

Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Kidney Disease

Navdeep Tangri MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine

Department of Medicine and Community Health Sciences

Scientific Director – Chronic Disease Innovation Center

Rady Faculty of Health Sciences

University of Manitoba

Navdeep Tangri MD PhD



University of Manitoba

Residency @ McGill University

Renal Fellowship @ Tufts Medical Center

Research Fellowship/PhD @ Tufts Medical Center

Scientific Director @ Chronic Disease Innovation Center

Champion – ASN Committee for Responsible AI in Kidney Care

Clinical Focus

- CKD Prevention/Screening/Treatment
- Risk Based Care



Disclosures



Consultant

- Roche
- AZ
- Vera
- Bayer
- BI-Lilly
- Otsuka
- Pulsedata
- Prokidney
- Novo Nordisk
- Panoramic



Equity

- Prokidney
- Pulsedata
- Mesentech
- Klinrisk
- Quanta
- Marizyme

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ASN Guiding Principles for Responsible AI in Kidney Care

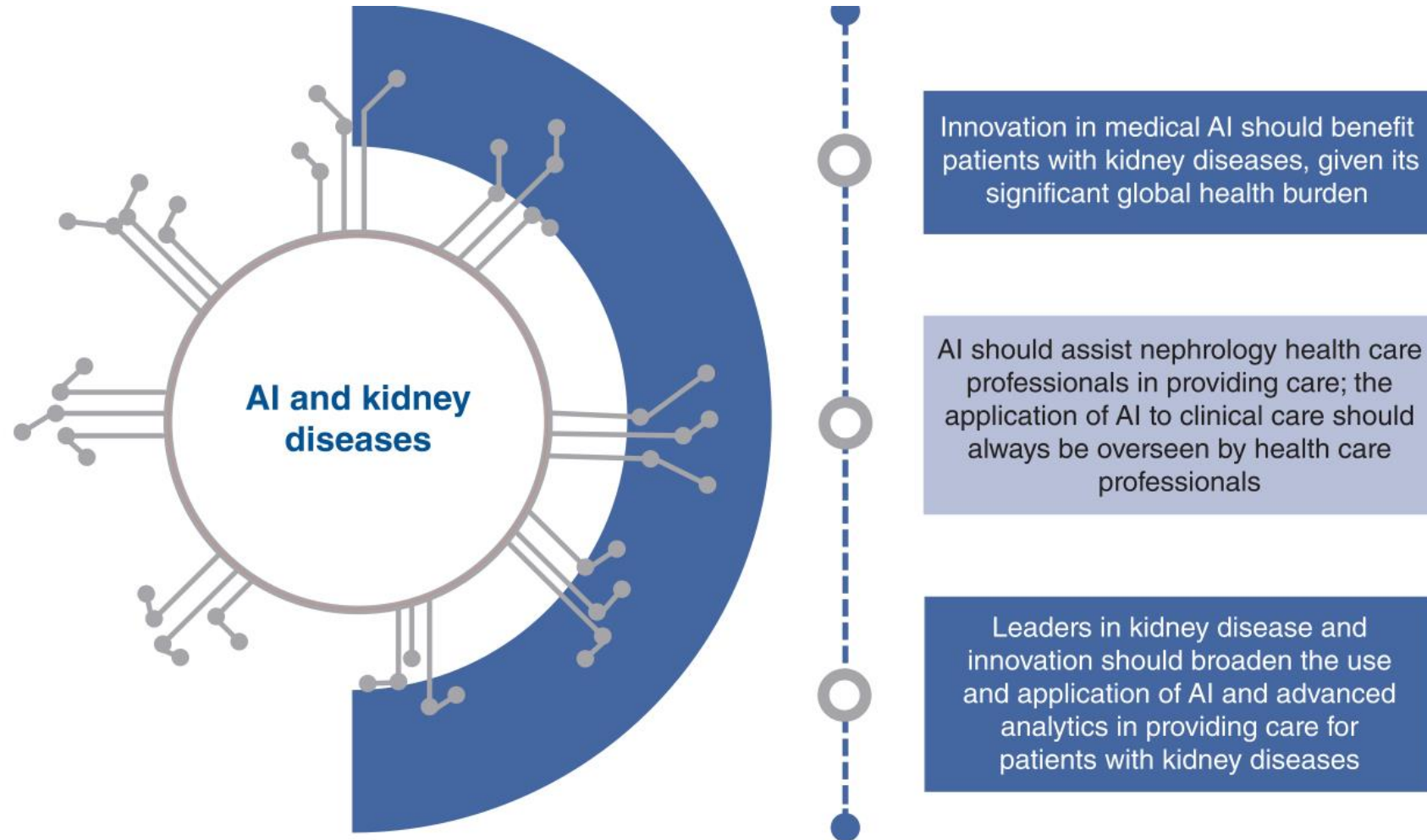
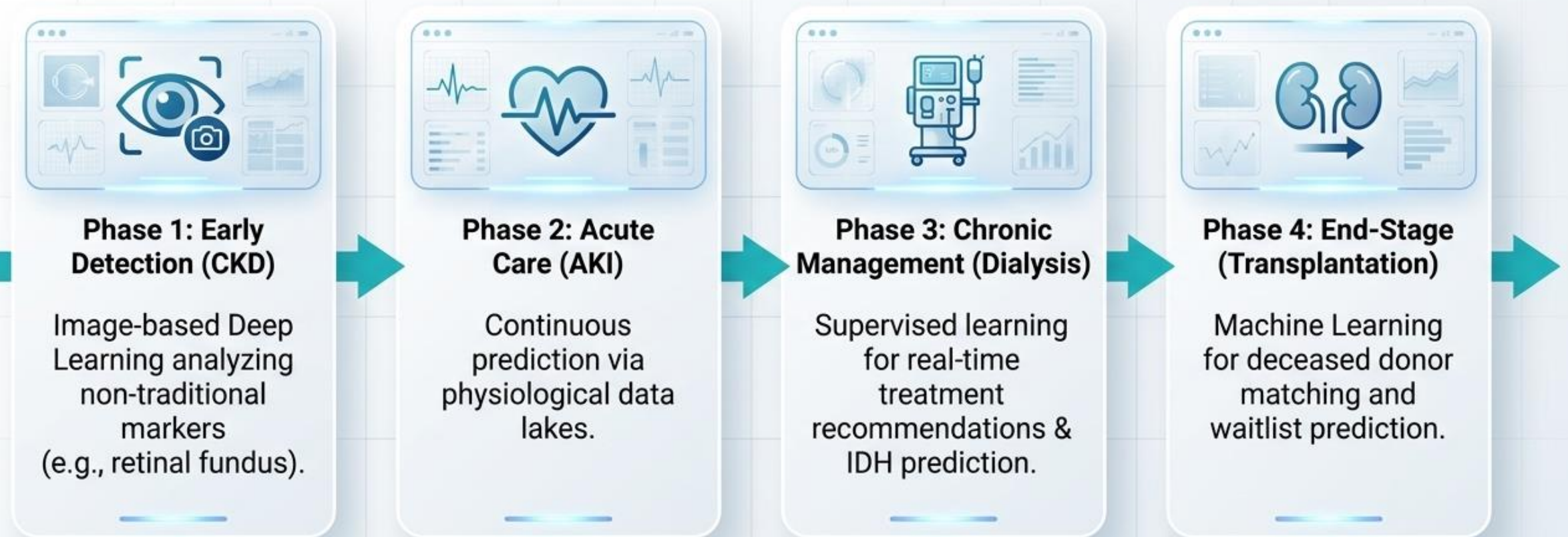
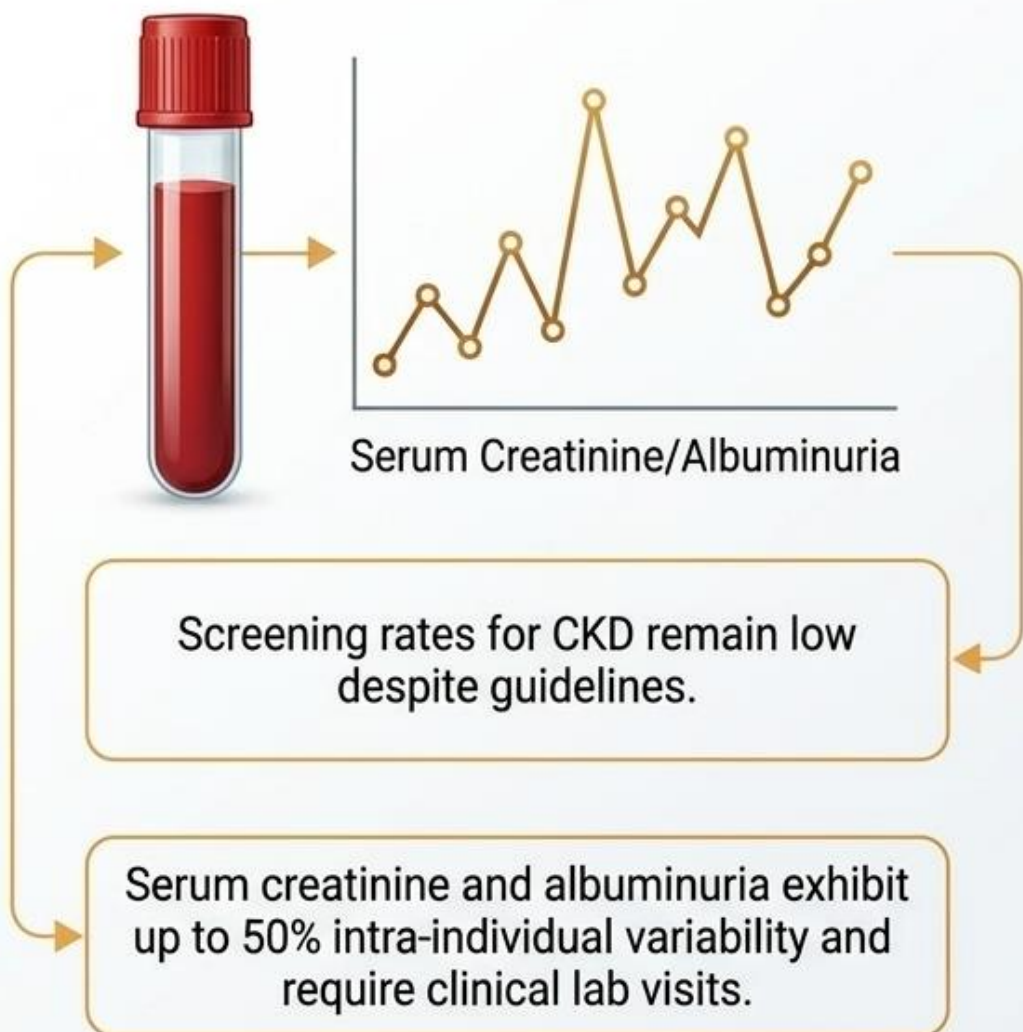


Figure 1. Guiding principles of the American Society of Nephrology Workgroup on responsible AI and kidney diseases. AI, artificial intelligence.

