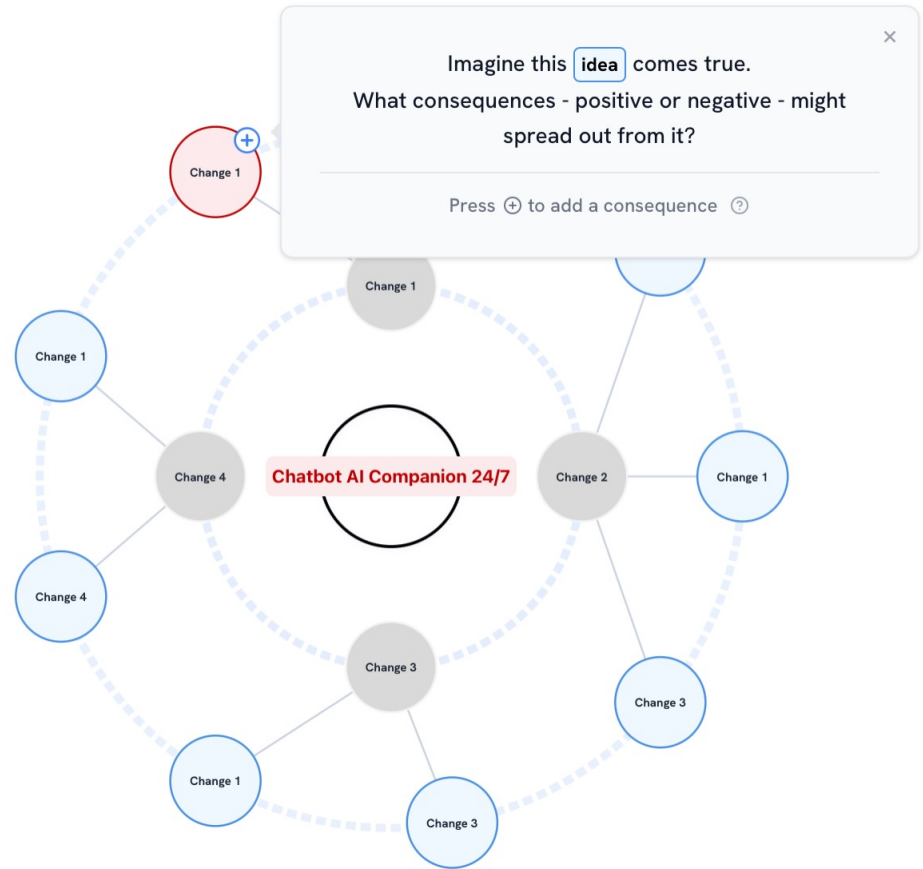
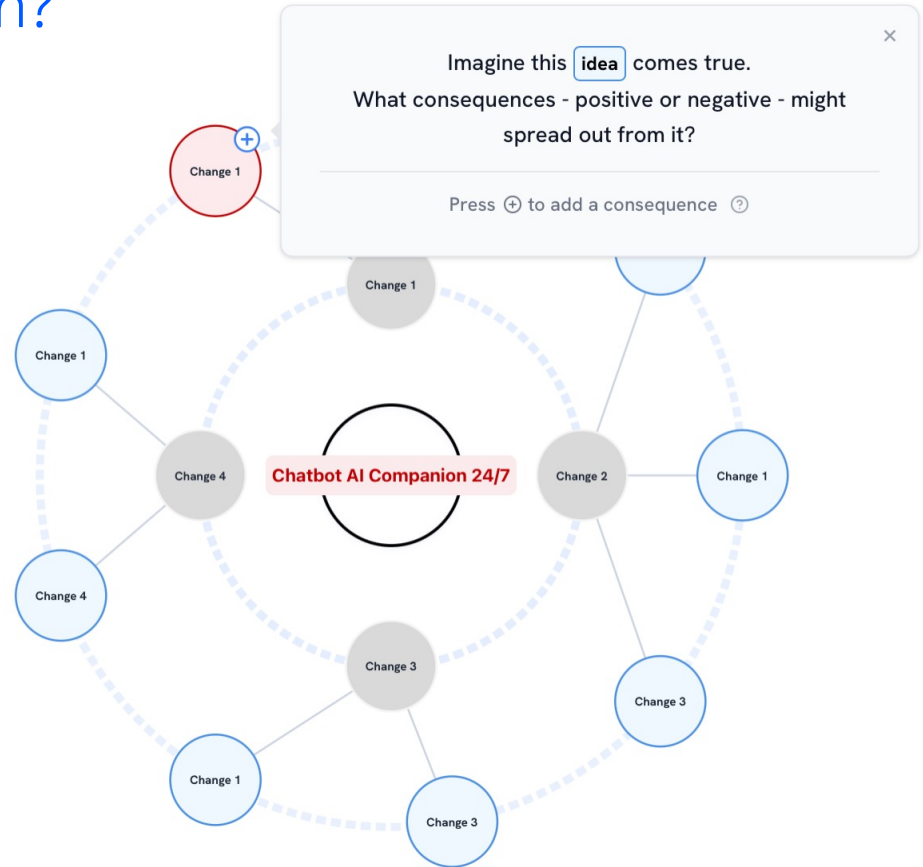


