

DeepMind AI Lab Founder Goes on Leave



It has recently been reported that the co-Founder of London-based Google AI Lab, Mustafa Suleyman will be taking a leave of absence amid controversy surrounding the company.

Mr Suleyman has led the healthcare initiatives at DeepMind and has generally been known as the public face of the company since it was founded in 2010 alongside co-Founder Demis Hassabis. In 2014, Google purchased the company for £400m.

A spokesperson for Mr Suleyman has not given a specific reason regarding his leave but the decision comes at an unstable time for the company amid complaints about its work with the NHS.

It was previously found that 1.6m patients' information was shared with Royal Free Hospital, a partner of DeepMind. The companies were collaborating on a mobile app which would assist in the identification of patients at risk of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI). At the time of the incident, Mr Suleyman explained that the complications of sharing patient data were previously underestimated.

DeepMind has also run into some issues with its decision to move the company's health division to Google, after previously stating this would not happen. Additionally, the 2018 financial records for DeepMind, released earlier this month, shows £1bn of debt. This reflects DeepMind's efforts of hiring more AI experts to compete with Silicon Valley.

However, DeepMind's breakthroughs continue as the company announced the success of its AKI prediction app in July.

Source: <u>The Telegraph</u> Image Credit: <u>DeepMind</u>

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