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# Identifying and Predicting Healthcare Fraud

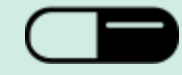
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by Lucas Kim, Ryan Park, and Sita Thomas  
NYCDSA Capstone Project, October 2020

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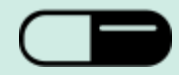




# What Is Healthcare Fraud?

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- Fake or altered medical claims
  - It is difficult to identify
  - It increases medical costs
  - Reducing fraud saves money
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# Audience and Goals

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## WHO IS THIS PROJECT FOR?



A healthcare  
insurance company

## WHAT ARE THE PROJECT GOALS?

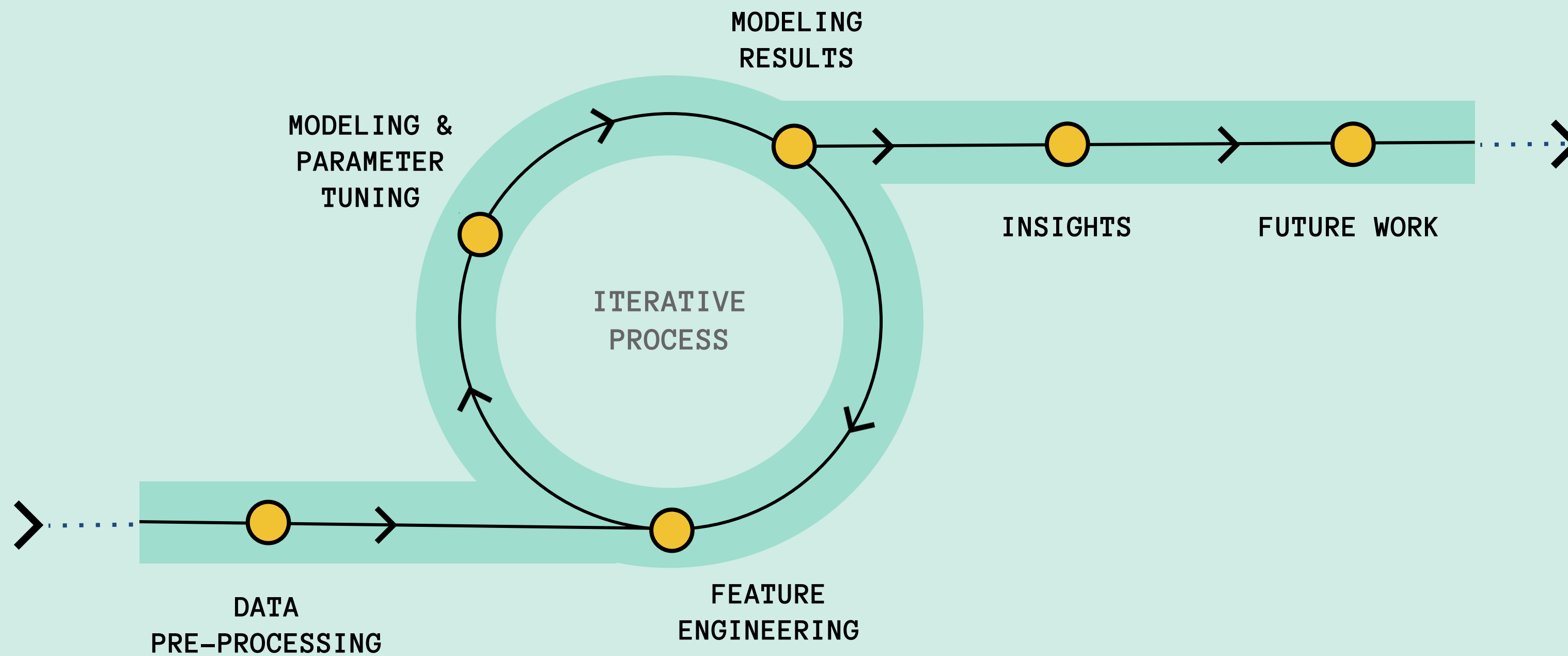


Flag potentially  
fraudulent claims

Minimize  
financial loss



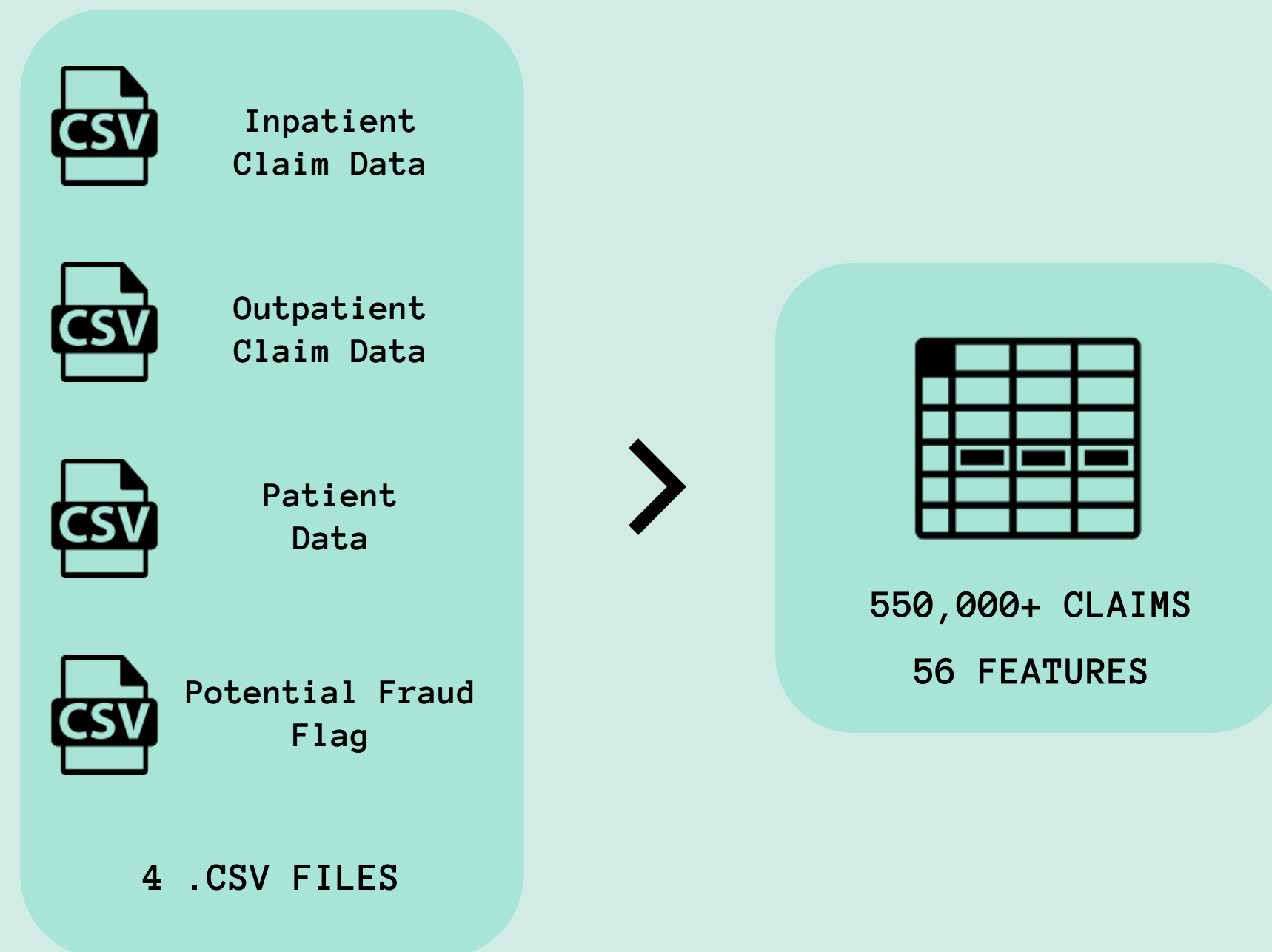
# Workflow





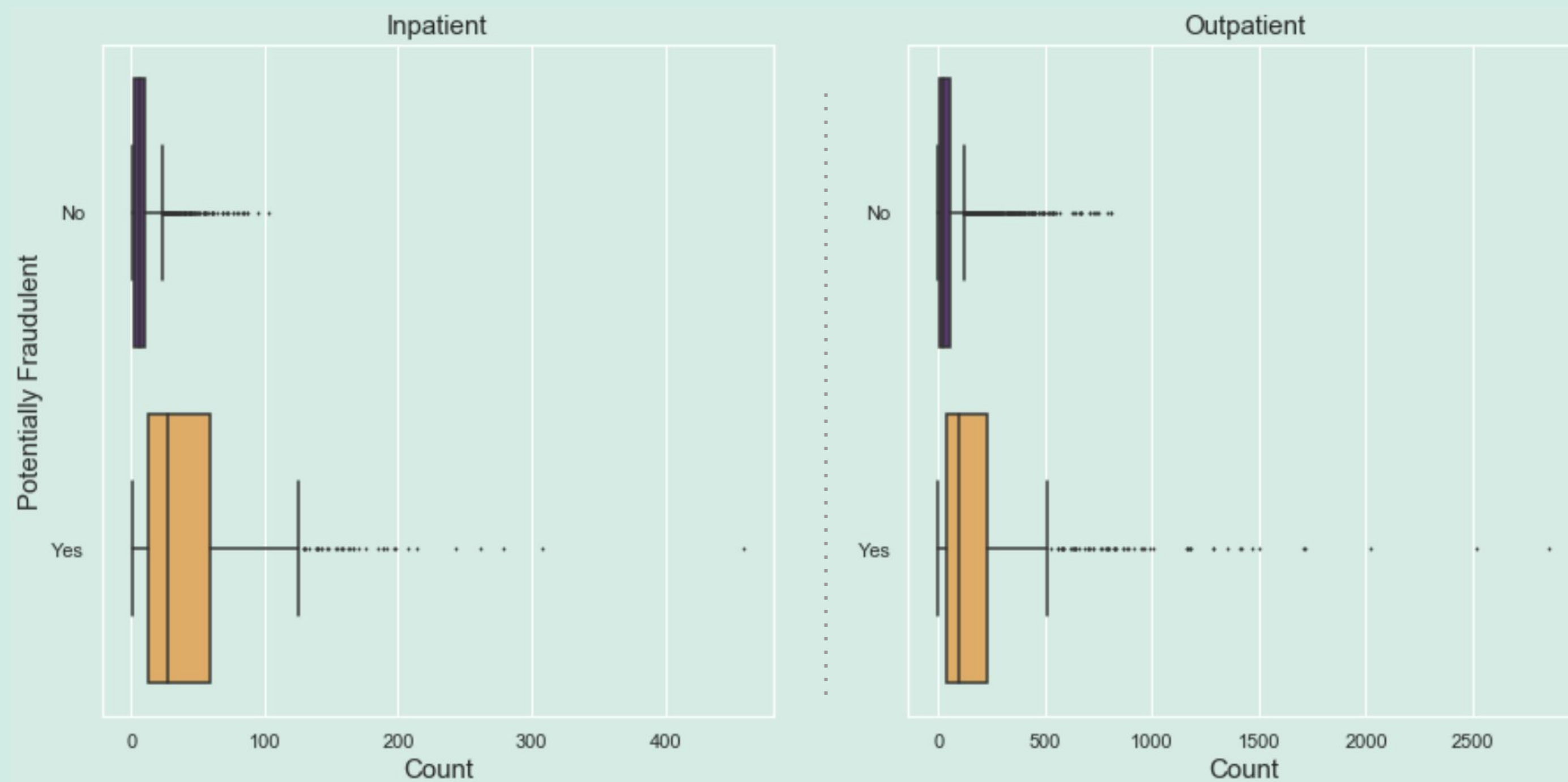


# Pre-processing: Claims Dataframe



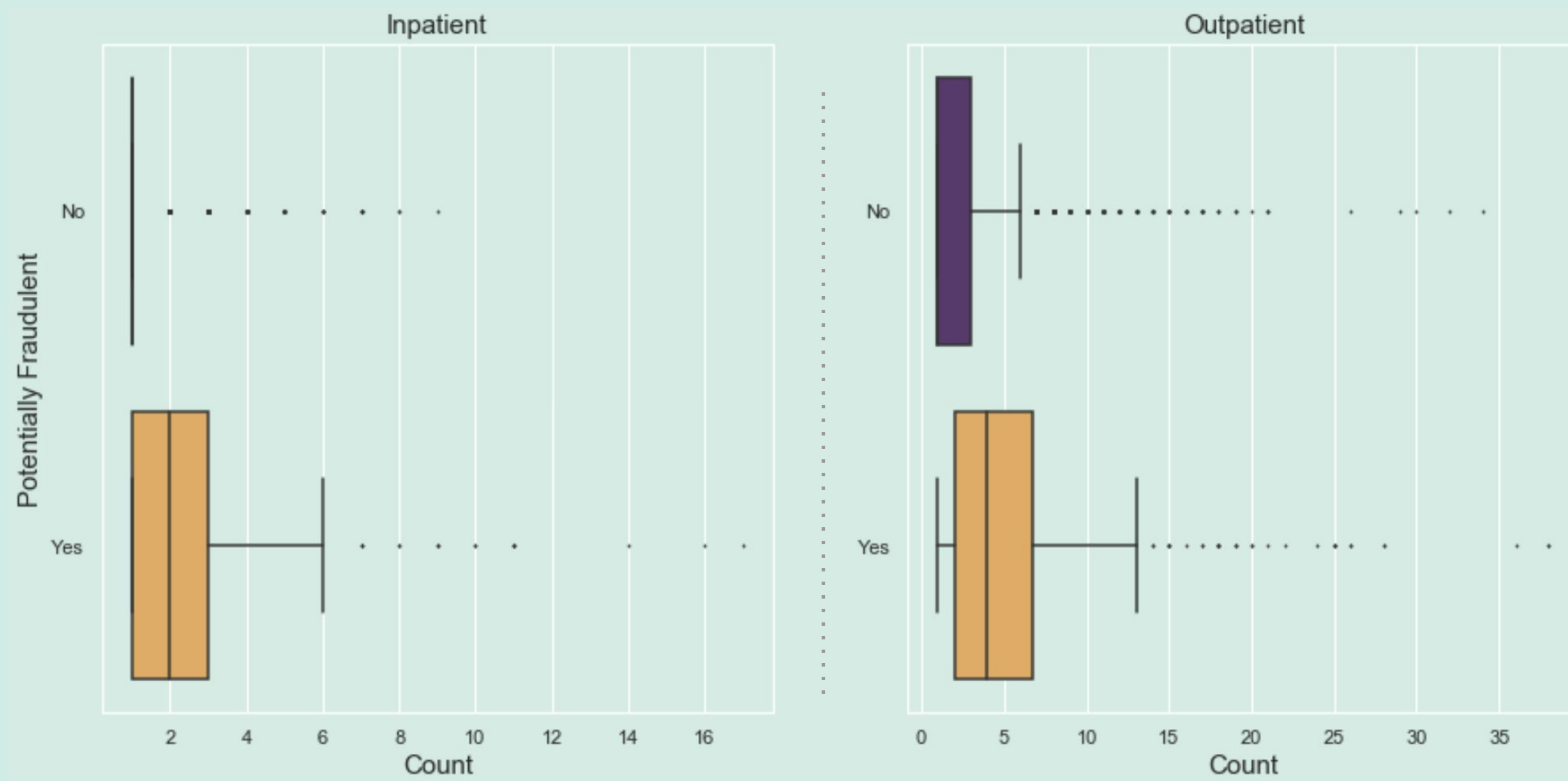


# EDA: Number of Unique Patients Per Provider





# EDA: Number of Unique States Per Provider





# Assumptions

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01

100  
1010  
01

ENCODED FEATURES  
FROM 1 AND 2 TO 1 AND 0

02



DUPLICATED CLAIMS HAVE  
THE SAME SET OF PROCEDURE  
AND DIAGNOSIS CODES

03

N/A

MISSING VALUES  
ARE ALL MNAR







