There are many choices that New Zealand has already made to develop and integrate AI (Artificial Intelligence) into the country. Majority of the AI that New Zealand has adapted already is in the health sector. Private hospitals tend to have more AI developed in their sector than public hospitals. MercyAscot is a private healthcare provider in New Zealand who are embracing AI. According to the report, Artificial Intelligence for Health in New Zealand (Artificial Intelligence for Health in New Zealand, October 2019), Mercy Ascot has experimented with cloud storage services to store data such as HR and project management related materials in a cloud for security reasons. MercyAscot has partnered with Umbrellar to ensure their electronic medical records system can be hosted securely in a cloud instead of paper-based records. This has allowed MercyAscot to reduce the time spent looking for records and given them more workspace as they would not need tons of filing cabinets to store the records anymore. By experimenting and moving to a cloud storage facility, MercyAscot are now able to use tools such as machine learning and advanced analytics. Mercy Radiology has implemented a robotic atomisation solution for invoicing that was developed in partnership with Virtual Blue. Matilda, a software trained robot, automates invoicing and paperwork, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This releases humans to tackle more challenging tasks that would otherwise not be done due to the lack of time. MercyAscot have also integrated Volpara Health Technologies' breast screening solution. This breast screening solution employs AI to optimise the breast screening image. Volpara Health Technologies’ (Volpara Health, 2022) breast screening solution is a clinically confirmed, AI powered software for personalised screening and early detection of breast cancer.

Currently many medical images are evaluated and reported on by two human specialists to prevent error and ensure that the diagnosis, if any is correct. By implementing AI into the breast screening process, the AI could screen the images as the first screen and pass on any irregular screenings to the human specialist for further analysis and follow-ups. This frees up a specialist to accommodate for more patients to be seen to. This allows for early detection to take place and in my opinion, the possibility of less people dying from cancer if detected early enough for treatment to take place.

New Zealand has not integrated AI into many industries at this current stage, but I believe that the more AI proves to be beneficial and correct in the health system, the more industries will start to adapt to incorporate it into theirs. Many people believe that AI can be dangerous to their jobs and have the potential of making them unemployed. These people tend to have little knowledge of what AI is and have been given misinformation. In 2016, The Ministry of Health implemented a strategy (Artificial Intelligence for Health in New Zealand, October 2019) ‘New Zealand Health Strategy’ that emphasised five strategic themes: People powered, closer to home, smart system, value and high performance and one team. By implementing more AI into the health sector, New Zealand will be able to achieve all these themes as it allows for more specialists to be freed from tedious, repetitive jobs that we know AI can already aid with. This will allow for more patients to be seen and cheaper fees for these patients as less human knowledge is needed to diagnose diseases. The more New Zealand health sectors introduce AI into their ever day jobs the more society will trust AI and allow for it to grow and help other industries.

Artificial Intelligence for Health in New Zealand, page 26, October 2019 <https://aiforum.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/AI-For-Health-in-New-Zealand.pdf>

Artificial Intelligence for Health in New Zealand, page 12, October 2019 <https://aiforum.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/AI-For-Health-in-New-Zealand.pdf>

Volpara Health, 2022 <https://www.volparahealth.com/?utm_source=mv&utm_medium=paid&utm_campaign=intent&gclid=CjwKCAjwkMeUBhBuEiwA4hpqEOjsjJVZK1d5l_L_SUFYykw2B-6crdrlEp2steQReqA92PaJ0zzo1hoCz_0QAvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds>