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# Intraoperative applications of artificial intelligence in robotic surgery: a scoping review of current development stages and levels of autonomy

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AI in robotic surgery: a scoping review

# Keywords

Artificial intelligence, machine learning, surgery, robotic, intraoperative, IDEAL, evaluation, autonomy, performance, outcomes

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# ABSTRACT

Objective: A scoping review of the literature was conducted to identify intraoperative AI applications for robotic surgery under development and categorise them by 1) purpose of the applications, 2) level of autonomy, 3) stage of development, and 4) type of measured outcome.

Background: In robotic surgery, artificial intelligence (AI) based applications have the potential to disrupt a field so far based on a master-slave paradigm. However, there is no available overview about this technology's current stage of development and level of autonomy.

Methods: MEDLINE and EMBASE were searched between January 1st 2010 and May 21<sup>st</sup> 2022. Abstract screening, full text review and data extraction were performed independently by two reviewers. Level of autonomy was defined according to the Yang et al classification and stage of development according to the IDEAL framework.

Results: 129 studies were included in the review. 97 studies (75%) described applications providing Robot Assistance (autonomy level 1), 30 studies (23%) application enabling Task Autonomy (autonomy level 2), and two studies (2%) application achieving Conditional autonomy (autonomy level 3). All studies were at IDEAL stage 0 and no clinical investigations on humans were found. 116 (90%) conducted in silico or ex-vivo experiments on inorganic material, 9 (7%) ex-vivo experiments on organic material, and 4 (3%) performed in vivo experiments in porcine models.

Conclusion: Clinical evaluation of intraoperative AI applications for robotic surgery is still in its infancy and most applications have a low level of autonomy. With increasing levels of autonomy, the evaluation focus seems to shift from AI-specific metrics to process outcomes, although common standards are needed to allow comparison between systems.

On the 11th of April 1985, Kwoh et al. performed the first robot-assisted surgical procedure, a stereotactic brain biopsy with the UNIMATION PUMA 200<sup>1</sup>. Despite this initial attempt at developing supervisory controlled robot, and with few exceptions ever since, most robot-assisted surgery has then evolved based on a master slave paradigm, whereby the surgical robot stays at all times completely under the control of the operator.

The progress in available computational power and machine learning (ML) mathematical models over the past years, has challenged this status quo. Applications based on artificial intelligence (AI) have become increasingly popular in robotic surgery<sup>2,3</sup>, with long-term objectives ranging from autonomously performing basic routine tasks, like suturing, to independently conducting advanced surgeries. In the shorter-term, AI intraoperative applications for robotic surgery identified by previous reviews as under development include: target and anatomical structure identification, instrument tracking and navigation (including skills transfer), instrument control and improved feedback, low-level automated tasks (e.g. knot tying), surgical step segmentation and alerting, performance monitoring and training, and optimisation of the human-robot interaction<sup>3–6</sup>.

AI-based intraoperative applications for robotic surgery offer opportunities to improve the efficacy, safety and efficiency of procedures, but they also introduce new obstacles related to validation, approval, and trust of the AI applications and supporting robotic systems. One of the key considerations under this new paradigm is the AI application's targeted level of autonomy; AI being a tool to achieve a desired level of autonomy for a task with a given complexity. The performance of an AI application and its safety profile can indeed only be fully appraised in the context of the desired level of autonomy for a specific task. For example, an AI system identifying the correct excision target 90% of the time might be considered good enough for an application with conditional autonomy (humans have to validate every action plan), but not for an high autonomy application (humans only have an occasional supervisory role). Several scales have been proposed to classify the level of autonomy of surgical robots<sup>2.7.8</sup>, mostly ranging from no support at all (humans are in control of every information processing, decision-making and action execution) to full robot autonomy (humans play no role in the procedure).

To date surgical robots are considered as medical devices and mainly regulated through the FDA and European CE marking directives. However, there is no clear scientific framework on how they should be evaluated, let alone their AI components. In this context, the IDEAL collaboration (Idea,

Development, Evaluation, Assessment, and Long term follow up), an initiative dedicated to improving the evaluation of complex interventions, has convened the IDEAL Robotic Colloquium. The Colloquium is an international and multi stakeholder consensus process, whose main objective is to develop an adaptation of the IDEAL framework for the evaluation of surgical robots. The initial IDEAL framework is a 5-stage development and evaluation pathway for surgical innovation, considering surgical procedures as complex interventions<sup>9,10</sup>. Stage 1 describes the first in human evaluation, stages 2a and 2b the subsequent refinement of the procedure and exploration of its clinical utility under different operators and implementation settings, stage 3 the multicentric comparative studies and stage 4 the long term follow up and surveillance. More recent modifications and extensions, like IDEAL-D and IDEAL stage 0 are also relevant to this work, because they provide specific guidance for surgical devices and introduce recommendations for their pre-clinical evaluation<sup>11,12</sup>.

