Mortality Risk and Health Suggestions for Critical Patients Using Extended LSTM and CNN

by

Muaz Ibne Ashraf

21101177

S.M. Sihat Islam

21301107

Zasia Farzin Siraz

21201379

A project submitted to the Department of Computer Science and Engineering in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of B.Sc. in Computer Science and Engineering

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

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Declaration

It is hereby declared that:

1. The Project submitted is my/our own original work while completing degree at Brac University.

2. The Project does not contain material previously published or written by a third party, except where this is appropriately cited through full and accurate referencing.

3. The Project does not contain material which has been accepted, or submitted, for any other degree or diploma at a university or other institution.

4. We have acknowledged all main sources of help.

Student's Full Name & Signature:

Muaz Ibne Ashraf
21101177

S.M. Sihat Islam
21301107

Zasia Farzin Siraz
21201379

Approval

The titled “Mortality Risk and Health Suggestions for Critical Patients Using Extended LSTM and CNN” submitted by

1. Muaz Ibne Ashraf (21101177)
2. S.M. Sihat Islam (21301107)
3. Zasia Farzin Siraz (21201379)

of Fall, 2025 has been accepted as satisfactory in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of B.Sc. in Computer Science in January 31,2026.

Examining Committee:

Supervisor:

Dr. Md. Khalilur Rhaman, Professor
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
BRAC University
(Member)

Program Coordinator:

Dr. Md. Golam Rabiul Alam, Professor
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Brac University
(Member)

Head of Department:

Sadia Hamid Kazi, Associate Professor & Chairperson
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Brac University
(Chair)

Abstract

Intensive care units (ICUs) and their high mortality rate often require predictive tools that could help to determine at-risk patients in time and direct the interventions. The given project presents a deep learning system that merges Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) with the Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) networks to better predict the risk of mortality at an early stage among critical patients in ICUs. Using a significant portion of the patient data such as the vital signs and laboratory results, the model can carry out constant risk analysis and it could prove superior to the conventional scoring systems. Health suggestion module is also incorporated to make suggestions on clinical interventions to be made on high risk patients thus assisting healthcare providers with their decision-making. Finally, the suggested direction will enhance the patient outcomes as it will allow delivering proactive medical care and, thus, distributing ICU resources more reasonably.

Keywords: ICU Mortality Prediction, Deep Learning, CNN-LSTM, Health Recommendation System, Machine Learning, Clinical Decision Support, Time-Series Data, Explainable AI, Reinforcement Learning, Patient Outcome Prediction.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Preamble

1.1.1 About This Report

The ICU_Analyzer project was a final year research project that was initiated to investigate and create an AI-based method of assisting medical personnel at intensive care units (ICU). Following the increased sophistication of ICU patient care, timely and proper predictions on patient mortality risk and health recommendations are paramount in enhancing clinical care and patient outcomes. The proposed project intends to design, develop, and test an intelligent application that combines the Extended LSTM (Long short-term memory) and CNN (Convolutional neural networks) models to estimate the risk of patient mortality using clinical data and laboratory reports. This report aims to give the methodology, design and review of ICU_Analyzer in the technical architecture, functionalities and performance of the device.

1.2 Background

Intensive Care Units (ICUs) are strategic areas of a hospital unit that treat patients faced with an acute, life-threatening ailment or condition. Despite statistics on the large-scale studies showing the range of the ICU mortality rate at 11-12% [18], the figures show that accurate and quick clinical decision-making is crucial during the process of attending to a patient. In the United States, the spending relating to critical care equaled more than 0.72 percent of the GDP or a spending of over 108 billion in 2010 [21]. As such, the need to streamline, error-free and anticipatory practices of monitoring patients is urgent as data in such ICUs is extremely cumbersome and fluctuations in the condition of patients is occurring at high rates.

1.3 Rational Of The Study

The major goal of the study is to overcome the vulnerabilities of the traditional ICU mortality assessment tools like APACHE II, SAPS II, and SOFA score. Such scoring scales are rigid, often obsolete and require manual entry of data, prone to errors and slowing the delivery of clinical care. Moreover, they lack the acceptable level of granularity to track quick patient degradations or varying clinical conditions, which adversely affects patient outcomes [9]. The urgent need for a dynamic, adaptable and precise derivable model which can be used in real-time evaluation promotes the use of deep learning approaches in improving the care of ICU patients.

1.4 Problem Statement And Objective

Modern medicine is on a new level; however, the standard risk-assessment models operating in intensive-care units (ICUs) are still very weak. The existing model systems are associated with certain delays and lack flexibility and cannot detect the dynamically changing state of ICU driven clinics. These constraints undermine early intervention and distort the allocation of resources, and this has consequences to the survival of patients [6]. Therefore, the key aim of the current study is the development of the correct, dynamic, and practically available forecasting model, which will be able to utilize the masses of the data in ICU to improve monitoring procedures and finally boost patient outcomes. The aim of the current study is to develop an effective, precise, and clinically applicable model predicting mortality of ICU patients that will work based on a deep learning approach. To that extent, the study proposes to:

- Devise a mixed Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) framework that gives accurate prediction of mortalities [24].
- Provide a health-suggestion delivery module that can provide personal clinical interventions that would help reduce patient risk.
- Provide continuous monitoring capabilities that are available in real-time via the use of streaming ICU-system data.
- Incorporate explainable AI methods in order to increase transparency and the ability to build trust in clinicians

1.5 Methodology In Brief

The current study utilizes a hybrid deep learning tool of convolutional neural network long short term memory (CNN-LSTM). These methodological features include the comprehensive literature review report, retrieval of intensive care unit (ICU) data sets (e.g., MIMIC-III and MIMIC-IV), intensive data preprocessing schemes, model development through an application of deep learning frameworks (e.g., TensorFlow and PyTorch) [3], intensive training and validation, and testing, and evaluation of the performance towards a set of clinical standards. Furthermore, the study is dedicated to modelling the model in the form of a convenient and applicable application. It involves development of a software system, which will take the interface of an app and will be able to perform real-time mortality risk predictions, as well as provide clinical decision support directly at the bedside. This will be achieved by the introduction of a tool that will combine the already trained CNN-LSTM model and make it accessible to clinicians so that patient related data can be fed to the tool and risk scores along with recommendations can be directly outputted to the app. The current study utilizes a hybrid deep learning tool of convolutional neural network long short term memory (CNN-LSTM). These methodological features include the comprehensive literature review report, retrieval of intensive care unit (ICU) data sets (e.g., MIMIC-III and MIMIC-IV), intensive data preprocessing schemes, model development through an application of deep learning frameworks (e.g., TensorFlow and PyTorch) [3], intensive training and validation, and testing, and evaluation of the performance towards a set of clinical standards. Furthermore, the study is dedicated to modelling the model in the form of a convenient and applicable application. It involves development of a software system, which will take the interface of an app and will be able to perform real-time mortality risk predictions, as well as provide clinical decision support directly at the bedside. This will be achieved by the introduction of a tool that will combine the already trained CNN-LSTM model and make it accessible to clinicians so that patient related data can be fed to the tool and risk scores along with recommendations can be directly outputted to the app.

1.5.1 Testing The Application And Feedback Collection

ICU_Analyzer was highly tested to ensure that it addresses the needs of the targeted users. These were the steps followed by the testing:

- **Pilot Testing:** Pilot testing involved a small group of healthcare professionals who tested the application in a non-clinical controlled setting. They were requested to apply the application to sample ICU patient data and give their feedback concerning the usability, the accuracy, and the effectiveness.
- **Real-World Testing:** The application itself was exercised during real ICU environments under the real patients. Feedback regarding the accuracy of mortality predictive, recommendations made by the application, and usefulness of the system was collected among the healthcare professionals.

- **Feedback Collection:** Feedback was gathered by means of semi-structured interviews and questionnaires. The questions were narrowed down to usability, accuracy of the prediction, and relevance of the suggestions in clinical practice. This is the feedback that was essential in the process of making the system more realistic in terms of its utilization in the real world.

1.5.2 Academic Research

To establish the academic value of the current research, a literature review was carried out. The study was based on the current AI solutions used in the medical sector, and specifically, in the area of mortality forecast and health suggestions. The reading gave us the knowledge of:

1. The application of LSTM and CNN models to healthcare.

2. Predictive models in ICU and their shortcomings.

3. Current health recommendation systems and its potential improvement using AI.

The selection of the proper models and approach to potential development of ICU_Analyzer was preconditioned by this academic research.

1.6 Scopes And Challenges

The study aims at enhancing evidence-based risk prediction and clinical decision making in intensive-care units (ICU) using modern machine-learning techniques. Major challenges include the complex environment of the existing dataset, the need to guarantee data quality, the need to find interpretable models, which can be used by clinicians, the need to integrate their workflow with the existing information systems within hospitals, and the need of being able to operate in real-time. Databases have limited access, data-set bias and limitations of computational resources are involved [22]

Chapter 2

Literature Review

2.1 Preliminaries

Prediction of mortality in the Intensive Care Units (ICUs) is core to implementing timely intervention, clinicians decisions, and resource utilization. The Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation (APACHE II) is a traditional scoring system. Simplified Acute Physiology Score (SAPS II) and Sequential Organ Failure Assessment (SOFA) are the two common methods to measure the severity of a patient [20]. But such systems are also not dynamic and they are likely to be inexact due to inaccuracy in data input and inaccuracy caused by calibration fade with time. Conversely, Machine Learning (ML) and Deep Learning (DL) approaches such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks have demonstrated to model complex, temporal, and high dimensional ICU data without thorough manual feature engineering. Major concepts are the following:

- **CNN(Convolutional Neural Networks):** Special neural networks, expert in identifying a spatial and temporal pattern in sequential data.
- **LSTM (Long Short-Term Memory Networks):** A special case of recurrent neural networks which avoid the problem of gradient loss, due to special information-flow structure favorable to the acquisition of long-term dependencies in sequential data [13].
- **Attention Mechanisms:** Methods which enable neural networks to concentrate selectively on important parts of an input data and create a more easily interpretable result and more accurate prediction.
- **Explainable AI (XAI):** Strategies of AI meant to guarantee that the inner workings of a machine-learning model would be explained in a way comprehensible to the human professionals.

2.1.1 Time-Series Clinical Data in ICU Settings

The data on the patients of ICU is naturally of the character of time-series, on the regular basis of constantly observed physiological parameters, and periodical measurements of laboratory indicators. This temporal structure is crucial to proper mortality prediction due to the need of proper modeling. Previous research has demonstrated that patient deterioration is usually signaled with time-dependent changes in vital signs [1], [8].

The capability of ignoring short-term temporal dependencies to exploit long-term temporal dependencies, in particular, deep learning architectures like LSTM networks are well-evolved to deal with sequential data. This is enabled to detect minute physiological trends that may be unnoticed in analysis by snapshot [7], [2].

2.1.2 Deep Learning in Healthcare Analytics

Deep learning has fundamentally changed healthcare analytics by allowing learning of the complex, high-dimensional features automatically. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have been used to successfully investigate meaningful spatial patterns in both structured and unstructured medical data whereas recurrent neural networks like LSTMs are efficient in modeling time-dependent interrelated [3], [8].

It has been shown that CNN-LSTM hybrid architectures have been proven to be more successful in clinical prediction tasks that consider both the spatial and temporal attributes of patient histories [1], [2].

2.1.3 ICU Mortality Prediction Models

Rule-based scoring mechanisms, which include APACHE II, SOFA and SAPS II, have been used in mortality prediction in ICUs. Although they are extensively utilized, these systems lack customization by manual feature engineering and fixed risk estimation [8].

Recent machine learning based solutions have shown massive advances by using big volumes of Electronic Health Record (EHR) data and deep neural networks. These are dynamic models that constantly change the risk of mortality and offer more detailed visions [1],[7].

2.1.4 Explainable Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Systems

XAI has emerged as a necessity of clinical machine learning systems. The clinicians should have the capability to comprehend the rationale of model predictions to inspire confidence and safe implementation [6].

The use of SHAP values, attention mechanisms, and feature attribution techniques have been very popular in addressing interpretability. Previous researchers underline the importance of explainability to enhance clinician acceptance and contribute to its inclusion in clinical processes [6], [4].

2.1.5 Clinical Decision Support and Health Suggestions

The notion behind clinical decision support systems (CDSS) is that the predictive knowledge is transformed into actionable medical advice. It has been demonstrated that the integration of prediction and recommendation has a better clinical outcome and allocation of resources [5], [14].

Very recently, AI-shaped CDSS frameworks are suggested to support clinicians with their early intervention strategies, especially with sepsis, as well as critical deterioration circumstances [5]. These systems facilitate the gap between the algorithmic prediction and the actual medically-oriented decision-making.

2.1.6 Reinforcement Learning for Adaptive ICU Interventions

Reinforcement learning has become a prospective way to model sequential treatment plans in ICUs. Reinforcement learning systems can propose adaptive treatment plans in the long term with references to optimal policies determined by historical patient courses [5], [25].

