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EDITORIAL

INTEGRATING AI FOR EFFICIENT HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT

Contemporary healthcare management is undergoing a paradigm shift shaped by rapid technological advancements, scientific breakthroughs, and complex global health challenges. Integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI), digital health, public health systems, sustainability, consumer behaviour, and scientific disciplines such as Microbiology and Biotechnology is essential for building resilient, inclusive, and efficient healthcare systems. This interdisciplinary approach not only improves health outcomes but also supports livelihoods and aligns with global development priorities. Artificial Intelligence is revolutionizing healthcare through predictive analytics, precision medicine, and automation of clinical workflows. AI systems can analyze vast datasets to detect disease patterns, optimize treatment protocols, and improve hospital management. When combined with microbiological data—such as pathogen genomics—AI enhances disease surveillance and outbreak prediction.

Digital health technologies, including telemedicine, wearable sensors, and electronic health records, are expanding access to care and enabling real-time health monitoring. These innovations are particularly valuable in resource-limited settings, where they bridge gaps in infrastructure and workforce shortages. Moreover, digital health ecosystems generate new livelihood opportunities, such as telehealth services, health data analytics, and biotech startups. Yet, disparities in digital access and literacy continue to pose significant challenges to equitable healthcare delivery. Scientific advancements in microbiology and biotechnology are central to modern healthcare management. Public health systems remain the backbone of healthcare management, focusing on prevention, health promotion, and community-based interventions. Lessons from recent global health emergencies highlight the need for robust surveillance systems, interdisciplinary collaboration, and strong institutional frameworks. Organizations like the World Health Organization play a pivotal role in guiding global health policies and ensuring coordinated responses to emerging threats.

Sustainability is an increasingly critical concern, as healthcare systems contribute significantly to environmental degradation. Integrating eco-friendly practices—such as waste reduction, energy efficiency, and sustainable procurement—can reduce environmental impact while improving operational efficiency. These efforts align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Consumer behaviour has also evolved, with patients becoming more informed and actively engaged in healthcare decisions. The availability of digital information and personalized health solutions has shifted expectations toward transparency, accessibility, and quality. Healthcare providers must adopt patient-centric models, leveraging behavioural insights to improve service delivery, enhance trust, and promote preventive care. ❐

Sourav Gangopadhyay
Sandhimita Mondal
Jayeeta Majumder
Brainware University, Kolkata, India

ABOUT GUEST EDITORS

Dr. Sourav Gangopadhyay
e-mail: dsg.hm@brainwareuniversity.ac.in

Dr. Sourav Gangopadhyay is an accomplished academician and researcher in the field of healthcare and hospital management, currently serving as Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Hospital Management at Brainware University, Kolkata. With a PhD from the University of Mysore and a multidisciplinary academic background in hospital administration and medical sciences, he brings a unique integration of clinical understanding and managerial expertise. He has an extensive research portfolio with over 42 publications in reputed Scopus and Web of Science-indexed journals, along with several book chapters published by leading international publishers such as Springer, IEEE, and CRC Press. His research interests span healthcare management, public health, digital health technologies, artificial intelligence applications in healthcare, and sustainable healthcare systems.

Dr. Sandhimita Mondal
e-mail: dsm.bt@brainwareuniversity.ac.in

Dr. Sandhimita Mondal, Ph.D is an Associate Professor of Biotechnology at Brainware University, West Bengal. She is a NET-qualified scholar and a Fellow of The Asiatic Society, Kolkata, and earned her Ph.D. from Visva-Bharati University. With over 16 years of research experience and more than 10 years of teaching experience, Dr. Mondal previously served as the Head of the Department of Microbiology at Techno India University, West Bengal. She has presented her research work at international platforms, including delivering a DST-funded talk in Italy. An active reviewer and examiner, Dr. Mondal has also delivered several keynote lectures and has successfully supervised four Ph.D. scholars. Her academic contributions include more than 50 research publications, 2 books, 5 patents, and 4 book chapters. Her scholarly impact is reflected in 724 citations, with an h-index of 14 and an i10-index of 16. Dr. Mondal is also serving as President, Institutional Innovation Council of Brainware University.

Dr. Jayeeta Majumder
e-mail: djmg.hm@brainwareuniversity.ac.in

Dr. Jayeeta Majumder is an accomplished academician and researcher in the field of healthcare and hospital management, currently serving as Associate Professor and Departmental Research Coordinator at Brainware University, Kolkata. She holds a PhD from the University of Mysore and has a strong interdisciplinary foundation, combining clinical experience in nursing with advanced expertise in hospital administration and healthcare management. With over a decade of academic experience, she has made significant contributions to teaching, research, and institutional development. Dr. Majumder has authored more than 40 research publications in reputed Scopus and Web of Science indexed journals, with research interests spanning healthcare quality, patient satisfaction, digital health, sustainability, and healthcare analytics. She has also contributed to several edited volumes, book chapters, and international conference proceedings.

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