
HEALTH RISK PREDICTION USING BIG HEALTH DATA

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ABSTRACT

The rapid digitization of healthcare has led to the creation of extensive and diverse medical datasets generated from electronic health records, laboratory information systems, diagnostic imaging platforms, and wearable health technologies. Although such data holds substantial potential to enhance clinical decision-making, conventional diagnostic practices continue to rely largely on manual evaluation and are inefficient in handling complex, high-dimensional medical information. Consequently, the early detection of chronic diseases such as lung cancer and Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) remains a significant global challenge. To address this issue, this study presents a machine learning-based health risk prediction system that utilizes Big Health Data for accurate disease risk assessment. The proposed framework analyzes clinical, demographic, and lifestyle features using Logistic Regression, Random Forest, and XGBoost algorithms. By automating feature extraction and pattern recognition, the system enhances predictive accuracy, reduces diagnostic inconsistency, and supports timely clinical intervention. Experimental findings indicate that ensemble and gradient boosting techniques achieve superior predictive performance compared to traditional diagnostic approaches.

INDEX TERMS: Big Health Data, Machine Learning Models, Health Risk Prediction, Chronic Kidney Disease, Lung Cancer Detection, Random Forest, XGBoost, Clinical Decision Support Systems.

I. INTRODUCTION

Advances in digital technology have significantly altered the structure and functioning of modern healthcare systems [1], [2], [5]. The integration of Electronic Health Records (EHRs),

telehealth services, cloud-enabled diagnostic tools, and wear-able monitoring devices has made it possible to collect medical information continuously and at scale [8], [21]. This extensive and heterogeneous collection of healthcare information—commonly referred to as Big Health Data—includes laboratory measurements, medical images, demographic profiles, lifestyle-related attributes, and long-term patient records [8]–[10]. The growing availability of such data creates new possibilities for intelligent, data-centric healthcare analysis and decision support [16], [21].

Despite this data abundance, diagnostic processes in many healthcare settings remain largely manual and clinician-dependent [3], [4]. Conventional diagnostic approaches require substantial time and effort, are vulnerable to subjective judgment, and lack the capability to efficiently analyze complex, high-dimensional datasets [8], [21]. These constraints significantly limit the effectiveness of early disease detection, especially for conditions that develop gradually and exhibit minimal symptoms in their initial stages [1], [6].

As a consequence, many serious illnesses are identified only after reaching advanced stages, when treatment becomes more expensive and less effective [2], [6].

Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and lung cancer are prominent examples of this challenge [1], [10], [11]. CKD often progresses unnoticed during its early phases and is frequently diagnosed only after irreversible kidney damage has occurred, resulting in End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and long-term economic and clinical burden [2]–[4]. Likewise, lung cancer continues to account for a high proportion of cancer-related deaths worldwide, primarily due to late diagnosis and limited early screening effectiveness [10]–[12]. These realities expose a fundamental limitation in current healthcare systems: the absence of reliable, automated, and scalable mechanisms for early disease risk assessment [8], [21].

Machine Learning (ML) has gained increasing attention as a viable solution to overcome these limitations [8]–[10]. ML techniques enable automated processing of large-scale medical datasets and can uncover complex, non-linear relationships among clinical variables [15], [16], [21]. Such capabilities support critical healthcare tasks including disease prediction, patient risk stratification, and clinical decision assistance [8], [10], [16]. Although prior research has investigated the use of individual ML models for medical prediction, many existing studies focus on a single disease, rely on limited datasets, or fail to provide comparative evaluation across multiple algorithms [9], [10], [12]. Additionally, there remains a need for integrated predictive frameworks that effectively utilize Big Health Data while maintaining accuracy, interpretability, and scalability [16], [21].

In response to these challenges, this paper aims to develop a machine learning-based health risk

prediction framework for early detection of CKD and lung-related disorders using Big Health Data [8]–[10]. The proposed system employs Logistic Regression, Random Forest, and XGBoost models to analyze a comprehensive set of clinical, demographic, and lifestyle features [9], [10], [12]. By combining linear models with ensemble and gradient boosting techniques, the framework seeks to enhance predictive performance, reduce diagnostic inconsistency, and improve robustness when handling high-dimensional healthcare data [15], [16].

The key contribution of this study is the development of a unified and comparative predictive framework for chronic disease risk assessment [9], [10], [16]. The results demonstrate that ensemble and boosting-based models offer superior performance over conventional diagnostic methods while supporting consistent and data-driven clinical decisions [15], [16], [21]. Overall, this work contributes to the advancement of intelligent healthcare systems by providing a scalable approach for early disease detection, reduced diagnostic burden, and improved patient outcomes [8], [21].

II. METHODOLOGY

A. Dataset Description

The datasets used in this work were collected from publicly available Kaggle sources and are intended for healthcare risk prediction [5], [8], [10]. Two datasets were employed: one related to chronic kidney disease and another focused on lung disease [1], [10].