# Pre-processing: Providers Dataframe

	PROVIDER	CLAIM	DEDUCTIBLE
		CLAIM1	\$ 1000
		CLAIM2	\$ 1200
		...	...
		...	...
		...	...



	PROVIDER	AVG_DEDUCTIBLE
		\$ 1270
		\$ 2000

550,000+ claims  
56 features

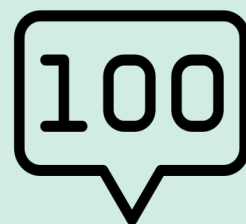


5,410 providers  
87 features

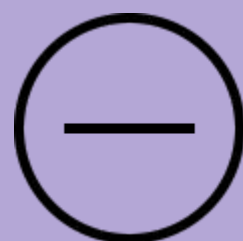


# Model Scoring Metrics

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RECALL SCORE



Minimize false negatives



MONEY SAVED

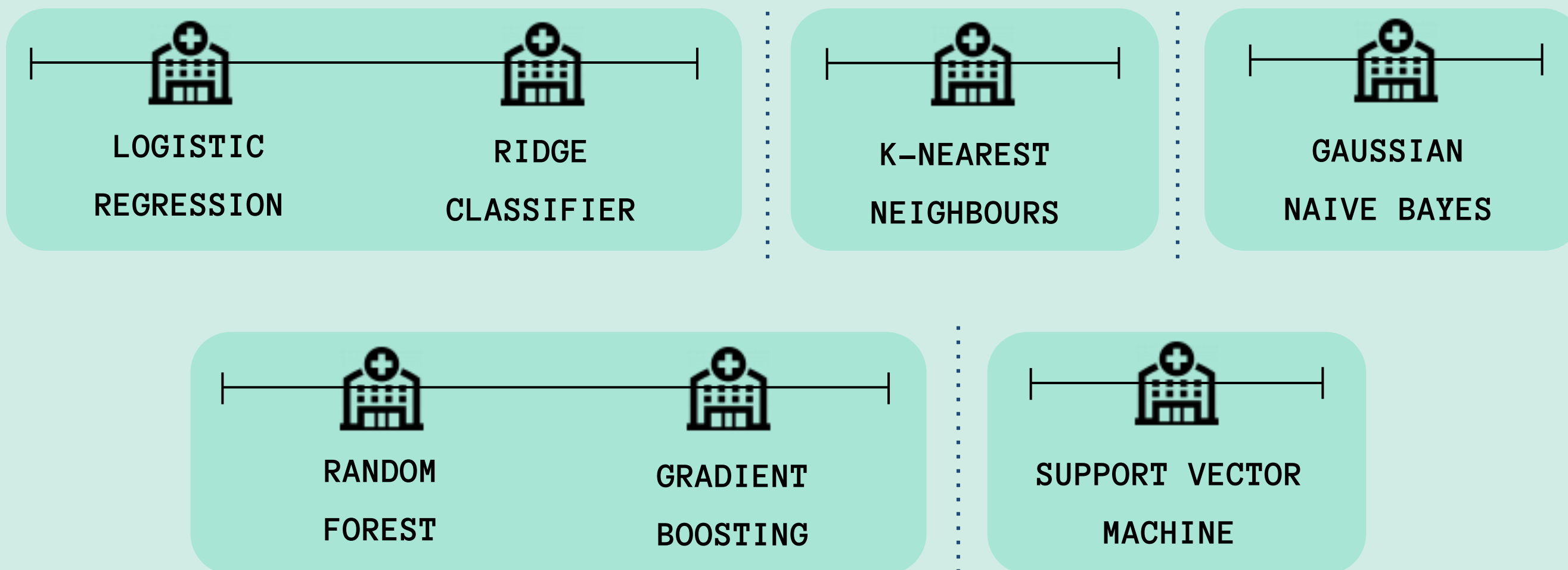


Balance false negatives  
and false positives  
to lower review costs



# Classification Models

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# Linear Models

- Logistic Regression
  - L1-norm penalty (Lasso)
  - Reduced features from 87 to 13
  - Recall score: Train 0.9181

Test 0.9145

- Ridge Classifier
  - Improved positive features
  - Recall score: Train 0.9294

Test 0.9145





# K-Nearest Neighbors

- Highly interpretable model
- Fewest false negatives  
but many false positives
- Recall score: Train 0.9898  
Test 0.9605





# Gaussian Naive Bayes

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- Assumes features are independent
- Minimal parameter tuning required
- Recall score: Train 0.8842

Test 0.8684







# Tree-Based Models

- Capture non-linear relationships
- Show feature importances
- Random Forest
  - Recall score: Train 0.9096  
Test 0.9013
- Gradient Boosting Decision Trees
  - Complex but computationally expensive
  - Recall score: Train 0.9265  
Test 0.9211

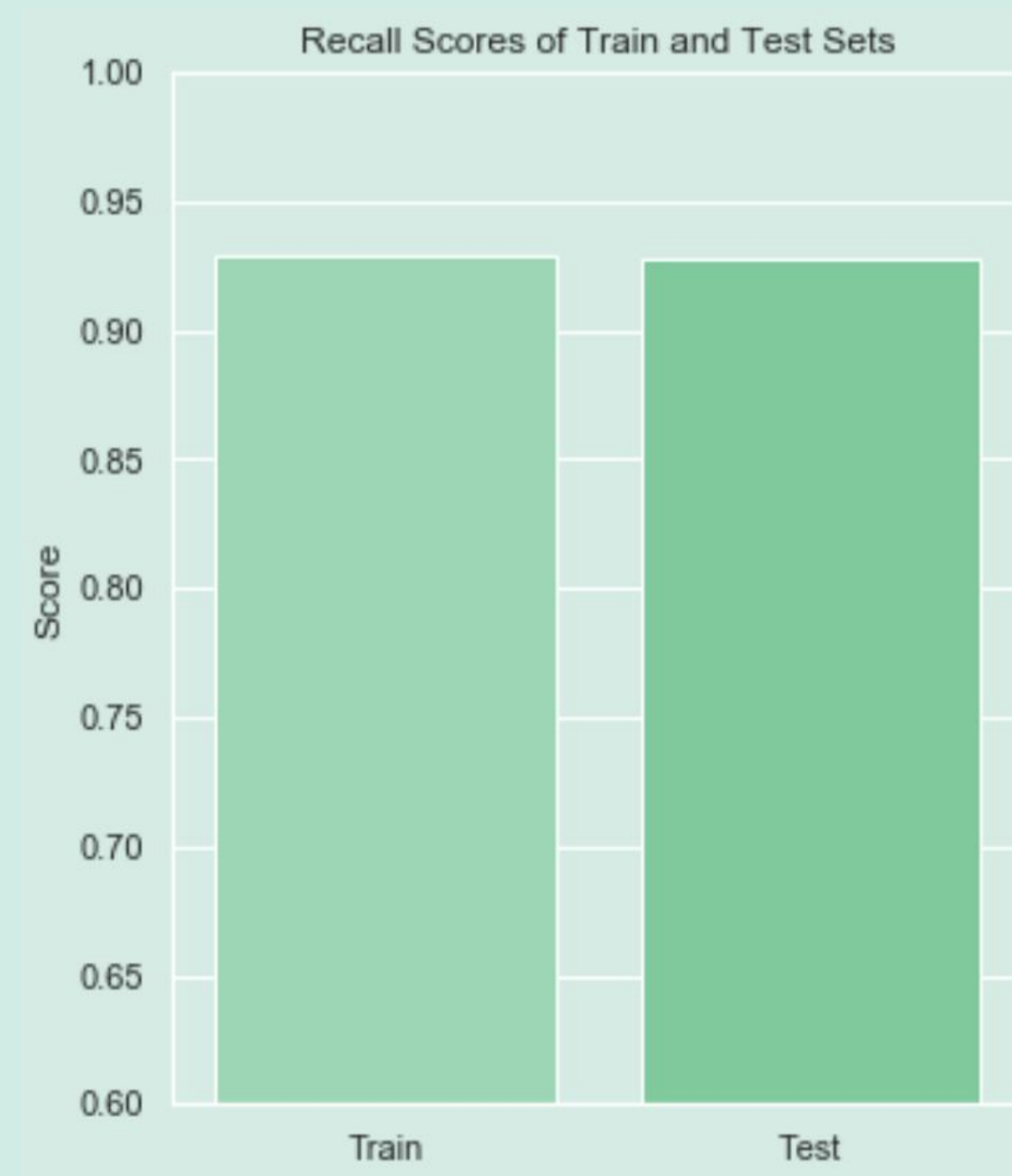




# Support Vector Machine

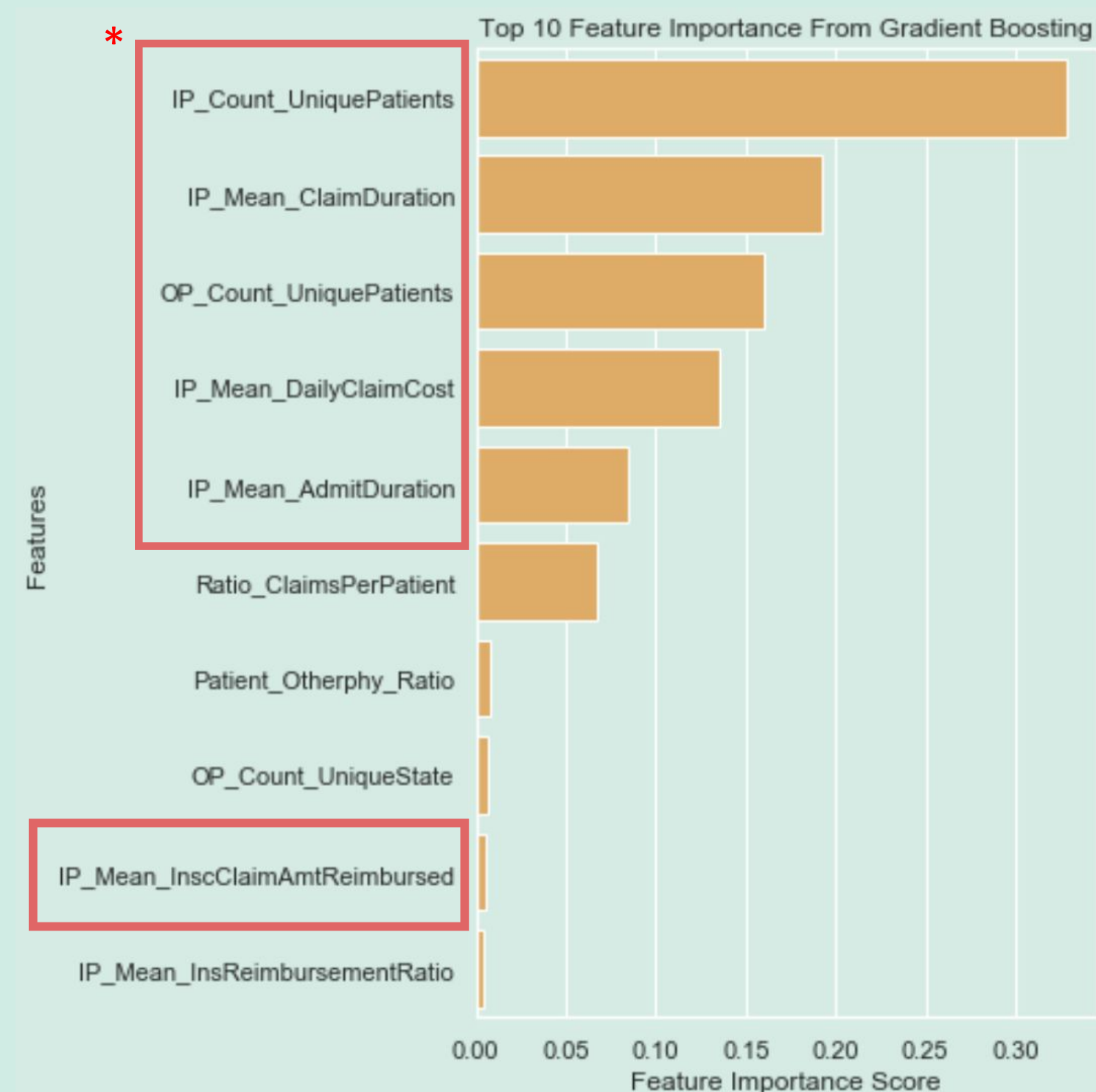
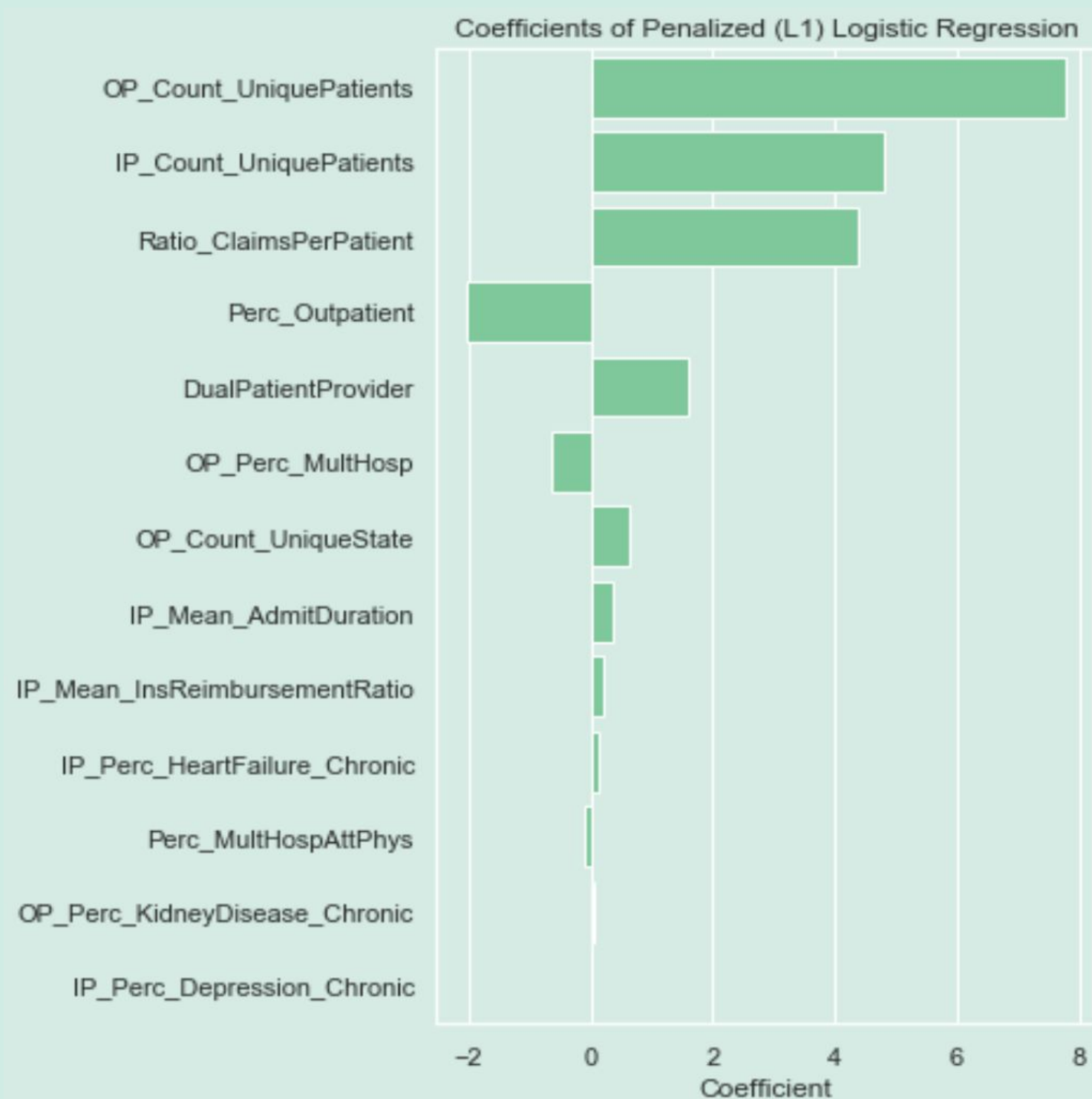
- Computationally less expensive
- Expands feature space
- Avoids bias/variance tradeoff
- Recall score: Train 0.9294

