

AI-Enhanced Imaging Analytics for Precision Diagnostics in Cardiovascular Health.

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Abstract: - Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) represent a significant global health burden, necessitating accurate diagnostic tools for effective management and intervention. Medical imaging plays a crucial role in cardiovascular diagnostics, providing detailed anatomical and functional information about the heart and blood vessels. However, the interpretation of imaging data can be challenging and subjective, leading to variability in diagnoses and treatment decisions. [1],[2] In recent years, artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative technology with the potential to revolutionize medical imaging analytics, offering enhanced diagnostic accuracy and efficiency in cardiovascular health. This paper presents a comprehensive review of AI-enhanced imaging analytics for precision diagnostics in cardiovascular health. AI-driven approaches enable automated image segmentation, quantification of myocardial mechanics, and detection of subtle cardiac abnormalities, thereby facilitating early identification of high-risk patients and timely intervention. Furthermore, AI-based image reconstruction, motion correction, and tissue characterization techniques enhance the diagnostic capabilities of MRI and CT, enabling more accurate assessment of cardiac pathology and treatment response. The clinical impact of AI-enhanced imaging analytics in cardiovascular diagnostics is substantial. AI algorithms aid in rapid and accurate detection of myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathies, valvular diseases, and other cardiac abnormalities, leading to timely diagnosis and appropriate management strategies. Moreover, AI-based imaging biomarkers have the potential to predict treatment response and prognosis, guiding therapeutic decision-making and optimizing patient outcomes. Despite the promising potential of AI in cardiovascular diagnostics, several challenges and considerations need to be addressed, including algorithm validation, integration with existing workflows, data privacy, regulatory approval, and clinician training. Looking ahead, the field of AI-enhanced imaging analytics in cardiovascular health is poised for continued growth and innovation. Future research directions may include the development of multimodal AI algorithms for comprehensive cardiovascular assessment, integration of real-time imaging feedback into clinical decision support systems, and implementation of AI-driven predictive models for personalized risk prediction and treatment optimization. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and concerted efforts, AI-enabled imaging analytics have the potential to transform cardiovascular diagnostics and improve patient outcomes in clinical practice.

Keywords: AI, Imaging Analytics, Cardiovascular Health, Precision Diagnostics, Machine Learning, Medical Imaging, Echocardiography, MRI, CT, Risk Stratification, Treatment Planning.

1.Introduction: - Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) pose a significant global health challenge, accounting for a substantial portion of morbidity and mortality worldwide. Despite advances in treatment modalities and preventive strategies, CVDs continue to impose a heavy burden on healthcare systems and economies. [3],[4] Timely and accurate diagnosis is paramount for effective management and intervention in cardiovascular health. Medical imaging has long been a cornerstone in the diagnosis and management of CVDs, enabling clinicians to visualize cardiac anatomy, function, and perfusion non-invasively. However, the interpretation of imaging data can be complex, often requiring specialized expertise and subjective judgment, which can lead to variability in diagnoses and treatment decisions. In recent years, artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative technology with the potential to revolutionize medical imaging analytics, offering enhanced diagnostic accuracy and efficiency across various medical specialties, including cardiovascular health. AI encompasses a range of techniques, such as machine learning, deep learning, and neural networks, that enable computers

to learn from large datasets and perform tasks that typically require human intelligence. By leveraging AI algorithms, medical imaging can be analyzed more rapidly, accurately, and objectively, leading to improved diagnostic precision and personalized therapeutic interventions.

