

## Retraction

# Retracted: Biometric Authentication for Intelligent and Privacy-Preserving Healthcare Systems

## Journal of Healthcare Engineering

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This article has been retracted by Hindawi following an investigation undertaken by the publisher [1]. This investigation has uncovered evidence of one or more of the following indicators of systematic manipulation of the publication process:

- (1) Discrepancies in scope
- (2) Discrepancies in the description of the research reported
- (3) Discrepancies between the availability of data and the research described
- (4) Inappropriate citations
- (5) Incoherent, meaningless and/or irrelevant content included in the article
- (6) Peer-review manipulation

The presence of these indicators undermines our confidence in the integrity of the article's content and we cannot, therefore, vouch for its reliability. Please note that this notice is intended solely to alert readers that the content of this article is unreliable. We have not investigated whether authors were aware of or involved in the systematic manipulation of the publication process. Wiley and Hindawi regrets that the usual quality checks did not identify these issues before publication and have since put additional measures in place to safeguard research integrity.

We wish to credit our own Research Integrity and Research Publishing teams and anonymous and named external researchers and research integrity experts for contributing to this investigation.

The corresponding author, as the representative of all authors, has been given the opportunity to register their agreement or disagreement to this retraction. We have kept a record of any response received.

## References

- [1] D. Nigam, S. N. Patel, P. M. D. Raj Vincent, K. Srinivasan, and S. Arunmozhi, "Biometric Authentication for Intelligent and Privacy-Preserving Healthcare Systems," *Journal of Healthcare Engineering*, vol. 2022, Article ID 1789996, 15 pages, 2022.

## Review Article

# Biometric Authentication for Intelligent and Privacy-Preserving Healthcare Systems

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Secure identification is a critical system requirement for patients seeking health-related services. In the event of critical, aged, or disabled patients who require frequent health treatments, quick and easy identification is vital. Researchers describe the notion of the unprotected environment in this study, in which patients can receive health services from the hospital's smart and intelligent surroundings without the use of explicit equipment. Patients would interact directly with the environment and be identified through it. We suggest a biometric-based authentication technique for the unprotected hospital environment that also safeguards the patient's identity privacy. Furthermore, we demonstrate that this authentication technique is resistant to many well-known assaults, including insider attacks, replay attacks, and identity privacy. Doctors and other staff members showed enthusiastic responses after installing 2-factor authentications, as it makes their workflow efficient and makes things easier for patients. It also lets them focus on other factors rather than worrying about data security; hence, we need biometric authentication in intelligent and privacy-preserving healthcare systems. The paper deals with two-factor biometric authentication, and despite the added security, two-factor authentication adoption is said to be poor. It is due to a lack of awareness and difficulty to use and configure two-factor authentication (2FA) into a particular application by some individuals who struggle with the concept of authentication and its technology. Also, many 2FA methods in widespread use today have not been subjected to adequate usability testing. Research focuses on the point that there is still a large section of people unaware of the use of biometric systems to protect their online data. Researchers collected quantitative and qualitative data from 96 individuals during a two-week between-subjects usability survey of some common and rarely used 2FA approaches. The survey allowed the researcher to investigate which authentication methods are given higher priority and why, along with the relationship between different usage patterns and perceived usability, and identify user misconceptions and insecure habits to determine ease of use. It was observed that the biometric-based method was given the utmost preferability.

## 1. Introduction

Due to recent breakthroughs in Internet of things (IoT) and wireless sensor networks, there is a new digital paradigm shift. These technologies prove to be very useful, especially in the case of healthcare systems, thereby enhancing the well-being of people. With the help of this technology, the doctors and the hospital staff can continuously monitor their patients without even being present with them. Elderly patients

can be automatically identified based on their surroundings and thus receive the appropriate services [1]. Electronic prescriptions for restricted medicines are heavily regulated and require a strong authentication system. Imprivata, a healthcare company, developed a biometric-powered confirmation ID system that enables healthcare institutions to meet their Drug Enforcement Administration criteria for electronic prescriptions of restricted medicines. Ghana's Health Ministry has already joined with Gavi to begin its

biometric-based national vaccination programs by the end of 2021.

External devices such as laptops, cell phones, and tablets can interact with the system; the user interface provided by these devices is pertinent. On the contrary, the wearable category is far better and more advanced than other devices. The goal is to develop an intelligence technology in which services are incorporated through sensors and are available when needed and disappear when not, removing the need for the user to engage with the device. These cutting-edge technologies supply customers with a plethora of new options while also providing new revenue streams. Lightweight security solutions are required to implement these devices because they include various sensitive resources. Figure 1 shows the architecture of a digital healthcare services.

Identifying a valid patient/user is a significant difficulty in this type of unprotected setting. Traditional password-based single-factor authentication systems are not suitable and have some limitations. They are substantially weak when it comes to incorporating security in smart systems. As they contain only a single factor, which consists of a pin or a password, it can be easily breached by brute-forcing or simply guessing the password. Hence, a more transparent method such as biometric authentication should be incorporated, including face and speech recognition.

The unique property of biometrics expands its use in authentication protocols. Some important advantages of biometric keys are as follows:

- (i) A user cannot lose or forget the key
- (ii) They are difficult to copy or forge
- (iii) They are tough to duplicate and transfer
- (iv) It cannot be guessed easily when compared to low-entropy passwords

Password breaches, whether due to multiple password database leaks or increasingly sophisticated phishing attacks, dramatically increase the risk of authentication credential vulnerability [2]. Worse, poor user password hygiene, such as using passwords that are easily discovered such as birth dates, names, relatives' names, and phone pins, or repeating them across several accounts, exacerbates these flaws [3]. Figure 2 depicts the healthcare IT topology for medical devices.

Two-factor authentication (2FA), commonly known as two-step verification or dual-factor authentication, is a security feature in which users must authenticate their identity using two different authentication factors [4]. 2FA is used to protect a user's credentials and the resources to which they have access. Single-factor authentication (SFA), in which the user provides only one factor (usually a password), provides a lower level of security than 2FA [5]. 2FA gives the user a second factor that is either something they have (such as a hardware token or a phone) or something they are (referring to biometrics, such as facial recognition or fingerprint) [6]. It is the successor step after one has entered their credentials, which corresponds to something they know (traditionally a password and a username), so even though an attacker steals or guesses a user's password, they must compromise the

user's phone or steal a physical device to gain access to the account [7]. As a result, compromising an account protected by a second authentication factor is far more difficult for a remote attacker [8, 9]. However, these technologies still reside in an external gadget that might be stolen and hence exploit the technology. So, we need a more transparent technology such as biometric authentication, which stays with the user all the time and is very difficult to exploit.

Many biometric services are now under development and testing, to be widely used in a few years. Plastic cards will soon be a thing of the past, and biometric scans will become the norm. The publicity of biometrics appears to be a concern. You have fingers, eyes, and a face, as everyone knows. On the other hand, open biometric data are only the tip of the iceberg. Every imaginable attribute is being studied, from heart rate monitoring to implanting chips under your skin, as well as examining intraocular veins, the structure of your earlobes, and more.

Two-factor authentication is a vast area, but this study focuses on biometric authentication: facial and speech recognition. The research is conducted because many people are unaware of the password-related risks and do not use 2FA for security. This hypothesis will be proved with the help of a survey further in the paper. A two-week survey was done using the Google Form, circulated among people using different social platforms. The survey measures the awareness of people from both technical and nontechnical backgrounds and people from all age brackets. The participants were from different parts of India. Researchers tried to determine which of the following two-factor authentication methods were popular and easy to use. The study focuses on the following:

- (i) Presents the increasing need for 2FA
- (ii) Expounds the concept of biometric authentication using face and speech recognition
- (iii) Explains the integration of this technology into intelligent and smart healthcare systems
- (iv) Presents diagrammatically the functioning of smart wireless sensors integrated with biometric authentication
- (v) Presents a survey analysis conducted in India, which gives insight into the awareness and usability of biometrics

The study covers a literature survey of various research articles and journals, survey analysis, scope: present scenario and future opportunities, open challenges, and future research directions.

