

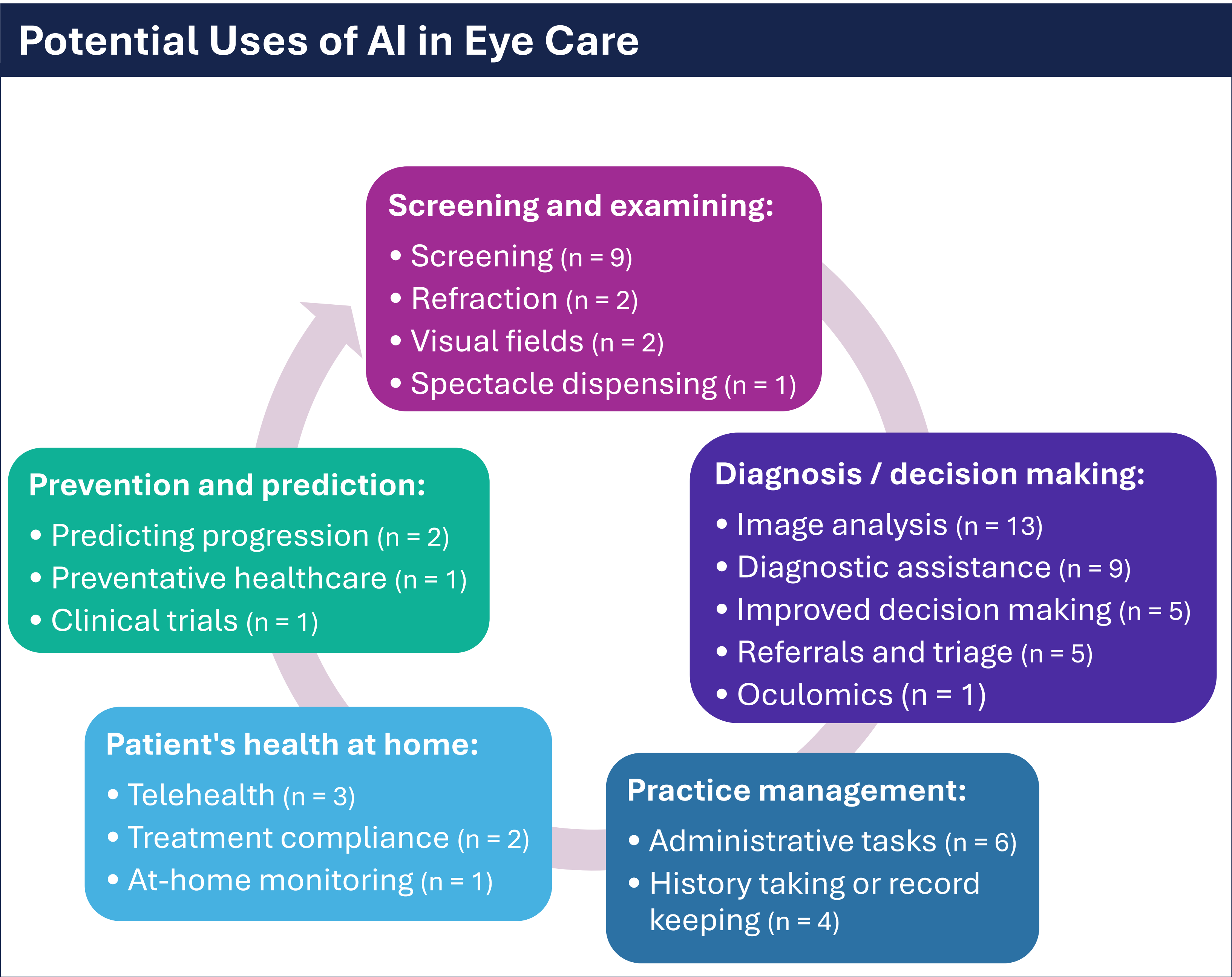
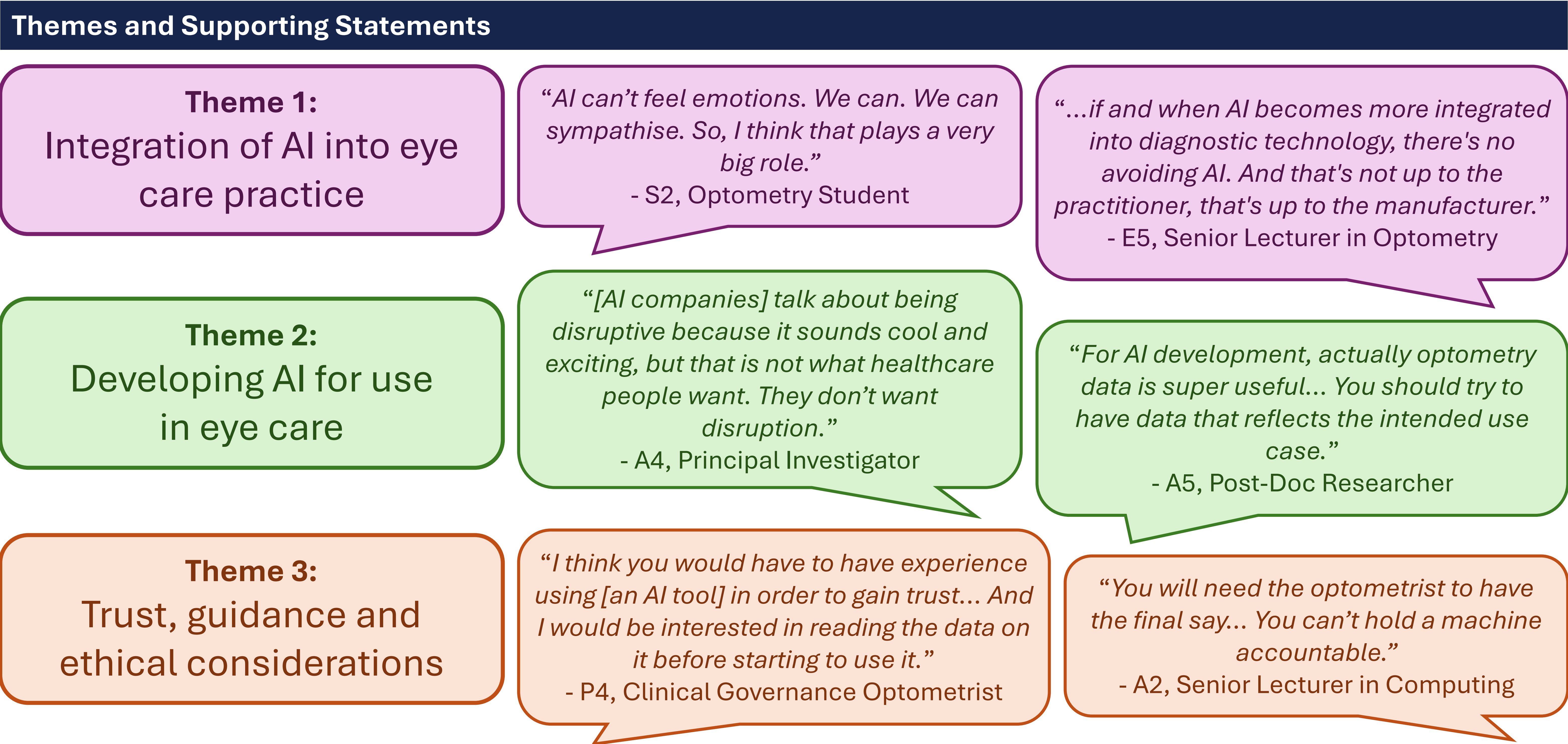
Artificial Intelligence in Eye Care Practice: A Qualitative Multi-Disciplinary Perspective



