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HEALTHCARE READMISSION PREDICTION - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Objective: Predict 30-day hospital readmissions for diabetes patients

Dataset: Diabetes 130-US Hospitals (1999-2008)

Total Records: 101,766

Analysis Period: Complete end-to-end analytics pipeline

KEY FINDINGS

1. READMISSION STATISTICS

- Overall 30-day readmission rate: 11.16%
- Total readmissions in dataset: 11,357
- Patient population: Primarily elderly (median age 65 years)

2. RISK FACTORS IDENTIFIED

- Prior inpatient admissions: Strong predictor of readmission
- Emergency department utilization: Higher visits correlate with readmission
- Diagnosis category: Circulatory and respiratory conditions show elevated risk
- Age: Elderly patients (70+) have higher readmission rates

3. MODEL PERFORMANCE

- Best Model: Random Forest
- Test Accuracy: 75.54%
- Precision: 19.49%
- Recall: 38.09%
- F1 Score: 25.79%
- ROC AUC: 0.6529

CONFUSION MATRIX ANALYSIS

True Negatives: 14,510 - Correct low-risk predictions

False Positives: 3,573 - Unnecessary interventions

False Negatives: 1,406 - Missed readmissions (critical)

True Positives: 865 - Successful high-risk identification

Model captures 38.1% of actual readmissions

BUSINESS IMPACT (HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIO)

Assumptions:

- Average readmission cost: \$15,000
- Intervention cost per patient: \$1,000
- Intervention effectiveness: 70%

Projected Outcomes:

- Patients requiring intervention: 4,438
- Estimated readmissions prevented: 606
- Total intervention cost: \$4,438,000
- Potential cost savings: \$9,082,500
- Net benefit: \$4,644,500

PATIENT RISK STRATIFICATION

Low Risk: 3070 patients (4.9% readmission rate)

Medium Risk: 12846 patients (9.8% readmission rate)

High Risk: 4173 patients (18.1% readmission rate)

Very High Risk: 265 patients (41.5% readmission rate)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. IMMEDIATE ACTIONS
 - Implement risk scoring at discharge for all diabetes patients
 - Target intensive case management for Very High Risk patients
 - Enhance discharge planning protocols
2. RESOURCE ALLOCATION
 - Prioritize follow-up appointments for High/Very High Risk patients
 - Allocate transitional care resources based on risk scores
 - Consider home health services for highest-risk patients
3. CLINICAL INTERVENTIONS
 - Medication reconciliation at discharge
 - Patient education on diabetes self-management
 - Early post-discharge phone calls for high-risk patients
4. MODEL DEPLOYMENT
 - Integrate model into electronic health record (EHR) system
 - Provide real-time risk scores to care teams
 - Monitor model performance with ongoing validation
5. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
 - Collect feedback from care coordinators
 - Retrain model quarterly with new data
 - A/B test intervention strategies

LIMITATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- Model trained on historical data (1999-2008); may need updating
- Class imbalance affects prediction thresholds
- External validation needed before clinical deployment
- Socioeconomic factors not included in current model
- Missing data in weight and specialty fields limits some analyses

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Programming Language: Python 3.x
- Key Libraries: pandas, scikit-learn, matplotlib, seaborn
- Model Type: Random Forest
- Features Used: 18 clinical and demographic variables
- Training Data: 81,412 records
- Test Data: 20,354 records
- Cross-validation: Stratified train-test split (80/20)

NEXT STEPS

1. Present findings to clinical leadership
2. Obtain approval for pilot implementation
3. Integrate model with EHR system
4. Train care coordinators on risk scores
5. Establish monitoring and evaluation framework
6. Plan for model updates and maintenance

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END OF EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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