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Artificial Intelligence in Reproductive Medicine: A Survey on Infertility Prediction and Diagnosis

[1]Lakshmipriya S, [2]Dr. K. Pazhanikumar

Research Scholar, Department of Computer Science, S.T.Hindu College, Nagercoil
Affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli-12, Tamil Nadu, India
slakshmipriya.lp@gmail.com

Head and Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, S.T.Hindu College, Nagercoil
Affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli-12, Tamil Nadu, India

skpk73@gmail.com

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Abstract

Infertility is a multifactorial and rising global health issue that is complicated by intricate interplay of hormonal imbalance, metabolic dysfunction, genetic predisposition, structural anomalies and lifestyle factors. Conventional methods of diagnosis, which rely mostly on single-test clinical methods, like hormonal profiling, imaging, and semen analysis tend to miss non-linear and interdependent interactions underlying reproductive dysfunction. The recent developments in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and specifically the field of Machine Learning (ML) and Deep Learning (DL) have brought to the table potent data-driven approaches, which can be utilized to integrate the heterogeneous medical data, and reveal latent patterns to predict infertility early and accurately. The paper provides a thorough review of AI-based infertility prediction methods that include classical machine learning, deep learning architectures, and the new multimodal and hybrid models. The paper examines a wide range of data such as clinical records, hormonal biomarkers, medical imaging (ultrasound and MRI), genetic data and lifestyle factors. Special attention is paid to disorder-specific applications including Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), endometriosis, male infertility and assisted reproductive technologies (ART). Also, the utilization of Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) methods like SHAP and LIME is discussed to improve model transparency and clinical trust. Although there have been tremendous improvements, one can still blame the heterogeneity of data, scarcity of data, class imbalance, non-standardization, ethical issues with privacy and bias as major obstacles to clinical implementation. The future directions described in the paper are multimodal data fusion, federated learning, interpretable AI systems and personalized reproductive medicine. Altogether, AI-based infertility prediction tools have a great potential to revolutionize the reproductive healthcare as they allow diagnosing patients at an early stage, enhance treatment planning, and facilitate precision medicine.

1. INTRODUCTION

The issue of infertility has become a major healthcare problem in the world, with a large percentage of couples in both the developed and developing world being impacted [2] [4]. It is a multidimensional and complicated disorder that occurs as a result of the complicated interplay of endocrine disorders, metabolic disorders, genotype predispositions, environmental exposures, as well as lifestyle-related factors like stress, dietary patterns, and sedentary lifestyles [5]. Infertility is a clinical condition that states that one has failed to conceive after one year of unprotected sex, and its rate has been gradually rising as a result of late conception, evolving socio-economic status, and the rise in the number of reproductive disorders [1] [3]. In contrast to most other illnesses, infertility does not just have physiological consequences, but also causes psychological, emotional, and social distress, thus requiring early diagnosis and proper management plans [9]. The complexity of infertility is multifactorial and, therefore, diagnosis is especially challenging because there are several hidden and interdependent factors all responsible at the same time in causing reproductive dysfunction [7] [8].

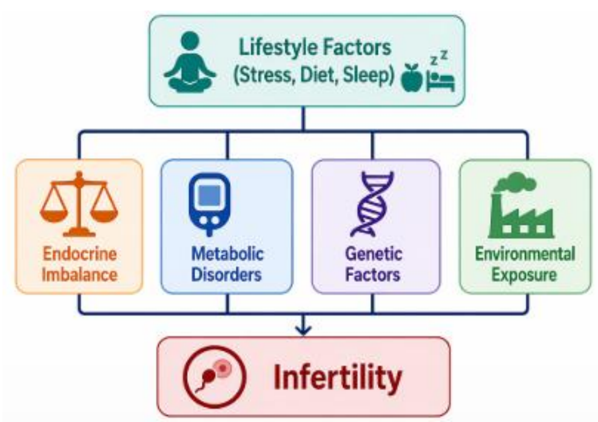

Figure 1: Multifactorial Nature of Infertility

The use of conventional diagnostic modalities in reproductive medicine mainly depends on personal clinical evaluations like hormonal profiling, imaging technologies like ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and semen analysis [12]. Although valuable clinical information can be gained using these methods, they are intrinsically ineffective to describe the multifaceted and nonlinear interactions between multiple physiological and biochemical parameters [6] [11]. The majority of traditional diagnostic systems work separately, with each test result being interpreted separately, thus ignoring the interrelation between the factors of reproductive health. Moreover, these practices can also be subjective, heavily reliant on clinician judgment, and could differ among the institutions, causing discrepancies in diagnosis and treatment planning [13]. Moreover, the diagnostic procedures are sometimes invasive, costly and time consuming, a factor that will not encourage early screening leading to many cases being detected at later stages. These limitations provide a means to point to more comprehensive, data-driven methods that are able to consider a variety of parameters at once and offer precise and timely forecasts [14].

Over the last few years, the area of healthcare has undergone revolution through the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), specifically Machine Learning (ML), and Deep Learning (DL) to analyze large-scale, heterogeneous, and high-dimensional data. These are the advanced computational methods, which have the capability to detect concealed patterns, intricate correlation and predictive biomarkers that cannot be easily determined using conventional statistical procedures [16]. Applying AI-based models in infertility, they can be used to forecast risks early, diagnose automatically, and plan treatment based on personalized needs by combining various types of data, including clinical history, hormonal levels, imaging data, genetic data, and lifestyle parameters [17]. In contrast to traditional methods, AI systems are able to simulate nonlinear relationships and further enhance their performance as more data is available. This renders them very appropriate in dealing with the complexity and variability that comes with the diagnosis and management of infertility [19]. In addition, AI-driven decision support systems will help clinicians to make more precise and consistent predictions, thus improving the overall patient outcomes [21].

The survey is designed to be a systematic and detailed review of the artificial intelligence methods used to predict infertility, paying special attention to both conventional machine learning models and state-of-the-art deep learning architectures. The paper puts a particular focus on specialty applications, such as Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), endometriosis, male factor infertility, ovulatory disorders, and assisted reproductive technologies, thus illustrating the breadth and domain-specific applicability of AI in reproductive medicine. The paper also addresses such pivotal issues as data heterogeneity, class imbalance, the lack of interpretability, and obstacles to clinical implementation, also touching upon the new research directions, including multimodal data fusion, explainable AI, and personalized reproductive healthcare. This paper will fill the existing gap between clinical practice and computational intelligence by facilitating the creation of effective, scalable, and clinical-practically relevant AI-based infertility prediction systems. The rest of the paper is designed to develop and discuss gradually the clinical background, AI foundations, data representation, modeling, comparative analysis, ethical issues, and future research opportunities in the domain of reproductive medicine [34].

In Zhao et al. (2025), an automatic recognition system was established to detect polycystic ovarian morphology based on the ultrasound images, which was implemented with the YOLOv11 framework on the basis of deep learning. The model demonstrated mean average precision over 95% in both training and multi-center validation sets in a large prospective diagnostic study (1,751 women suspected of having PCOS) and F1 scores as high as nearly 97% and AUC values of greater than 0.95 with ultrasound interpretation time being dramatically less than that of clinicians. The study is important as it shows that PCOS can be identified by automating detection of pelvic ultrasound, which is one of the most popular clinical devices in the initial infertility screening, and, therefore, offers the possibility of faster and more effective ovarian screening during routine reproductive health screening.

The application of convolutional neural networks to detect CD138+ plasma cells on whole-slide endometrial tissue images were investigated in a large systematic review by Lee et al. (2024) in infertility-related conditions, such as PCOS and recurrent implantation failure (RIF). They divided tissue compartments into two stages first and then grouped the CD138+ cells with high concordance to expert pathologists and minimized the bias of a single observer, allowing whole-slide quantification. The article notes that AI has the potential to enable more effective cellular pathological assessment and thereby gain more insight into chronic inflammation of endometrial cells and its effects on fertility without the need to undergo tedious manual microscopy. Poonam Moral et al. (2024) suggested CystNet, an AI-based model in detecting PCOS based on multilevel thresholding and image segmentation algorithms on ovarian ultrasound images. Their work involved the use of preprocessing (normalization, multilevel thresholding, augmentation) and feature extraction, and deep learning classification, with strict cross-validation. Accuracy, recall, specificity and F-score are some of the performance metrics that were fully assessed and illustrated that advanced AI image processing could be effectively used in the reproductive endocrinology clinic to support early intervention measures by means of distinguishing between PCOS morphology and normal ovaries.

Moro et al. (2025) presented a more comprehensive view of AI in gynecological ultrasound by systematically reviewing AI applications to benign gynecological conditions, such as PCOS, infertility, endometriosis, and other structural pathologies. They analyzed 59 studies and found out that AI-based ultrasound interpretation is gradually being used to aid in diagnosis of various conditions, but the deep learning models are being used to enhance accuracy, operator bias, and possibly detecting abnormalities sooner, which can lead to infertility. The fact that ultrasound-based cases of endometriosis and ART (assisted reproductive technology) workflows are also included addresses the growing role of AI beyond PCOS by itself. Recent research by Wang et al. (2025) using deep learning to simulate controlled ovarian stimulation and IVF dynamics offers an insight into the response to reproductive treatment. Even though the study was not specifically on PCOS, deep architectures were used to examine complex clinical and imaging data on ovarian responses, providing a data-based perspective of IVF cycles. The study helps predict early follicular development and stimulation variables relationship by characterizing the interaction, aiding the generation of ovarian response and treatment personalization, which in infertility management is one of the areas of great concern since oocyte quality and response patterns are major factors of reproductive success.

Pulkit Verma et al. (2024) provided an in-depth overview of the application of AI in PCOS diagnosis, focusing on the fact that machine learning and deep learning technologies can be used to combine ultrasound imaging, biochemical markers, and clinical characteristics to more effectively detect and manage this syndrome. The review notes that CNN-based deep learning architectures have obtained diagnostic accuracies above 95% in multiple contexts and emphasizes the possibility of AI to produce multi-modal data to provide a more comprehensive view of reproductive health related to PCOS. This work places image-based AI in a broader context of precision reproductive medicine by exploring the changing trends and clinical applicability.