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Purpose	Methods
The purpose of this study was to explore a wide range of stakeholder perspectives towards the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in eye care.	- Semi-structured interviews (n = 21) were conducted with a purposive sample of ECPs (n = 5), optometry students (n = 5), optometry educators (n = 5), AI experts (n = 5), and an optometry regulator (n = 1). - A total of 15 hours and 13 minutes of interviews were conducted online, recorded and transcribed verbatim. Transcriptions were confirmed for accuracy by participants prior to analysis. - Personal identifiers were removed from the data and participants’ names replaced with numbered codes A, E, P, R and S denoting AI specialists, educators, ECPs, regulators, and students, respectively. - Transcripts were analysed using inductive thematic analysis.
Background	
- AI technologies are increasingly being developed for use in eye care¹. - Successful implementation of AI tools in eye care relies on the technology being accepted by key stakeholders². - Previous literature exploring attitudes towards AI in eye care² has primarily focused on the perspectives of eye care practitioners (ECPs).	



Conclusions
- There are a broad range of views on the use of AI in eye care practice. - Participants saw the potential for both positive and negative impacts from AI technology developments. - Potential uses for AI tools were identified across the entire patient journey, with image analysis being the most commonly identified use. - While early guidance on the use of AI in eye care has been issued, further guidance and training is required for practitioners to safely and effectively utilise AI tools in their future practice.
References
- Krishnan, A., et al. (2025) ‘Artificial Intelligence in Optometry: Current and Future Perspectives.’ <i>Clinical Optometry</i>, 17, 83 – 114. - Ran, AR, et al. (2025) ‘The acceptance of ophthalmic artificial intelligence for eye diseases: a literature review and qualitative analysis.’ <i>Eye</i>, 39, 2353 – 2362.