

Supplementary Table 1 | Examples of machine-learning tasks with fairness issues in medicine and healthcare. We outline machine-learning tasks in several areas of medicine, current or potential issues in fairness, and their associated dataset shift. We further differentiate between non-biological and biological factors that cause population shifts, which we respectively further attribute as being driven by social determinants of health (SD) or by genetic ancestry (ancestry).

Area of medicine	Machine-learning task	Issue in fairness	Type of dataset shift
Clinical lab measurements and electronic medical records	Predicting kidney failure using the eGFR equation	Predicting kidney failure using eGFR equation & race-specific covariate bias kidney function appears better in Black patients, which could delay medication and referrals for precluding kidney failures ¹⁻⁶ .	Population shift (SD)
	Checking for uterine track infection	Race-specific covariate bias assigns lower odds of checking checked for UTI in Black patients, reduces likelihood of scheduling follow-up and referrals ⁷ .	Population shift (SD)
	Predicting osteoporosis using a bone fracture risk calculator	Race-specific covariate place black women at lower risk of osteoporosis, while high-risk patients receive preventative drugs to minimize fractures ⁸ .	Population shift (SD)
	Opioid early-warning system	Changing from ICD-9 to ICD-10 resulted in a large wave of false negatives and a much higher prevalence of opioid-related codes ⁹ .	Concept shift
	Risk prediction	An algorithm that used health costs as a proxy for health needs would predict Black patients as being lower risk than equally-sick White patients ¹⁰ .	Population shift (SD), Label shift
Genomics	Polygenic risk scores	Variations in linkage disequilibrium structures and minor allele frequencies across ancestral populations contributes to worse performance of genetic polygenic risk models in underrepresented populations ¹¹ .	Population shift (ancestry)
	Cancer prognosis	Genomic tests for prostate cancer prognosis, which may have been developed with individuals of primarily European ancestry, may predict perform worse on underrepresented populations ¹² .	Population shift (SD)
	Response-to-treatment prediction	Cell lines such as the E006AA-hT prostate cancer cell line, misclassified as African American, have been found to carry 92% European ancestry ¹³ . Such misclassification would mislead models developed on data based on this cell line, as well as healthcare disparities and fairness research.	Label shift
		Ancestry-specific innate immune variants contribute toward higher incidence and mortality of Triple Negative Breast Cancer among individuals of African ancestry ¹⁴⁻¹⁸ . AI algorithms developed without the inclusion of ancestry may worse performance on this group of patients.	Population shift (ancestry)
Response-to-treatment prediction	Black patients are overwhelmingly underrepresented in clinical trials (less than 2% of NCI-funded clinical trials include non-White patients) ^{19,20} . Application of AI-based methods for biomarker discovery to retrospective clinical trial cohorts may have poor generalization performance on non-White patients.	Sample selection bias	

Radiology	Disease segmentation and detection in MRI / CT / chest X-rays / mammography scans	AI algorithms trained on publicly-available radiology images misdiagnose under-served patients at a disproportionate rate compared to the baseline population ²¹ .	Population shift (SD)
		Model leakage of self-reported ethnicity information after controlling for site-specific technical artifacts and potential anatomic differences ²² .	Unknown
Pathology	Cancer diagnosis, prognosis, response-to-treatment prediction, mutation prediction from H&E	Genetic variation amongst patients of different ethnicity, ancestry, geographic locations and other environmental factors ^{23–31} may result in population-specific phenotypes ³² and lead to disparities in diagnostic and prognostic algorithms that use histology ^{33,34} .	Population shift (ancestry)
		Only patients developing symptoms will be biopsied, which produces disparities in patients who will get pathology services due to access to care, leading to dataset imbalance.	Sample selection bias
		H&E stain intensity can predict ethnicity on the cancer genome atlas (TCGA), owing to hospital-specific image-acquisition protocols ³⁵ .	Acquisition shift
		Evolution of novel diseases and their comorbidities may bias deployment of current models ^{36–38} .	Open set label shift
	Renal allograft assessment	Taxonomies such as the Banff classification system for renal allograft assessment are updated with new diagnostic criteria every two years ³⁹ .	Concept shift
Predicting tumour origin in cancers of unknown primary	AI algorithms that do not include patient sex may diagnose patients with unlikely and incorrect tumour origins ⁴⁰ .	Population shift (ancestry)	
Ophthalmology	Retinopathy grading, risk assessment, and vessel segmentation	Fundus photography images have been demonstrated to not only cardiovascular risk factors, but also traits such as age and gender ^{41,42} . Phenotypic variations such as melanin concentration and retinal-vessel appearance have also been shown to differ across demographics ⁴³ .	Population shift (ancestry)
		AI screening tools for diabetic retinopathy developed in the U.S., may fail to generalize to countries in Southeast Asia due to varied lighting conditions and socio-economic factors of how the screening is performed by nurses ⁴⁴ .	Acquisition shift
		Differing clinical education in training ophthalmologists, as well as intraobserver variability, may cause label bias in training AI algorithms ^{44,45} .	Label shift
Rheumatology	Predicting pain and surgery eligibility	Disparities in how different populations respond to pain, may bias algorithms trained on reported pain score ⁴⁶ .	Population shift (SD)
Dermatology	Skin-lesion classification	ML-based mobile health apps may not have been developed with darker skin types in the train dataset, which may over- or under-diagnose non-White patients with under-represented Fitzpatrick skin types ^{47,48} .	Sample selection bias
	Biometrics monitoring via wearables	Patients with higher melanin may block green light used by wearable devices for accurately measuring heart rate ^{49,50} .	Population shift

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