

[Home](#)[Episodes](#)[Podcast](#)[Subscribe to our Newsletter](#)[Join us on Facebook](#)[Follow Gareth Mitchell on Twitter](#)Listen  
now

## Can AI Ever Really Compete With Human Beings?

Robotics, virtual and augmented reality, implants and wearables are some of the machine/body interfaces that are moving us into a new era of healthcare.

Available now  
⌚ 27 minutes

Over the last few years, machine-led caring has led to a wider acceptance of fully programmed machines looking after our well-being. This raises a number of ethical concerns; emotional attachment to social machines designed to create empathy and trust, addiction to personal fitness indicators, the harvesting of our personal information for health data commons, and the (biased) use of this for predictive modelling and monitoring.

In a special edition of Click at this year's FutureFest, Gareth Mitchell is joined by a panel of experts including a VR specialist, a doctor involved in using AI for diagnosis and a leading roboticist to discuss whether this tech helps our health systems to become more, not less, human. Is it ever possible for a machine to be a substitute for human touch and intimacy?

This debate was curated by Ghislaine Boddington as part of her co-curation of Nesta's FutureFest.

Picture: Realms of Possibility Installation by Glider (FutureFest), Credit: Christopher Ratcliffe

Producer: Colin Grant

Show less



### Last on



Mon 23 Jul 2018

00:32

Local time

BBC WORLD SERVICE  
EXCEPT EAST AND  
SOUTHERN AFRICA, NEWS  
INTERNET & WEST AND  
CENTRAL AFRICA

### More episodes

PREVIOUS

EU Copyright Law  
Changes Rejected



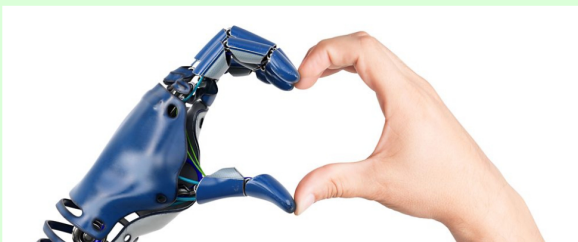
NEXT

Pakistan Elections  
and Censorship



See all episodes from Digital  
Planet

### Clip



### Podcast



#### Digital Planet

Technological and digital news  
from around the world.

### Related Links



## Will robots help combat loneliness?

DURATION: 02:22

### Broadcasts



Tue 17 Jul 2018

**20:32**

Local time

**BBC WORLD  
SERVICE EXCEPT  
NEWS INTERNET**



Wed 18 Jul 2018

**05:32**

Local time

**BBC WORLD  
SERVICE EXCEPT  
AUSTRALASIA, EAST  
AND SOUTHERN  
AFRICA, NEWS  
INTERNET & WEST  
AND CENTRAL  
AFRICA**



Wed 18 Jul 2018

**07:32**

Local time

**BBC WORLD  
SERVICE EAST AND  
SOUTHERN AFRICA  
& AUSTRALASIA  
ONLY**

[Show more](#)

FutureRest: 2018 ([www.futurerest.org](http://www.futurerest.org))

### Similar programmes

BY GENRE:  
FACTUAL > SCIENCE & NATURE  
BY FORMAT:  
MAGAZINES & REVIEWS

**BBC  
NEWS  
WORLD  
SERVICE**

**LISTEN LIVE  
14:06 GMT**



**The Hurricane  
Tapes**

**Home**  
**Online sched-  
ule**  
**Downloads**  
**Help & FAQs**  
**Contact us**  
**News in 39 lan  
guages**

### Explore the BBC

[News](#)

[Sport](#)

[Weather](#)

[Radio](#)

[Arts](#)

[Terms of Use](#) [About the BBC](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookies](#) [Accessibility Help](#) [Parental Guidance](#) [Contact the BBC](#)

[Get Personalised Newsletters](#)