Besides imaging methods, Zhang et al. (2025) assessed machine learning algorithms of a combination of clinical and laboratory signs to forecast infertility and pregnancy loss. Their analysis involved more than a thousand individuals and compared several ML models which included laboratory biomarkers (e.g., vitamin D levels, hormone profiles) to predict infertility status and the risk of pregnancy loss in advance. Even though it does not deal with deep learning image processing, the study highlights the need to combine endocrine and metabolic biomarkers with computational models to improve early diagnosis and risk stratification in reproductive medicine.

A systematic review of AI/ML studies in PCOS diagnosis found by Barrera et al. (2023) (discussed in NIEHS reports) reviewed 25 years of AI/ML studies and found that AI-based diagnostic methods using imaging and clinical data had 8050% diagnostic accuracy in numerous studies. The review also indicated that utilizing huge clinical data and electronic health records would enhance the early detection and care pathways of PCOS, which will minimize the risk of infertility and related burdens. Pande et al. (2025) performed a systematic review of the datasets forming the basis of AI and deep learning models in terms of morphological assessment of blastocysts, which is one of the most important elements of ART. Analysis of 26 studies showed that the attributes of datasets (image quality, the quality of annotations, the richness of the metadata) have an enormous impact on the model performance in embryo grading and lineage selection which are directly applicable to early infertility prediction and IVF success. This piece of work emphasizes the importance of quality imaging data sets in successful, generalizable deep learning implementation in reproduction.

Finally, although not an imaging study, the review by Iancu et al. (2023) on the connection between prolactin levels and fertility outcomes is a synthesis of evidence that hyperprolactinemia is associated with infertility and IVF outcomes. High serum prolactin has been linked to ovulatory dysfunction and negative reproductive outcomes, making the incorporation of endocrine biomarkers in AI and deep learning predictive models that attempt to model hormone-related infertility risk. The analyzed literature indicates the swift adoption of deep learning and machine learning in imaging, workflow assisted reproductive hormonal profiling. Nevertheless, the variety of methodologies and the heterogeneity of data sets is still a major problem. Table 1 provides a systematic summary of these studies in a comparative form.A structured comparative summary of these studies is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Comparative Analysis of AI-Based Approaches in Female Infertility and Reproductive Imaging

Author (Year)	Research Focus	Dataset	AI / DL Model Used	Evaluation Metrics	Outcome
Zhao (2025)	PCOS detection	Ovarian ultrasound images	YOLOv11-based deep learning model	F1-score ≈ 97%, AUC > 0.95	Automated follicle detection improved diagnostic speed and accuracy
Yang (2025)	Follicle counting reliability	High-resolution MRI	CNN reconstruction network	Improved repeatability, reduced counting error	Enhanced precision in follicle quantification for PCOS patients
Kermanshahchi (2024)	PCOS classification	Pelvic ultrasound	CNN + ML classifiers	Accuracy ≈ 100% (validation set)	Highly accurate automated PCOS diagnosis model
AlSaad (2026)	Endometriosis imaging analysis	Ultrasound, MRI, laparoscopy	CNN-based survey analysis	Qualitative evaluation	Identified methodological limitations and lack of standardized datasets

Balica (2023)	Endometriosis lesion detection	Transvaginal ultrasound	Multiple deep learning architectures	AUC ≈ 0.85–0.90	Demonstrated feasibility of DL for lesion classification
Abrar (2026)	Early PCOS diagnosis	Ovarian ultrasound	Transfer learning + Explainable AI	Accuracy ≈ 99.8%	High-performance interpretable diagnostic framework
Wang (2025)	IVF and ovarian stimulation modeling	Clinical and temporal IVF data	Deep neural network	Predictive accuracy improvement	Modeled ovarian response dynamics in IVF cycles
Kanakasabapathy (2023)	Oocyte morphology grading	Microscopic oocyte images	Convolutional Neural Network	Classification accuracy reported	Automated oocyte grading reduced subjectivity
Golfe (2025)	Synthetic embryo data generation	IVF embryo images	Latent Diffusion Model (LDM)	Image quality validation metrics	Addressed dataset scarcity via synthetic augmentation
Onthuam (2025)	Embryo viability prediction	Embryo images + clinical features	CNN-based fusion model	Improved embryo selection performance	Enhanced IVF embryo implantation prediction

Table 1 highlights that most high-performing models rely on imaging datasets, particularly ultrasound and embryo microscopy images. However, relatively fewer studies integrate endocrine biomarkers such as prolactin and metabolic parameters, indicating a research gap in multimodal hormonal modeling.

2. Background on Infertility and Clinical Perspectives

nfertility is a heterogeneous process which can be generally classified into female infertility, male infertility and unexplained infertility, all of which are of a broad spectrum of physiological and pathological causes. These categories need to be understood to diagnose and plan effective treatment. Clinically, infertility assessment entails administering a mixture of biochemical analysis, imaging methods as well as physiological evaluation in the effort to detect the pathophysiology of reproductive malfunction. Although medical science has advanced, diagnosing infertility is still a complex task because there is a combination of several contributing factors as well as limitations of the current diagnostic techniques.

2.1 Classification of Infertility

Infertility is categorized according to the cause of infertility and the system that is affected. Disorders of ovulation, hormonal regulation, and organ structure are linked to female infertility, whereas male infertility is mainly connected to malformation of the sperm production and functionality. Unexplained infertility is the cases of infertility where there is no conclusive cause of infertility despite thorough clinical assessment. Such categorization assists clinicians to embrace specific diagnostic and therapeutic approaches.

Table 2. Types of Infertility

Type	Description	Examples
Female	Disorders in female reproductive system	PCOS, Endometriosis
Male	Abnormal sperm parameters	Low sperm count
Unexplained	No identifiable clinical cause	Normal test results

2.2 Female Infertility

One of the greatest causes of reproductive failure is female infertility, which is often due to various physiological and pathological conditions that include Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), endometriosis, ovulatory disorders, and blockages of the fallopian tubes. Such conditions disrupt the normal activities of the female reproductive system, especially essential processes like ovulation, fertilization, and embryo implantation. Among them, PCOS is the one that is marked by hormonal disbalance and multiple ovarian cysts that result in irregular ovulation or anovulation. Endometriosis, conversely, is a condition that is associated with the uncontrolled proliferation of endometrial tissue outside the uterus resulting in inflammation, pelvic pain, and infertility. Ovulatory disorders cause abnormal or absent ovulation caused by endocrine dysfunction, and tubal obstructions that block the entry of the sperm to the egg or the passage of the fertilized embryo to the uterus.

The female infertility is largely due to hormonal imbalance since the hormones of reproductive organs control the follicular growth, ovulation, and endometrial preparation. Hormonal changes including estrogen, progesterone, FSH, and LH may cause irregular menstruation and decreased fertility. Besides hormonal causes, structural anomalies like ovarian cysts, uterine fibroids, adhesions, and endometrial lesions are also major causes of reproductive dysfunction, as they change the anatomical environment needed to achieve successful conception. Female infertility can manifest itself clinically with irregular or absent menstruation, excessive menstrual bleeding, pelvic pain, and symptoms of hormonal disruption including acne or weight gain. The symptoms underscore the significance of early diagnosis and timely intervention to enhance reproductive outcomes and minimise long-term complications.

Table 3: The key female infertility disorders and their clinical manifestations.

Condition	Description	Clinical Symptoms
PCOS	Hormonal disorder with	Irregular

	cysts	periods, acne
Endometriosis	Tissue growth outside uterus	Pelvic pain, inflammation
Ovulatory Disorders	Irregular ovulation	Missed cycles
Tubal Blockage	Blocked fallopian tubes	Failed fertilization

2.3 Male Infertility

Male infertility is mainly linked with dysfunctions and defects of sperm production and functioning such as low sperm count, low sperm motility, and sperm abnormal morphology. They have a direct impact on whether the sperm could reach and fertilize the ovum. Low count of sperm decreases the chances of fertilization and low motility prevents the sperm to traverse the female reproductive tract. Morphological abnormalities, including abnormal sperm morphology also hinder fertilization ability. Hormonal imbalances can cause male infertility, especially the hormone testosterone, which is a vital part of spermatogenesis [38].

Besides hormonal influences, genetic abnormalities like chromosomal defects and the presence of mutated genes can have an impact on sperm production and quality. Reproductive tract infections such as sexually transmitted infections may also destroy the sperm cells and block the pathways of spermic transport [32]. Several lifestyle habits including smoking, alcohol use, drug use, obesity and stress are some of the major causes of poor sperm quality [31]. Other exposures like environmental radiation, toxic chemicals and occupational hazards also contribute to reproductive dysfunction in the male gender. Semen examination is the most commonly used diagnostic tool of assessing male fertility and it gives quantitative and qualitative measure of sperm characteristics including concentration, motility and morphology. Nonetheless, traditional semen analysis might not be able to reveal the subtle molecular, genetic, or functional defects, and this aspect emphasizes the necessity of sophisticated diagnostic methods and computational methods to enhance the accuracy and early diagnosis.

Table 4 Parameters in Semen Analysis

Parameter	Description	Normal Range Indicator
Count	Number of sperm cells	High count preferred
Motility	Movement ability	Active movement
Morphology	Shape and structure	Normal shape required

2.4 Unexplained Infertility

Unexplained infertility is a especially complicated and challenging branch of reproductive medicine, in which conventional diagnostic assessments do not help to determine a specific cause of infertility. Couples with normal hormonal profiles, imaging results, and semen analysis results, still may have a problem in getting pregnant. This state of affairs underscores the shortcomings of traditional methods of diagnosis, which tend to use individual and measurable parameters but do not account for subtle, unseen, or nonlinear relations

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among biological factors. Unexplained infertility could include factors like an impaired gamete interaction, subtle hormonal imbalances, genetic inclinations, or immune-based malfunctions that can hardly be revealed by standard clinical examinations [37].

