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# AI-Based Clinical Decision Support Systems in Smart Hospitals

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**Abstract:** ***Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to transform healthcare delivery and enhance clinical decision-making. AI-based Clinical Decision Support Systems (CDSS) can complement human expertise, leading to improved patient care and greater efficiency in smart hospitals. Smart hospitals represent an evolution of the concept of smart health by incorporating real-time, event-driven monitoring of patients and the hospital environment, enabling intelligent deployment of AI techniques in CDSS. Three architectural features characterize smart hospital CDSS: integration with Electronic Health Records for patient and environmental monitoring, a human-AI collaboration model aligned with clinical workflow, and seamless communication with monitoring equipment, devices, and other CDSS. AI-based CDSS support a variety of clinical tasks, including diagnostic and therapeutic decision-making, critical care, medication safety, and adverse event prevention. Evaluation of AI-based CDSS encompasses the effects on clinical outcomes, care quality, user experience, safety, security, privacy, intelligibility, bias and discrimination, alignment with regulatory frameworks, implementation roadmaps, governance, and continuous improvement. A foundational strategy for developing AI-based CDSS in smart hospitals combines existing knowledge and evidence with breakthroughs in intelligent predictive models and natural language processing. There are three principal driving forces: the massive quantities of health-related data generated within smart hospitals, the increasing overlap and redundancy in clinical work due to repetitive and routine tasks, and the societal imperative to enhance the science of medicine in order to achieve precision medicine and precision public health. When used responsibly, AI-based CDSS reduce system-wide heterogeneity, standardize responses to predictable scenarios, improve system efficiency, and minimize latent error. However, it is crucial to ensure that AI is not deployed simply for efficiency gains, which shifts the balance of responsibility and may have negative consequences for patients, hospital staff, and society. Promising AI-based CDSS applications will serve as testbeds for the implementation of these systems in real-time operation at scale in smart hospital environments.***

**Keywords:** Artificial intelligence, clinical decision support systems, smart hospitals, electronic health records, differential diagnosis clinical decision support systems, disease-specific literature-based support, telemedicine, COVID-19, patient safety

## 1. Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) has made its most significant impact on clinical decision support systems (CDSS), facilitating the availability of diagnostic and therapeutic recommendations that are closely aligned with clinical evidence. CDSS provides health care personnel with a second opinion, thereby helping physicians with emergency diagnosis and reducing the risk of human error. Modern CDSS leverages AI to analyse large amounts of medical data from a wide variety of data sources. AI-based CDSS integrates patient data from electronic health records (EHRs) and other structured and unstructured databases; includes extensive clinical knowledge graph data comprising disease semantics; and applies the latest deep learning, natural language processing, and reasoning technologies to support clinical development.

Smart hospitals are generally viewed as a more integrated and intelligent hospital buildings. Smart hospitals can readily be connected to various clinical information systems, enabling real-time health monitoring, dynamic event-driven control, and the AI-based decision support at any stage in the hospital workflow. Therefore, smart hospitals create an appropriate environment for deploying AI-based CDSS to improve clinical outcomes and quality of care.


**Figure 1:** Artificial-Intelligence-Based Clinical Decision Support

### 1.1 Background and Significance

Globally, the aging population and the increasing incidence of chronic diseases, along with the scarcity of healthcare professionals and financial resources, place enormous pressure on healthcare systems. Despite the rising demand for quality healthcare services, the ability to provide such services remains deficient. Smart hospitals based on the internet of things (IoT) and big data technologies continuously collect real-time information on hospitalized patients and available hospital resources. Artificial intelligence (AI) techniques applied to clinical decision support systems (CDSS)—including predictive models, diagnostic engines, risk stratification, clinical event detection, and recommender systems—enable integration of clinical and contextual information acquired from electronic health records and health information exchange platforms, and derived from online monitoring. This facilitates timely alerting of clinical events, delivering the right information to the right person at the right time and place, thereby enhancing patient safety. Implementing AI-based CDSS in smart hospitals poses multiple challenges and AI model performance needs to be continually monitored. Advanced CDSS hold the potential to prevent diagnostic errors, support precision medicine, enhance triaged decision-making in critical situations, improve medication safety, and mitigate adverse events.

Clinical decision support systems (CDSS) are AI-supported applications helping healthcare professionals deliver quality health services. CDSS have become ubiquitous in modern healthcare, capturing more than 70% of the market share in 2021. Although the existing status and development of CDSS is promising, only 0.9% of CDSS meet all of the clinical usability and integration criteria for implementation. AI-based CDSS enable improved clinical decision-making through real-time clinical event detection, risk stratification, timely alerts, predictive analytics, machine-assisted diagnosis, and therapeutic recommendations. Clinical and contextual information, including comparative statistics on similar patients, is supplied through integration with electronic health record (EHR) systems and health information exchange (HIE) platforms.

## 2. Foundations of AI-Based Clinical Decision Support

Three foundations are essential for reliably transferring the power of AI into clinical practice: all core AI techniques crucial for decision support, the data resources required for evidence generation today and tomorrow, and the standards necessary for the validation of AI-based CDSS. Addressing these areas will engender trust among hospital administrators, clinicians, and patients. More importantly, expanding the body of scholarly work in AI techniques and their integration will bolster clinical decision support in a way that is urgently needed for improved health and well-being.

A comprehensive understanding of how AI techniques support medical decision-making is required for integrating those capabilities into a hospital environment. For diagnostic decision support, it is important to leverage the entirety of the diagnostic process in conjunction with the systems for determining, testing, and rewriting differential diagnoses. Therapeutic decision support should also integrate the full therapeutic determination process, including the prescription of therapeutic regimens alongside dosing, selection of assays to monitor progress, adjustment in light of physiologic and laboratory milieu, and safety concerns. Beyond CT scan interpretation, common applications are in the initiation or adjustment of mechanical ventilation or oxygenation, identification of need for escalation of care, and diagnosis of thrombosis and pulmonary embolism. Supporting the safety and trustworthiness of drug therapies is another pressing need for decision support systems.

