AI-Based Medical Decision Support Systems for Optimized Patient Care

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Abstract

Healthcare is undergoing a transformation thanks to artificial intelligence (AI), which is improving patient care decision-making procedures. Through the analysis of intricate medical data and the provision of individualized treatment recommendations, AI-based Medical Decision Support Systems (MDSS) has the potential to enhance patient care. Similar artificial intelligence (AI) models are being applied to the healthcare industry to forecast outcomes, track patient states, and enhance clinical processes. These models are based on ideas from preventative maintenance and optimization in energy-intensive industries.For instance, the ability of AI to customize therapies for adults and children and guarantee effective and individualized care is demonstrated by Bayesian decision support systems such as the one created for warfarin dosage. In a similar vein, multicriteria spatial decision systems powered by AI have been proposed to include social, environmental, and public health data to enhance healthcare decision-making. AI-based MDSS solution has the potential to enhance both individual treatment plans and large-scale healthcare infrastructures. The Indiana Network for Patient Care (INPC), for instance, demonstrates how artificial intelligence (AI) technologies can be included into regional health information networks to enable real-time provider collaboration and patient data interchange. Furthermore, WellDocTM and other mobile AI-based systems have proven effective in treating chronic illnesses, improving clinical outcomes and patient satisfaction. Additionally, AI can be extremely important in operational management, where dataintegrated simulation models guarantee balanced workloads and effective healthcare delivery in situations like nurse-patient assignments. In the end, AI-based MDSS offer encouraging developments in healthcare administration and patient care optimization, opening the door for a time when medical decisions will be more individually tailored and data-driven.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Medical Decision Support Systems (MDSS),Machine Learning in Healthcare, Patient Care Optimization, Clinical Decision Support, Multimodal Data Processing, Natural Language Processing, Convolutional Neural Network, Feature Extraction, Predictive Analytics, Healthcare Automation, Real-time Patient Monitoring, Disease Diagnosis Systems.

1. Introduction

In a number of industries, including healthcare, artificial intelligence (AI) has become a disruptive force. AI-based Medical Decision Support Systems (MDSS) are becoming more and more common. Large volumes of medical data may be analyzed by these systems, which helps to improve clinical decisionmaking, anticipate outcomes, and offer tailored therapy suggestions for patients. The goal of integrating AI into healthcare is to meet the increasing need for effective, data-driven solutions that can enhance the timeliness and accuracy of medical judgments.

The capacity to handle large and varied datasets, including as patient histories, medical imaging, and realtime health monitoring data, is the key to the promise of AI-based MDSS. Similar AI-driven strategies are being applied to optimize healthcare delivery by drawing on techniques from other industries, such as predictive maintenance and optimization in energy-intensive manufacturing plants [1]. MDSS can improve patient outcomes and streamline healthcare operations by helping doctors make educated decisions by automating repetitive processes and evaluating complex data.

AI has also shown promising results in the individualization of medication dose. AI can optimize drug administration by assessing patient-specific data and providing precise and tailored therapies, as demonstrated by a Bayesian decision support tool for warfarin dose [2]. Adverse medication reactions, a prevalent worry in medical practice, are reduced by this tailored strategy, which also enhances patient care.

Furthermore, extensive health information infrastructures are incorporating AI. For example, the Indiana Network for Patient Care (INPC) makes it easier for healthcare practitioners to share patient data, which leads to better-coordinated and efficient treatment regimens (McDonald et al., 2005). WellDocTM and other mobile health systems, which provide real-time monitoring and individualized medication modifications, are examples of how AI is being used practically in the management of chronic diseases [3].

Additionally, AI-based MDSS can help with effective resource management in the healthcare industry. To optimize nurse-patient assignments, for instance, data-integrated simulation models have been used, balancing workloads and raising the standard of care [4]. This demonstrates how AI can be used more broadly in the clinical and administrative domains of healthcare.

To sum up, AI-based MDSS have a great deal of potential to transform patient care by providing individualized treatment plans and data-driven insights. AI is predicted to play an increasingly important role in improving healthcare delivery and decision-making as it develops, which will eventually enhance patient outcomes and create more effective healthcare system.

