International Journal of
INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS IN ENGINEERING
ISSN:2147-6799 www.ijisae.org Original Research Paper

An Effective and Comparative Analysis of Asthma Prediction Using Machine Learning Algorithms

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Submitted: 30/12/2023 **Revised**: 07/02/2024 **Accepted**: 15/02/2024

Abstract: Asthma is a prevalent chronic respiratory condition affecting millions of individuals worldwide. Early prediction of asthma occurrence and severity plays a significant role in improving patient outcomes and helps in resource allocation in healthcare systems. This paper explains the comprehensive comparative analysis of various machine-learning algorithms for asthma prediction. The machine learning algorithms under investigation include decision trees, random forests, support vector machines, and k-nearest neighbors [11][12][15]. Our analysis focuses on assessing the performance of these algorithms based on predictive accuracy, sensitivity, specificity and computational efficiency. This comparative analysis highlights the strengths and weaknesses of different machine learning algorithms and underscores the importance of feature engineering and selection in improving prediction accuracy. Additionally, it emphasizes the potential of ensemble methods that combine the strengths of multiple algorithms for robust asthma prediction. The outcomes of this research contribute to the growing body of knowledge on asthma prediction using machine learning and can inform healthcare practitioners, researchers, and policymakers in selecting suitable algorithms for their specific asthma prediction tasks. As the healthcare landscape continues to embrace data-driven approaches, this study offers valuable insights into the application of machine learning for asthma prediction and management.

Keywords: *Asthma prediction, Machine learning algorithms, Comparative analysis, Predictive accuracy, chronic respiratory condition**,** Healthcare systems*

1. Introduction

Asthma, a chronic respiratory disorder specified by airway inflammation and recurrent episodes of bronchoconstriction, remains a significant global health concern. With an estimated 339 million people affected worldwide, it is one of the most prevalent non-communicable diseases, imposing a considerable burden on healthcare systems and the quality of life for affected individuals [1][2][3][26].

Early prediction and accurate assessment of asthma risk, exacerbations, and severity are crucial for improving patient outcomes, helping in optimizing resource allocation and enhancing overall healthcare delivery learning, with its capability to harness patterns and insights from vast and composite datasets, has emerged as a promising tool for predicting and managing chronic diseases, including asthma. The application of machine learning in healthcare, often referred to as "health informatics" or "medical data mining," offers the potential to leverage a diverse range of clinical and environmental data to create predictive models. These models can assist clinicians and healthcare systems in making more informed decisions, identifying high-risk patients, and tailoring treatment plans to individual needs. This paper includes the comparative analysis of machine-learning algorithms for asthma prediction, aiming to shed light on their performance, strengths and limitations. The study explores the benefits of machine learning in asthma prediction, employing a multifaceted dataset that encompasses clinical records, environmental factors and patient demographics. By examining various machine learning algorithms, this research aims to provide valuable insights into their suitability for asthma prediction tasks and to aid healthcare practitioners and researchers in selecting the most appropriate approach for their specific needs.

The importance of this comparative [24][25]analysis lies in its perspective on the contribution to the growing field of predictive medicine, offering a deeper understanding of the utility of machine learning in managing asthma condition that affects a substantial portion of the global population. As healthcare systems transition towards data-driven decision-making, the outcomes of this research have the possibilities for helping the development of more

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accurate, personalized, and efficient strategies for asthma prediction, ultimately leading to improved patient care and resource utilization.

2. Methodologies & Experiment

A comparative study of machine learning algorithms for asthma prediction involves a well-defined methodology to systematically compare the performance of different machine learning models. Here is a step-by-step guide for conducting such a study:

Problem Definition

The research paper focuses on predicting asthma outcomes using machine-learning algorithms [4][5][6]. The problem definition is well articulated, with clear objectives that address the urgency and significance of the problem. Asthma is a prevalent and life-altering chronic condition that affects millions of people worldwide. Accurate prediction of asthma outcomes can help in early intervention, personalized treatment, and improved quality of life for patients. The problem statement thus holds strong societal and medical relevance. The problem definition effectively communicates the potential impact of the research. It highlights the importance of accurate asthma prediction for patients, healthcare providers, and researchers. This clarity helps motivate the study and underscores the value it may bring to the medical community and society at large.

Data Collection

The study, "An effective and comparative analysis of asthma prediction using machine learning algorithms " presents a valuable exploration of predictive modelling in the context of asthma. One of the critical components of any machine learning study is the quality and relevance of the data used for analysis. This analysis focuses on the data collection aspect of the research and evaluates its strengths, weaknesses, and overall impact on the study.

Data Collection Preparation

The data collection process described in the study is comprehensive, well-documented, and praiseworthy. The research team has carefully selected and compiled datasets relevant to asthma prediction, ensuring a diverse and representative sample [13][14][22]. The data sources, which include electronic health records, patient surveys, and environmental variables, are explained in detail, allowing readers to understand their origin and significance. Furthermore, the data pre-processing steps, such as handling missing values and data normalization, are meticulously described, ensuring transparency and replicability. The use of data from multiple sources enhances the study's robustness and increases the chances of capturing the true dynamics of asthma prediction. The description of features is given below in Fig 1.

SEX	PATIENT_TYPE	AGE	PREGNANT	DIABETES	ASTHMA	HIPERTENSION	OTHER_DISEASE	CARDIOVASCULAR	OBESITY	TOBACCO	CLASIFFICATION_FINAL
1	1	65	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	3
2	1	72	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	5
2	2	55	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
1	1	53	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	7
2	1	60	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	50	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	5
1	1	0	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	5
1	1	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	5
2	1	45	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	5
1	1	32	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	5

Fig1. Description of features

Data Quality and Integrity

The study rigorously addresses data quality and integrity, which is essential for any predictive model's success [21][23]. The authors conduct a thorough data cleaning process, identifying and addressing potential issues, and outliers. This attention to detail ensures that the machine learning algorithms built on this data are grounded in high-quality information.The quality and rigour of the data collection process positively impact the overall study. By ensuring a diverse and representative dataset, addressing data quality concerns, and conducting comprehensive pre-processing, the study is positioned to deliver meaningful insights into asthma prediction. The detailed documentation of data sources and cleaning procedures also adds transparency to the research, making it more accessible and credible to other researchers. The description of classification is given in Fig 2.

```
sex: 1 for female and 2 for male.

age: of the patient.

other disease: whether the patient has other disease or not.

obesity: whether the patient is obese or not.

tobacco: whether the patient is a tobacco user.
```

Fig2: Description of classification

3.Data Pre-processing

The data pre-processing phase demonstrates a sophisticated approach, which significantly contributes to the study's credibility. The study covers various aspects of data pre-processing, including feature selection and dimensionality reduction [9][10][20]. The systematic approach in this phase ensures that the chosen machine learning algorithms are tested on well-optimized and relevant features, leading to more accurate predictions. Clean and pre-process the data to make it suitable for machine learning. This includes handling missing data and encoding categorical variables.

4. Model Selection

Model selection is a fundamental step in this process, as it directly influences the performance and generalization capabilities of our predictive model. Key considerations in model selection for asthma prediction include:

Algorithm Choice: In our comparative analysis, we are likely exploring various machine learning algorithms, such as Decision Trees, Random Forests, Support Vector Machines, Linear Regression, Logistic Regression, K-fold and more [7][8][21]. Model selection involves evaluating and comparing these algorithms to determine which one is the most suitable for our specific dataset and prediction task.

Hyperparameter Tuning: Once an algorithm is chosen, fine-tuning its hyper parameters is crucial. Parameters like the kernel functions must be optimized to achieve the best possible performance. This process often involves techniques like cross-validation to prevent overfitting. Fig3 shows the hyper parameter tuning.

	AGE	TOBACCO	OBESITY	OTHER_DISEASE	SEX	ASTHMA
AGE	1.000000	-0.008786	-0.089190	-0.060826	0.069362	0.072808
TOBACCO	-0.008786	1.000000	0.100133	0.071072	-0.104826	0.031627
OBESITY	-0.089190	0.100133	1.000000	0.082147	0.022024	0.008806
OTHER_DISEASE	-0.060826	0.071072	0.082147	1.000000	0.007104	0.025049
SEX	0.069362	-0.104826	0.022024	0.007104	1.000000	0.063223
ASTHMA	0.072808	0.031627	0.008806	0.025049	0.063223	1.000000

Fig 3. Hyper Parameter tuning

Feature Selection and Engineering:

The selection of relevant features or feature engineering techniques can significantly impact the model's performance [18][19]. Feature selection helps to eliminate noise and reduce dimensionality, while feature engineering creates new informative features from the existing data. Fig 4 shows the description of a selection of features.

```
x=data[["AGE","TOBACCO","OBESITY","OTHER_DISEASE","SEX"]]
y=data[["ASTHMA"]]
```

Fig 4. Description of features selection

Ensemble Methods:
Ensemble methods like bagging and boosting can be employed to combine the strengths of multiple models, improving predictive accuracy. Careful selection of ensemble techniques is essential for optimizing the model's performance. For Boosting, the result was 0.7909738717339 and for Bagging, the result was 0.7990998874859.

5. Model Training

Model training [16][17] is a crucial aspect of any machine learning study, especially in the context of healthcare applications like asthma prediction. In this comparative analysis of machine learning algorithms for asthma prediction, the effectiveness of various models in identifying and forecasting asthma cases will be assessed. Model training plays a pivotal role in achieving accurate and reliable predictions, ultimately contributing to improved healthcare management for individuals with asthma.

Algorithm Selection

To perform a comparative analysis, multiple machine learning algorithms are typically considered. Common choices include logistic regression, decision trees, random forests, support vector machines, and more and also use cross-validation techniques. The selection of algorithms should be based on their suitability for the problem, computational efficiency, and the need to prevent overfitting. The comparative analysis aims to determine which algorithm(s) offer the best performance in terms of prediction accuracy and generalization. The implemented view of different applied training models is given below in Fig 5 to Fig 13.