Research shows that clinicians who are training reinforcement learning have the ability to formulate intricate treatment approaches to disorders or conditions like sepsis, which proves that it is possible to develop dynamic and personalized intervention systems [5]. This direction of the research makes us aware of the future developments of the proposed system toward the adaptive clinical recommendation engine.

2.2 Review of Existing Research

2.2.1 Research Paper Analysis

Several notable research studies have explored the state of progress in machine learning and deep learning methods to predict mortality in the ICU.

CNN-LSTM-Based Methods:

Khan [11] emphasized the usefulness of CNN-LSTM hybrid model in the extraction of meaningful patterns of ICU clinical notes and time-series data. The experiment showed that there was a huge difference between the performance of deep learning models and classic severity-based scoring frameworks like APACHE-II with the capacity of CNN-LSTM models to process unstructured text and limited time information in a better manner.

Multi-task Learning and Attention Model:
Yu et al. [16] had developed a multi-task recurrent neural network with attention mechanisms to simultaneously predict in-hospital mortality and any other outcomes. The attention mechanism enhanced both the performance of the model as it singled out the most important parts of time-series data. On the same note, Kaji et al. [10] found that attention-based neural networks are more accurate and interpretable, in that they can reveal clinically relevant events and time periods.

Hybrid Distinction between Neural Network Architectures:
According to the study conducted by Baker et al. [12], they used a CNN-Bidirectional LSTM model to determine continuous mortality risk probability based on 24-hour vital sign sequences. This strategy effectively represented both short-term physiological fluctuations and long-term temporal environment dependence, and had competitive predictive success.

Utilization of High-Dimensional Data:
Johnson and Mark [1] had good predictive accuracy due to the large number of patient variables (148 features). As much as this made the model expressive, it also complicated the systems and brought into light the practical challenges in regards to integrating the data and deploying the systems in real clinical settings.

Generalization of Models in Different Clinical Systems:
The problem of model generalization was also discussed by the study by Alves et al. [2] when it is proved that with dynamic prediction models, it is possible to retain accuracy in the results in the case of presumption across other hospitals and patients, which justifies the practical value of developing mortality prediction systems that may be implemented in various clinical environments.

Walmart conventional machine learning methods:
Miao et al. [7] used Random Survival Forest models to predict deaths in the ICU and the results were satisfactory. All these strategies however had a significant dependency on manual feature engineering constraints that add to the scalability and put into focus

the benefit of deep learning models in automatic feature extraction.

Viable Systems of Deep Learning:
Shamout et al. [15] created the Deep Early Warning System (DEWS) that includes the interpretability of the attention, to detect the essential temporal patterns in vital signs. This interpretability made AI-based mortality prediction systems much more useful and trusted by the clinicians.

Explainability of Model Transparency:
Lundberg et al. [6] proposed SHAP as a model to measure the contribution of features to machine predictions. SHAP can be used to provide local and global explanations, giving clinicians the ability to comprehend and justify high-risk predictions, which is necessary in transparency-based ICU mortality models, in which transparency is a clinical necessity.

Comparative Benchmarking:
Pattalung and Chaichulee [19] performed a comparative analysis of several machine learning algorithms on multicenter ICUs datasets. They found that performance on models differs between datasets and preprocessing choices and call on the importance of standardized performance and reproducibility in ICU machine learning studies.

Deep Learning Models based on EHRs:
Xiao et al. [9] performed a review of deep learning applications with the help of electronic health records and identified the issues of data quality, temporal granularity, and data governance. It was highlighted that structured and unstructured data gathered through EHR can be used to enhance predictive accuracies, yet there are ethical and scalability issues.

2.2.2 Application Analysis

Outside of the field of algorithm creation, a number of studies have been on the real world implementation of machine learning in clinical decision support and healthcare systems.

Clinical Decision Support and Treatment Recommendations: A system of clinical recommendation on the treatment of septic shock based on reinforcement learning was proposed by Komorowski et al. [5]. They proved that work by AI systems can go beyond the prediction of outcomes by proposing treatment plans, and it is possible to combine the predictive model with actionable clinical decision support.

Aspect Engineering Clinical Deployment: Such strategic feature engineering methods as trend extraction and ratio-based features were proven to increase the robustness of the models and decrease computational needs [14]. These strategies enhance the practicality of deployments in the resource-constrained ICU setting, as well as supplement deep learning algorithms, especially when the data is as noisy or scarce.

Internet of Things and Edge Hypothesis in Intensive Care: Aldahiri et al. [17] investigated integration of the IoT devices and the edge computing to monitor patients in real-time. Execution of machine learning models by using edges decreases time to respond, increases discretion of memory, and demonstrates quicker clinical response, pointing to future directions of automated ICU systems.

Healthcare AI: Big Data Integration: Sanchez-Pinto et al. [8] and Beam and Kohane [3] evaluated the integrations of massive clinical data and the related challenges and opportunities. They also highlighted that it is important to harmonize the data of multimodal in terms of laboratory outcomes, vital signs and clinical notes to construct strong and generalizable mortality predictive systems.

Individualized and Customized Modeling: Hu et al. [20] explored condition-specific modeling by sepsis subphenotyping, whereas Yoo et al. [23] generated the outcome prediction model based on the renal therapy patients. And these disease-specific strategies of clinical relevancy are helpful in supporting precision medicine because they make predictions tailored to patient pathophysiology.

Applications Suspended due to COVID-19: The research undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic [21] showed the high versatility of machine learning models under emergency situations in a very short amount of time. Nonetheless, constraints with data commodities and fast changes in treatment guidelines influenced the model trustworthiness, which indicates the necessity to regularly update the model and verify its work externally.

Ethical and Moral Issues: Balagopalan et al. [24] highlighted such ethical priorities in AI in healthcare as fairness, transparency, and minimization of algorithmic bias. Patient safety and ethical concerns can be supported by ethical oversight, clinical supervision, and validated deployment of AI systems in the ICUs.

Novel Trends and Future Projections: A summary of recent developments in the field of healthcare machine learning, formulated by Rahman et al., [26], revealed three leading priorities: explainability, fairness, and clinical validation. An increase in deployable, trustworthy and clinically integrated AI systems as opposed to performance driven models is reflected in the literature.

2.3 Summary Of Key Findings

The literature discloses remarkable trends and findings of paramount importance as far as implementing viable strategies is concerned. Intensive care units mortality predicting systems:

- Hybrid CNN-LSTM deep learning approaches are repeatedly more accurate in predicting and more flexible in terms of use than classical ICU scoring models.
- Multi-task learning and attention mechanisms have considerable effects in the accuracy of predictions, not only recognizing pertinent clinical indications but also making the model more interpretable [4].
- The paradigm shift between traditional ML pipelines that mandate feature engineering to more current deep learning pipelines denotes a trend to an automated and real-time processing and feature extraction on the data.
- It is crucial that generalization and domain adaptation efforts should be made to achieve robustness in the wide range of clinical settings [23].
- The application of reinforcement learning and interpretable AI can expand predictive value into a practical clinical prescription, which benefits these approaches to healthcare more.
- Future ethical considerations are to be made that focus on equitable, sound and significant applications, as proposed by the new research findings [24].

All in all, these results provide an insight into the framing of this research and its methodology because, in turn, the accuracy, interpretability, adaptability, and clinical relevance of the proposed deep learning-based ICU mortality prediction and intervention system are arguably crucial attributes.

Chapter 3

Requirements, Impacts And Constraints

3.1 Specifications And Requirements

The ICU_Analyzer can be utilized in a real-time ICU environment and uses machine learning models to identify mortality risks and offer health suggestions through lab data and clinical information. In this chapter, the author describes the specification and the requirements needed to develop and deploy the application.

Functional Requirements

ICU_Analyzer has the main functions of:

1. **Upload and Extraction of Reports:** The system should allow the uploading of reports on patients in different formats, but not limited to PDF and pictures (e.g., JPG, PNG). These reports are digested with the help of the OCR (Optical Character Recognition) technology to follow out necessary medical information, i.e., lab results, vital signs, and patient history.

2. **Mortality Risk Prediction:** The functionality is one of the central features of the application that allows predicting mortality risk among ICU patients using the LSTM and CNN models. The data obtained should be analyzed by the system and the chances of patient survival or death predicted.

3. **Health Suggestions:** The app would need to suggest health recommendations specific to the mortality prediction and other clinical data to enhance patient outcomes, like these could be an intervention or monitoring recommendation.

4. **Real-time ARs:** The system has to be capable of updating and processing the status of the patient in the real-time, as the new lab results and clinical outputs are published.

Non-Functional Requirements

1. **Data Security and Privacy:** Since health data is sensitive, the ICU_Analyzer should be in line with the data privacy laws, including GDPR and HIPAA. The software will also require encryption in transmission and data storage, whereby patient information is safe.

2. **Scalability:** The application must be scalable to process big datasets of various units in an ICU and be able to have healthcare providers of various institutions use it simultaneously.

3. **Usability:** The app should provide its users with a user-friendly user interface (UI) that should be accessible and intuitive to healthcare professionals of different degrees of technical skill. Predictions and health suggestions should be provided in a concise way in which the UI is clear.

4. **Performance:** The application must scale to run efficiently in both low latency prediction generation and processing of data even when resources are limited.

3.2 Societal Impacts

The invention of ICU_Analyzer is of great importance to society, particularly to the health care systems. This may influence the society in multiple ways, as they will extend beyond healthcare professionals and include patients and the general population.

Improved Patient Outcomes: The ICU_Analyzer has the potential to enhance quality of care to critical patients by offering mortality risk predictions and actionable health advice to the clients on time. It is capable of assisting the ICU personnel in making sound decisions as well as minimizing medical errors and ensuring that patients get the required interventions in due time.

Greater Availability of Sophisticated Tools: The AI-based tools like the ICU_Analyzer can assist in filling the resource gap within the healthcare sector, specifically the under-resource or rural settings with insufficient access to specialist clinicians and tools. The application is capable of delivering real-time advanced predictive analytics and decision support to healthcare professionals irrespective of the place.

Cutting Healthcare costs: The ICU_Analyzer can potentially decrease the needless procedures, complications, and finally, it can decrease healthcare costs that pertain to a longer hospitalization in ICU, as well as late-stage interventions.

Public Health Benefits: On a greater societal scale, the mass adoption of devices such as ICU_Analyzer may also help people live healthier lives, as the care of the critically ill will become more cost-effective and efficient, the working load of healthcare systems will decrease, and the people will be able to detect the signs of any health crises way before the body starts sepsis or suffers an organ failure.

3.3 Ethical Issues

Since ICU_Analyzer is an AI-based application with sensitive patient information, it should follow stringent ethical principles into making sure that it works as a responsible, as well as accountable, application.

Data Privacy and Consent: Patient confidentiality is one of the underlying ethical issues. This application will be required to seek informed consent of patients (or their legal representatives) in regards to the collection and use of their data. The only data to be collected must also be that which is needed and the users must have an option of opting out of data storage in the event that he or she wishes it.

AI and Bias: The data that is used to train an AI model can include bias against certain groups unintentionally unless the data is inclusive of the large patient population. This is important in ensuring that the models are trained on varying balanced datasets to exclude biased model predictions particularly in mortality risk. The system must also have mechanisms of checking and curbing bias in its predictions.

Elucidation of Artificial Intelligence Decisions: Since stakes in healthcare were high, the application shall be explainable. The healthcare providers are expected to know the logic behind the predictions and recommendations of the system. This is particularly practicable within an ICU environment where choices made can compromise life or otherwise. The use of Explainable AI (XAI) will provide transparency to the system and will promote trust among the professionals in healthcare.

Independence of the Medical Personnel: It is important to use the system as a decision support tool, not the alternative to human judgment. The final decision concerning clinical practice of the healthcare professional should be honored. Application is not to eliminate the decision-making process, the suggestions, and predictions should be given, but the judgment is to be rendered by the healthcare provider.

3.4 Project Management Plan

Since designing an AI-based healthcare application in real-time is complex, the ICU_Analyzer project was developed according to an organization project management plan with the use of the Agile methodological approach. This was done to make sure that the project was developed in iterative steps where tests and continuous feedback integration could be made during the development process.

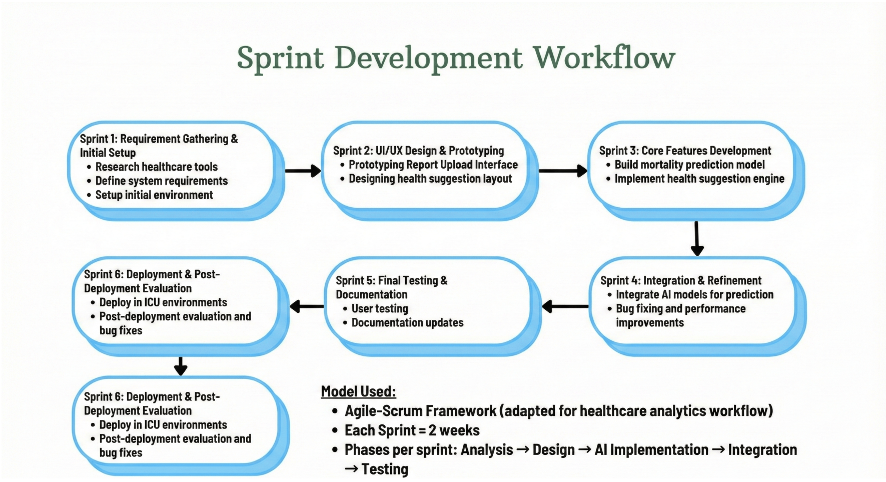


Figure 3.1: Sprint Diagram

rough outline would go like:

Sprint Planning and Goals:

- **Sprint 1:** Gathering of requirements and project scope definition.
- **Sprint 2:** System design and architecture planning.
- **Sprint 3:** Introduction of the core functions like OCR, risk of mortality forecast, and health recommendations.
- **Sprint 4:** The application is tested and evaluated with real data of the ICU.
- **Sprint 5:** Last refinement and feedback of the user.
- **Sprint 6:** Implementation and test at the ICUs.