**1.1. Biometric Recognition.** Humans normally identify between persons using their faces, and recent advances in computer vision capacity have enabled similar recognitions to be made automatically [10]. Face recognition algorithms used simple geometric models in the past, but they have evolved into a science of complex mathematical models and representations throughout time, putting face and speech recognition in the spotlight for verification and

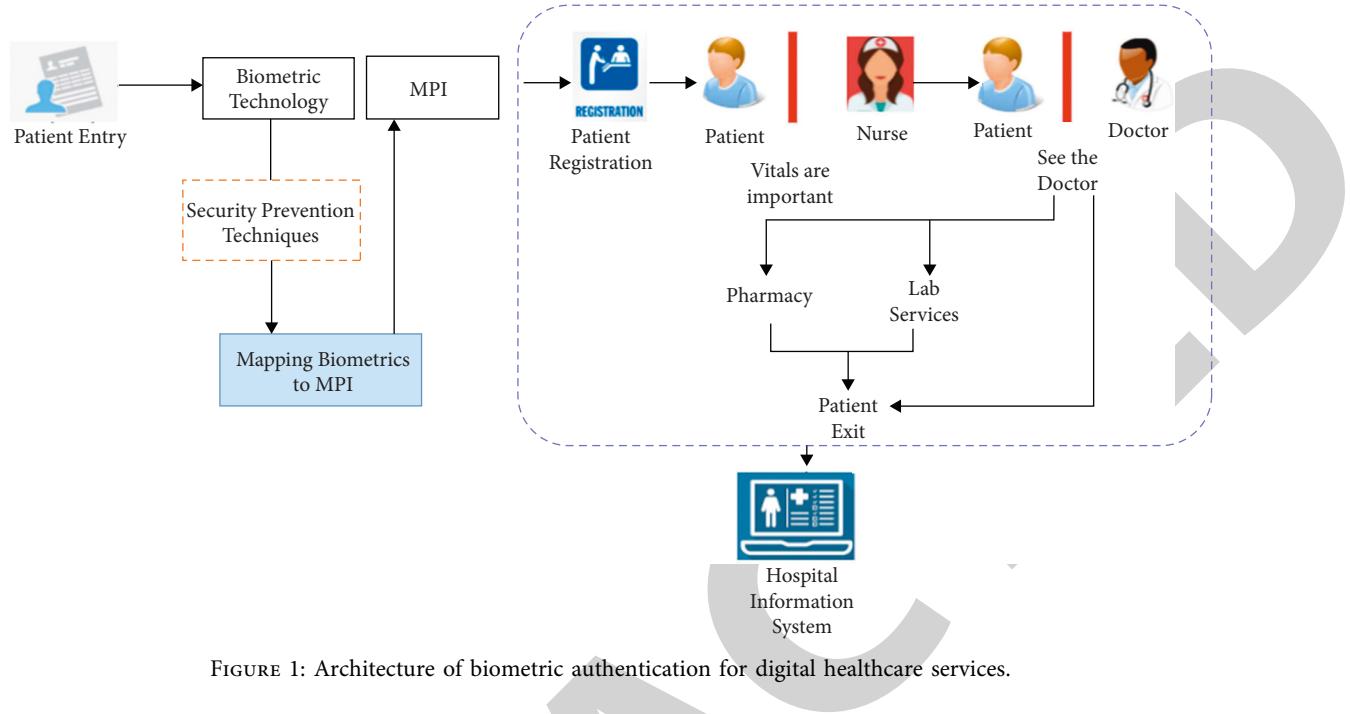


FIGURE 1: Architecture of biometric authentication for digital healthcare services.

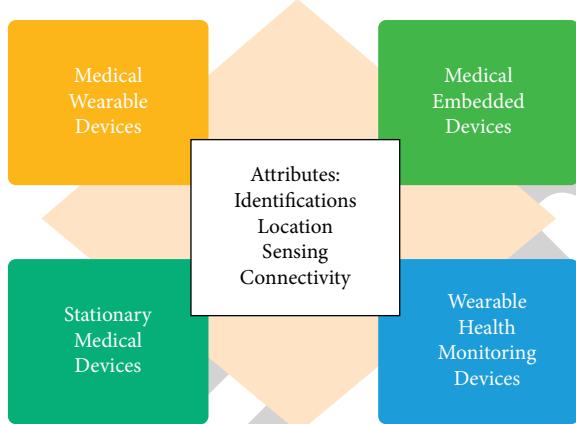


FIGURE 2: Healthcare IT topology for medical devices.

identification [11]. The practice of comparing one biometric pattern to another to determine whether it should be rejected or accepted is known as verification. Figure 3 shows the steps for authentication and verification.

## 2. Literature Review

Previous research has looked into using extremely low-resolution photographs to accomplish activity recognition while maintaining anonymity. Low-resolution action recognition based on the shape of the human head to guide body position estimate is proposed in one paper (Privacy-Preserving Action Recognition for Smart Hospitals Using Low-Resolution Depth Images). Inverse super-resolution (ISR) employs a network that generates several low-resolution recommendations and employs MCMC and entropy measure techniques to find the best action recognition transformation. Two comparable approaches use two-

stream neural networks to aggregate data and build a cross representation between high- and low-resolution images to learn an appropriate feature mapping.

Significant investment is needed in biometrics for security. Machine learning and algorithms must be very advanced to minimize biometric demographic bias. Some biometric systems can face scanning issues if there is a slight change, especially if the company is using retina scanning. Hard biometrics consists of authentication using face, fingerprints, or signature. It is very easy nowadays to forge another person's fingerprint or signature. Getting a facial snapshot of a person is very easy, and by that way, face recognition can be easily breached. Soft biometrics include voice recognition, eye color, and scars, which provide ancillary information but are not fully distinctive and permanent [12].

Numerous symmetric key techniques have been proposed in the literature for smart card-based authentication on single-server and multi-server architectures. In addition to smart card-based authentication, the literature describes three-factor authentication techniques that involve biometrics. However, biometric information integration is bound to be a fixed string and implemented similarly to password introduction. These smart card-based procedures can easily be transformed into the biometric form and vice versa. Most of the suggested smart card-based and biometric-based authentication methods are unsafe for well-known attacks such as stolen smart card attacks, replay attacks, user impersonation attacks, and insider attacks. A novel security system with identity privacy and untraceability is offered. Fuzzy extractors, fuzzy vaults, and fuzzy commitments, on the other hand, are commonly used to facilitate reusability and unlinkability in the practical integration of biometric data. These techniques use a template and assistance data to retrieve the secret material.

