

Overview of What I've Done

1. Imported Libraries

- Brought in `pandas` for data manipulation.

2. Loaded the Dataset

- Read the Kaggle “Medical Appointments” CSV (May 2016) into a DataFrame.
- Displayed initial `head()`, `info()` to understand shape and dtypes.

3. Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

- Checked for duplicate rows.
- Generated summary statistics (`describe()`) for numerical columns.

4. Data Cleaning & Preprocessing

- **Invalid Ages:** Removed entries where `age` is negative or zero.
- **Column Names:** Lowercased and replaced spaces/special characters with underscores.
- **Renaming:** Standardized certain column names (e.g., `no_show` → `no_show`, if you renamed).
- **Handicap Encoding:** Converted the `handicap` column to binary (0 = no handicap, 1 = any handicap).
- **Date Parsing:** Cast appointment and scheduled dates to `datetime` objects for time-series readiness.
- **No-Show Encoding:** Mapped “Yes”/“No” to 1/0 to facilitate modeling later.
- **Gender Standardization:** Stripped whitespace, uppercased, and replaced `M/F` with `Male/Female`.
- **Neighborhood Formatting:** Title-cased neighborhood names so they're human-readable and consistent.

5. Final Checks & Export

- Ran `info()`, `describe()`, and `head()` again to verify cleaning.
- Saved the cleaned DataFrame to `cleaned_medical_appointments.csv`.