

**TEAM #1**

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# **AI-DRIVEN PNEUMOTHORAX DETECTION**

# WHAT IS PNEUMOTHORAX

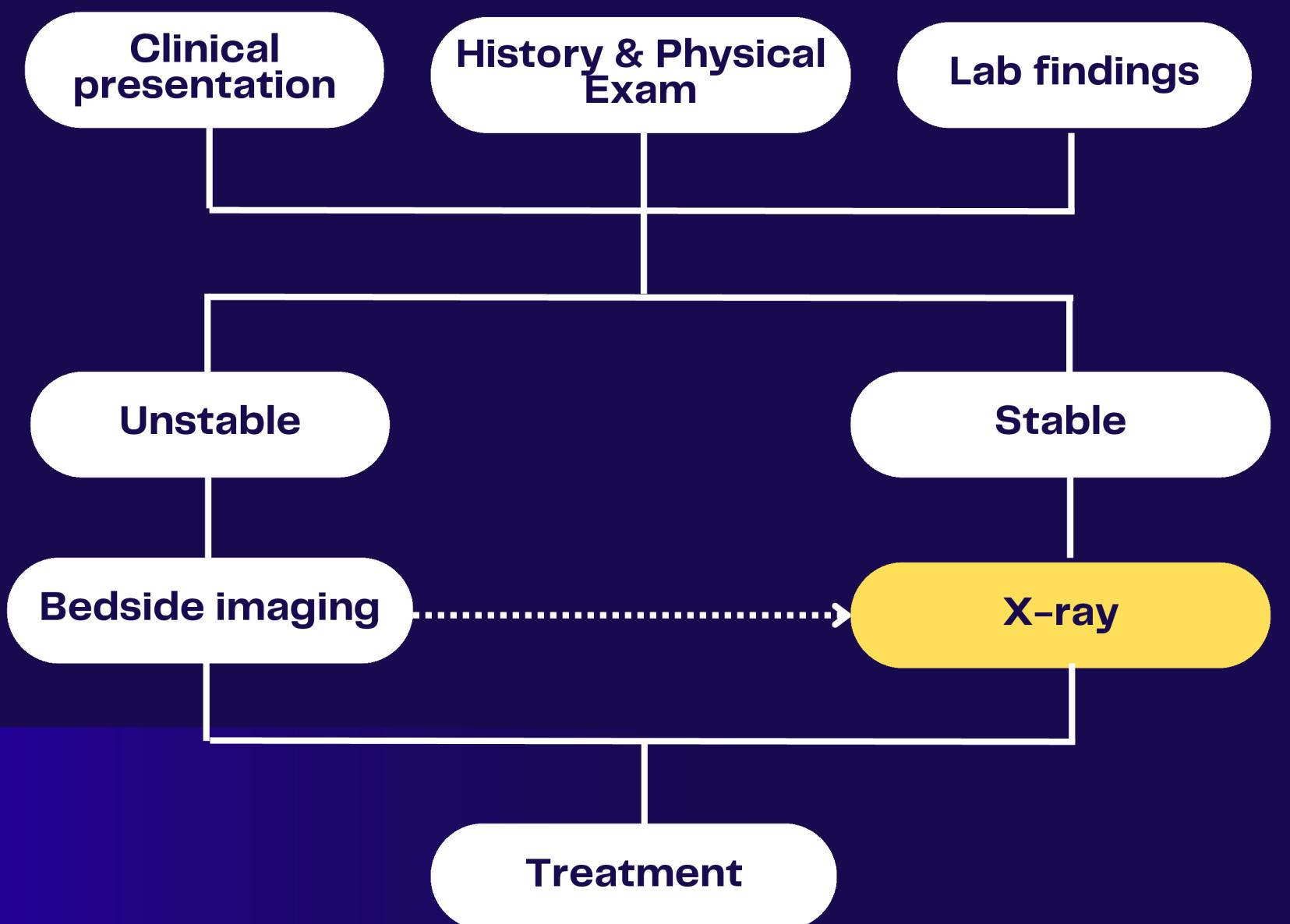
- The accumulation of air in the pleural space, leading to lung collapse, shock, and death.
- Common and critical
- If untreated, tension pneumothorax can be fatal very quickly, approaching 100% mortality if intervention is delayed [1].
- **EARLY DETECTION IS CRITICAL**



