Additionally, hospitals must pay for staff training on effective use of these devices, and maintenance is expensive. The idea of losing one's employment is another. Some workers may fear they will be replaced by robots or artificial intelligence, which would result in their unemployment. The economic viewpoint advises against implementing new technology until their long-term financial advantages are evident and substantiated due to these problems.

For me, I think the best approach is to balance all three points of view. AI chatbots and cleaning robots are low-risk, low-cost alternatives that hospitals should start with. These technologies have already been shown to save time and money and are safe and economical. Robotic surgery and AI diagnosis are examples of more sophisticated techniques that should be implemented cautiously and under close supervision.

In order to ensure that no one is left behind, governments and healthcare facilities should simultaneously invest in retraining employees. A nurse who used to handle paperwork, for instance, may be trained to oversee and administer AI systems. In this sense, technology advances healthcare without taking the place of its most crucial staff.

In summary, robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) have the potential to reshape healthcare after the COVID-19. The technological optimists emphasize innovation, efficiency, and speed. The ethical critics emphasize human dignity, fairness, and trust. The economic viewpoint emphasizes costs, jobs, and long-term sustainability.

It is evident from comparing different points of view that none of them is enough by itself. Those who believe that technology can save lives are correct. Patients need to feel respected and safe, and critics are correct. Hospitals need to maintain their financial stability, and economists are correct. Combining these points of view is the best course of action in my opinion.