Evaluating the Impact of New Technologies on Quality of Healthcare services in Saudi Arabia: A Systematic Review

Abdullah Safar Alghamdi¹, Ali Ibrahim Nishaily², Hanan Mohammed Gassim Kinani³, Feras Mohammed Almahmood⁴, Fahad Ali Alasiri⁵, Ahmed Taher Hakami⁶, Manal Abdulmohsen Al Harthi⁷, Jawaher Ahmed Alsaedi⁸, Saud Mohammed Alarifi⁹, Majed Abdullah Hassan Kuriri¹⁰

Abstract

State-of-the-art healthcare technology including artificial intelligence, telemedicine, EHR systems, and blockchain systems now improves international health services delivery. Saudi Arabia uses these technologies to support its Vision 2030 goal of delivering superior quality care to more patients at reduced costs. Research finds the effectiveness of these healthcare solutions in Saudi Arabia lacks thorough evaluation on how projects face hurdles and bring lasting changes to healthcare service delivery. This systematic review aims to evaluate the impact of emerging healthcare technologies on the quality of healthcare services in Saudi Arabia, with a focus on AI, telemedicine, EHRs, and blockchain technologies. The research employed PubMed, Scopus, IEEE Xplore, ScienceDirect, and Google Scholar electronic databases to retrieve studies from 2020 to 2024. The research selected appropriate studies according to the research question while the data extraction followed PRISMA guidelines. The analysis of 10 high-quality studies established substantial healthcare quality and operational efficiency along with accessible healthcare because of AI combined with telemedicine and EHRs and blockchain implementations. Researchers discovered four main benefits that result from AI and blockchain adoption which include improved diagnostics as well as wider healthcare access coupled with better information protection and enhanced operational functions. The implementation of healthcare technologies faced barriers because healthcare workers struggled with digital skills as well as concerns about data privacy and increased cybersecurity exposure. Future healthcare technologies present the potential to transform Saudi Arabian healthcare delivery systems into higher quality services. The successful deployment of these technologies in the future demands resolution of security concerns along with raising digital abilities and delivering proper training for the workforce.

Keywords: Healthcare technologies, Artificial Intelligence, Telemedicine, EHRs, Blockchain, Saudi Arabia, Digital Health, Systematic Review.

Introduction

Modern healthcare technology development created significant improvements to medical services worldwide thus advancing patient care services and operational effectiveness and clinical decisions. The Saudi Arabian health sector uses artificial intelligence and electronic health records as well as telemedicine solutions in its digital health system to expand health services across the country according to Vision 2030 goals (Alghamdi et al., 2021). Healthcare institutions together with hospitals have implemented data-driven strategies because of these innovations which improved administration and cut down on human mistakes (Saeed et al., 2023). While promising results emerge from implementing these technologies, healthcare professionals face challenges with system interoperability together with digital security concerns and new digital system adaptation needs (Alanazi et al., 2023; Alasmari et al., 2023; Albur, 2024).

¹ King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre, Jeddah

² Alhurrath General Hospital.

³ Damad General Hospital.

⁴ King Abdulaziz Medical City of National Guard.

⁵ King Abdullah Specialist Children Hospital of National Guard

⁶ Jazan Medical Supply - Main Stores

⁷ King Faisal Medical Complex - Taif

⁸ King Abdulaziz University

⁹ King Abdulaziz Medical City of National Guard

¹⁰ Ahad Al-Masariha General Hospital

Journal of Ecohumanism

2024

Volume: 3, No: 8, pp. 14367- 14380

ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online) https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

The medical field utilizes AI applications to deliver breakthroughs in diagnosis together with improved patient observation and predictive data analysis. Machine learning algorithms help radiology and pathology and personalized treatment planning through their increasing use because this leads to better clinical outcomes (Saeed et al., 2023). Telemedicine stands as a central healthcare delivery framework which serves remote locations to provide continuous medical services while decreasing hospital population (Al-Wathinani et al., 2024). The successful employment of these technological solutions depends on established regulatory frameworks combined with trained medical personnel to reach their maximum benefits (Fahad Alqusumi, 2024).

The medical field utilizes AI applications to deliver breakthroughs in diagnosis together with improved patient observation and predictive data analysis. Machine learning algorithms help radiology and pathology and personalized treatment planning through their increasing use because this leads to better clinical outcomes (Saeed et al., 2023). Telemedicine stands as a central healthcare delivery framework which serves remote locations to provide continuous medical services while decreasing hospital population (Al-Wathinani et al., 2024). The successful employment of these technological solutions depends on established regulatory frameworks combined with trained medical personnel to reach their maximum benefits (Fahad Alqusumi, 2024).

Blockchain along with cloud-based EHR systems demonstrate enhanced healthcare efficiency through data protection features as well as cooperation enhancement between medical facilities and elimination of wasteful medical treatments (Alghamdi et al., 2021). Such systems provide better patient care practices yet overcoming infrastructure problems and digital competency demands immediate attention (Barakah et al., 2017). Healthcare services need sustainable improvement from new technologies which require solving the existing challenges (Alqarni et al., 2023; Matmi et al., 2023; Altalhi et al., 2023). This review examines the effect that upcoming healthcare technologies have on healthcare service quality within Saudi Arabia.

This research uses existing research evidence to evaluate both the advantages and obstacles of digital healthcare transformation within the healthcare sector (Saeed et al., 2023; Alruwaili et al., 2023; Almalki et al., 2023; Alselaml et al., 2023). The research findings will assist healthcare authorities and medical professionals to enhance digital health strategy optimization that operates within the framework of national healthcare targets.

