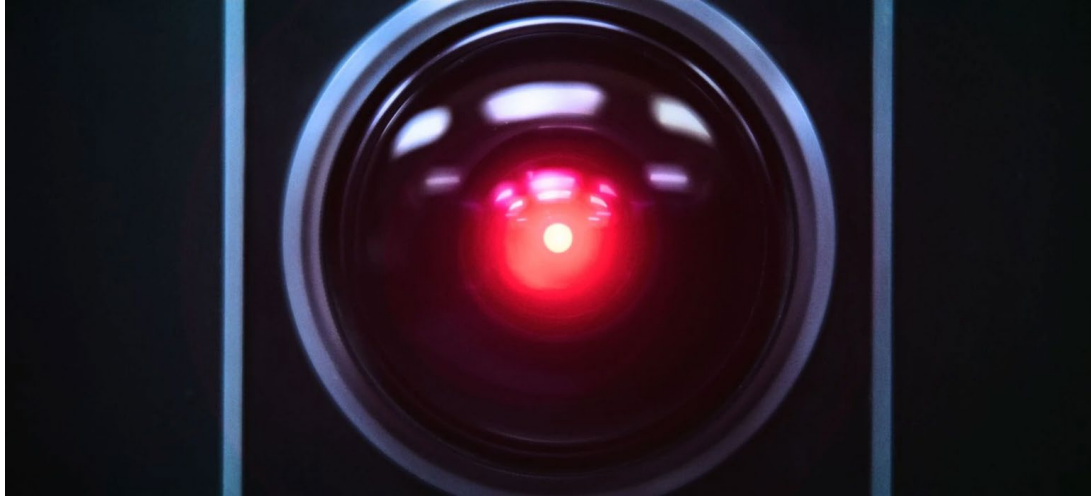DAVID ATKINS

TECH
CORNER

How to be an
Informed AI Consumer
in Crisis Care: *What
even IS AI?*

AI in the media is often *very* different from AI tools in practical use

HAL 9000: "I'm sorry, Dave. I'm afraid I can't do that. The mission is too important to let you jeopardize it…"

"If AI has a goal and humanity just happens to be in the way, it will destroy humanity as a matter of course without even thinking about it…" - Elon Musk
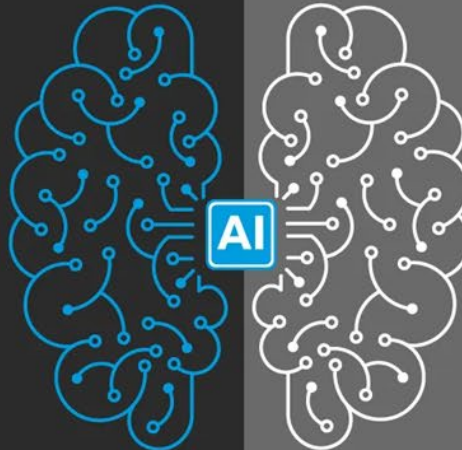
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Practical AI are tools developed for specific tasks, trained on specific data, and evaluated for those tasks (aka, 'Narrow AI')

Narrow AI
(WEAK AI)

- Specialized in performing a **specific task** or a **set of tasks**.
- Limited to the **programmed functionalities** and lacks understanding beyond its specific domain.

Examples:
- Speech recognition systems (like Siri or Google Assistant).
- Image recognition software (such as facial recognition technology).
- Recommendation algorithms (like those used by streaming services such as Netflix).

General AI
(STRONG AI)

- Possesses **human-like** intelligence and understanding.
- Capable of **learning**, **reasoning**, and performing any **intellectual task** that a human being can.

Examples:
- No practical examples exist yet, as General AI is a theoretical concept.
- Would be able to handle diverse tasks like understanding natural language, reasoning about the world, learning various skills, and adapting to different situations on par with human capabilities.

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https://www.interaction-design.org/literature/topics/general-ai

Where to from here? Upcoming topics in *How to be an informed AI consumer*

What even *IS* AI?
May 15

Key ingredients in AI quality
June 5

What is generative AI?
July 3

Use cases for AI in crisis care
Aug 7

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