To inform the Colloquium's discussion on AI and autonomous functions in robotic surgery, it was important to explore the scope of AI applications under development, and the methodologies used to evaluate them. The present study aimed to identify the different intraoperative AI applications in robotic surgery and categorise them by 1) purpose of the applications, 2) level of autonomy (as defined by Yang et al.<sup>8</sup>) and 3) stage of development, as defined by the IDEAL framework. Secondary objectives were to identify the mathematical models most commonly used to train these applications and the most commonly used methodologies to evaluate them. By doing so, we hope to provide an insight into the current status of intraoperative AI-based applications in robotic surgery, their future prospects in surgery, and how distant these are from routine clinical use. Additionally, this would highlight potential risks and shortcomings in the innovation pathway of this relatively new technology.

# METHODS

This scoping review was conducted and reported in accordance with the Arksey and O'Malley's framework for scoping reviews, the subsequent amendments made by the Joanna Briggs Institute, and PRISMA-ScR (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews)<sup>13–15</sup> The Protocol was registered on the Open Science Framework (OSF) on 09.03.2021, with DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/WXQ9Y.

#### Literature search

MEDLINE and EMBASE were searched on 26th November 2020, using a piloted search strategy (see Supplementary Note 1, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229). In order to include the most up-to-date data, a search update was conducted on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2022. The search windows reached back to January 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 (peer-reviewed articles) and January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 (conference abstracts). Inclusion criteria, all of which needed to be fulfilled, were: original research in English, describing an intraoperative AI-based application for robotic surgery, or the preclinical evaluation of an AI application whose main purpose is to be used intraoperatively. Exclusion criteria were: reviews or comments, studies describing radiosurgery applications, studies describing application for robot-assisted straight needle injection only, and studies whose full text was not available.

For the purpose of this review, applications were considered as AI-based if their main decisionmaking components relied on ML algorithms. ML was defined as mathematical models having the ability to independently learn, from input data, knowledge unknown to their programmers and to generate outputs that had not been explicitly programmed<sup>16,17</sup>. We defined surgical procedures as procedures performed for the purpose of structurally altering the human body by the incision or destruction of tissues (American Medical Association, Definition of Surgery H-475.983) after gaining epi- or endothelial access. Intraoperative was defined as the period from the first epi- or endothelial access opening to the closure of the last access point. Additional sources and grey literature were also searched, including: the reference list of similar reviews in the field, a forward literature search of studies included after the initial literature search (i.e. review of all citing articles referenced on the Web of Science platform), the clinical trial registrations on the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL), ClinicalTrials.gov and the EU Clinical Trials Register. The modified search strategy for trial registers can be found in Supplementary Note 2, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229.

#### Abstracts and full texts screening

For the initial literature search, all search records were imported into EndNote X8 (Thomson Reuters) for de-duplication and exclusion of publication in another language than English. All abstracts were independently screened by at least two reviewers (KANL, BV, MI, CHK, HLH), using Rayyan<sup>18</sup>. Disagreements were adjudicated by a third reviewer (BV, MI). Full text screening was independently conducted by at least 2 reviewers (KANL, BV, MI, CHK, HLH), and conflicts adjudicated by a third reviewer (BV, MI). For the search update, abstracts and full texts were screened by a single reviewer (SW) and unclear cases adjudicated by a second reviewer (BV).

## Data extraction

The following data were extracted, using a piloted extraction form: (i) year of publication, (ii) surgical specialty (defined as per Royal College of Surgeon England) and type of procedure, (iii) name of the robotic system used and primary task of the AI-based application, (iv) level of autonomy of the AI application, using the six levels scale defined by Yang et al.<sup>8</sup>, (v) type of machine learning model used and training set data type, (vi) study design, (vii) primary outcome evaluated, and (viii) stage of evaluation as defined by the IDEAL framework and IDEAL stage 0 extension<sup>9,10,12</sup>. The extraction was independently conducted by at least 2 reviewers (KANL, BV, MI, CHK, HLH, KSL) and conflicts were adjudicated by a third reviewer (KANL, BV). For the search update, extraction was conducted by a single reviewer (SW) and reviewed by a second reviewer (BV).

#### Data Analysis

Frequency count and narrative summaries were produced for each of the study's main results. AI applications were categorised according to an existing framework by Kassahun et al.<sup>5</sup>: event detection (visual recognition of critical structures or incidents), environment modelling (registration and reconstruction of surroundings), localisation (visual detecting an object within space), planning (automated trajectory design and control), robot control (coordination of robot movements), and skills analysis (assessment of performance). Measured outcome metrics were organised into procedural and AI-based, with the latter sub-divided into the specific AI task being evaluated (classification, clustering, forecasting, object detection, and regression). Given the heterogeneity in almost all facets of the included studies, no quality assessment was performed. Graphics were produced using Excel (version 16.65, Microsoft) and Visme (Visme, accessed 02/01/21).

#### RESULTS

# General search characteristics

Our search retrieved 2529 peer-reviewed articles and conference abstracts (Figure 1). After removing duplicates and non-English language articles, 2288 titles and abstracts were screened. 185 abstracts were selected for full text review, of which 171 had a full text available. 103 studies met all the inclusion criteria, and 26 studies were added from other sources for a total of 129 included studies. There is evidence that this is a rapidly expanding field, with 54 % of the included studies published in the last three years and a half (Figure 2).

General study characteristics

In terms of study design, all studies were preclinical in nature (thus all IDEAL Stage 0). The majority of studies involved experiments in silico or ex-vivo on inorganic material (116/129; 90%). A minority of studies were performed using organic materials ex-vivo (9/129; 7%; most commonly porcine) or in-vivo (4/129; 3%, in porcine models) (Supplementary Table 1, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229). In terms of surgical specialty, most (73/129; 57%) integrated AI robotic applications were assessed in a cross-speciality fashion, that is, using universal or cross-disciplinary surgical tasks (e.g. suturing) or generic analysis (e.g. instrument tracking). Regarding those studies presenting an application for a surgical task specific to a specialty, or claimed a link to a specific specialty, the most frequently observed specialty was general surgery (12/129; 9%), followed by, urology (11/129; 9%), vascular (7/129; 5%), cardiothoracic (7/129; 5%), ophthalmology (5/129; 4%), and neurosurgery (5/129; 4%) (Supplementary Table 1, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229). However, some of these specialty-specific studies evaluated applications which in practice could also be applied to other disciplines, like for example organ depth or cancer margin estimation.

#### Technology characteristics

In terms of robotic systems, the most common was the Da Vinci (34/129; 26%), followed by the KUKA arm (6/129; 5%), Steady-Hand Eye Robot (SHER; 4/129; 3%) and Raven 2 (3/129; 2%). 53 studies (41%) did not specify the exact robotic system used (Supplementary Table 1, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229). Additionally, AI applications were used for a variety of functions, most commonly environment modelling (39/129; 30%), followed by tracking/localisation (21/129; 16%), robot control (21/129; 16%), planning (18/129; 14%), event detection (18/129; 14%) and skill analysis (12/129; 9%) (Table 1, Supplementary Table 1, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229). The type of AI algorithm used was similarly heterogenous. The most prevalent type of underlying algorithms used were neural networks (75/129; 58%), with other models ranging from simple logistic regressions to support vector machines and Gaussian mixture models. Data used to train the models were obtained from a variety of sources: kinematic data (47/129; 36%), videos (45/129; 35%), images (28/129; 22%), force sensor data (12/129; 9%), audio recording (1/129; 1%), and other data types (4/129; 3%) (Supplementary Table 1, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229).

## Level of System Autonomy

The majority of studies (97/129; 75%) included AI application for robotic surgery with a low level of autonomy (Level 1 - Robot Assistance) which has increased exponentially over the last three years (Figure 2). Regarding the 30 studies (23%) that explored systems with Task Autonomy (Level 2), the

majority of these utilised AI for planning (13/30; 43%) and robot control (8/30; 27%) (Table 1). Only two studies (2%) involved applications judged to achieve Conditional autonomy (Level 3) (Figure 3). Tan et al explored the insertion of a flexible needle via a bespoke robotic supervisorycontrolled system which utilised a universal distributional Q-learning AI algorithm to assist with planning and robot control<sup>19</sup>. This system, assessed via in-silico and ex-vivo (synthetic liver phantom) demonstrated an ability to reach multiple targets through a single insertion site. Similarly, De Momi et al also utilised AI (fuzzy risk model) for path planning and assisted navigation of a flexed probe using the ROBOCAST system during ex-vivo neurosurgical procedures<sup>20</sup>.

## Types of measured outcomes

Measured outcomes focussed on performance of the AI component of the AI augmented robotic system in the majority of studies; most frequently classification (38/129; 29%), object detection (30/129; 23%) and regression (29/129; 22%), with specific metrics within these categories considerably variable (Figure 4, Supplementary Tables 1, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229 and 2, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229). Classification outcomes were usually seen in skills analysis, event detection and environmental modelling applications of AI. Regression outcomes were often used in AI applications for environment modelling, localisation, robot control and planning; whilst object detection was mostly used in localisation and event detection applications. Efficacy based outcomes were used in 28 studies (22%) and reflected either performance of the AI application or directly assessed the procedure performed by the robot - again, encompassing a wide range of metrics, usually specific to the study experiment (Figure 4, Supplementary Table 2, Supplemental Digital Content 1, http://links.lww.com/SLA/E229). In keeping with the IDEAL Stage 0 nature of included studies, all outcome metrics were pre-clinical.

# DISCUSSION

## Principal findings

This scoping review of 129 studies provides an overview of the current landscape of intraoperative AI applications for robotic surgery in development, stratified according to level of autonomy and level of development according to the IDEAL framework.

It is evident that intraoperative AI application for robotic surgery is a growing field with particularly rapid expansion over the last 3,5 years. Current applications are all in the pre-clinical (IDEAL Stage 0) phases of development<sup>12</sup>. No clinical studies or evidence of translation of these technologies was

identified in this scoping review of literature and clinical trial databases, even after screening publications citing the included studies. This may reflect lack of publishing due to intellectual property reasons, the omission of AI components description when evaluating fully integrated robotic systems, or the relative infancy of this field, which will benefit from the ongoing wider progress of AI and robotics in medicine. Furthermore, the majority of AI applications explored specific functions (e.g. instrument tracking, robot control, etc.), operating with low levels of autonomy (Level 1 - "Robot Assistance"). This could reflect the fact that isolated AI applications are unlikely to reach a high level of autonomy. As this field develops, higher levels of autonomy will likely be achieved through interlinking and synergy between these lower autonomy functions<sup>21</sup>. A recent example of such integration is the Smart Tissue Autonomous Robot (STAR), which combined camera control, instrument collision avoidance, tissue motion tracking, landmark detection, suture planning, and several other autonomous functions for laparoscopic intestinal anastomosis on in vivo porcine models<sup>22</sup>. Such interlinking would also probably shift the evaluation focus from low level technical performance metrics to procedure level efficacy metrics, as suggested by the higher rate of study using the latter amongst autonomy level 2 and 3 applications.

Indeed, a successful integration of this technology into clinical workflow will need an evaluation focus going behind traditional performance metrics. The field is now reaching a point where robotic procedures with a higher level of autonomy (at least level 3 and 4) will soon be technically possible for low-complexity interventions. This could open the way to a wide range of applications such as increased surgical output to reduce waiting lists or local task control to overcome lag issues in telerobotic surgery. However, technical feasibility does not mean acceptance and further changes in mindset and legal framework concerning liability and responsibility will need to take place first<sup>23</sup>. We and others have argued that human factor considerations and aspects related to safety will also play a pivotal role in gaining practitioners' and patients' trust in AI-based systems<sup>24</sup>. Questions relating to handover procedures, human override or deskilling of human operators, amongst others, still must be addressed before surgical robots with higher autonomy level become common components of modern operating rooms.

Such mindset changes will need strong arguments, based on robust, transparent, and comparable evaluation. Our review shows that there is for the time being widespread heterogeneity across almost all facets of the included studies, though. This is partly due to the wide-scoping nature of this review and the rapidly expanding nature of this field - covering various surgical specialties (most commonly cross-specialty) and study designs (most commonly ex-vivo or in silico). As a result, the type of AI used (most commonly neural network based), the purpose of AI integration (most commonly

environment modelling) and the robotic system used were wide-ranging. However, and more importantly, the evaluation metrics used to assess the technology was significantly heterogeneous, even across studies on related AI applications. Whereas diversity of evaluated applications and underlying AI models is a positive reflection of the field's dynamism, evaluation metrics heterogeneity amongst studies describing AI applications with similar objectives prevents comparative analysis of performance and safety. Similarly, data reporting was diverse, likely reflecting the lack of a reporting framework to guide this. More generally, there is a clear need for structured guidance on how these applications and supporting robotic systems should be evaluated across their robotic performance, AI integration and interface with humans. In other fields, consensus driven outcome and measurement sets have been helpful in aligning studies<sup>25</sup>.

Therefore, we are presented with the nascent opportunity to shape and structure the development and evaluation of AI applications for robotic surgery pre-emptively – as the field exponentially grows and before the demonstrated pre-clinical technologies begin to enter the clinical setting.

#### Finding in context

There are several reviews of note which explore related fields. A narrative review by Panesar et al., outlines a framework for generating autonomy in robotic systems using AI, focusing on i) the system's ability to sense its environment, ii) interpret this data and iii) enact appropriate physical tasks, iv) in a dynamic function loop<sup>2</sup>. They highlight the scope of potential impact for these technologies, not only in improving individual outcomes but also in improving access to surgical care, for example in challenging environments (such as remote terrains and space). Another narrative review by Ma et al., corroborates AI's potential to bolster the ability of robotic systems, ranging from anatomy recognition and autonomous tasks to surgical training and assessment<sup>4</sup>. They highlight the importance of the safe curating and storing of the granular multimodal surgical data needed to harness the full potential of AI in these systems.

Moustris et al., explore autonomous robotic surgical systems through a non-systematic literature review, and produce a narrative synthesis of the available robotics systems capable of performing tasks such as suturing, cochlear implantation and stereotactic radiosurgery with varying levels of autonomy<sup>6</sup>. The review cites the importance of multidisciplinary input for amalgamating low autonomy technologies into high autonomy systems capable of addressing the Autonomy Levels for Unmanned Systems (ALFUS) domains: mission complexity, environmental difficulty and human independence<sup>26</sup>. Similarly, Kassahun et al., summarised the machine learning techniques used in surgical robots and training via literature review<sup>5</sup>. They provide potential categories for the

application of AI to facilitate autonomous robotics (which we have adopted in our review) and highlight a pipeline for the development and evaluation of autonomous surgical robots. Key "building blocks" identified for development included surgical skill analysis, advanced surgical environment (i.e. operative field) modelling, automatic control and safe human-machine interface. Furthermore, Hashimoto et al. makes an analogy with the recent development of autonomous cars (through integration of robotics, computer vision and neural networks) as an example of how "synergistic reactions between different technologies can lead to unanticipated revolutionary technology" - much like the anticipated development of the next generation of AI-augmented surgical robotics.

At present, there are no specific dedicated frameworks or guidelines for development and evaluation in this emerging field. However, there are numerous relevant recent developments to note. For example, the IDEAL-D framework outlines the stages of device evaluation and regulation based on potential risk to patients<sup>11</sup>. Ultimately, AI-augmented robotic systems, depending on their exact use, would likely fall into medium or high risk groups, and thus the device evaluation must be proportionate and rigorous - incorporating system, clinician and patient assessments. Consensusdriven core outcome sets (COS) and core measurement instruments will be useful in standardising these evaluation metrics. For example, the COHESIVE COS highlights outcomes for surgical procedures and devices across multiple domains but is more general and thus does not include AIspecific metrics<sup>27</sup>. The RoboCOS Study is a similar COS initiative (in-process), specifically investigating outcomes in robot-assisted surgery, which may be helpful when completed (https://www.comet-initiative.org/Studies/Details/1608). TRIPOD-AI is a reporting guideline for the development and validation of predictive models based on AI, DECIDE-AI for the reporting of studies describing the early-stage clinical evaluation of decision support system based on AI, and SPIRIT/CONSORT-AI for randomised trials (and their protocols) evaluating intervention involving AI<sup>28–32</sup>. However, all these initiatives are relatively general and do not cover many of the specificities of AI application for robotic surgery, which poses its own unique challenges.

#### Strengths and limitations

A scoping review design was chosen to capture the breadth of this evolving field, rather than explore items in-depth and exhaustively. As a result, the strengths of this study are its structured and wide search across literature databases and clinical trial registries. Screening was performed independently by at least two reviewers, as was data extraction. However, there are several limitations to this methodology. As with systematic reviews, there is a possibility that some relevant studies were missed, although it is unlikely these would have significantly altered the main messages of this study

- which is, in essence, a call for rigourous and standardised evaluation, as well as structured reporting, in this field. This study is a review of the academic literature, and thus there is a possibility that there are AI applications for robotic surgery being developed or already developed for clinical settings in industry but not yet published (e.g. for intellectual property reasons). Ideally a more open-science approach will be adopted by further studies, which will accelerate the advancement of higher autonomy level systems. Finally, there are limitations to the primary data, which is currently too heterogenous and too small in quantity to perform any meaningful comparative meta-analysis. Numerous papers did not explicitly state key components or structures of the AI used.

#### Conclusions

This scoping review provides an overview of the current landscape of intraoperative AI applications for robotic surgery in development, a rapidly expanding field. All included applications are in the pre-clinical (IDEAL Stage 0) phase of development, with the majority operating with the lowest level of autonomy. The evaluation of these devices and the reporting of study findings are considerably heterogeneous. Future work should focus on rigorous and standardised evaluation, structured reporting in this field and the safe synergy of these technologies for higher autonomy applications.

## STATEMENTS

#### Author contributions

Study conception and methodology was led by KNL, BV and HJM. Material preparation was performed by KNL and BV. Data collection was performed by KNL, BV, DZK, MI, CHK, HLH, KSL and SW. Analyses were performed by KNL, BV and DZK. The first draft of the manuscript was written by KNL, BV and DZK. HJM and PM supervised the study. All authors reviewed and edited subsequent versions of the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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# Conflicts of Interest

All authors certify that they have no affiliations with or involvement in any organisation or entity with any financial interest (such as honoraria; educational grants; participation in speakers' bureaus; membership, employment, consultancies, stock ownership, or other equity interest; and expert testimony or patent-licensing arrangements), or non-financial interest (such as personal or professional relationships, affiliations, knowledge or beliefs) in the subject matter or materials discussed in this manuscript.

# Ethics and Informed Consent

Ethical approval and informed consent were unnecessary due to the nature of the study.

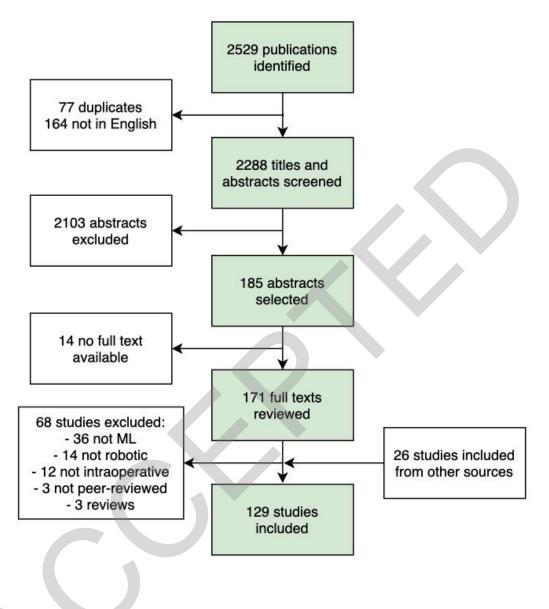
# Data availability

All collected data are available upon reasonable request and for a duration of three years from the date of publication.

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Figure 1: PRISMA Flowchart. Other sources include reference lists from similar reviews and expert recommendations; ML = machine learning.



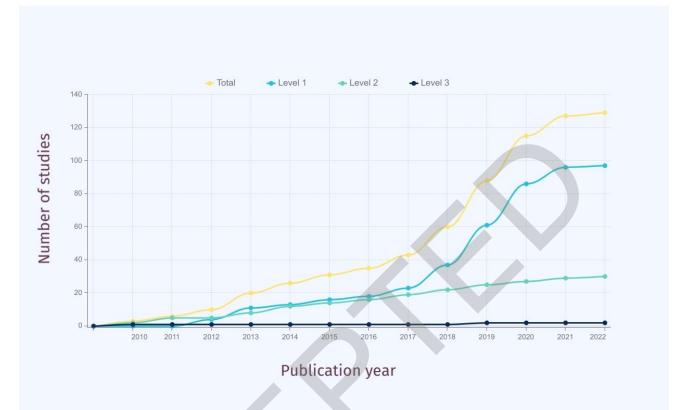


Figure 2: Studies published over time, stratified by level of autonomy of the AI-augmented robotic system studied.

