

# ML Approaches to Paediatric Febrile Illness

## Annex C - Data Preprocessing and Outcome Construction Protocol

### Outcome Classification Protocol

#### Spot Sepsis Statistical Analysis Plan Outcome Definitions

$$\begin{aligned}
 \boxed{\text{Category I (Severe)}} \quad I_i &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } (\text{Days to Death} \leq 2) \vee (\text{Days to Organ Support} \leq 2) \\ & \vee (\text{Discharged Home to Die} \leq 2), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \\
 \boxed{\text{Category II (Probable Severe)}} \quad II_i &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \left[ (\text{Days to Death}_i > 2 \wedge \text{Days to Death}_i \leq 28) \vee (\text{Length of Stay}_i > 2) \right] \wedge I_i = 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \\
 \boxed{\text{Category III (Probable Non-Severe)}} \quad III_i &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \left[ (\text{Admitted}_i = 1 \wedge \text{Length of Stay}_i \leq 2) \wedge I_i = 0 \wedge II_i = 0 \right] \\ & \vee (\text{Admitted}_i = 0 \wedge \text{Ongoing Symptoms at Day 28}_i = 1), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

#### Four-level Outcome Classification (*new*)

$$\text{Outcome}_i^{(4)} = \begin{cases} \text{Severe (onset } < 24 \text{ h)} & \text{if child classified Severe and } \textit{days to developing severe illness} = 0, \\ \text{Severe (onset } \geq 24 \text{ h)} & \text{if child classified Severe and } \textit{days to developing severe illness} \geq 1, \\ \text{Probable Severe} & \text{if child classified Probable Severe,} \\ \text{Probable Non-Severe} & \text{if child classified Probable Non-Severe.} \end{cases}$$

### Machine Learning Grid Search

# Outcomes Across Severity Categories

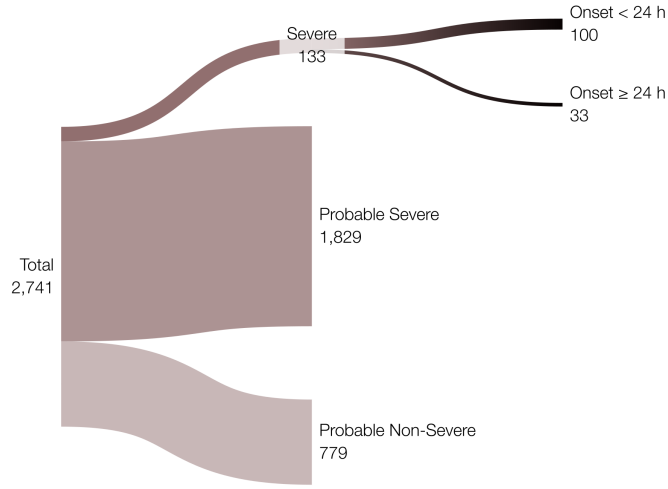


Figure 1: Flow of Outcome Severity Classifications

Model Algorithm	Engine	Tuned Hyperparameter	Grid Type & Size
Decision Tree	rpart	cost_complexity tree_depth	Regular (4×4×4), 64 combos
Random Forest	ranger	min_n mtry	Regular (8×8), 64 combos
Gradient Boosting (XGBoost)	xgboost	min_n mtry tree_depth learn_rate sample_size	Random, 64 combos
Support Vector Machine (RBF)	kernlab	cost rbf_sigma	Random, 64 combos
Penalised Regression	glmnet	penalty mixture	Regular (8×8), 64 combos

\*The performance of each parameter combination was evaluated using a 5-repeat, 5-fold stratified cross-validation on the training data.