Every stage was divided into smaller activities and sprints were applied to ensure that the progress continued. Meetings were conducted regularly to monitor the going of the project, any challenges came up and the project was in line with the necessary timelines.

3.5 Resource Allocation And Management

As an individual developer on the ICU_Analyzer project, management of resources played a crucial role in ensuring that the project was developed without any problems. Allocation of resources was done in an efficient way to balance both the technical and project management activities.

Human Resources:
Even though the project was created by an individual, consultations with specialists in healthcare, AI specialists, and data scientists were requested at different points to allow feedback and recommendations.

Technology Stack:

- Flask Framework Backend: Web development.
- AI Models: LSTM and CNN model of predicting mortality and health recommendations.
- OCR: Tesseract OCR text extraction in medical reports.
- Database: Structured data storage: SQLAlchemy.
- Deployment: Hosts on cloud servers executives to be scaled and to be reliable.

3.6 Risk Management

Risk management was integrated into the entire lifecycle of the project in order to determine and avert the threats of technical, ethical and operational risks.

The major risks were the quality of data, overfitting of the models, small scope overall, and problems integrating the system. Technical risks were minimized, through regular validation, cross-validation, as well as performance monitoring.

3.6.1 Emotional And Psychological Risk

Since the ICU_Analyses is a health-related project that requires sensitive health data, there is a health risk of the accuracy of the predictions made by the system. False positive mortality prediction may result in avoidable therapy, whereas false negative will result in the failure to intervene where necessary.

To address these risks, it should be constantly and effectively validated, and the system should be engaged in a careful approach, where healthcare professionals must verify their predictions and make clinical decisions. Also, explainable AI allows maintaining the understanding of how the predictions were made by the healthcare provider.

3.6.2 Inadequate User Testing Sample

The other possible threat was that the sample of the user testing was insufficient, and it might influence the authenticity of the feedback. To reduce this risk, the testing stage was carried out by paying substantial attention to the choice of users (ICU professionals) to provide real-life patient information to assess the effectiveness of the system.

Although the ethical considerations had restricted the size of the sample, various ICU teams were used during the testing phase to get the feedback of a variety of healthcare professionals. This served to make sure that the application was reviewed in a wide number of perspectives and narrowed down accordingly.

Chapter 4

Proposed Methodology And Design Process

4.1 Proposed Methodology And Design Process

The ICU_Analyzer development was performed after a systematic and iterative method and the subsequent steps involved in the project were thoroughly thought out and implemented. The approach was on a staged methodology where feedback and modification could be made. The details of every design and development stage follow:

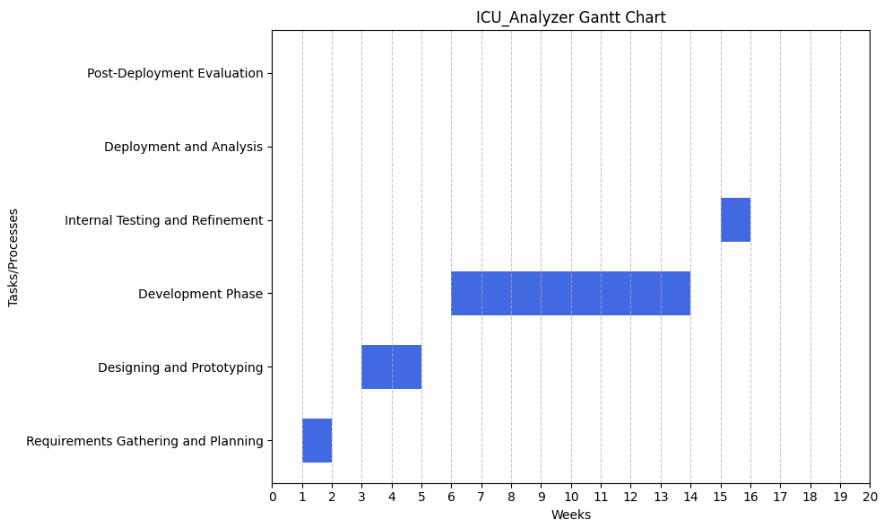


Figure 4.1: Gantt Chart

4.1.1 Phases

Phase 1 (Weeks 1-2): Requirement Gathering and Planning
The initial stage involved the identification of the requirements required to be used in the ICU_Analyzer application. At this stage, the following was done:

- **Stakeholder Interviews:** The interviews with healthcare professionals and ICU employees also contributed to analogy of the concrete needs, challenges and workflow of the ICU environments.
- **Functional Requirements:** The basic operations of the system were identified that comprise mortality risk prediction, health recommendations, and report uploads.
- **Non-functional Requirements:** they consisted of the security, usability, scalability, and performance.
- **Data Gathering:** The sources of patient data such as lab reports, patient vitals, and medical histories were found to be important in the subsequent model training and data analysis.
- **Technology Stack Planning:** It was decided during this step which technology stack the front-end, and back-end would use, which technologies to use (Flask, LSTM, CNN, and OCR).

The project requirements were well specified at the end of this phase and gave a basis to the next phase, system design.

Phase 2 (Week 3-5): Designing and Prototyping (Wireframing, UI Design)
During this stage, the system architecture and UI/UX design were made. The key steps included:

- **Wireframing and Prototyping:** Wireframes and mockups were developed in order to see the user interface (UI) of the application. The designs were meant to make sure the system was easy to use and navigate upon by the health care professionals who may be not technology savvy.
- **Admin, Patient and Doctor Interfaces:** UI Designer developed detailed screens on the different interfaces; admin and patient interface, and doctor interface. The user management, doctor verification, and patient report uploads were concentrated in the admin interface, whereas the consultations, health suggestions, and real-time communication (as observed in the uploaded images in the prototype) were the main priorities in the patient and doctor interfaces.

- **User Flows:** Spelled out the user experience of each group of users (admin, patient, and doctor), always making sure that there was a clear transition between diverse operations (e.g., uploading reports, making predictions, and giving health advice).
- **Prototyping Tools:** Prototyping tools, including Figma, were utilized to design prototypes, which were made interactive and stakeholders were able to experience the design and provide feedback early in the process.

The output of this stage was a complete working prototype that was employed during user testing and feedback gathering operations of the following stages.

Phase 3 (Week 6-14): Development Phase (Frontend, Backend, OCR, AI integration)

The development stage was devoted to execution of the major functionalities of the ICU_Analyzer. The activities that were performed were as follows:

- **Front-end development:** React was used to create the user interface (UI) that was dynamically interactive and all the roles (admin, doctor, patient) were sufficiently able to navigate through the application.
- **Back-end development:** Flask framework was employed to receive the requests, process the data, and also combine the machine learning models (LSTM and CNN) to predict the mortality risk and health suggestions.
- **OCR Integration:** Tesseract OCR was incorporated to extract text in uploaded medical reports in PDF file or image file.
- **Predictive Modeling:** The model LSTM and CNN trained models were incorporated into the back-end to handle input data and make mortality risk and health recommendations.
- **Real-time Features:** The application was enabled to offer a real-time consultation between patients and doctors with the help of Socket.IO, and thus, it was possible to ensure the platform was able to handle both the interactions and the interactions as smoothly as needed in practice.

By the end of this stage, the operational system was available, and ready for internal testing and refinement.

Phase 4 (Weeks 15-16): Internal Testing and Refinement

Under the internal testing stage, the activities performed were as follows:

- **Unit testing:** Individually, we tested every module and feature (i.e., mortality prediction, report upload, health suggestion generation) to make sure that it works as anticipated.

- **Integration testing:** The functionality between the front-end, the back-end and machine learning models had been fully tested to make sure that the whole system would function well together.

- **Bug fixes and improvements:** By testing any problems or bugs that were found during testing were corrected and optimization of the performance of the application was done to ensure that large datasets could be operated easily through the application.

- **Usability testing:** As part of the usability testing, first testers (including the healthcare professionals) would provide feedback to determine the usability and user experience. The interface and the user workflows were adjusted with the help of the feedback.

At the completion stage of this stage, the system had been perfected and its main functions had been well tested, making it ready to implement.

Phase 5 (Week 17+): Deployment and Analysis

The last step consisted of real-world implementation of the ICU-Analyzer and its functionality in an ICU. Key tasks included:

- **Deployment:** To make the application secure against scalability issues, Deployment was made in a secure cloud platform.

- **Practical Testing:** The system was tested on the real ICU setting, where real patient data was applied in checking its performance and effectiveness.

- **Monitoring and Feedback Collection:** There was continuous monitoring of the performance of the system to be able to monitor its smooth operation. Healthcare professionals were asked to provide feedback on how useful their health suggestions were and the accuracy of mortality prediction.

It was a transition period that saw the development to the full deployment and real world implementation.

4.2 Preliminary Design Model

This section will show the initial design plan of the `ICU_Analyzer` application, including the key screens and the functionality of each screen. The design focuses on a convenient, efficient and clinically fit interface to assist varied user types namely, administrators, doctors and patients. All screens will be created to be easy to navigate, convenient to use, and aid in the execution of actions requiring critical thinking related to healthcare. The next subsections give the general idea of the functional organization and the interaction flow of the `ICU_Analyzer` system at the high level.

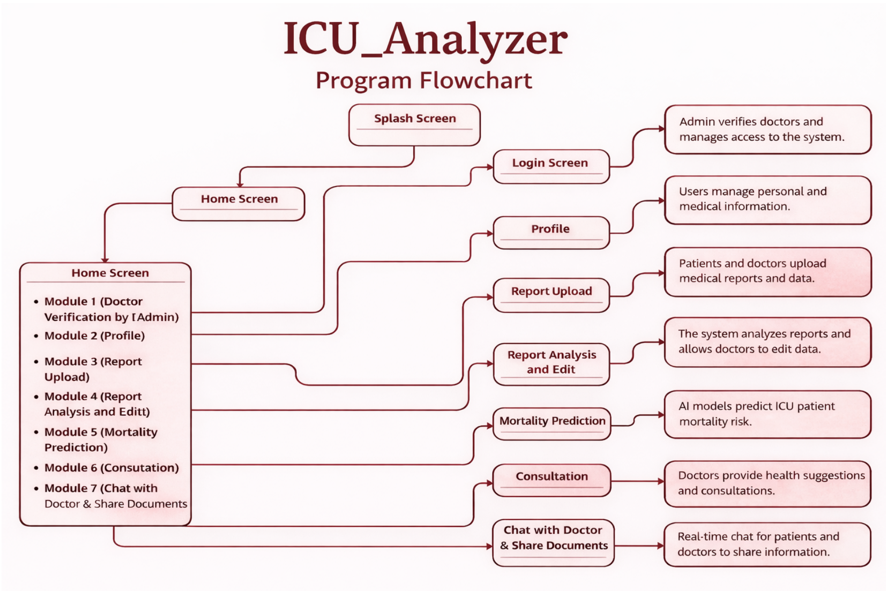


Figure 4.2: Program Flow Chart

4.2.1 Splash Screen

When the user opens the `ICU_Analyzer` application, the Splash Screen is the first screen to be displayed. It is painted with an application logo and a relaxing animation. This screen promotes an easy introduction of the main application interface and loads the data held in the background where this information is needed.

Features And Working Method:

- Brings out the logo of the ICU-analyzer application so that it is branded.
- Demonstrates a soothing animation to improve the experience of the user.
- Offers an easy visual interface when using an application.
- Background Initiates resources needed within the system.
- Loads configuration files, and loads application essential resources.
- Enumerates the existing user authentication sessions.

Figure 4.3: Splashscreen

4.2.2 Login Screen

The Login Screen gives users an opportunity to use either email/password or Google authentication to log in. One can also create a new account on behalf of a patient or doctor with fields on pertinent information (including name, email, type of account and specialization in case of a doctor).

Features And Working Methods:

- Allows access to the site with the help of e-mail and password.
- Allows the use of Google authentication as a means of fast and secure access.
- Enables the users to add new accounts of patients and doctors.
- Gather information related to the user like the user name, account type and email.
- Gather specialization and professional information on doctor receipts.
- Check out all put-in fields.
- Authenticate the users by the system authentication service.
- Gets user roles (admin, doctor, or patient) on the database.
- Establishes a safe session when one successfully logs in.
- Flags newly registered doctor accounts undergo administrative verification where necessary.
- Takes a user to the correct Home Screen depending upon the role.

