

Machine learning is driving massive improvement and innovation in the health sector, expediting advances in clinical operations, drug development, surgery, and data analysis.

The Covid-19 pandemic has further pushed the healthcare sector to actively adopt new technology.

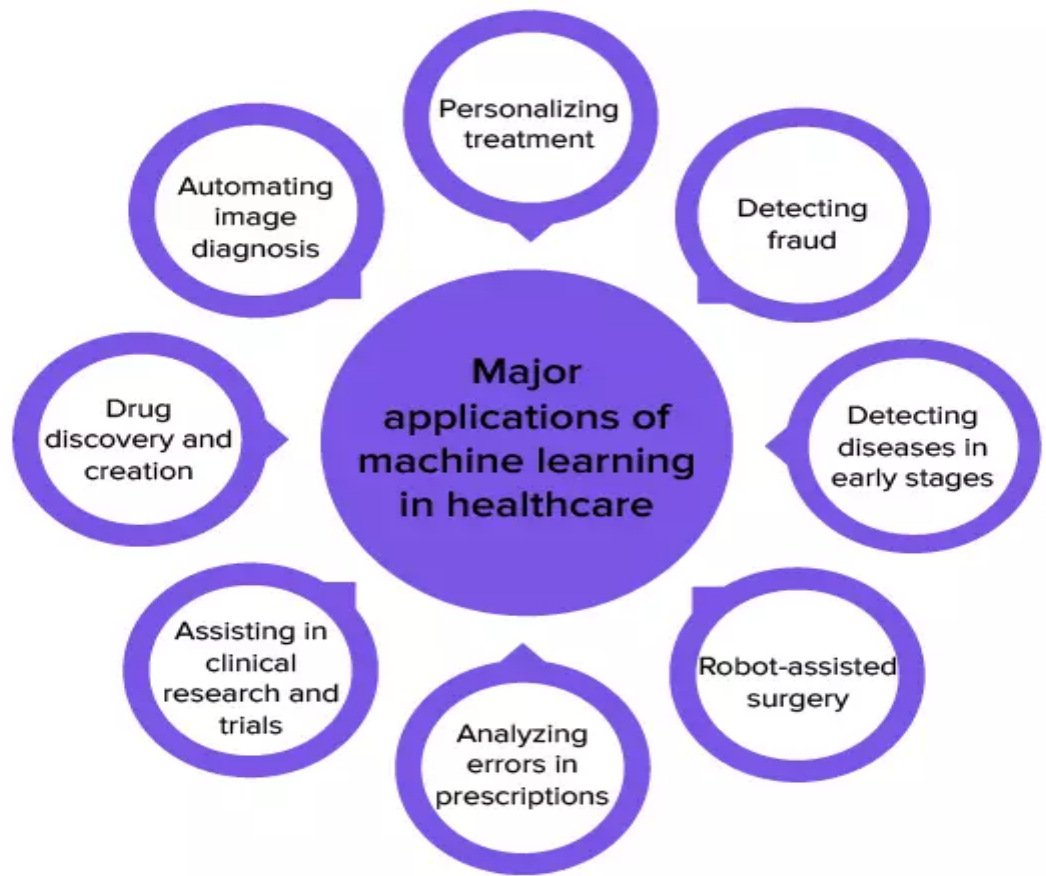
More importantly, patients are set to benefit the most as the technology can improve health outcomes by analyzing the best treatment plans for them. ML is capable of detecting diseases in the early stage more accurately, helping to reduce the number of readmissions in hospitals.

In this article, we will find out the key applications of machine learning in healthcare. This technology is redefining the industry with its exceptional benefits.

Let's begin!

Major applications of machine learning in healthcare

From maximizing hospital efficiency to making an accurate diagnosis, ML technology has proven to be a boon for the healthcare industry. Here are some major machine learning applications in the healthcare industry to better engage with users and generate better outcomes.



Personalizing treatment

Offering personalized treatments is one of the key machine learning use cases in the healthcare domain. It allows healthcare organizations to deliver personalized patient care by analyzing patients' medical history, symptoms, and tests. Using ML in medicine and healthcare helps to develop customized treatments and prescribe medicines that target specific diseases for individual patients.

