Can human-centric AI overcome substantial challenges to realize its potential in healthcare?

AI has had so much success in the last decade that people have raised serious concerns about AI replacing human jobs in many fields. On the other hand, experts in AI and users of AI capabilities have aptly observed severe limitations in current capabilities (and future ones in the near- to mid-term) that would limit the application of AI to human-centric fields. Humans tend to like interacting with other humans and not AI agents in most contexts. Healthcare, however, would be a great match for AI because of many trends that challenge the *status quo*: rising costs, aging population (and hence the load on the system), shortage of qualified personnel, persistent safety issues such as hospital associated infections, etc.

Human-centric AI focuses on interpreting and participating in human activities and interactions. Being so close to humans, however, accentuates the already significant worries about privacy, bias, equity and accuracy. Some states, such as Illinois and California, have taken leading roles in passing legislation to protect their citizens' privacy. but some of those laws may have inadvertently limited potential benefits for society.

This presentation will present some of the tradeoffs in designing human-centric healthcare systems. We will also discuss what is in the realm of possibilities today and some potential areas where small modifications in policy could yield significant benefits.