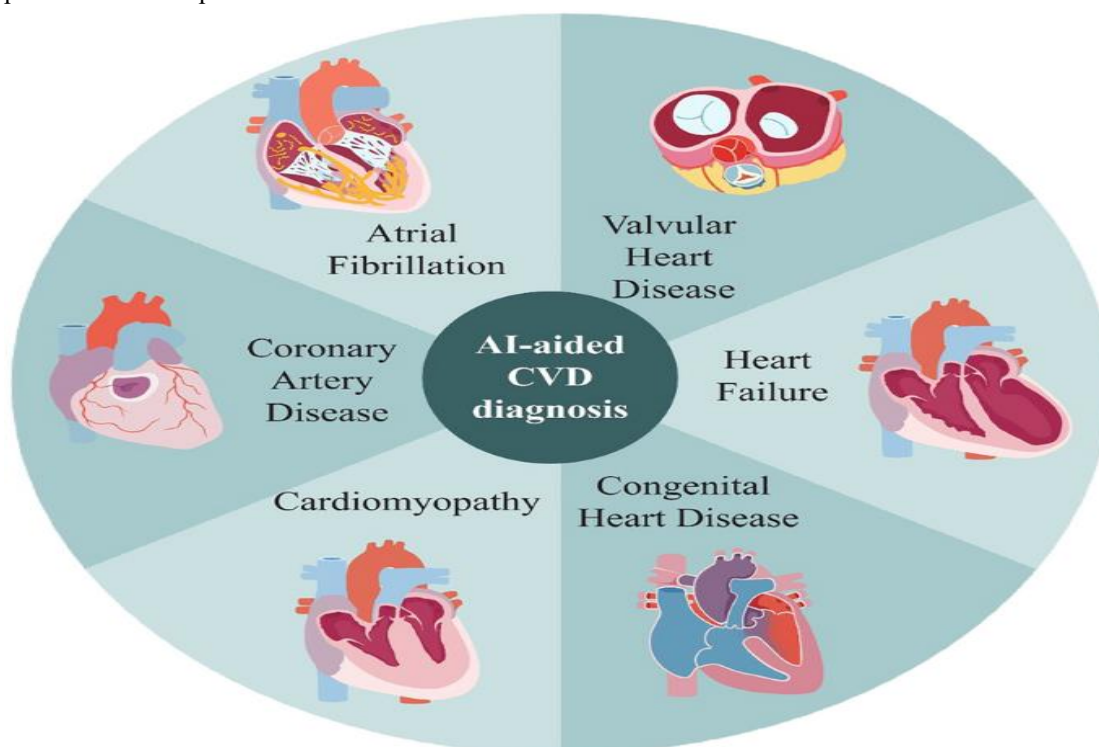


Figure 1 AI enabled precision diagnostic for cardiovascular diseases.

The integration of AI with medical imaging, often referred to as AI-enhanced imaging analytics, holds great promise for advancing precision diagnostics in cardiovascular health. This paper aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the current landscape, challenges, [11]will explore the application of AI algorithms across various imaging modalities, including echocardiography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and computed tomography (CT), for risk stratification, disease detection, and treatment planning in patients with CVDs.

Echocardiography,[7],[8] a widely used imaging technique for assessing cardiac structure and function, has seen significant advancements with the integration of AI. AI algorithms enable automated image segmentation, quantification of myocardial mechanics, and detection of subtle abnormalities, thereby facilitating early identification of high-risk patients and guiding treatment decisions. Similarly, MRI and CT imaging modalities have benefited from AI-driven image reconstruction, motion correction, and tissue characterization techniques, leading to more accurate assessment of cardiac pathology and treatment response.

The clinical impact of AI-enhanced imaging analytics in cardiovascular diagnostics is profound. [9],[10]AI algorithms aid in rapid and accurate detection of myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathies, valvular diseases, and other cardiac abnormalities, facilitating timely diagnosis and appropriate management strategies. Moreover, AI-based imaging biomarkers have the potential to predict treatment response and prognosis, guiding therapeutic decision-making and optimizing patient outcomes.

Despite the promising potential of AI in cardiovascular diagnostics, several challenges and considerations need to be addressed, including algorithm validation, integration with existing workflows, data privacy, regulatory approval, and clinician training. Looking ahead, continued research and innovation in AI-enhanced imaging analytics are likely to yield

significant clinical benefits, ultimately improving patient outcomes and advancing precision medicine in cardiovascular health. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and concerted efforts, AI-enabled imaging analytics have the potential to transform cardiovascular diagnostics and usher in a new era of personalized care.

2.Literature Review: - Recent advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) have spurred a paradigm shift in medical imaging analytics, offering novel approaches for enhancing precision diagnostics in cardiovascular health. [12]The integration of AI with various imaging modalities has garnered significant attention from researchers and clinicians alike, with numerous studies demonstrating the potential of AI-enhanced imaging analytics to improve diagnostic accuracy and patient outcomes in cardiovascular medicine.