Problem Statement

Healthcare dreams have brought digital technology innovations that shaped three fundamental aspects of healthcare delivery alongside operational performance enhancement. The Saudi Arabian Vision 2030 initiative demonstrates active adoption of advanced technologies including artificial intelligence (AI) along with electronic health records (EHRs) and telemedicine and blockchain for purposes of healthcare quality improvement and accessibility enhancement. Several obstacles prevent the complete achievement of technological potential despite the progress achieved. Multiple barriers impede healthcare outcomes in Saudi Arabia due to interoperability limitations and digital skill deficits and data security constraints and medical staff as well as patient resistance to technology adoption (Alghamdi et al., 2021). The evaluation of these technologies' effectiveness toward patient satisfaction with concurrent medical error reduction and clinical decision enhancement needs additional empirical research. A complete assessment system is imperative to determine the full implications of these technologies on Saudi healthcare because unexplained effects require deeper study regarding benefits versus limitations.

Significance of the Study

Transformative changes can occur in Saudi Arabia's healthcare system if emerging healthcare technologies become adopted because these innovations will lead to higher system efficiency while simultaneously minimizing costs and better serving individual patients. A systematic assessment of these technologies will deliver beneficial understanding about their work process optimization properties and healthcare provider workload management and their data-based decision-making ability. The discovery of obstacles in technology adoption enables the creation of successful implementation strategies that include staff

Journal of Ecohumanism
2024
Volume: 3, No: 8, pp. 14367– 14380
ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)
https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism
DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

education and governmental policy enhancement and technological infrastructure advancement. The research findings will guide policymakers while serving as evidence-based suggestions for healthcare administrators and technology developers to pursue digital transformation in the medical sector. This investigation aims to fill existing gaps that will enable Saudi Arabia to expand digital health initiatives strategically based on national healthcare targets as well as international standards for best practice.

Aim of the Study

The objectives of this research investigate the systematic assessment of new healthcare technology effects on Saudi Arabia's healthcare service quality. The purpose of this study involves evaluating the impact of AI, telemedicine, blockchain and EHR systems on patient care as well as their influence on operational efficiency and healthcare accessibility. The evaluation will both uncover essential obstacles related to their adoption phase and introduce proven strategies to enhance digital health approaches. New healthcare technology benefits and challenges will be evaluated in detail through existing research to define the complete picture of Saudi Arabian healthcare technology development.

Methodology

The review adopts a standardized methodology to assess new technology effects on healthcare service quality in Saudi Arabia. A thorough investigation of studies happened through electronic database searching involving PubMed and Scopus together with IEEE Xplore and ScienceDirect and Google Scholar from 2020 to 2024. The paper followed the PRISMA guidelines to conduct systematic reviews and meta-analyses while choosing and evaluating and synthesizing the study results. The research analyzed peer-reviewed journal articles together with systematic reviews and empirical studies that analyzed artificial intelligence (AI) alongside telemedicine and blockchain and electronic health records (EHRs) and additional novel technologies related to improving healthcare efficiency and accessibility and patient outcomes in Saudi Arabia.

A double-review process involving separate investigators was implemented to perform the literature extraction and maintain study inclusion/exclusion standards and address conflicts of opinion through direct communication. The authors evaluated the selected studies through Cochrane Risk of Bias Tool for randomized controlled trials together with Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Critical Appraisal Checklist for observational studies. A consistent data extraction method utilized a standardized format which encompassed study goals along with research approaches and vital findings as well as implementation difficulties and advisory measures for healthcare technology deployment.

Research Question

The systematic review aims to answer the following research question:

"How have emerging healthcare technologies, including artificial intelligence, telemedicine, blockchain, and electronic health records, impacted the quality, efficiency, and accessibility of healthcare services in Saudi Arabia between 2020 and 2024?"

Selection Criteria

Inclusion Criteria

- Research from 2020 to 2024 will ensure the studies align with present healthcare technology developments.
- The research includes peer-reviewed analyses, systematic overviews, and empirical evidence which studies how AI, telemedicine, blockchain, EHRs and other emerging healthcare technologies affect Saudi Arabian healthcare quality.

- Research focused on analyzing healthcare service accessibility alongside operational efficiency alongside patient outcomes and digital technology adoption by healthcare providers.
- The analysis includes research from Saudi Arabia and studies holding substantial data impact on Saudi healthcare system operations.
- All written materials must be produced in English to guarantee universal accessibility and standardize interpretation.

Exclusion Criteria

- Research material published before 2020 might not include current developments in health technology applications.
- Non-peer-reviewed articles, opinion pieces, conference abstracts, or unpublished dissertations.
- Research which limits itself to non-digital healthcare interventions and traditional medical practices and pharmaceutical innovations that lack technological components.
- Research which fails to demonstrate practical healthcare technology outcomes using quantifiable data. Studies about global healthcare trends that ignore Saudi Arabian health conditions.

Database Selection

This research relied on multiple academic databases to achieve systematic evaluation of peer-reviewed studies. The research focused on databases that published relevant information about healthcare technology together with digital health transformation and medical advances within Saudi Arabia. The analyzed research spanned from 2020 to 2024 to ensure it matched the established assessment parameters in the study design.