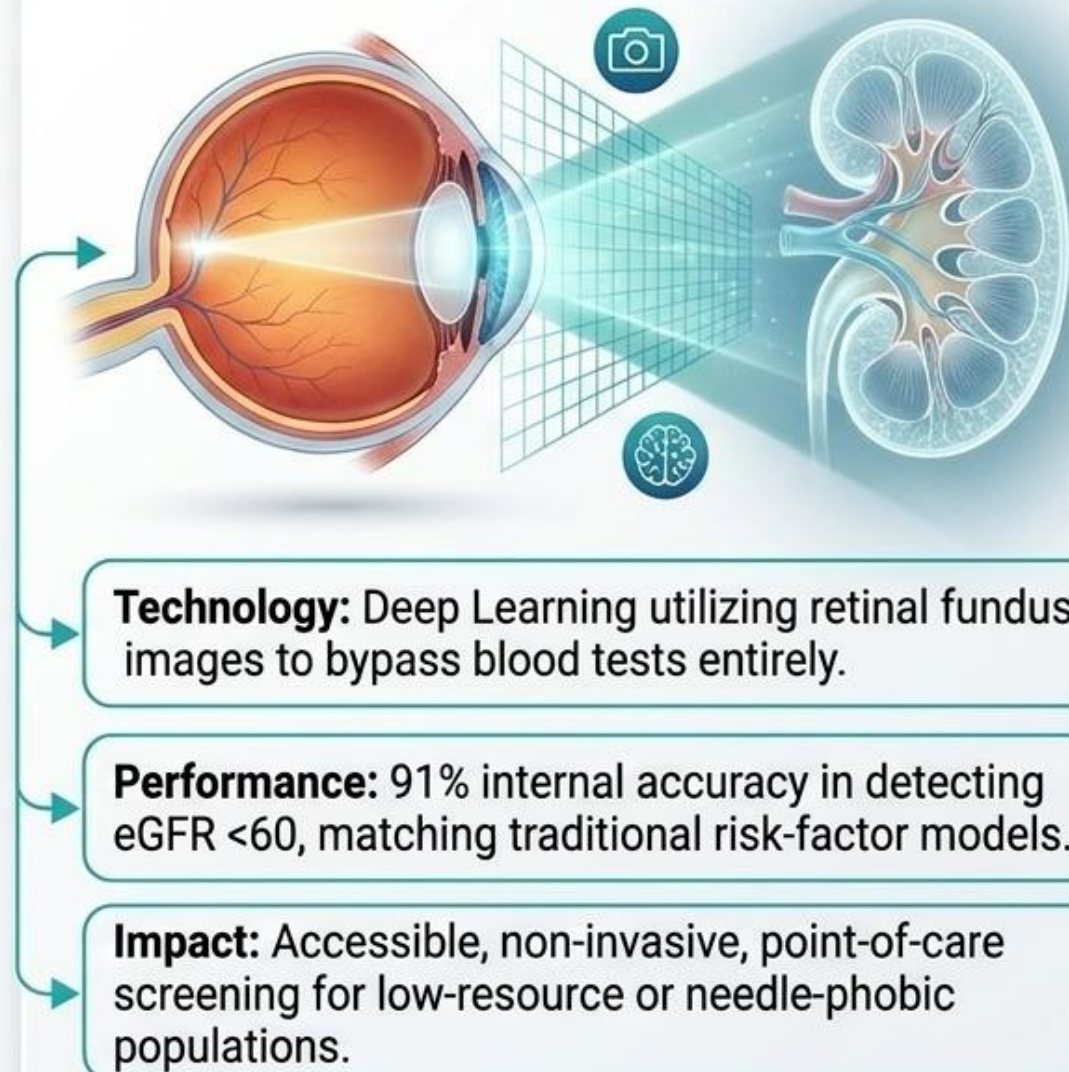


Key Takeaway: AI is a suite of specialized tools mapped to specific clinical workflows, not a monolith.

The Traditional Hurdle



The AI Alternative: RetiKid



Rethinking CKD Screening Through a Non-Invasive Clinical Lens

The Barrier

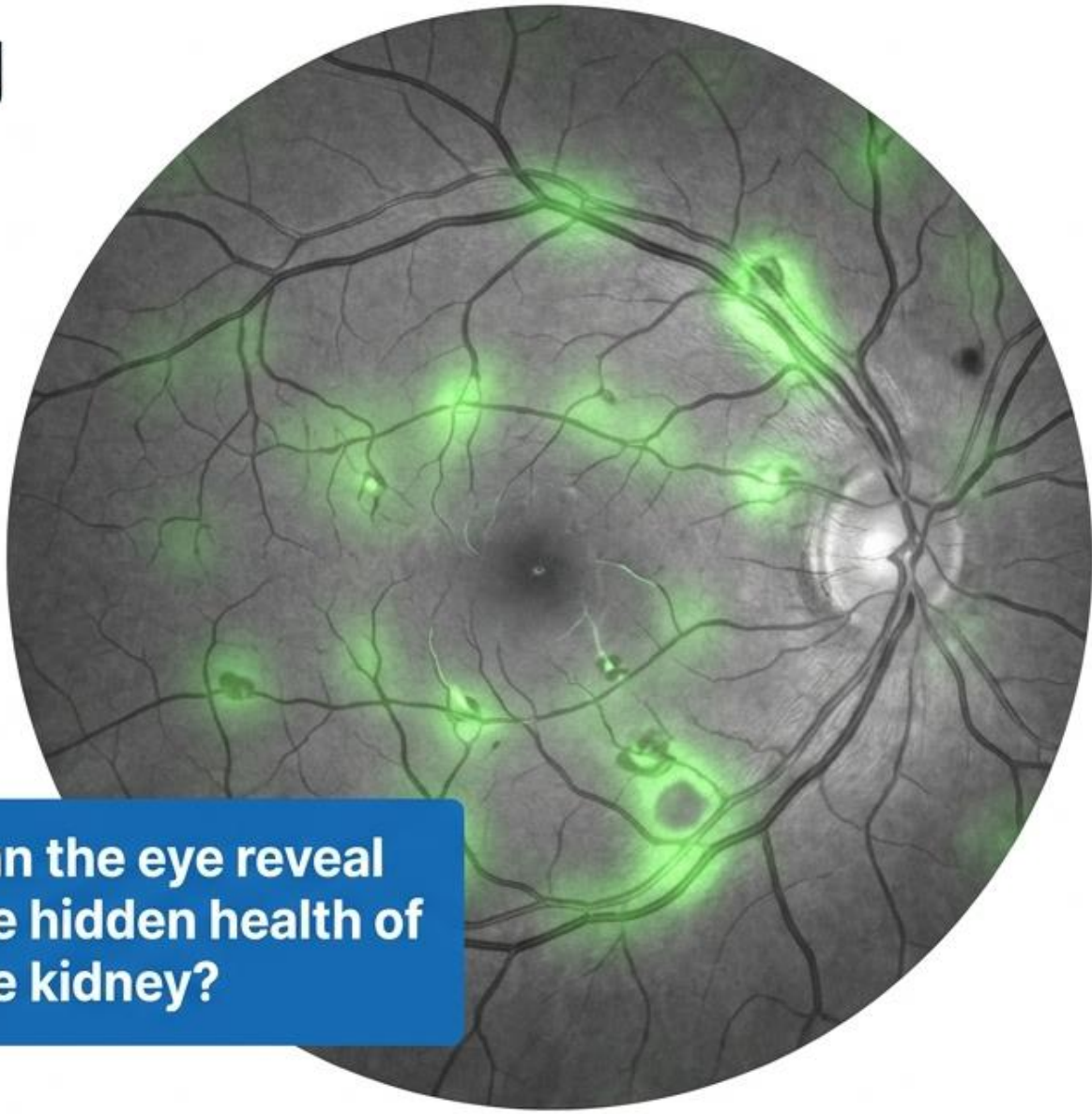
Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) screening currently relies entirely on invasive blood draws or highly variable urine tests.

The Fallout

Nearly 50% of high-risk patients with diabetes remain unscreened over an 18-month period due to inconvenience and needle avoidance.

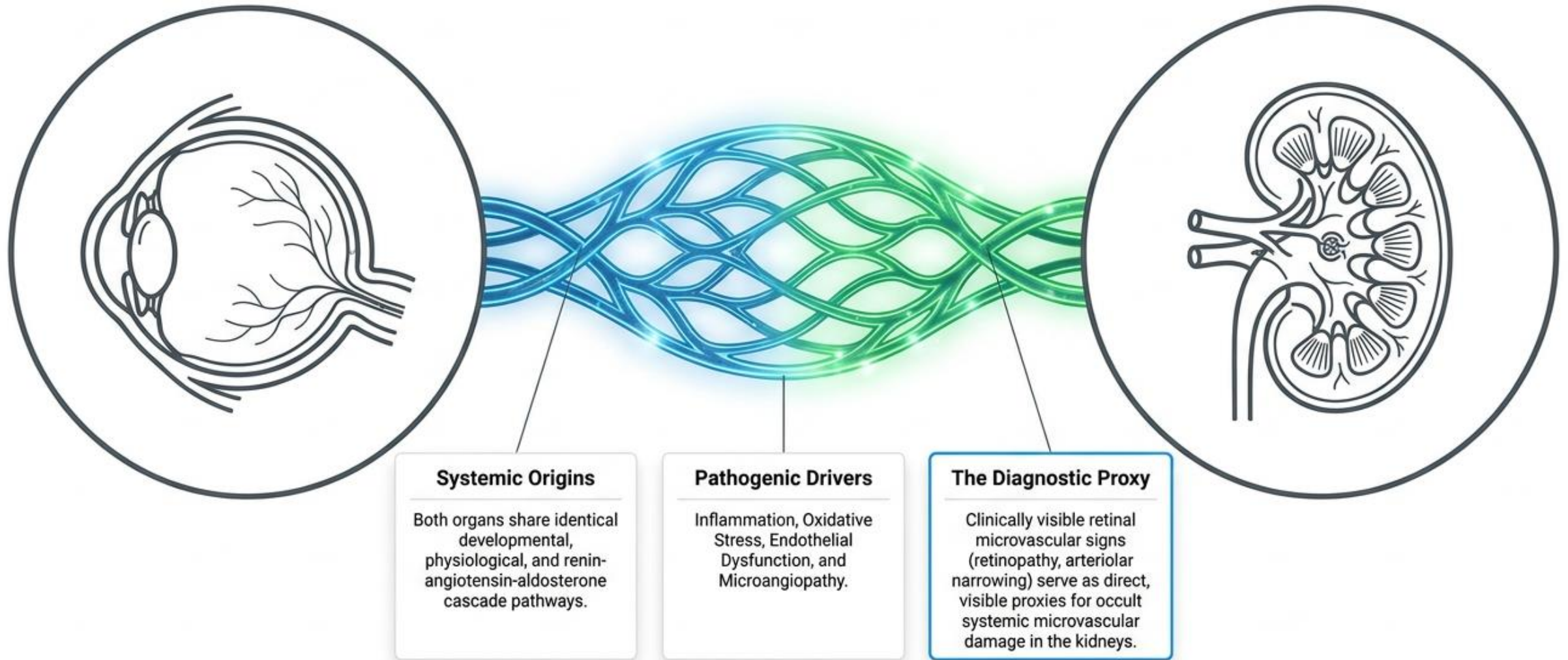
The Proposition

A Deep Learning Algorithm (DLA) designed to opportunistically detect CKD using standard, non-invasive digital retinal photographs.



