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**Exploring the Role of AI in Work Capacity Assessment within Social Security Systems**

Press release

6 March 2024



***As the most European countries continues to grapple with the implications of AI in various sectors, the question of its integration into work capacity assessment within social security systems looms large. Against the backdrop of the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, discussions at the Symposium "Shaping Tomorrow: AI in Social Security and Work Capacity Assessment" shed light on this critical issue.***

Hosted by the European Union of Medicine in Assurance and Social Security (EUMASS) in collaboration with the Belgian Ministry of Social Security, the symposium provided a platform for stakeholders to delve into the potential of AI in reshaping work capacity evaluations. With a focus on ensuring the safety, reliability, and human-centered nature of technology, experts and policymakers examined the opportunities and challenges presented by AI in this domain.

Work capacity assessment stands as a cornerstone of social protection systems, determining an individual's ability to participate in the labor market and the level at which they can engage. The symposium facilitated discussions on how AI could revolutionize this process, offering new tools for clinicians and potentially transforming assessments to data-driven analyses, based primarily on clinical research and socio-professional anamnesis, toward support by data-driven analyses that will allow more targeted integration actions.

Panel discussions explored the ethical considerations of using AI for capacity assessments, addressing concerns about biased inputs and the changing role of human evaluators. While AI holds promise in streamlining evaluations and providing additional insights, ensuring transparency, safety, and fairness in its implementation remains paramount.

As the European Union progresses towards a harmonized approach to regulating AI, insights from the symposium will inform future policies and practical applications. By navigating the complexities of AI integration in work capacity assessments, stakeholders aim to uphold European values and safeguard the well-being of individuals within social security frameworks.

And as the EUMASS’ president,**Dr. Jean-Pierre Schenkelaars** concluded: *“Leveraging AI in social security services at a European level can lead to more effective, inclusive, and sustainable welfare systems that better meet the needs of citizens in an increasingly digital and interconnected world”.*

**More information**

For more information about EUMASS, please visit: [www.eumass.eu(link is external)](http://www.eumass.eu/)

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