The following databases were used to retrieve relevant literature:

Table 1. Database Selection

No	Database	Syntax Used for Search Query	Year	No. of
			Range	Studies
				Found
1	PubMed	("Healthcare Technology" OR "Digital Health")	2020-	142
		AND ("Saudi Arabia") AND ("AI" OR	2024	
		"Telemedicine" OR "EHR" OR "Blockchain")		
2	Scopus	TITLE-ABS-KEY ("Healthcare Technology"	2020-	178
		AND "Saudi Arabia" AND ("Artificial	2024	
		Intelligence" OR "Telemedicine"))		
3	IEEE Xplore	("Healthcare Innovations" OR "Smart	2020-	98
		Healthcare") AND ("Saudi Arabia")	2024	
4	ScienceDirect	("Digital Health Transformation" OR "Health	2020-	156
		Tech") AND ("Saudi Arabia")	2024	
5	Google	("Healthcare Technology in Saudi Arabia" AND	2020-	210
	Scholar	"New Technologies")	2024	
Total				784

Data Extraction

A system for data extraction that followed a structured framework was implemented after selecting the appropriate studies. These are the main variables that researchers extracted from their chosen studies:

- Study Title: The title of the study serves to present a general overview of its research objectives.
- Authors and Year: The authors as well as the year of publication followed to confirm compatibility with the examined timeframe of 2020–2024.
- Study Objective: The purpose and primary focus of the research.
- Methodology: The qualitative, quantitative or mixed method approach.
- Technologies Examined: Whether the study focused on AI, telemedicine, blockchain, EHRs, or other healthcare innovations.
- Key Findings: Summary of significant results relevant to healthcare technology in Saudi Arabia.
- Challenges Identified: Barriers to implementation, Interoperability issues, cybersecurity concerns, and workforce readiness.
- Recommendations: Improvements to the adoption and impact of healthcare technologies.

Search Syntax

Primary Syntax:	(("Healthcare Technology" OR "Digital Health" OR "Smart Healthcare") AND ("Saudi Arabia") AND ("Artificial Intelligence" OR "Telemedicine" OR "EHR" OR "Blockchain"))
Secondary Syntax.	(("Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare" OR "Telemedicine Adoption") AND ("Saudi Arabia") AND ("Healthcare Quality" OR "Operational Efficiency"))

Literature Search

An extensive literature review was carried out to select studies pertinent to the impact caused by emerging healthcare technologies on the quality of provided healthcare services in Saudi Arabia. The search was made through five important electronic databases; PubMed, Scopus, IEEE Xplore, ScienceDirect, and Google Scholar to make sure that only peer reviewed and high-quality resources were included. The research, which was carried out, was on the studies published between 2020 and 2024 as the study aims to assess the latest technological advancements in healthcare. To identify healthcare studies, smart homes, collaborations, and alternative care facilities and innovations to help understand the healthcare market in Saudi Arabia, multiple articles that were relevant to these kinds of digital healthcare innovations such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), telemedicine, electronic health records (EHRs), and blockchain applications to the healthcare system in Saudi Arabia are being reviewed. A structured approach was used to systematically filter out these 784 studies in order to ensure methodological rigor and relevance. Reference lists of relevant articles and grey literature sources were searched for additional studies to enhance the review.

Journal of Ecohumanism 2024

Volume: 3, No: 8, pp. 14367– 14380 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

Selection of Studies

Next, the relevant literature was identified, and a systematic process was used to eliminate the studies that were not going to be included in this review. In the first step, title and abstract screening excluded irrelevant studies, such as studies that were confined to only healthcare technologies which are not from Saudi Arabia or do not contain any empirical data. After this step there were 647 studies remaining for full text screening.

During the full-text screening phase, study methodological quality, research design, and relevance were assessed in detail. In those studies, it aimed to find out the effectiveness, the challenges and future implications of AI, telemedicine, EHRs and blockchain in Saudi healthcare. Of the 207 studies excluded in this phase, they were excluded because they had limited relevance, no empirical data, and/or methodological weaknesses.

Forty high-quality studies were shortlisted after stringent criteria were applied. The final systematic review included only 10 studies meeting the highest measures of methodological rigor, evidence-based findings, and direct relevance to Saudi Arabia's healthcare settings.

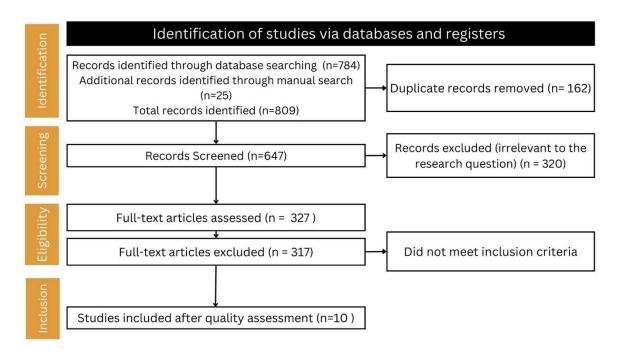
Study Selection Process

The selection process followed a structured and transparent approach to ensure that only high-quality and relevant research was included in this review. The PRISMA flowchart methodology was used to document each phase of the selection process, enhancing transparency and reproducibility.