Contribution

This study examines a number of case studies to demonstrate the usefulness of AI-based MDSS in the healthcare industry, highlighting both achievements and difficulties faced. [1]'s investigation, which covers an AI-driven decision support system utilized for production optimization and preventative maintenance in energy-intensive facilities, is one of the study's major contributions. The AI design of this system, albeit unrelated to healthcare, provides important insights on the optimization potential of AI for healthcare environments, especially in terms of improving resource management and operational efficiency.

Another noteworthy AI use in healthcare is the Bayesian decision support system for warfarin dosage customisation, created by [2]. By customizing medicine dosages for each patient, this system demonstrates how artificial intelligence (AI) may optimize patient care and reduce risks by making medical decisions according to each patient's needs. Furthermore, [4] stress the significance of data integration by talking about the Indiana Network for Patient Care, a crucial component of AI-powered decision-making that links healthcare facilities via a regional health information infrastructure.

Focus

Adapting therapies to each patient's unique needs in order to increase efficacy and safety.Using AI to forecast therapy responses, patient outcomes, and disease progression is known as predictive analytics. Using EHRs and other healthcare data to provide data-driven insights and assist doctors in making wellinformed judgments is known as the integration of big data with clinical decision-making.Improving the effectiveness of healthcare by allocating resources more wisely, including personnel assignments and hospital workflows.

Furthermore, research like that done by [13] and [7] shows how interdisciplinary AI applications may be, with decision-making systems that incorporate ethical and public health concerns in addition to medical concerns. These components are essential to developing AI systems that are morally and practically sound, an increasingly important consideration that [8] highlighted in their analysis of the moral and legally troubling implications of predictive analytics in healthcare.

2. Literature Review

Medical decision support systems (MDSS) powered by artificial intelligence (AI) have drawn interest recently due to their potential to enhance patient outcomes and streamline healthcare procedures. To assist in clinical decision-making, these systems make use of machine learning (ML), artificial intelligence (AI), and sophisticated data analytics. The contributions of much important research are examined in the section that follows, along with a description of their methods, benefits, and drawbacks.

2.1 Preventive Maintenance and Optimization in Energy-Intensive Industries

AI-based decision support system (DSS) aimed at optimizing preventive maintenance and production in energy-intensive industries. The methodology relied on integrating AI algorithms with existing industrial data to predict equipment failures and optimize maintenance schedules. While not directly related to healthcare, the framework's focus on data-driven decision-making is transferable to the medical domain, particularly in predictive diagnostics and treatment optimization [1].

Merits: High reliability in predicting failures; reduced downtime and maintenance costs. **Demerits:** Industry-specific, requiring significant customization for healthcare applications.

2.2 Bayesian Decision Assistance for Warfarin Administration

Bayesian decision support tool for individualizing warfarin dosing in both adults and children. The tool utilized Bayesian inference to model patient-specific characteristics and adjust dosing accordingly. This methodology is highly relevant to AI-based MDSS, as it emphasizes personalized treatment plans based on patient data, which can be extended to other drugs and conditions [2].

Benefits: Tailored care that can be adjusted to fit different patient characteristics.

Drawbacks: restricted to a single drug and difficult to expand across several conditions without more information.

2.3 Multicriteria Spatial Decision Support System

An integrated, multicriteria spatial decision support system that takes into account social, environmental, and public health viewpoints was proposed by [3]. Multicriteria decision analysis (MCDA), which was used in this system's technique to take into account a variety of data types for decision-making, shows that artificial intelligence (AI) can manage complicated, multidimensional healthcare data.

Merits: Integrates multiple perspectives, including public health and environmental data. **Demerits:** Complexity in handling vast amounts of data and aligning disparate data sources

2.4 WellDoc™ Mobile Diabetes Management

WellDoc™, an AI-based mobile platform for diabetes management. The platform used real-time data and decision support to provide individualized recommendations to patients and healthcare providers. This study highlights the benefits of integrating AI into patient-facing mobile platforms for chronic disease management [4].

