

## SAPRIN DATA SCIENTIST PRESENTS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN MENTAL HEALTH DATA COURSE

07 MAY 2024



[Dr Linda Maoyi](#), Senior Data Scientist at the South African Population Research Infrastructure Network ([SAPRIN](#)) presented a live web course on the “Application of AI and Machine Learning in Mental Health Data” on 03 May 2024.

Dr Maoyi presented part 2 of the course which focused on *Unsupervised Machine Learning Techniques*. The first part of the training looked at *Supervised Machine Learning* and was conducted by [Dr Amelia Taylor](#) from Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS).

The African Population and Health Research Center ([APHRC](#)) is a leading Africa-based, African-led, international research institution headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. APHRC conducts policy-relevant research on population, health, education, urbanization, and related development issues in sub-Saharan Africa.

The APHRC together with its partner [Wellcome Trust](#) hosts the [Mental Health Data Prize Africa](#). The project aims to understand what works in preventing, treating and managing anxiety, depression and psychosis and to drive a transformative change in the African context in ways prioritized by the people who experience these problems.

The course was aimed at mental health researchers requiring upskilling in the field of machine learning. AI and machine learning techniques in analyzing mental health data are crucial for revolutionizing mental health care delivery and outcomes.

“By harnessing the power of advanced machine learning algorithms, these techniques may enable early detection and personalized treatment of mental health disorders, improving patient outcomes and reducing the burden on healthcare systems. Through predictive analytics, AI can anticipate individuals' risk factors, facilitating proactive interventions and preventive measures,” said Dr Maoyi.