

# Ethics in Medical AI

**25 November**  
2024**Cathedral Hall,**The Stone Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor,  
Rambam HealthCare Campus**13:00 - 13:50****Prof. David Heyd,**Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem**13:50 - 14:10****Break, Food & Networking****14:10 - 15:00****Dr. Avigail Ferdman,**Head of Technology Ethics Lab,  
Department of Humanities and Arts,  
Technion

## Lectures Abstract

**Prof. David Heyd****Dr. Avigail Ferdman**

### The Ethics of Explainability in Medical AI

As AI tools become more integrated into diagnosis, treatment recommendations, and patient management, healthcare providers and patients alike face challenges in understanding how these decisions are made. Often, AI operates as a "black box" with opaque, difficult-to-explain decision-making processes—an issue that becomes especially concerning in high-stakes situations where lives and health are on the line. The problem of explainability is twofold. First, machine learning is distinct from human learning. Only in human learning the end result is understanding, implying explainability. This requires us to rethink concepts like accountability, responsibility, and agency in AI-driven healthcare decisions. Second, AI raises an important question about patients' rights: should they have a right to an explanation as a condition of their autonomy? These ethical considerations underscore the need for considering the ethical dimensions of explainability in healthcare AI.

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