The existence of inexplicable infertility highlights the necessity to have sophisticated analytical models that can combine various data sets and detect complicated trends [19]. Advances in artificial intelligence and machine learning methods have also proven to be quite promising in this field, as they can analyze large data sets and reveal concealed relationships between variables [26]. Such techniques can help to give a better understanding of the causes of infertility that could not be detected before, allowing to diagnose and develop a personal treatment plan. Consequently, unexplained infertility is getting acknowledged as a field in which computational intelligence can have a groundbreaking part in enhancing the outcome of reproductive healthcare.

2.5 Hormonal Biomarkers in Infertility Diagnosis

Hormonal biomarkers are important in the assessment of reproductive health, as well as the diagnosis of infertility because they govern physiological functions like follicular growth, ovulation and endocrine homeostasis. The key hormones in fertility measurement are Follicle Stimulating Hormone (FSH), Luteinizing Hormone (LH), Anti-Mullerian Hormone (AMH) and prolactin [41]. FSH stimulates the maturation and growth of the ovarian follicles and LH promotes ovulation and corpus luteum development. AMH is also an indicator of ovarian reserve, which indicates the amount of viable eggs left, and prolactin controls the ratio of reproductive hormones, and high levels of the hormone may interfere with ovulation [39].

An abnormal concentration of these hormones may be the indicator of a definite reproductive disorder like ovarian insufficiency, PCOS, or endocrine dysfunction. Nevertheless, the interpretation of hormonal biomarkers alone might be insufficient to gain a full picture of reproductive health because hormonal relationships are very dynamic and interdependent [33]. The differences in hormone levels between menstrual cycles also make diagnosis difficult. Consequently, combined evaluation of various hormonal parameters with clinical, imaging, and lifestyle data is necessary to determine the accurate evaluation [38]. Complex hormonal patterns can be successfully analyzed with the help of advanced computational methods, especially AI-based models, that enhance diagnostic accuracy and allow detecting it early and planning a personalized treatment.

Table 5 Key Hormonal Biomarkers

Hormone	Function	Clinical Significance
FSH	Stimulates follicle growth	Ovarian reserve
LH	Triggers ovulation	Ovulatory function
AMH	Indicates ovarian reserve	Fertility potential
Prolactin	Regulates hormones	Hormonal imbalance

2.6 Imaging Techniques in Infertility Diagnosis

The role of imaging in clinical assessment of infertility is to give a detailed visual image of the reproductive organs and detect structural abnormalities that can be a cause of infertility [27]. Transvaginal ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) are some of the most popular modalities that are widely used because they are effective in the evaluation of ovarian, uterine, and pelvic conditions [42]. A non-invasive diagnostic method, a first-line tool, transvaginal ultrasound can be used to visualize the ovaries and uterus in real-time, enabling clinicians to monitor the development of follicles, identify ovarian cysts, measure endometrial thickness, and detect the presence of uterine abnormalities, including fibroids or polyps. It can be specifically utilized in assessing ovulatory functioning and assisted reproductive procedures.

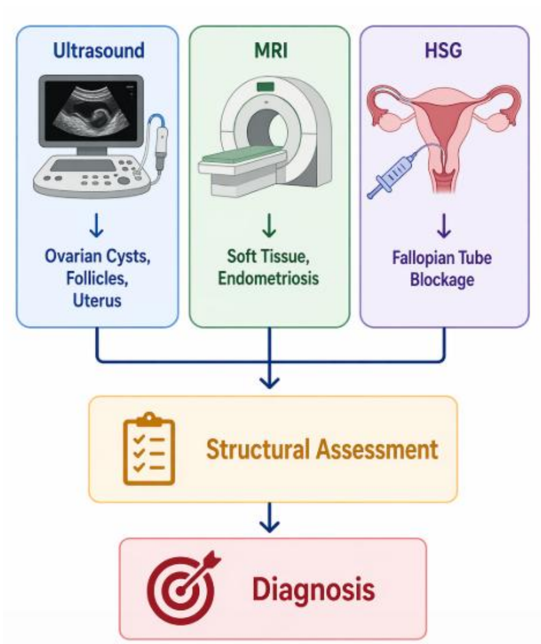

Figure 2: Imaging Techniques in Infertility Diagnosis

However, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) offers high-resolution images of soft tissues, and it is particularly useful in the diagnosis of complicated issues like endometriosis, adenomyosis, and profound pelvic anomalies. The contrast resolution of MRI is better than ultrasound, allowing a detailed evaluation of tissue properties and the extent of disease [28]. Other imaging methods like hysterosalpingography (HSG) are also employed to assess the fallopian tube patency and identify obstructions that can cause infertilization. Imaging techniques do not lack limitations even though they have a diagnostic importance. Imaging results are usually interpreted subjectively and largely rely on the experience of radiologists or clinicians, so they can be diagnosed differently [39]. Also, some minor deviations can be hard to identify, and equipment quality and imaging guidelines can influence the quality of diagnostic results. Such difficulties underscore the importance of complex computing systems, such as AI-powered image analysis systems, to improve accuracy and minimize human bias when diagnosing infertility [40].

Table 6: Typical Diagnostic Tests of Female Infertility and its benefits and drawbacks

Technique	Purpose	Advantages	Limitations
Ultrasound	Follicle & uterus assessment	Non-invasive, real-time	Operator-dependent
MRI	Soft tissue visualization	High resolution	Expensive, less accessible
HSG	Tube patency check	Detects blockages	Mildly invasive

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2.7 Semen Analysis and Male Fertility Assessment

The diagnosis of male infertility is based on semen analysis, which gives necessary data about the quality of sperm and the reproductive capacity [41]. It includes analyzing the main parameters like sperm concentration, motility and morphology that are vital towards successful fertilization. The concentration of sperm cells in a sample of semen is known as sperm concentration whereas sperm motility is the capacity of the sperm to move efficiently in the female reproductive system [46]. Morphology evaluates the integrity and form of the sperm that is vital in correct penetration of the ovum. All these parameters are important in measuring the fertilization ability of sperm and are commonly employed as the main measure of male reproductive health.

Besides these fundamental parameters, semen analysis can also entail the evaluation of the volume of semen, pH, and the existence of abnormal cells or infections. Although it is important, conventional semen analysis has significant limitations [48]. It mostly emphasizes visible physical features and fails to consider underlying molecular, genetic or functional abnormalities that can impact fertility. As an example, DNA fragmentation, oxidative stress, and epigenetic factors may cause substantial impairment of sperm functionality but will not be observed under routine analysis [50]. Furthermore, inconsistencies can occur because of the way of collecting the samples, laboratory conditions, and the interpretation of the observer [47]. Such constraints highlight the importance of developing more sophisticated diagnostic methods, such as molecular tests and AI-based analysis tools, which can further inform about the health of sperm and enhance the precision of the diagnosis of male infertility.

2.8 Limitations of Current Clinical Practices

Although the existing clinical practices have made great strides in the field of diagnostic methodology and medical knowledge, they still face various limitations that still impair the effectiveness of the current clinical practices in the diagnosis and management of infertility [45]. The disjointed nature of traditional methods of diagnosis is one of the main issues, in which various tests, including hormonal analysis, imaging, and semen analysis, are taken separately and not combined in a comprehensive manner. This inability to analyze holistically has left clinicians facing the complexity and nonlinearity of relationships among multiple factors related to reproduction, resulting in an incomplete or slow diagnosis [46].

The other significant limitation is that the traditional techniques are not capable of identifying early-stage infertility. Most methods of diagnosis are reactive, not proactive, with problems being detected only when they became obvious or when fertility has already decreased by a large margin [43]. Also, some of the procedures employed in the diagnosis of infertility like invasive imaging or recurrent hormonal testing may be uncomfortable, expensive and time consuming to the patients. The subjectivity and the possibility of bias due to the use of clinician expertise in interpreting test results also introduce variability in diagnosis and treatment decisions in various healthcare environments.

Moreover, the conventional clinical systems cannot process extensive amounts of diverse data, such as clinical records, imaging data, genetic information, and lifestyle factors. This weakness impedes generalizing relevant information about complex data and prevents individualized treatment planning [38]. All these issues highlight the necessity of smart, data-driven solutions capable of combining various

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sources of data, offering precise and reliable forecasts, and allowing an early diagnosis of infertility. Techniques of artificial intelligence and machine learning can help break these restrictions and improve the accuracy of the diagnosis, minimizing human bias, and assist in evidence-based clinical decision-making [49].

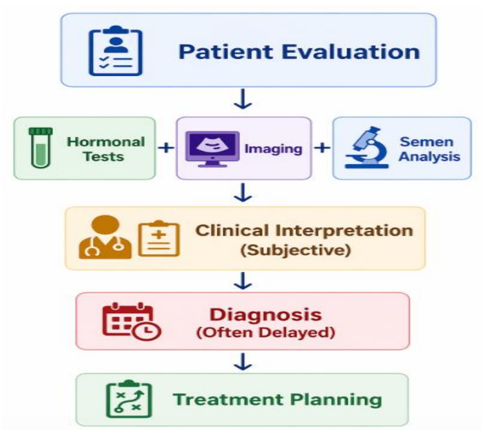

Figure 3: Clinical Diagnosis Workflow

Table 7 Major Causes of Infertility

Category	Causes
Female	PCOS, Endometriosis, Ovulatory Disorders, Tubal Blockage
Male	Low Sperm Count, Poor Motility, Morphological Defects
Combined	Hormonal Imbalance, Genetic Disorders

3. Artificial Intelligence Models for Infertility Prediction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a disruptive and transformative technology in current healthcare, making it possible to systematically analyze high-dimensional, heterogeneous and complex medical data. In the context of infertility prediction, AI offers a complete computational model that can combine various types of data, such as clinical records, hormonal profiles, medical imaging, genetic data, and lifestyle. In contrast to the conventional approaches to statistics and rules, which tend to assume linearity and have few interaction points between features, AI models can represent complex nonlinear relationships and latent dependencies between two or more variables. The ability is especially relevant in the context of infertility diagnosis where the biological, environmental, and behavioral factors interact to determine the outcomes of reproductive health.