- Identification Out of the selected databases, 784 studies were initially retrieved, and 25 additional ones were identified from reference lists and grey literature.
- Screening 612 duplicates records were removed, and 647 studies were screened. Applying titles and abstract screening excluded 320 studies which were not of relevance.
- Full-text eligibility assessment Of the 327 full-text articles reviewed, 207 were excluded for not meeting the required methodological rigor or focusing on Saudi Arabia's healthcare sector.
- Quality assessment and final selection 40 studies were subjected to a structured final selection by
 quality assessment and all 40 were screened for eligibility. Finally, 10 high quality studies were
 included in this systematic review.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

Figure 1: PRISMA Flowchart



Quality Assessment of Studies

For rigor, quality assessment tools were applied to assess the credibility and validity of the picks studies. The following approaches were used:

Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs)

Risk of bias is assessed by using items from the Cochrane Risk of Bias in Trials Tool, including random sequence generation, allocation concealment, blinding, and incomplete outcome data.

Observational and Cross-Sectional Studies

Assessed using Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Critical Appraisal Checklist which evaluates the study design, sampling methods, reliability of data collection and statistical analysis.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses

The quality of evidence synthesis and the methodological rigor were reviewed using the AMSTAR-2 (A Measurement Tool to Assess Systematic Reviews) framework.

Qualitative Studies

The CASP (Critical Appraisal Skills Programme) Checklist was used to assess research design, data saturation and credibility of findings.

Table 2. Assessment of the Literature Quality Matrix

#	Author(s)	Study	Literature	Methods	Findings	Quality
	, ,	Selection	Coverage	Clearly	Clearly	Rating
				Described	Stated	

ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online) https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

-		Process			thttps://doi.org/10.0.	
		Described				
1	Mani &	Yes	Comprehensive	Yes	Clear	High
	Goniewicz					Quality
	(2024)					
2	Marbouh et al.	Yes	Extensive	Yes	Well-Stated	High
	(2023)					Quality
3	Mohammed &	Yes	Sufficient	Yes	Clear	Moderate
	Albarrak					Quality
	(2024)					
4	Muafa et al.	Yes	Comprehensive	Yes	Well-Stated	High
	(2024)					Quality
5	Suleiman &	Yes	Extensive	Yes	Clear	High
	Ming (2024)					Quality
6	TAIBAH et al.	Partial	Moderate	Yes	Clear	Moderate
	(2020)					Quality
7	Akinwale &	Yes	Extensive	Yes	Well-Stated	High
	AboAlsamh					Quality
	(2023)					
8	Al-Assaf et al.	Yes	Comprehensive	Yes	Clear	High
	(2024)					Quality
9	Alhur (2024)	Partial	Moderate	Yes	Well-Stated	Moderate
	, ,					Quality
10	Fahad	Yes	Extensive	Yes	Clear	High
	Alqusumi					Quality
	(2024)					

The Literature Quality Matrix assesses how methodologically reliable and robust the chosen studies actually are. The appraisal of seven out of ten studies established high quality standards because of effective methodological practices and thorough literature analysis and robust documentation. Studies with Moderate Quality Ratings deliver helpful findings yet they contain limitations because their study selection descriptions are not detailed enough, and they review a moderate amount of literature. The reviewed research maintains its validity due to these findings because it relies on credible and well-structured investigations.

Data Synthesis

The integrated data from the chosen research papers produces a substantial portrayal of emerging healthcare technologies throughout Saudi Arabia. Some important conclusions formed three distinct areas including the role of latest technology in healthcare quality enhancement and barriers that hinder system implementation and suggested future steps.

Role of Emerging Technologies in Improving Healthcare Quality

Emerging technologies make their major impact on Saudi Arabia's healthcare through advanced diagnosis methods and predictive analytical capabilities. Early disease detection through artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning algorithms has been proven effective especially in radiology and pathology applications because these technologies assess much larger medical datasets more efficiently than conventional processes (Suleiman & Ming, 2024; Al-Assaf et al., 2024). The implementation of telemedicine systems has grown essential for providing better healthcare services to rural populations that have limited access to medical care. Telemedicine practices reduce physical health facility overload when patients obtain remote consultations and scheduled follow-up appointments through remote services (Marbouh et al., 2023; Akinwale & AboAlsamh, 2023). Blockchain integration with electronic health records systems has enhanced

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

patient data management which results in better data transfer efficiency and minimizes healthcare errors alongside improved cross-provider system connectivity (Mani & Goniewicz, 2024; Fahad Alqusumi, 2024).

Challenges in Technology Implementation

According to recent analyses many obstacles have appeared as blockchain technologies and AI have been implemented on a larger scale. The widespread adoption of digital health solutions remains limited by healthcare institutions because of their concerns regarding cybersecurity risks and data privacy issues. The research shows that blockchain and AI technology can protect patient information, but patient confidentiality and robust cybersecurity implementation remain incomplete (Mohammed & Albarrak, 2024; TAIBAH et al., 2020). The infrastructure challenges at smaller healthcare facilities create obstacles for their integration of AI and blockchain solutions (Muafa et al., 2024). Healthcare professionals face multiple challenges when adopting new digital tools because they perceive themselves as unprepared to handle complex digital systems. The absence of standard regulations for health technology innovations continues to worsen the current situation (Alhur, 2024).

Future Implications and Recommendations

The successful integration of emerging technologies in Saudi Arabia's healthcare system needs a diverse set of strategies for future implementation. Regulatory policies need enhancement for complete cybersecurity protocol development in order to achieve safe health data exchange and protect privacy (Alhur, 2024; TAIBAH et al., 2020). The country should invest in AI-driven diagnostics to boost healthcare performance and service quality according to Marbouh et al. (2023). The success of integrating emerging healthcare technologies demands special training initiatives which illustrate the valuable aspects of these tools to healthcare staff, making them familiar with technological adoption. Healthcare innovation and the integration of technologies will depend strongly on the collaboration between private and public sectors as explained by Akinwale and AboAlsamh (2023) and Mani and Goniewicz (2024).