Echocardiography, a cornerstone imaging technique in cardiovascular diagnostics, has been a focal point for AI-driven innovations. Studies have showcased the utility of AI algorithms for automated image segmentation, facilitating accurate quantification of cardiac chamber dimensions, myocardial mechanics, and valvular function. [13],[14]Additionally, AI-based approaches have enabled the detection of subtle cardiac abnormalities, such as myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathies, and congenital heart defects, with high sensitivity and specificity, leading to early diagnosis and targeted interventions.

In the realm of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), AI-driven image reconstruction and motion correction techniques [15]have revolutionized cardiac imaging protocols, enabling high-resolution imaging with reduced acquisition times and improved image quality. AI algorithms have also been leveraged for tissue characterization and perfusion analysis, providing valuable insights into myocardial viability, fibrosis, and ischemia, which are critical for risk stratification and treatment planning in patients with CVDs.

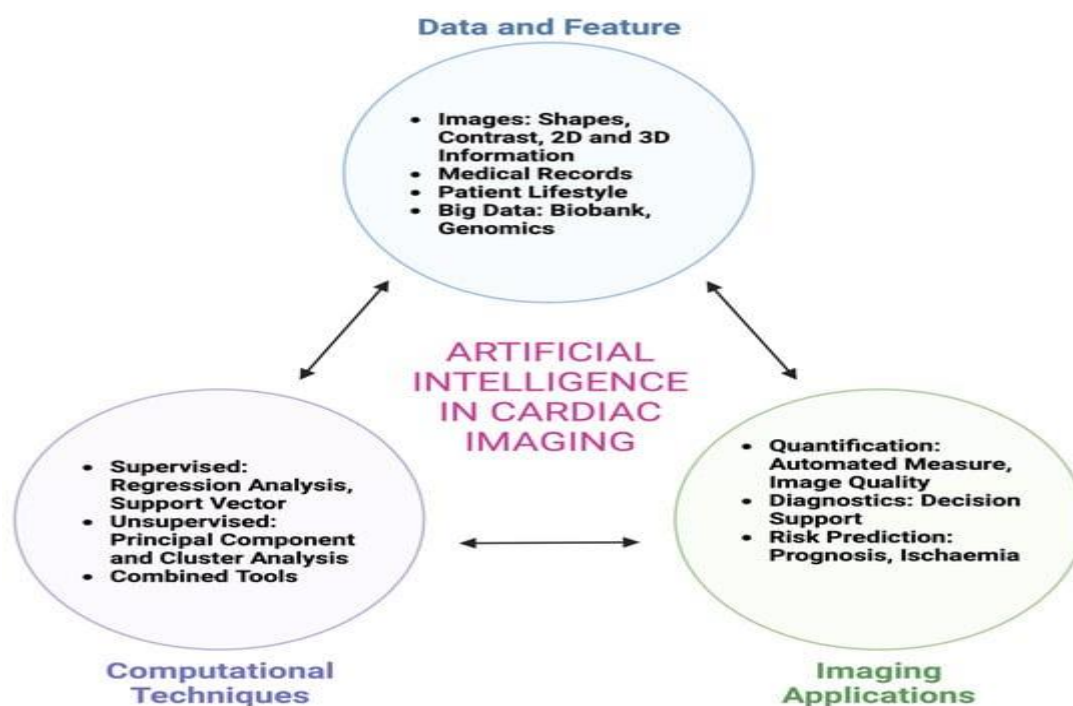


Figure 2 AI in Cardiac Imaging process.

Computed tomography (CT) imaging has similarly benefited from AI-enhanced analytics, particularly in coronary artery imaging and plaque characterization. AI algorithms have demonstrated superior performance in detecting and quantifying

coronary artery stenosis, plaque burden, and vulnerable plaque features, thereby enhancing the accuracy of non-invasive assessment of coronary artery disease (CAD) and guiding therapeutic decisions, such as revascularization strategies.