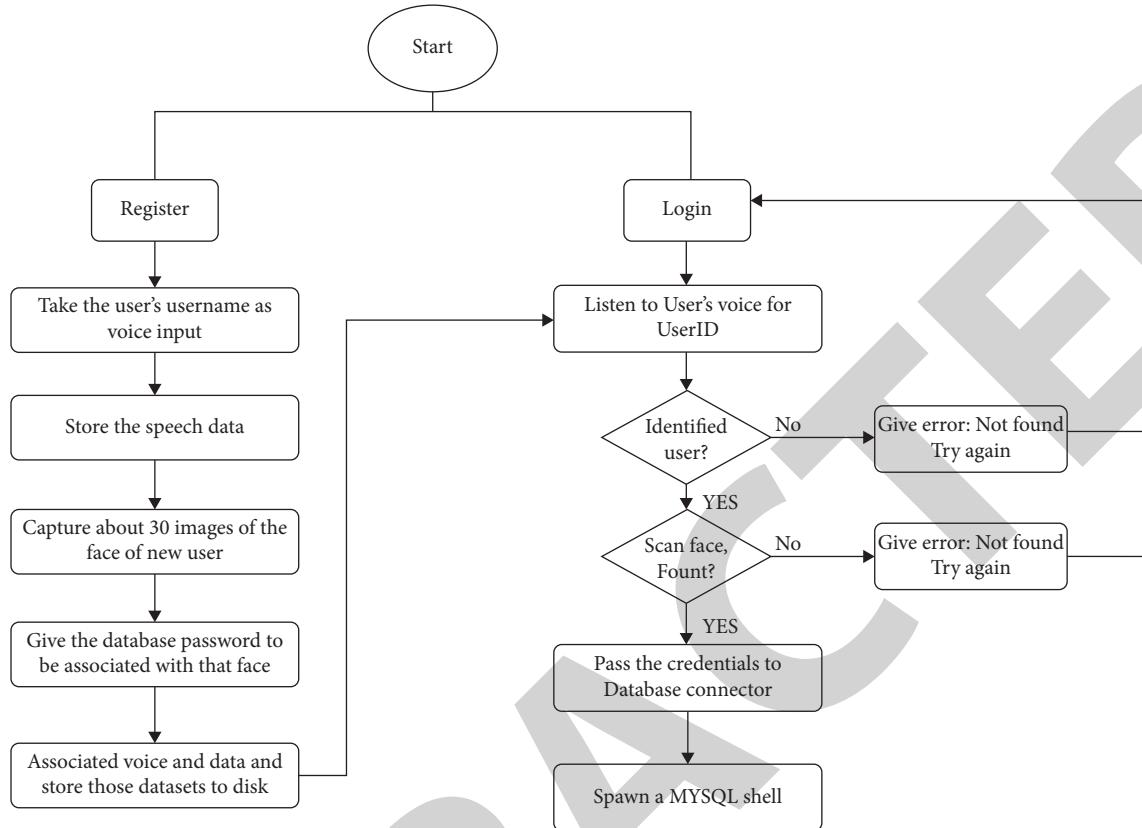


FIGURE 3: Flow of authentication.

Unfortunately, these approaches come at a considerable cost in terms of complexity and performance. The use of a pseudorandom number generator (PRNG) is proposed in “Identity Privacy-Preserving Biometric-Based Authentication Scheme for Unprotected Healthcare Environment” to develop a safe and computationally efficient remote biometric authentication technique, which adds robust biometric data security to a wide range of existing authentication protocols. Because it protects templates and the user’s privacy, the technique is known as a blind biometric authentication protocol. The protocol is blind since it does not display any information about the user other than their identification. On the server side, it also employs a PRNG.

Many current 2FA approaches are being called into question. Two-factor authentication enabled using one-time password (OTP), or SMS has one major disadvantage. As long as the device on which the OTP has been configured is in possession, it is convenient, but sometimes when the person does not have the device with him/her, although his account is secure, he is not able to log in or get access. It becomes a matter of convenience and hence is not used sometimes. For example, according to “Transparent two-factor authentication” [13] paper, certain methods of 2FA can be turned against a user’s system. One such case is when McAfee and Guardian Analytics released a joint report titled “Dissecting Operation High Roller.” It mentioned an international criminal group that used an automated

operation and stole large sums of money through unauthorized and fraudulent transfers. By infesting malicious software, they were able to get hold of the user’s system, and hence, they could even verify the two-factor tokens required for the bank account. Hence, this study suggested a more transparent method so that users can easily verify themselves and save themselves from different frauds. “Overview of fingerprint recognition system” states that the fingerprint system will be unavailable to certain segments of the population. People who have lost fingers or hands would be excluded, while older adults who are indulged in manual labor for so many years may struggle to record worn prints into a system. Many laptops do not support fingerprint recognition; hence, they cannot be used for online databases.

According to the “Five methods of usability of 2FA,” many users disliked hardware code generators; in fact, a few people switched banks because the tokens were so difficult to use. We also found out that the most common 2FA methods used were email or SMS for financial or personal sites [14]. According to another survey, these common methods have certain limitations. An attacker may pose as somebody while speaking to the victim, somebody from a particular bank, and by taking advantage of the user’s distraction, which may get hold of the one-time password from that user [15, 16]. This way, the user might lose every penny he owns, further affecting his/her business or professional life. According to one paper on cryptography known as “multifactor authentication,” integrating credible and new solutions has

always been a huge hurdle for developers and managers. User acceptance is low and a very serious part of adopting multifactor authentication. For example, a method known as deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) recognition has very high performance, universality, and uniqueness, but the acceptability rate is quite low, although it is not prone to spoof attacks and is an assuring method. On the other hand, this study supports using face and speech recognition as a part of 2FA. They suggest it is more transparent and easier to use and configure for people from almost every age bracket [17].

There are different ways with the help of which can optimize this method and make it more and more secure [18]. We can enable three-dimensional face recognition, i.e., by asking the user to move the head during the authentication process in a specific manner. User expressions can also be detected, making it less prone to any attacker or breach. According to a survey done at Carnegie Mellon University [19], many people were satisfied and thought that one-factor authentication is secure. The conclusion followed in the paper deduces that two-factor authentication now has become a necessity, regardless of the petty limitations that will be fixed in due time. Table 1 presents the list of existing methods with their approaches and limitations.

### 3. Methodology

The researchers have opted for the empirical way of research and are using the survey to prove the above hypothesis. The survey was conducted through Google Forms with 96 responses from different age groups and aspects of the society, which gave the researcher a vivid idea of the hypothesis. The survey was carried out for two weeks, and the participants were from different professions and different parts of India. For those who did not know the meaning of 2FA, researchers explained the meaning and usage to get their views. They were asked to use a simple biometric 2FA to get a clear idea.

### 4. Survey Analysis

Researchers got thoughtful opinions on where exactly the technology should be incorporated, which areas need immediate attention to this kind of technology, etc. Most people voted in favor of the companies that handle finances and online payment systems using the 2FA system. Although many people know about two-factor authentication, more people need to be aware of this technology as it will be fruitful soon.

This was an investigational study to see how people interpreted, adopted, and used 2FA. The researchers focused their efforts on gathering data that may be used to guide future deployments and improve specific procedures. In particular, the researchers were interested in users' impressions of 2FA and the factors that encourage and inhibit adoption. The survey was conducted through Google Form with 96 responses, including people from all the age brackets. In some questions, multiple-choice can be selected.

Analysis 1: the majority of the people, about 86.5%, i.e., 83 of the 96 participants, belonged to the 16–30 age group. Less than 9.4% (9 people) were people above 45 years. Only

2.1% (2 people) belonged to the age bracket of 5–15 and 31–45 years. This shows the targeted audience. People from age groups 5–15 are too young to understand the concept of 2FA and use it properly. Due to the generation gap and technical knowledge gap, not many people above the age of 40 use 2FA. Researchers did not circulate the Google Form to the people who did not know about 2FA because some questions required knowing 2FA and authentication. That is why there are fewer people in this age group. Currently, the main users of 2FA are people from 16 to 30 years. This gap will fade away in a few years, and people above 30 years will also actively use 2FA. Figure 4 illustrates the survey query 1.

Analysis 2: researchers found out that 35.8%, i.e., 34 of the 95 people, fall into indecision in the case of a password compromise. They are not aware of how to recover and restore their account by changing their passwords so that the attacker may not control their account for too long. Figure 5 depicts the survey query 2.

Analysis 3: 63.5%, i.e., 61 of the 96 people, use the same passwords everywhere. Hence, if one of their accounts gets compromised, it is very likely that other accounts will also get attacked, and they may lose a huge amount of sensitive information. Even if your password is leaked, attackers still need the 2nd factor to authenticate successfully. Using biometric factors makes it difficult to steal face or speech factors. Thus, the need for two-factor authentication is very high. Figure 6 portrays the survey query 3.