AI impact assessment with strategic foresight method



What are we doing in this session?

- We will explore possible consequences of an AI use using a strategic foresight method called **the Futures Wheel**
- The goal of the method is not to predict the future, but to imagine as many **potential risks** as possible



Agenda

~50-60min

Step 0: Registering groups (5 min) – if not done yet!

Step 1: Introducing the AI use case (1 min)

Step 2: Reviewing the impact assessment report for this use case (5 min)

Step 3: Imagining consequences of the use case using the Futures Wheel (25 min)

Step 4: Assessing the likelihood and impact of consequences (10 min)

Step 5: Closing the session (10 min)

Step 0: Registering groups (5 min)

Please register **all group members separately** using this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/foresight-groups>

Hello, Strategic Forecasters!

Getting to know you and your experience with AI

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

1. Please enter the name of your group:

2. What is your age?

3. What is your gender identity?

Female

Male

Non-binary

Prefer not to say

Other

Step 1: Introducing the AI use case (1 min)

Chatbot AI Companion 24/7



Step 2: Reviewing the impact assessment report for the chatbot (5 min)

Open the link assigned to your group:

www.social-dynamics.net/impact-assessment/chatbot1

→ Lebaly(1) | GENYZ(3) | Newbie Coders(1) | Data Center Stage (2) | Data Reservoirs (2-3) | Go for data (2, no laptop just ipad)

www.social-dynamics.net/impact-assessment/chatbot2

→ Beyond Data (2) | Team Diversity (2) | Lion and Sun (2, no laptop) | Oracle (1-2) | ~~Data Center Stage~~ | JAM (3) | QuattroNet (1)

Step 2: Reviewing the impact assessment report for the chatbot (5 min)

- You will see an impact assessment report describing possible impacts of the chatbot**
- Read the report carefully.**
- As you read, think about:
 - Who else might be affected by this use?
 - What other consequences could occur?

Impact Assessment Report

Chatbot AI Companion

Section 1 – Information on the System's Use

- **Purpose:** Providing AI companionship to users.
- **Capability:** Generating conversational responses from user input.
- **Domain:** Interpersonal communication.
- **AI Deployer:** AI Companionship Technologies Ltd.
- **AI Subject:** Companionship seekers.