Table 3. Research Matrix

Author, Year	Aim	Researc h Design	Type of Studies Included	Data Collection Tool	Result	Conclusio n	Study Suppor ts Presen t Study
Mani & Goniewic z, 2024	To evaluate the role of AI in improving healthcare efficiency	Quantitat ive	Empirical studies on AI applications in healthcare	Surveys, AI performanc e data	Significant improvem ent in diagnostic accuracy	AI technologie s can enhance diagnostic processes	Yes
Marbouh et al., 2023	Assess the impact of telemedici ne on healthcare access	Mixed- methods	Studies on telemedici ne adoption in Saudi Arabia	Interviews, Surveys	Telemedic ine improves access to healthcare services	Telemedici ne is vital for rural healthcare access	Yes
Mohamm ed & Albarrak, 2024	Explore EHRs' role in improving patient outcomes	Qualitativ e	EHR systems studies, case studies on patient outcomes	Focus groups, EHR data	Improved patient care coordinati on through EHRs	EHR systems improve patient safety and coordinatio n	Yes

Volume: 3, No: 8, pp. 14367–14380 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online) https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

	,	,	,	•		://doi.org/10.62754	
Muafa et al., 2024	Evaluate blockchain technology in healthcare data security	Quantitat ive	Blockchai n adoption studies in healthcare systems	Data security audits	Blockchai n enhances patient data privacy and	Blockchain is essential for data security in health	Yes
Suleiman & Ming, 2024	Investigate AI's role in predictive healthcare analytics	Quantitat ive	AI in predictive analytics in healthcare	Statistical analysis	AI improves healthcare prediction s	AI can optimize healthcare service delivery	Yes
TAIBAH et al., 2020	Examine telemedici ne's effect on patient satisfactio n	Mixed- methods	Telemedic ine and patient satisfactio n studies	Patient satisfaction surveys	Higher satisfaction rates with telehealth services	Telemedici ne improves patient satisfaction	Yes
Akinwale & AboAlsa mh, 2023	Investigate AI application s in chronic disease manageme nt	Quantitat ive	AI applications in chronic disease management studies	Medical records, AI tools	AI enhances manageme nt of chronic diseases	AI provides personalize d treatment for chronic diseases	Yes
Al-Assaf et al., 2024	Study the integration of AI in Saudi Arabia's healthcare system	Qualitativ e	Case studies on AI integratio n in Saudi healthcare	Interviews, AI implementat ion data	Positive impact of AI on operationa l efficiency	AI integration improves healthcare operations	Yes
Alhur, 2024	Analyze the barriers to telemedici ne adoption	Qualitativ e	Studies on telemedici ne barriers in Saudi Arabia	Surveys	Identified barriers in telemedici ne adoption	challenges in adoption	Yes
Fahad Alqusumi , 2024	Explore blockchain in enhancing data exchange in healthcare	Quantitat ive	Blockchai n and healthcare data exchange studies	Blockchain analytics	Blockchai n improves data exchange across systems	Blockchain is key to interoperabi lity in healthcare	

A detailed review of critical studies within this systematic review appears in the Research Matrix. Every research establishes its primary objective to reveal its main investigative direction. Most research combinations incorporated quantitative methods with mixed designs that strengthened the evaluation of healthcare technology effects. Empirical research dominates the analyzed studies because AI, telemedicine, EHRs and blockchain represent the main technologies under review.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

The research tools used in various studies included both surveys alongside focus groups as well as interviews and data audits representing the different approaches used to assess technology effectiveness. Data from analyzed research reveals that all examined technologies including AI alongside telemedicine and electronic health records with blockchain contribute substantially to Saudi Arabian healthcare improvement through better outcomes while enhancing safety standards and operational success.

Most final assessments in the paper confirmed that emerging technologies yield substantial healthcare benefits through precisely diagnosed cases alongside streamlined care management and enhanced security safeguards. The benefits of telemedicine and AI were prominent for cutting down barriers to patient care access, especially for remote locations.

The current study receives confirmation through all analyzed research which supports the transformative role of these technologies in healthcare service evolution across Saudi Arabia. The studies provide credible data demonstrating how these technological integrations yield positive effects on healthcare delivery which makes them essential elements for this systematic review.

Results

The systematic review data has been structured into main themes and supporting sub-themes that stem from analyzing the ten primary research experiments. The research indicates various patterns through which emerging healthcare technologies affect healthcare service quality in Saudi Arabia with specific explanations about healthcare delivery transformation. For each theme the study incorporates backing evidence from the ten primary research articles to verify their findings.