With ML, healthcare organizations can also have access to the analysis based on [electronic health records](#) for the patient. This helps doctors make faster decisions on what kind of treatment suits the patient.

approval, processing, and payment of valid ones. Apart from detecting insurance fraud, ML-based fraud detection prevents the stealing of patient data.

Leading healthcare organizations such as Harvard Pilgrim Health are [embracing technologies](#) to root out healthcare fraud. They are using [ML-based fraud detection](#) to identify claims and detect suspicious behavior.

Detecting diseases in early stages

There are a lot of diseases that you need to detect in the early stages to identify them and help patients secure a good way of living.

A combination of supervised and unsupervised algorithms under machine learning provides assistance to doctors in the early detection of diseases. ML compares new data with a particular disease, and if the symptoms show a red flag, the doctors can take

Robot-assisted surgery

ML-powered surgical robots have revolutionized surgeries in terms of accuracy. These systems can perform complicated surgical procedures with reduced blood loss and risks. Additionally, post-surgery recovery is much faster and easier.

Maastricht University Medical Center is one of the best machine learning in healthcare examples. It has been using an ML-powered surgical robot to suture small blood vessels with an accuracy of less than 0.03 millimeters.

In the US alone, 5,000 to 7,000 people die annually because of prescription errors. Many of these errors often stem from flawed EHR interfaces — doctors choose the wrong drugs from a dropdown menu or get confused in dosing units. In such cases, ML technologies can be a game-changer.

ML models analyze historic EHR data and compare new prescriptions against historical patterns. Prescriptions that deviate from typical patterns get flagged, so doctors can review them before prescribing.

For instance, Brigham and Women's Hospital uses an ML-powered system to detect potential errors. Over a year, the system identified 10,668 potential errors, and 79% of them were deemed preventable. So the hospital managed to save \$1.3 million in healthcare-related costs.

Along with cost savings, an ML-powered error detection system increases the safety of prescriptions, preventing drug overdosing and health risks.

[Also Read: [EHR Optimization Guide to Make Your Healthcare Offering More Effective](#)]

Assisting in clinical research and trials

Clinical research and trials are costly and lengthy processes. There is a good reason why: new drugs and medical procedures should be proven safe before being used widely. However, there are cases when the solution needs to be released as soon as possible — like with COVID-19.

Fortunately, machine learning algorithms can make the process shorter. These algorithms can help determine the best sample for the trial, gather more data points, analyze the data from trial participants, and reduce the data-based errors.

Atomwise is one such pharmaceutical company that makes use of supercomputing technology to find out the current medicines in the market that could be redesigned to treat the Ebola virus. They successfully found two drugs that could help reduce the risk of Ebola virus.

The analysis that would have taken several years happened in one day through machine learning-based technology.

[Also Read: [How digital transformation is reshaping the healthcare industry](#)]

Automating image diagnosis

Hospitals and clinics [use ML to recognize abnormalities in different kinds of medical images](#) as MRI or radiology scans. Image recognition assists doctors in diagnosing liver diseases, infections, tumors, improving cancer prognosis, and more.

The best example of ML-powered visual perception is the tool utilized by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. [Utilizing ML algorithms](#), the tool analyzes biopsy images of children to distinguish between celiac disease and environmental enteropathy, doing it as reliably as a pathologist.