## Disease burden

17 to 24 per 100,000 in men  
1 to 6 per 100,000 in women  
annually [2]

# DIAGNOSTIC FLOWCHART



## So what's the issue?

- 72% of Canadian radiologists scored high in the emotional exhaustion domain of burnout [4]
- 59% of Canadian emergency physicians reported high emotional exhaustion [5]



# STUDY SIGNIFICANCE

## Efficient Triaging and Diagnosis

- automating image analysis → provide rapid results
- healthcare providers to make quicker decisions, particularly in emergency settings

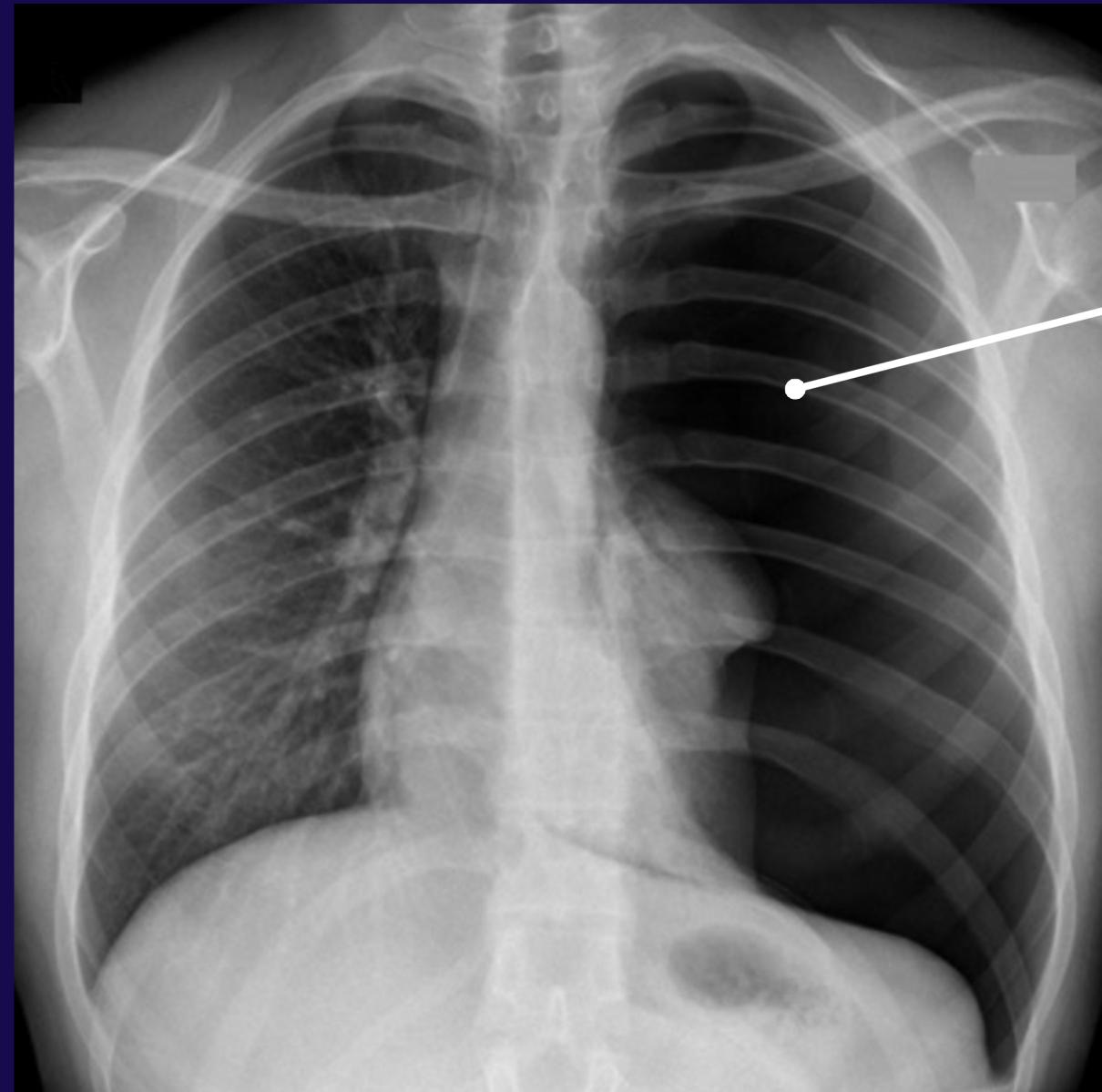
## Address Radiologist Shortages

- reliable tool for timely diagnoses, especially in rural or under-resourced areas (e.g. few radiologists)

## Scalability and Accessibility

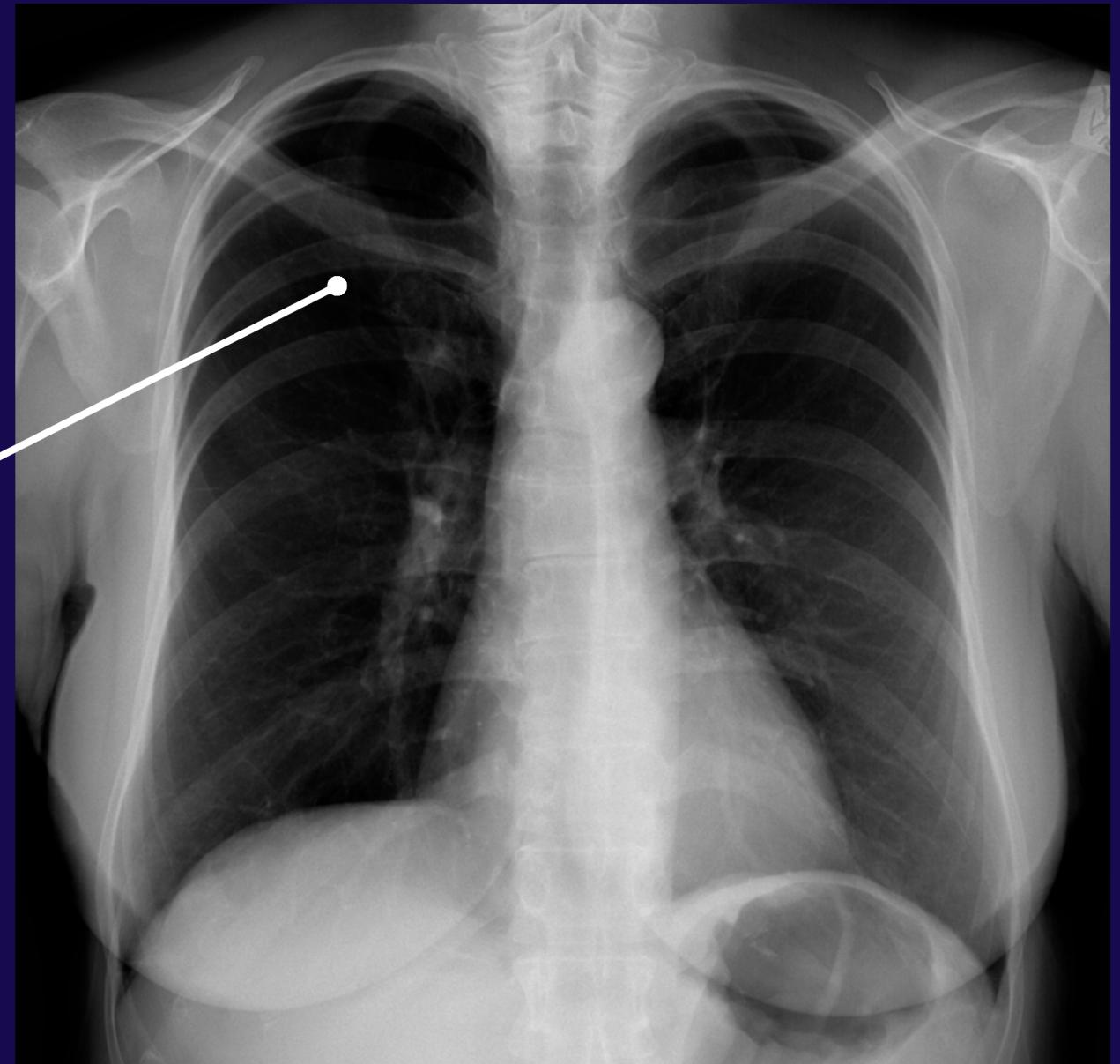
- AI systems can be widely implemented
- can improve access to high-quality diagnostics in low-resource settings globally

# WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?



Left lung is completely compressed

Lack of lung markings indicating lung collapse



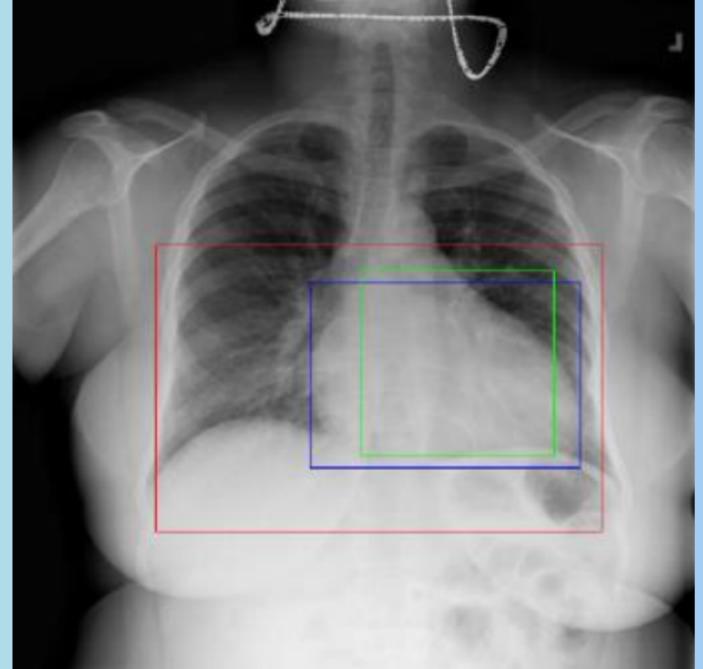
Tension Pneumothorax [3]

