Correspondence to ChatGPT: A Double-Edged Sword?

Mohammad Anas Azeez, Zohaib Hasan Siddiqui and Shahab Saquib Sohail

Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SEST, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, India.

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Dear Editor,

This message is intended to delve into potential future perspectives and insights regarding the use of Chat Generative Pre-Trained Transformer (ChatGPT) in the context of medical literature, following intriguing observations presented in a recent letter¹ published in your esteemed journal.

ChatGPT, powered by advanced Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, has rapidly gained recognition as a groundbreaking tool in the field of natural language processing and dialogue generation. Its extensive training dataset, which encompasses a vast array of textual sources, has positioned it as a remarkable feat in the era of information technology. The limitless applications of ChatGPT span from literature to medicine, and even space exploration, making it a notable achievement in the world of AI.

The acceptance of ChatGPT's content by prestigious institutions and publications worldwide, including the International Baccalaureate, Elsevier, and Cambridge University Press, underscores the growing acknowledgment of its capabilities and potential contributions. It is indeed an exciting time for researchers, as ChatGPT offers a wealth of opportunities for enhancing written content.

However, in the realm of medical literature, caution is warranted when utilizing ChatGPT as a source of information.² As highlighted in the letter, there have been instances of ChatGPT generating inaccurate or contradictory data, a phenomenon commonly referred to as "hallucination." This raises concerns about the authenticity and reliability of information obtained from ChatGPT, particularly in medical research, where the impact on human lives can be substantial.

To address these challenges and ensure the responsible use of ChatGPT in medical literature, several key considerations come to the forefront.

Verification of Data: Researchers must take on the responsibility of thoroughly verifying the information obtained from ChatGPT. This involves cross-referencing data with credible sources and conducting due diligence to ensure accuracy.

Ethical Usage: Ethical considerations should play a pivotal role in the utilization of ChatGPT-generated content in medical research.³ Researchers should be cautious about the potential implications of using AI-generated data on human health and well-being.

AI Development: Continued development of AI models like ChatGPT should focus on minimizing inaccuracies, enhancing the reliability of generated content, and improving the AI's ability to distinguish between credible and non-credible sources.

Human Oversight: Incorporating human oversight in the generation and review of AI-generated content can serve as a quality control measure, ensuring the information's accuracy and ethical compliance.

Education and Training: Researchers should receive proper training and education on the use of AI tools in their work. This includes understanding the limitations and potential pit-falls associated with AI-generated content.

The future perspective on ChatGPT's role in medical literature should ideally involve collaborative efforts between AI developers, medical researchers, and ethical experts. This partnership can help establish guidelines and best practices for the ethical and responsible use of AI-generated content in medical research.

Furthermore, as AI continues to advance, it is crucial for the scientific community to stay proactive in addressing ethical challenges and providing support and resources to researchers navigating these complexities. While ChatGPT presents remarkable opportunities for enhancing research, its utilization in medical literature should be approached with care and ethical consideration. The responsible use of AI in the pursuit of medical knowledge aligns with the noble objective of improving global health and disease prevention.

Author Contributions

Zohaib Hasan Siddiqui: Original writing, data collection, data analysis

Mohammad Anas Azeez: Original writing, data collection, data analysis

Shahab Saquib Sohail, Ph.D: conceptualizing, reviewing, and supervision

ORCID iD

Mohammad Anas Azeez https://orcid.org/0009-0000-3344-0166

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CORRESPONDING AUTHOR: Mohammad Anas Azeez, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SEST, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi 110062, India. Email: anasazeez4136@gmail.com