Benefits: Better clinical results, increased satisfaction among patients and doctors. **Drawbacks:** Limited to diabetes; difficult to modify the platform for use with other chronic illnesses.

2.5 **Nurse-Patient Assignment Optimization**

A simulation model that integrates data and is intended to optimize nurse-patient assignments was described by [5]. By distributing the workload among nurses, the approach used to data-drive simulations to enhance the effectiveness of patient care.

Benefits: Better service delivery and economical use of resources. **Drawbacks:**Emphasized operational elements rather than clinical decision-making specifically.

2.6 Literature Summary Table

Table 1: Summary table for literature review

2.7 Conclusion of Literature Review

The research now in publication emphasizes the wide range of uses for AI-based decision support systems in a number of industries, including healthcare. Data-driven decision-making and individualized treatment are prevalent elements in the underlying methodology, despite the fact that much research concentrates on particular use cases, such as nurse-patient assignments or warfarin dosage. These systems are clearly beneficial since they may increase productivity, customize care, and improve patient outcomes. Scalability, complexity, and the requirement for strong IT infrastructures are some of the drawbacks, too.These studies provide valuable insights into how AI can be leveraged in medical decision support systems, but further research is needed to address challenges such as generalization across multiple medical conditions, data privacy, and system interoperability.

3. Architecture/Discussion

An AI-based Medical Decision Support System (MDSS) architecture is intended to combine several medical data sources, use AI models for forecasting and making decisions, and give healthcare professionals advice in real time. The main elements of the suggested system are described in this section, along with data input, feature extraction, model selection, and output, which leads to the system's implementation.

3.1 Data Input Layer

The system processes multiple forms of medical data, including:

Electronic Health Records (EHRs): Patient histories, diagnostics, lab results, medications, etc.

Medical Imaging Data: X-rays, MRIs, and other diagnostic images.

Wearable/IoT Data: Vital signs such as heart rate, glucose levels, and blood pressure from wearable devices.

Clinical Notes: Unstructured text data from doctors' notes or medical reports. These diverse data types are collected and pre-processed to ensure consistency, accuracy, and completeness.

3.2 Data Pre-processing

This layer handles:

Data Cleaning: Removal of missing or inconsistent values from EHR and imaging data.

Normalization: Standardizing data formats and scales to enable consistent processing.

Feature Engineering: Extracting relevant features from structured and unstructured data for model training (e.g., using natural language processing for clinical notes).

3.3 Feature Extraction

Feature extraction is crucial to transforming raw medical data into meaningful inputs for AI models. Two major categories of features are extracted:

Text Features: Extracted from clinical notes using NLP techniques like tokenization, entity recognition, and topic modeling. Models like RoBERTa or BERT are used to process text.

Image Features: Medical imaging data is processed through pre-trained Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) like ResNet to extract relevant visual features.

3.4 AI/ML Models

Predictive Models: Supervised machine learning models like Random Forest, Decision Trees, or Gradient Boosting are trained on structured EHR data to predict patient outcomes (e.g., likelihood of a particular diagnosis or adverse event).

Deep Learning Models: For complex data such as images, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are used to assist in diagnosing conditions like cancer or fractures.

Reinforcement Learning Models: These can be applied in scenarios where the system continuously learns from real-time patient feedback and evolves over time, improving treatment recommendations.

3.5 Decision Support Mechanism

The decision-making process relies on combining the outputs from multiple models:

Bayesian Networks: These models are particularly useful for clinical scenarios requiring probabilistic predictions based on multiple sources of evidence [2].

Ensemble Learning: Combining the predictions of multiple models to improve accuracy and reliability.

3.6 User Interface (UI) Layer

The user interface delivers the results and insights directly to healthcare professionals:

Dashboard Interface: Provides visual insights, risk scores, alerts, and treatment recommendations. The system can highlight high-risk patients and suggest immediate interventions.

Mobile/Remote Interface: Enables real-time monitoring and decision-making support on mobile devices for clinicians in remote settings [5].

3.7 Modeling

Once decisions are made and actions taken, the outcomes are fed back into the system for continuous improvement. This involves:

Model Retraining: Regular updates of AI models based on new patient data and evolving medical knowledge.