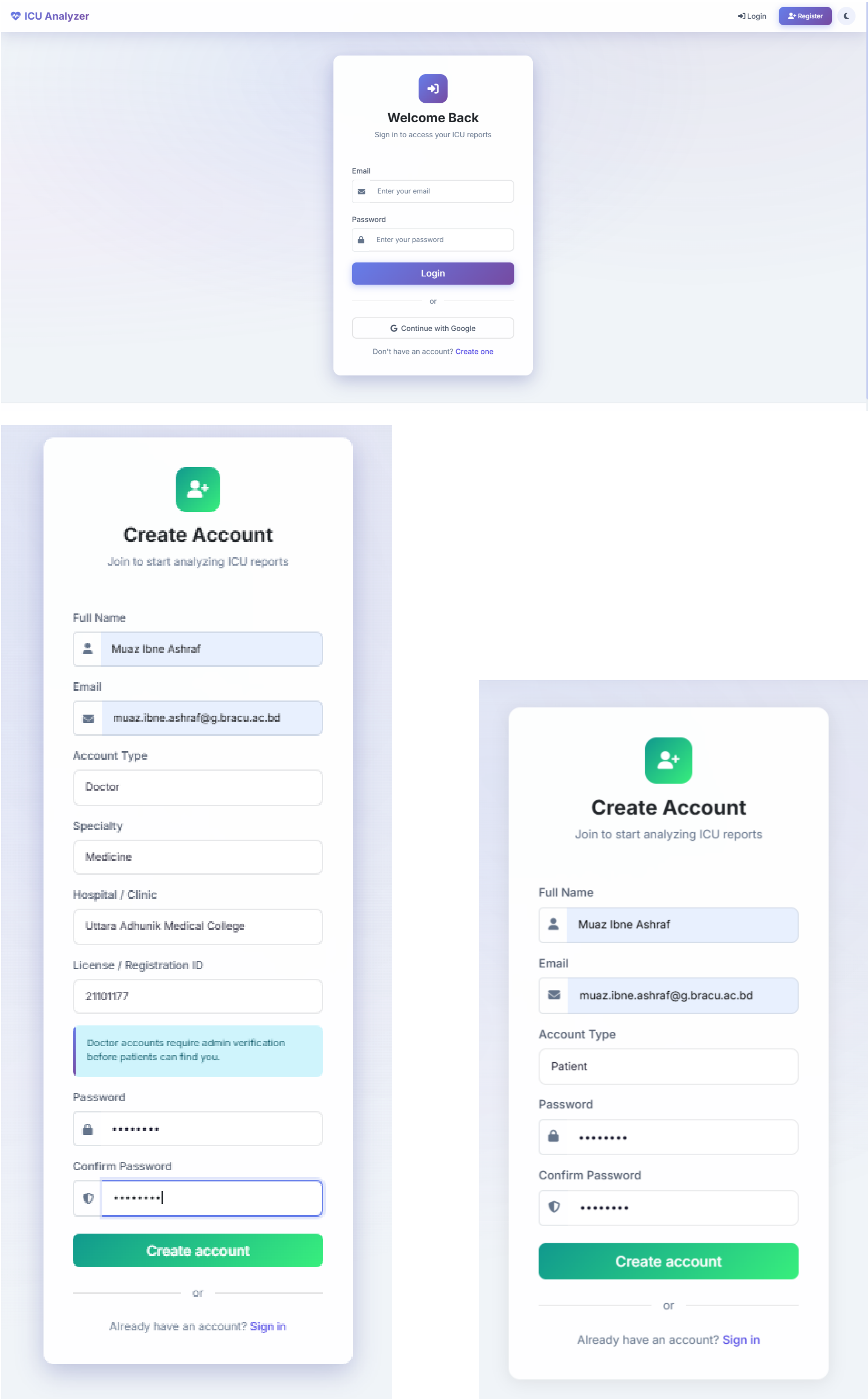


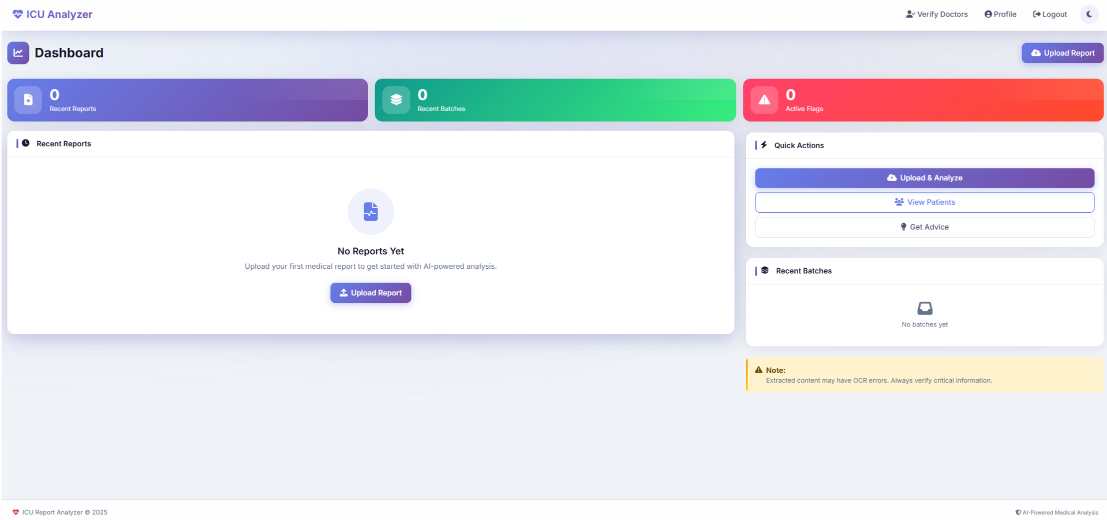
Figure 4.4: Log-In Screen

4.2.3 Home Screen

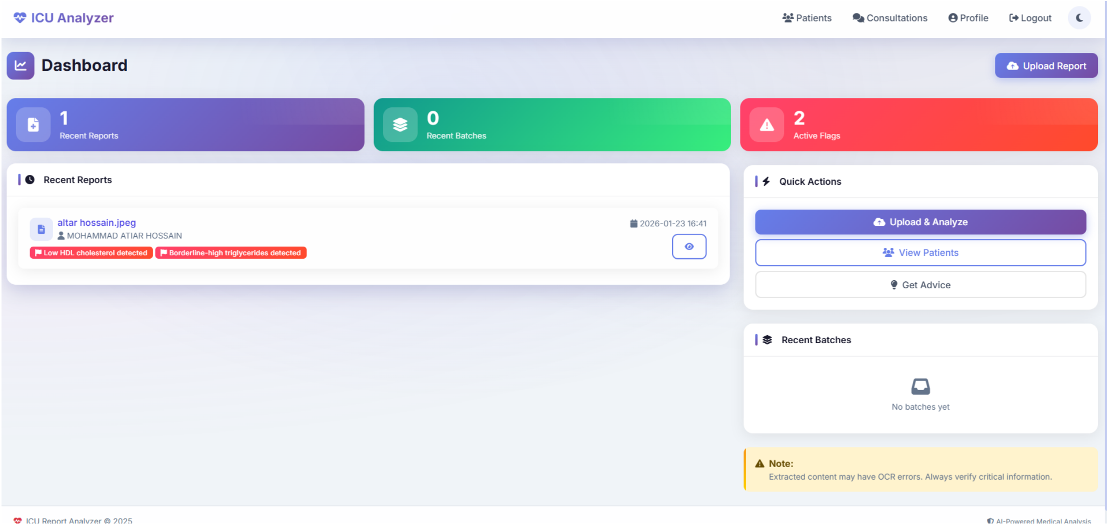
The Home Screen becomes the focal point of the user. It also has rapid access to the basic functionalities depending on the role (admin, doctor, patient).

- **Admin Dashboard:** To manage patient reports and to verify doctors and citizen system settings.
- **Doctor Dashboard:** To review patient data, predict and give health suggestions.
- **Patient Dashboard:** To check uploaded reports and visit with the doctors and monitor their health status.

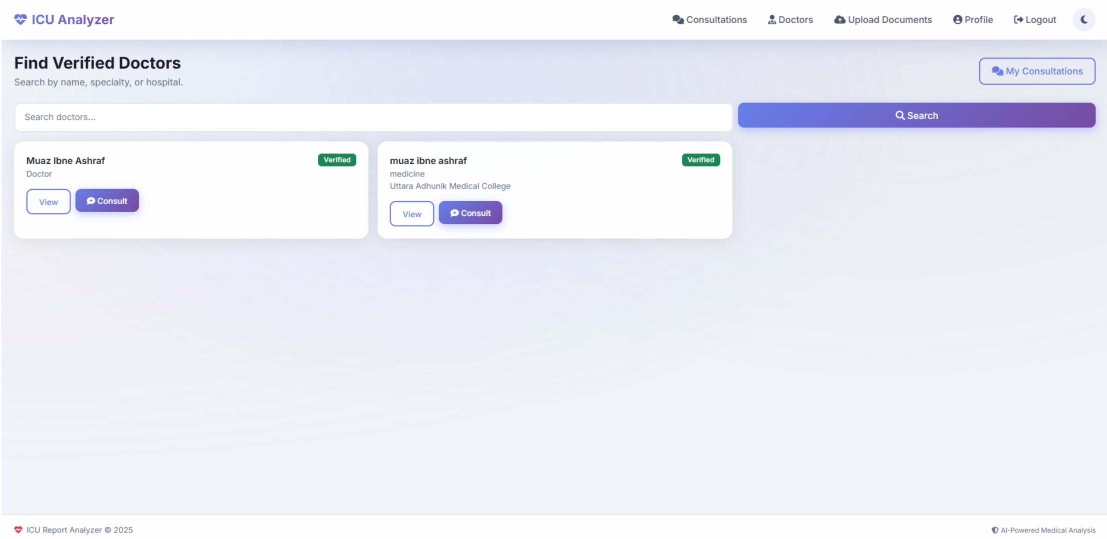
All the parts of the dashboard are color-coded to enable cross-docking.



Admin Dashboard



Doctor Dashboard



Patient Dashboard

Figure 4.5: Homescreen

4.2.4 Module 1 - Doctor Verification by Admin

This module enables the users of the system who are administrators to verify doctors. The administrator will ensure that the credentials, license information and specialization of the physicians is verified before they have access to patient reports and other confidential information. Verified physicians can then interrelate with patient information and give mortality forecasts and health recommendations.

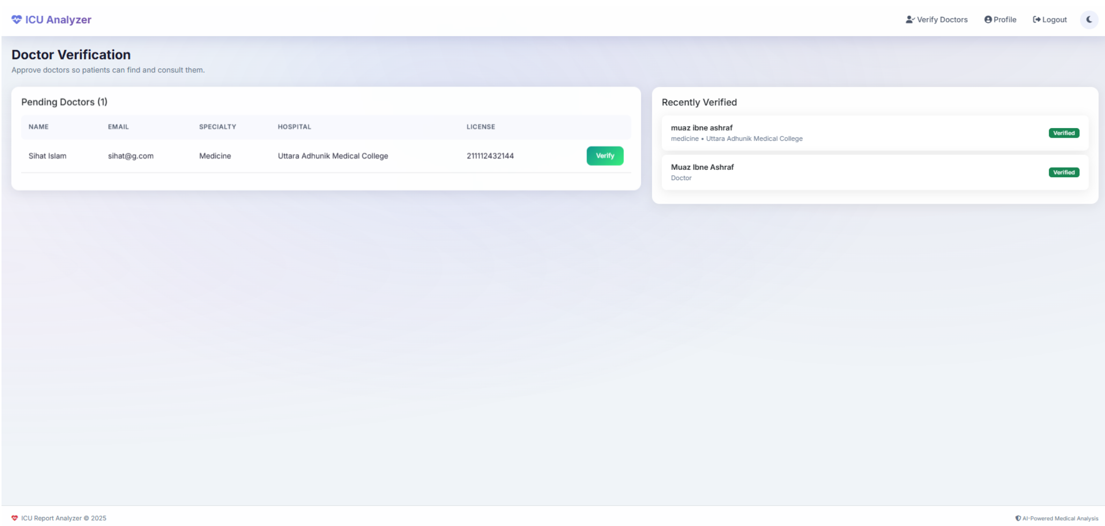


Figure 4.6: Module-1 Doctor Verification By Admin

4.2.5 Module 2 - Profile

The Profile Module enables users (doctors as well as patients) to control their profiles. The physicians will be able to update their specialization, hospital affiliations and license information and the patient may update personal details and medical records. The profile page will be a focal point where the users update and maintain their information in order to manage their care more effectively.