**Equation 1: Bayes' theorem (core for differential diagnosis)**

Let:

- $D$ = a disease (e.g., sepsis)
- $E$ = observed evidence (vitals, labs, notes)

We want the **posterior probability** of disease given evidence:

$$P(D\mid E)$$

**Step-by-step derivation**

Start from conditional probability definition:

$$P(D\mid E)=\frac{P(D\cap E)}{P(E)}$$

Similarly:

$$P(E\mid D)=\frac{P(D\cap E)}{P(D)}$$

Solve the second equation for $P(D\cap E)$:

$$P(D\cap E)=P(E\mid D)\,P(D)$$

Substitute into the first:

$$P(D\mid E)=\frac{P(E\mid D)P(D)}{P(E)}$$

If evidence can occur under multiple diseases $D_1,\dots,D_k$, the denominator expands by total probability:

$$P(E)=\sum_{i=1}^{k} P(E\mid D_i)\,P(D_i)$$

So:

$$P(D_j\mid E)=\frac{P(E\mid D_j)P(D_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^{k} P(E\mid D_i)P(D_i)}$$

### 2.1 Core AI Techniques in Decision Support

Machine learning, especially deep learning, is an indispensable technology for computer-aided detection [classifying pixels or regions in images of radiology, pathology, etc.] and certain other specific tasks, including natural language understanding. An essential type of model, trained on massive datasets from experiments with human subjects, is Large Language Models (LLM) [e.g., ChatGPT]. LLMs can process unstructured textual information and provide humanlike textual output. Such models can indeed be harnessed in diagnostics, but key aspects of decision support, including best treatment for given patient conditions, require reasoning.

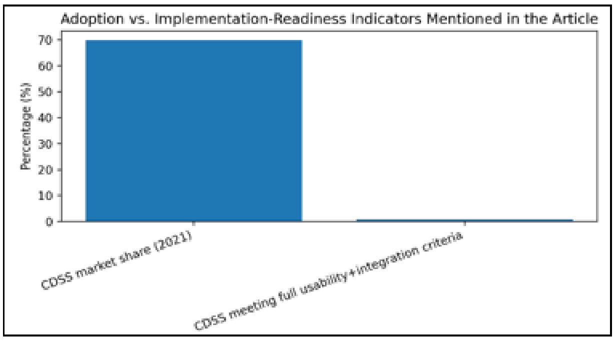
Together, smart hospitals' data environments can support probabilistic logic-based inference over data, with support from graph neural networks or LLMs. Probabilistic logic is particularly suited for integrating medical knowledge (tailored ontologies) with real-world patient data (from electronic health records and natural language processing of clinical narratives) across multiple time slices. Its foundation-axioms linking causes to effects- unlike neural networks, is easy to review and validate. The variety of AI tools, each suited to specific technical needs, brings automation. With growing datasets and clinically validated AI-based systems, the time needed for training is shrinking.

Machine reasoning must be complemented by explainable AI, which justifies and elucidates model predictions to clinicians, saved for particularly challenging cases. The goal is that simplest models do the heavy lift, with sophisticated AI applied judiciously when humanlike reasoning is too difficult or time-consuming.

### 2.2 Data Infrastructure and Interoperability

AI-based CDSS are data-hungry, requiring high volumes of structured and unstructured data to support training, calibration, validation, and operational applications. A comprehensive data network within a smart hospital is essential to ensuring the quality of training and operational AI-based CDSS applications. The supporting systems of the smart hospital need to focus on standardized information exchange that enables the timely delivery of high-quality data sources for training and validation of AI models on different clinical or nonclinical tasks. A primary requirement for the successful integration of many AI-based CDSS applications is accurate, timely, coherent, and integrated data. Adoption of the principles and technical solutions established in the source, integration, and analysis of clinical big data can dramatically reduce the performance gap of AI-based CDSS in real-life clinical settings.

A major obstacle to the successful uptake of AI-based CDSS is the limited availability of structured data for model training and calibration. Traditional clinical CDSS largely rely on patient information pulled together within EMR systems and presented to users when necessary. The majority of hospital operations support systems (e.g., finance and radiology systems) do not directly share data with clinical CDSS. Moreover, the voice of medical imaging, pathology, and neurosurgical open reports mostly exists in unstructured text form and therefore requires natural language processing capability when used by the CDSS. AI techniques for visual recognition, speech processing, language understanding, and multimodal integration present the opportunity to close the missing data gap in practical applications of AI-based CDSS.




### 2.3 Evidence Standards and Validation

AI-based clinical decision support systems employ multiple AI technologies across different functional modules. A CDSS is effective only if it is based on robust evidence for a specific clinical task. Just like the development of pharmaceutical drugs or medical devices, clinical decision support models must be validated in controlled studies with appropriate sample sizes before being deployed.

Two additional aspects of the validation evidence are also important. First, models that are built using data from specific disease populations or geographic locations will not necessarily generalize to other populations, and it is important to know if and under what circumstances they can. Second, for the domain of clinical care it is expected that the clinical care provided under the decision support model will have been shown to improve patient health outcomes and not merely that the model is producing correct answers. Therefore, models can be recommended for integration into routine workflows only when the associated clinical care has been validated to improve health outcomes compared to the alternative management strategies.

## 3. Architectural Models of Smart Hospitals

Integration of AI-based CDSS within the information architecture of EHR systems is fundamental to ensuring safety and effectiveness in the management of patients by providing alerts that require human attention and intervention only when warranted. Treatment guidelines need to take account of rapid changes in a patient's condition, for instance when monitoring is undertaken in an intensive care unit. Event-driven modelling enables automated action (including the capable allocation of limited hospital resources) when continuous monitoring identifies patients requiring immediate care. Evidence-based decision support continues to be ineffective when the ultimate decision-making is not integrated into clinician workflow.