Section 2 – Risks

2.1 Capability Risks

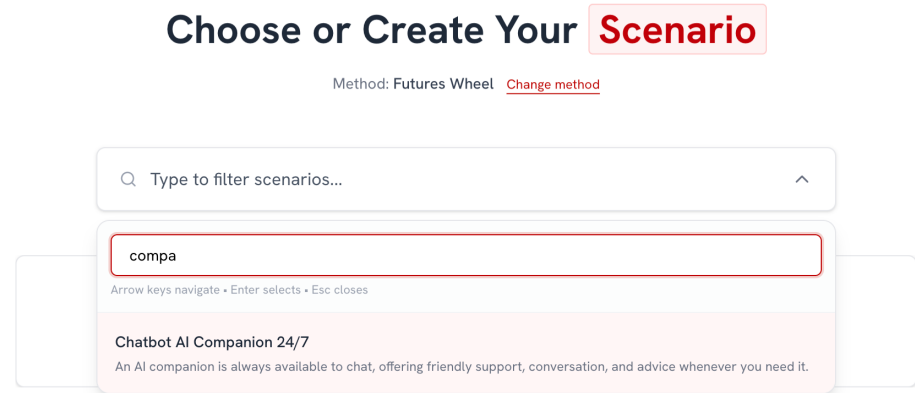
- Failure to identify crisis situations or escalate them could endanger user safety during emergencies.
- Inability to effectively replicate evidence-based therapeutic techniques could lead to negative mental health outcomes.
- Providing inaccurate or misleading health responses could cause confusion and result in adverse patient outcomes.
- Inability to scale for 24/7 volume could cause crashes, cutting off access to critical support.
- Inability to recognize and respond to emotional cues may make interactions feel impersonal during distress.
- Incompatibility with existing infrastructure could delay deployment and limit operational effectiveness.
- Failure to incorporate clinical insights into design may result in a product ignoring emotional needs.
- Failure to adhere to ethical standards regarding transparency and bias could invite regulatory scrutiny.
- Replicating societal biases in conversational models could result in discriminatory advice that disproportionately marginalizes vulnerable user groups.
- Providing overly complex or voluminous responses during distress could overwhelm the user's cognitive capacity and worsen anxiety.
- Lacking dynamic conversational boundaries could encourage users to seek advice on sensitive topics the AI is unequipped to handle.

2.2 Human Interaction Risks

- Developing an unhealthy over-reliance on the chatbot could hinder real-life social relationship development.
- Misinterpreting medication instructions provided by the chatbot could lead to non-adherence and negative health outcomes.
- Engaging in manipulative conversational patterns could subtly exploit user vulnerabilities and compromise autonomous decision-making.
- Unintentionally manipulating users through subtle algorithmic nudges could gradually compromise their emotional autonomy and well-being.
- Generating support responses that subtly misalign with organizational values could degrade brand integrity and confuse the user base.

Step 3: Imagining consequences of the chatbot using the Futures Wheel (25 min)

- Keep the report open in the tab.
- Open a new tab.
- Go to **brainstorming.social-dynamics.net**
- Select **“Futures Wheel”** in the main menu
- Select **“Chatbot AI Companion 24/7”** from the dropdown list

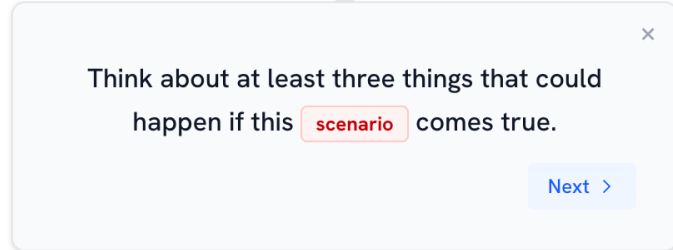


Step 3: Imagining consequences of the chatbot using the Futures Wheel (25 min)

Follow the instructions on the screen



Chatbot AI Companion 24/7



Think about at least three things that could happen if this scenario comes true.

[Next >](#)

Step 3: Imagining consequences of the chatbot using the Futures Wheel (25 min)