**Can the eye reveal
the hidden health of
the kidney?**

The Biological Bridge: Shared Microvascular Pathways



Global Validation Datasets and Deep Learning Architecture

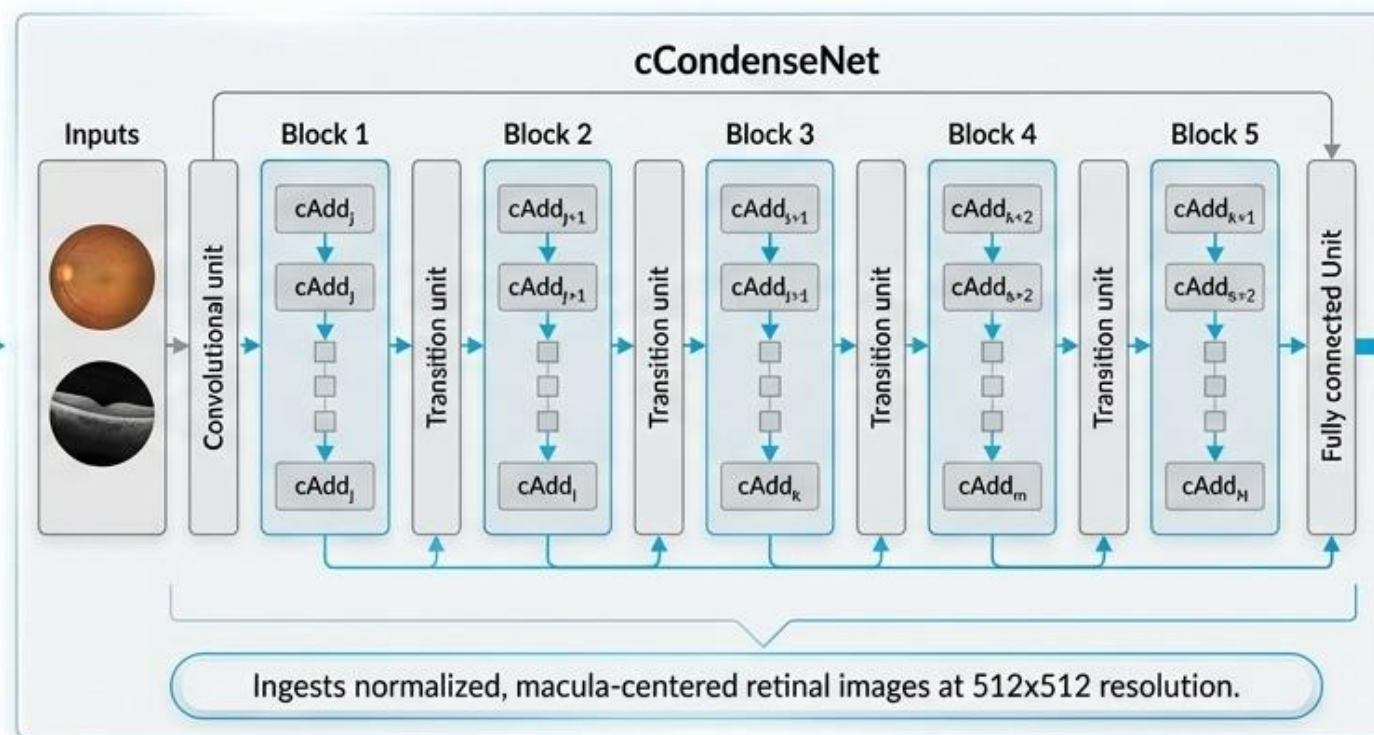
Phase 1: Global Multi-ethnic Datasets

SEED (Singapore)
N=6,485
Development & Internal Validation

SP2 (Singapore)
N=3,735
Independent External Testing

BES (Beijing)
N=1,538
Independent External Testing

Phase 2: The Deep Learning Algorithm (DLA)



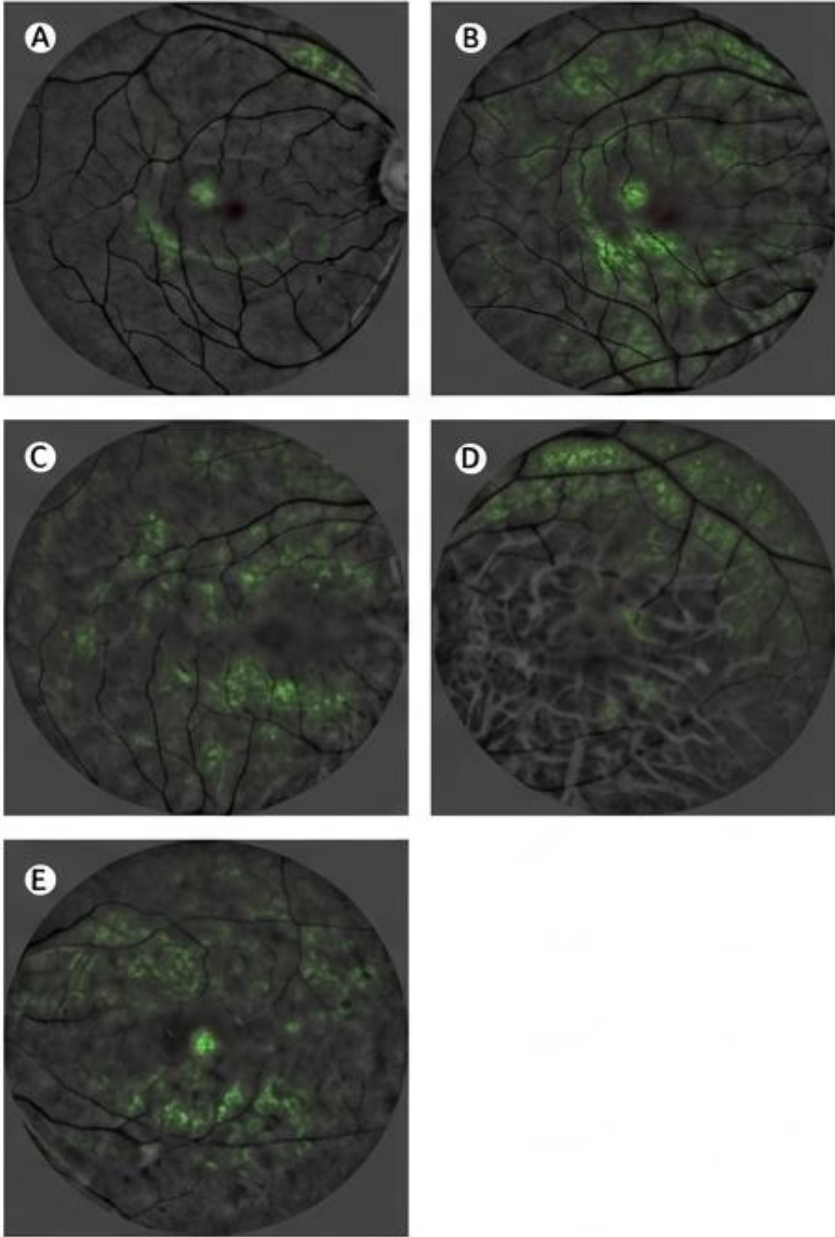
Phase 3: Diagnostic Output

Binary Classification:
Presence or
Absence of CKD
(eGFR <60 mL/min
per 1.73m²)

Performance Metrics: The Image-Only Model vs. Clinical Risk Factors

Model	SEED (Validation)	SP2 (Testing)	BES (Testing)
Image-Only DLA	0.911	0.733	0.835
Risk Factor (RF) Model	0.916	0.829	0.887
Hybrid (Image + RF)	0.938	0.810	0.858

Key Insight: The Image-only DLA performs remarkably close to classic clinical risk factor models. Adding clinical data (Hybrid) only modestly improves prediction, proving the retinal image alone is a highly viable screening proxy.



The DLA accurately detects predictive signals distributed throughout the retina without requiring manual clinical inputs.

Transforming Point-of-Care Screening in the Community

The Current Paradigm

Methodology: Heavy reliance on blood draws and variable urine samples.



Friction Points: Requires specialized labs, causes delayed results, and faces a 10% population barrier due to needle phobia.



Result: Missed cases and low adherence, particularly in high-risk diabetic and hypertensive populations.

The DLA Paradigm

Methodology: Opportunistic, completely non-invasive screening.



Implementation: Software integration directly into existing primary care retinal cameras (already widely used for diabetic retinopathy).



The Triage Impact: Acts as a rapid first-stage triage tool. Only positive screens are recalled for confirmatory serum creatinine testing, drastically reducing healthcare friction.

A non-invasive window into systemic health.

	Inputs	Outputs	Clinical Integration
KidneyIntelX (Supervised ML)	 3 proprietary blood biomarkers + clinical EHR data.	 Categorizes diabetic kidney disease into low/intermediate/high risk of progression.	 FDA-authorized; high-risk patients 2.5x more likely to be referred to specialty care.
Klinrisk (Random Forest)	 Routine labs (Complete Blood Count, Metabolic Panel, UACR).	 Predicts CKD progression up to 5 years.	 Top 30% of high-risk patients account for 87% of progression events over 2 years.
Digital Twins (Unsupervised Clustering)	 Generalized Metabolic Fluxes (GMF) and multi-omics.	 Virtual patient replicas predicting CKD onset within 3 years (75-86% accuracy).	 Simulates lifestyle/medication changes on individual disease trajectories.

How it works





Identifies risk in time for effective intervention:
Finds high risk of CKD progression & related utilization
before kidney function is lost



No extra steps:
Uses lab data collected at routine visits



Simulating a virtual nephrology consult:
Personalized medication management and care plan
provided at the point of care

KLINRISK
CLINICAL RISK PREDICTION FOR KIDNEY DISEASE

Accession Number: IM234567

Patient Information		Test Information	
Name	Patient Name	Ordered By	Healthcare Provider Name
Date of Birth	01-Jan-00	Collection Date	15-Nov-23
Sex	Female	Report Date	22-Nov-23
		Time of Receipt	03:00 PM
		Medical Record	1234567890 AB

Test Report

Risk of progressive decline in kidney function

55% High

Low 0-5 **Medium** 6-24 **High** 25+

The Klinrisk algorithm uses data from blood and urine tests including CBC, metabolic panel, and urine albumin to estimate the probability of kidney function loss of up to 40% or kidney failure in the next 5 years. The risk categories and recommendations are provided to alert providers to the risk of progression of CKD, complications of kidney disease and associated care pathways recommended by clinical practice guidelines.

Clinical Decision Support

Frequency of Monitoring: 4+ times per year

Blood Pressure Target: Target standardized BP >130 systolic

Complications of CKD: Anemia, Hyperkalemia, Metabolic Acidosis, CKD-MBD, Metabolic Acidosis - Carbon Dioxide <18 mmol/L, Reference range: Carbon Dioxide 20 - 30 mmol/L

Disease Modifying Treatment to Slow CKD Progression: RAAS, SGLT2 Therapy, Non Steroidal NSA, Consider RAAS therapy with potassium monitoring, Consider SGLT2 therapy

Referral: Nephrology referral is indicated

Other Recommendations: Treat metabolic acidosis as per clinical practice guidelines

ISK
KIDNEY DISEASE

Clinical Utility

A population based sample of seen patients to be accurate test is externally validated in an observational study. Patients of intermediate or high risk of disease may benefit from more aggressive care to slow CKD progression whereas those of low risk may be safely managed with a conservative care plan.

Series of Predicted Risk (Low, Medium, and High) from the Random Forest of the Primary Outcome (40% Decline in eGFR or Kidney Failure) over 5 Years

When applying the Klinrisk test, patients who are classified at the highest risk (0-20% risk over 5 years) had a 20-fold higher risk of the 40% decline in eGFR or kidney failure event at 5 years compared to those classified as low risk, and those classified as medium risk (0-20% risk over 5 years) had a 10-fold higher risk of the event at 5 years. This relationship is observed immediately and persists over the entire 5-year period.

Test Algorithm

External Testing Cohort

The Klinrisk test is highly accurate at discriminating between patients who will experience a 40% decline in eGFR or kidney failure over a 5-year period and those who remain event free.