The rapid development of digital healthcare tools, such as electronic health records, wearable monitoring devices, and modern diagnostic imaging modalities have resulted in the geometric growth of the amount and complexity of medical data. The AI systems are specially placed to handle such large volumes of data and analyze them effectively to detect subtle patterns and predictive signs unattainable by standard analysis. Incorporating machine learning and deep learning methods, AI models can be used to predict the risk of infertility early, enhance the accuracy of diagnoses, and aid in individual treatment planning. Moreover, AI-based systems improve clinical decision-making through evidence-based information, decrease diagnostic variability and improve the patient outcome in general. Consequently, AI is becoming a prominent instrument in the evolution of reproductive healthcare and overcoming the obstacles related to infertility [19]

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3.1 Machine Learning Foundations in Infertility Prediction

Machine Learning (ML), the core part of Artificial Intelligence is concerned with the creation of algorithms capable of learning patterns and relationships on data automatically, without any explicit programming. ML models are popular in the context of infertility prediction where they are used to perform classification, regression, and risk assessment tasks where the goal is to predict the fertility outcomes of a patient based on patient-specific features [26]. These models are normally trained on structured datasets which comprise clinical, hormonal, demographic and lifestyle data, which allow them to find the relationship between input variables and reproductive health outcomes [29].

The most widely used paradigm in infertility prediction is supervised learning, which uses labeled data to learn to predict a particular outcome, e.g. fertile or infertile, or likelihood of successful conception. Logistic Regression algorithms have become popular because of their ease, interpretability, and the capability to give probabilistic results, which are critical to clinical decision-making. SVM are known to be especially useful when dealing with high-dimensional data, and also tend to model complicated decision boundaries with the aid of kernel functions. Decision Trees and Random Forest models can model nonlinear relationships and interactions between variables, and include feature importance measures that are more interpretable and clinically relevant.

Unsupervised learning approaches are also important in exploratory data analysis and patient stratification besides supervised learning. These are used to find the hidden structure, clusters and patterns in datasets using unlabeled data [30]. As an illustration, K-means and hierarchical clustering algorithms may cluster patients with comparable hormonal profiles or clinical characteristics, and help identify specific infertility phenotypes. These insights can be applied in tailored treatment planning and in the realization of the heterogeneity of diseases. All in all, machine learning offers a powerful and versatile platform to work with complex infertility data and produce actionable insights [31].

3.2 Deep Learning Architectures for Multimodal Data

An advanced field within machine learning, Deep Learning (DL) uses multi-layered neural network architectures to learn complex and nonlinear relationships within large-scale datasets. Deep learning models are especially beneficial in infertility prediction because they can handle unstructured data with high dimensions, like medical images, time-series hormonal data, and genetic sequences. Hierarchical feature representations cannot be engineered manually, as in the traditional methods of machine learning, but are instead learned automatically by deep learning models atop raw data, thus enhancing predictive accuracy and alleviating the need to construct domain-specific feature engineering [36].

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) find numerous applications in medical imaging data analysis, such as ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans. The models are intended to learn the spatial characteristics with convolutional layers, which is why structural abnormalities in reproductive organs, including ovarian cysts, follicular patterns, and uterine anomalies, can be detected. CNNs have proven to be very precise in image-based diagnosis and are prevalent in the detection of disorders such as polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and endometriosis.

RNNs and their more sophisticated versions, including Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks, are particular neural networks that are optimized to handle sequential and time-series data. These models are especially applicable in infertility prediction to examine changes in hormones levels, menstrual cycles and longitudinal patient records over time. RNNs and LSTMs capture time dependencies and long-term trends, which can be used to gain insights into the dynamics of reproductive health and enhance the accuracy of predictions [28].

Also, the use of autoencoders and representation learning methods is used to decrease the size of high-dimensional data, including genetic data, without losing any crucial information. These models allow the effective extraction of features and enhance the downstream predictive models. In general, deep learning architectures offer a scalable and powerful method of examining intricate infertility data and generating meaningful patterns [27]

3.3 Hybrid and Multimodal Learning Approaches

The nature of infertility prediction is a multimodal problem in nature because it comprises of a combination of varying types of data, such as structured clinical data, unstructured imaging data, hormonal time-series data, and genetic data. Hybrid and multimodal learning strategies are aimed at solving this complexity by integrating several machine learning and deep learning models into a single model. These strategies capitalize on the advantages of various models to enhance prediction accuracy, strength, and generalization.

In a classical hybrid, imaging data are analyzed using deep learning architectures, like CNNs to extract features, and traditional machine learning algorithms analyze structured clinical and hormonal data. The features obtained through the various modalities are then combined by the methods of concatenation, or attention mechanisms to produce an overall representation of patient information. This combined representation allows the model to reflect the complicated interactions between variables and enhance predictive accuracy.

Ensemble methods also improve model performance by aggregating the predictions of many models, lowering the chances of overfitting and increasing generalization. These techniques come in especially handy when data is noisy and heterogeneous, as in infertility prediction. Multimodal learning models facilitate the concurrent processing of various types of data and are thus very applicable to clinical practice. These methods help to gain a more comprehensive picture of reproductive health by combining the complementary information of various sources and make more accurate and reliable predictions.

3.4 Model Evaluation and Optimization

Machine learning and deep learning models are highly dependent on evaluation and optimization to determine the reliability and usefulness of these models in infertility prediction. Evaluation metrics commonly used in measuring model performance are accuracy, precision, and recall, F1-score, and the area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUC-ROC). Whereas accuracy offers a general understanding of the correctness, precision and recall offer details on the capacity of the model to accurately determine positive and negative cases. Recall (sensitivity) is of special interest in medical contexts, where a missed diagnosis of an infertility condition may be incredibly costly to patient care.

Model optimization is the optimization of hyperparameters to achieve better performance and avoid overfitting. Hyperparameter tuning is usually done using techniques like grid search, random search, and Bayesian optimization.

Regularization techniques such as L1 and L2 regularization are used to achieve model simplification and generalization. Cross-validation methods are also used to make sure that models are similar when applied to various subsets of data.

The importance of feature selection and dimensionality reduction is to improve the model performance by identifying the most relevant predictors and reducing redundant or irrelevant features. Recursive feature elimination, correlation analysis, and principal component analysis (PCA) are some of the commonly used methods that are applied to this end. Proper assessment and optimization can guarantee that the AI models are healthy, dependable, and fit to be used in clinical practice.

3.5 Relevance and Impact in Infertility Prediction

Artificial Intelligence use in predicting infertility has immense implications on enhancing reproductive healthcare outcomes. Through early identification of infertility threats, AI systems provide the opportunity to intervene in the situation and plan the treatment more effectively. These models are able to examine complex interplay of hormonal, metabolic, genetic as well as environmental factors that can give a complete picture of reproductive health which cannot be done using the conventional means.

Personalized medicine is also assisted by AI-based systems and can be used to personalize the treatment approach using patient-specific characteristics. This practice enhances the success of treatment and minimizes unnecessary procedures. Moreover, AI improves clinical decision-making by offering objective, data-driven information, thus minimizing variability and possible bias in diagnosis.

The fact that AI models are constantly learning and adjusting to new data means that they will be relevant and effective over time. With the move towards more and more digital technologies in healthcare systems, it is anticipated that the role of AI in the clinical workflow will become instrumental in combating the rising challenges of infertility. All in all, AI-based infertility prediction systems can revolutionize the process of reproductive care by enhancing diagnostic precision, facilitating individualized therapy, and improving patient outcomes.

3.6 Multimodal and Hybrid AI Models (Summary)

The emerging trend in modern infertility prediction is the use of multimodal and hybrid AI systems that incorporate heterogeneous data sources, including clinical records, hormone profiles and imaging data. These models have a combination of machine learning and deep learning to develop complementary advantages in predictive accuracy and robustness. The ensemble strategies and feature fusion allow a more detailed insight into the state of the patients, and these methods prove to be very useful in the complicated and data-rich clinical setting.

3.7 Comparative Analysis of Machine Learning and Deep Learning

Machine Learning (ML) and Deep Learning (DL) are both important in reproductive healthcare, but they are different in their data processing, feature extraction, and complexity. Comparative knowledge of these methods assists in choosing the most suitable model based on the type of data, the size of the dataset, and clinical needs.

Machine Learning models are typically trained to operate on structured and well-organized data, including clinical records, hormonal levels, and

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demographic data. These models are very dependent on manual feature engineering, in which domain knowledge is applied to choose the relevant variables prior to training. Logistic Regression, Support Vector Machines, Decision Trees, and Random Forests are popular algorithms because they are simple, interpretable, and efficient on small to medium-sized datasets. ML models are especially applicable in infertility prediction, where transparency and explainability are essential in clinical decision-making, such as risk classification and early screening.

Deep Learning models, on the other hand, are better adapted to large and complex data, such as medical imaging, time-series hormonal data, and genetic sequences. In contrast to ML models, deep learning architectures learn hierarchical feature representations directly on raw data, without requiring manual feature selection. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are very useful in the analysis of ultrasound and MRI images, whereas Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks are popular in modeling temporal hormonal changes and reproductive cycles. These models tend to be more predictive accurate when large and diverse datasets are present, but they are more computationally intensive and take longer to train [49].

In terms of performance, ML models tend to be favored when the size of the dataset is small and interpretability is a concern, whereas DL models are more effective with high-dimensional, unstructured, and multimodal data [45]. Nevertheless, DL models are typically viewed as black-box systems, and thus less interpretable than more traditional ML methods, which may be a drawback in sensitive medical tasks like infertility diagnosis.