The kidney disease dataset consists of 50,001 records with a total of 21 attributes, including 20 medical features and one target variable [5], [8]. The features include demographic information, laboratory test values, and clinical conditions such as blood pressure, biochemical measurements, blood-related parameters, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, coronary artery disease, appetite, pedal edema, and anemia [5], [21]. The target label specifies whether the patient is affected by chronic kidney disease [1], [5].

The lung disease dataset contains 50,001 samples with 9 columns in total, where 8 columns represent input features and one column represents the output label [10], [11]. These features describe lifestyle factors, environmental exposure, and respiratory symptoms, including age, body mass index, pollution level, air quality index, smoking habits, cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, fatigue, and family history [11], [12]. The target variable indicates the presence or absence of lung disease [10], [12].

B. Data Preprocessing

Data preprocessing was carried out to improve the quality of the datasets and prepare the data for machine learning model training [8], [21]. Initially, the datasets were checked for missing values, duplicate records, and inconsistent entries [5], [8]. Duplicate and irrelevant records were removed to avoid bias in the prediction results [5].

Missing values present in numerical attributes were handled using mean or median imputation techniques, while categorical attributes were filled using the most frequent value [8], [21]. This ensured that valuable data was not lost during preprocessing [8].

Categorical variables were converted into numerical form using label encoding methods [8]. Numerical features were normalized using Min–Max normalization to scale all values between 0 and 1, which helps improve model convergence and performance [21].

These preprocessing steps ensured that the data was clean, consistent, and suitable for effective machine learning–based disease prediction [8], [21].

C. Feature Selection and Analysis

Feature selection was performed to identify the most relevant medical attributes contributing to disease prediction and to reduce model complexity [8], [9], [21]. Statistical correlation analysis and model-based feature importance techniques were applied [8], [9].

For the kidney disease dataset, laboratory indicators such as serum creatinine, blood urea, hemoglobin, blood pressure, diabetes mellitus, and hypertension were identified as highly influential features [5], [8]. These parameters are clinically associated with kidney dysfunction and disease progression [1], [2].

For the lung disease dataset, lifestyle and environmental factors including smoking habits, air quality index (AQI), pollution exposure, shortness of breath, chest pain, and family history were found to have significant impact on prediction outcomes [10]–[12]. Selecting these features improved model interpretability and predictive accuracy [11], [16].

D. Proposed System Architecture

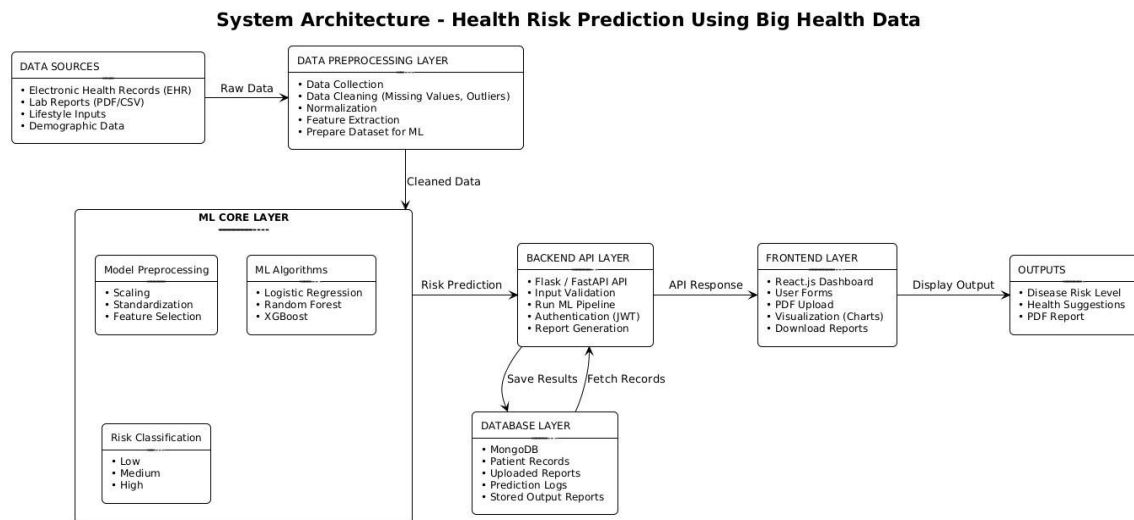


Fig.1.Overall Architecture of the Health Risk Prediction System.