System Updates: The system's algorithms are adjusted based on real-world performance to enhance the accuracy of predictions and decisions over time.

3.8 Mathematical Equations

3.8.1 Logistic Regression for Diagnosis

Logistic regression is often used for binary classification (e.g., disease/no disease). The logistic function is given by:

$$
h_\theta(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-\theta^T x}}
$$

3.8.1 **Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) for Image Feature Extraction**

In CNNs, the output feature map at layer l is computed using:

$$
y_{i,j,k}^l = f\left(\sum_m \sum_n w_{m,n,k} \cdot x_{i+m,j+n,k}^{l-1} + b_k\right)
$$

3.8.2 Attention Mechanism for Feature Fusion

In multimodal systems combining text and image data, an attention mechanism can be applied to focus on the most relevant features from both modalities. The attention score is calculated as:

$$
\alpha_i = \frac{e^{e_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^n e^{e_j}}, \quad e_i = v^T \cdot \tanh(W_h h_i + W_s s)
$$

3.8.3 Cross-Entropy Loss for Classification

For multi-class disease classification, the cross-entropy loss function is commonly used:

$$
L=-\sum_{i=1}^N\sum_{j=1}^M y_{i,j}\log(\hat{y}_{i,j})
$$

3.8.4 ROC-AUC for Model Evaluation

The Receiver Operating Characteristic Area Under Curve (ROC-AUC) is used for evaluating the model's performance, calculated by:

$$
\text{AUC} = \int_0^1 \text{TPR}(f^{-1}(t)) \cdot d\text{FPR}(t)
$$

3.9 Discussion

The MDSS's suggested architecture combines organized and unstructured data for thorough decisionmaking by integrating a number of AI approaches. The system's merits are its capacity to offer individualized recommendations in real-time and its flexibility in responding to changing clinical settings. The system can improve patient outcomes and optimize treatment paths by utilizing models such as reinforcement learning for continuous improvement and Bayesian decision support for personalized care.

However, challenges persist. One of the main limitations is the integration of disparate data sources, as many healthcare systems operate in silos, making data standardization difficult. Privacy concerns also arise when handling sensitive patient data, especially when integrating data across platforms like mobile and wearable devices[4].

Another issue is the system's dependency on the availability of high-quality, labelled data, which may not always be present in certain medical fields.

However, the architecture offers a solid framework for deploying AI-driven DSS in the medical field, opening the door for more sophisticated uses like remote monitoring, telemedicine, and predictive healthcare.

4. Result Analysis

• The result analysis compares model predictions with actual outcomes in a healthcare context in order to assess how well the AI-based Medical Decision Support System (MDSS) performs. This part focuses on the accuracy, dependability, and clinical application of the system using case studies and important assessment criteria. Both qualitative findings from user feedback and quantitative evaluations using accepted measures are included in the analysis.

4.1 Evaluation Metrics

The performance of the MDSS was tested using standard classification and regression metrics depending on the output of the particular models:

Accuracy: calculates the percentage of accurate predictions the system made. Accuracy for classification models (disease diagnosis, for example) is a simple measure of overall model performance.

Precision: focuses on the model's positive predictions and determines the proportion of accurate forecasts. In medical diagnostics, where false positives may result in needless therapies, it's very crucial.

Recall (Sensitivity): evaluates the model's ability to detect true positives, or instances in which a disease is accurately diagnosed when it exists. In the medical field, high recall is essential for reducing missed diagnoses and guaranteeing that patients receive treatments on time.

F1-Score: When there is a trade-off between false positives and false negatives, the harmonic mean of precision and recall offers a fair measurement. When assessing the MDSS's capacity to strike a balance between over diagnosing and underdiagnosing, this is vital information.

AUC-ROC (Area Under Curve - Receiver Operating Characteristic): Plotting true positives against false positives over threshold values allows one to assess the model's performance in differentiating across classes. High discriminative power is indicated by an AUC score that is closer to 1.

Mean Absolute Error (MAE) & Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE): In regression models, these measures measure the average error between the anticipated and actual values (e.g., forecasting patient vitals or treatment outcomes). Better model performance is indicated by lower values.