At 5 years, the area under the receiver operating characteristic (AUROC) curve is 0.84 (95% confidence interval 0.83 to 0.85).

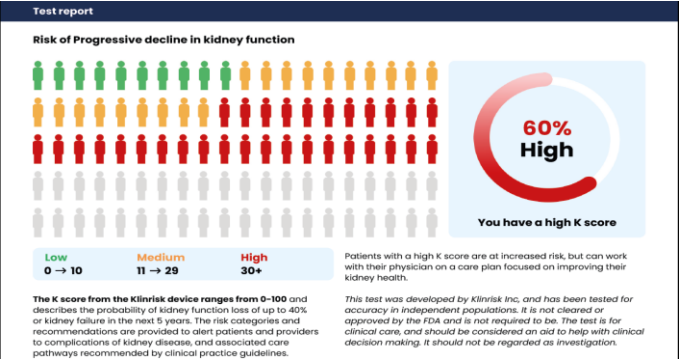
About the Test

The Klinrisk test uses data collected from blood and urine samples including the complete blood count, comprehensive metabolic panel, basic enzymes and the urine albumin to creatinine ratio to identify patients at risk for progression of kidney disease. It is indicated as a decision aid for further assess the risk of progressive CKD within a period of 5 years for patients over the age of 18 who are with or at risk of developing chronic kidney disease. These patients include those with existing CKD (eGFR <45 or albuminuria (UACR) >30 mg/g) or those with diabetes or hypertension being screened for CKD. Progression of kidney disease is defined as a sustained decline in kidney function (eGFR <45%) or kidney failure (initiation of long-term dialysis or transplant). Klinrisk is not intended to diagnose, treat, mitigate or prevent a disease, disorder or abnormal physical state, or any of their symptoms. Independent follow-up with health care professional is necessary prior to any medical diagnosis or treatment decision.

For more information visit www.klinrisk.com or www.klinrisk@medtronic.com

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Enabling risk-based care by connecting risk to clinical decision support



Physicians need to make the link between risk and clinical decisions

Clinical decision support		
Frequency of monitoring 3 times per year	Complications of CKD Anemia Hyperkalemia Metabolic Acidosis CKD-MBD	Disease modifying treatment to slow CKD progression RAASi SGLT2i Therapy Non Steroidal MRA
Blood Pressure Target Target standardized systolic BP < 120	Anemia – Hb 10.5 Metabolic Acidosis – HCO3 – 21	• Titrate RAASi or ARB to maximally tolerated dose • Strongly consider SGLT2i therapy Empagliflozin 1x 10 mg daily Dapagliflozin 1x 10 mg daily Canagliflozin 1x 100 mg daily • Strongly consider non steroidal MRA Finerenone 10 mg once daily
Referral Nephrology referral is indicated	Other Recommendations • Measure iron studies and replete iron if needed • Treat metabolic acidosis • Recommend statin therapy for CV risk reduction	

ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker; MRA, mineral and bone disorder; RAASi, renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitor

Reference: 1. Klinrisk. Clinical risk prediction for kidney disease. Lifelabs. Accessed Jan 17, 2024. <https://go.lifelabs.com/Klinrisk-Sample-Report>.

• Medical Record Number: [2000012848]

• Report Date: [June 25, 2025]

Your Kidney Health at a Glance

You are in the **LOW RISK** category.

Your report shows that your risk of a big change in your kidney function (like a decline of more than 40% or needing kidney failure treatment) over the next 5 years is 5%.

This test uses information from your blood and urine sample to help your doctor understand your kidney health and plan the best personalised care for you.

Key Numbers from Your Test

Test Name	Results	What it Means for You
eGFR (Kidney Function)	80.0 mL/min/1.73m²	This number tells us how well your kidneys are cleaning your blood. A healthy number is usually 60 or higher. Your result is good!
Albumin/Creatinine Ratio, Urine	3.0 mg/mmol	This checks for a protein called albumin in your urine, which can be a sign of kidney damage. Your result is at the upper limit of the normal range (≤3.0), which your doctor will discuss.
Potassium	4.0 mmol/L	This is an important mineral in your blood. Your result is in the healthy range (3.5-5.2).

Risk in plain English

"You are in the LOW RISK category" — no jargon, no numbers without context. The 5% 5-year risk is stated explicitly so patients can understand their result.

Three key labs explained clearly

eGFR, ACR, and Potassium each have a plain-language interpretation — "your result is good!" or "your doctor will discuss" for borderline values.

Borderline ACR flagged — not dismissed

ACR 3.0 mg/mmol is at the upper limit and is specifically noted for physician discussion. Builds early awareness without causing alarm.

Potassium context provided

K⁺ 4.0 mmol/L confirmed healthy with the normal range shown — directly relevant given hyperkalemia monitoring emphasis in the physician report.

SONIC model – Relies on eGFR slope, predicts 30 % decline

Can a machine learning model predict CKD progression in a diverse US population?

Kidney
Medicine

Methods



Retrospective cohort study



110,264 adult patients



U.S. Laboratory Database



Machine learning models

Predictors



Laboratory characteristics



Demographic characteristics

Predictors



*eGFR slope



Urine ACR



Albumin
(initial, slope)



Age



Sex



Initial eGFR

Outcome



CKD progression
> 30% eGFR decline within 5 years

Outcome



7-variable risk classifier model

AUC 0.85

Accurate eGFR decline prediction

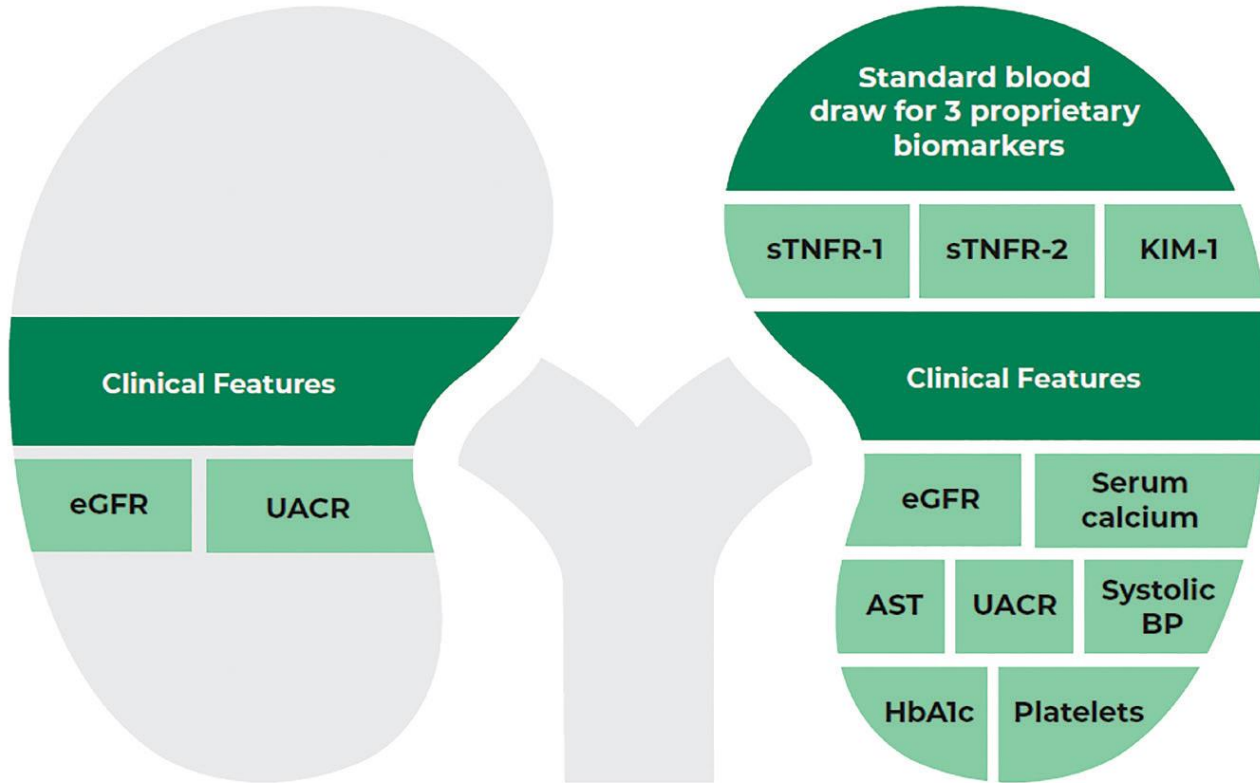
Conclusion: The progressive CKD classifier accurately predicts significant eGFR decline in patients with early, moderate, and advanced CKD using readily obtainable laboratory data. While prospective studies are warranted, our results support the clinical utility of the model to improve timely recognition and optimal management for patients at risk for CKD progression.

Reference: Aoki J, Kaya C, Khalid O, et al. CKD Progression prediction in a diverse US population: a machine learning model. *Kidney Medicine*, 2023.