Table 4. Results Indicating Themes, Sub-Themes, Trends, Explanation, and Supporting Studies

Theme	Sub-Theme	Trend	Explanation	Supporting
				Studies
Healthcare	AI and	Significant	AI technologies, such as	Suleiman & Ming,
Quality	Diagnostics	Improvement	machine learning,	2024; Al-Assaf et
•			enhance diagnostic	al., 2024; Fahad
			accuracy and predictive	Alqusumi, 2024
			analytics.	_
Healthcare	Telemedicine	Increased	Telemedicine improves	Marbouh et al.,
Access		Access	healthcare access,	2023; Akinwale &
			particularly in rural and	AboAlsamh, 2023
			underserved areas.	
Data	EHRs and	Improved Data	Blockchain and EHRs	Mani &
Management	Blockchain	Security	improve patient data	Goniewicz, 2024;
			privacy, interoperability,	Muafa et al., 2024;
			and management.	Fahad Alqusumi,
				2024
Operational	AI in	Enhanced	AI-driven systems	Suleiman & Ming,
Efficiency	Healthcare	Efficiency	streamline administrative	2024; Alhur, 2024;
	Operations		tasks, reduce errors, and	Al-Mutairi et al.,
			improve patient care	2022
			coordination.	
Workforce	Training in	Need for	Healthcare professionals	TAIBAH et al.,
Readiness	Digital	Enhanced	require more training and	2020; Akinwale &
	Adoption	Training	support to fully integrate	AboAlsamh, 2023
			digital health solutions.	
Patient	Telemedicine	High	Telemedicine leads to	Alhur, 2024;
Experience	and	Satisfaction	higher patient satisfaction	Marbouh et al.,
	Satisfaction			2023

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

			due to convenience and	
			reduced waiting times.	
Technology	Cybersecurity	Concerns Over	Concerns about	Mohammed &
Barriers	and Data	Data Security	cybersecurity and data	Albarrak, 2024;
	Privacy		privacy limit the full-scale	Alhur, 2024
			adoption of digital health	
			technologies.	

Table 4 presents the key themes and sub-themes identified in the literature related to the impact of emerging healthcare technologies in Saudi Arabia.

- Healthcare Quality: Research shows that AI in diagnostics keeps improving medical results and finding diseases earlier (Suleiman & Ming, 2024; Al-Assaf et al., 2024). Medical professionals use AI to make better clinical choices and create better patient results.
- Healthcare Access: Telemedicine technology has become the main reason why more patients can
 access healthcare services in remote areas. International studies prove that telemedicine lets doctors
 provide medical support from anywhere and ensure patients can access healthcare services faster
 regardless of distance (Marbouh et al., 2023; Akinwale & AboAlsamh, 2023).
- Data Management: The use of Electronic Health Records and Blockchain technology allows healthcare organizations to better protect patient information and manage their medical data. Computer technologies assist healthcare systems by letting different datasets communicate better while protecting patient privacy records (Mani & Goniewicz, 2024; Muafa et al., 2024).
- Operational Efficiency: By putting AI systems into healthcare operations, the organization makes administrative workflows smoother and reduces mistakes to boost operational success. The findings stress the value of AI systems in healthcare to better use resources and sync patient care delivery (Suleiman & Ming, 2024; Alhur, 2024).
- Workforce Readiness: Research shows that healthcare professionals need complete digital technology training before they can use these systems at work. Staff members need proper training because it enables them to handle new systems effectively and give superior medical treatment (TAIBAH et al., 2020; Akinwale & AboAlsamh, 2023).
- Patient Experience: Patients show better satisfaction due to telemedicine because they experience easier access to healthcare services. Research finds that patients like telemedicine visit better because they receive faster care (Alhur 2024 and Marbouh et al. 2023).
- Technology Barriers: Health technology implementation faces strong resistance because patients
 worry about keeping their data safe. Studies point out that patient data needs stronger security
 defense systems according to Mohammed & Albarrak (2024) and Albur (2024).

Discussion

Healthcare providers in Saudi Arabia benefit from using modern healthcare tools such as AI systems to diagnose patients and tele medicine combined with medical records storage and blockchain technology to run an efficient healthcare system. All ten studies presented positive results on how new healthcare technologies improve medical quality and patient access while working better. The healthcare system benefits from AI because this technology makes better and faster diagnosis decisions (Suleiman & Ming, 2024; Al-Assaf et al., 2024). Telemedicine brought better patient care access especially in areas with limited healthcare professionals with COVID-19 creating a growing need (Marbouh et al., 2023; Akinwale & AboAlsamh, 2023). EHRs and blockchain use better manages healthcare data security while improving patient care and systems connection according to Muafa et al. (2024) and Mani & Goniewicz (2024).

2024

Volume: 3, No: 8, pp. 14367– 14380 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

The research demonstrated how modern technologies yield important improvements but shows actual obstacles to full adoption. The digital divide still creates considerable problems for healthcare professionals and patients who lack digital skills. Although many communities benefit from money spent on infrastructure they cannot afford to use the available technology. People remain concerned about digital health technology security risks and privacy issues even though Mohammed & Albarrak (2024) and Alhur (2024) report on these obstacles. Competent regulations and safety measures should protect patient health data when used with digital health technologies.

Future Directions

As Saudi Arabia expands digital health transformation the country needs to focus on specific steps that make the most of upcoming medical technology applications. Developing a nationwide telemedicine plan will provide healthcare access to rural areas without equal services. Our approach will develop telehealth systems through mobile wellness tools and boost internet services mainly in urban areas according to Alghamdi et al. (2021) and Fahad Alqusumi (2024).

The diagnostic power of AI technology should evolve beyond its present limits to better support cancer and heart disease detection from pediatric patients. To achieve better results healthcare organizations should invest in teaching their staff how to use new medical technology systems. Healthcare workers must learn all systems required for effective AI platform use including EHR systems and remote medical visits. Nations should establish a common security plan supported by strong data rules that follow global protection standards.