Architectural models of smart hospitals provide guidance on the design of AI components that are fused with, and temporally and semantically aligned to, human cognition and information systems. The primary motivation is a better approach to Acute Resuscitation Decisions. Smart hospital architecture captures the human decision-making process and uses it to drive intelligent decision-support systems that use clinical data, patient condition and context. This enables clinicians to make smarter and safe decisions like an "AI-assisted smart browsed CDSS" system for the differential diagnosis of 24 diseases related to physical examination document (TPED).

Resource provisioning and usage allocation rely on predictive diagnostics of need, dynamic booking and assignment of people, beds, procedures, equipment, and consul-tation, external fulfillment of capability demand (e.g., surgery, procedure), and support for maintenance and overhaul scheduling. Event-driven process automation responds to overflow or underflow situations with predetermined actions, and facilitates temporal, conditional, and resource role-driven workflow orchestration.

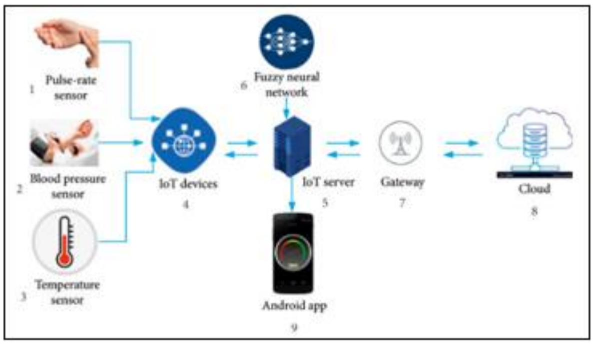



**Figure 2:** Smart healthcare system architecture



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### 3.1 Integration with Electronic Health Records

AI-based CDSS must be integrated with EHR systems to realize their full potential and reach a wide clinical audience. At this stage, the EHR serves as a passive repository of patient information and is not intelligently utilized to facilitate clinical decision-making. Integrating CDSS with EHR and augmenting its functionality with advanced AI enables the presentation of rich analytics from real-time patient data that can support medical diagnostics and treatment recommendations. Event-triggered alerts generated from real-time patient monitoring can also serve as useful decision aids. The default EHR systems are often unusable due to their complexity of use and hard-to-navigate user interfaces. Investment in AI tools can improve system usability and maximize. EHR usability can be improved using AI via natural language processing (NLP)-based techniques. The use of funny personal names for the patient can ease sensitivity while expressing potentially important and dangerous information. Moreover, the detailed history is generated using a document summarization methodology with improved readability and execution. Combined use of generative Pre-trained Transformer (GPT) and semantic-based techniques improves response structure. CDSS driven alert system helps the insurance policy holders in selecting the right plan. Privacy and security of data in CDSS driven EHR-integrated system have been addressed well.

### 3.2 Real-Time Monitoring and Event-Driven Alerts

Real-time event-driven CDSS support constitutes evidence-based alerts linked through reliable statistical associations to clinically meaningful outcomes—such as safety threats, re-admission risk, need for risk mitigation, or care gap closure. Real-time monitoring and detection of significant patient deterioration support early recognition and intervention to avert adverse outcomes, particularly in high-risk areas like the ICU or general wards. Prognostic indices that integrate multiple signals to predict clinical deterioration drive set goals, protocol adherence, and escalation decisions. Explicit cause-effect modeling of abnormal data patterns with treatment recommendations, such as sepsis bundles, monitor pattern evolution in near real-time to trigger alerts.

Fine-grained critical resource monitoring keeps track of availability status at a high resolution and proactively informs care teams and resource owners of potential usa-bi-lity about to enter unsafe regions, need for treatment, or pre-emptive remedy. Condition monitoring assesses readiness for resource allocation and recovery from demand, capacity, or usage distortion.

### 3.3 Human-AI Collaboration and Workflow Integration

Clinical decision support systems are designed to support clinicians in real-time. For interaction to be efficient and seamless, not only must CDSS be integrated with EHRs and event-driven alerting systems, the alert content must also match the human context and cognitive capacity. Analysis of the human-computer partnership suggests several general considerations for the design of such systems.

When clinicians encounter a challenging commitment, they welcome assistance that is relevant, timely, and trustworthy. Around 30% of support requests when managing critically ill patients in the ICU are met with disagreement, but the very act of consulting a colleague represented an opportunity for learning. Although physicians usually prefer consultation with colleagues over automated systems, surveys have shown that 30-40% regard AI support as desirable, especially when dealing with common problems. Given the complexities of safe drug prescription, bias in drug effect in different patient groups, and the difficulties in diagnosis and treatment of many conditions, physicians clearly need additional expertise. AI-based systems should be able to acquire and summarize medical knowledge rapidly enough to supplement rather than supplant expert human consultation. Command or precaution prompts can draw a clinician's attention to safety issues in drug prescription, monitoring, or abnormal test result interpretation.

## 4. Applications of AI-Based CDSS

The areas of clinical decision support most ready for deployment in smart hospitals correspond to predictions of mortality risk or changes in clinical status, diagnostic or differential diagnosis suggestions, guidance on therapeutic decisions or drug administration, posting of drug-drug and drug-allergy warnings, rules for adverse event screening or prevention, and management of imaging examinations.