Test 0.9276





# Modeling Iterations 2 and 3



\* IP\_Count\_UniquePatients Boxed features also appear in the top 10 feature importances for Random Forest





# Production Model Selection



Saves the  
most money

Highest  
recall score



# Confusion Matrices

		Predicted Value	
		Not Fraud	Potential Fraud
True Value	Not Fraud	TN 59.8%	FP <b>30.9%</b>
	Potential Fraud	FN <b>0.37%</b>	TP 8.99%

**K-Nearest Neighbors**

**Saves \$86,000\***

		Predicted Value	
		Not Fraud	Potential Fraud
True Value	Not Fraud	TN 79.2%	FP <b>11.5%</b>
	Potential Fraud	FN <b>0.74%</b>	TP 8.64%

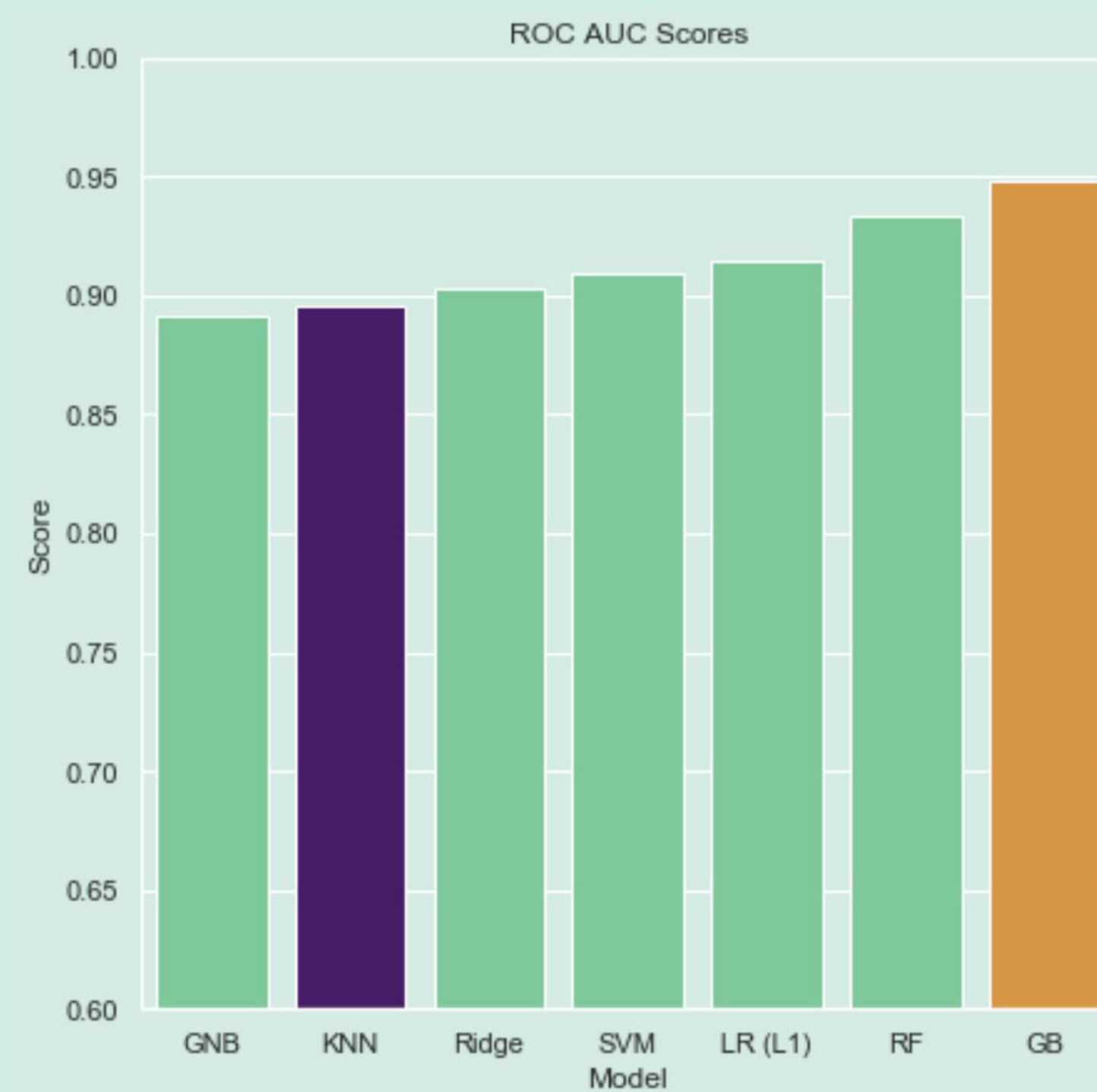
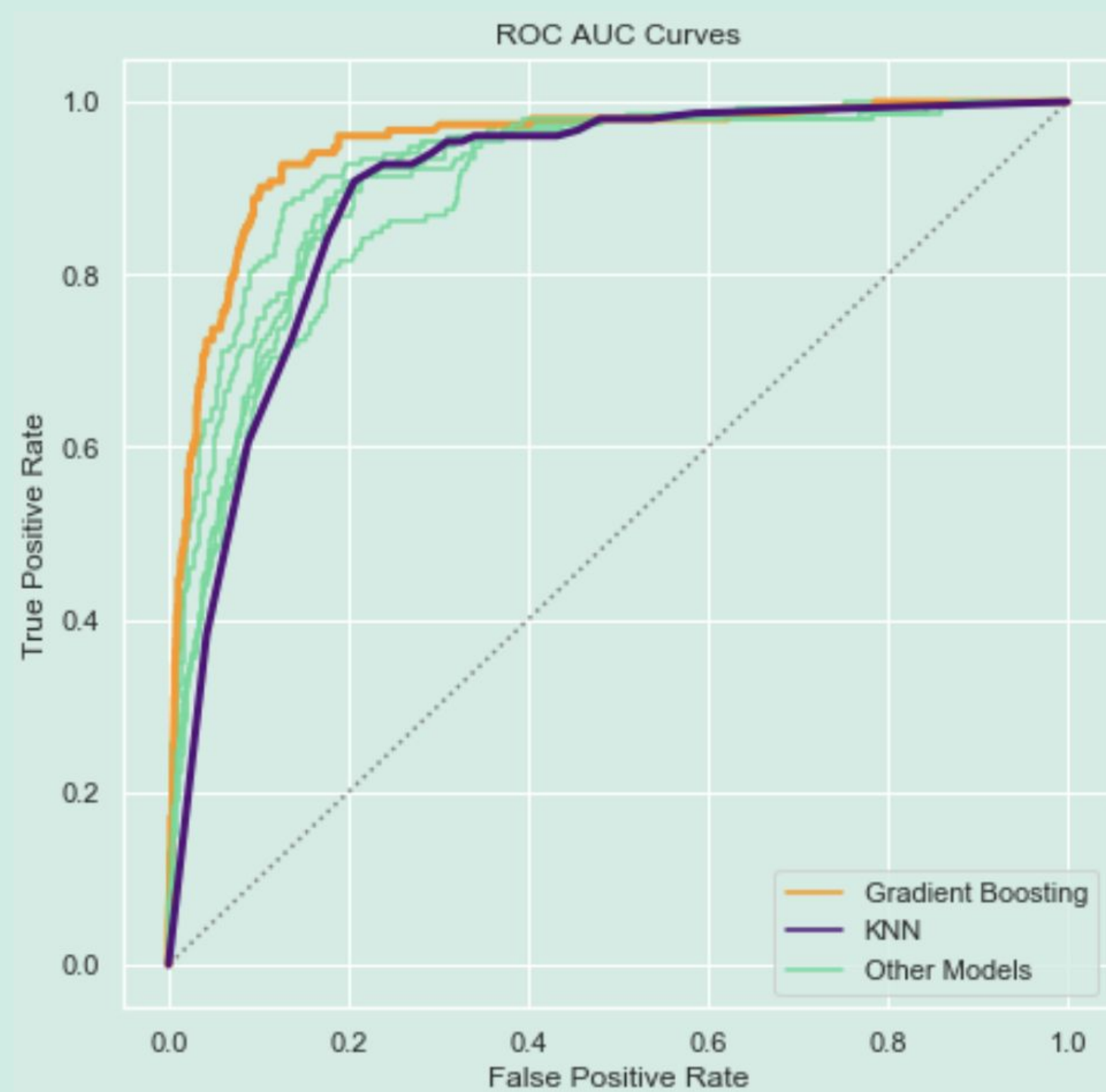
**Gradient Boosting**

**Saves \$100,000\***

\* Savings are calculated with confusion matrix value counts, using the formula:  
 $(TP) \times (\$1,000 \text{ Average Claim Cost}) - (FP + TP) \times (\$28 \text{ Hourly Wage}) \times (3 \text{ Hours}) - (FN) \times (\$1000 \text{ Average Claim Cost})$