VA by Susan Thanabalasingam, MD

@thana_susan

Combining AI and Biomarkers for Chronic Kidney Disease - KidneyIntelx



Diagnosis

Assesses level of kidney function and damage

Bioprognosis

Predicts risk of rapid progressive kidney function decline



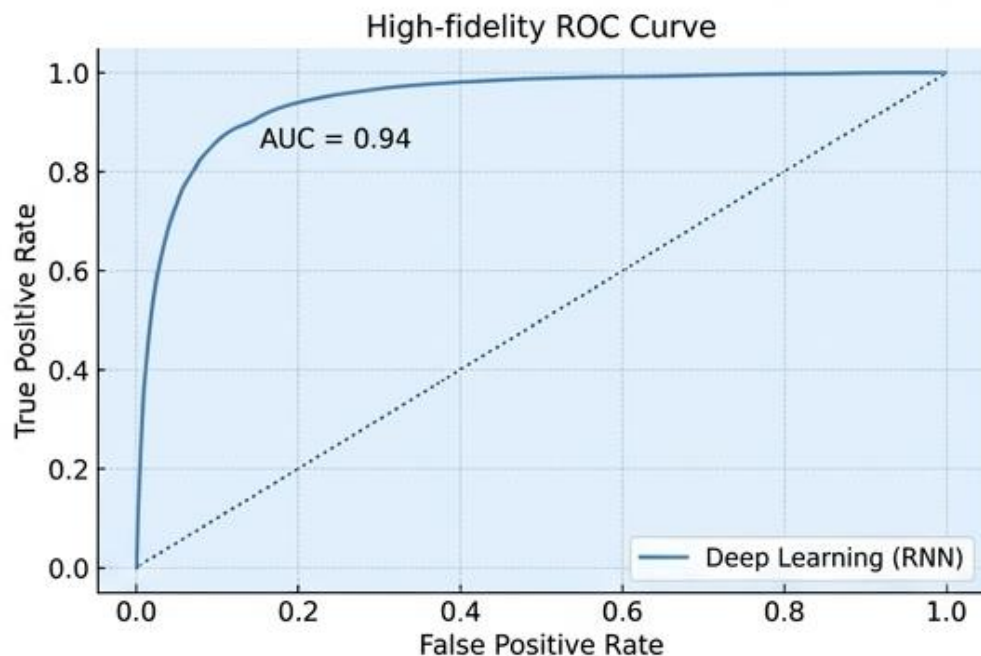
AUC 0.74-0.77

Validated in 2 US populations (n~1,100) and CANVAS/CREDENCE trials – FDA Cleared

The Dialysis Data-Rich Environment

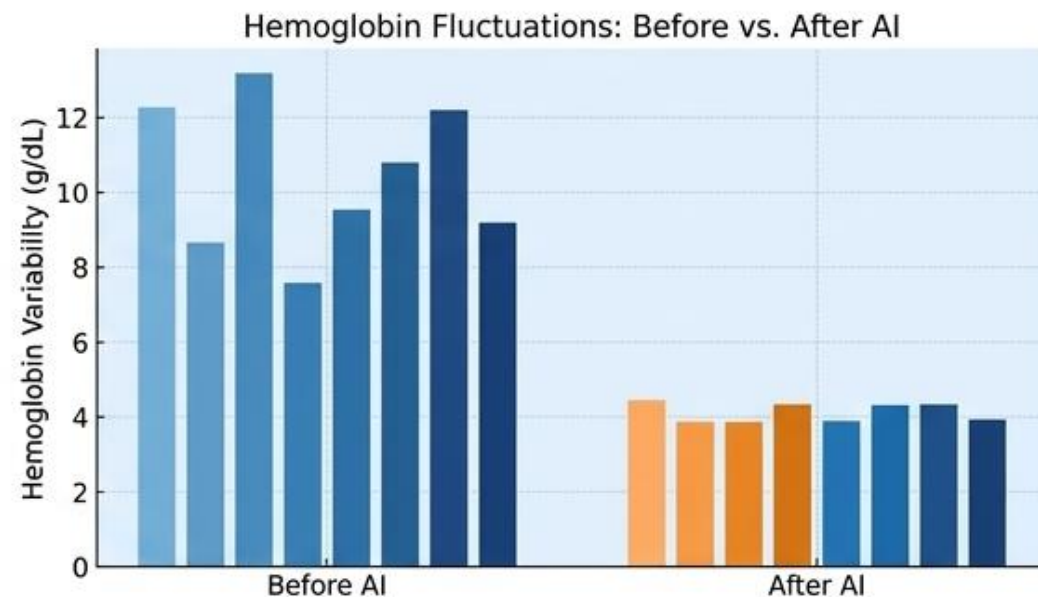
Highly standardized, longitudinal data (ultrafiltration volumes, flow rates, biosignals) makes chronic care the prime candidate for Machine Learning optimization.

Widget 1: Predicting Complications



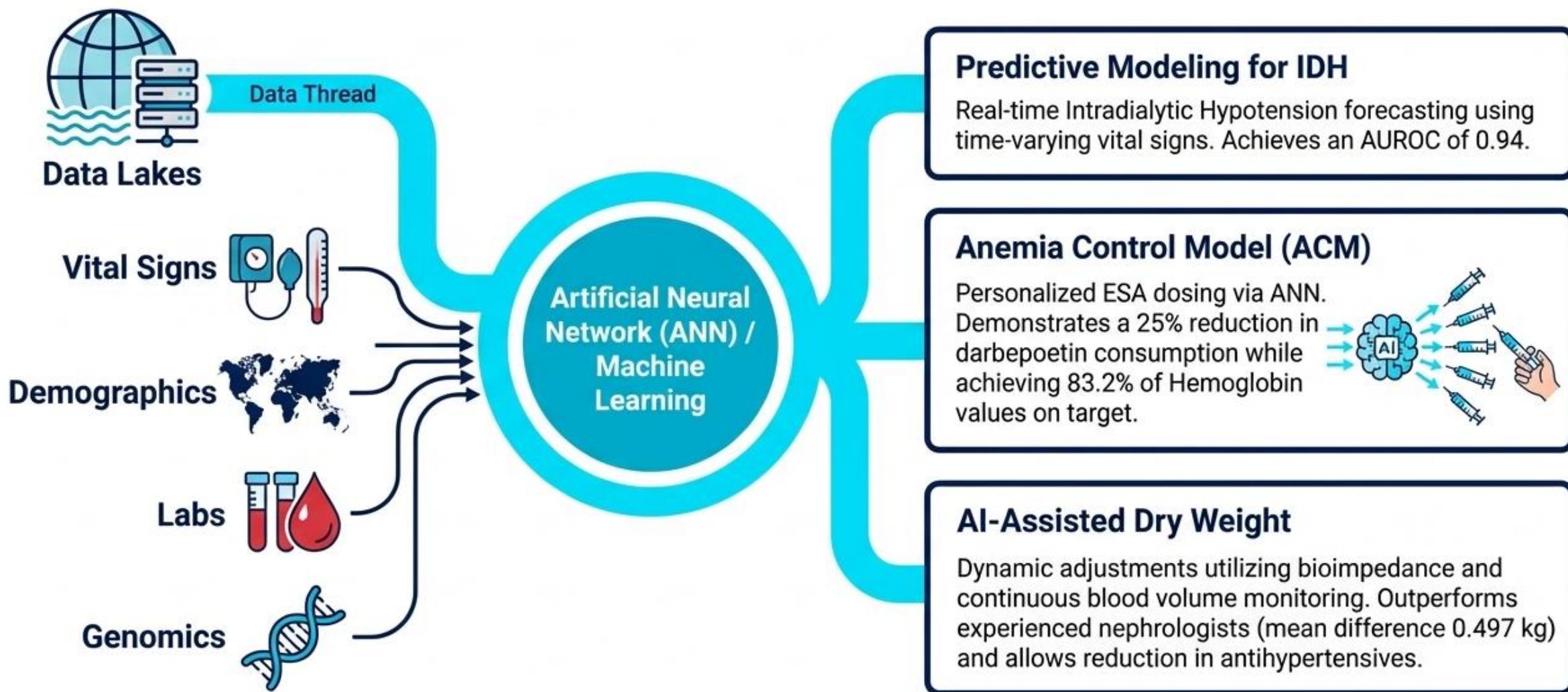
Deep Learning (RNN) analyzes over 260,000 hemodialysis sessions to predict intradialytic hypotension in real-time.

Widget 2: Treatment Optimization

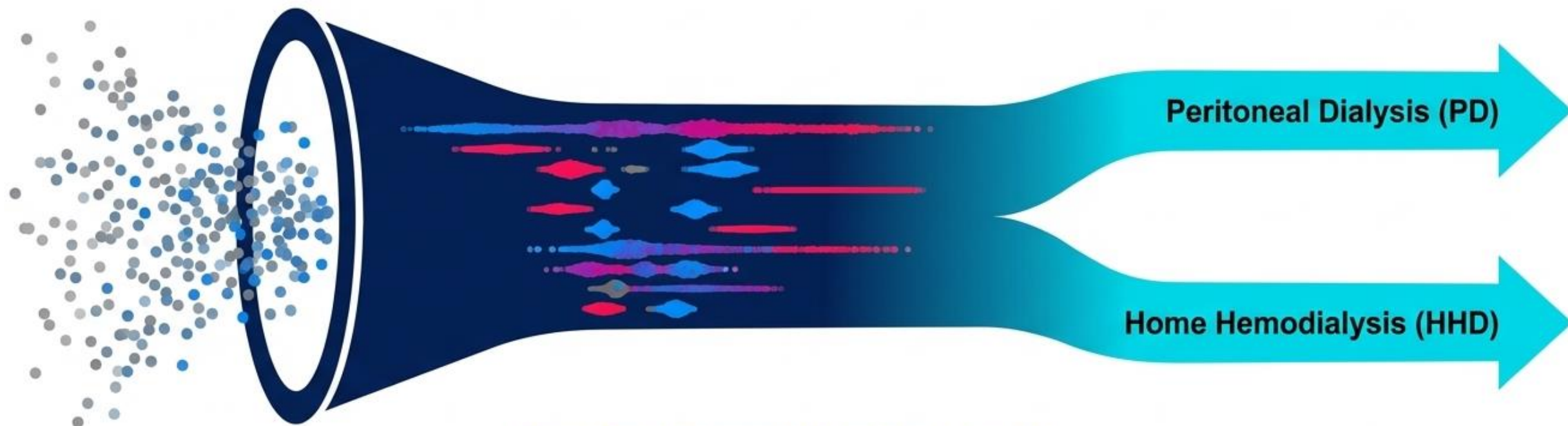


Anemia Control Model (ANN) trained on 170,000 records suggests exact ESA and iron doses, reducing overall use and hospitalization risks.

From Population Evidence to Precision Medicine



Machine Learning for Modality Stratification



Key Predictors Weighted by ML



Age

(Younger predicts HHD; older predicts in-center)



Comorbidities

(Pre/post-KRT acuity markers managed safely at home)



Pre-Dialysis Care

(Early nephrologist exposure drives home modality success)



Dialysis Vintage

(Shorter vintage is the strongest predictor for PD)

Applying ML-driven practices from top-performing HRRs can increase nationwide home dialysis penetration from 17.3% to >27%.

The Evolution of Bidirectional Cloud Connectivity

Legacy Care

Technology: Paper logs and manual memory cards

Process: Delayed intervention (monthly reviews), high risk of human data entry error, falsified blood pressure/weight logs.

Visibility: Blind spots between monthly clinical visits.

The eHealth
Paradigm Shift

Precision Care

Technology: Bidirectional, cloud-connected platforms

Capabilities: Automated, accurate data collection (fill/drain volumes, ultrafiltration, alarms).

Intervention: Real-time therapy oversight allowing remote prescription adjustments without an in-clinic visit.



Evidence-Based Impact of Remote Monitoring

Clinical Outcomes (Medical Impact)



Superior BP Control

Improved adherence leads to reduced reliance on antihypertensive medications.

Clinical Outcomes (Medical Impact)



Enhanced Quality of Life

Greater autonomy, less commute time, and more PD-free time.

Operational Outcomes (Systemic Impact)



Healthcare Utilization

Significant reduction in ED visits and shortened hospital lengths of stay.

Operational Outcomes (Systemic Impact)



Program Retention

Decreased technique failure rates and improved overall treatment adherence.

Continuous data flow shifts care from reactive emergency management to proactive therapy optimization.

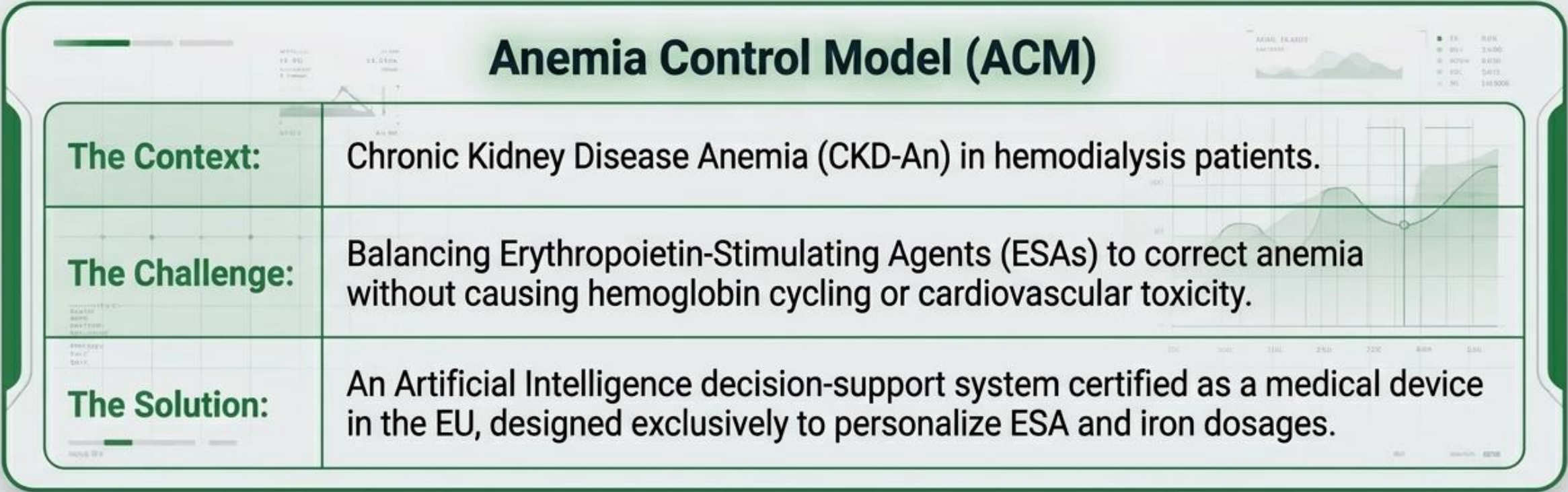
AI as an Extension of the Clinical Care Team



AI agents operate strictly within the boundaries set by the care team—managing technical and educational friction so physicians can focus on practicing high-level medicine.