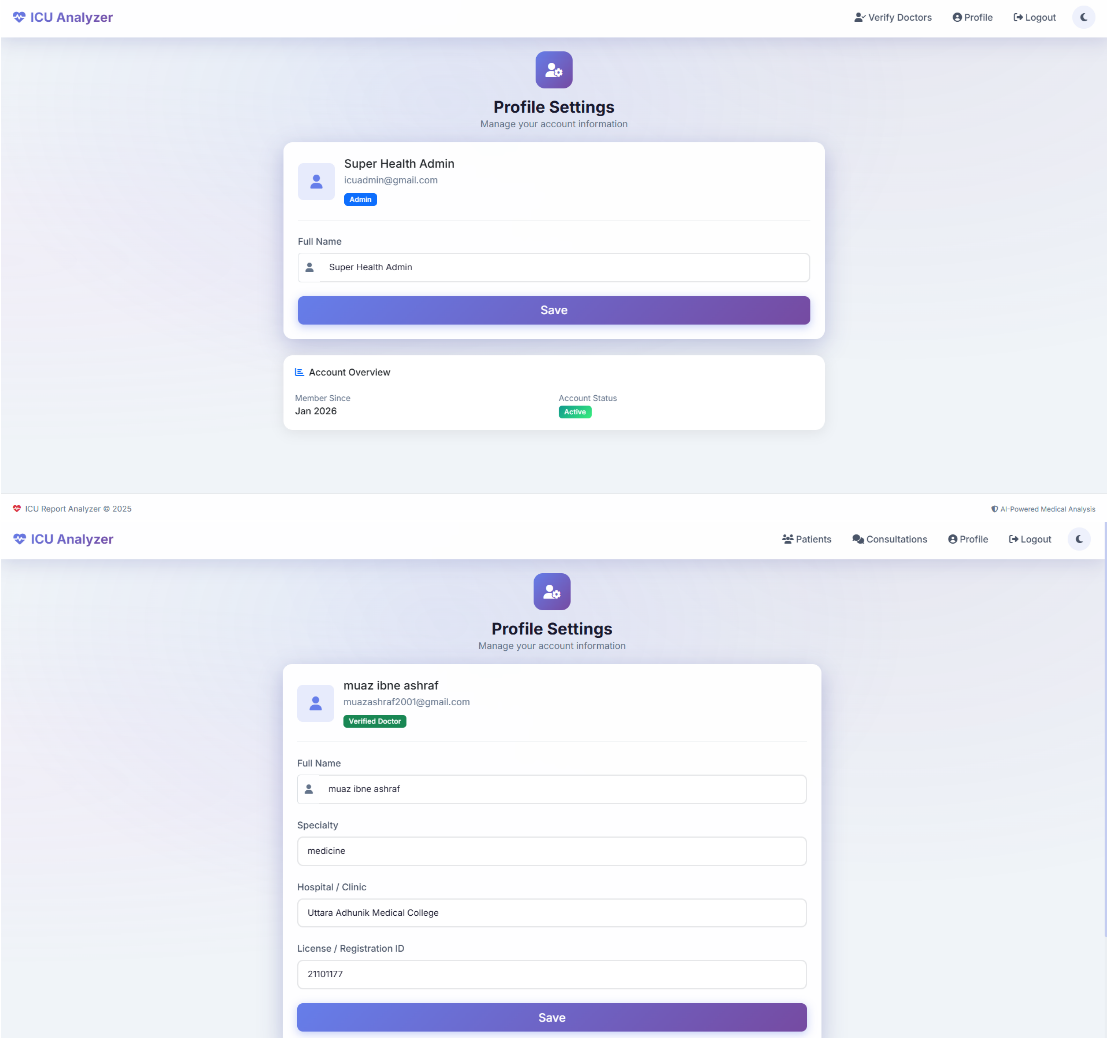


Figure 4.7: Module-2 Profile

4.2.6 Module 3 - Report Upload

Report Upload Module is a tool used to allow patients or doctors to upload medical reports in such formats as PDFs or images. Such reports are subsequently run through OCR (Optical Character Recognition) to get appropriate data like lab reports, vital signs, and medical history. This information is applied in mortality risk prediction and health recommendations.

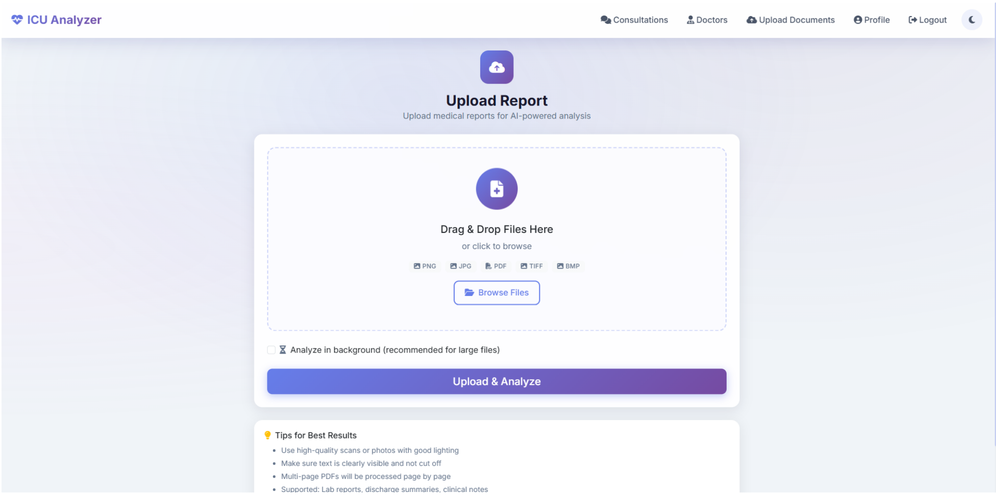


Figure 4.8: Module-3 Report Upload

4.2.7 Module 4 - Report Analysis and Edit

After uploading the report, the Report Analysis and Edit Module works with the obtained information in the AI models that predict mortality risk and offer health recommendations. It also enables the doctor to make changes or correct the report details or any other specifications or to add any such notes. This module allows to make sure that the data is properly reviewed and updated before it is used in clinical decision-making.

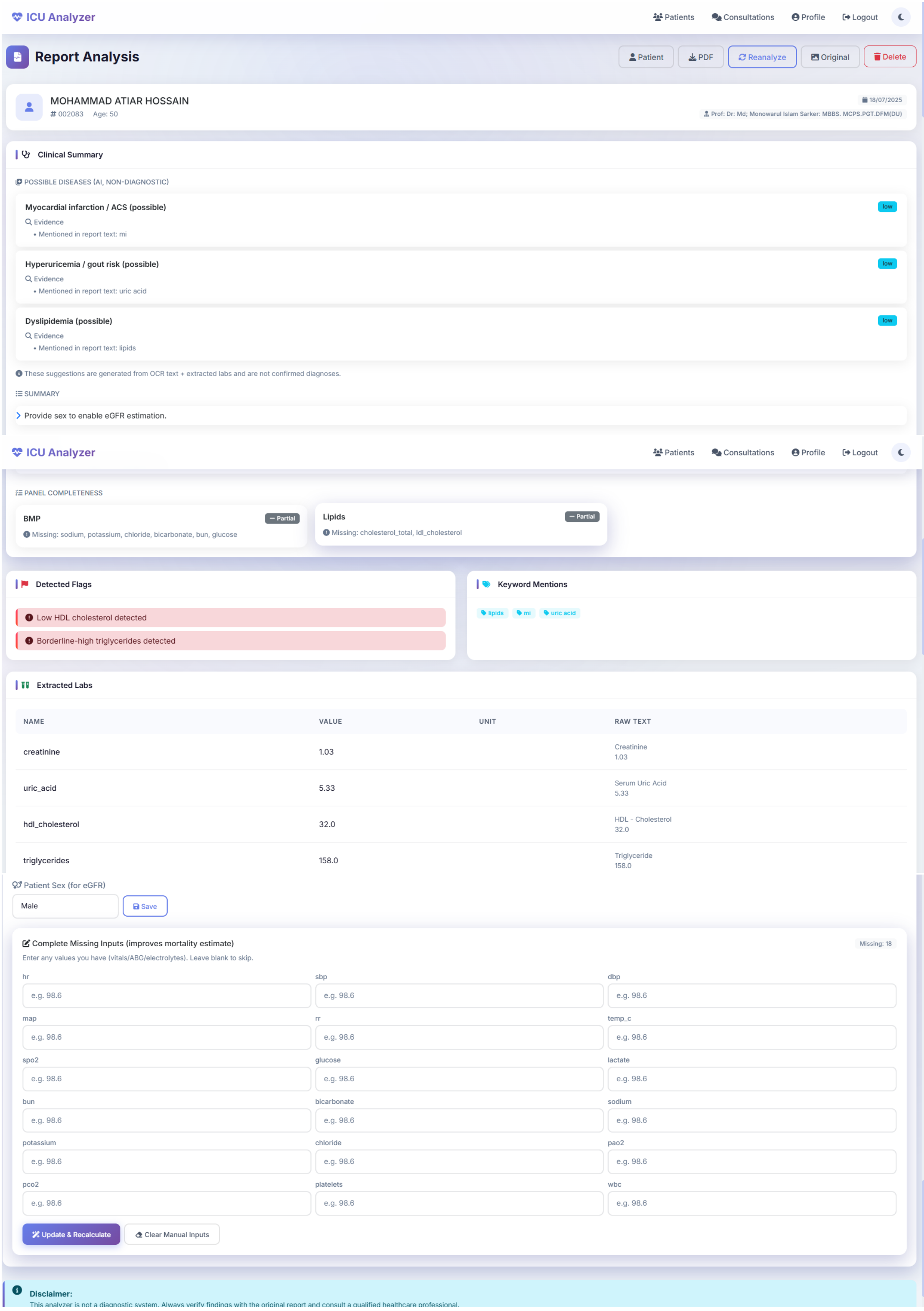


Figure 4.9: Module-4 Report Analysis And Edit

4.2.8 Module 5 - Mortality Prediction

Mortality Prediction Module is an AI-based application applied to assess patient data based on the uploaded reports (LM and CNN). It creates a mortality risk score that is determined depending on the vital signs of patients (e.g., blood pressure, heart rate, oxygen levels, etc.) among other variables. The prediction can assist physicians examine the severity of a patient in case and make informed and timely patient care decisions, which can be made on the basis of data.

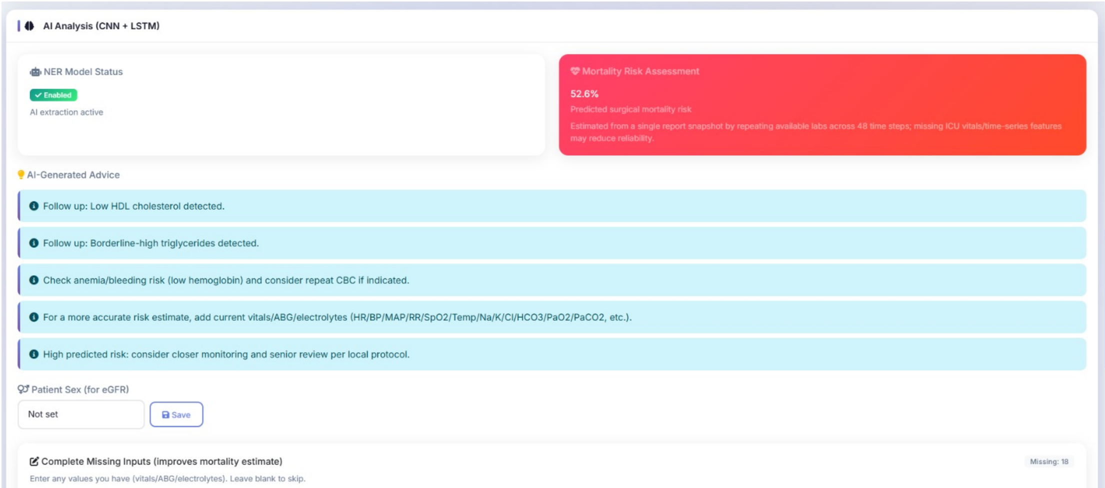
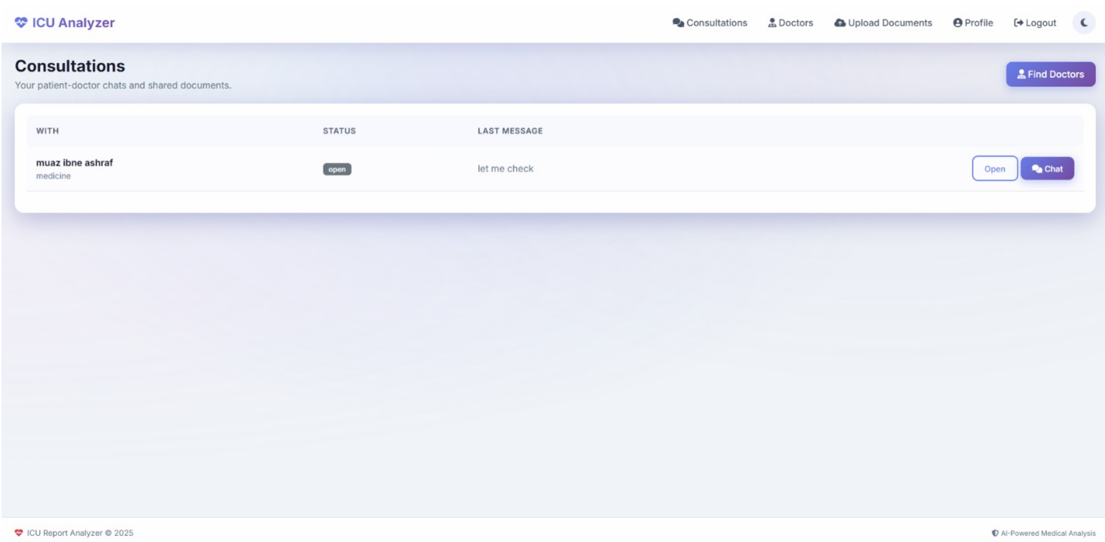


Figure 4.10: Module-5 Mortality Prediction

4.2.9 Module 6 - Consultation

The Consultation Module enables patients and physicians to start and control the consultations. Patients may apply to a doctor on the basis of his or her medical condition or the necessity of guidance. The doctors are able to observe the health condition of the patient, past reports and make well-informed decisions. This module assists the process of real-time communication and clinical collaboration.