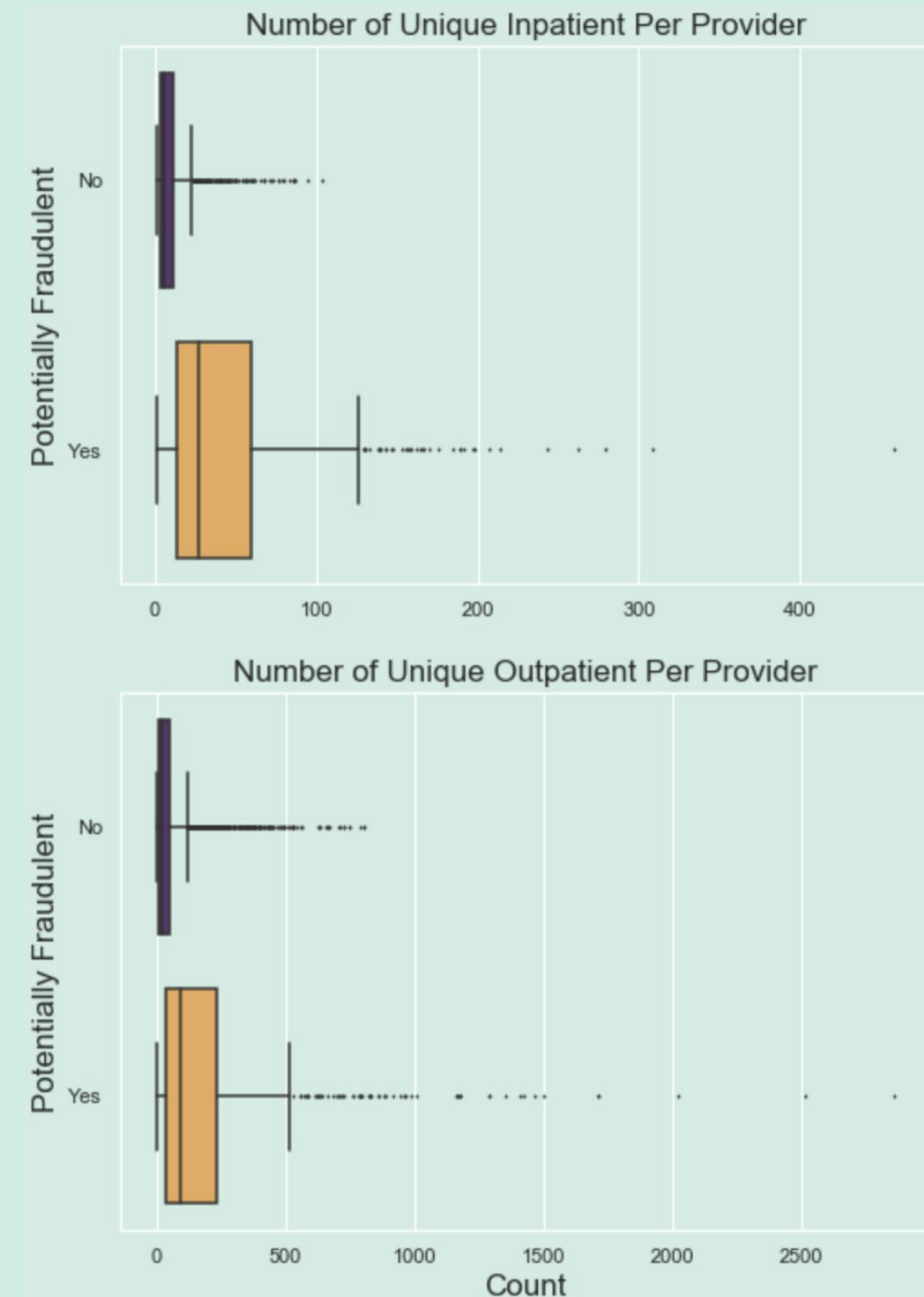
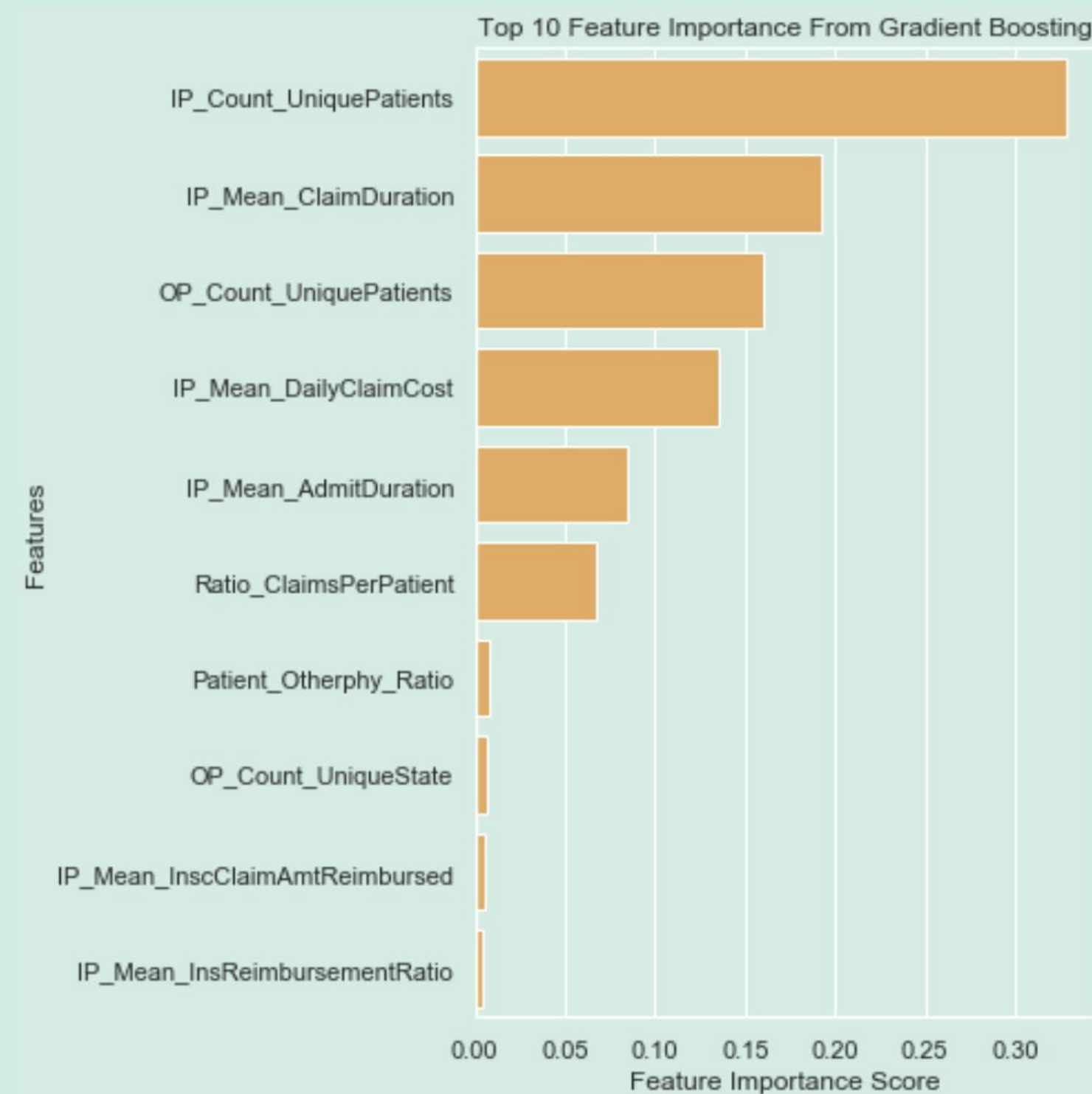
# ROC/AUC Curve





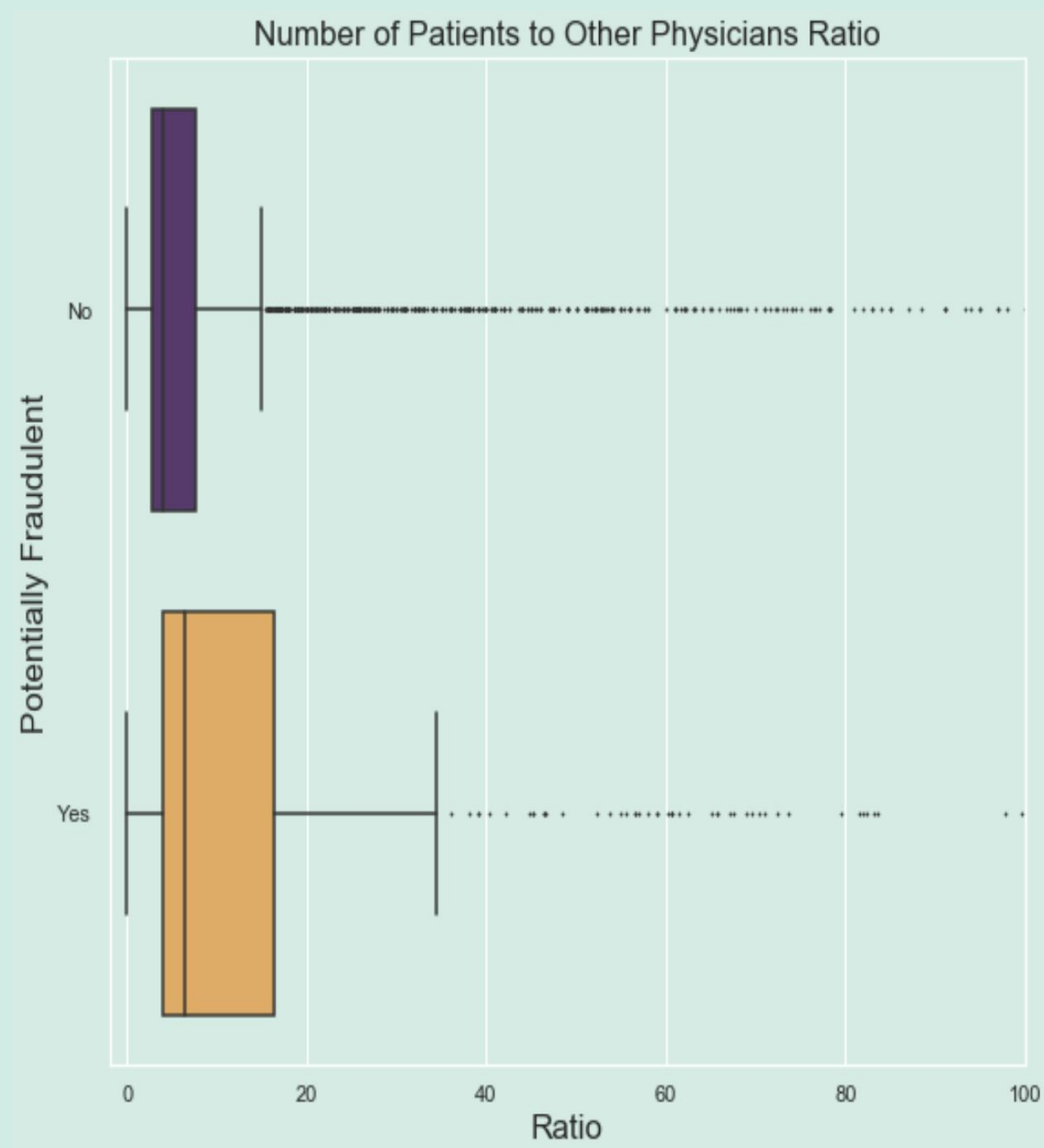
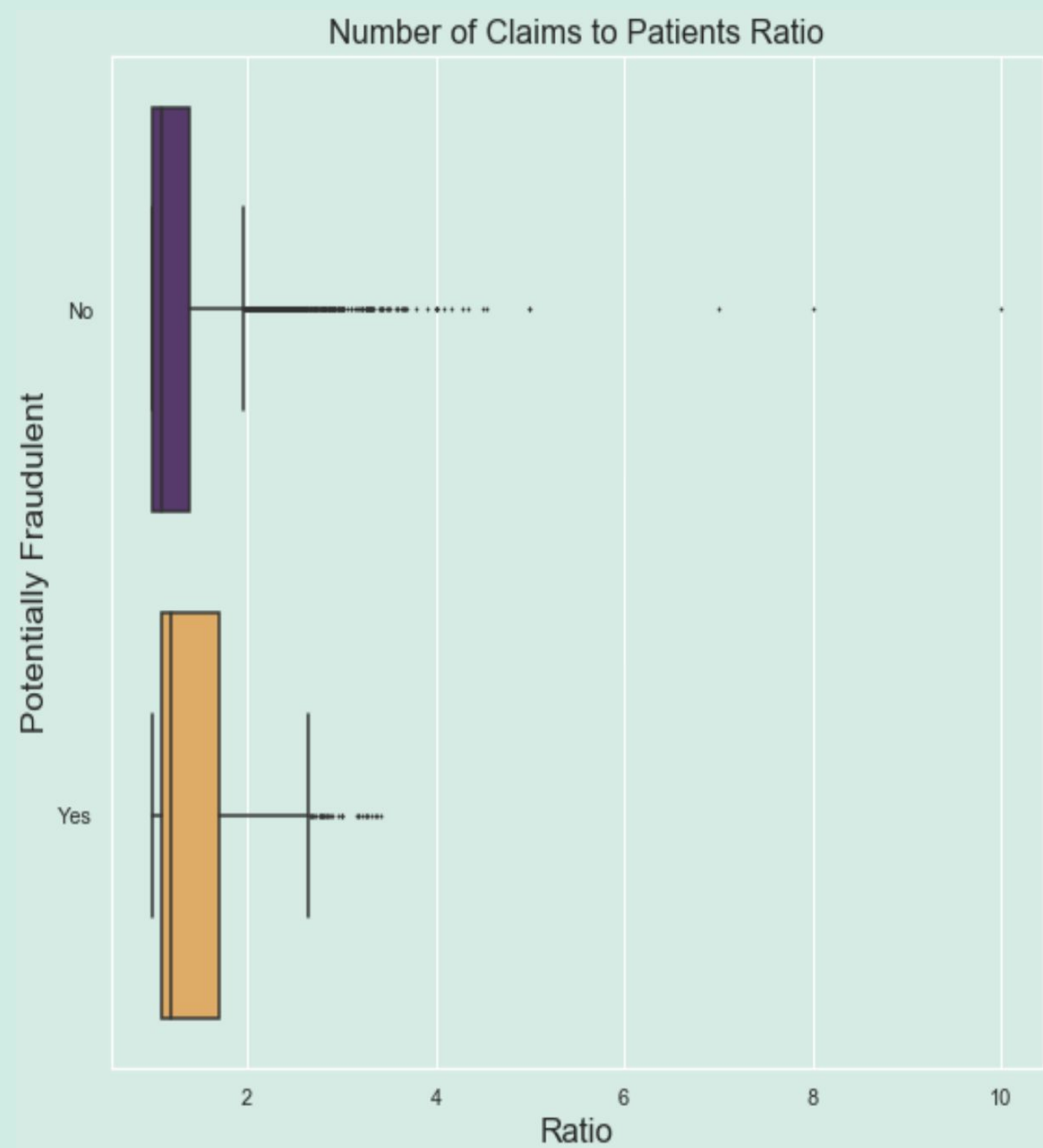