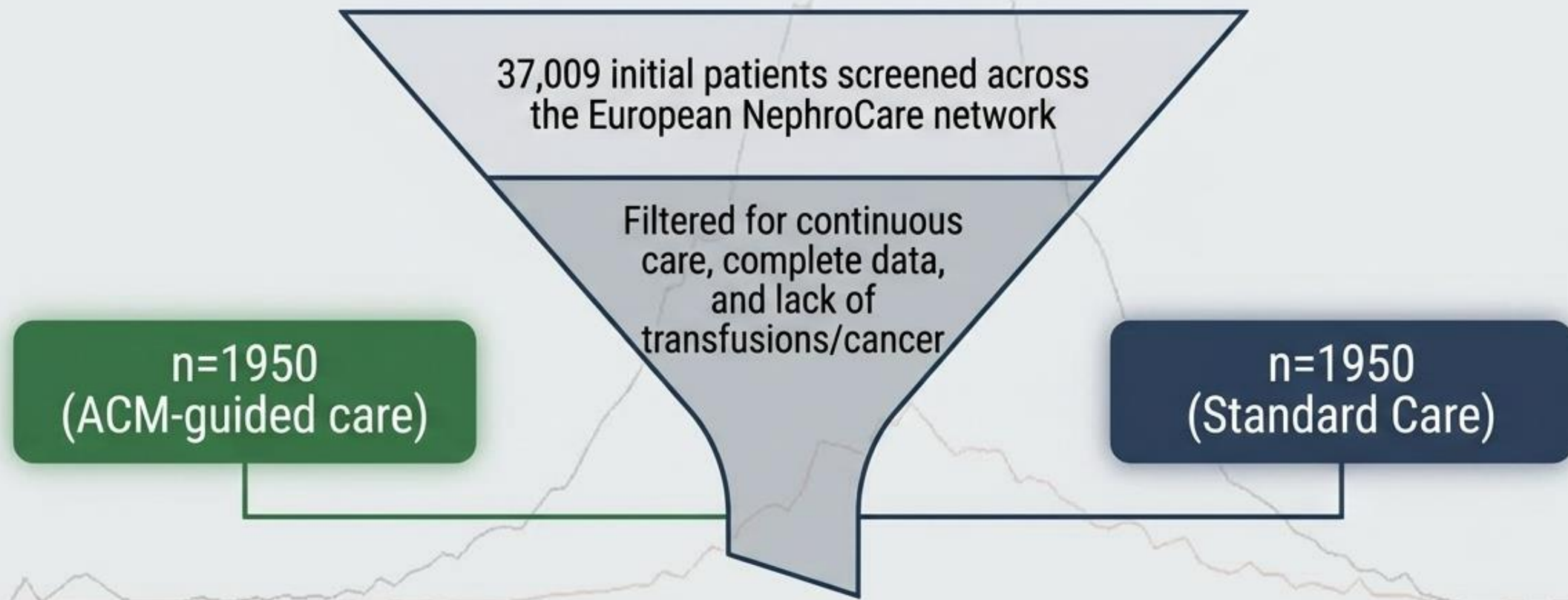
Shifting paradigms: The clinical power of narrow, predictive algorithms

While open-ended search engines struggle with complex reasoning, tightly constrained AI excels at predictive math. The ACM tackles a highly specific, mathematically complex challenge: managing the non-linear dose-response relationship of anemia medications over time.



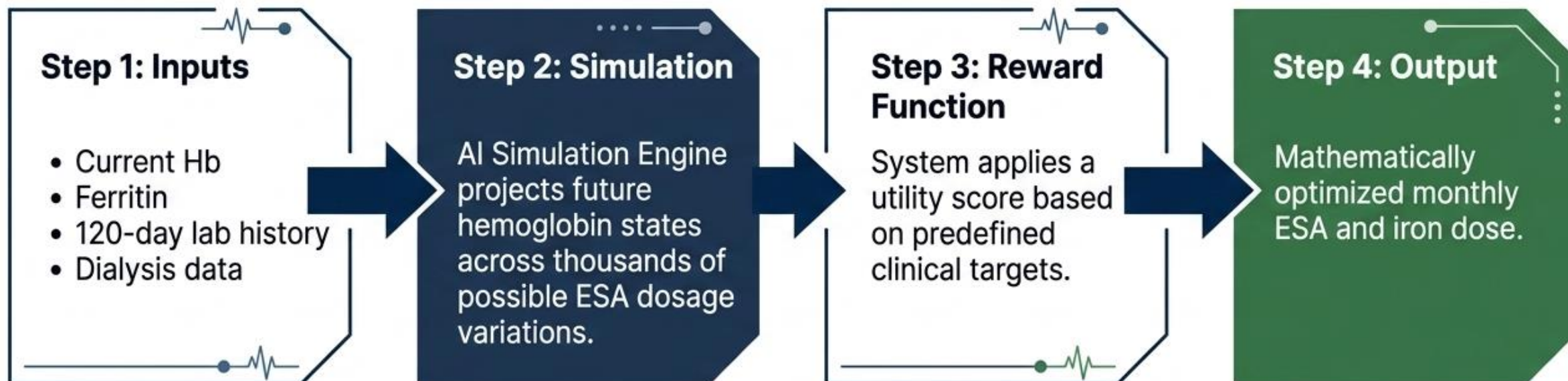
Simulating a clinical trial through rigorous propensity matching

To eliminate indication bias and simulate the conditions of a randomized controlled trial, the study utilized optimal 1:1 propensity score matching. The resulting cohorts exhibited negligible differences in baseline demographic, comorbidity, and dialysis treatment characteristics.



Inside the neural reward loop of the Anemia Control Model

Unlike generative language models, the ACM does not reason; it simulates. By evaluating a comprehensive dataset of patient history and applying a strict reward function anchored to clinical targets, it minimizes drug utilization while maximizing target achievement.



Algorithmic anemia control significantly reduces patient hospitalizations

When physicians accepted the ACM's personalized dosage recommendations, patient outcomes improved. Even after adjusting for residual imbalances in dialysis adequacy (Kt/V), ACM-guided care was associated with a statistically significant reduction in all-cause hospitalizations. However, no corresponding survival benefit was observed during the one-year follow-up.

86.7

Hospital admissions
per 100 person-years
(Standard Care)

12%
adjusted
risk
reduction

74.3

Hospital admissions
per 100 person-years
(ACM-Guided Care)

The gold standard for AI utility is specialized clinical decision support



The Verdict on Predictive Medical AI:

The Anemia Control Model proves that artificial intelligence can directly improve patient outcomes when properly constrained.

Overcomes human limitations in tracking non-linear, temporal drug responses.

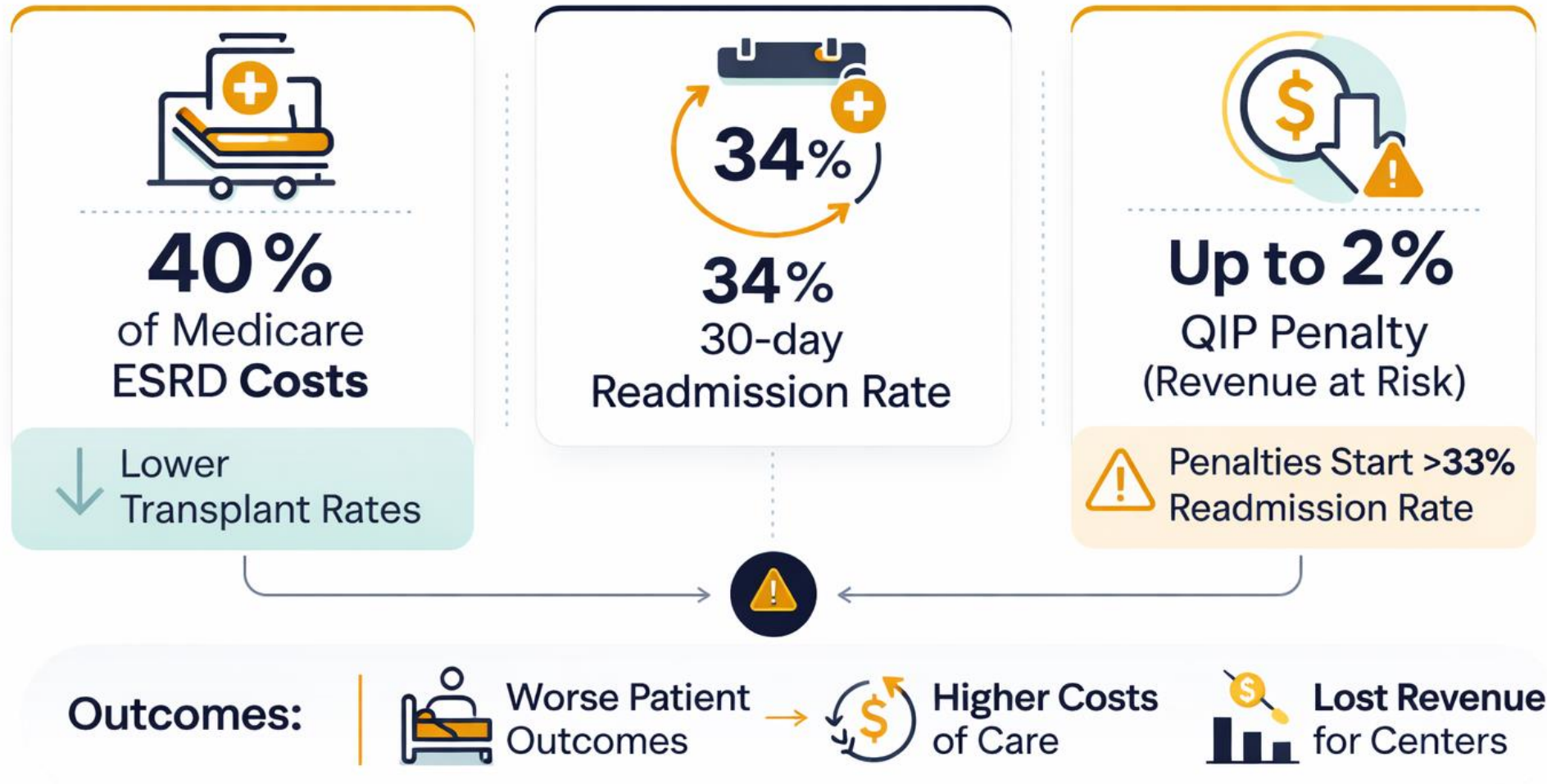
Achieves large savings in **medication usage** while improving **clinical targets**.

Demonstrates that the **highest-value medical AI systems** are **tightly scoped, rigorously validated, and built to solve specific, mathematical clinical challenges**.