Despite the promising advancements, challenges remain in the widespread adoption of AI-enhanced imaging analytics in cardiovascular diagnostics. Validation and standardization of AI algorithms, integration with existing imaging workflows, regulatory approval processes, and clinician training are crucial considerations for the successful implementation of AI technologies in clinical practice. [16] Moreover, ethical and privacy concerns surrounding data sharing, algorithm transparency, and patient consent necessitate careful attention to ensure responsible and equitable deployment of AI-enhanced imaging analytics in cardiovascular medicine.

3. AI-Enhanced Imaging Modalities: -Artificial intelligence (AI) has rapidly transformed the landscape of medical imaging, offering innovative solutions to enhance diagnostic accuracy and efficiency in cardiovascular health. This section explores the integration of AI with various imaging modalities, including echocardiography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and computed tomography (CT), for precision diagnostics in cardiovascular medicine.

3.1. Echocardiography: Echocardiography remains a fundamental imaging modality for assessing cardiac structure and function. AI algorithms have been extensively applied to echocardiographic data, enabling automated image segmentation, quantification of myocardial mechanics, and detection of cardiac abnormalities with remarkable accuracy. AI-driven approaches facilitate rapid and objective interpretation of echocardiographic images, leading to early identification of cardiac pathologies, such as myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathies, and valvular diseases. Moreover, AI-enhanced echocardiography allows for personalized risk stratification and treatment planning, guiding clinical decision-making and improving patient outcomes.

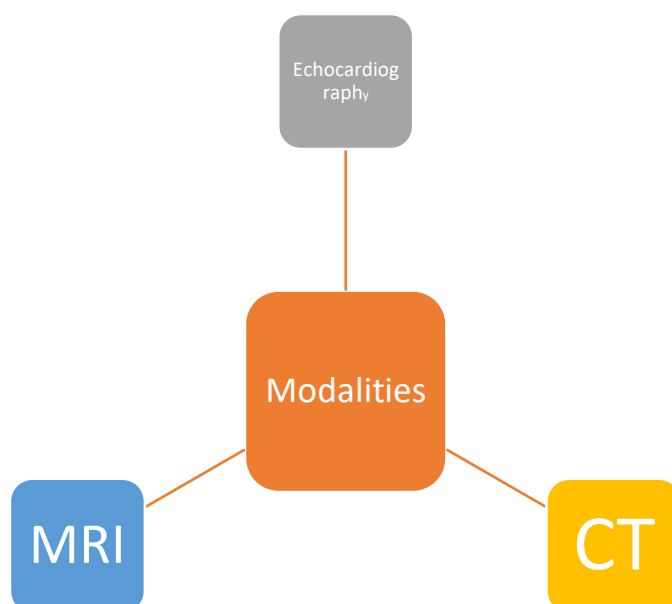


Figure 3 AI-enhanced imaging modalities.

3.2. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI): MRI offers unparalleled soft tissue contrast and multi-parametric imaging capabilities, making it an indispensable tool for cardiovascular diagnostics. AI-driven techniques have revolutionized MRI imaging protocols, enabling accelerated image acquisition, motion correction, and quantitative tissue characterization. AI algorithms facilitate accurate delineation of cardiac anatomy and pathology, including myocardial viability, fibrosis, and perfusion deficits, which are critical for risk assessment and treatment optimization in patients with cardiovascular diseases.

[17] Furthermore, AI-enhanced MRI enables comprehensive assessment of cardiac function, myocardial strain, and vascular morphology, providing valuable insights into disease progression and therapeutic response.

3.3. Computed Tomography (CT): Computed tomography plays a pivotal role in non-invasive assessment of coronary artery disease (CAD) and vascular pathology. AI-enhanced CT imaging analytics offer advanced techniques for coronary artery imaging, plaque characterization, and hemodynamic assessment. AI algorithms enable precise quantification of coronary artery stenosis, plaque burden, and vulnerable plaque features, facilitating accurate risk stratification and treatment planning in patients with CAD. Additionally, AI-driven CT angiography and perfusion imaging provide valuable information on myocardial ischemia, microvascular dysfunction, and coronary artery anomalies, enhancing diagnostic confidence and clinical decision-making in cardiovascular health.