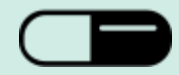
# Insights: Feature Importances



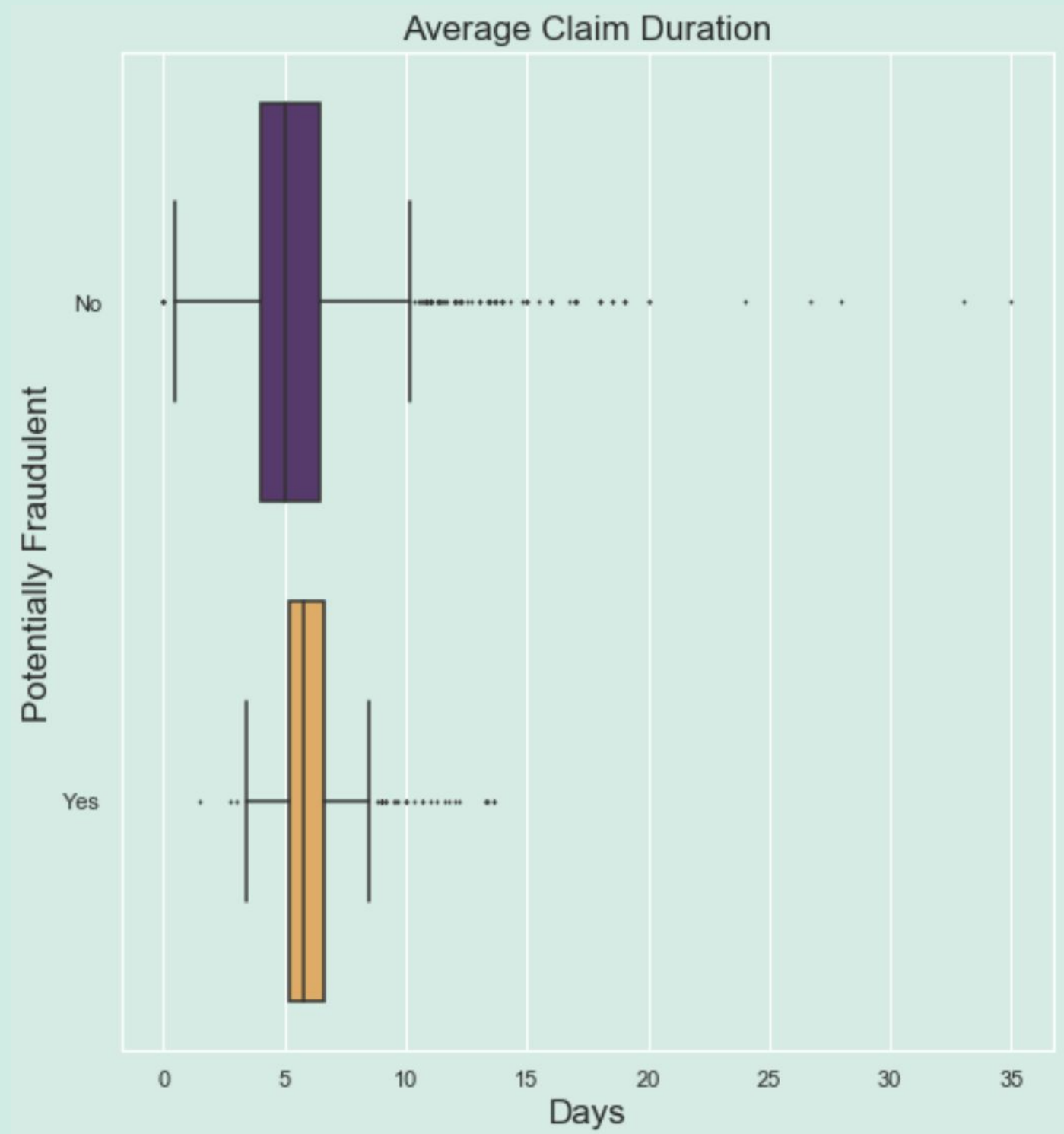


# Insights: Patients

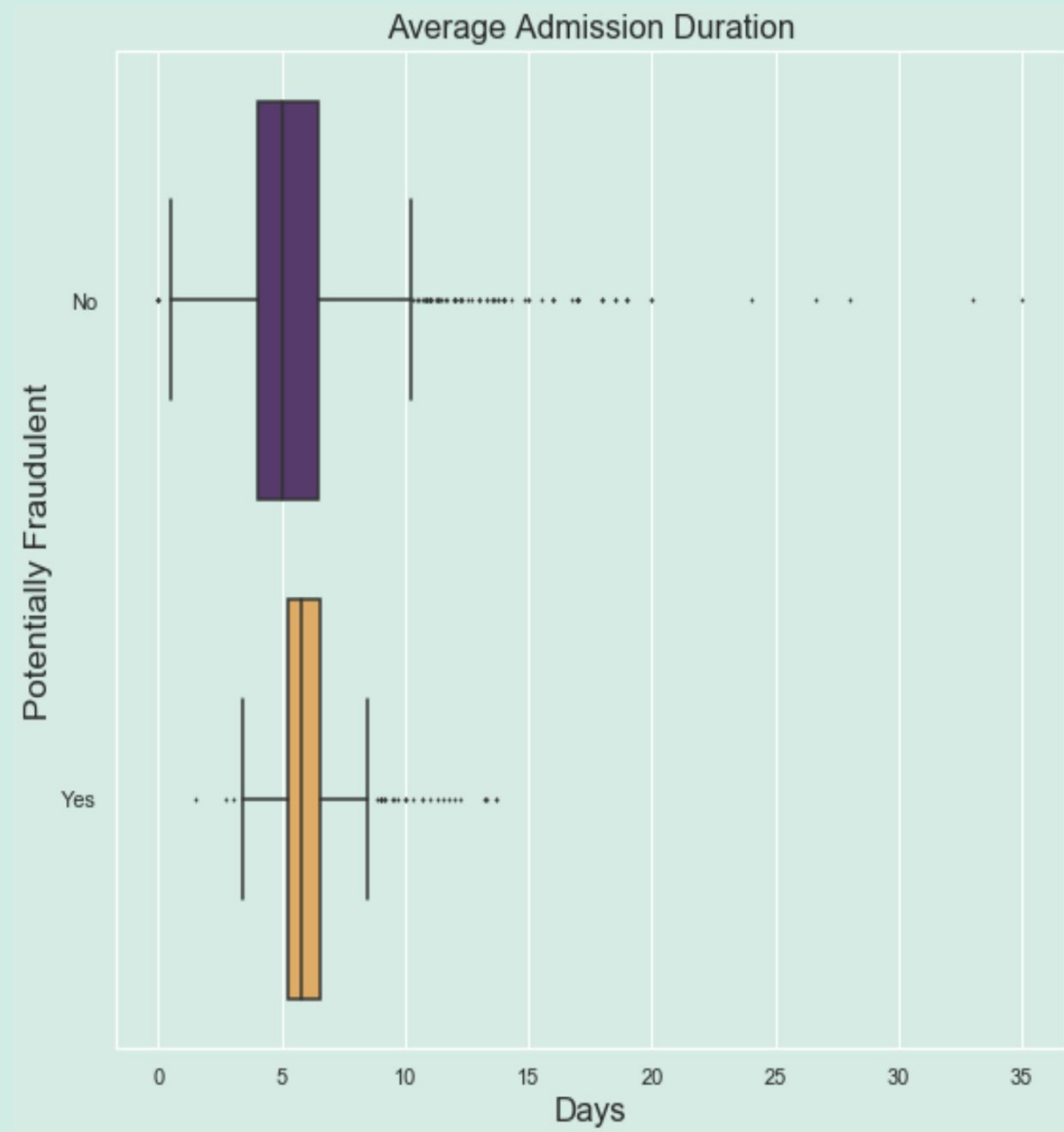