Patient 71: Pneumothorax

# NIH CHEST X-RAYS



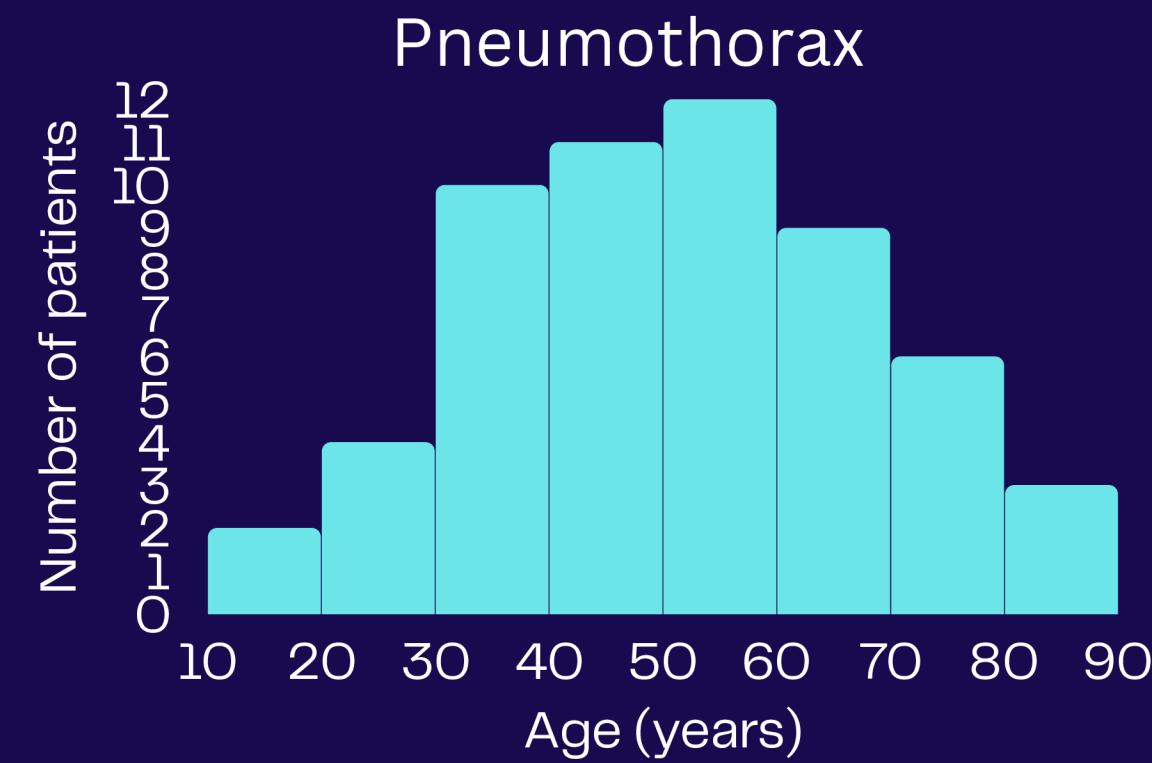
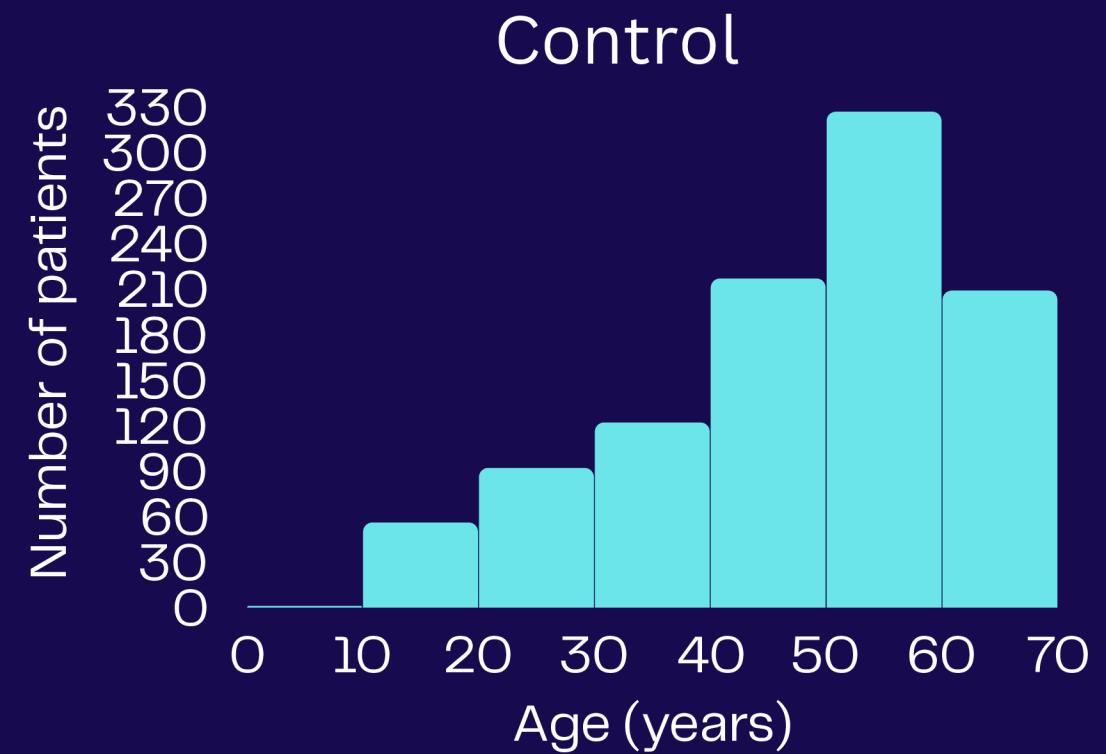
- Natural language processing was used to text-mine disease classifications from radiology reports
- Disease labels are expected to be >90% accurate and suitable for machine learning

Radiology report	Keyword	Localization result
Findings include: 1. cardiomegaly (ct ratio of 17/30). 2. otherwise normal lungs and mediastinal contours. 3. no evidence of focal bone lesion.	Cardiomegaly	 <p>Blue: ground truth Green: correct Red: false positives</p>