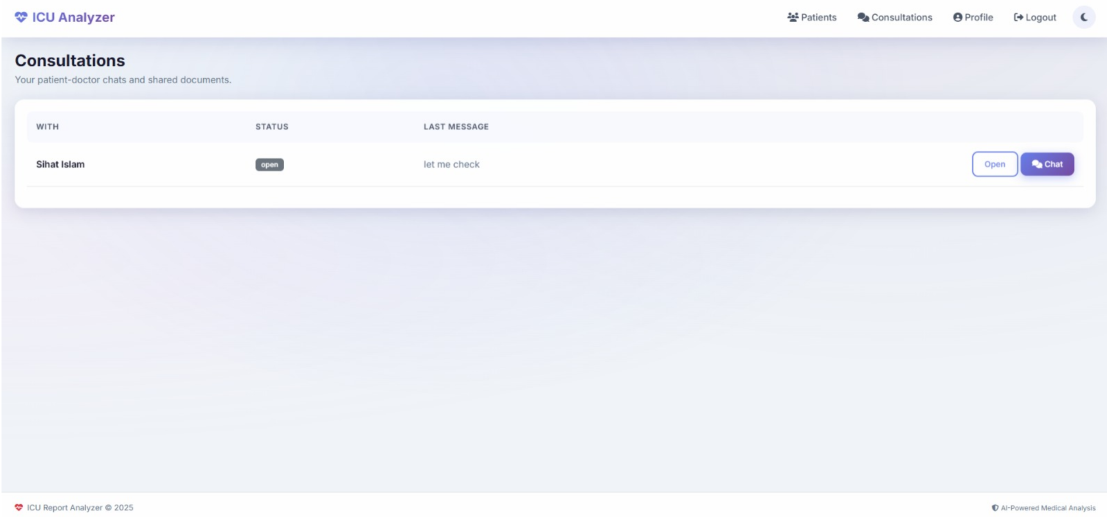
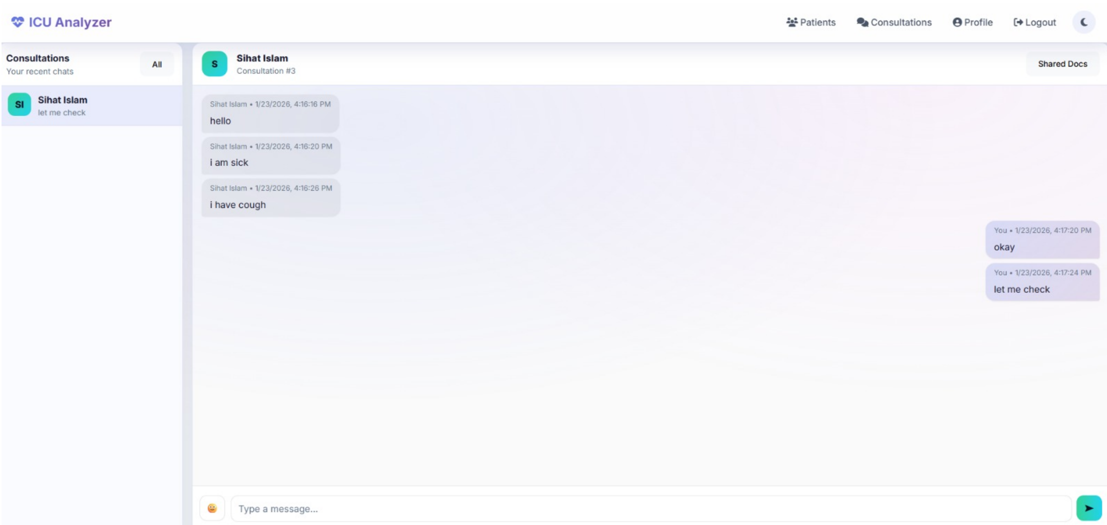


Figure 4.11: Module-6 Consultation

4.2.10 Module 7 - Chat with Doctor and Share Documents

The Chat Module is created to facilitate an instant chat between the patient and the doctor to discuss the health status of the patient, treatment and development. Moreover, the chat interface allows sharing of medical reports, images and other related documents by the patients and doctors themselves. This module also guarantees confidential and safe communication which makes communications with the patient and consultation quicker and more effective.



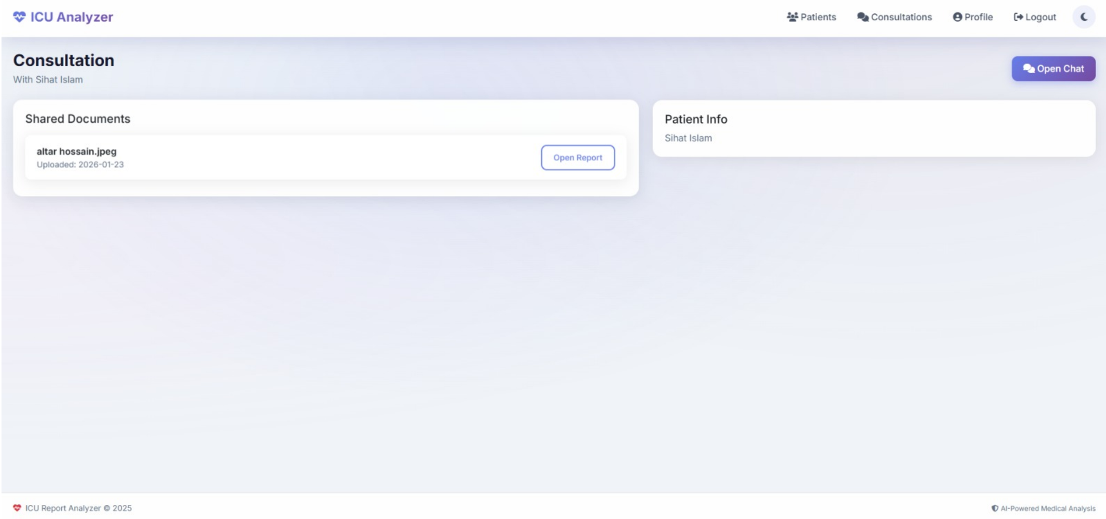


Figure 4.12: Module-7 Chat With Doctor And Share Documents

Chapter 5

Software Development Life Cycle

5.1 SDLC

ICUAnalyzer application Software Development Life Cycle was developed in a structured manner taking into account that every step in the development process was planned, implemented and assessed. This project was handled in SDLC model with an Agile methodology that enabled it to have an iterative product development and feedback.The SDLC key phases of ICUAnalyzer were:

1. **Requirement Analysis:** The identification of user requirements and requirements by writing down system requirements.

2. **System Design:** System architecture design and user interfaces design.

3. Implementation: Coding and putting together the system elements.

4. **Testing:** This would involve ensuring the system is operable and that it is in line with the requirements.

5. **Deployment:** To note, rolling the system into actual use.

6. **Maintenance:** Continued assistance and enhancement of the system and its usage with user feedback.

This flexible and iterative process made the project be on time and within the technical and user requirements.

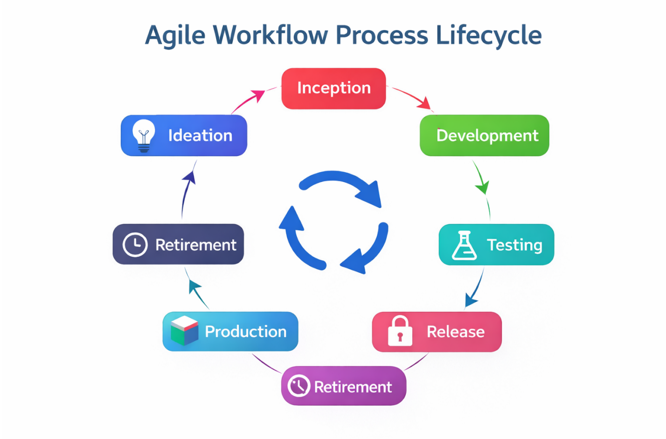


Figure 5.1: Agile Workflow

5.2 Requirement Analysis

The Requirement Analysis stage serves the purpose of specifying the objectives of the ICU_Analyzer system and its functionality. It secures the fact that the application has fulfilled the needs of the ICU professionals in particular and at the same time that the technical elements correspond to the purpose of the system. During this stage, a non-functional and a functional requirement was identified and defined.

Functional Requirements

The ICU_Analyzer system functional requirements were established at the early phases of the project. The following requirements described the main features that have to be supported by the application:

- **User Management:** It must enable users to create accounts, log in as well as maintain accounts in the system (admin, doctors, patients).
- **Report Upload:** The medical report (PDF or image) should be uploaded by the user and it needs to be processed to be OCR (Optical Character Recognition) to obtain data.
- **Mortality Risk Prediction:** The system must process the identified data and attempt to predict the mortality risk of ICU patients based on the models of AI (LSTM and CNN).
- **Health Recommendations:** The system ought to offer practical health recommendations to healthcare practitioners, according to the mortality risk and patient statistics.

- **Consultation and Communication:** The system must ensure that there is communication between the patients and doctors where patients and doctors can communicate in real time and also share documents.
- **Live Notifications:** The system should refresh the health recommendations and death prediction upon receiving new data.
- **Reporting and Analytics:** Healthcare providers can access specific detailed reports such as predictions, health recommendations, and the history of a patient.

Non-Functional Requirements

The non-functional requirements deal with the usability and the performance of the system:

- **Security:** Data security is on the first priority, and solutions are used to encrypt and store the data safely in accordance with privacy legislation, such as GDPR.
- **Scalability:** The system must be capable of supporting a huge number of users and data without affecting its performance.
- **Performance:** The application needs to be low-latency when it comes to processing reports, predictions and suggestions making it implementable in real-time use in ICU.
- **Usability:** The interface should be easy to use, user-friendly, and should be focused on healthcare professionals with different technical skills.
- **Availability:** The application is supposed to be accessible and operational at the maximum with few downtime to update or carry out maintenance.
- **Interoperability:** The system must be in a position to connect with other healthcare management solutions or hospital information systems (HIS) to effectively transmit information.

5.3 System Design

One of the most important stages of the ICU_Analyzer development process is the System Design one. It converts the non functional and the functional requirements of the project into an organized manageable system. The stage consisted of the design of the architecture, system components, and how the system components would interrelate to provide the required functionality. The aim was to make a system that will fulfill not only the technical demands but also the realistic demands of the health care specialists working in the ICU units.

The ICU_Analyzer system is developed based on the principles of a cloud-based architecture, and the front-end (user interface), back-end (server-side logic), and the AI models (to make predictions and suggestions) are clearly distinguished. The architecture will be scalable, perform and secure with a user friendly experience to the ICU professionals.

Design Philosophy And Approach

The design philosophy of ICU_Analyzer paid attention to the user-centered design (UCD). Since healthcare is sensitive, the objectives of the design process identified were to:

- **Make it Simple:** The system was conceptualized to be simple, and easy to be used by ICU-related staff without undergoing a lot of training.
- **Be Clear:** The data presented to the user (e.g. mortality predictions, health recommendations) was made concise to minimize overload of information.
- **Improve Accessibility:** The system can be used in different devices such as the tablet and desktop, which are prevalent in the ICU environments, thus it is designed to be accessible.
- **Be Responsive:** The UI interface is made to support the various devices and also the screen sizes, making it usable on all types of devices.

5.3.1 Technical Design

The technical design of the ICU_Analyzer was comprised of the following components:

- **Background:** Python and Flask framework The backend was developed in Flask framework. It was involved in processing the data, inference of the models and communication in between the front end and machine learning models.
- **AI Models:** The system was provided with LSTM (Long Short-Term Memory) models in the processing of time-series data and CNN (Convolutional Neural Networks) models in the processing of data about images (e.g., report scans).
- **OCR:** Medical reports were uploaded and their text was extracted with the usage of Tesseract OCR library, transferring images to organized data.
- **Database:** The database was based on SQLAlchemy which was used to handle structured data, such as patient information, reports, and prediction on the model.

- **Front-end:** React was used to create the user interface, which has dynamic responsive characteristics according to various users (admin, doctor, patient).
- **Communication:** Socket.IO was employed to provide real-time communication between patients and doctors, therefore, ensuring fast and smooth communication.