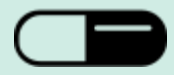


# Insights: Duration

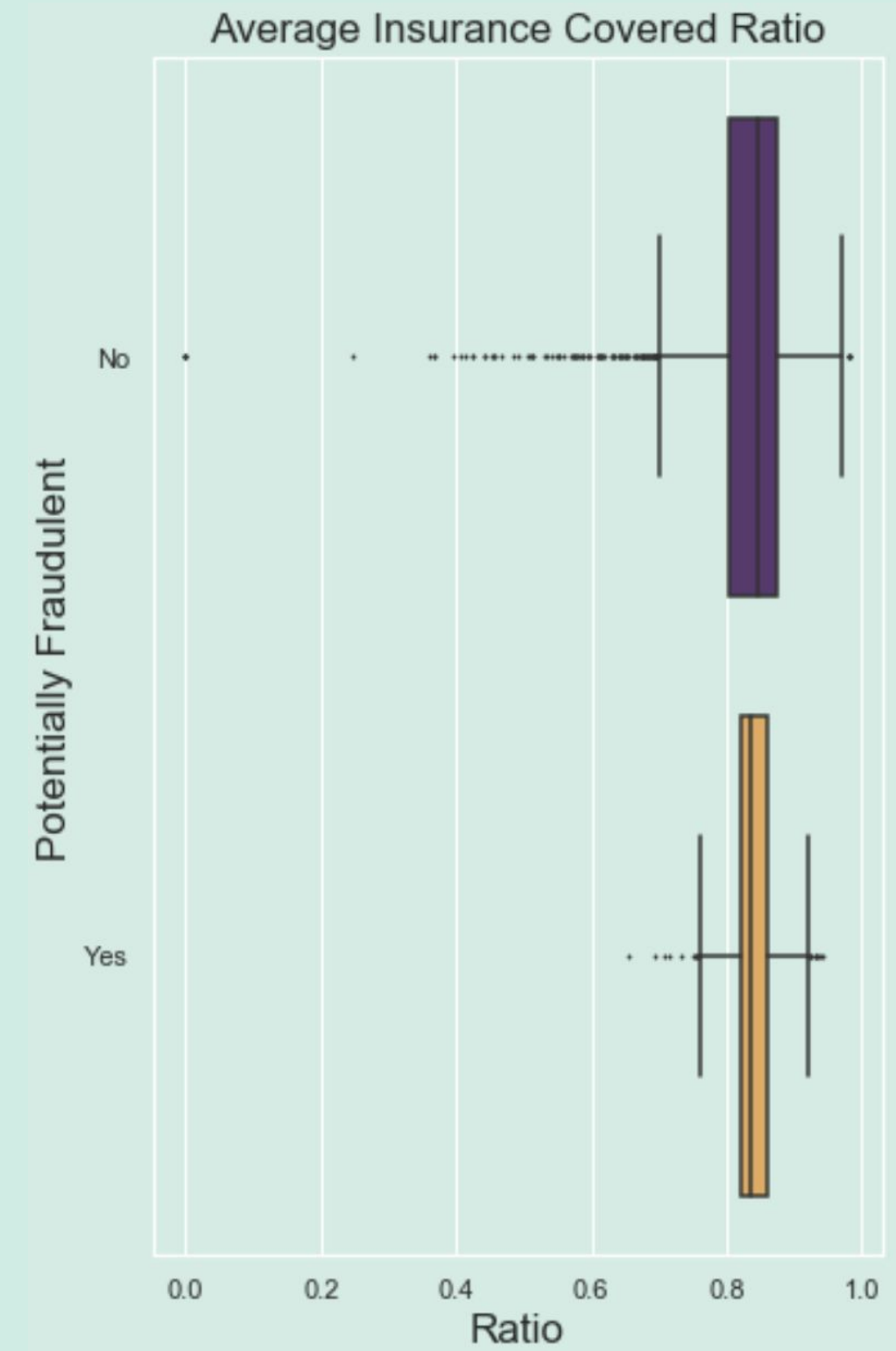
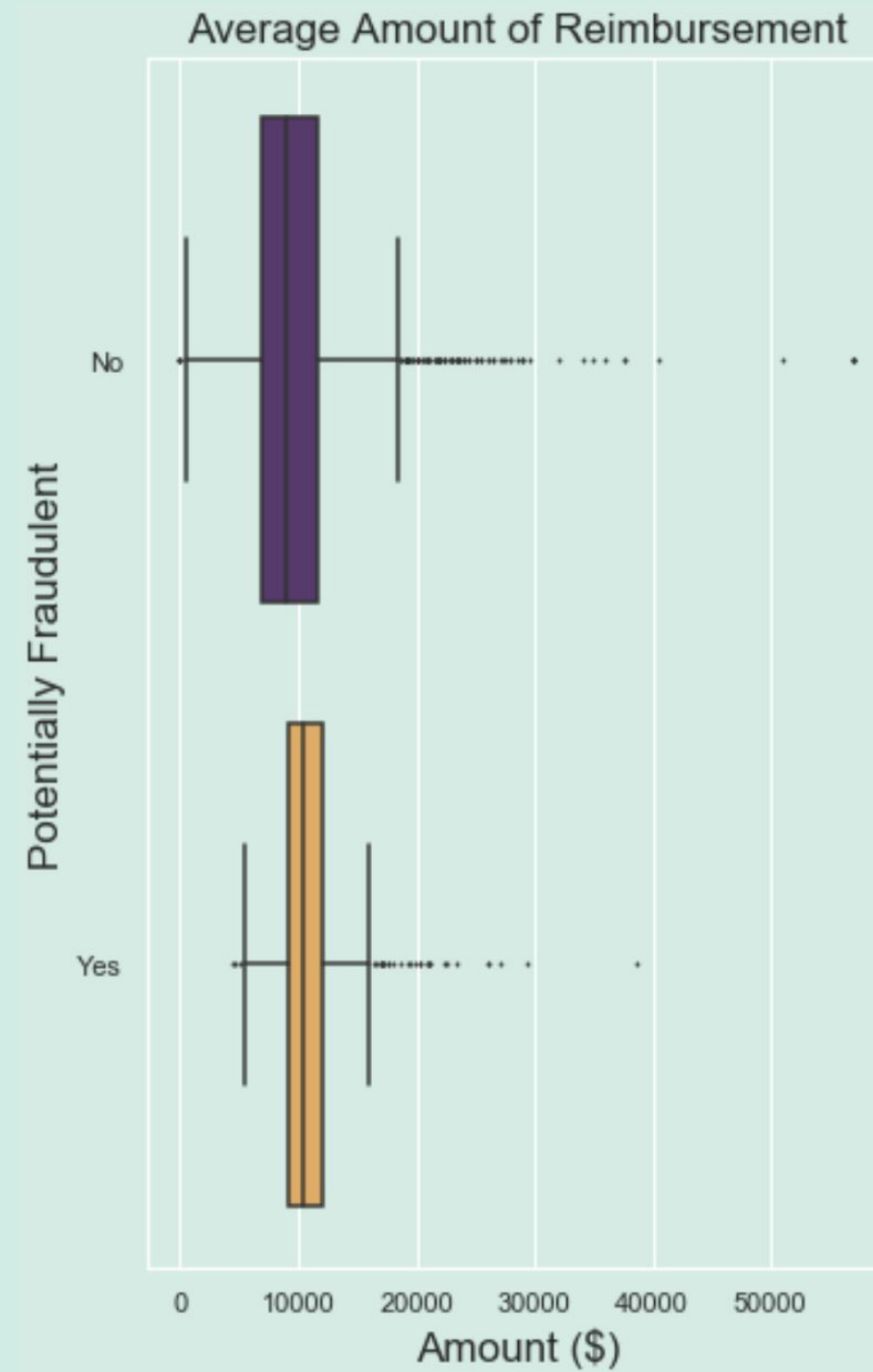
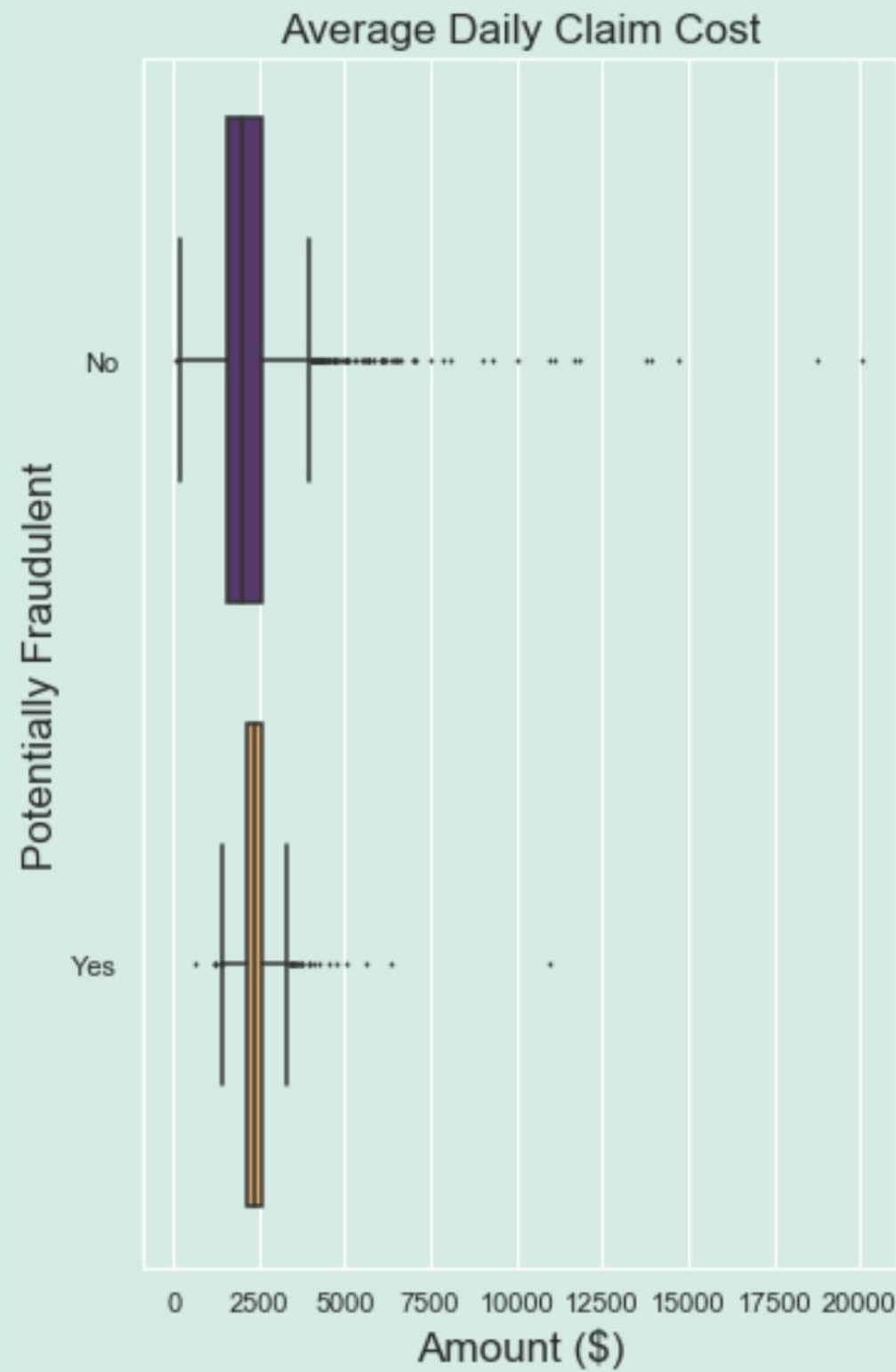