# STUDY DEMOGRAPHICS



Characteristic	Control n=1332	Pneumothorax n=57
Male, n (%)	703 (53%)	34 (60%)
Age (years), mean (SD), range	53.1 (16.9), 84	50.4 (17.1), 71
X-rays, n	4800	199



# DENSE NET



## What is DenseNet[6]

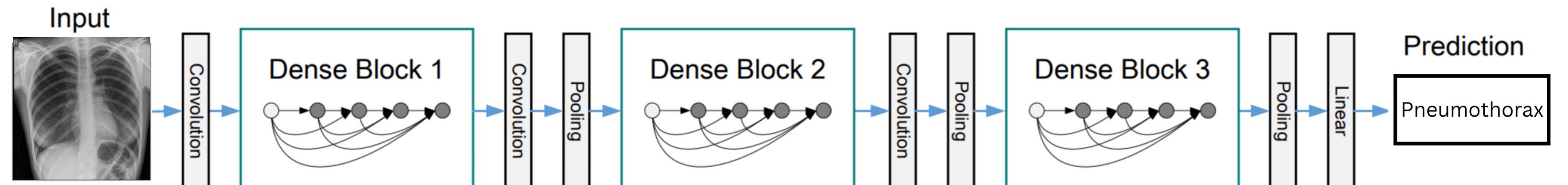
- Open-source pre-trained neural network commonly used for **medical images**
- Densely connected layers allow for efficiency in learning
- High accuracy with **few layers**

## Why a pre-trained model?

- DenseNet was trained on **1.2 million images** of **1000 different categories**
- We changed the last layer to output our two classes (Pneumothorax and Not-Pneumothorax)

## How does it work?

- **Dense Connectivity:** Each layer gets inputs from all previous layers
- **Efficiency:** Fewer parameters than traditional CNNs by avoiding redundant feature learning



# RESULTS

## Training Set

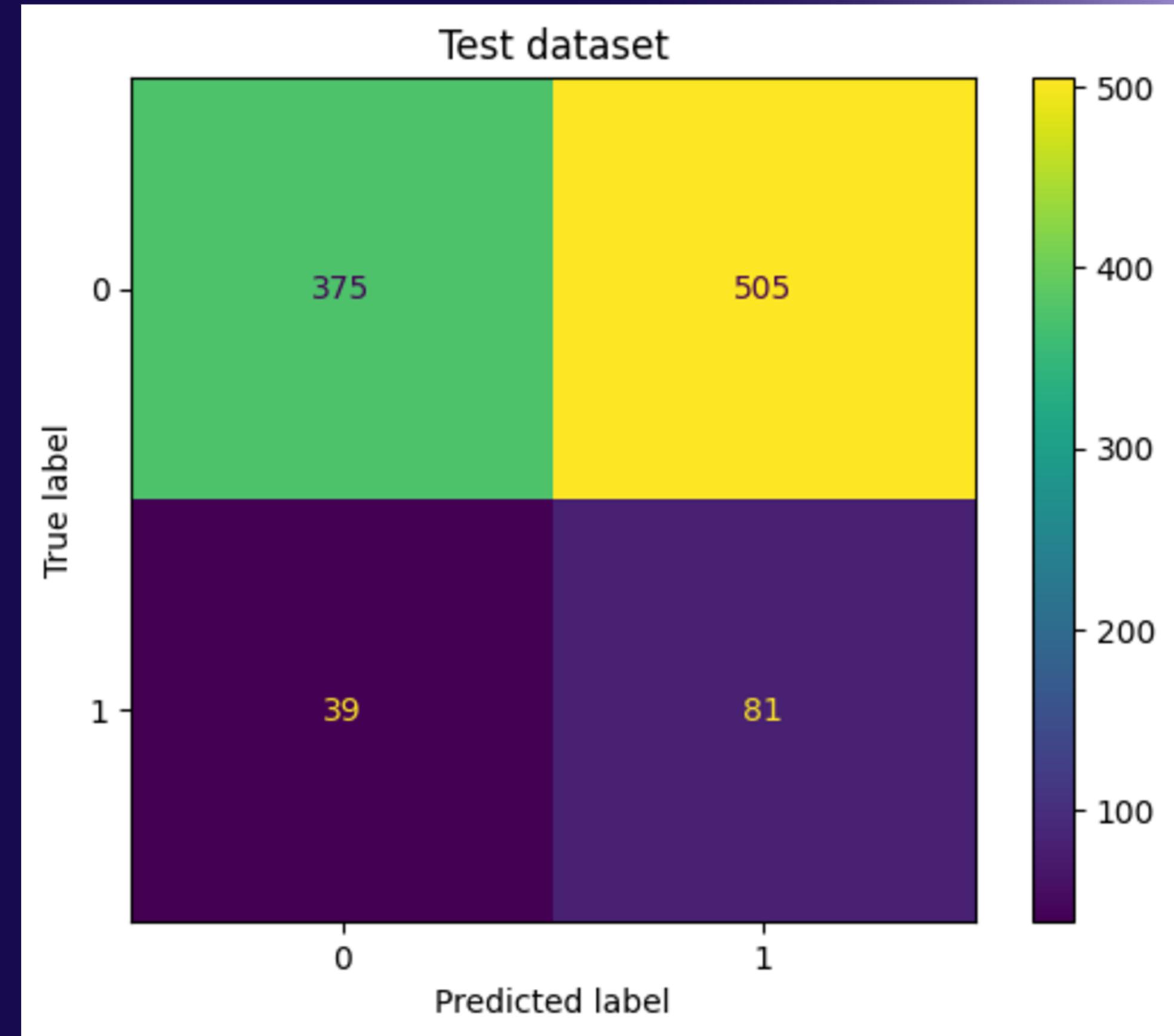
- Accuracy: 0.644
- Recall: 0.571
- F2 Score: 0.588