5.4 Implementation (Coding Phase)

The Implementation Phase entailed the active creation of the fundamental properties of the ICU_Analyzer system and testing of the same as well as system integration to a complete operation. This stage entailed front-end and back-end development, machine learning models and external library integration. It was desired to have a user-friendly and smooth application capable of working with real-time data management, deliver precise mortality forecasts, and offer healthy recommendations.

Front-end Implementation

React was used to develop the front-end of the app that guarantees a responsive and easy user interaction. The front-end implementation has the following features:

- **Dynamic Forms:** Patient registration forms, doctor verification forms and report upload forms.
- **Live Chat:** The inclusion of Socket.IO to allow live chats between customers and physicians.
- **Interactive Dashboards:** The construction of the admin, doctor, and patient dashboards, that would present the information concerning the patients, prediction of mortality, and health recommendations.

Backend Integration

Flask was used as the backside of the application and it was combined with TensorFlow and PyTorch to implement deep learning models. The characteristics of the backend are:

- **Model Integration:** The LSTM and CNN models were combined to process medical reports, make predictions and provide health suggestions depending on the patient data.
- **Database Management:** SQL Alchemy was utilized to manage the data storage and make sure that patient data and system outputs were effectively arranged.

- **OCR:** Tesseract OCR engine was employed to summarise the data uploaded by the patients and make it in format that can be analyzed by the AI models.

Libraries Used

The building of ICU_Analyzer has been done using the following libraries and the tools to make sure that the system was efficient and could be scaled:

- Frontend: React, Redux (state management), Socket.IO (real-time communication).
- Backend: Flask, SQLAlchemy, TensorFlow, PyTorch.
- OCR: Tesseract OCR
- Machine Learning, scikit-learn, Keras, NumPy to train and infer models.

5.4.1 Use Case Diagram

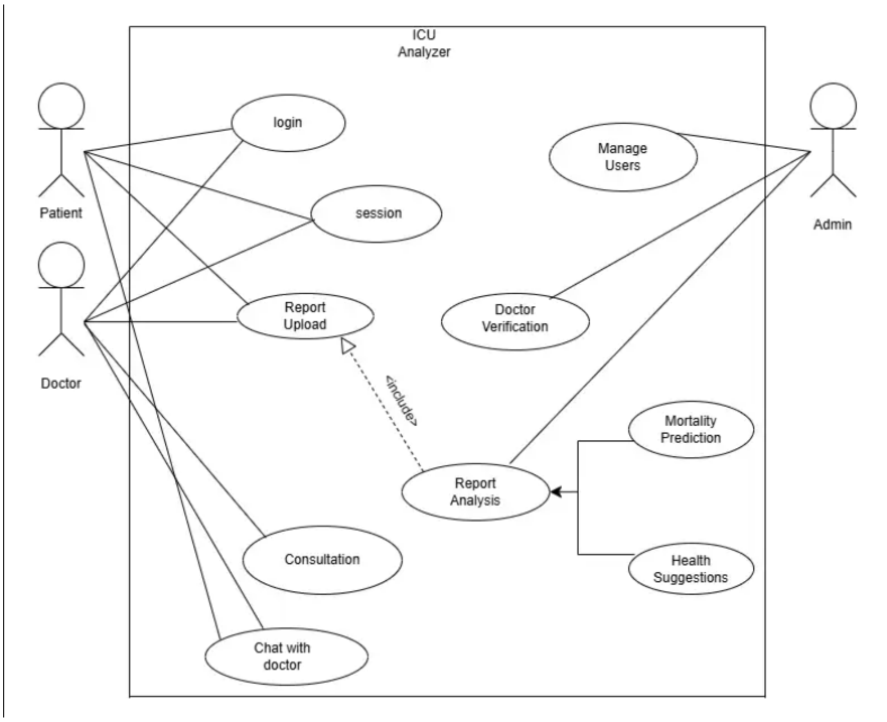


Figure 5.2: Use Case Diagram

5.4.2 Class Diagram

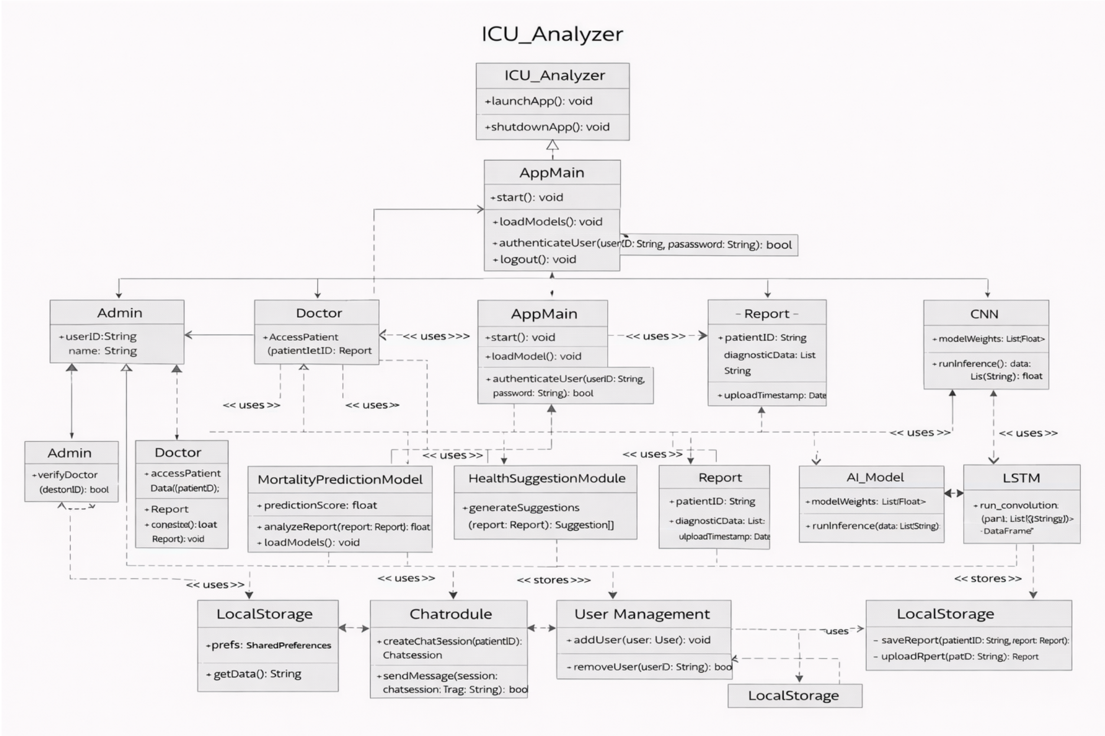


Figure 5.3: Class Diagram

5.4.3 Data Flow Diagram

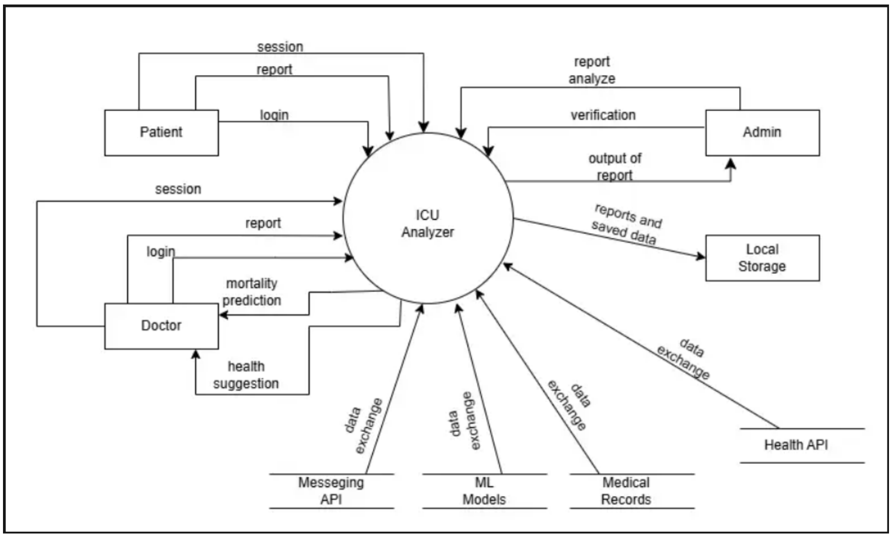


Figure 5.4: Data Flow Diagram

5.5 Testing

A vital aspect of any software development process is testing which is necessary in making sure the system meets the intended functional and non-functional requirements.

In the case of ICU_Analyzer, the testing was conducted in several phases to be able to test its accuracy and usability as well as its ethical aspects. The testing phase included the attention to the fact that the system will be working correctly, easy to use, as well as ensures patient confidentiality and data privacy.

5.5.1 Internal Unit And Integration Testing

International unit and integration testing was done to make sure that all the separate parts of the ICU -Analyzer system were correctly functioning and that they would be functioning in harmony with each other as an integrated system. Unit testing was to be done individually, including the mortality prediction model, OCR data extraction and health suggestion generation. Individual tests were conducted on these modules, with sample data, to ensure that either they were doing what they were expected to do.

When the individual modules had been tested, there was integration testing done to make sure that the various components within the system worked together as required. This step was a challenge to the communication between the front-end interface and back-end server on the one hand; and the AI models on the other hand. The integration tests played a pivotal role in detecting any problems that need to be encountered in relaying data between the constituents so that the interaction of the user with the system, whether it is in terms of uploading the reports or getting the predictions and health suggestions, would be smooth sailing and error free.

5.5.2 Usability Testing

The usability testing was done to determine the ease and easiness of the system among the target users which were the ICU healthcare professionals. Its goal was to evaluate the user interface (UI) and include it to the requirements of the doctors, nurses, and administrative employees when working in a high-pressure ICU setup.

At this test stage the medical workers were requested to use the application, simulating the conditions at the ICU. They were assigned the activities of uploading medical reports, accessing mortality risks forecasts, and reading about health recommendations. Feedback was taken into consideration about the visual understandability of the UI, how easily the user could navigate through the webpage, and how easily the user could find important information. A number of features in the ICU_Analyzer interface were also updated as per their input i.e., font size, button positioning, and real-time chat functionality. The idea was to develop a practical application that would be easily usable to the health care workers without extensive technical knowledge.

5.5.3 Ethical Testing Consideration

Since healthcare information is generally sensitive, ethical testing was also of paramount importance during the development and test of the ICU_Analyzer system. The privacy of the data and the guarantee of patient safety were put at the center of the project scope, and the key data privacy rules, including GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) and HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), were followed.

Anonymized patient data were tested to make sure that personally identifiable information (PII) was not disclosed in the course of testing. Moreover, we made sure that medical workers who were applying the system had been fully informed on the utilization of patient data and got their consent to consent tests even before any was conducted.

In addition, ethical issues were also extended to the fact that the system was not interfering with the clinical decision-making process but was instead viewed as a decision support tool in the hands of healthcare providers. This was highlighted in a bid to discourage the possible dangers of AI-related biases or mistakes that may harm patient care. Prediction of mortality and health recommendations of the system was often checked on any unintended biases, and later changed to discuss the unintended biases.

5.6 Deployment

The development of the system was finalized and tested after which the deployment phase occurred and separated out the development into the real world. A secure cloud-based system was identified to guarantee scalability, security and reliability of ICU-Analyzer. This section is dedicated to platform targeting, user access and post-deployment evaluation steps that should be involved to make the system available to the healthcare providers.

5.6.1 Platform Targeting And Optimization

To make sure that the ICU_Analyzer was usable and could be accessed in a real ICU environment, we paid attention to the optimization of the platform to various devices typically used in hospitals. This system was implemented on a cloud server to enable it to be accessed remotely by any device with a working internet connection hence making sure that the staff in the ICU could access the system within the ICU on a number of terminals or even on mobile devices in case of a need to do so.

There was also an optimization effort made in making sure that the application would be executed effectively even on devices with a lesser processing power used in resource-constrained environments. We have maximized the speed of data processing to speed up predictions and health recommendations. Also the load balancing mechanism was adopted allowing the system to be able to support multiple users simultaneously particularly at busy times in hospital environments where several ICU personnel could be utilizing the system at the same time.

5.6.2 User Access And Communication

The issue of user access was also relevant in the consideration of the fact that healthcare providers would not have problems with the ICU_Analyzer system. The platform allows various user types (admin, doctor, and patient) each having unique access permissions. Administrators can control user accounts, police doctor credentials, and tracking system usage, doctors can read patient information, make predictions, and communicate with patients in real-time. Patients will be able to add reports and provide feedback on them and interact with their healthcare providers.

The system also allows real-time chat in order to achieve full communication, patients and doctors can consult each other in real-time and exchange reports at any time. This allows sharing of critical information speedily and this is critical in a high pressure setting such as the ICU.

5.6.3 Post Deployment Evaluation

Post-deployment evaluation followed after the deployment was done to check the performance of the system in a live ICU environment. The complement of the data gathered included the frequency of system usage, mortality prediction accuracy and effectiveness of health guidance in enhancing patient care. The healthcare professionals were continuously collecting feedback to point out any problems or the ways that the system could be improved in its functionality.