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# Insights: Cost





# Further Insights

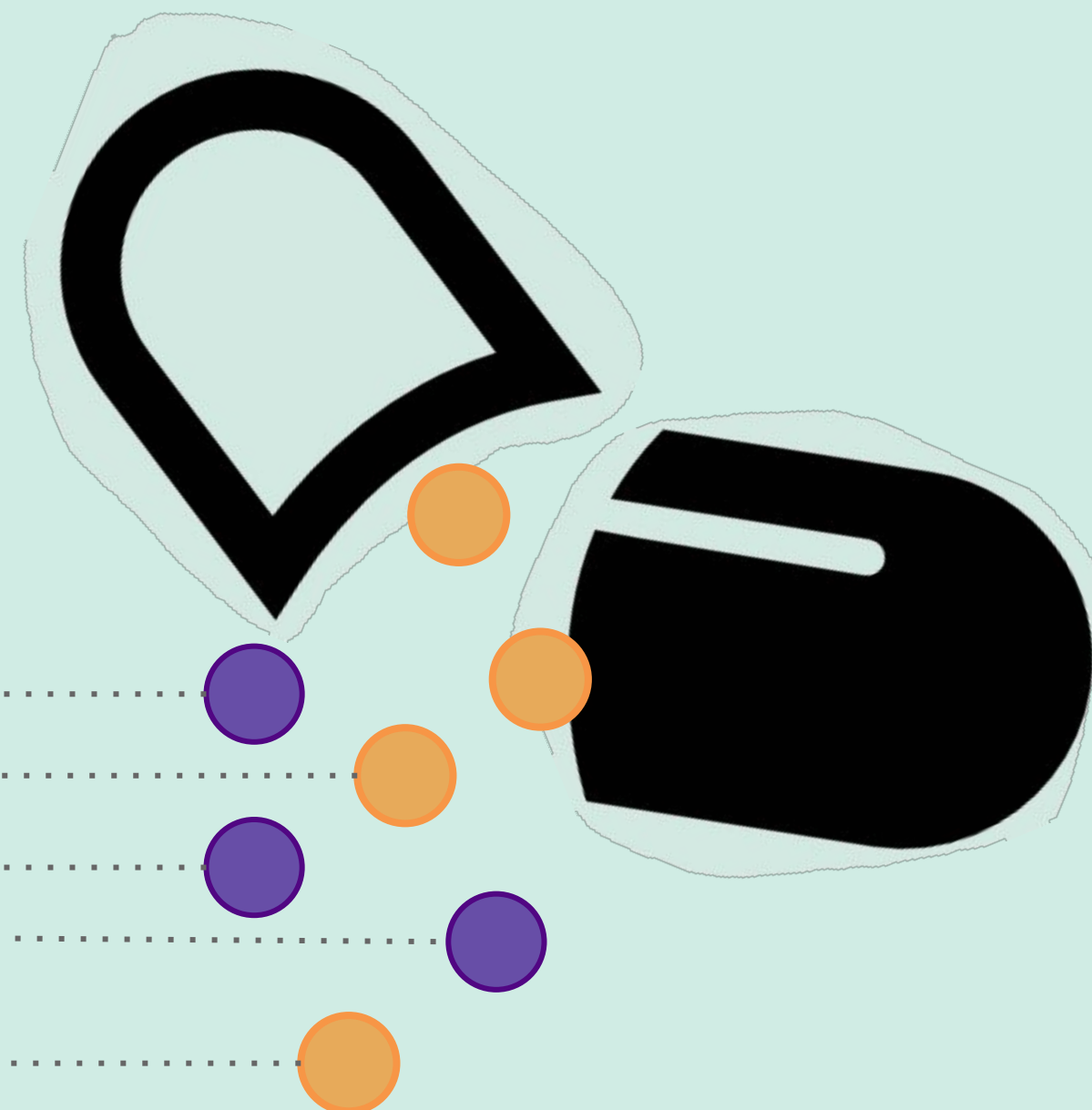
Limit number of contracts with providers offering inpatient services

Cancel contracts with providers who demonstrate fraudulent behaviour

Regularly audit providers

Recruit doctors to review claims

Incentivize patients to review claims

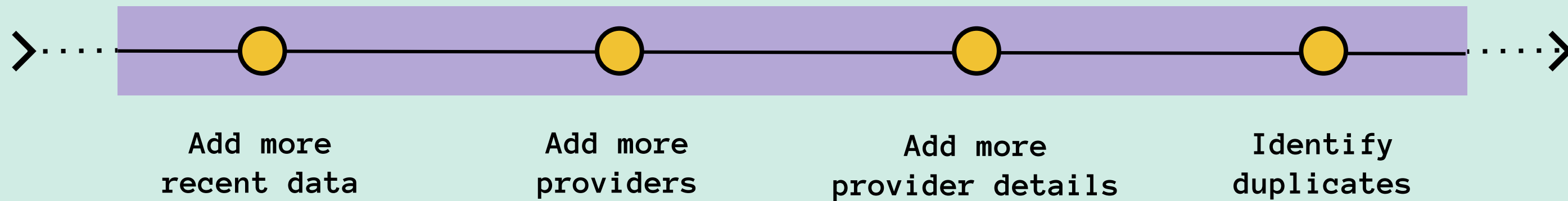


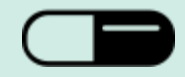




# Future Work

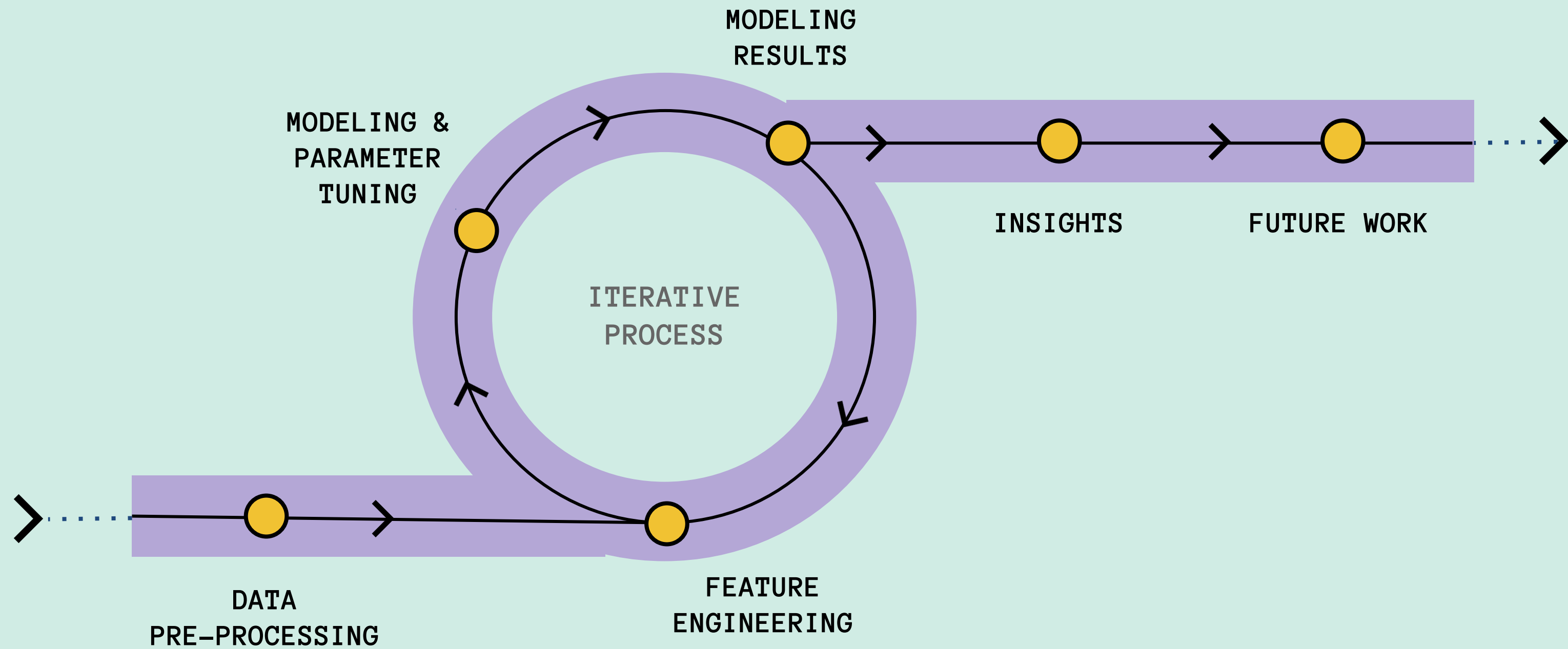
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# Summary

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Thank you!



LUCAS KIM



RYAN PARK



SITA THOMAS

