



Potluri emphasised: "Machine learning offers an opportunity to identify concepts rather than correlations in clinical data, thus promising to become an invaluable tool for data-aided decision making."

Potluri did acknowledge the limitations of Big Data: data collection of quality, practicality of resourcing and running large datasets and on-uniform data. There are significant cost advantages of using routinely collected data, he said. "Power of the data versus the accuracy will be an important debate going forward", he said.

"Big Data analytics will delineate a paradigm shift in cardiovascular medicine", concluded Potluri. Big Data has the potential to enhance understanding of disease and outcomes, improve clinical care by predicting patient outcomes, generate ideas which can be complemented by basic science research, predict disease patterns and interactions, and streamline healthcare services and allow appropriate allocation of resources to where they are required.

Dr. Rumsfeld agreed that cardiology can lead the way in Big Data. It is already a world leader in having large registry programmes, he noted. In the future there will be more biometric and patient-reported data.

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