

Defining AI as 'Augmented Intelligence'

Transcript

Claudia Douglass

One of the key things I'd like to talk about is this "assisted" or "augmented" intelligence versus "artificial." But Peter, you had the stethoscope example. Do you want to talk about that?

Dr. Peter Pronovost

Yeah. I think because the ... we know words matter. Indeed, words make worlds. And when we call something "artificial," it's a negative connotation. And we're putting barriers to it. But if I like ... prior to the stethoscope, physicians would literally put their ear in a person's chest to hear it. Right? And it was horrible. A lot of errors.

So, we had this "augmented" hearing that allows you to hear heart sounds or lung sounds or better. And I think this is just a digital version of that. It's an augmented or an enhanced version. And I think we have to stop seeing it as separate from, especially with the emerging data from the reasoning LLMs that they literally perform flawlessly for diagnosis and treatment. I mean, it's, you know ... and given how 760,000 people die in the U.S. or are harmed from diagnostic errors, I mean, it's criminal that we're not spreading those.