4. Clinical Applications and Impact in Cardiovascular Diseases: The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) with medical imaging has brought about transformative changes in the diagnosis and management of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs). [18] This section delves into the clinical applications and impact of AI-enhanced imaging analytics across various facets of cardiovascular health.

4.1. Risk Stratification: AI algorithms have demonstrated remarkable capabilities in identifying subtle imaging biomarkers associated with increased cardiovascular risk. By analyzing imaging data from modalities such as echocardiography, MRI, and CT, AI models can predict the likelihood of adverse cardiovascular events, such as myocardial infarction, heart failure, and stroke. These predictive models enable personalized risk stratification, allowing clinicians to identify high-risk individuals who may benefit from intensified preventive interventions, lifestyle modifications, or pharmacotherapy.

4.2. Disease Detection and Diagnosis: AI-enhanced imaging analytics enable rapid and accurate detection of cardiac abnormalities, facilitating early diagnosis and timely intervention in patients with CVDs. AI algorithms can detect subtle changes in cardiac structure, function, and perfusion that may signify underlying pathology, such as ischemic heart disease, cardiomyopathies, valvular diseases, and congenital heart defects. Moreover, AI-driven image interpretation aids in the differentiation of benign from malignant cardiac lesions, reducing diagnostic uncertainties and guiding appropriate management strategies.

4.3. Treatment Planning and Guidance: AI-enhanced imaging analytics play a pivotal role in treatment planning and guidance for patients with CVDs. By providing quantitative assessments of cardiac function, myocardial mechanics, and vascular morphology, AI algorithms inform therapeutic decision-making and optimize treatment strategies. For example, in patients undergoing coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) or percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), [19] AI-driven imaging analytics assist in identifying optimal revascularization targets, assessing procedural outcomes, and predicting long-term prognosis. Similarly, in heart failure management, AI-based imaging biomarkers help tailor pharmacological therapies, device interventions, and cardiac rehabilitation programs to individual patient needs.

4.4. Prognostication and Follow-up: AI-enhanced imaging analytics offer valuable prognostic insights into the natural history and clinical course of CVDs. By analyzing longitudinal imaging data, AI models can predict disease progression, treatment response, and long-term outcomes in patients with cardiovascular conditions. These prognostic models enable risk-adaptive follow-up strategies, guiding the frequency and intensity of clinical monitoring, imaging surveillance, and therapeutic interventions. Additionally, AI-driven imaging biomarkers serve as objective surrogate endpoints for assessing treatment efficacy, facilitating early identification of treatment failures or adverse events, and optimizing patient management.

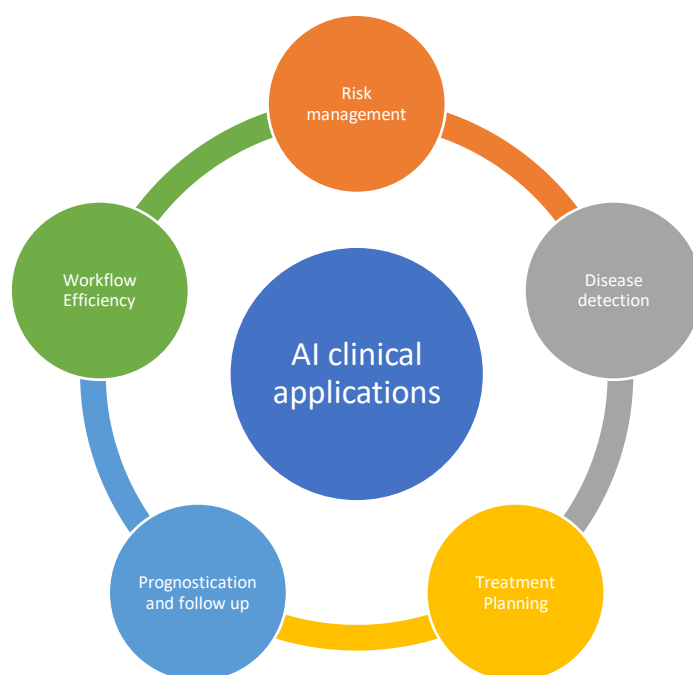


Figure 4 AI Clinical Applications.