Analysis 4: participants selected multiple options. 68.1% of people (64 people) prefer biometric authentication such as face and speech recognition for security. One-time password through SMS is the most common and used method. However, it is observed that participants wanted to switch to technologies such as face and speech recognition, which is more secure and not easily stolen or imitated. Researchers focus on "biometric 2FA for online database"; therefore, face and speech recognition is the most feasible options. OTP and PIN codes are not biometric, and fingerprints are difficult to use for online databases on the laptop. Figure 7 shows the survey query 4, and Figure 8 represents the survey query 5.

Analysis 5: 23.2%, i.e., 22 of the 95 people, still think that a single authentication system is enough for the security of their accounts. One reason for this could be that they find it difficult to carry hardware tokens everywhere to authenticate themselves repeatedly, which is a tedious task. 58.9%, i.e., 56 of the 95 people, think 2FA is the highest level of security, which cannot be surpassed and is more than enough to secure their data, while 21.1% of people (20 people) want 2FA to be optimized and more factors should be added to strengthen the security. Few people feel like multifactor is a time-consuming process. Figure 9 illustrates the survey query 6, and Figure 10 depicts the survey query 7.

Analysis 6: 84.9%, i.e., 79 of the 93 people, want to incorporate 2FA into online payment apps and other financial consultancies operating online and where the exchange of money is taking place. Figure 11 portrays the survey query 8.

Analysis 7: in the survey, researchers found that 60.3% of people (38 people) find 2FA easy to use. 7.9% of people (5 people) reported it being difficult, out of which most people

TABLE 1: List of existing methods with their approaches and limitations.

Scheme	Year	Approach	Limitations
[20]	2012	Asymmetric	Forgery attacks are possible
[21]	2015	Cryptographic hash function	Vulnerable to impersonation attacks and insider attacks
[22]	2012	Symmetric encryption	User tracking attacks are possible
[23]	2016	Cryptographic hash function	Experiencing issues with transmitting secrecy and revocability
[13]	2018	Fingerprint verification	Fingerprints can also be stolen by capturing your prints without you knowing
[18]	2015	Hardware tokens	Many people find it difficult to carry hardware tokens and may lose them sometimes
[24]	2020	Bloom filter and format-preserving encryption	The primary downside is its probabilistic nature

Which age-group do you belong to?

96 responses

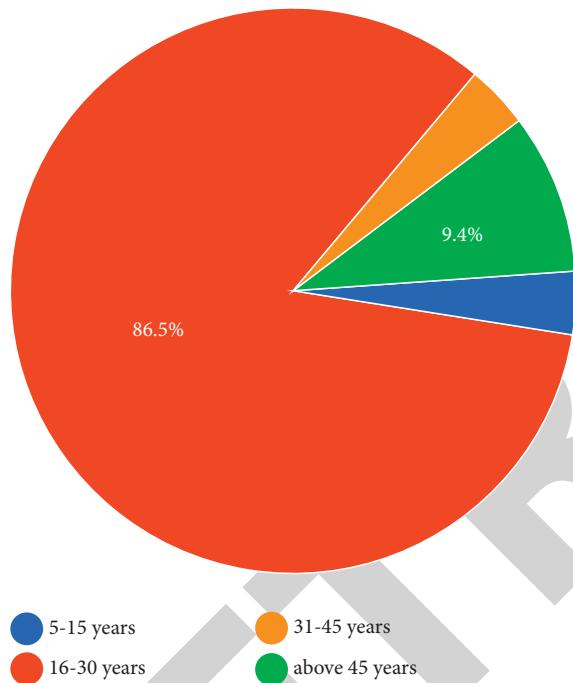


FIGURE 4: Survey query 1.

were above 45 years old. 14.3% of people (9 people) feel like it is unnecessary, and 17.5%, i.e., 11 of the 63 people, feel like it is very time-consuming and annoying. With this small-scale survey, researchers could figure out the qualitative and quantitative aspects of two-factor authentication technology. From these data, researchers can undoubtedly infer that although the preponderance of the people is aware of the technology and its logistics, there are still many people who are entirely oblivious to the use of this technology. Figure 12 represents the survey query 9. Table 2 presents the comparison results for privacy and security characteristic features.

## 5. Scope

**5.1. Present Scenario.** There are some limitations of this technology. It has been observed that two-factor authentication brings inconvenience to users when a physical entity is used as a second authentication factor, where many

If your password is compromised, do you know what to do?

95 responses

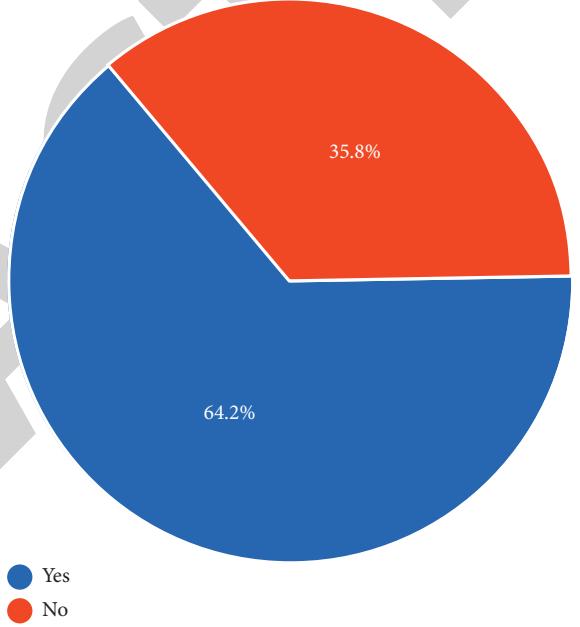


FIGURE 5: Survey query 2.

additional operation steps are added [28]. The main barriers to this technique are the data collecting and data storage processes. There is a chance the platform will crash or get an authentication problem. The possibility of technology duplication by other companies is a concern. New technologies could put this platform and technology to the challenge. After completing the password recovery process, many services will automatically log you into your account. When you use social media to log in to your account, 2FA may be ignored [29].

Patient records, data from clinical trials, radiological images, and genetic sequencing data are among the sources of the ever-increasing healthcare data. These data are predicted to have grown to a size of 25,000 petabytes by 2020. Virtualization and cloud computing are two new technologies that may acquire, manipulate, and store massive amounts of data. Healthcare data management thus involves the issues of storage and retrieval of vast amounts and types of data and the integration and exchange of such data across numerous sites. Aside from that, the construction of a scalable system that provides continuous connectivity

Do you use similar passwords for multiple applications?  
96 responses

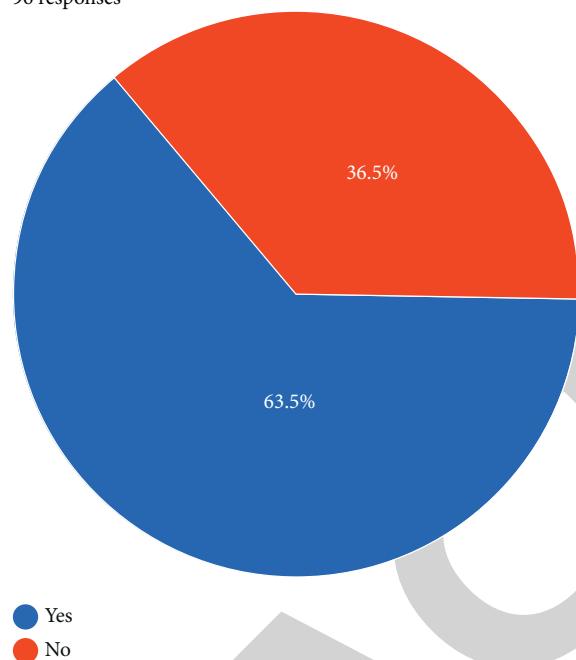


FIGURE 6: Survey query 3.