AI-based clinical decision support systems (CDSS) are poised to aid in diagnosis, provide therapeutic guidance, respond to crisis situations, and support medication safety. Five types of applications deserve particular attention. AI systems that suggest the most likely diagnosis or a set of possible diagnoses are of great interest. Adding the new perspective of large language models to the process of differential diagnosis has gained momentum, as demonstrated by DualGPT, a dual-step framework for a more accurate, fairer, and safer differential diagnosis. Applications for predicting the clinical outcome of a critical illness. Early detection and clinical deterioration prediction, especially for COVID-19 patients, enhance the potential of smart hospitals to save lives. Providing recommendations for a drug treatment proposal and indication is also supported by evidence. Furthermore, AI applications designed to suggest clinical actions that prevent imminent adverse events collect great attention, especially in intensive and emergency care settings.

Machine learning–powered algorithms capable of evaluating the current clinical conditions of a patient and anticipating functional needs constitute a unique subset of such applications. They are designed to exploit real-time data from wearable sensors to forecast health changes in patients with chronic diseases and assist home-care patients. Similar ideas have been proposed for administrating imaging examinations, although under a different perspective. In this case, the goal is to develop a system that distributes imaging requests among available resources, guaranteeing quality in the administered examinations and minimizing the overall time and cost.

**Equation 2: Logistic regression risk model (common baseline in CDSS)**

Let features $(x_1,\dots,x_m)$ (age, HR, BP, lactate, etc.). Logistic regression models **log-odds** as linear:

$$\log\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)=\beta_0+\beta_1x_1+\cdots+\beta_mx_m$$

**Step-by-step to solve for $(p)$**

1) Exponentiate both sides:
$$\frac{p}{1-p}=\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)$$
2) Multiply both sides by $((1-p))$:
$$p=\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x),(1-p)$$
3) Expand RHS:
$$p=\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)-p\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)$$
4) Bring $(p)$ terms together:
$$p + p\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)=\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)$$
$$p\left(1+\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)\right)=\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)$$
5) Divide:
$$p=\frac{\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)}{1+\exp(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)}=\frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-(\beta_0+\beta^\top x)\right)}$$

### 4.1 Diagnostic Support and Differential Diagnosis

Various AI algorithms trained with data from diverse patient cohorts can predict disease occurrence, improve clinical prediction tools, and enhance the accuracy of differential diagnosis. Using large clinical databases, attention-based Transformers found imaging patterns in chest X-rays that were significantly correlated with 20 different diseases and were helpful for differential diagnosis. A web-based tool, termed EasyDL, supported precisely detecting major diseases, such as pneumonia, with dermatoscopic images. A graphical representation visualized overfitting patterns, revealing discriminant confidence of each image for each disease, hence enabling quick and accurate disease verification. Explainable AI enhanced the accuracy of models predicting clinical events from high-dimensional patient databases, and built-in interpretable attention models improved prediction of various diagnosis codes 1–2 years in advance.

Impressive results emerged with multi-morbidity studies. A federated machine learning framework, privacy-preserving Multi-Party Computation Distributed Learning, designed to predict 30 diseases from cross-section data in 139.2 million hospital visits, substantially reduced prediction bias among model installed in hospitals with varying disease distribution. Such approaches were extended to the five most prevalent diseases. An ensemble of 24 different models showed that parity and accessibility to adequate healthcare resources could reduce the burden of multimorbidity for both genders. Multiple morbidities history integrated into risk approaches could better quantify risks of 10 common surgical conditions involving placement and removal of devices, and habitual sedentary lifestyle might be a general risk factor for spatio-temporal distributions of a wide range of diseases. Deep learning with real-world cohort information also provided useful mappings for identifying co-occurrence or absence of common conditions in patients.

Combining advanced multi-source data can improve prediction accuracy of multi-risk ADLs. Automatic diagnostic prediction models reinforced by interpretable layers and projections of explicit knowledge from clinical guidelines can provide accurate and intuitive suggestions for doctors. Models identifying oral diseases using ML and DL frameworks demonstrated viable sensitivity and specificity and may help doctors eliminate oral diseases. Closed-loop and explainable AI incorporated into Non-communicable Disease Risk Factor Surveillance comprehensive disease prediction models showed clear advantages compared to traditional prediction methods and could have positive effects in clinical practice.

### 4.2 Therapeutic Guidance and Precision Medicine

AI methods are being applied to assist clinicians in providing the most effective therapies for patients. Their capability to consider multiple factors and large volumes of clinical evidence makes them suitable enablers of precision medicine. Recent work has shown that an AI method can be trained to highlight drug options that are statistically most effective for specific patient profiles, and other studies have introduced CDSS for the selection of multiple drugs and dosages.

AI methods have been developed to assist clinicians in choosing specific therapies for patients, disease stages, and clinical conditions. Rapid advances in precision medicine and systems biology have generated vast amounts of data on the molecular basis of disease, therapeutic targets, drug response, and drug side effects, some of it useful for clinical decision making regarding therapy. AI methods can therefore search through structured data, such as molecular profiles, biological networks, and clinical outcome records, for statistical associations between gene mutations, copy number variations, and/or mRNA expression, and drug efficacy, and/or drug side effects. Examples include probabilistic graphical models for scoring disease–molecular alterations–drug–efficacy associations, AI selection of the most effective drugs and dosages for patients with hepatocellular carcinoma, and deep-learning-based prediction of the drugs–patients compatibility, as well as CDSS that consider disease stages and multiple drugs simultaneously to minimize adverse effects.

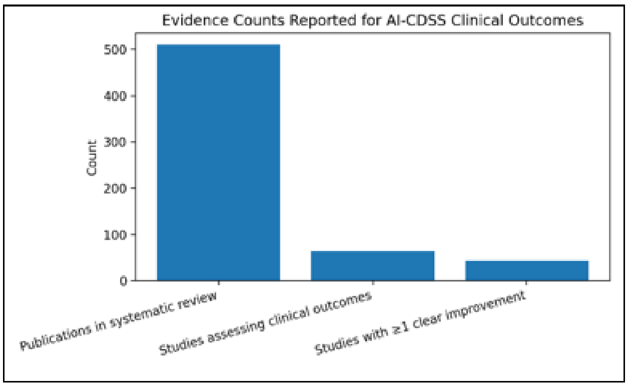
### 4.3 Critical Care and Triage

AI technology finds various applications in smart hospitals, ranging from diagnostic support to medication safety.