Figure 3: Numbers of studies per the level of autonomy of the AI-augmented robotic system studied.

# Included studies by level of autonomy

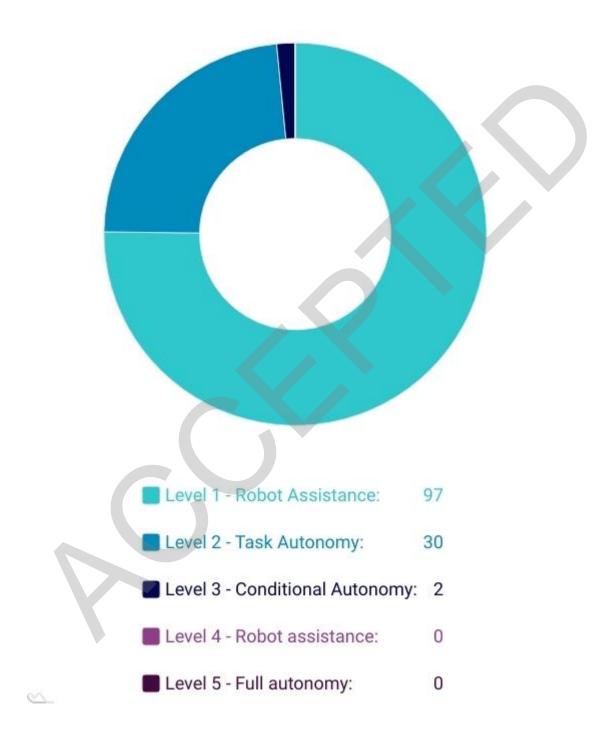
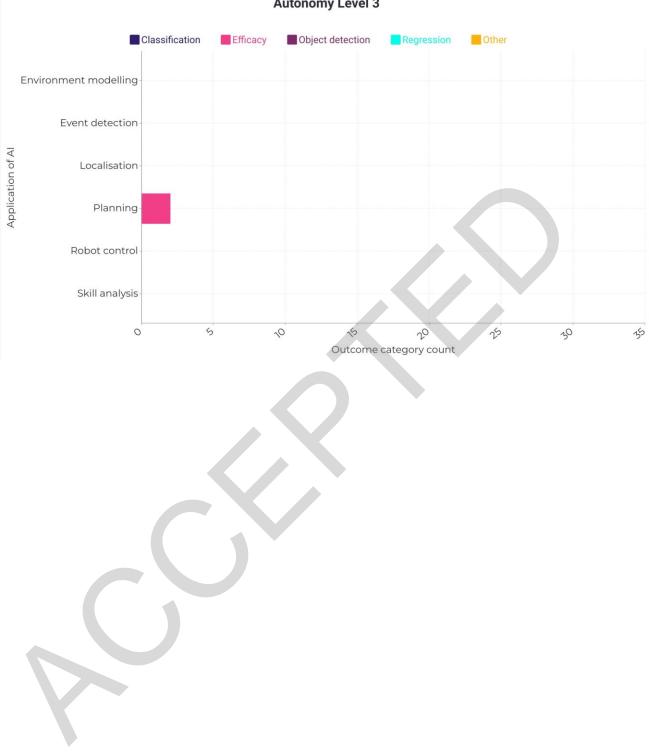




Figure 4: Stacked bar chart of outcome categories against application of AI, stratified by each level of autonomy. AI = artificial intelligence.



#### Autonomy Level 3

Table 1: Summary table of application of AI stratified by level of autonomy. No studies were found describing applications at level 4 and 5

	Level of Autonomy		
Application of AI to robotic	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	Robot Assistance	Task Autonomy	Conditional
system	Kobot Assistance	Task Autonomy	autonomy
Environment modelling	35	4	0
Event detection	16	2	0
Localisation/tracking	18	3	0
Planning/navigation	3	13	2
Robot control	13	8	0
Skill analysis	12	0	0
Total	97	30	2