## Validation Set

- Accuracy: 0.646
- Recall: 0.573
- F2 Score: 0.589

## Test Set

- Accuracy: 0.456
- Recall: 0.138
- F2 Score: 0.379



# **DEMO!**

# CONCLUSION

- We attempted to demonstrate the potential of machine learning in detecting the presence of pneumothorax on chest X-rays.
- By leveraging a well-validated dataset and a longer training duration, our model shows promise for integration into clinical workflows, particularly in settings with limited radiology expertise.

## Limitations

- **NLP-extracted image labels**, although accuracy is estimated to be >90%
- DenseNet captures global features effectively, but **may struggle to detect subtle, localized abnormalities** such as small fractures or microcalcifications
- **High class imbalance** (pneumothorax cases comprise 4.8% of images in the entire dataset)

## Future directions

- Employ **image pre-processing** techniques
- Integrate pertinent **clinical parameters**, such as vital signs, age, and sex
- Conduct **subset model training** based on age and sex to evaluate potential improvements in predictive performance
- **Multi-center validation** to ensure generalizability

# REFERENCES

- [1] Hoechter, D. J., et al. (2022). Tension pneumothorax during one-lung ventilation – An underestimated complication? *Journal of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Anesthesia*, 32(3), 1398-1402.
- [2] McKnight, C. L., & Burns, B. (2023, February 15). Pneumothorax. In StatPearls [Internet]. StatPearls Publishing. Available from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK441885/>
- [3] Lloyd-Jones, G. (2019, October). Chest X-ray - Pneumothorax gallery - Tension pneumothorax. Radiology Masterclass. Available from [https://www.radiologymasterclass.co.uk/gallery/chest/pneumothorax/pneumothorax\\_b](https://www.radiologymasterclass.co.uk/gallery/chest/pneumothorax/pneumothorax_b)
- [4] Cao, D. J., Hurrell, C., & Patlas, M. N. (2022). Current status of burnout in Canadian radiology. *Canadian Association of Radiologists Journal*, 74(1), 37-43. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08465371221117282>
- [5] de Wit, K., et al. (2024). A longitudinal survey on Canadian emergency physician burnout. *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, 83(6), 576-584.
- [6] Huang, G., et al. (2017). Densely connected convolutional networks. In *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition* (pp. 4700-4708).