Machine learning models are lightweight and can be trained efficiently on standard hardware, whereas deep learning models are computationally intensive, and need large labeled datasets to perform optimally. Nevertheless, DL models are more scalable and adaptable to complex infertility-related patterns in imaging, genetic, and longitudinal data sources [45].

In general, both Machine Learning and Deep Learning play an important role in infertility prediction systems. ML models offer good baseline performance, interpretability, and efficiency, whereas DL models offer high-quality automated feature learning and high-accuracy prediction in complex settings [37]. The combination of the two methods in hybrid and multimodal systems is becoming more desirable in the contemporary healthcare systems to attain balanced performance, robustness, and clinical reliability.

Table 8: Comparison of DL and ML Techniques for Infertility Prediction

Criteria	**Machine Learning (ML)**	**Deep Learning (DL)**
Accuracy	Moderate	High
Interpretability	High	Low
Data Requirement	Low	High
Feature Engineering	Manual	Automatic
Computational Cost	Low	High

Machine learning models are more suitable to smaller, structured data that require interpretability, whereas deep learning models are more effective with large, complex, and

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unstructured data such as medical images and temporal health records.

Table 9: AI Models for Infertility Prediction

Category	Models	Applications
Machine Learning	Logistic Regression, SVM, Random Forest, Decision Trees	Classification, risk prediction
Deep Learning	CNN, RNN, LSTM, Autoencoders	Imaging, time-series analysis
Hybrid Models	CNN + ML, Ensemble Methods	Multimodal data integration

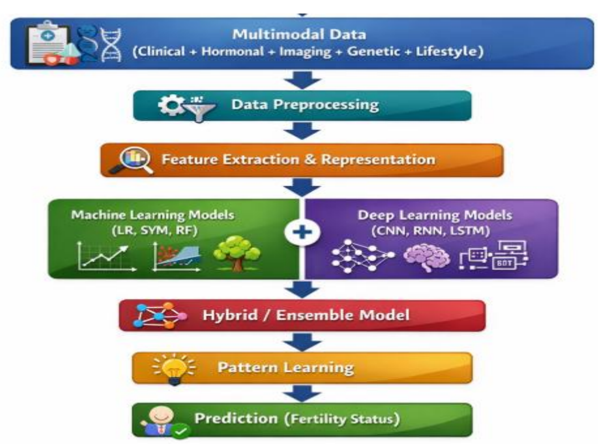

Figure 4: AI in Infertility Prediction

Table 10: AI Techniques in Healthcare

Category	Techniques
Machine Learning	Logistic Regression, SVM, Random Forest, Decision Trees
Deep Learning	CNN, RNN, LSTM, Autoencoders

4. Data Sources and Feature Representation in Infertility Prediction

Infertility prediction models are based on combining various and heterogeneous data sources which combine to represent the multifactoriality of reproductive health. In contrast to the conventional methods of diagnostics relying on a single parameter, contemporary AI-based systems analyse multimodal data to reveal the complex correlations between physiological, biochemical, genetic and lifestyle parameters. These data sets are complementary sources of information that would increase the accuracy and strength of predictive models. The quality of representation and the preprocessing of such data is important in determining the quality of model performance and generalization to other patient populations [22]

4.1 Clinical and Demographic Data

Infertility prediction models are based on clinical and demographic data since this information is necessary to understand the history of the patient and his or her physiological peculiarities. These are frequently structured data items like age, body mass index (BMI), menstrual cycle irregularity, infertility period, obstetric history, underlying medical conditions, such as polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), thyroid diseases, or diabetes. One of the most important predictors of fertility is age because as people age, their reproductive potential decreases because of decreased ovarian reserve and egg quality. Equally, BMI relates closely with hormone balance, with both underweight and overweight statuses having an adverse effect on fertility [33].

Besides these parameters, in-depth medical histories and previous treatment histories are also a source of valuable information on reproductive health pattern. In general, clinical data is structured well and less complex to process than other types of data, but it can still experience inconsistencies, omission, and fluctuate across healthcare organizations. Even with these shortcomings, clinical data is an important element of predicting the base line and risk evaluation in infertility research [42].

4.2 Hormonal and Biochemical Markers

Hormonal and biochemical indicators are very important indicators of the endocrine system which is a key factor in the regulation of reproductive processes. The main hormones that are used to predict infertility are Follicle-Stimulating Hormone (FSH), Luteinizing Hormone (LH), Anti-Mullerian Hormone (AMH), estrogen, progesterone, insulin and glucose levels. These biomarkers indicate ovarian reserve, ovulation status and metabolic health which are crucial to successful conception.

An example is that high levels of FSH can be a sign of low ovarian reserve and unusual levels of LH are often linked to ovulatory disorders like PCOS. AMH is a very popular reliable indicator of ovarian reserve, which can give information about the number of left follicles. Furthermore, endocrine disorders causing fertility are associated with insulin resistance and abnormal glucose metabolism. By including hormonal data into predictive frameworks, it will be possible to gain a better insight into the physiological imbalances and also develop a better idea of the underlying causes of infertility.

Nonetheless, there is always a dynamic nature of hormonal data which can change over time and must be taken into consideration when collecting and analyzing data. Hormonal changes require proper normalization and time-dependent feature representation in order to be captured.

4.3 Imaging Data and Feature Extraction

Imaging information, especially ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) are crucial in determining structural abnormalities in reproductive organs. Ultrasound is also very popular to assess ovarian morphology, follicular growth, endometrial thickness and cysts or fibroids. MRI offers a high-resolution image of soft tissues, and it is possible to identify such complex conditions as endometriosis, uterine abnormalities, and tubal pathologies.

Image data are usually analyzed using sophisticated feature extraction algorithms, which are commonly trained on deep learning models, like Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs). These models automatically detect pertinent spatial patterns and morphological features without involving any manual intervention. The combination of imaging features with clinical and hormonal data provides a great ability to predict using AI systems.

Irrespective of their benefits, imaging data brings about issues of high dimensionality, computational complexity, and variability in image quality. Imaging protocols should be standardized and powerful feature extraction techniques must be used to maintain consistency and reliability of the models.

4.4 Genetic and Lifestyle Factors

Genetic information comprises of DNA markers, gene mutations and chromosomal abnormalities, which can cause reproductive disorders. Genomic technologies have facilitated the discovery of genetic variations that cause infertility, which offer opportunities to personalized medicine. Another important factor in reproduction is lifestyle aspects, including diet, physical activity, smoking, alcohol, stress, and environmental exposures. These components affect the hormonal balance, metabolic activity and the general health, which in turn has an impact on the fertility outcome. Lifestyle information is not as precise as clinical and hormonal data and is usually self-reported, which can lead to a bias in predictive models.

Genetic and lifestyle information should be combined with other modalities because AI systems can build a comprehensive picture of infertility, which will be more accurate in predicting it and offering personalized treatment suggestions.

4.5 Data Preprocessing and Feature Engineering

Preprocessing of data is an important phase of creating effective and accurate infertility prediction models. Raw medical data can be incomplete, noisy, and inconsistent, and requires a significant amount of preprocessing before being analyzed. The most important preprocessing methods are data cleaning, missing values, normalization, categorical variables encoding and feature selection.

Missing data is a frequent problem in healthcare data and can be solved in terms of imputation methods, including mean substitution, regression imputation, or more sophisticated approaches, including k-nearest neighbors (KNN) imputation. To make sure that features are on a similar scale, normalization and scaling methods are applied (Min-Max scaling, Z-score normalization) which is especially crucial in case of machine learning algorithms.

Feature engineering is the practice of converting raw data into useful representations that can be used to improve model performance. This can involve the development of new features, the combination of existing features or implementing dimensionality reduction methods like Principal Component Analysis (PCA) to simplify things without losing valuable data. High-quality feature engineering enhances the accuracy of the model, minimizes overfitting, and increases interpretability.

4.6 Challenges in Data Integration

Although numerous data sources are available, there are a few challenges that restrict the successful application of AI models in infertility prediction. It has been determined that data heterogeneity is one of the main challenges since the various types of data (structured, unstructured and semi-structured) demand different processing methods. It is complicated to combine these heterogeneous sources of data into a single framework.

The other major issue is imbalance of data whereby the cases of infertility may be significantly less than those of fertility, and thus the model predictions will be biased. Oversampling, undersampling, and synthetic data generation (e.g., SMOTE) are some of the techniques that can be used to address this issue. Also, due to the absence of standard data forms and the differences between data collection practices in institutions, the model might be affected in terms of generalizability.

The issue of privacy and ethics is also of great importance, especially when medical and genetic information that is sensitive is involved. Data

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security and compliance with regulatory standards is a crucial aspect of AI system adoption.

5. Research Challenges and Issues in Early Infertility Detection

The development of Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based systems for early infertility detection presents significant opportunities for improving diagnostic accuracy and enabling timely intervention. However, despite rapid advancements in machine learning and deep learning technologies, several research challenges and practical issues hinder the effective implementation and clinical adoption of these systems. Infertility is inherently complex and influenced by a wide range of biological, environmental, and lifestyle factors, which introduces substantial variability in data and model performance. Moreover, the sensitive nature of reproductive health data adds additional layers of ethical, legal, and technical complexity. Addressing these challenges is essential for developing robust, reliable, and clinically acceptable AI-driven infertility prediction models.

Table 10: Data Types in Infertility Prediction

Data Type	Examples
Clinical	Age, BMI, Menstrual History, Medical Records
Hormonal	FSH, LH, AMH, Estrogen, Insulin, Glucose
Imaging	Ultrasound, MRI
Genetic	DNA Markers, Gene Mutations
Lifestyle	Diet, Smoking, Stress, Physical Activity

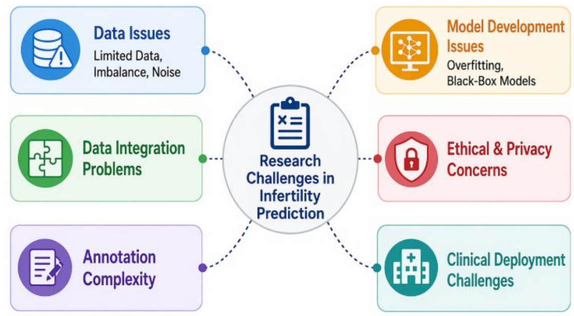

Figure 11: Challenges in AI-Based Infertility Prediction

5.1 Minimal Data Availability and Data Quality Problems

The unavailability of high-quality medical data is one of the most crucial issues in infertility prediction studies. In contrast to other fields where big data sets can be easily obtained, data on infertility may be limited, disjointed, and located in various medical facilities. Such data is collected through complicated processes such as clinical tests, hormonal tests, imaging tests and genetic tests which are time consuming and costly.