Which kind of authentication method would you prefer?  
94 responses

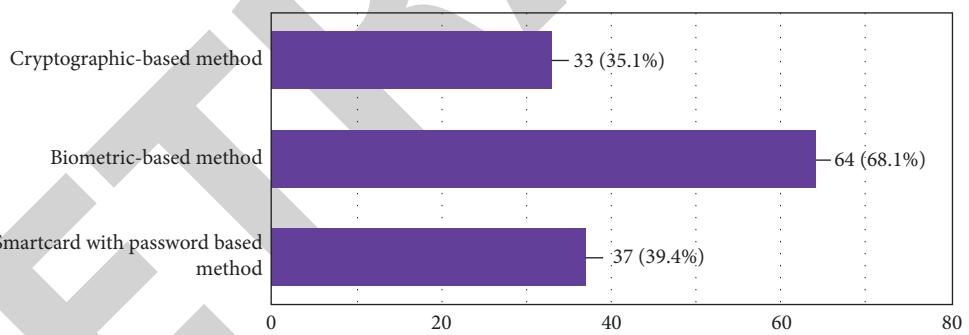


FIGURE 7: Survey query 4.

Which kind of authentication system would you prefer?  
96 responses

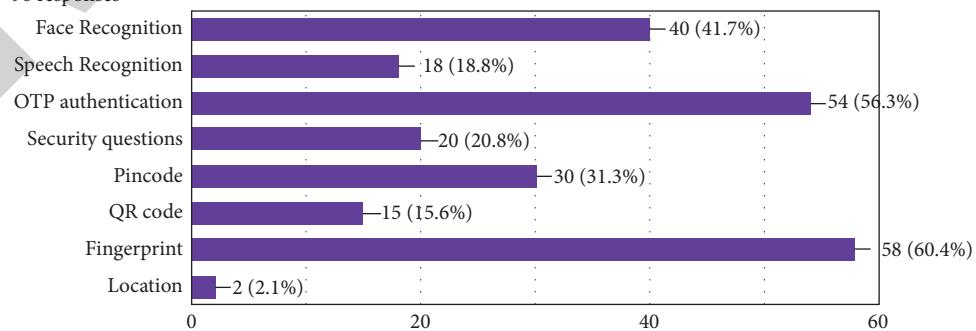


FIGURE 8: Survey query 5.

Do you think one-factor authentication is secure enough?  
95 responses

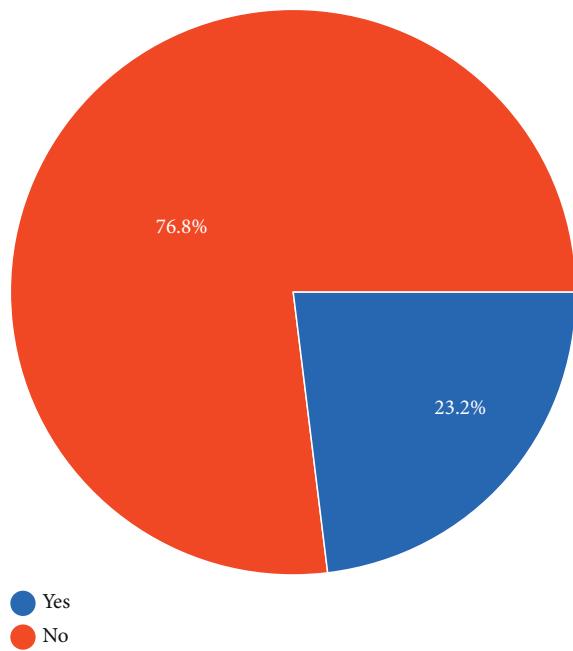


FIGURE 9: Survey query 6.

Would you consider two-factor authentication when it comes to payment gateways?  
93 responses

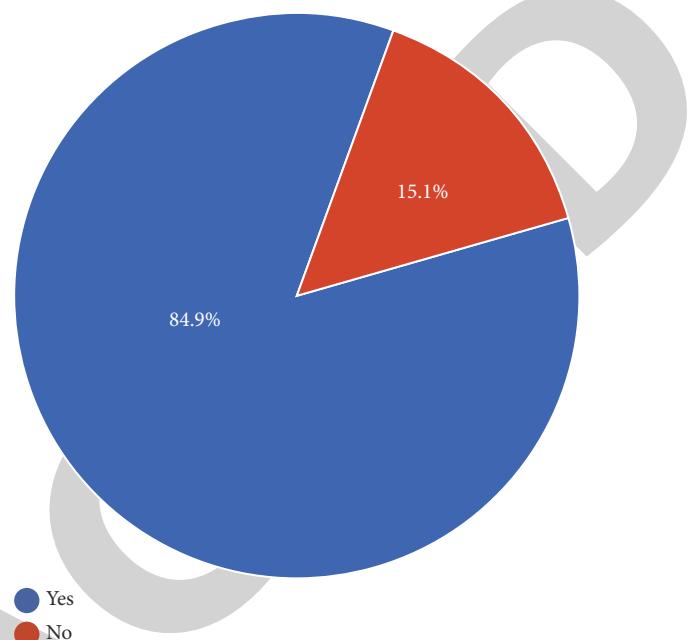


FIGURE 11: Survey query 8.

Which one do you prefer?  
95 responses

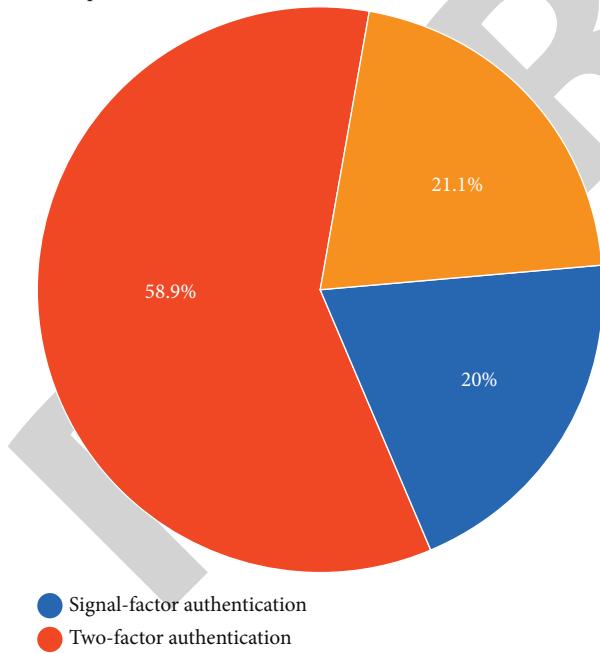


FIGURE 10: Survey query 7.

between the healthcare management system and its users is required [30].

**5.2. Case Study: Healthcare Facilities.** In a case such as healthcare data storage and retrieval, a biometric system can

What was your perception after using 2FA ?  
63 responses

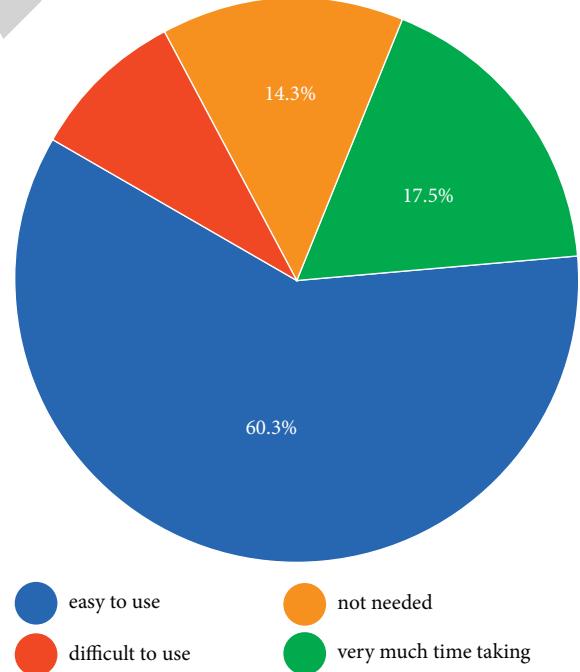


FIGURE 12: Survey query 9.

provide authentication. The fundamental motivation for implementing biometrics in the healthcare industry is to ensure the privacy and security of patient records. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the European Data Protection Directive, and the Australian

TABLE 2: Comparison results for privacy and security characteristic features.