Follow the instructions on the screen

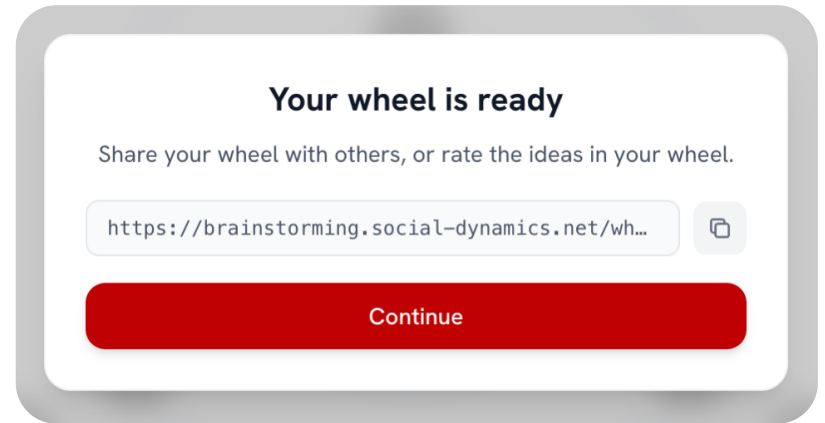
Complete **three layers** (the first layer, right after the scenario, needs three consequences at minimum)

Click “Done” to finish the wheel



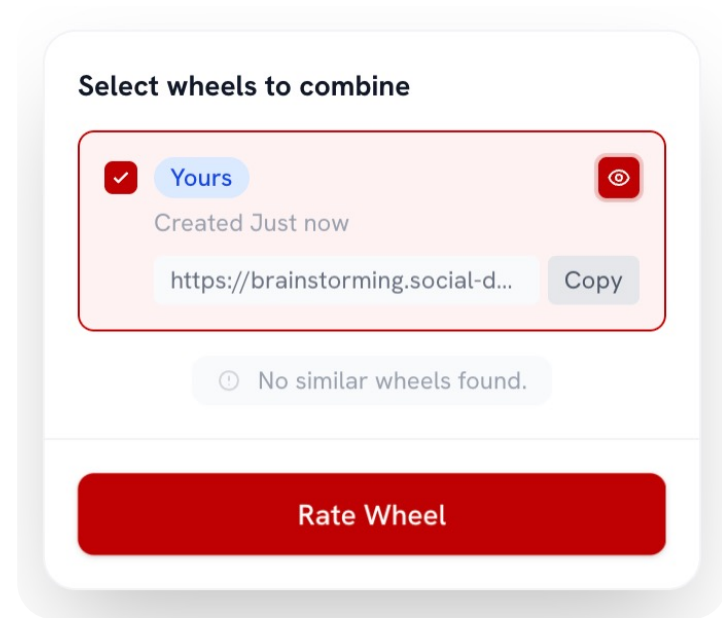
Step 3: Imagining consequences of the chatbot using the Futures Wheel (25 min)

- **Copy your groups' link,**
e.g., <https://brainstorming.social-dynamics.net/wheels/k0FQPkOJRM38lq4i>
- **Save it** in your notes or paste it into another web tab - you will need it again for the final step!
- When ready, click “Continue”



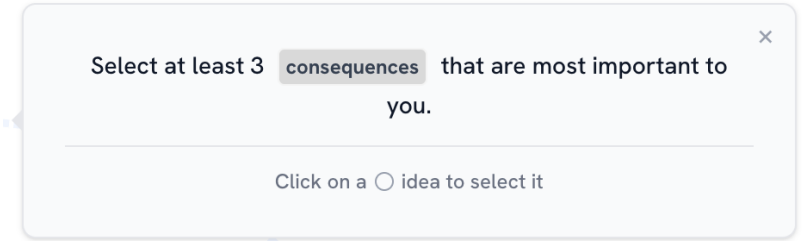
Step 4: Assessing the likelihood and impact of consequences (10 min)

- You will now see a pop-up box in the top-right corner
- Press “Rate Wheel”



Step 4: Assessing the likelihood and impact of consequences (10 min)

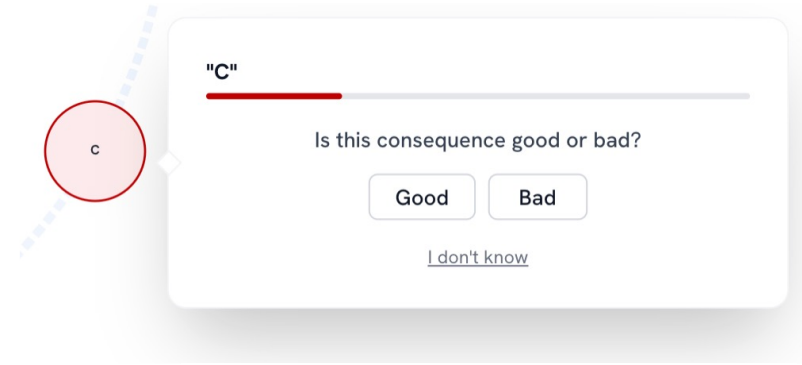
Click on the bubbles to
select **at least 3 risks**
that are most important to your group