4.5. Enhanced Clinical Workflow Efficiency: AI-enabled imaging analytics streamline clinical workflows and improve efficiency in cardiovascular diagnostics and management. By automating time-consuming tasks such as image segmentation, feature extraction, and quantitative analysis, AI algorithms reduce the burden on clinicians, enhance workflow efficiency, and expedite report generation. Moreover, AI-driven decision support systems provide real-time feedback and clinical insights, assisting clinicians in interpreting complex imaging data, making evidence-based decisions, and prioritizing patient care activities.

5. AI Algorithm for Precision Decision-Making in Cardiovascular Diagnostics: Automated Echocardiographic Image Analysis: -

* **Objective:** To develop an AI algorithm for automated echocardiographic image analysis to aid in precision decision-making in cardiovascular diagnostics.

- **Inputs:**

Echocardiographic images (2D, 3D, and Doppler) in standard DICOM format.
Clinical metadata (e.g., patient demographics, medical history, presenting symptoms).

- **Algorithm Steps:**

a.Data Preprocessing:

Convert DICOM images to standardized format.
Normalize pixel intensities and resize images for consistency.
Extract relevant clinical metadata for contextual information.

b.Image Segmentation:

Utilize convolutional neural networks (CNNs) for automated segmentation of cardiac structures, including chambers, valves, and myocardium.

Employ[20] techniques such as U-Net architecture for semantic segmentation to delineate anatomical boundaries accurately.

c. Feature Extraction:

Extract quantitative imaging biomarkers, such as ejection fraction, myocardial strain, and valve regurgitation, from segmented regions of interest.

Calculate additional parameters, including cardiac dimensions, wall thickness, and chamber volumes, for comprehensive assessment of cardiac function and morphology.

d. Pattern Recognition:

Train supervised machine learning models, such as support vector machines (SVM) or random forests, to classify echocardiographic findings into clinically relevant categories (e.g., normal vs. abnormal, specific cardiac conditions).

Incorporate deep learning architectures, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs) or recurrent neural networks (RNNs), for end-to-end learning of complex imaging patterns and disease phenotypes.

e. Clinical Decision Support:

Integrate the algorithm with electronic health record (EHR) systems to provide real-time decision support to clinicians.

Generate automated reports summarizing quantitative measurements, diagnostic interpretations, and recommended actions based on established guidelines and expert consensus.

f. Validation and Iteration:

Validate the algorithm's performance using independent datasets, including diverse patient populations and imaging protocols.

Iterate the algorithm based on feedback from clinicians and domain experts to improve accuracy, reliability, and clinical utility.

Outputs:

Automated segmentation masks of cardiac structures.

Quantitative measurements of cardiac function and morphology.

Diagnostic interpretations (e.g., presence of abnormalities, disease classification).

Clinical reports with actionable recommendations for patient management.

Clinical Applications:

- Early detection [21] of cardiac abnormalities, including myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathies, and valvular diseases.
- Risk stratification and prognosis assessment in patients with cardiovascular conditions.
- Treatment planning and monitoring of therapeutic interventions, such as medication titration and surgical interventions.
- Integration with telemedicine platforms for remote echocardiographic interpretation and consultation.

Conclusion: The AI algorithm for automated echocardiographic image analysis enables precision decision-making in cardiovascular diagnostics by providing accurate, efficient, and objective assessments of cardiac structure and function. Through continuous refinement and validation, this algorithm has the potential to improve clinical workflows, enhance diagnostic accuracy, and ultimately, optimize patient outcomes in cardiovascular health.