Specific solutions include real-time monitoring of patients' health conditions, forecast of clinical events that may lead to deterioration, recommendation of appropriate investigations or interventions, triage of patients waiting for consultation or admission, and prediction of life-threatening adverse events. These AI-based systems help to alleviate the cognitive burden on clinicians and support real-time decision-making.

Critically ill patients are more likely to develop unexpected complications during hospitalization. Early prediction and prevention of clinical deterioration must be a priority for healthcare teams, especially in critical-care departments. However, timely identification of at-risk patients remains a major challenge. AI has enabled improvement of proactive prediction in hospital settings by integrating real-time vital signs with referral data into state-of-the-art machine-learning algorithms based on electronic health records. Real-time prediction of common adverse events as well as acute-inpatient-declining conditions has become possible, enhancing clinical awareness and enabling timely avoidance of deterioration.

In emergency care, AI technology can be mounted into clinical workflows to develop effective solutions, notably through supporting or replacing existing decision-making processes. Current models can predict, for all patients awaiting consultation, the most suitable location for management according to common principles in emergency-medicine unit organization. Such prediction can enable smooth access to health resources and improve operational efficiency of emergency departments.




## 5. Evaluation and Effectiveness

### 5.1 Clinical Outcomes and Quality of Care

Evidence of clinical improvement for AI-based clinical decision support systems (CDSS) is still limited: a systematic review analyzing 510 publications found 63 studies assessing clinical outcomes, 43 of which reported at least one clear improvement. The most beneficial subtypes were associated with diagnosis support, critical care, and medication safety. Increased quality of care was found to correlate with usability and trust, but malicious attacks compromised classification performance, highlighting the need to strengthen safety, security, and privacy.

Healthcare costs continue to rise without major improvements in clinical outcomes, largely because standardization lowers hospital costs but sacrifices innovation and individualization. The advent of affordable, cloud-based computing and the volume of real-world health data now offer opportunities for smart hospitals to integrate their clinical decision support, diagnostic, and therapeutic systems using artificial intelligence. In such settings, AI-CDSS have the potential to substantially improve clinical outcomes, but mapping quality attributes to technology architecture is challenging. A framework aligning these attributes with evidence-based properties and the architectural model applied to an AI-CDSS for the diagnosis and management of chlamydia support quality improvements across all functional categories.

### 5.2 Usability, Trust, and Adoption Barriers

Increased quality of care correlates with usability and trust, while insufficient training data and the complexity of the healthcare model hinder adoption. Effective deployment requires stakeholder governance with a roadmap spanning training, technological readiness, data management, and biocompatibility. All AI-based applications ideally should constitute a hospital product rather than a project to ensure continuous improvement. In a smart hospital, real-time monitoring, intervention triggers, and direct integration with electronic health records are essential for CDSS supporting laboratory tests, critical care, medication safety, and diversion surgery. Relying on crowd input and behavior-based learning fosters trust.

Despite facilitating greater efficiency in health systems, AI-CDSS has not yet reached mainstream adoption. Evidence shows that user trust, acceptance, and usability are crucial for a positive impact on clinical outcomes. Trust is strengthened by close collaboration between AI and humans, as well as by reliable simulation. Errors stemming from imprecision inhibit user trust, while poor usability diminishes acceptance. Malicious attacks- including adversarial examples, poisoning, data extraction, model inversion, and exploitation of biases-compromise classification performance and clinical utility.

### 5.3 Safety, Security, and Privacy Considerations

Although security, safety, and privacy aspects are less evident, defense against malicious attacks such as adversarial examples, poisoning, and data extraction is essential to sustaining performance and trust. Malicious manipulations reduce classification accuracy, rendering AI-CDSS vulnerable to the very threats that intelligent design seeks to mitigate. Despite healthcare data being one of the most valuable assets in today's digital world, studies have highlighted weaknesses in privacy policies and mechanisms. Moreover, the balance between retaining user privacy and enhancing system recommendation quality is poorly understood.

**Table:** “Smart hospital CDSS”- 3 architectural features (as stated)

| Architectural feature | What it means operationally |
|---|---|
| EHR integration | Use EHR for patient + environment monitoring and data access |
| Human-AI collaboration aligned to workflow | CDSS advice must fit clinical cognitive/workflow context |
| Seamless communication with devices/other systems | Connect monitoring equipment + other CDSS for event-driven actions |

### 5.4 Clinical Outcomes and Quality of Care

AI-based CDSS has the potential to improve a range of clinical outcomes and the quality of care. Effectiveness may be assessed through correlation with key clinical measures, through comparison with historical data, or through the application of clinical trial methodology. Such systems combine evidence-based algorithms with patient-specific data to deliver real-time alerts at the point of care.

The majority of studies found beneficial effects on disease prevention, decision-making and care quality, although few



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measured direct endpoints such as morbidity, mortality or costs. The number of clinical trials remains limited, with particular reference to the randomly controlled design.

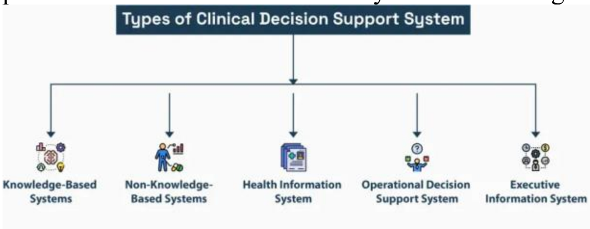


**Figure 3:** Clinical Outcomes and Quality

### 5.5 Usability, Trust, and Adoption Barriers

Since the primary end users of AI-based Clinical Decision Support Systems (CDSS) are care givers, whose day-to-day clinical decisions are no longer solely made through their own cognitive reasoning but rather supported by an AI engine, usability must be a key property of AI-based CDSS, especially for enabling the user to understand why the system produced a certain output and to easily spot the context within which the CDSS performs well or poorly. To address these concerns, proper attention must be paid to the CI-AI user interface and interaction design and to the transparency of AI-based CDSS.