Step 4: Assessing the likelihood and impact of consequences (10 min)

When Done, press X

Step 4: Assessing the likelihood and impact of consequences (10 min)



"C"

Is this consequence good or bad?

Good Bad

I don't know

Rate each **risk**

How likely is this consequence?

- Very unlikely
- Unlikely
- Neutral
- Likely
- Very likely

How severe is this threat?

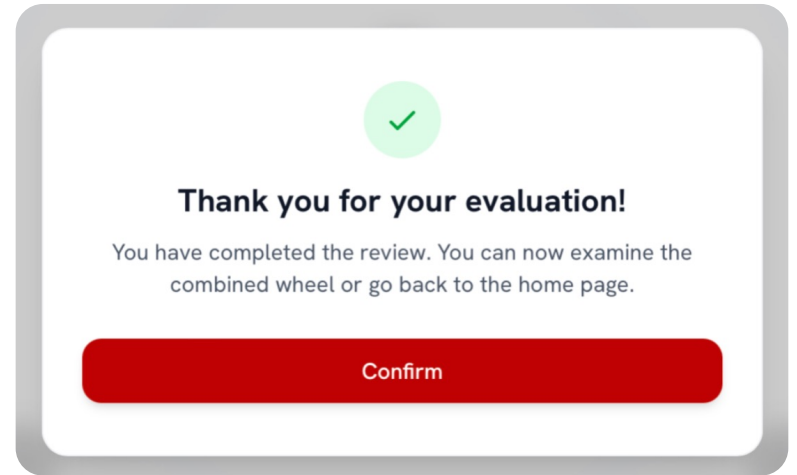
- Insignificant
- Minor
- Moderate
- Major
- Significant

How easy is it to mitigate this?

- Very difficult
- Difficult
- Neutral
- Easy
- Very easy

Step 4: Assessing the likelihood and impact of consequences (10 min)

Click **“Confirm”** to save your wheel



Step 5: Closing the session (10 min)

How did your group feel about the session?

Get your Future Wheel link ready!

Please answer **as a whole group** using this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/foresight-feedback>

Bye, Strategic Forecasters!

We're excited to hear about your experience today.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