4.2 Quantitative Results: -

A collection of validation and test datasets were used to evaluate the models created for the MDSS, which included CNNs for medical pictures, NLP models for clinical notes, and predictive models for structured EHR data. A synopsis of the main findings is given below:

Table 2: for quantitative result analysis

4.3 Case Studies and Clinical Application

In partnership with healthcare professionals, case studies were carried out utilizing test patient data to verify the system's practical usefulness. These case studies demonstrate the MDSS's functionality in a range of medical situations.

Case Study 1: Cancer Diagnosis Using Medical Imaging

Objective:The system was tasked with identifying cancerous lesions from a dataset of medical images (CT scans and MRIs).

Approach: Using the CNN (ResNet) model for feature extraction, the system highlighted potential areas of concern and flagged them for further review by radiologists.

Result: the MDSS was able to identify the majority of malignant lesions with an accuracy of 89.7% and recall of 90.1%. Radiologists must manually review highlighted images because to the moderate prevalence of false positives indicated by accuracy (88.4%).

Clinical Feedback: By highlighting high-risk locations, the MDSS greatly decreased the amount of time needed for diagnosis; nevertheless, manual oversight is still required. Considering how important it is to prevent missed diagnoses (false negatives), the false positives were considered to be acceptable.

Case Study 2: Patient Readmission Prediction Using EHR Data

Goal: Identify patients who, within 30 days of discharge, are most likely to require a readmission so that healthcare practitioners can take preventative action.

Method: A Random Forest classifier was trained using structured EHR data (e.g., patient history, lab results, medication data). The system provided a risk score for each patient.

Result: the model's accuracy was 92.1%, with 90.8% precision and 91.5% recall. These findings showed that despite reducing false positives, the method successfully identified high-risk patients.

Clinical Comments: Medical professionals thought the technique was helpful in identifying patients who needed follow-up care. Early detection of high-risk patients made prompt interventions possible, which decreased the number of readmissions overall.

4.3.1 Error Analysis and Limitations

1. Imbalanced Data

There was a clear imbalance in the dataset for a few uncommon medical problems, which could have contributed to the underperformance of these cases. For instance, the model's accuracy (88.4%) in the cancer diagnostic job suggested a moderate amount of false positives, which might result in needless tests and follow-ups. For uncommon circumstances, methods like the Synthetic Minority Over-Sampling Technique (SMOTE) or better class balance may perform better.

2. Feature Interpretability

Even while CNNs and Random Forest models did well in terms of prediction, it is still difficult to understand these models. Gaining physician trust and acceptance of deep learning models, particularly for medical imaging, required knowing which image regions contributed to the decision (using methods like Grad-CAM).

3. Clinical Workflow Integration

Even while CNNs and Random Forest models did well in terms of prediction, it is still difficult to understand these models. Gaining physician trust and acceptance of deep learning models, particularly for medical imaging, required knowing which image regions contributed to the decision (using methods like Grad-CAM).

4.3.2 Benefits of the System

Enhanced Diagnostic Accuracy: The MDSS showed a high degree of accuracy and recall in a number of medical domains (such as cancer diagnosis and readmission prediction), indicating that it may be able to lower human error and enhance diagnostic results.

Time Efficiency: The technology saved physicians significant time by automating portions of the diagnostic process (such as recognizing questionable regions in medical imaging or highlighting high-risk patients), enabling quicker decision-making.

Personalized Care: The MDSS generated customized recommendations for each patient using models like Random Forest and Gradient Boosting, which helped to improve the targeting of therapies and interventions.

4.3.3 Future Improvements

Extending Multimodal Fusion: Text (clinical notes), imaging, and structured EHR data were all successfully incorporated in the current implementation. For even more thorough analysis, future iterations may include data from other sources, such as genetic data.

Handling False Positives: Ongoing research is concentrated on improving models to lower false positives, especially in image-based diagnosis, in order to lessen the workload on physicians.

Continual Learning: By retraining on fresh patient data and engaging in continual learning, the MDSS is built to get better over time. The system will develop to provide recommendations that are even more precise and trustworthy as more data is gathered.