Features	[25]	[26]	[27]	[10]
User anonymity	Yes	Yes	No	No
Mutual authentication	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Off-line PW guessing attack	Yes	No	No	No
Impersonation attack	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Replay attack	Yes	No	No	Yes
Provides formal security	Yes	Yes	No	No

Privacy Principles Act are examples of the international rules that mandate a high level of security, sensitive data exchange, and access control [30].

"Two-factor authentication platform helps healthcare institutions and health information networks secure remote access to confidential health information in a cost-effective and scalable manner, without disrupting provider workflow" [31]. The security of patient data is legal and an ethical obligation of the medical sector. Complete security is difficult to achieve, especially in the medical domain, where disclosing information regarding the patient is a significant part of treating the patient. As dangers to the patient's health data rise, suitable technical, administrative, and physical protection measures must be taken to protect the privacy of protected health information (PHI). Hackers consistently target user credentials to gain access to the healthcare system [32]. Figure 13 shows the functional platform for the healthcare system.

According to the Protenus Breach Barometer, these types of incidents compromised 3.8 million medical records in 2019. An increase in health data available electronically implies more risks. For example, it is usually these days for family members and the provider's office to share usernames and passwords. Employees may be given these personal credentials to gain legitimate access. They are occasionally written down and picked up by curious individuals. It may be guessed or detected by malicious software. This increased exposure has resulted in a significant increase in information leakage, theft of personal information, and numerous violations of HIPAA's privacy and security regulations [33]. Using a static password to prevent unauthorized or unlawful access to your personal or sensitive information is no longer deemed sufficient [34]. Also, there are important data of healthcare departments such as information related to where particular medicine is kept and how many doses can be harmful, or research information needed to be protected at any cost. The leakage of such data can prove fatal and affect the masses.

Two-factor authentication provides a higher level of security and reliability. According to "[31]" by William Braithwaite, it is accepted and understood widely that to provide sufficient security to protect access of sensitive data and personal information of the patient, two-factor authentication needs to be implemented. Allowing access only after face and speech recognition verification will help keep intruders from hacking or logging in and stealing important healthcare data. Keeping factors such as face detection and speech verification prevent robots or other systems [7]. Figure 14 shows the healthcare data breach record in the past years.

According to HealthTech, a company that deals with software requirements of healthcare facilities, doctors and other staff members showed enthusiastic response after the installation of 2-factor authentications as it makes their workflow efficient and makes things easier for patients. It also lets them focus on other factors rather than worrying about data security. It saves money and time.

For example, many healthcare companies ask their employees to strengthen their passwords, which may sometimes be complicated. They also require users to change their passwords periodically to ensure the security of their sensitive data, which makes passwords hard to remember but very easy to lose. Based on studies by Microsoft, the account becomes 99.9% less likely to be compromised or attacked if you use MFA. Table 3 presents a summary of the protocol, results, and key contributions from authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems. Table 4 presents the details on the classification of healthcare apps for authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems. Table 5 shows the different types of attacks for authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems.

## 6. Open Challenges: Authentication and Privacy-Preserving Healthcare Systems

Figure 15 illustrates the open challenges for authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems. Some of the open challenges are as follows:

- (i) If only one parameter is impacted, the accuracy of the entire system will suffer
- (ii) Cost and technical complexity to implement
- (iii) 2FA for many platforms can be circumvented
- (iv) Creating procedural delays in the system
- (v) Susceptible to social engineering
- (vi) Access codes can be stolen; vulnerable to phishing attacks
- (vii) Poses advanced threats such as a 3D modeling of a face or finger
- (viii) The influence of the technical issues is significant
- (ix) Usability issues in Google's 2FA setup processes

## 7. Future Research Directions: Authentication and Privacy-Preserving Healthcare Systems

Face recognition (FR) is becoming a key study area due to the wide range of applications in commercial and law

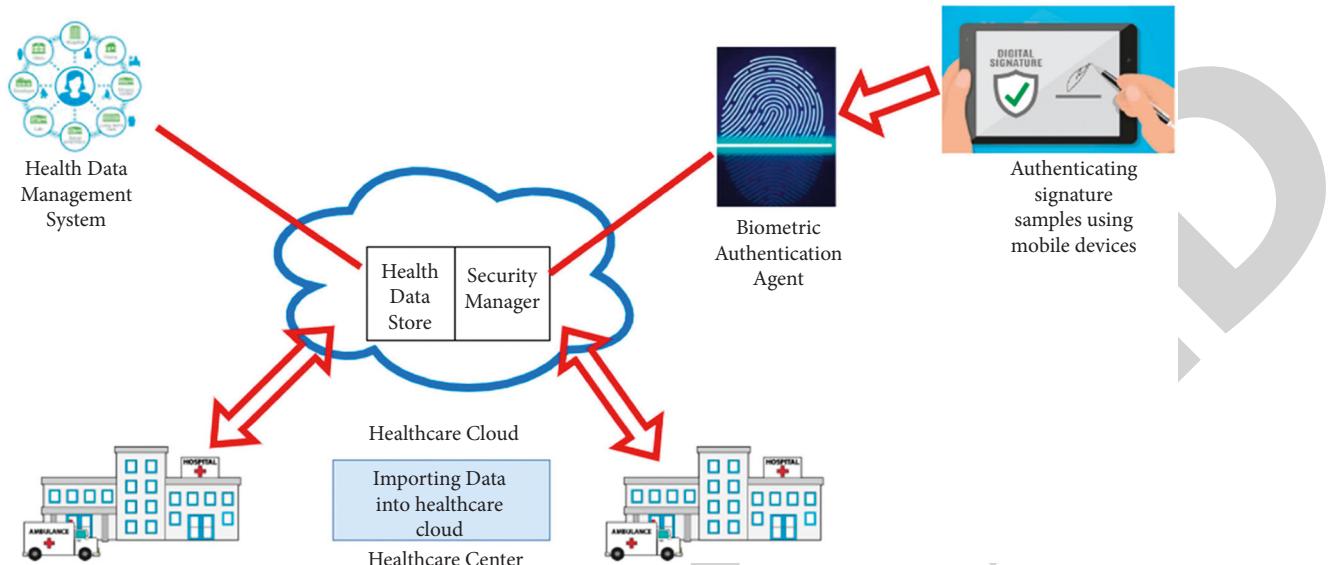


FIGURE 13: Functional platform of the intelligent and privacy-preserving healthcare system.

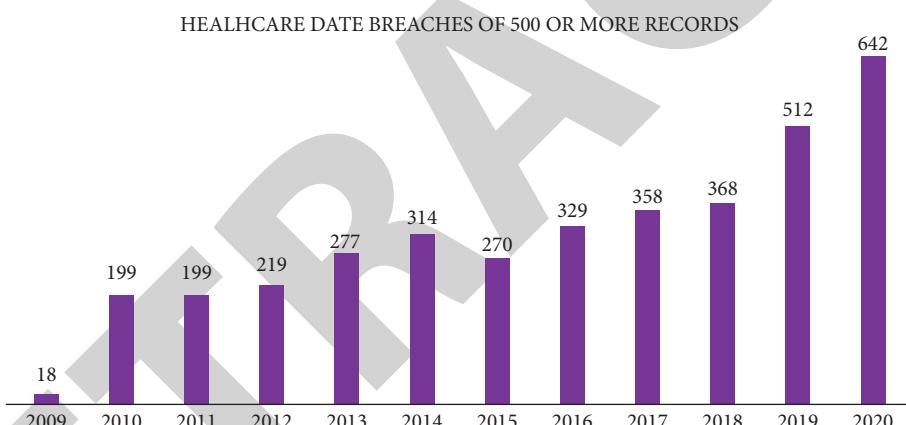


FIGURE 14: Healthcare data breach record.