Problem: **Unplanned Hospitalizations**

Unplanned hospitalizations drive cost and lost revenue





Predicting Hospitalization in the Next 90 Days

CATBoost model predicts dialysis patient hospitalizations and reduces admissions



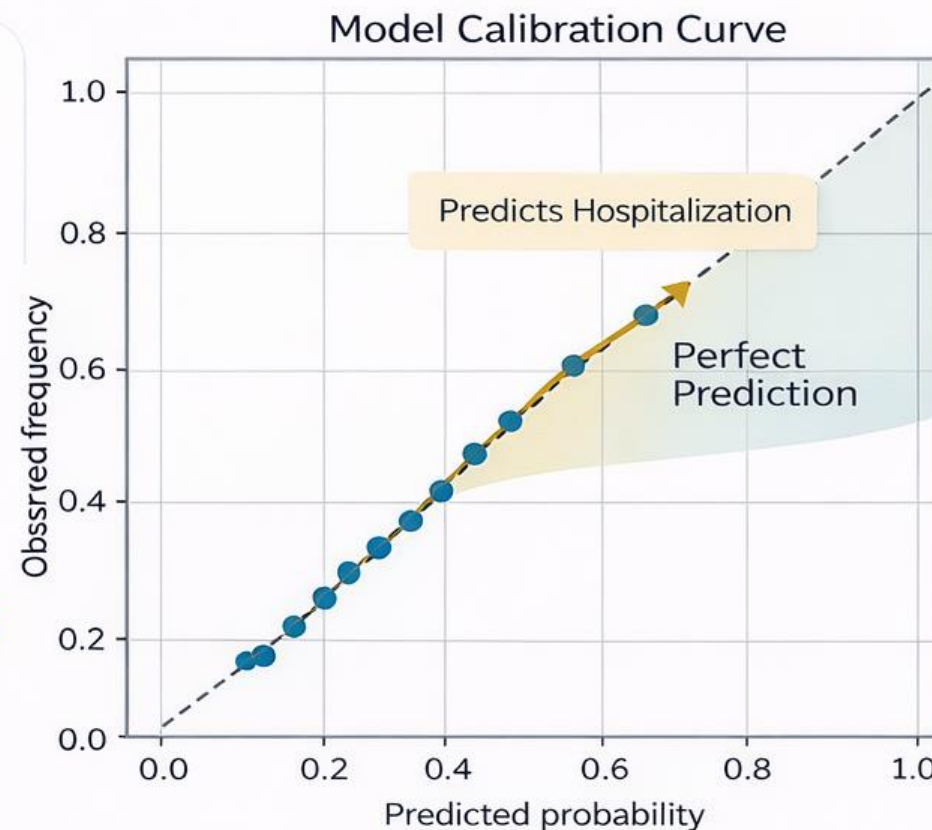
Trained on
28,000 Patients
4.5M Dialysis Treatments



Validated on
5,000 Patients Internally validated
785K Dialysis Treatments



100+ Predictors → **Final 20** Key Features
Excellent Calibration High discrimination and calibration performance



+34% Fewer Hospitalizations & +40% Clinic Revenue

Prediction Metrics:

High Risk ————— PPV **51%**
> 1 in 2 chance of hospitalization in 90 days

Low Risk ————— NPV **14%**
< 1 in 7 chance of hospitalization in 90 days

Fast access

-  Search Patient
-  Patient >
-  Assessment >
-  Labs >
-  Care Plan >
-  In-Center Hemodialysis >
-  Home Hemodialysis >
-  Peritoneal Dialysis >
-  Reports
-  Miscellaneous >
-  Import/Export >
-  Admin Options >
-  Attachments >

Local Application

Home > Patient > Predictive AI

Predictive AI		Anemia Risk			Facility		All Facility		Search							
Name		Age	Gender	MR#	Facility	Nephrologist	Tx Schedule	Modality	ESA Name	Dose	Last Administered Date	Latest HGB	New Suggested Dose	Action	Action History	
☐							M, W, F	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	60 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (05/03/2022)	05/02/2022	10.1 (01/14/2026)	75	Diet Order	Create View	
☐							M, W, F	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	50 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (04/19/2022)	05/02/2022	12.3 (01/14/2026)		Notes	Create View	
☐							Tu, Th, Sa	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	30 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (05/04/2022)	05/03/2022	12.9 (01/14/2026)		Action		
☐							Tu, Th, Sa	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	100 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (02/05/2025)	05/03/2022	10.4 (01/14/2026)	75	Diet Order	Create View	
☐							M, W, F	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	50 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (05/07/2022)	05/02/2022	10.6 (01/14/2026)		Notes	Create View	
☐							Tu, Th, Sa	AKI In-center Hemo	Mircera	30 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (05/04/2022)	05/03/2022	16 (01/14/2026)	150	Action		
☐							M, W, F, Sa	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	100 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (05/03/2022)	05/02/2022	4.8 (01/14/2026)	75	Action		
☐							M, W, F	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	60 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (05/07/2022)	05/02/2022	10.8 (01/14/2026)		Action		
☐							M, Tu, W, Th, F, Sa	Pre ESRD	Mircera	200 mcg/IV/1st tx weekly (04/28/2025)	01/22/2025	10 (01/14/2026)	75	Action		
☐							Tu, Th, Sa	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	60 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (05/04/2022)	05/03/2022	10.6 (01/14/2026)	30	Action		
☐							Tu, Th, Sa	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	30 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (04/13/2022)	05/03/2022	19 (01/14/2026)		Action		
☐							M, W, F	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	30 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (04/19/2022)	05/02/2022	18 (01/14/2026)		Action		
☐							M, W, F	Permanent Hemodialysis			11/20/2017	9 (01/14/2026)		Action		
☐							Tu, Th, Sa	Permanent Hemodialysis	Mircera	100 mcg/IV/1st tx every 2 wks (11/20/2021)	05/03/2022	10.8 (01/14/2026)		Action		
☐							Tu, Th, Sa	Permanent Hemodialysis					30	Action		
☐							M, W, F	Permanent Hemodialysis			06/13/2011		30	Action		

AI Interventions Across the Transplant Continuum



1. Boosting Living Donation

- ML predicts patients at risk of failing evaluation to reduce disparities.
- NLP assesses digital sentiment to identify barriers and engage living donors.



2. Optimizing Organ Matching

- AI integrates with KDPI and EPTS indices.
- ML uncovers variables beyond tissue compatibility, proving high-KDPI organs improve survival for high-risk patients.

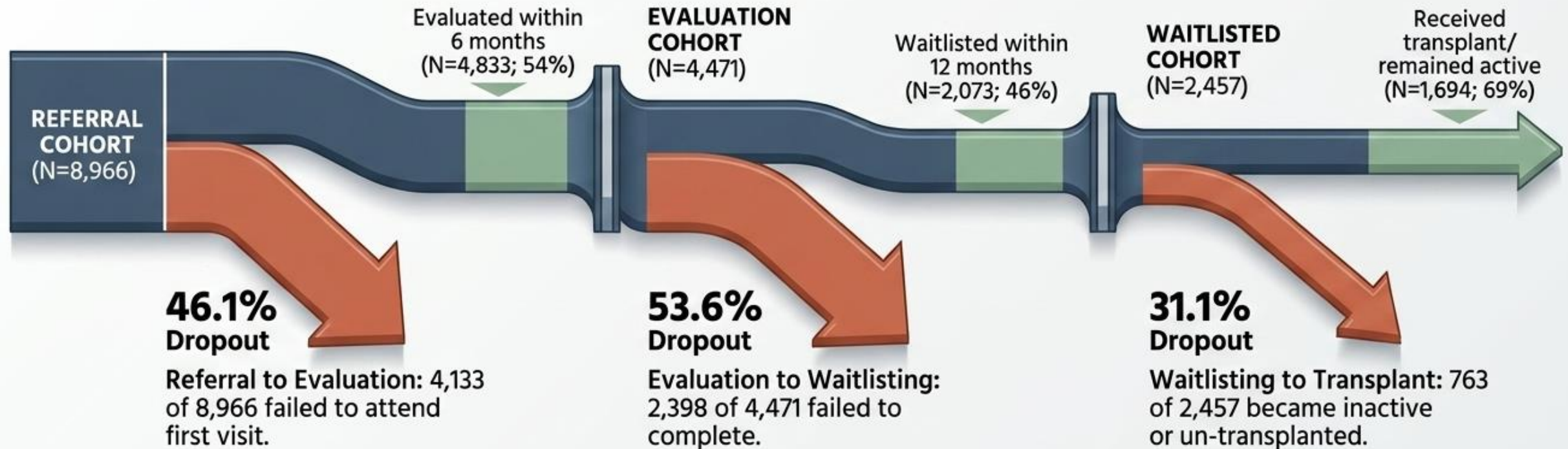


3. Post-Transplant Outcomes

- AI dosing systems integrate genetic polymorphisms.
- Predicts precise tacrolimus bioavailability to minimize toxicity and rejection.

Massive Hidden Attrition Plagues Early Transplant Stages

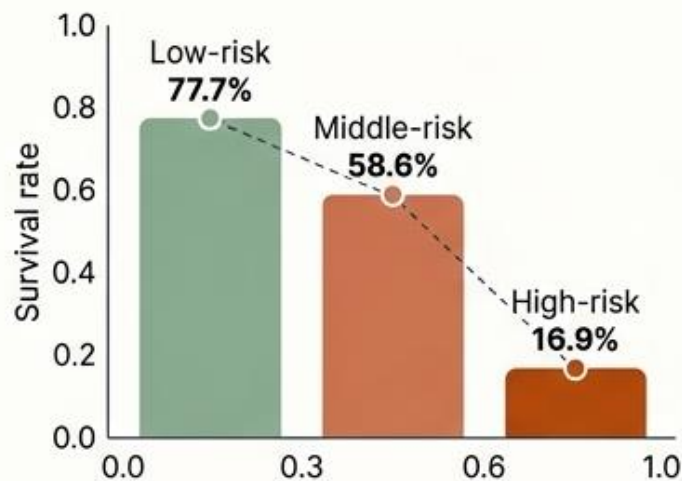
Up to half of potential candidates drop out at early stages not captured in national transplant registries.



Harnessing Machine Learning for Early Risk Identification

ML effectively stratifies patients into actionable risk tiers, enabling targeted interventions before dropout occurs.

Referral Stage



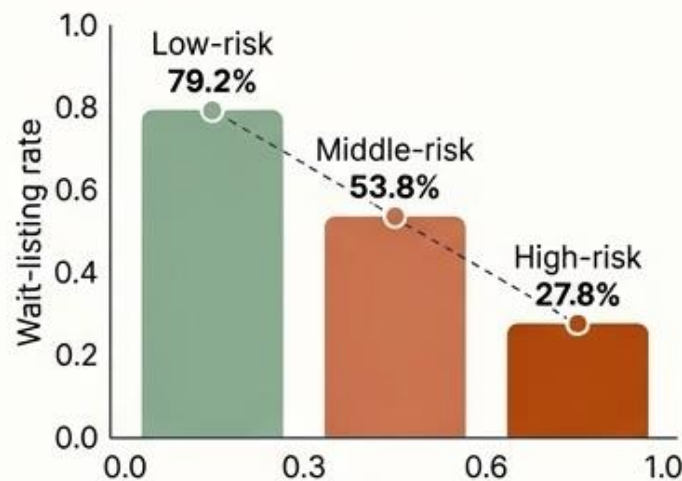
Machine learning model predicting risk of no evaluation in 6 months

Model: XGBoost

Predictive Power: AUROC 0.79

Function: Predicts evaluation initiation within 6 months.