Pseudocode for algorithm: - [22]

FUNCTIONAL_ECHO_IMAGE_ANALYSIS(echocardiographic_image, clinical_metadata):

Data Preprocessing

 preprocessed_image = Preprocess(echocardiographic_image)

Image Segmentation

segmented_image = Segmentation(preprocessed_image)

Feature Extraction

features = ExtractFeatures(segmented_image)

Pattern Recognition

classification_result = Classify(features)

Clinical Decision Support

clinical_report = GenerateReport(classification_result, clinical_metadata)

RETURN clinical_report

END FUNCTION

FUNCTION Preprocess(echocardiographic_image):

Convert DICOM to standardized format

standardized_image = ConvertToStandardFormat(echocardiographic_image)

Normalize pixel intensities and resize images

normalized_image = NormalizeAndResize(standardized_image)

RETURN normalized_image

END FUNCTION

FUNCTION Segmentation(preprocessed_image):

Use CNN for segmentation

segmented_image = CNN_Segmentation(preprocessed_image)

RETURN segmented_image

END FUNCTION

FUNCTION ExtractFeatures(segmented_image):

Extract quantitative imaging biomarkers

features = QuantitativeBiomarkers(segmented_image)

RETURN features

END FUNCTION

FUNCTION Classify(features):

Train ML models for classification

trained_model = TrainMLModel(features)

Predict classification result

classification_result = Predict(trained_model, features)

```
RETURN classification_result
END FUNCTION
```

FUNCTION GenerateReport(classification_result, clinical_metadata):

```
# Integrate with EHR for clinical context
```

```
patient_info = ExtractPatientInfo(clinical_metadata)
```

```
# Generate clinical report
```

```
clinical_report = GenerateClinicalReport(classification_result, patient_info)
```

```
RETURN clinical_report
```

```
END FUNCTION
```

6.Challenges of AI-Enhanced Image processing for Precision diagnostic for cardiovascular diseases: - The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into imaging analytics for precision diagnostics in cardiovascular health presents several challenges that need to be addressed for successful implementation and widespread adoption. Some of the key challenges include:

6.1Data Quality and Quantity: AI algorithms heavily rely on large, high-quality datasets for training and validation. [23] However, obtaining annotated imaging data for cardiovascular diseases can be challenging due to privacy regulations, data sharing agreements, and variability in imaging protocols and equipment. Ensuring the availability of diverse and representative datasets is essential for developing robust AI models that generalize well across different patient populations and imaging modalities.

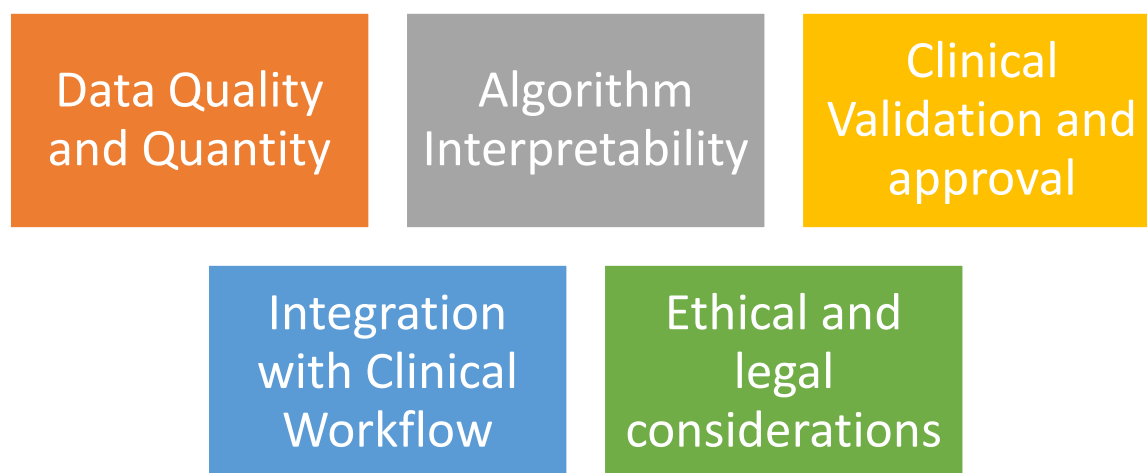


Figure 5 Challenges of AI for Precision Diagnostic for Cardiovascular Health.

6.2Algorithm Interpretability: The inherent complexity of AI algorithms, particularly deep learning neural networks, often results in "black-box" models that lack interpretability and transparency. Understanding how AI models arrive at their predictions is crucial for gaining clinician trust and acceptance. Developing explainable AI techniques that provide insights into the decision-making process of AI algorithms is essential for enhancing their interpretability and enabling effective collaboration between AI systems and clinicians.