4.3.4 Summary of Results

Table 3: for result analysis summary

4.3.5 Conclusion of Result Analysis

By increasing time efficiency, personalizing suggestions, and boosting diagnostic accuracy, the AI-based MDSS showed great promise for improving patient care. Although the system performed well in a number of healthcare domains—most notably in readmission prediction and diagnostic imaging—more effort is required to reduce false positives and ensure a smooth integration with clinical procedures. The system's ability to learn continuously guarantees that it will adjust and advance with the addition of new data, making it a useful instrument for upcoming healthcare uses.

5. Conclusion

In the direction of optimal patient care, the creation of AI-Based Medical Decision Support Systems (MDSS) represents a revolutionary step. The MDSS can perform a wide range of medical activities, such as disease detection, patient readmission prediction, and clinical note interpretation, by utilizing sophisticated algorithms like Random Forest, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), and RoBERTa. Comprehensive and precise medical insights are made possible by the system's integration of unstructured clinical notes, structured Electronic Health Record (EHR) data, and medical imaging.

The quantitative results showed how highly accurate, precise, and recallable the method was, especially when it came to patient risk assessment and cancer detection. Furthermore, the qualitative input provided by physicians highlighted the system's usefulness in actual healthcare settings, where it can lower diagnostic errors and boost patient management effectiveness.

However, the system is not without its limitations. Issues such as data imbalance, interpretability of deep learning models, and the need for seamless integration with clinical workflows are areas that require further attention. Despite these challenges, the MDSS shows immense promise in revolutionizing how healthcare is delivered, with a strong potential for reducing the burden on healthcare professionals and enhancing patient outcomes.

6. Future Scope

Future advancements in AI-Based Medical Decision Support Systems present a number of stimulating chances for creativity and advancement:

6.1 Combining Genomic Data

Proteomic and genetic data may be incorporated into future MDSS versions to offer more individualized treatment suggestions. The technology could provide insights into illness predispositions and customize treatment approaches depending on a patient's genetic composition by incorporating genetic data.

6.2 Clinical Monitoring and Alerting in Real-Time

Continuous, real-time health assessments might be made possible by expanding the system to include realtime patient monitoring via wearable technology and Internet of Things-enabled medical equipment. In the event of serious health problems, such as abrupt changes in vital signs or abnormal glucose levels, this would enable early action.

6.3 Increasing Transparency and Explain ability

Improving the interpretability of deep learning systems, such as CNNs, and machine learning models in general is still a top concern. The integration of explainable AI (XAI) methodologies, such as decision-path visualizations or attention maps, is imperative to enhance doctors' comprehension and confidence in the model's judgments, hence facilitating the model's widespread adoption.

6.4 Expanding to Multilingual and Global Health Data

Future multilingual natural language processing capabilities for MDSS platforms are essential, as healthcare systems around the world provide clinical data in different languages. This would make the system more accessible in underrepresented areas and allow it to be deployed in a variety of healthcare settings.

6.5 Continuous Learning and Adaption

By putting in place a continual learning mechanism that allows the MDSS to change over time in response to fresh data inputs, its accuracy and adaptability will increase. The system may keep current with new medical discoveries and offer cutting-edge healthcare advice by routinely retraining the models.

6.6 Support for Remote Healthcare and Telemedicine

With the rise of telemedicine, MDSS can play a pivotal role in providing remote consultations and decision support. Future systems could be integrated into telemedicine platforms, offering remote diagnostics and treatment recommendations for patients who may not have access to immediate in-person healthcare.

6.7 Interdisciplinary Utilization

It is possible to apply the approaches and models utilized in MDSS to other fields, such as drug development, epidemiology, and public health. Predictive models may help in illness epidemic detection, treatment effectiveness assessment, and large-scale healthcare resource allocation optimization.

6.8 Taking Care of Data Security and Privacy

Future MDSS systems must abide by strict data privacy laws like HIPAA and GDPR since AI systems handle sensitive healthcare data. It will be crucial to use strong encryption techniques and safe data processing procedures to guarantee patient confidentiality and confidence.

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