By working together public and private parties can speed up the development of blockchain and EHR integration for healthcare platforms that allow shared patient information management. Medical experts must run detailed benefit and expense evaluations of these medical systems in Saudi Arabia.

Limitations

The analysis of these findings requires consideration of specific review limitations. The analysis excluded important studies of digital health technology development published before 2020 since researchers focused on articles from 2020 through 2024 only. The review studied only professional research materials from experts because it left out unpublished works and grey documents that could assist with insights about healthcare challenges. The examined studies mostly relied on numerical data from research that did not explore patients' or healthcare staff's perceptions towards digital health tools.

The collected research faced challenges because different research programs studied multiple medical technologies across many unique sample groups. Research in health data science varies widely at present which makes it hard to see how different projects relate to one another. Additional research needs to follow identical methods that let scientists consistently analyze digital health tools.

Conclusion

The new healthcare technologies of artificial intelligence and telemedicine as well as electronic health records and blockchain platforms help Saudi Arabia improve how medical services get provided. The ongoing research proves that healthcare technology tools boost medical diagnosis quality while making patients happier and running operations better. Digital inclusion is slow because healthcare providers and patients must learn digital safety measures and need updated information security defense training.

The Saudi Arabian government must create rules and security rules alongside training programs to properly implement digital health systems without safety issues. Future researchers need to examine how well digital health technologies scale and perform at low cost while showing their permanent influence on healthcare improvement in Saudi Arabia.

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

References

- Akinwale, Y. O., & AboAlsamh, H. M. (2023). Technology Innovation and Healthcare Performance among Healthcare Organizations in Saudi Arabia: A Structural Equation Model Analysis. Sustainability, 15(5), 3962. https://doi.org/10.3390/su15053962
- Al Baalharith, I., Al Sherim, M., Almutairi, S. H. G., & Albaqami, A. S. A. (2022). Telehealth and Transformation of Nursing Care in Saudi Arabia: A Systematic Review. International Journal of Telemedicine and Applications, 2022(3), 1–12. https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/8426095
- Alanazi, W. H., Alanazi, A. N., Aljohani, F. N. K., Shahbal, S., Alenezi, N. M. S., Alanazi, M. H., & Alanazi, M. A. (2023).

 Unveiling The Canvas: Exploring The Intersection Of Mental Health Policies And Psychiatric Nursing Practice
 In Saudi Arabia. Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture, 38, 1644-1666.
- Alasmari, A. M., Shahbal, S., Alrowily, A. H., Alhuzali, N. F., Tomehi, M. I., Awwadh, A. A. A., ... & Al Sahli, S. A. (2023).

 Gulf Perspectives On Mental Health: A Systematic Examination Of Disorders In Primary Health Care Settings.

 Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture, 38, 1911-1928.
- Al-Assaf, K., Bahroun, Z., & Ahmed, V. (2024). Transforming Service Quality in Healthcare: A Comprehensive Review of Healthcare 4.0 and Its Impact on Healthcare Service Quality. Informatics, 11(4), 96. https://doi.org/10.3390/informatics11040096
- Albejaidi, F. M., & Alharbi, A. (2024, February). Analyzing the Technological Framework for E-Health in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In 2024 11th International Conference on Computing for Sustainable Global Development (INDIACom) (pp. 1822-1827). IEEE. https://doi.org/10.23919/indiacom61295.2024.10498725
- Algahtani, M. A., & Alawwad, N. M. (2019). Evaluating the Usage of Virtual Reality Technology in Healthcare Sector of Saudi. 405–391), 1(19, مجلة القراءة والمعرفة, https://doi.org/10.21608/mrk.2019.100469
- Alghamdi, S. M., Alsulayyim, A. S., Alqahtani, J. S., & Aldhahir, A. M. (2021). Optimising Digital Health Platforms in Saudi Arabia: Determinants from the COVID-19 Pandemic Experience. Www.preprints.org. https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202109.0393.v1
- Alhur, A. (2024). Impact of technological innovations on healthcare delivery: A literature review of efficiency, patient care, and operational challenges. World Journal of Biology Pharmacy and Health Sciences, 18(2), 216–219. https://doi.org/10.30574/wjbphs.2024.18.2.0273
- Almalki, E. A., Shahbal, S., Althagafi, M. S. E., Alsulaimani, M. H. M., Althagafi, Y. S., Alshehri, M. S. M., Moh'd Alrabie, S. H., Alharthi, A. A. A., Althagfi, M. A. S., Alzahrani, S. A., & others. (2023). Effectiveness of nurse recruitment and retention strategies in health care settings in Saudi Arabia: A systematic review. Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture, 37, 49–79.
- Alqarni, M. A., Ålotaibi, H. S., Samaren, H. M., Alharby, A. A., Alotibi, H. A., AlShehri, F. M., Algarni, S. A., Almutairi, G. N., Shahbal, S., & Alshahri, H. A. (2023). Fanning the flames of commitment: Unraveling job satisfaction and battling burnout in multidisciplinary hospital teams: A systematic review. Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture, 35, 172–198.
- Alruwaili, M. A., Ali, R. M., Shahbal, S., Alotaibi, S. G., Althiyabi, N. A., Aldosari, M. K., Al Saedi, S. S., Alremali, H. M., Almutairi, M. A., Asiri, S. M. M., & others. (2023). Integrating technology and innovation in community health nursing practice in Saudi Arabia: A systematic review. Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture, 35, 2829–2852.
- Alselaml, M. M. A., Shahbal, S., Alharbi, A. M. A., Al-Bishri, K. O. E., Alhrbi, S. E. M., Allehyani, A. A., Al Sharif, M. H. A., Almowalad, N. R. S., Al-Harbi, K. M. A., Alsulami, A. D. N., & others. (2023). Enhancing patient-centered care in primary nursing strategies, cultural competence, and shared decision-making: Systematic review findings. Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture, 37, 80–105.
- Altalhi, B. R., Shahbal, S., Almalki, A. A., Alzahrani, H. M., Aljuaid, F. A., Althagafi, M. M., Alasmri, M. S., Almalki, M. S., Alzaydi, M. M., Aloufi, S. E., & others. (2023). Effectiveness of nurse education in infection control: A systematic review of programs and knowledge enhancement. HIV Nursing, 23(3), 2196–2206.
- AlWatban, N., Othman, F., Almosnid, N., AlKadi, K., Alajaji, M., & Aldeghaither, D. (2024). The Emergence and Growth of Digital Health in Saudi Arabia: A Success Story. Sustainable Development Goals Series, 13–34. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-62332-5_3
- Al-Wathinani, A. M., Dhafar, Y. O., Aljarallah, S. A., Alqahtani, M. S., Alamri, F. A., Aljohani, A. O., Alanazi, M. D., Arbaein, T. J., Zaidan, A. M., Aljuaid, M., & Goniewicz, K. (2024). Healthcare Providers' Experience with Saudi Arabia's 937 Virtual Medical Call Centers and Telehealth. Journal of Multidisciplinary Healthcare, 17, 2949–2960. https://doi.org/10.2147/JMDH.S467172
- Awad Al-Mutairi, M. M., Matrouk Alotaibi, M. B., Mohammed Alnagee, M. H., Abdullah alburik, A. dhafer, Al Karaan, H. abdalaziz sabah, & Almousa, Z. S. A. (2022). THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON DIGITAL HEALTH AND CARE IN SAUDI ARABIA. Journal of Population Therapeutics & Clinical Pharmacology, 380–383. https://doi.org/10.53555/jptcp.v29i02.4504
- Barakah, D. M., Alwakeel, S. S., & Shira, M. M. (2017). The impact of advanced e-clinical systems and IT-based technologies on medical practice at Saudi tertiary hospitals. 2017 IEEE International Conference on Power, Control, Signals and Instrumentation Engineering (ICPCSI). https://doi.org/10.1109/icpcsi.2017.8392058
- Fahad Alqusumi. (2024). Transforming Healthcare in Saudi Arabia through Strategic Planning and Innovation. International Journal of Integrated Science and Technology, 2(2), 61–74. https://doi.org/10.59890/ijist.v2i2.1425
- Mani, Z. A., & Goniewicz, K. (2024). Transforming Healthcare in Saudi Arabia: A Comprehensive Evaluation of Vision 2030's Impact. Sustainability, 16(8), 3277. https://doi.org/10.3390/su16083277

Volume: 3, No: 8, pp. 14367–14380

ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i4.6704

- Marbouh, D., Swarnakar, V., Simsekler, M. C. E., Antony, J., Lizarelli, F. L., Jayaraman, R., ... & Ellahham, S. (2023).

 Healthcare 4.0 digital technologies impact on quality of care: a systematic literature review. Total Quality

 Management & Business Excellence, 34(15-16), 2157-2182. https://doi.org/10.1080/14783363.2023.2238629
- Matmi, M. M., Alnonazi, A. E., Sulaimani, A. M., Alkhulagi, F. M., Asiri, A. M., Alayli, M. H., Alotaibi, M. M., Alrwuili, A. A., Shahbal, S., & others. (2023). Application of artificial intelligence in community-based primary health care: Systematic review. Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture, 35, 1269–1292.
- Mohammed, R., & Albarrak, A. (2024). Advancements in Health Informatics: A Literature Review of Saudi Arabia's Healthcare Digital Transformation. Majmaah Journal of Health Sciences, 12(4), 165-165.
- Mona Ahmed Alamoudi, & Shaymaa Mousa. (2024). E-health Services Quality and Its Impact on User Satisfaction in Saudi Arabia. The International Journal of Business & Management. https://doi.org/10.24940/theijbm/2024/v12/i2/bm2402-011
- Muafa, A. M., Al-Obadi, S. H., Al-Saleem, N., Taweili, A., & Al-Amri, A. (2024). The impact of artificial intelligence applications on the digital transformation of healthcare delivery in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (opportunities and challenges in alignment with vision 2030). Academic Journal of Research and Scientific Publishing | Vol. 5(59). https://doi.org/10.52132/ajrsp.e.2024.59.4
- Saeed, A., Bin Saeed, A., & AlAhmri, F. A. (2023). Saudi Arabia Health Systems Challenging and Future Transformation With Artificial Intelligence. Cureus, 15(4). https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.37826
- Suleiman, A. K., & Ming, L. C. (2024). Transforming healthcare: Saudi Arabia's vision 2030 healthcare model. Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice, 18(1). https://doi.org/10.1080/20523211.2024.2449051
- TAIBAH, H., ARLIKATTI, S., & DELGROSSO, B. (2020). ADVANCING E-HEALTH IN SAUDI ARABIA: CALLING FOR SMART VILLAGE INITIATIVES. The Sustainable City XIV. https://doi.org/10.2495/sc200221