Besides the low volume, data quality problems like missing values, noise, inconsistent and errors also complicate the development of the model. Unfinished records and differences in terms of data entry practices may have a major effect on the accuracy of predictive models. Moreover, longitudinal information, which is crucial in the interpretation of the temporal trend of fertility, is not always available or adequate. These constraints limit the capability of AI models to generalize to a variety of populations and diminish their overall performance.

5.2 Imbalance in Datasets and Bias.

The problem of dataset imbalance is common with medical data, including infertility datasets, which may be characterized by an uneven distribution of positive and negative cases. To illustrate, the datasets can have much more records of the fertile rather than the infertile cases, resulting in biased model training. This imbalance may lead to models that are too biased in favor of the majority group, thus diminishing their capacity to classify the minority cases; which in most cases are the most clinically important.

Discrimination within the datasets can also occur due to demographic differences, including age, ethnicity, or geographic location, which can influence the impartiality and overall applicability of AI models. Unless they are adequately dealt with, such biases may cause disparities in healthcare and may decrease the trust in AI systems. Methods like oversampling, undersampling, and synthetic data generation (e.g., SMOTE) are typical applications of imbalance mitigation, but they can also present new complexities and overfitting.

5.3 Uniformity of Data and Integration Problems.

The diagnosis of infertility is based on the heterogeneous data, such as structured clinical data, unstructured imaging data, hormonal time-series data, genetic data, and lifestyle factors. Data types are represented in their respective formats, scales and representations and so it is a complicated task to integrate them. As an example, clinical data can be numerical or discrete, unstructured and high-dimensional imaging data, and highly complex genetic sequences.

These varied data sources have to be combined into a coherent structure using advanced data fusion methodologies and standardized data representation approaches. These issues are further complicated by the inability of healthcare systems to interact with each other and differences in data collection standards. Multimodal data integration is a dynamic research field and is essential to enhancing the performance of AI-based infertility prediction models.

5.4 Annotation Complexity and Labeling Issues.

The correct labeling of medical information is necessary to the supervised learning models, but annotation is especially tricky in infertility datasets. The process of labelling infertility is usually highly reliant on the domain expertise of the experts to interpret clinical findings, imaging findings, and laboratory findings, and therefore infertility diagnosis is often a complex process. Not only is this time consuming but also subjective and subject to inter-observer variation.

As an illustration, the meaning of ultrasound imaging or hormonal profiles might differ across clinicians and hence labeling. Also, some conditions might lack definite diagnostic limits, which makes the labelling process even more complex. The absence of standardized annotation instructions restricts access to high quality labeled data and influences the accuracy and reliability of models [18].

5.5. Model Interpretability and Explainability.

Interpretability of the model is an essential feature in healthcare systems, where decisions directly relate to patient outcomes. Although state-of-the-art AI models, and in particular deep learning architectures, may be highly predictive, they are often viewed as black boxes, offering little information on how predictions are generated. This is an important obstacle to clinical adoption because in order to trust and justify AI-driven decisions, health professionals need to have clear explanations [16].

Explainable AI (XAI) methods seek to solve this problem by offering interpretable results, including features importance scores, rules of decision, and visual explanations. SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations) and LIME (Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations) are popular approaches towards improving model transparency. Not only will better interpretability increase the trust of the clinician, but also help in understanding the underlying factors causing infertility.

5.6 Ethical, Privacy, and Security Issues.

Infertility prediction with the help of AI raises significant ethical and privacy issues because reproductive health information is sensitive. In medical data sets, there can be sensitive and personal information (genetic information included) that is highly confidential and must be kept under high levels of security. Hacking or data leaks may have severe repercussions on users [38].

Also, such ethical concerns as bias, fairness, and informed consent should be taken into consideration. Biased models may lead to discriminatory results, with some groups being disproportionately affected due to the biased datasets on which they are trained. It is thus important to ensure fairness and equity in healthcare AI systems. Data governance policies and regulatory frameworks are important in the protection of patient data and enhancing ethical AI

5.7 Clinical Change and Real World Application.

The other critical barrier is the issue of translating AI models out of research and into clinical practice. Numerous of these models yield promising outcomes in controlled experimental settings yet do not repeat the outcomes in real-life settings because of the difference in data, patient groups, and clinical processes.

Clinical validation involves a lot of testing, regulatory acceptance and cooperation with medical practitioners. The implementation of AI systems in the current healthcare infrastructure is also associated with technical and operational difficulties. To be successfully deployed, it is necessary to ensure usability, reliability and scalability. Models have to be continuously monitored and updated to ensure their usefulness in the long run.

Table 12: Key Research Challenges in Infertility Prediction

Challenge Category	Description
Data Availability	Limited and fragmented datasets
Data Imbalance	Unequal distribution of classes
Data Heterogeneity	Multiple data types and formats
Annotation Issues	Subjective and complex labeling
Interpretability	Lack of transparency in AI models
Ethical Concerns	Privacy, bias, and fairness issues
Clinical Validation	Difficulty in real-world deployment

6. Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) and Clinical Interpretability in Infertility Prediction

Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) has become an essential aspect of contemporary healthcare analytics, especially within high-stakes areas like infertility prediction, where clinical decisions directly impact patient treatment approaches, mental health, and long-term reproductive success. Despite the high predictive accuracy of advanced machine learning and deep learning models, a large portion of these models are black-box models, i.e. the decision-making processes within the model cannot be easily understood by clinicians. This form of non-transparency has a severe impact on clinical trust, adoption and acceptance by the regulatory authorities. Thus, XAI seeks to overcome the obstacles between human interpretability of complex AI models and the model predictions by offering meaningful, human understandable explanations of model predictions.

Explainability is crucial in infertility prediction systems, as reproductive health is affected by various interacting factors, including hormonal imbalance, ovarian reserve, metabolic conditions, and structural abnormalities. Clinicians need both accurate predictions and a clear justification of the predictions to justify AI outputs with existing medical knowledge. The use of XAI techniques allows the detection of the most important contributing features, the identification of important biomarkers, and the visualization of decision pathways, which makes AI systems more trustworthy and acceptable to clinicians. The importance of explainability in reproductive medicine is detailed in section

6.1. Importance of Explainability in Reproductive Medicine

Transparency and interpretability are crucial to the adoption of AI in reproductive medicine. The diagnosis of infertility is frequently emotionally charged, which includes fertility treatment planning, assisted reproduction methods, and long-term hormonal therapy. When this happens, clinicians should know why a model predicts a patient to be high-risk or low-risk of infertility. The absence of interpretability will make AI systems appear untrustworthy or unsafe.

Elucidation is also instrumental in lessening the number of diagnostic errors and promoting accountability in clinical settings. It enables medical workers to check the correctness of AI predictions with established medical concepts, like high LH/FSH ratio in Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) or low levels of Anti-Mullerian Hormone (AMH) representing low ovarian reserve. In such a way, XAI enhances clinician confidence and promotes evidence-based decision making.

6.2 The most important explainable AI techniques.

To interpret machine learning and deep learning models in healthcare applications, a number of XAI methods have been created:

(a) SHAP (Shapley Additive Explanations).

SHAP is a game-theoretic method, which gives every feature the importance score of a given prediction. SHAP values are used in infertility prediction to determine the extent to which each factor (e.g., AMH, FSH, BMI, or age) affects the ultimate prediction. This allows the clinicians to gain a clear insight into which biological markers are causing infertility risk.

(b) LIME (Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations).

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LIME describes individual predictions by trying to fit complex models to simple understandable models locally around a particular instance. Clinically, it is possible to discuss the reasons behind a given patient falling under a high-risk category of infertility using LIME, which can present the most significant characteristics of the case.

(c) Attention Mechanisms

Attention-based models, which are widely applied in deep learning models, including RNNs and Transformers, use weights to different input features or time steps. Attention mechanisms can be used in fertility prediction to determine the most relevant hormonal measurements or time periods to use in prediction.

Saliency maps (used in imaging data) are applied as follows:<|human|>

(d) Saliency Maps (Imaging Data)

Saliency maps are common in CNN-based medical imaging models in order to emphasise salient areas in ultrasound or MRI images. When it comes to infertility diagnosis, the maps can detect ovarian follicles, cystic structures or abnormalities of the uterus that the model makes the greatest decision.

6.3 Explainability in Deep Learning and Machine Learning Models.

Traditional machine learning models, like Decision Trees and Random Forests, are relatively easy to interpret because of their organized decision paths and their prioritization of feature importance. These models enable clinicians to follow the effects of certain features on predictions. But with complexity in the model, interpretability is reduced.

Deep learning systems like CNNs and LSTMs have multiple layers of decision-making, further complicating interpretation. XAI methods are hence important to obtain meaningful insights of these models. Indicatively, CNN-based infertility prediction systems can operate on saliency maps to visually identify ovarian abnormalities in ultrasound images, whereas LSTM models can detect important hormonal changes over time.

6.4 Explainable AI Clinical Benefits.

The use of XAI in infertility prediction systems has a number of clinical advantages:

- Improves the levels of trust and transparency between AI systems and clinicians.
- Enables clinical verification of model predictions.
- Enhances diagnostic ability in complicated cases.
- Allows the interpretation of hormonal and imaging data at feature-level.
- Helps in individualized treatment planning.
- Enables clinical adoption and regulatory approval.
- XAI can convert AI into a decision-support system that is responsive to clinical reasoning and allows interpretable outputs, allowing AI to be used as more than a purely predictive instrument.