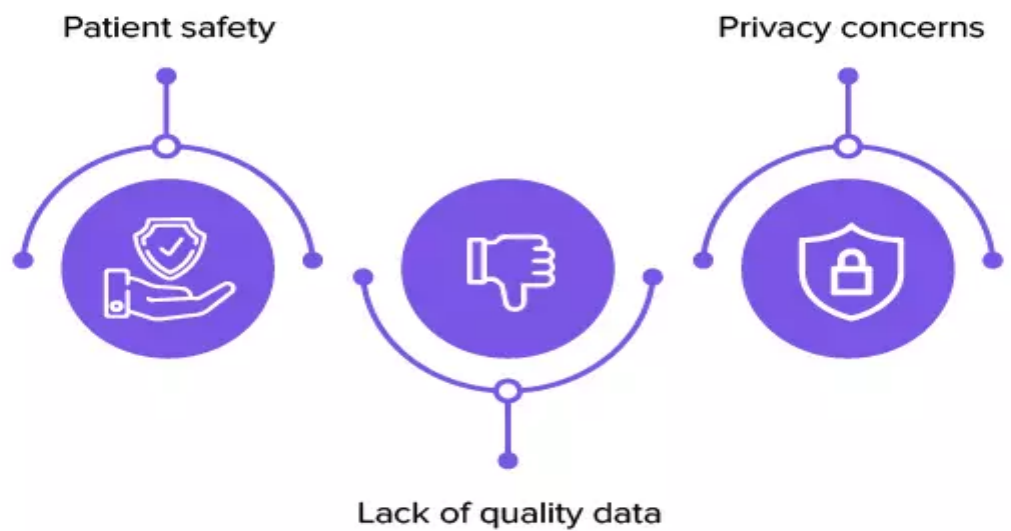
How Appinventiv helped YouCOMM transform in-patient communication by providing intelligent ML-driven solutions.

Read

¹ Now that we have looked into the key machine learning applications and machine learning tools, let's look at some of the key machine learning applications and machine learning tools.

The wide implementation of innovative technologies like AI and ML comes with several challenges. From the lack of quality data to patient safety, a number of roadblocks are hindering the healthcare industry utilizing ML-based software and technologies.

So, let's take a look at them:



Patient safety

The decisions made by machine learning algorithms completely rely on the data they are fed. If the input is unreliable or wrong, the result will be wrong as well. The flawed results can harm the patient or even cause their death.

Lack of quality data

The results you get from machine learning algorithms depend on the quality of the data. Unfortunately, medical data is not always as precise and standardized as it often is.

Another key challenge of implementing AI and machine learning in healthcare is the volume of data collected that contains sensitive or confidential information. This, in turn, requires additional security measures to be implemented. So, it's crucial to look for the [development company](#) that can offer a number of security options to ensure your data is appropriately handled.

The future of ML in healthcare

The future of ML in the healthcare sector looks bright. Despite some challenges, ML is enhancing the patient experience, medicine practice of clinicians, and the pharmaceutical operations. And the journey has just begun. According to [Grand View Research](#), the ML in the healthcare market are expected to expand at a compound annual growth rate of 38.4% from 2022 to 2030.

The growing datasets of patient health-related digital information, increasing demand for personalized medicine, and the rising demand for reducing care expenses are some of the driving forces of the market growth.

Additionally, in the coming years, there could be programmed robots that would assist in the surgery room. ML-powered technologies in healthcare can enable doctors to perform during operations by going down to the minutest details of the treatment.

Machine learning in the healthcare industry is also enabling “virtual biopsies” in the innovative field of radiomics. Leveraging machine learning and AI tools to gain insights faster, more accurate alerts for healthcare providers.

Machine learning is surely going to expand its base in healthcare in years to come. Healthcare professionals and clinicians must start utilizing machine learning in their solutions.

Looking to integrate ML into your healthcare solution?

Let us help you deliver a world-class ML-driven solution for your healthcare project.

Talk to us



How can Appinventiv help your business with machine learning?

At Appinventiv, our team of professionals can help develop custom machine learning software solutions considering your healthcare business goals. Our technical knowledge and experience in the industry can help you bring your vision to life.

One of our successful projects in this field is the [YouCOMM app developed to help patients with nurses for medical help](#) in real-time. The system allows patients to interact through the use of head gestures or voice commands.

Since the app launch, 5+ hospital chains in the US have been running on the YouCOMM app.

If you are also looking for AI and ML software development services or want to know how machine learning is used in healthcare, [get in touch](#) with our experts. We can help you implement machine learning in healthcare solutions and cater to your needs in the industry.