6.3 Clinical Validation and Regulatory Approval: Validating AI-enhanced imaging analytics in real-world clinical settings is a challenging and time-consuming process. Demonstrating the clinical utility, accuracy, and safety of AI algorithms requires rigorous validation studies involving large-scale clinical trials and comparative effectiveness research. Obtaining regulatory approval from governing bodies, such as the FDA or EMA, further adds to the complexity and timeline of bringing AI-enabled imaging analytics to market.

6.4 Integration with Clinical Workflow: Integrating AI algorithms seamlessly into existing clinical workflows poses significant technical and logistical challenges. AI systems need to be interoperable with electronic health record (EHR) systems, imaging platforms, and other healthcare IT infrastructure to facilitate data exchange, decision support, and workflow optimization. Ensuring user-friendly interfaces, minimal disruption to clinical workflows, and adherence to regulatory requirements are critical considerations for successful integration of AI-enhanced imaging analytics into routine clinical practice.

6.5 Ethical and Legal Considerations: AI algorithms raise important ethical and legal concerns related to patient privacy, data security, bias, and accountability. Protecting patient data from unauthorized access and ensuring compliance with data protection regulations, such as GDPR and HIPAA, is paramount.[24] Additionally, addressing algorithmic bias and ensuring fairness and equity in AI-driven decision-making are essential for mitigating potential harms and ensuring patient trust and confidence in AI-enabled imaging analytics.

6.6 Clinician Training and Adoption: Successfully integrating AI-enhanced imaging analytics into clinical practice requires training and upskilling healthcare professionals to effectively utilize and interpret AI-generated insights.[25] Providing comprehensive training programs, continuing medical education, and hands-on workshops can empower clinicians to leverage AI technologies for precision diagnostics and personalized patient care. Additionally, fostering a culture of collaboration and interdisciplinary teamwork between radiologists, cardiologists, data scientists, and other healthcare stakeholders is essential for promoting the adoption and acceptance of AI-enhanced imaging analytics in cardiovascular health.

7. Conclusion: - In conclusion, the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into imaging analytics represents a transformative paradigm shift in precision diagnostics for cardiovascular health. AI-enhanced imaging analytics offer unparalleled opportunities to revolutionize the diagnosis, risk stratification, and treatment planning of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) by leveraging advanced computational techniques to analyze complex medical data from various imaging modalities. Through automated image segmentation, quantitative feature extraction, and pattern recognition, AI algorithms enable rapid, accurate, and objective assessment of cardiac structure, function, and pathology, facilitating early detection of cardiac abnormalities, personalized risk stratification, and optimized treatment strategies. However, the adoption and implementation of AI-enhanced imaging analytics in clinical practice are not without challenges. Addressing issues related to data quality, algorithm interpretability, clinical validation, regulatory approval, workflow integration, ethical considerations, and clinician training are paramount for ensuring the successful translation of AI technologies from bench to bedside. Collaborative efforts between academia, industry, regulatory agencies, and healthcare providers are essential for overcoming these challenges and realizing the full potential of AI-enhanced imaging analytics in cardiovascular diagnostics.

Despite the hurdles, the promise of AI in cardiovascular health is immense. AI algorithms have already demonstrated superior performance in automating tedious tasks, improving diagnostic accuracy, and enhancing patient outcomes. By harnessing the power of AI, clinicians can unlock new insights into the pathophysiology of CVDs, identify novel imaging biomarkers for risk prediction and treatment response, and tailor therapeutic interventions to individual patient needs. Moreover, AI-enabled imaging analytics have the potential to transform clinical decision-making, optimize healthcare resource utilization, and ultimately, improve population health outcomes in cardiovascular medicine.

As we continue to advance AI technologies and refine imaging analytics algorithms, it is imperative to remain vigilant in addressing ethical, regulatory, and societal concerns surrounding AI in healthcare. By embracing a patient-centered approach and prioritizing equity, transparency, and accountability, we can harness the transformative potential of AI to

usher in a new era of precision diagnostics and personalized care in cardiovascular health, ultimately enhancing the quality of life for patients worldwide.

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