Usability studies usually draw from the literature of human-computer interaction or information science, adopting methods such as user testing or interviews. In the innovative area of augmented intelligence, researchers are also investigating the adoption of established usability guidelines from the User Experience community and User-Centered Design methodologies. Usability studies has also included end-users represents low-fidelity mock-ups of the CDSS output and interface, testing both recommendations and diagnosis support. Usability testing of perceptive user interface and interaction design prototypes has also been emphasized, with a desirability matrix used to benchmark human-rated desirability, usefulness, relevance, and novelty of the designs in the context of farming.

Trust appears to be critical to the long-term acceptance of Augmented Intelligence and trustworthy AI at large. A sound trust relationship hinges on several factors, such as how the AI system provides its advice, how often the advice is right and of good quality and the quality of the underlying data. Evidence of positive or negative consequences of following the system's suggestion over time also contribute to its trust relationship, as does the completeness of the training and learning data, whether they are reliable and whether they carry a sufficient level of diversity. As the system matures, trust also grows, but in human-AI collaboration – as different from a human-human relationship – the AI should keep earning the trust continuously. In recommendation-oriented scenarios, another critical factor for users' trust is indeed the risk level. Adoption of ethical design principles grounded on equity considerations, involvement of users during the design process and provision of explainable-by-design functionality all contribute to trustworthiness, as demonstrated in the areas of gender fairness and emotional companions.

Interaction between the AI and its users should be user-centered and user-friendly, even when it acts in an assistive way. Hence, the suggestions and recommendations should not chastise the user but only offer help. It should sound natural from the interaction perspective. The system's ability to learn or develop emotional capabilities also affects the comfort level of human-AI interaction and ultimately the acceptance of the system itself. To promote a more human-like interaction, it can also be used for an advanced natural turnover that steers the interaction or for dealing with sensitive topics. AI-related jobs also appear promising for human-AI interaction, as they allow users to develop various types of interaction with affective chatbots and companions.

### 5.6 Safety, Security, and Privacy Considerations

Data access and communication security are vital to instilling clinician trust, yet AI-based clinical decision support systems typically draw on a detailed amalgamation of a hospital's data resources, such as e-Government services, smart healthcare services and open data portals, which are inherently exposed to security breaches. Such systems merit careful scrutiny, however, as even slight neural network perturbation can result in misdirection. Also evident are the need to regularly retrain AI models using external data, the need to limit privacy leakage TV and even the EU directive requiring anti-discrimination measures in AI.

Privacy and regulation need special consideration in these systems. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the EU medical device regulation (MD) require that development and validation of AI-based clinical decision support systems adhere to privacy and regulatory compliance, especially when using personal medical data. These laws follow specific guidelines, such as the Establishment of General Principles for Developing AI Techniques in Health-care Settings, which proclaim the right to explainability when AI models suggest medical decisions. Consequently, deep learning models' often opaque nature tends to make them rather challenging to subject to this principle. Regulatory requirements are even stricter for AI systems assisting medical diagnosis, affecting both AI development and future use.

## 6. Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications

Concerns about accountability are often raised in discussions of AI, particularly for high-stakes applications such as autonomous weapons or CDSS that affect human lives. Regulations for AI that use third-class neural networks in the European Union stipulate that "high-risk AI systems" must ensure a clear legal mechanism to determine liability in the event of damage to individuals or property. At the same time, the intricate complexity of some AI systems makes it difficult for these systems to self-interpret the logic underlying their inference processes.

Various forms of explanation, transparency, interpretability, and trustworthiness are now actively researched in connection with AI and CDSS. Approaches such as Shapley additive explanations (SHAP) and LIME (Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations) shed light on the workings of black-box models and furnish explanations that can be conveyed to users. The efficacy, impact, and value of such explanations are debated, however, and it is recognized that exhaustive, understandable, and trustworthy explanations are not always possible. The objective is therefore to provide explanations that can improve user trust and acceptance.

The bias and potential discrimination that may emerge from AI training based on imbalanced or incomplete datasets are also matters of grave concern, as are the ways to ensure fairness, diversity, inclusion, equity, and accessibility in AI implementation. The 2021 OECD AI Principles recommend the testing and monitoring of AI systems for biased outputs, and the design of AI systems grounded in a process of engagement with diverse audiences. Moreover, AI-based systems must comply with ethical and legal frameworks and align with the values and strategies of society. Both bias and the technical solutions for mitigation must be communicated transparently to users, stakeholders, and affected individuals during the AI system's entire lifecycle.

**Equation 3: Probabilistic graphical models (PGMs) implied by the paper**

If variables are $(X_1,\dots,X_n)$ and each $(X_i)$ has parents $(\mathrm{Pa}(X_i))$ in a DAG, then:

$$P(X_1,\dots,X_n)=\prod_{i=1}^{n} P(X_i\mid \mathrm{Pa}(X_i))$$

**Why this is true (step-by-step idea)**

1) Chain rule always holds:

$$P(X_1,\dots,X_n)=\prod_{i=1}^{n} P(X_i\mid X_1,\dots,X_{i-1})$$

2) A Bayesian network encodes conditional independencies, letting us replace $(P(X_i\mid X_1,\dots,X_{i-1}))$ with $(P(X_i\mid \mathrm{Pa}(X_i)))$.

That gives the product form above.