Evaluation Stage



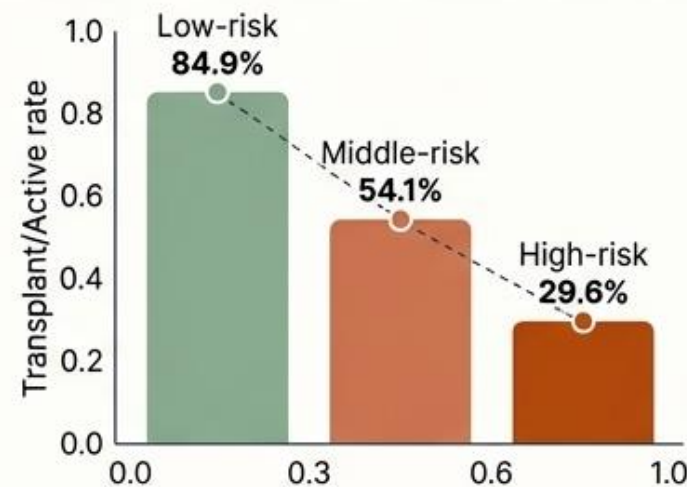
Machine learning model predicting risk of no listing in 12 months

Model: Random Forest

Predictive Power: AUROC 0.71

Function: Predicts successful waitlisting within 12 months.

Waitlist Stage



Machine learning model predicting risk of permanent removal

Model: Random Forest

Predictive Power: AUROC 0.76

Function: Predicts dropout or permanent removal.

How Drivers of Dropout Evolve Across the Pipeline

Social isolation stops patients at the door; severe clinical burden and structural neighborhood barriers stop them on the waitlist.

	Referral Stage	Evaluation Stage	Waitlist Stage
Demographic	High impact: African American race, single status	Pronounced: African American & Hispanic	Pronounced: Hispanic ethnicity
Socioeconomic	High impact: Unemployment, lower education	Growing impact: Lower income, aging	Severe impact: High Area Deprivation Index (ADI), severe digital exclusion
Clinical	Low impact	Emerging impact: Hypertension, diabetes	Dominant impact: Severe comorbidities (Diabetes up to 95%)

Disproportionate Impact on Underserved Communities

Generic transplant education is failing these populations. Interventions must be culturally, linguistically, and socioeconomically tailored.

African American Candidates



Higher prevalence of obesity.



Lower rates of private insurance (32% vs 44%).



Less likely to have an intended living donor (17% vs 32%).

Hispanic Candidates & Socioeconomic Drivers



Highest risk representation at evaluation and waitlisting stages.



Higher Area Deprivation Index (ADI).



Digital exclusion heavily skews toward minority patients.

Deploying Digital Solutions for a Fragmented Journey

The Goal: Empower patient self-management, overcome barriers, and maintain long-term graft survival for the highest-risk cohorts.

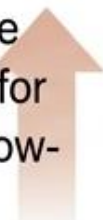


Culturally and Socioeconomically Tailored Education Platforms



Explore Transplant at Home (ETH)

- **Approach:** Tailored animated videos and modules delivered directly to the home.
- **Result:** Increased knowledge and active pursuit of transplant for disadvantaged and low-income patients.



Infórmate & NM HKTP

- **Approach:** Bilingual, culturally targeted living donor website integrating immigrant issues and cultural myths.
- **Result:** Contributed to a 91% growth in Hispanic waitlisting additions.



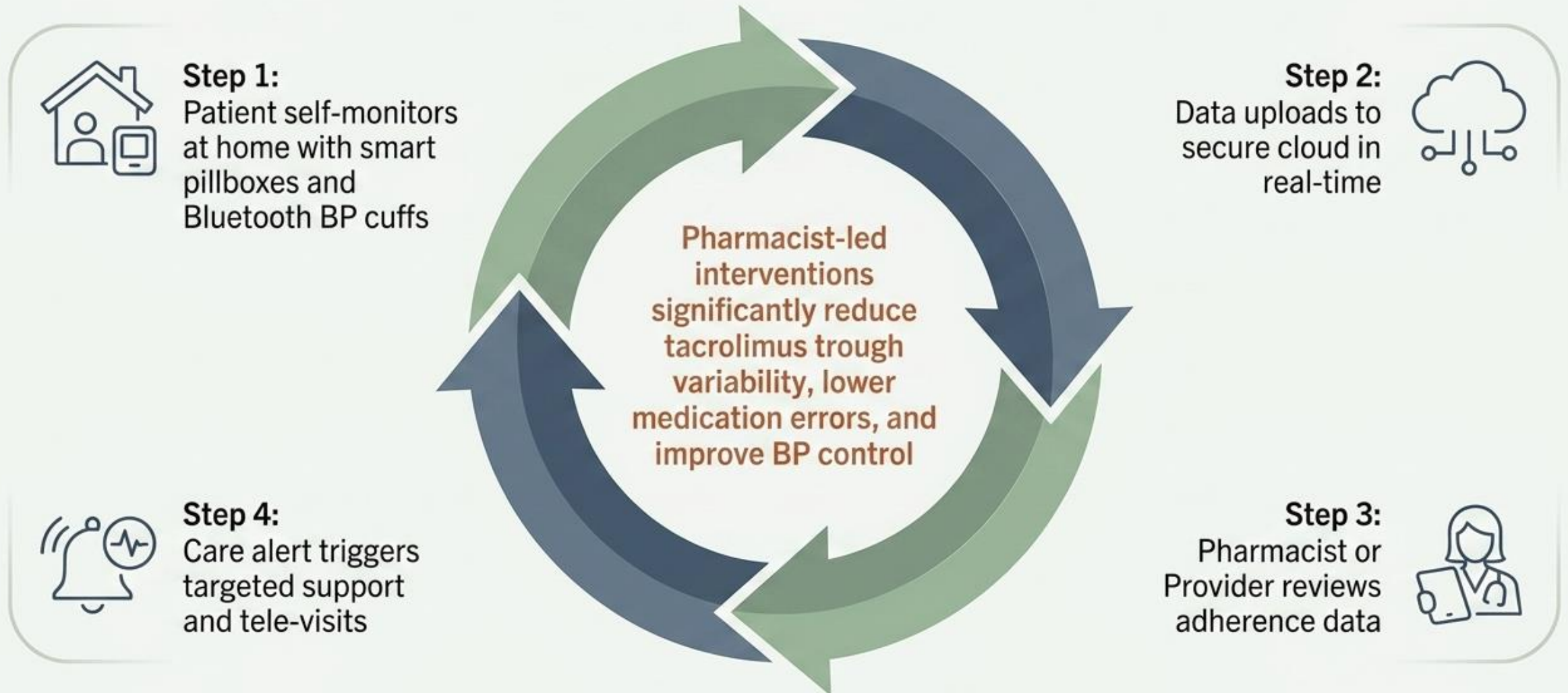
iChoose Kidney & My Transplant Coach

- **Approach:** Mobile risk-adjusted survival estimates based on personal health profiles.
- **Result:** 52% improvement in transplant knowledge across all racial and ethnic groups.



Continuous Care to Sustain the Graft via Remote Monitoring

Challenge: Up to 1/3 of adult recipients suffer from immunosuppressive therapy nonadherence.



The Synthesis: The Human Technology Co-Care Model

Technology handles data and baseline education, freeing clinicians to provide personalized, empathetic care to high-risk patients.



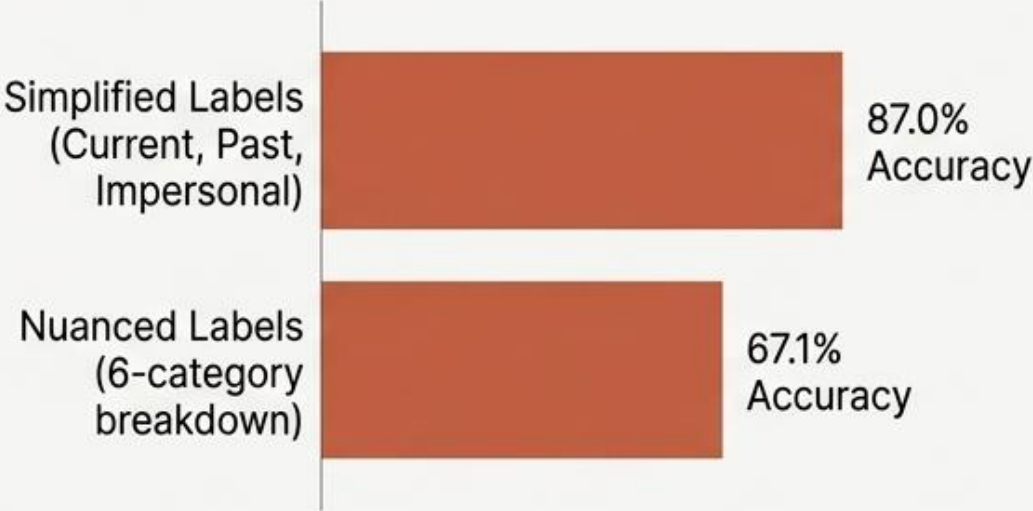
The NLP Digital Sieve



Type of Post	Simplified Type	Number (%)	Example Post
Current Direct – Personally involved with LKD at present	Current	363 (11.0%)	A friend of mine is in need of a kidney. My first instinct is to offer one of mine. I have Googled and read LOTS of info. What would you do? Have you donated a kidney? What am I missing?
Current Indirect – Secondhand experience with LKD at present	Current	177 (5.4%)	I need help finding a kidney for my dad.
Past Direct – Personally involved with LKD in the past	Past	164 (5.0%)	Eight years ago today, I donated a kidney to a friend. Ask me anything.
Past Indirect – Secondhand experience with LKD in the past	Past	58 (1.8%)	[Here's a] picture of my dad and the woman who donated a kidney to save his life.
General Commentary/Hypothetical	Impersonal	159 (4.8%)	If you donate a kidney, then later your only one starts to fail, would you be put on a higher priority?
News/Noise	Impersonal	2371 (72.0%)	Story: A man donated his kidney to his wife of 51 years after finding out he's her perfect

Model Performance: Complexity vs. Accuracy

Label Complexity (BERT Model)

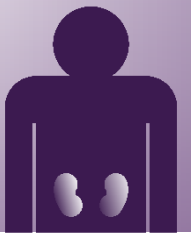


Insight: Precision drops significantly as human intent categories become highly nuanced.

Architecture Showdown

	Simplified Labels	Nuanced Labels
BERT Model	87.0%	67.1%
ChatGPT	69.0%	45.3%

Insight: Specialized NLP architectures (BERT) currently outperform generalized generative models (ChatGPT) for strict intent classification.



Key Take-home Messages

- Artificial Intelligence has already developed and highly relevant applications in every aspect of kidney care
- Our patients and colleagues (allied health/other specialists) are using AI tools – and we should also responsibly use them
- A clinical orientation to a problem followed by a solution (AI/non-AI) is our preferred approach
- Tools available today can augment care
- Tools available today are not autonomous

The Path Forward: The Human-in-the-Loop Mandate



Assist, Do Not Substitute: Algorithms are tools for narrowly defined tasks. They cannot replace the holistic, nuanced judgment of a clinician.

The Workflow Imperative: The success of AI depends entirely on seamless integration into the point-of-care workflow, not just predictive accuracy.

The Ultimate Goal: Leverage AI not just for technological novelty, but to advance innovation in high-burden disease areas for the continuous benefit of the patient.

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