6.5 Infertility Prediction Explainable AI Challenges.

Although XAI has its benefits, it has a number of challenges when used in reproductive healthcare. A key drawback is the trade-off between model accuracy and interpretability, whereby highly accurate deep learning models are not always transparent. Moreover, various XAI approaches can give conflicting accounts of a single prediction, resulting in ambiguity during interpretation. The other challenge is the need to incorporate explainability in multimodal models that integrate imaging, clinical and genetic data. It is an open research problem to ensure the consistency of interpretability of various types of data. Moreover, explainability approaches have the potential to add computational overhead that may raise processing time and inhibit clinical use in real-time.

6.6 Future Prospects of Explainable AI.

It is anticipated that future studies in XAI in infertility prediction will aim to create coherent models that can achieve high predictive accuracy and a natural ability to be interpreted. New methods like intrinsically interpretable neural networks, federated explainable learning, and clinically guided attention models will probably have a major role.

Moreover, the incorporation of domain knowledge in the reproductive medicine into AI models can further improve interpretability and clinical relevance. Explainability standardized metrics of evaluation are also needed so that across different systems there is consistency and reliability. In the end, the idea is to create AI systems that can predict infertility with high accuracy and give a reason why they do this in a manner that can be clinically relevant and relyable.

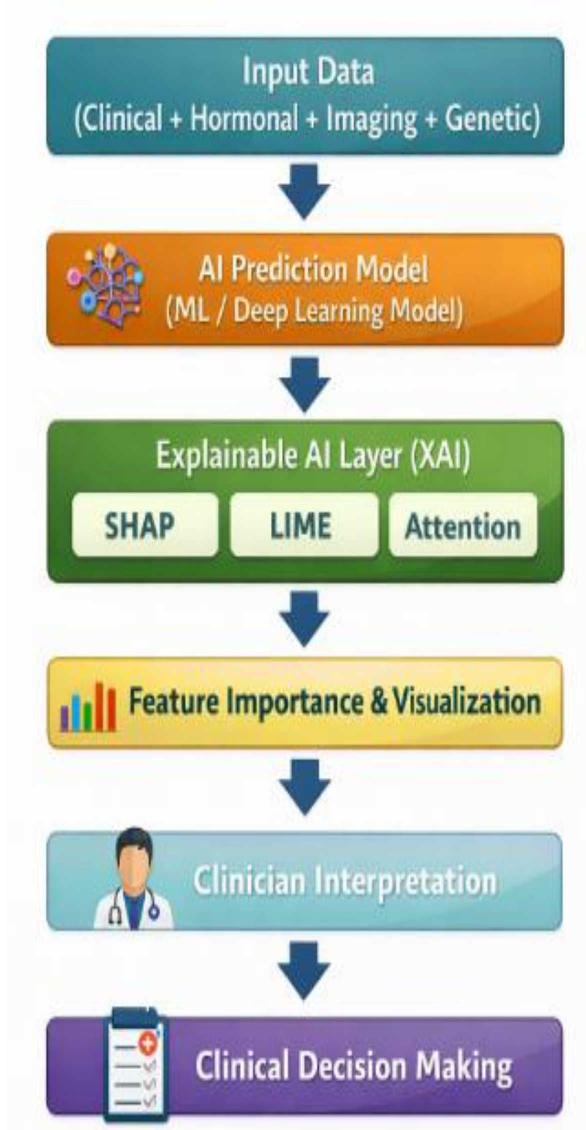

Figure 6: Explainable AI Framework in Infertility Prediction

Table 13: XAI Techniques in Infertility Prediction

XAI Technique	Purpose	Application in Infertility
SHAP	Feature contribution analysis	Hormonal biomarker importance
LIME	Local explanation of predictions	Patient-specific infertility risk
Attention Mechanism	Feature weighting	Hormonal time-series analysis
Saliency Maps	Image interpretation	Ultrasound/MRI ovarian analysis

7. Privacy, Legal, and Ethical

The combination of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and Deep Learning (DL) in infertility predictive systems has brought revolutionary functionalities in reproductive healthcare. Nevertheless, along with these improvements, there are a number of ethical, legal and privacy-related issues, as medical data is sensitive and clinical decision-making is of paramount influence. As infertility forecasting is a subject of individual reproductive history, hormonal levels, genetic data, and lifestyle data, it is essential to maintain ethical and safe management of such data. This section explains the key issues associated with privacy protection, algorithmic bias, transparency, accountability, and regulatory compliance of AI-based infertility prediction systems.

7.1 Privacy and Data Protection Issues.

One of the most problematic concerns in infertility prediction systems is privacy since the systems utilize very sensitive and confidential patient data. Clinical records, hormonal tests, ultrasound, genetic, and habitual lifestyle are common in medical datasets. Illegal access or inappropriate use of this data may have severe repercussions, such as discrimination, stigma, and loss of patient trust.

To overcome these problems, tight data protection measures should be adopted across the AI pipeline, such as data collection, storage, processing, and sharing. Data anonymization, pseudonymization and encryption are common techniques used to safeguard patient identity. Access control systems and cloud-based healthcare systems are designed to guarantee the entry of authorized personnel to the sensitive information.

7.2 Data Security and Confidentiality

In addition to privacy, data security is a critical aspect of guaranteeing the integrity and confidentiality of infertility prediction systems. Healthcare data can easily be attacked by hackers and suffer data breaches as well as be manipulated by unauthorized individuals. Any form of weakening in the data integrity may result in erroneous predictions, and even detrimental clinical choices.

The healthcare systems need to adopt multi-layered security models such as firewalls, intrusion detection systems, role based access control and secure authentication measures to minimize these risks. They should have regular audits and compliance checks to make sure that data security standards are upheld. Also, safe communication systems like HTTPS and encrypted transfer networks will aid in safeguarding data when it is being transferred between systems.

7.3 Bias and Fairness in AI Models.

One of the biggest ethical issues with AI-based systems of infertility prediction is algorithmic bias. Bias may be present when the training data is unbalanced or fails to accurately represent diverse populations in terms of gender, age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or geographic location. Consequently, some groups might be unfairly and inaccurately predicted by models.

To illustrate, when a dataset has a higher number of samples representing a certain demographic group, then the model might work well with that group and poorly with other demographics. This may give rise to unequal healthcare results and strengthen the existing medical treatment disparities. To solve this, machine learning methods are employed that are aware of fairness, including data re-sampling, re-weighting, and bias correction algorithms. Also, the evaluation metrics should not just be measured in terms of accuracy, but also in terms of fairness to guarantee equal performance of the various groups of people. It is necessary to monitor the model behavior continuously to identify and minimize bias with time.

7.4 Transparency and Explainability

Most deep learning-based infertility predictor systems are black-box systems since their decision making is not readily understandable. In medical use, the absence of transparency may decrease clinician and patient trust, and it may be challenging to trust AI-based forecasts.

In order to eliminate this weakness, Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) methods are commonly used. SHAPley Additive Explanations (SHAP), Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations (LIME), and the analysis of feature importance may be used to learn more about the ways in which various variables influence model predictions. This is of particular importance in terms of enhancing interpretability in infertility diagnosis wherein the decisions taken in terms of treatments should be justified and proven by clinical evidence. Open AI systems can lead to healthcare professionals to verify their predictions and make sure that they are in line with medical knowledge.

7.5 Legal and Regulatory Frameworks.

AI-based systems of predicting infertility should adhere to the national and international healthcare laws to be used safely and ethically. Laws regulate the way in which patient information is gathered, stored, processed, and transferred. Among the most important laws are data protection laws like the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in Europe and other laws that protect the privacy of healthcare in other countries. These laws focus on the consent of patients, data minimization, and data access and deletion rights. Furthermore, AI systems in clinical settings could be considered medical devices and require high levels of validation and certification prior to implementation. The regulatory authorities demand evidence of model safety, reliability and clinical effectiveness. Another important factor is legal responsibility that should be well established between healthcare professionals, AI developers, and employers in case of inaccurate predictions or failures of the system.

7.6 Clinical Decision-Making: Ethical Responsibility.

Infertility prediction AI systems are aimed at helping clinicians and not to replace them. Thus, it is imperative to have human supervision at every step of diagnosis and treatment plans. It will be the task of physicians to make sense of AI output and combine it with clinical knowledge. Ethical risks associated with over-reliance on automated systems may be lack of clinical judgment and even misdiagnosis. Hence, AI is not to be a decision-maker but a decision-support system. It is also essential to ethically roll out AI to make sure that the recommendations are deployed in a responsible manner and patients are not deprived of proper treatment on the basis of algorithmic predictions only.

8. Clinical Translation and Real-World Implementation

Clinical translation of Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based infertility prediction systems can be defined as the methodical procedure to transform the computational and experimental models that are created in research contexts into dependable, secure, and applicable tools in actual healthcare contexts. Even though AI systems like machine learning and deep learning models have shown their high predictive accuracy in laboratory settings, there are several factors to consider when deploying such systems in clinical practice, including integration with hospital infrastructure, regulatory oversight, clinician adoption, and patient safety. Clinical translation in the reproductive healthcare, especially in the diagnosis and treatment planning of infertility, will guarantee that AI systems are no longer theoretical systems but rather practical decision-support technology, which will improve the efficiency of diagnostic processes and therapeutic outcomes. The final aim is to close the divide between the development of algorithms and patient-centered healthcare provision.

In practice, AI systems are not used in a vacuum in a setting, but they exist as a part of a complex ecosystem of hospitals. These systems are connected with Hospital Information Systems (HIS), Electronic Health Records (EHR), laboratory databases, and radiology systems to constantly read and analyze patient information. This encompasses hormonal test reports, ultrasound imaging findings, genetic screening data and longitudinal clinical histories. Upon integration, AI models manipulate this heterogeneous data and provide predictive outputs based on fertility status, ovulatory functionality, ovarian reserve well-being, and possible assisted reproductive results. Clinicians interpret these outputs to produce final decisions, which are not used directly but through the combination of algorithmic understanding with medical knowledge, history of the patient, and clinical judgment. This cooperative communication between AI systems and the medical field makes sure that predictions are driven by data and have clinical significance.