If $(T)$ is a treatment option and $(E)$ is evidence, recommendation can be:

$$T^*=\arg\max_{t} P(T=t \mid E)$$

Using Bayes:

$$P(T\mid E)\propto P(E\mid T)\,P(T)$$

So ranking treatments is often:

- Compute (or approximate) $(P(E\mid T))$ from the model and data
- Multiply by prior $(P(T))$ (guidelines, prevalence, contraindications)
- Choose the highest posterior (or show top-k with explanations)

### 6.1 Accountability and Transparency

The ethical, legal, and social aspects of AI-based clinical decision support systems (CDSS) in smart hospitals are discussed through the lenses of accountability and transparency, bias and fairness, and compliance with regulatory frameworks. AI-based CDSS operate within a complex system comprising procedures, organisational culture, supporting actors and technologies in addition to the intelligent agent itself. The human support and corrective functions around CDSS and the supporting technologies are crucial for making the service more trustworthy, efficient, progressive and reliable. It is vital that the system be transparent and that the reasons for decisions taken are interpretable and communicated to healthcare professionals involved as well as to other related actors. This transparency favours accountability and enables healthcare professionals to assume the legal responsibilities and risks associated with the decisions made. Healthcare professionals need to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their supporting technology as well as the potential impact of bias in the underlying models embedded in the technology.

Bias and fairness are pervasive issues in AI, with the emergence of multiple, paired definitions of fairness that highlight how context-dependent the concept is. The rapid adoption of AI-based solutions in medical practice raises equity, justice, fairness and inequality concerns. A broad range of measures for computational fairness has been proposed, and a verifying index able to capture and quantify inequality in any decision-making process has been formulated that is sensitive to the choices made by decision-makers in clinical practice. Recent advances in patient-centered adaptive clinical trials are laying the foundation for the consideration of an Equity Adjustment during the design and analysis stages of these trials. It is important that the rich sources of accumulated knowledge and expertise in hospitals-treatment protocols, clinical practice guidelines, patient-care pathways and the like- be represented as formal computable knowledge that groups working on intelligent agents in healthcare can appropriately exploit.

### 6.2 Bias, Fairness, and Equity

Despite their growing prospects, AI-based Clinical Decision Support Systems (CDSS) also pose several challenges that require careful consideration. AI systems inevitably reflect the data used to train them. Biases in the data can propagate to the AI solution, resulting in models that provide suboptimal or even damaging outcomes for the populations under consideration. Models must be trained and validated on diverse datasets representing the full range of clinical conditions and life experiences of patients, and the CDSS must be employed in ways that protect against the negative ramifications of biased predictions. Attention to fairness, equity, and inclusiveness in the data sources, model development, and use of the solutions is essential.

Clinical Artificial Intelligence systems must be developed on robust sets of inclusive and fair data. Highly imbalanced datasets—those with very few or no samples to represent a certain subgroup—often lead to non-generalizable AI solutions. Addressing social biases inherent in clinical record data is also important. For example, in demographic-sensitive tasks (e.g., predicting gestational diabetes for patients of different ethnicities), ethnicity-bias mitigation methods should be adopted. Other best practices for bias and fairness include using explainable AI-based risk models, indirect fairness constraints, bias detection techniques, explainability-based group imbalance risk-sensitive loss functions, and domain generalization methods to build fair models for practical risk prediction for patients. Moreover, by providing pathways to cold-start learning and recommendation, the AI



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system might also avoid biases associated with cold-start recommendations

**Table:** AI-CDSS application buckets explicitly listed in the article

| Bucket | Examples mentioned |
|---|---|
| Diagnostic / differential diagnosis | Diagnostic suggestions, differential diagnosis tools |
| Predict clinical deterioration / mortality risk | Real-time monitoring, deterioration prediction |
| Therapeutic guidance / precision medicine | Therapy/drug selection, dosages, molecular associations |
| Medication safety | Drug-drug / drug-allergy warnings |
| Adverse event prevention / screening | Rules for screening/preventing imminent adverse events |
| Imaging exam management | Managing imaging examinations / distributing imaging requests |

### 6.3 Compliance with Regulatory Frameworks

Whether they are classed as medical devices, decision-aid software, or tools embedded in the operation of a smart hospital, AI applications must comply with relevant frameworks and standards to ensure safety, efficacy, and optimal clinical outcomes. Useful guidelines have already been developed and are evolving alongside advances in technology and experience with AI-based CDSS.

Architectural considerations may go a long way toward mitigating ethical concerns in medical AI decision-support tools- including concerns about accountability, trust, bias, privacy, and security- but organizational change must also pay close attention to laws and privacy standards in the healthcare sector. Data governance is therefore key, both because the data superclusters need stringent policies on ownership and access to safeguard proprietary information and intellectual property, and because weak data governance policies expose CDSS to intrusion and hacking, which in turn could lead to undetected data manipulation and force clinical processes and hospitals into a situation similar to that of computer hacking.

## 7. Implementation Strategies and Change Management

A roadmap is proposed for the deployment of AI-based CDSS in smart hospitals. Successful implementation entails consideration of governance and stakeholder engagement and the establishment of metrics for continuous improvement.

AI-based CDSS can take many forms, from applications to be accessed by clinicians themselves to behind-the-scenes alerts issued to clinicians by the AI systems. Although these systems have the potential to improve clinical outcomes and the quality of care, root causes of nurse and physician burnout, as well as factors influencing the adoption of AI tools, merit consideration when charting a course for deployment. There is no substitute for involving clinical staff from the outset: these stakeholders are crucial not only to acceptability but also to the definition of problems faced, possible AI-based solutions and domains of use.

### 7.1 Roadmaps for Deployment in Smart Hospitals

Strategies for implementing AI-based clinical decision support systems in smart hospitals comprise the definition of roadmaps that connect targeted CDSS applications with specific hospital characteristics and interdependencies. Considerations include the influence of market strength, digitization and smartness on the hospital size, the degree of integration with electronic health record systems, real-time monitoring and event-driven alerts, human-machine collaboration, and the infrastructure for enabling seamless information flow exchanges.