The proposed system follows a layered architecture (Figure 1) for efficient health risk prediction. Data from EHRs, lab reports, lifestyle inputs, and demographics is first pre-processed to handle missing values, normalize features, and select relevant attributes [8], [21]. The ML core layer applies Logistic Regression, Random Forest, and XGBoost for risk prediction and classifies patients into Low, Medium, or High risk [9], [15], [16]. The backend API layer handles input validation, runs the ML pipeline, and generates reports [16]. Patient records and prediction logs are stored in the database layer, while the frontend layer provides an interface for data input, visualization, and report download [10], [16]. This modular design ensures scalability, accuracy, and timely clinical decision support.

III. MACHINE LEARNING MODELS

A. Logistic Regression

Logistic Regression is a linear classification algorithm commonly used in medical prediction tasks [9], [22]. It estimates the probability of disease occurrence using a sigmoid function and serves as a baseline model due to its simplicity and interpretability [9], [21].

B. Random Forest

Random Forest is an ensemble learning method that combines multiple decision trees to improve classification performance [16], [23]. It reduces overfitting and handles nonlinear relationships effectively, making it suitable for healthcare datasets with mixed features [16], [21].

C. XGBoost

XGBoost is a gradient boosting algorithm known for its high accuracy and scalability [15], [16]. It

applies regularization techniques and efficient tree construction, allowing it to handle large and complex healthcare datasets [15]. Due to its superior performance, XGBoost was selected as the final model [16], [21].

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

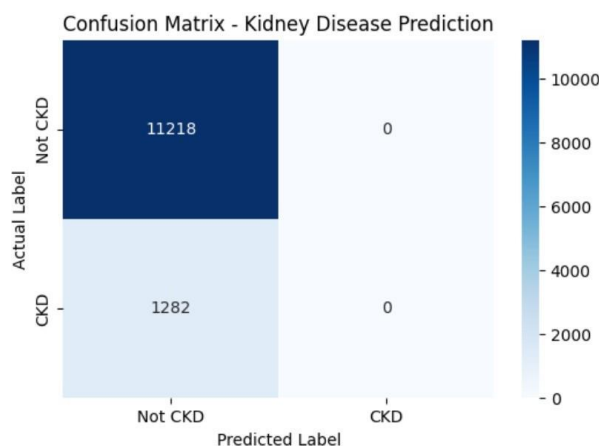


Fig.2. Confusion Matrix of XGBoost Model for Kidney Disease.

A. Experimental Setup

All experiments were conducted using Python in a Jupyter Notebook environment [9], [10]. Libraries such as NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-learn, and XGBoost were used for implementation [9], [15], [16]. The datasets were divided into training and testing sets using an 80:20 split [8]. Model performance was evaluated using accuracy, precision, recall, and confusion matrix analysis [9], [16].

B. Performance Comparison

TABLE I PERFORMANCE COMPARISON FOR KIDNEY DISEASE DATASET.

Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall
Logistic Regression	0.88	0.89	1.00
Random Forest	0.8594	0.90	1.00
XGBoost	0.8974	0.90	1.00

TABLE II PERFORMANCE COMPARISON FOR LUNG DISEASE DATASET.

Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall
Logistic Regression	0.8041	0.79	0.80
Random Forest	0.7943	0.79	0.79
XGBoost	0.8226	0.81	0.82

XGBoost achieves the highest accuracy on both Kidney (0.8974) and Lung (0.8226) disease datasets, outperforming Logistic Regression and Random Forest [15], [16]. All models show strong recall, but XGBoost provides the best overall performance for these classification

tasks [16], [21].

C. Confusion Matrix Analysis

The confusion matrices illustrate the classification performance of the XGBoost model for both kidney and lung disease prediction [15], [16]. For the kidney disease dataset, the model correctly classified 11,218 instances as non-CKD, while 1,282 CKD cases were misclassified as non-CKD, indicating a class imbalance [5], [8]. For the lung disease dataset, the model demonstrated balanced performance by correctly identifying

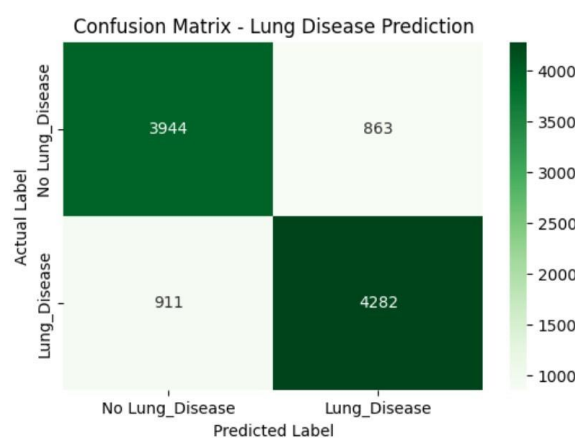


Fig.3. Confusion Matrix of XGBoost Model for Lung Disease.

3,944 non-disease cases and 4,282 lung disease cases, with 863 false positives and 911 false negatives, reflecting reasonable sensitivity and specificity [10], [12], [16].

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