



Title: Nursing’s Critical Moment: Leading the AI Revolution in Healthcare

Speaker: Maxim (Max) Topaz PhD, RN, MA, FAAN, FACMI, FIAHSI Elizabeth Standish Gill Associate Professor of Nursing, Columbia University Medical Center Columbia University Data Science Institute, New York, USA; Senior Research Scientist, VNS Health; Visiting Scholar, University of Maribor, Slovenia.

Abstract: Artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping the healthcare landscape, with nursing standing at a pivotal crossroads. This talk explores the rapid shift from long-term academic development cycles to accelerated industry-driven AI deployments. Drawing on over a decade of empirical research—including large-scale clinical studies like PREVENT, HOMECARE-CONCERN, and innovations in speech recognition—we examine how AI is already transforming nursing workflows, decision-making, and patient outcomes.

However, a concerning gap persists: nurses are frequently absent from critical design and implementation conversations. This disconnect risks under-documentation, bias, and misalignment with core nursing values. The presentation outlines a roadmap for nursing leadership in AI—through standardized data, governance frameworks, and meaningful engagement in development. Attendees will also see demonstrations of cutting-edge AI tools currently used in clinical and research settings, offering practical insight into how nursing expertise can evaluate and guide these technologies. Now is the time for nurses to adapt to AI and lead its integration, ensuring it advances care, equity, and safety.

Presenter Bio: Dr. Maxim Topaz, PhD, RN, MA, FAAN, FIAHSI, FACMI, is an Associate Professor of Nursing at Columbia University (NYC, USA). His research uses AI and innovative technologies to improve healthcare, including text/data mining and automated speech processing. He pioneered natural language processing for healthcare data and is currently focused on developing AI solutions for clinical decision-making. Dr. Topaz has published over 170 articles, and his research portfolio includes more than \$20 million in federal and other funding. Dr. Topaz has experience in health policy, leadership, and entrepreneurship. He has clinical experience in internal and urgent medicine, a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania (USA), and a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard Medical School (USA).