TABLE 3: A summary of the protocol, results, and key contributions from authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems.

Reference	Year	Protocol	Results	Key contributions
[1]	2019	Health screening for people who have diabetes	Smart services do the whole screening autonomously	They do not describe how a procedure is performed but why, when, where, and by whom the care is given
[27]	2015	Security	Promotes public confidence in healthcare services	Provides a secure environment for people using the services
[35]	2019	Decentralized privacy-preserving healthcare blockchain for IoT	Secures data transfers and logging of data and storage on the blockchain	Security through blockchain
[36]	2017	Radiofrequency identification	Tracks hospital supplies, medical equipment, medications	Privacy-preserving access controls
[12]	2013	Wireless medical sensor network	Sensitive patient information is sent through the open air.	The lightweight encryption algorithm is proposed to secure communication between the sensor node and the Sharemind system.

TABLE 4: A classification of healthcare apps: authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems.

Category	Common apps	Description
Medicine delivery app	Netmeds, PharmEasy, Medlife	Delivery anywhere
Telenursing applications	Practo	Online doctor consultation
Medicine reminders app	Medisafe Pill reminder, Bedside Reminders	Alerting with push notification
Appointment scheduling apps	AppointmentPlus, PatientPop	Set online scheduler with doctor
Mindfulness, health, and fitness apps	MyFitnessPal, Headspace	Records your heart rate, water level, sugar level, and gives you a full report at the end
Patient health education apps	CardioTech, Simply Sayin'	Educes patients about different diseases, what causes them, and what are the symptoms

TABLE 5: Different types of attacks: authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems.

Reference	Year	Attacks	Description
[37]	2012	Dictionary and password guessing attack	Guessing the password from a password list
[38]	2013	Denial of service	Denying service to the user by creating unnecessary traffic
[20]	2012	Impersonation attacks	Impersonating to be someone and stealing information
[39]	2013	Patient anonymity violation	Exploiting the hidden identity of the patient
[40]	2014	Spoofing	The act of misrepresenting a communication from an unknown source as coming from a recognized, reliable source.
[22]	2012	Malware infusion	Ingesting malware into the system so that it does not work properly
[23]	2016	Man in the middle	Capturing and listening to the information being passed from the sender to the receiver and vice versa.
[21]	2015	Tracing attacks	In each session, the patient uses the same identifier, leading to the disclosure of private information.

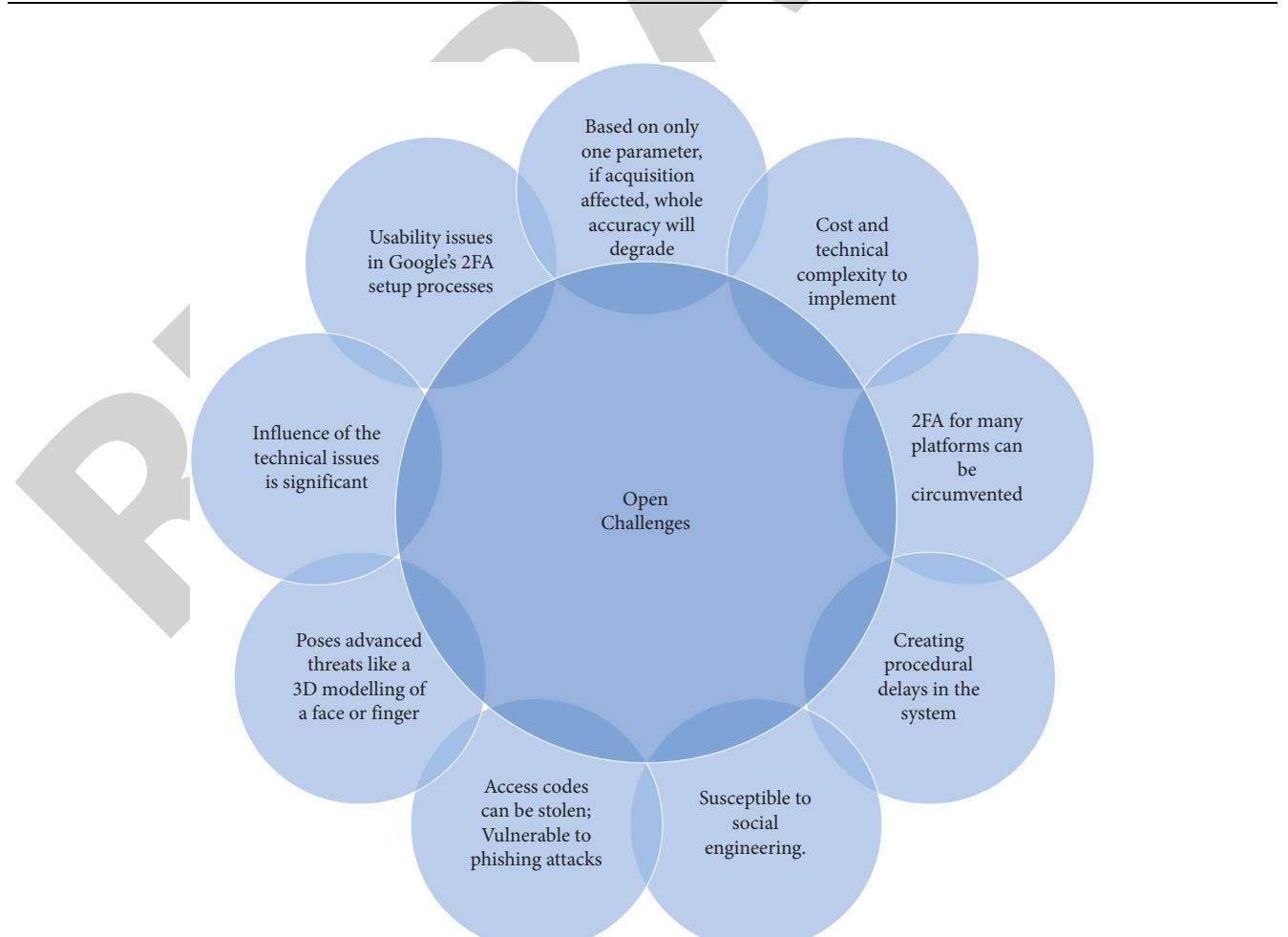


FIGURE 15: Open challenges: authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems.

