

On the 19th of August 2024, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, we attended a guest lecture by Mr. Humphrey Obie, a Manager at Telstra Health. The lecture aimed to give us a better understanding of how technology is changing the healthcare industry.

Mr. Obie started by talking about the current state of healthcare and how digital transformation is bringing both challenges and opportunities. He highlighted how important technology has become in improving patient care, making processes more efficient, and overall enhancing the healthcare system. This was particularly relevant because of the ongoing advancements in digital health and the growing need for accessible and personalised healthcare.

A key point that Mr. Obie made was about the role of data in healthcare innovation. He explained how data analytics, artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning are being used to predict patient outcomes, optimise treatment plans, and even prevent diseases. His examples of real-world applications, such as using AI in diagnostics, helped us understand how these technologies are being used in practice.

Mr. Obie also discussed the challenges of integrating new technologies into existing healthcare systems. He mentioned issues like data privacy, the need for different healthcare platforms to work together, and the importance of designing user-friendly digital health tools. These insights were valuable as they highlighted the complexities of bringing new tech into a sensitive and critical sector like healthcare.

In addition to the technical aspects, Mr. Obie emphasised the importance of collaboration between healthcare professionals and tech experts. He also talked about the need for continuous education and training to ensure that healthcare providers can effectively use new technologies. His focus on keeping a patient-centred approach during technological change was an important takeaway.

Overall, Mr. Obie's lecture was both informative and inspiring. It gave us a clear overview of current trends in digital health and where the industry might be headed. The insights he shared will be valuable as we continue to study the intersection of technology and healthcare. The lecture not only expanded our knowledge of the healthcare industry but also encouraged us to think about the role we can play in its future.