Health AI Expands, Open Models Close Gaps, and the Grid Becomes an AI Issue

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Today's biggest signals came from healthcare and biology: OpenAI paired a broad health upgrade with published rare-disease results, Profluent signed a $2.25B Lilly deal, and Midjourney surfaced a medical imaging project. Elsewhere, new benchmark data showed open-weight momentum amid persistent agent limits, while labs and policymakers focused on deeper safety and infrastructure questions.

Health and biology led the day

OpenAI paired a broad health rollout with published clinical evidence

OpenAI said GPT-5.5 Instant is now on par with its frontier Thinking models for health-related questions, with better urgent-care recognition, context gathering, uncertainty explanation, and clarity across more than 230 million weekly health and wellness queries; the update is available to all free ChatGPT users and was shaped with feedback from hundreds of physicians across 60 countries, 49 languages, and 26 specialties [1, 2]. Separately, OpenAI, Boston Children's Hospital, and Harvard published a study in *NEJM AI* showing o3 Deep Research helped clinicians identify 18 diagnoses across 376 previously unsolved rare pediatric disease cases, with every result going through human adjudication and clinical confirmation [3, 4, 5].

Why it matters: one announcement widened access to health guidance inside ChatGPT, while the other tested AI inside an expert-led rare-disease reanalysis workflow that had already resisted years of specialist review [6].

Profluent signed a $2.25B Lilly deal for AI-designed gene editors

Profluent said it signed a $2.25 billion milestone deal with Eli Lilly to develop AI-designed gene editors for therapeutic large-gene insertion, framing the work as an example of AI unlocking a problem that could not previously be solved in this way [7]. The company says its transformer-based sequence models are trained on more than 100 billion protein sequences and used to generate proteins from scratch; it also pointed to OpenCRISPR as the first demonstration of AI-generated functional gene editors, and said peer-reviewed comparisons found sequence models outperforming structure-based approaches on complex multi-domain proteins [7].

Why it matters: this is a large commercial signal for generative biology, and it ties frontier-model methods directly to therapeutic gene-editing programs rather than discovery tooling alone [7].

Midjourney surfaced a new medical imaging project with clear trade-offs

Midjourney published a technical dive on a new "Scanner" project, which François Chollet described as a hardware effort for full-body internal 3D scans without MRI [8, 9]. A separate technical summary described the system as radiation-free, magnet-free, fast, and low-cost, while also noting current constraints: it requires a water immersion tank and its resolution is still coarser than CT or MRI [10].

Why it matters: it is a notable expansion from an AI image company into medical hardware, but the present limitations are substantial and part of the story [10].

Open-weight competition kept getting stronger

A new benchmark showed both momentum and stubborn limits

Artificial Analysis launched AA-Briefcase, a benchmark for long-horizon knowledge work across multi-week projects with thousands of fragmented inputs, including 25,000+ Slack messages and 3,500+ emails [11]. Its headline result was sobering: the top model, Claude Fable 5, satisfied all rubric criteria on just 3% of tasks, and no model scored above 50% on 31 of 91 tasks; within that field, GLM-5.2 was the next-best non-Anthropic model at 1266 Elo and one of the strongest price/performance options, at $2.40 per task versus $31 for Claude Fable 5 [11]. Poolside added to the open-weight push by releasing Apache 2.0 weights for its 256K-context Laguna M.1 and saying that "open weights are now our default" [12, 13].

Why it matters: open-weight models are getting more competitive on cost and capability, but the benchmark also underscores how far the field still is from reliable end-to-end agentic knowledge work [11].

Safety work is moving below the interface layer

OpenAI and DeepMind both argued for more structural approaches

> "Instead of assuming AI will always do what we intend, we ask: what if it doesn't?" [14]

OpenAI said its new work on broadly beneficial reinforcement learning used realistic conversations across 12 domains and improved a compute-matched model on 44 of 53 independent evaluations spanning deception, reward hacking, safety, health, and mental health; it also reported cross-domain transfer, where training only on health conversations improved non-health misalignment evaluations [15, 16, 17]. The company also reported that the trained model was harder to steer toward harmful behavior with adversarial prompts and showed preliminary resistance to harmful fine-tuning while remaining responsive to helpful instructions [18]. In parallel, Google DeepMind published an AI Control Roadmap arguing that most agent failures come from misinterpreting commands or becoming overenthusiastic, and that there is a narrow window to embed structural security protocols before multi-agent systems scale globally [19, 20].

Why it matters: both efforts point toward safety techniques that try to shape persistent behavior and system design, rather than relying only on after-the-fact prompt guardrails [16, 18, 20].

AI infrastructure is becoming energy policy

FERC took a meaningful step on large-load interconnection

FERC issued a large-load interconnection milestone that affects how AI factories, semiconductor fabrication support systems, and advanced manufacturing facilities connect to the grid [21]. The policy direction highlighted in the announcement includes large-load customers funding their own network upgrades, bringing new generation online, and offering flexible load; customers that can demonstrate flexibility may qualify for accelerated study timelines as short as 60 days [21]. NVIDIA also said it and Emerald AI are already working on flexible AI factories designed as grid assets, with commercial deployment beginning later this year [21].

Why it matters: AI capacity planning is no longer just a chip and data-center story; grid access and load flexibility are becoming part of the competitive stack too [21].

Sources

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