We also made sure that the system would function under the different real world conditions like in different hospital settings with different degrees of internet connectivity and infrastructure. The review allowed determining the existence of bottlenecks in performance, bugs, and usability and these have been resolved in the successive updates.

5.7 Maintenance And Future Improvements

As the deployment process proceeded, the ICU Analyzer transitioned to the maintenance stage, and constant updates, bug fixes, and improvements were introduced. The system will be admitted to regular maintenance to maintain the right functionality, security and efficiency of the system. The section contains the maintenance strategy and possible improvement areas in the future.

5.7.1 Maintanance Strategy

The maintenance plan of ICU-Analyzer will be concentrated on two points:

1. **Model updates:** Due to constantly gathered patient data, the mortality prediction models should be retrained after some time to make them applicable and correct. We also intend to use a wider range of datasets in order to increase the generalization of the model to different ICU environments.

2. **Bug fixes and optimizations:** Bug fixes and optimization of the system should also be made after deployment so that any problem that has been detected during real application will be dealt with. This involves enhancing the response time of the system, correcting any UI/UX errors, and making sure the new developments do not impact the systems.

Regular security upgrades will also be deployed to make sure that the system is in line with the latest data privacy regulations and immunized against any risk that may be posed by the new cyber security threats.

5.7.2 Future Improvements

The future development of the ICU_Analyzer can take a number of directions to improve:

1. **Promoting Model Personalization:** Within the context of health suggestions, we will create more specific health suggestions that consider more information that is personal to patients, including genetic information, comorbidities, and past patient statistics.

2. **Integration of Real-Time Monitors:** Future development of the system might incorporate the real time monitoring apparatus like ECG machines, pulse oximeters and ventilators, which would provide more dynamic and continuous health testing.

3. **Extend to other Medical Units:** Although the system is presently developed to apply in the ICU, our expansion plan includes extending the use of the system to other medical units, including emergency rooms (ER) and general wards by tailoring the models to fit the requirements of these settings.

4. **Voice Interface and Mobile App:** Future releases may feature a voice interface to operate hands free and a mobile application will enable the healthcare professionals to use the system on their smartphones or tablets thus giving free hands in a hectic clinical set up.

Chapter 6

Result Analysis

6.1 Procedure Of Evaluation

The ICU Analyzer system was estimated between quantitative and qualitative methods to assess its effectiveness, practicality, and overall influence on healthcare professionals in ICU situations. The estimation method was conducted in the following manner :

1. **Pilot Testing:** A group of healthcare professionals that includes doctors and ICU nurses who tested the system using real patients' data in a regulated environment. This part focused on identifying any major challenges or errors in the system and collecting initial feedback concerning the usability and functionality of the application.

2. **Real-World Testing :** Once the system was refined due to the initial feedback, a larger population of healthcare professionals tested the system in real-world ICU environments. This enabled the system to be tested using live patient information and under real health care settings. This was aimed at evaluating the mortality risk prediction and the health recommendations that the application generates in real clinical practices.

3. **Data Collection :** Survey questionnaires and semi-structured interviews were used to obtain extensive information about the users about the system's accuracy, ease of use, influence on the decision-making process, and recommendations about the system.

4. **Performance Metrics :** Response time, prediction accuracy, and user engagement were the major metrics that were monitored to compare the system performance. Such measures were used to determine how the system was compliant with the specified functional and non-functional requirements of the development phase.

6.2 Evaluation Questionnaire

A series of evaluation questions was offered to gather the structured feedback of the involved healthcare professionals during the testing phase. There were closed and open-ended questions in the questionnaire to examine different issues of the ICU Analyzer application. The questions were the following:

- Please specify your position at the ICU (Doctor, Nurse, Admin)
- What is your working experience in an ICU?
- Was the system easy to use?
- Intuitive user interface (UI) How easy to use was the user interface?
- Have you had easy access to the information you required?
- Do the mortality risk predictions appear to be correct as per your clinical experience?
- To what extent did the health recommendations fit in or not fit your customary clinical practices?
- Was the system able to make you make a better or faster decision when it came to patient care?
- Did the real time consultation feature help in improving communication with the rest of the medical staff?
- Were the health recommendations well-developed and practical?
- The relevance of the suggestions to the condition of the patient?
- What do you feel needs to be improved about the system
- Did you have any problems or difficulties with using the system?
- What other features would you like added to the system in the future?
- Do you suggest ICU_Analyzer to other workers in the ICU setting?
- How are you, on a scale of 1 to 10, satisfied with the overall performance of the application?

6.3 Analysis Of Collected Data

This data obtained at the evaluation questionnaires and interviews was compared to evaluate the system performance and user experience. The analysis was based on the following aspects:

- **System Accuracy :** The validity of the predictions on the risk of mortality was determined by comparing the predictions of the system with actual patient outcome. Overall, the system was capable of determining the risk of mortality with the presented data in an accurate way. However, some cases of false negatives and false positives were observed especially where the patient had complicated medical history or had unusual symptoms. These cases demonstrated the necessity to refine the model further to take into consideration different patient conditions.

- **Health Suggestions:** The clinical presentation of the health suggestions was considered to be useful and relevant to healthcare professionals. Recommendations concerning medication changes, fluid balance, and observation systems were considered especially useful. Nonetheless, there were also users who have noted that the recommendations can be more individual to the particular needs of individual patients, and it is possible to use more sophisticated AI models to customize the recommendations to the needs of individual patients.

- **System Usability:** Most users positively rated the overall usability of the application. The interface was deemed to be user-friendly, and the users liked the transparent layout and simple navigation. Nonetheless, some of the users criticized that some of its features like uploading reports should be more integrated and automated especially when dealing with massive and complex datasets.

- **Impact on Decision Making :** The system influenced the decision-making positively in the ICU settings. Nurses and doctors said that the application helped save time in decision making especially during periods of high stress. The chat system was also useful as the real-time chat option was very useful when it came to consulting with the rest of the team members.

- **Performance Metrics :** The system was good in its response time with the majority of actions taking less than 3 seconds. The health recommendations and mortality risk forecasts were created instantly and without observable delays, which is why the system can be recommended to clinical settings where time-saving is critical.

6.4 Summary Of Results

Aspect Evaluated	**Findings**
Usability & Interface	All participants found the app easy to navigate and intuitive. One participant suggested improvement in visual polish for a more professional appearance.
Visual Appeal	Participants found the color scheme calming and non-triggering. One participant suggested fewer refined UI elements, while others felt it already "looked professional."
Emotional Safety	All users felt emotionally safe using the app. No triggering words or images were present anywhere in the app.
Intrusiveness	The app was seen as non-intrusive. Users appreciated the absence of ads and push notifications.
Mood Change After Use	All participants reported feeling somewhat better after usage. Most noted mild improvements due to short testing duration.
Most Impactful Features	• Gratitude & Regular Journaling (User 1) • Breathing Exercises (Users 2 & 3) • All Features (Users 1, 2 & 3)
Potential for Long-Term Use	All participants believed regular use would result in a positive impact on emotions and habits.
Mental Health Guidance	• User 1: Not suitable for acute episodes; professional help is needed. • User 2: Felt it can serve as an adjunct. • User 3: Felt it helped.
Suggestions for Improvement	• Add personalization where needed. • Increase depth of content regarding emotional safety and coping. • Add more interactive elements.
Overall Reception	The app met core goals: accessibility, emotional safety, and ease of use. Feedback confirms strong potential with room for focused improvements.

6.5 Discussion On Feedback

The feedback on healthcare professionals identified the following strengths and areas to improve:

- **User Interface:** The UI design was liked due to its simplicity, intuitive nature and also easy to use, particularly to professionals who do not have a robust technical background.
- **Real-Time Communication:** The real-time consultation option enabled the rapid decision-making process and enhanced collaboration between medical employees.
- **Actionable Suggestions :** The medical recommendations on healthcare were considered useful by the healthcare providers, especially in dealing with acute illnesses.

Areas for improvement :

- **Model Refinement :** The predictions of mortality were usually good but more advanced models are required to deal with difficult cases and non-standard cases.
- **Personalization of Suggestions:** The users recommended that the health suggestions should be further customized along with patient-specific information including age, underlying conditions, and medication history.
- **Report Upload Automation:** It was also reported that the report uploading process which is manual may be further streamlined, especially when large datasets with patients are involved. Automatic data extraction and OCR processing may help increase the amount of time it takes to input.

6.6 Design Improvements Considered

According to user feedback, some of the design enhancements were viewed in the future versions of the ICU Analyzer:

- **Enhanced Personalization :** Adding more sophisticated machine learning AI models that deliver personalized health recommendations, depending on the specific patient profile, with their past records and current clinical observations.
- **Improved Report Upload System :** Automatizing the report upload system by enabling automatic data extraction and processing a large variety of medical document types (e.g. scanned documents, electronic health records).
- **Expanded Model Training :** Train the mortality risk prediction model with a more diverse and larger dataset to make it more accurate and generalized and especially more useful in complex or rare cases.
- **User Interface Enhancements :** Further improve the UI by making it even more user-friendly, especially to users with disabilities, through the use of larger fonts, high contrast modes, and compatibility with a screen reader.

Chapter 7

Conclusion

7.1 Closing Thoughts

The ICU_Analyzer project has offered a holistic answer to one of the most pressing issues facing the healthcare workers in ICUs, namely anticipating the risk of patient death and providing practical health recommendations in real-time. With the use of the newest deep learning models, such as LSTM and CNN, the system managed to predict the outcome of patients with sufficient accuracy using time-series data and medical records, which is essential in the conditions of high pressure, like ICU.

In the course of this project, several critical factors have been put into consideration such as data privacy, model accuracy, usability and real time functionality. The effective work of the system shows the increasing potential of AI and machine learning in the healthcare sector, namely in enhancing clinical decision-making and patient care. Even though the ICU_Analyzer is confronted with the issue of complexity model, data constraints, and ethical issues, it has proven that AI can be a useful tool to use in critical care management.

Furthermore, the results of the feedback of the medical workers and the performance indicators confirmed the efficiency of the system in the human environment. It has been found to be a handy tool in a way of not only predicting the risk of mortality but also facilitating communication between the patients and the doctors hence improving the overall process of decision making in an ICU.

This project represents only the start of what might become a far more extended application of AI in healthcare, and the lessons gained in the present study can serve as a very solid starting point of the next developments.

7.2 Contributions To The Field

Both the critical care and healthcare informatics realms are advanced through the current research through:

- Showing working ability of hybrid deep learning models to process complex ICU data, thus, fostering clinical predictive accuracy of predicting mortality.
- Providing a framework that can be used to act based on mortality prediction and recommendations can be used to intervene, amplifying clinical usefulness[14].
- Emphasizing that the interpretability of the model is required in order to be adopted and trusted by the clinicians.
- Controlling existing shortcomings to the conventional methods of predicting mortality, namely; the use of fixed decisions as well as dependency on manual data-entry [17].

7.3 Limitations

Even though the obtained results are promising, the ICU_Analyzer has a number of limitations that should be admitted:

- **Data Limitations:** The model of mortality risk prediction relies much on the quality of the input data and its completeness. In practice in clinical applications, partial or noisy data may have an impact on the operation of the system. The system had been trained with the datasets at hand, which is not necessarily representative of the entire range of patient conditions or rare diseases.
- **Generalization:** Although the system has been performing well under the test environment, it is possible that it will not be good at generalizing to every healthcare environment. The differences in the sources of data, practices of medicine, and demographics of patients may influence the accuracy of the predictions.
- **Model Complexity:** The deep learning models deployed in the system are efficient yet complicated and need significant computing resources. This may prove to be an obstacle in resource-limited settings especially in less developed nations or fewer health care centers with unavailability of premium equipment.
- **Low Customization:** Despite the fact that the system offers health recommendations, it is based on the general patterns in the data. More specific patient attributes (e.g., age, comorbidities, genetics) could be considered and result in more specific suggestions.

- **Integration Issues:** There was a lack of integration between the ICU_Analyzer and current hospital information systems (HIS) and other electronic health record (EHR) systems. This form of integration will be required in order to streamline the workflow and enhance the overall efficiency of the system.

7.4 Plans For The Future

In order to magnify the size and impact of the current investigation, the following three supplementary strategies are proposed:

- Practical testing of the suggested model in ones that are unfamiliar to its clinical application and analyses of its generality and sustainability in other circumstances.
- Use of other forms of data to strengthen inferential capacity in particular, clinical imaging and genomic profiles.
- The creation of a reinforcement learning based architecture of decision support on the dynamic adaptive intervention in the environment of the intensive-care unit [25].
- The model may be subject to continuous refinement through iterations of modification based on the emerging clinical practices as well as the demographic patterns.
- Skeptical deliberation on the ethical aspects involved in the ethical sourcing of results, coupled with the involvement of all the involved stakeholders in the process of decision-making [27].

Overall, evidence presented in this article can be considered the breakthrough in the sphere of critical-care, which reaffirms the prospects of deep-learning frameworks in general. terms of long-term optimization of the patient monitoring process and various other activities in an ICU.

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