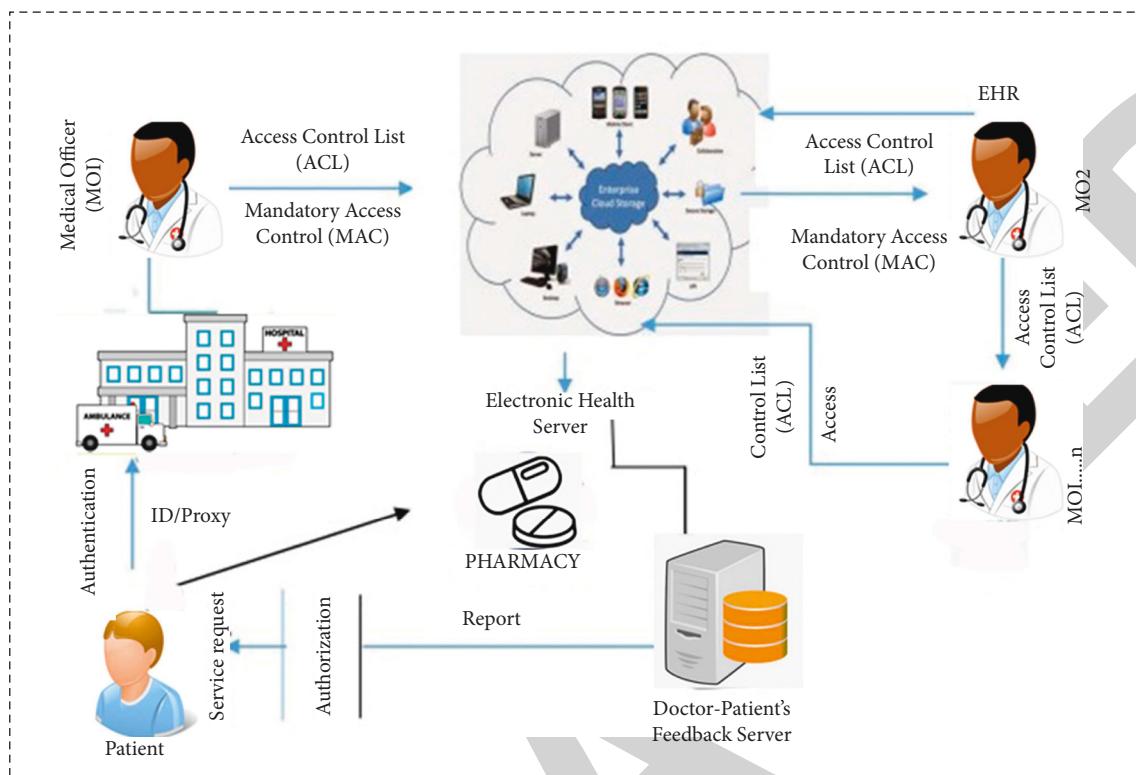


FIGURE 16: Operating model: authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems.

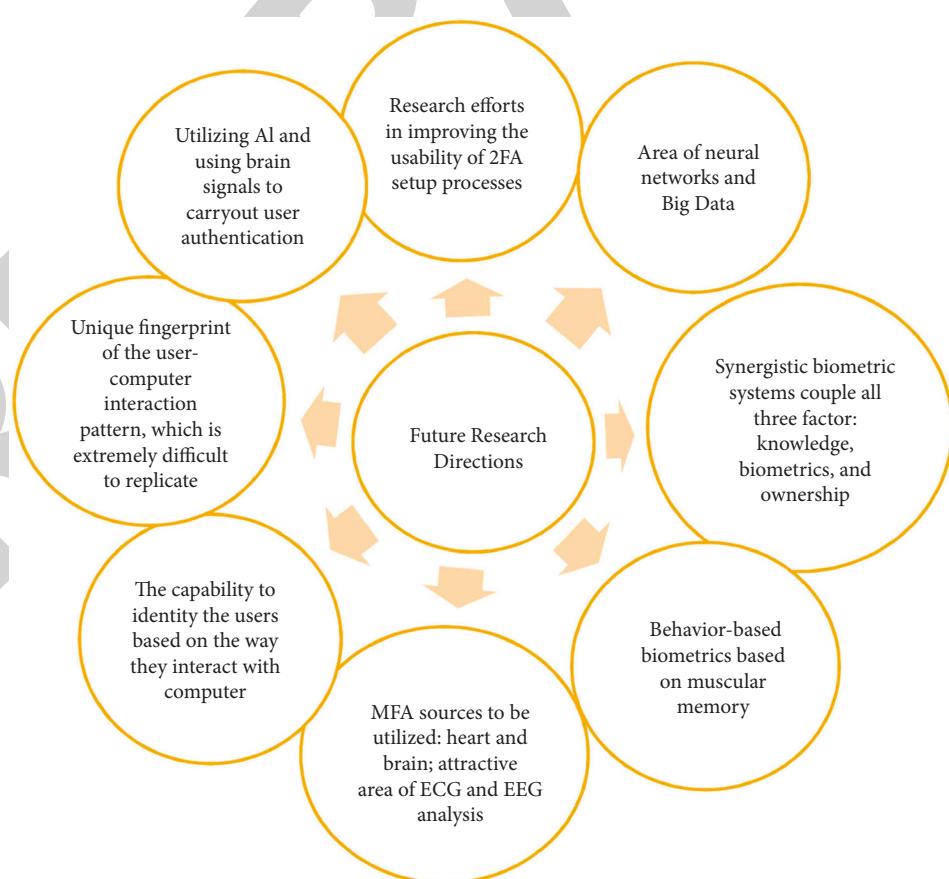


FIGURE 17: Future research directions: authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems.

enforcement industries. Figure 16 represents the operating model for authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems. Object lighting, pose variation, expression variations, and facial disguises are all issues for traditional FR approaches based on visible spectrum (VS). Unfortunately, these constraints reduce object identification and verification performance. Figure 17 shows the future research directions for authentication and privacy-preserving healthcare systems. The infrared spectrum (IRS) may be employed in human FR to circumvent these constraints. Some of the future research directions are as follows:

- (i) In India, preventing ATM fraud is a priority. It is possible to construct a database of all ATM cardholders in India with facial and speech recognition technologies.
- (ii) It can also identify candidates during examinations such as the Civil Services Exam, SSC, IIT, MBBS, and others.
- (iii) This technology can verify and track attendance at various government offices and businesses.
- (iv) It can also be implemented in bank lockers and vaults for access control verification and authentication of authentic users.
- (v) More biometric authentication-enabled items, such as computers and cell phones, can be manufactured.
- (vi) Consumers' growing security concerns result in increased demand for biometric services.
- (vii) Research efforts in improving the usability of 2FA setup processes.
- (viii) Area of neural networks and big data.
- (ix) Synergistic biometric systems couple all three factors: knowledge, biometrics, and ownership.
- (x) Behavior-based biometrics based on muscular memory.
- (xi) MFA sources to be utilized: heart and brain; attractive area of ECG and EEG analysis.
- (xii) The capability to identify the users based on the way they interact with the computer.
- (xiii) Unique fingerprint of the user-computer interaction pattern, which is extremely difficult to replicate.
- (xiv) Utilizing AI and using brain signals to carry out user authentication.

## 8. Conclusions

It is no surprise that various digital accounts have become a magnet for fraudsters because people spend so much of their time on their phones and laptops. Malicious attacks on governments, businesses, and individuals are becoming increasingly widespread. Moreover, there are no indicators that hacking, data breaches, or other forms of cybercrime will slow down anytime soon. Fortunately, two-factor

authentication, often known as 2FA, is a simple way for organizations to add an extra layer of security to user accounts.

Many existing approaches are vulnerable to insider attacks and off-line password guessing attacks, resulting in increased security risks and the inability to provide user anonymity. Secure authentication is required to overcome the problem of timely updating patient data in the medical system. The discussion above makes us believe that the new scheme meets the following requirements: smart health care is good. The Proposed Intelligent and Privacy-Preserving Healthcare Systems scheme provides mutual authentication between patient and authentication server. The patient can also change their password freely without the help of the registration server. Researchers have demonstrated that the proposed scheme has more security features and a greater security level than similar schemes.

Some people still do not use 2FA, making them vulnerable to security threats. The company's responsibility is to endeavor to make people aware of the process and benefits of 2FA and biometric systems.

A very recent example of the same is WhatsApp. They have started their end-to-end encryption; they have used various media platforms to spread awareness about the same and influence people to use it more as it is the safer way, and this shall prevent them from various sorts of data breaches. So, even now, if people are not technically aware of end-to-end encryption, they still know this will protect their data. The same efforts are needed in the field of biometric 2FA.

Biometric authentication is undoubtedly gaining popularity and is commonly used by mobile users, but its popularity has been restricted to phones only. People are unaware of its usage on online databases, which is too vulnerable to security breaches. It should be user-friendly, with terms and conditions explained in a layman's way and the threats of not using it.

## Data Availability

The article's original contributions generated for this study are included; further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author.

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this study.

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