

Artificial Intelligence in Medical Translation –Yes or No?

This paper explores the evolving role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in medical translation and interpreting, combining a structured literature review with an original comparative study. It begins with a general overview of the advantages and limitations of AI-driven translation technologies, highlighting issues such as speed, scalability, and cost-effectiveness versus concerns around accuracy, context, and ethical implications. The second section focuses on medical translation, where precision is critical, identifying scenarios where AI can be beneficial and where human expertise remains indispensable. The paper also reviews the current position of the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) regarding AI tools, providing insight into the standards and ethical considerations guiding the profession in Australia.

Finally, the paper proposes optional strategies for integrating AI into interpreter training programs, aiming to enhance trainee awareness and critical use of AI tools without compromising professional standards. By combining theoretical and practical insights, the study contributes to the ongoing dialogue about the responsible integration of AI in high-stakes language services.

Từ khóa

medical translation, artificial intelligence, translation training, machine translation, English-Vietnamese translation, tertiary education syllabus

Thông tin các tác giả

Qualifications:

Dr. Na Pham holds a Doctorate in Philosophy (Education) from the University of Western Sydney, a Master of Arts in TESOL from the National University of Singapore, and a Bachelor of Arts from Vietnam National University. Additionally, she is a NAATI Accredited Translator in English-Vietnamese and holds certificates in Project Management, Business Communication and Report Writing, ESL Training, and Certificate IV in Assessment and Training. She is also accredited as an EAR (Educational Activity Representative) by RACGP [The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners].

Dr. Na Pham has received several prizes and scholarships, including the ASEAN Postgraduate Scholarship at the National University of Singapore (1999), the International Postgraduate Research Scholarship at the University of Western Sydney (2001), the Summer Research Award at the University of Western Sydney in collaboration with Ethnic Communities Councils of NSW (2005), and the Traveling Award at the University of Western Sydney (2004, 2005).

Work Experience:

Dr. Na Pham brings over 26 years of extensive experience across five major fields: translation/interpreting, language teaching, language researching, language consulting, and language teaching material design.

She has taught English language courses in Australia, Singapore, and Vietnam to students from diverse ethnic, socio-cultural backgrounds, and various age groups. Her teaching experience includes roles at the Vietnamese National University, National University of Singapore, EF Language Travel, ABC Study Groups, Sydney Community College, and MTC Training Solutions. Dr. Na Pham lectured in Academic Writing and Business Communication for eight years at La Trobe University –Sydney Campus from 2007 to 2015. Additionally, she is the founder and manager of Sydney Language Solutions, a Sydney-based company offering language and translation services since 2010.

Dr. Na Pham also serves as a language consultant for numerous language research projects, collaborating with institutions such as MARCS Laboratory –University of Western Sydney (studying Vietnamese tone and pronunciation), Ethnic Community Councils NSW (researching language needs of emerging communities in Sydney), Cancer Council NSW (focused on Hepatitis B and liver cancer among Vietnamese communities in Sydney), and the School of Nursing and Midwifery (participating in the Gestational Diabetes and Health Education Resources Project).

From 2020 to 2024, Dr. Na Pham held various managerial and coordinating roles in professional bodies, non-profit organizations, or health government organizations. These roles include Clinical Course Coordinator for

Family Planning NSW, Educational Manager for Australasia College of Physicists, Scientists, and Engineers in Medicine, and Translation Project Coordinator / Health Manager at Multicultural Health Communication Services.

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