Three roadmaps offer diverse implementation options. The first addresses hospitals in less-developed countries, where the first priority should be medication safety and adverse event prevention supported by a system-based approach to promoting prescriptions, transfusions and surgeries- areas with proven higher effects on quality of care. The second roadmap is designed for hospitals in developed countries lacking an advanced level of digitization but enjoying market strength. Here, the main effort should focus on integrating clinical decision support with electronic health record systems to improve diagnostic accuracy and therapeutic guidance. The final roadmap is aimed at advanced smart hospitals in mature markets, where the objective should be the enhancement of real-time monitoring capabilities.

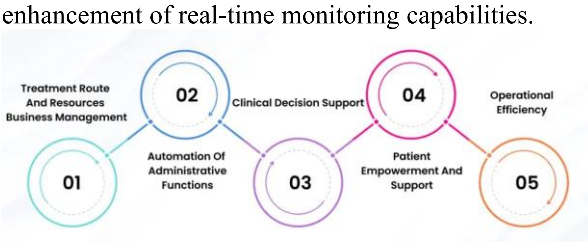


**Figure 4:** AI Is Transforming Hospital Management

### 7.2 Governance and Stakeholder Engagement

Skilful strategies for introducing AI-based clinical decision support systems in smart hospitals will employ a multifaceted, multi-tiered approach that integrates consideration of technical, human, and organisational factors across a broad spectrum of stakeholders. It is of paramount importance to focus on all societal stakeholders throughout the process of innovation, including governments, health authorities, regulatory bodies, funders, health professionals, patients, and the community at large. Though patients and health professionals will be the principal end users of clinical decision support systems, they do not wield much decision-making power: they thus require supporting roles in the idea-generation phase and should be consulted and guided by national health authorities to ensure evidence-based, valid solutions.

Publicly funded health care systems must invest in funding, research, infrastructure, services, training, and education, as well as providing incentives and regulation. Financing drawn from several and/or dedicated sources- public and non-profit organisations, hospitals, foundations, industry, and governments, among others- can help reduce the burden on any single stakeholder. In addition to funding, organisations must constantly adapt to the changing environment and invest in research to remain at the forefront of innovation. The ongoing involvement of health professionals in the development of valid evidence-based solutions is also key, as it ensures system usability and institutional acceptance. In this respect, special focus should be placed on education and training, with emphasis on preventive actions and implementation roadmaps.

### 7.3 Metrics for Continuous Improvement

Evaluation and implementation phases of AI-based CDSS are characterized by technological readiness, enhancing trust among users. Hospital management and other stakeholders are responsible for developing a deployment roadmap that addresses infrastructure, data quality and integration, regulatory approval, governance, and change management. Two major aspects of deployment are campaign management and continuous improvement, for which metrics are recommended.

Longitudinal data on clinical outcomes, quality, safety, cost of care, and adoption should be collected to support a campaign management framework inspired by the Plan-Do-Study-Act model for continuous quality improvement. At each hospital, the framework monitors clinical evidence-based drivers of care quality and detects variations from expected quality for all conditions and procedures, to support evidence-based dissemination, such as clinical practice guidelines. A portfolio of metrics suitable for monitoring and continuously improving AI-based CDSS has been developed. These metrics belong to five clusters: incident detection, fault diagnosis, validation, acceptance, and operating metrics.
An inference engine based on probabilistic graphical models combines local expertise, clinical practice guidelines, peer-reviewed literature, and information from past cases to generate a recommended treatment. For any possible clinical condition, the modelling framework identifies minimum-sufficient evidence to comprehend it based on patient data stored in hospitals' information systems. The model is integrated into the longitudinal clinical information system; information extracted from the database triggers inference engine deployment, modelling campaigns related to the selected patient cohort and care condition.

## 8. Conclusion

AI-based clinical decision support systems (CDSS) enable smart hospitals to deliver superior patient care by augmenting medical professional capabilities with evidence-based recommendations delivered through natural language. Clinical outcomes, quality of care, and safety can all improve through effective application and integrated deployment with other information technologies. Barriers to adoption and effective use include usability, trust, and concerns with data security and privacy. Ethical considerations include transparency, fairness, and compliance with local regulations and legislation.

Clinical informatics represents one important aspect of digital and data governance in health. Consequently, a roadmap and strategy should be developed for the implementation of AI CDSS that integrates these functionalities with the main electronic health records application of a smart hospital, monitors the quality of information in real time, facilitates the responsible deployment of advanced AI capabilities, supports medical professionals through trusted autonumeric responses, and ensures that patient data are used only for benevolent purposes.

### 8.1 Future Trends

AI-based CDSS are already present in many hospitals but require additional evaluation to establish whether they improve real-world clinical outcomes and quality of care, while also making clinicians more efficient and less error-prone. Nevertheless, a number of factors are expected to accelerate their development and deployment: As predictive models are increasingly tested, validated, and shown to be useful in new settings, they will be integrated into the clinical workflow and fed with real-time data from basic health infrastructures.

Over time, the real-time alerting system will evolve towards medicine-timed information delivery, for example, sending therapy suggestions after a vital signs change, or actively prompting when results of predictive models suggest an unintended outcome. Evidence-based clinical pathways for a great variety of conditions are undergoing continuous refinement, using large databases, and AI systems will increasingly assist clinicians in identifying deviations from such pathways and subsequently selecting the most optimal and safe approach, accounting for patient-specific characteristics. In relatively rare conditions, patient history and genomic data will be combined to improve the selection of available therapies for precision medicine, thus increasing the chances for a positive response and reducing adverse reactions. AI systems will support triage, clinical management, and follow-up of critical patients; and help identifying and avoiding prescription errors and adverse events related to pharmaceutical therapy.

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