Clinical translation workflow is a systematic process where raw medical data is converted into usable clinical actions. In the first stage, the AI model serves as the computational heart of the system, whereby it processes multimodal data such as clinical records, hormonal profiles, ultrasound images, genetic markers and lifestyle-related information. These models use trained machine learning or deep learning models to find patterns, correlations, and risk factors related to infertility conditions. The second step involves the hospital system as an intermediate platform that guarantees a safe data communication between AI models and clinical applications. This system will be in charge of managing patient records, data privacy, and interoperability of predictive outputs with the current healthcare processes. The last phase is the work of a clinician, who puts AI-generated predictions into perspective concerning the specifics of a patient. On the basis of these findings, physicians make informed decisions when it comes to diagnosis, planning of treatment and fertility counselling. In the end, the patient is the beneficiary of a higher diagnostic precision, the early diagnosis of reproductive disease, and custom treatment plans that are based on a unique medical history

8.1 Integration into Clinical Workflows

The efficient implementation of AI systems in infertility prediction would entail smooth incorporation in the current clinical practice without interfering with the prevailing medical practices. In real life healthcare, physicians are dependent on various systems that include laboratory information systems, radiologic systems, and fertility clinic management software. Hence AI tools should be structured in a manner that they can integrate with these systems easily such that access to real-time data is available with minimal complexity in their operation. Presenting the results produced by AI in a clear, structured and interpretable way requires user-friendly dashboards. The interfaces normally show fertility risk scores, classification outcomes and some of the factors that lead to the same including hormonal levels or imaging features. Moreover, AI systems are to facilitate the automation of routine and repetitive procedures like initial screening of infertility risk, ovulatory disorders classification, and detection of abnormal hormonal patterns. This will decrease the volume of work that clinicians have to do and enable them to concentrate on decision making and care of patients that is complex. Nevertheless, even with such automation, the use of AI systems should never be in the capacity of making decisions independently, but as an aiding tool. Diagnosis and treatment planning should be left in the hands of healthcare professionals to promote the safety, accountability, and ethical standards.

8.2 Real-Time Decision Support Systems

Instant clinical insights Infertility prediction systems based on modern AI are increasingly being developed as real-time decision support systems that can deliver instant clinical insights. Such systems constantly process the incoming patient data in hospital databases and wearable health monitors, allowing reproductive health to be dynamically analyzed. To illustrate, the immediate assessment of the outcomes of hormonal tests can be used to detect the early symptoms of ovulatory disorders, and the results of ultrasound imaging can be analyzed immediately to identify ovarian abnormalities or problems with follicular development. Real-time decision support systems are especially important in the context of assisted reproductive technologies (ART). Such procedures like in vitro fertilization (IVF) demand a high degree of accurate timing and close tracking of ovarian stimulation, egg retrieval, fertilization, and transfer of embryos. The AI systems can support clinicians by estimating the best stimulation regimens, the most appropriate implantation periods of the embryo, and the viability of embryos due to continuous monitoring of data. This real-time feature greatly increases the efficiency of the treatment process, lessens delays caused by decision-making, and raises the chances of successful pregnancy.

8.3 Clinical Validation and Adoption Challenges

The clinical implementation of AI-based infertility prediction systems has many important issues despite promising experimental results. The absence of large-scale and multi-centered clinical validation studies is one of the main issues. Existing models are trained and tested on small datasets diagnosed in one institution, which limits their ability to apply to a variety of populations, ethnic groups, and healthcare settings. Consequently, the model performance can be quite different when it is implemented in the clinical practice. Clinician trust and acceptance of AI systems is also another significant challenge. Numerous deep learning models are black-box systems, i.e. the decision-making mechanisms within them can hardly be understood. This non-transparency renders the generation of predictions in an obscure way, which may decrease the trust toward AI-aided decision-making. Also, variations in hospital infrastructure, quality of data, and electronic health record systems are a hindrance to a seamless integration. The process of regulatory approvals also entails a lot of validation to confirm that the AI systems are safe, reliable and clinically effective before they are allowed to be used in medical practice.

8.4 Role of Explainable AI in Clinical Adoption

Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) is an important solution to the constraints of interpretability in clinical AI systems. XAI techniques in infertility prediction can be used to fill in the knowledge gap between complex computational models and human understanding by explaining the mechanism behind the derivation of the prediction clearly. SHAP (Shapley Additive Explanations) and LIME (Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations) are methods that determine the most influential features used to make a particular prediction, like hormone levels, age, or imaging features. Explainable AI increases trust in clinicians and enables easier adoption of AI systems into clinical processes by making it more transparent. It enables physicians to determine a correspondence between predictions and medical knowledge and clinical expectations. Moreover, XAI methods will assist in detecting possible biases or issues in model behavior, making its application in the reproductive healthcare environment safer and more trustworthy. This interpretability is especially relevant in the context of infertility treatment where clinical decisions come with a high level of emotional, physical, and financial consequences to patients.

8.5 Patient-Centric Implementation

The final goal of the AI-based infertility prediction systems is to enhance patient outcomes by offering personalized and patient-centered care. In practical clinical applications, AI-generated insights may aid in the diagnosis of infertility cases early enough to have medical attention before the health of the reproductive system is compromised. These systems may also help create personalized treatment plans, according to the hormonal profile of a patient, his/her genetic history, lifestyle, and medical history. Besides clinical decision support, AI systems may be used in patient counseling and education. Through the delivery of clear and data-oriented explanations to the fertility status and treatment options, such systems enable patients to have a better understanding of their reproductive health conditions. This enhances awareness, minimizes ambiguity, and aids in making informed decisions on family planning. Nonetheless, to be ethically implemented, patients must be thoroughly aware of the purpose of AI in their diagnosis and have their information treated with utmost secrecy and privacy.

9. Personalized and Precision Reproductive Medicine

Precision reproductive medicine: Personalized and precision reproductive medicine is a contemporary method of diagnosing and treating infertility, which involves customizing the medical decision-making process based on the individual biological, clinical, genetic and lifestyle factors of the individual patient. Precision medicine, in contrast to classical approaches to treatment based on a unified set of therapeutic methods, a one-size-fits-all approach, focuses on providing individual treatment that optimizes therapeutic efficacy and reduces the number of unnecessary interventions. This method is especially significant in the context of infertility, as reproductive disorders are highly heterogeneous, with factors like hormonal imbalance, ovarian reserve, age, metabolic health, and genetic predisposition differing greatly in each case. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is at the heart of this change by processing big multimodal data and providing patient-specific predictive information that assists in clinical decision-making.

AI-based personalized reproductive medicine combines data on various levels, such as hormonal (FSH, LH, AMH, estrogen, progesterone, prolactin), clinical history, ultrasound imaging, genetic data, and lifestyle (diet, stress, body mass index). This structured data is fed through machine learning models to discover fertility risk patterns and make predictions about its outcomes, including ovulatory function, ovarian response, and chances of conception. Deep learning models also increase personalization by learning complex and unstructured data, including medical images and time-varying hormonal changes, to make more accurate and context-sensitive predictions. Integrating these functions, AI systems can create personalized fertility profiles to assist clinicians in learning more about the unique reproductive issues of each individual patient. In vitro fertilization (IVF) optimization is one of the most important uses of personalized reproductive medicine. The success of IVF is determined by various phases, which include ovarian stimulation, oocyte retrieval, fertilization, embryo development and embryo transfer. The use of AI models will help to streamline all these processes by predicting ovarian response to stimulation medications, prescribing customized dosage regimens, and selecting the most viable embryos to transfer. Machine learning models (Random Forest and Gradient Boosting) can be used to analyze previous treatment outcomes to recommend the most effective stimulation regimen, and deep learning models (Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)) can be used to analyze embryo morphology and developmental patterns to enhance the accuracy of selection. This individualistic practice will enhance the chances of successful implantation and decreases the cases of unsuccessful IVF procedures. Moreover, risk stratification and early intervention measures are made possible by precision reproductive medicine. Depending on the anticipated loss of ovarian reserve, ovulatory, or endocrine dysfunction, patients may be categorized into various risk groups in fertility. Patients who are at high risk may be encouraged to conceive by use of early fertility preservation methods like oocyte freezing or hormonal therapy. The AIs used to predict also facilitate dynamic monitoring, where patient data is constantly updated to make predictions more accurate and modify treatment plans on the fly. This dynamic ability in learning will keep the treatment plans in line with the changing physiological state of the patient.

10. Conclusion

The introduction of Artificial Intelligence into infertility prediction is a revolutionary step in reproductive health care. With the help of machine learning and deep learning methods, the current systems can be used to learn the patterns in complex, high-dimensional, and multimodal data, which cannot be detected by using the conventional methods of diagnosis. These features greatly improve the level of early detection, accuracy in diagnostics and customized treatment plans of infertility. This paper shows that machine learning models are interpretable and efficient in structured data, whereas deep learning models are efficient in unstructured data (medical images, temporal hormonal patterns). The most promising solution to a multifactorial nature of infertility is hybrid and multimodal approach that will combine the strengths of both paradigms. Moreover, the integration of Explainable AI methods can respond to the urgent necessity of transparency and clinical trust, which will allow it to be used more broadly in real clinical environments. Nevertheless, a number of challenges remain such as inadequate data accessibility, imbalance of datasets, absence of homogenized clinical datasets and ethical issues pertaining to privacy, biases, and compliance with regulations. The solution to these drawbacks is to involve clinicians, data scientists, and policymakers in joint efforts, and the creation of effective validation schemes and uniform data standards. Finally, AI must become a supportive tool which will complement clinical expertise to enable ethical, transparent, and patient-centric healthcare services.

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