1. Please enter the name of your group:

2. Please paste the link to your group's Futures Wheel:

3. How easy was it for your group to imagine possible consequences from the AI use case?

Very difficult

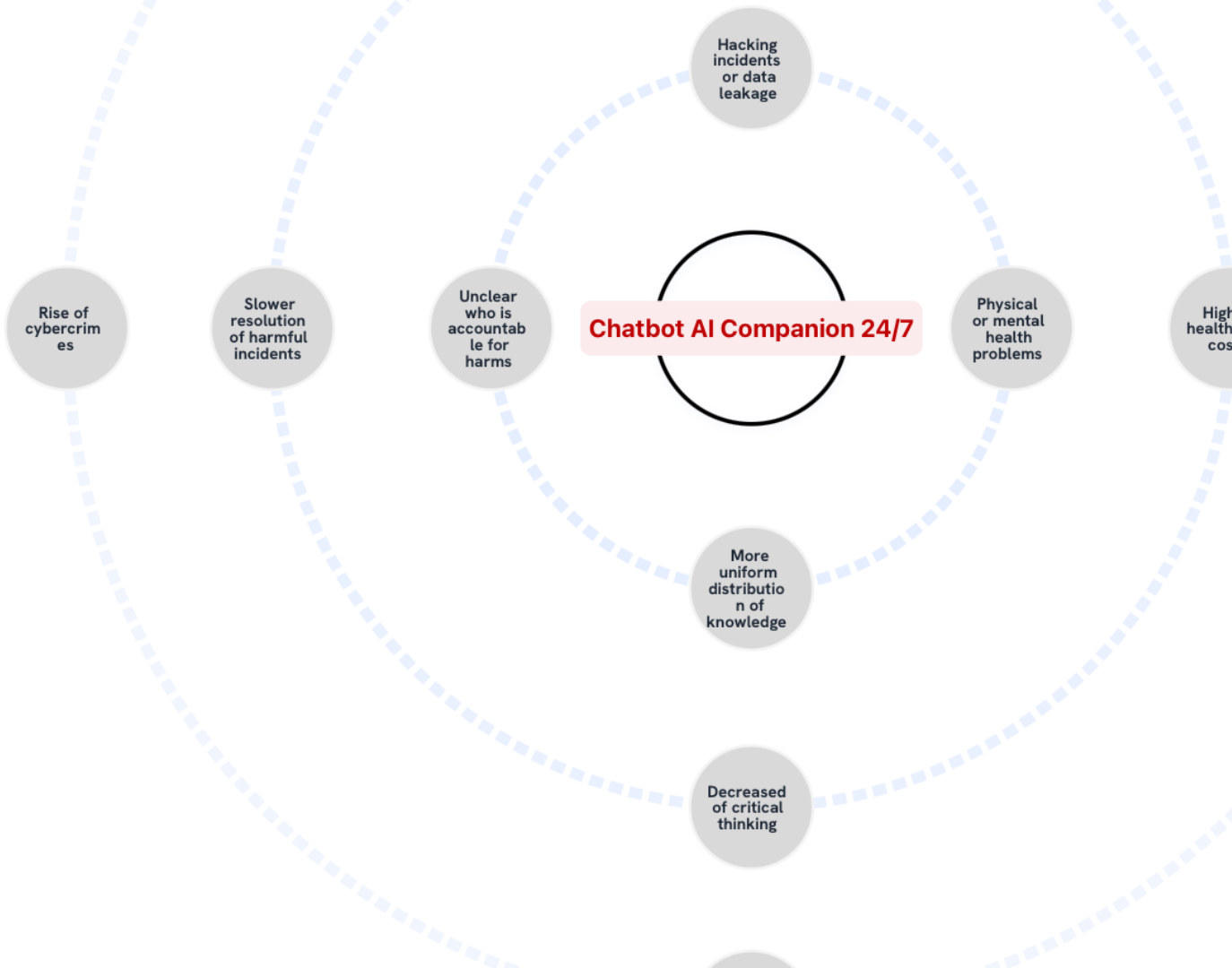
Difficult

Neither easy nor difficult

Easy

Very easy

Other



Chatbot AI Companion 24/7

lower quality of life for the users and

decreased confidence in decision making abilities

Human Cognitive Atrophy

Human Interaction Risks

blind trust in the bot

use of the knowledge provided without proof

reducing human creativity

Privacy and Data Risks

Systemic Impact Risks

encouragement of unhealthy behavior

development and worsening of disorders

slower social improvement

sensitive data collection

automated support system

data misuse and sharing with third parties

economic pressure on employees

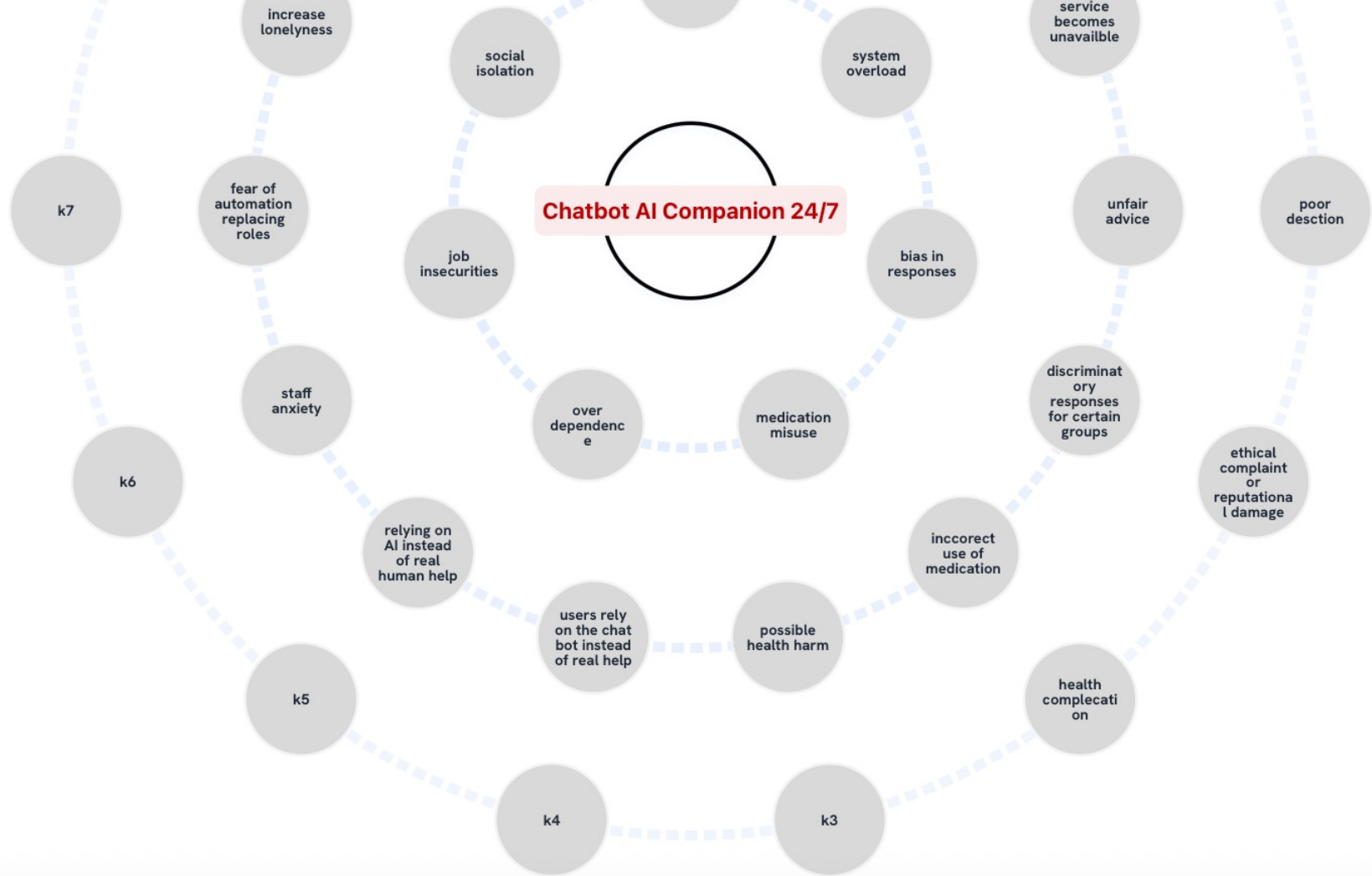
over-reliance on AI

lack of human evaluation and increased

decreased performance due to stress

decreased human employment

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Well done! Together, you brainstormed 181 risks

Your most common risks

- Social isolation / loneliness (10 times)
- Loss of critical thinking / cognitive decline (8 times)
- Privacy and data security risks (7 times)
- Job displacement / employment impact (7 times)
- Over-reliance on AI / dependency (6 times)
- Misinformation or incorrect advice (6 times)
- Mental health problems (6 times)
- Loss of creativity / innovation (5 times)
- Poor decision making (4 times)
- Technical failures / system issues (3 times)

Your least common risks

- Environmental impacts (CO2 emissions, biodiversity loss) (1 time)
- Water consumption from data centers (1 time)
- Land use for data centers (1 time)
- Population shrinkage (1 time)
- Increase murder rate (1 time)
- Premature aging (1 time)
- Alzheimer's risk (1 time)
- Drug abuse (1 time)
- Multilingual incompetence (1 time)
- Physical health problems (1 time)