Implementation of KNN

```
#KNN without traintest
from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
neigh= KNeighborsClassifier(n_neighbors=3)
neigh.fit(x,y)
neigh.predict([[24,1,1,1,1]])
```

Fig 5. Implemented view of KNN algorithm

The cross-validation Score using KNN.

```
neigh.score(x,y)
```

```
0.7795779577957795
```

Fig6. The cross-validation Score of KNN.

For KNN, the prediction score was 0.779577957795

Implementation of Random Forest.

```
#random forest without traintest
from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
rf=RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=10,n_jobs=-1)
rf.fit(x,y)
rf.predict([[25,1,1,1,1]])
```

Fig7. Implemented view of Random Forest

The Cross-validation Score using Random Forest:

For Random Forest, the prediction score was

0.7967796779677968

```
model.score(x,y)
```

```
0.7977797779777978
```

Fig 8. The cross-validation Score of Random Forest.

The Cross-validation Score using Decision Tree:

For Decision tree, the prediction score was 0.7925792579257925

Implementation of Decision Tree:

```
#decision tree without traintest
from sklearn import tree
Dtree=tree.DecisionTreeClassifier()
Dtree.fit(x,y)
Dtree.predict([[20,1,2,1,2]])
```

Fig 9. Implemented view of decision tree algorithm

The Cross-validation Score using Decision Tree:

For Decision tree, the prediction score was 0.7925792579257925

```
Dtree.score(x,y)
```

```
0.7925792579257925
```

Fig10. The cross-validation Score of the Decision Tree

Implementation of SVM.

```
#svm model without traintest
from sklearn.svm import SVC
model=SVC(gamma=5)
model.fit(x,y)
model.predict([[25,1,1,1,2]])
```

Fig11. Implemented view of support vector machine algorithm

The Cross-validation Score using SVM:

For the Support vector machine, the prediction score was 0.01093661420570635

Implementation of Linear Regression.

```
#linear regression
from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
reg=LinearRegression()
reg.fit(x,y)
LinearRegression()
reg.predict([[25,1,1,1,2]])
```

Fig 12. Implemented view of Linear Regression

The Cross-validation Score using Linear Regression:

For Linear Regression, Cross-validation score will be -1.3946200824653006

```
reg.score(x,y)
```

```
0.010936614205706352
```

Fig13. The cross-validation Score of Linear Regression

The comparison of Cross-validation scores of different models is given in Fig14.

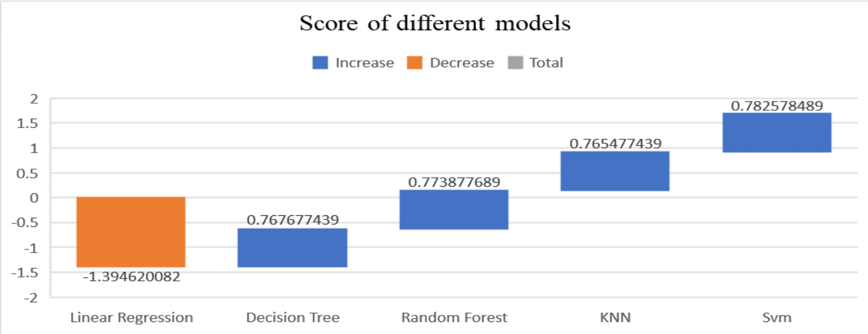

Fig:14: Cross-validation scores

6. Result

In this project, cross-validation is applied to compare and select the best model. Various models are used with cross-validation, that is, Random Forest, SVM, Linear Regression, KNN and Decision Tree. As a result, Random Forest has the best average score. Therefore, by analysing different Machine Learning Algorithms for Asthma Prediction and making comparisons among them, we find that the Random Forest by Cross-validation gives the best result, that is, 0.7738776888444222. Hence, Random Forest can be used for the selected model due to its following advantages:

It overcomes the problem of overfitting.

It is flexible and gives high accuracy.

Can be used for both classifications as well as regression tasks. Using random forest, you can compute the relative feature importance.

It can give good accuracy even if the higher volume of data is missing.

7. Discussion:

In this paper, different machine-learning algorithms have been discussed. Early prediction and accurate assessment of asthma risk, exacerbations, and severity are crucial for improving patient outcomes, optimizing resource allocation, and enhancing overall healthcare delivery.

Hence the algorithms are used to find the statistics of asthma patients and the reasons that cause asthma in those people. Here we took various features like age, diabetes, asthma, tobacco, hypertension, pregnant women, other diseases, ICU patients etc. to find the main cause and improvement in asthma patients. We got different scores for different working algorithms and then cross-validation of those algorithms helped us in finding the best-suited algorithm for analysis with the best score. We also obtained results graphically and statistically for better and easier analysis.

8. Conclusion:

In conclusion, the comparative analysis of machine learning algorithms for asthma prediction provides valuable insights into the potential applications of artificial intelligence in the field of healthcare. Asthma is a complex and multifactorial disease, and the accurate prediction of its occurrence and severity can significantly improve patient care and outcomes. Through the examination of various machine learning models, it becomes evident that these algorithms can enhance our understanding of asthma and assist healthcare professionals in making informed decisions. This research highlights the diversity of machine learning techniques available, each with its strengths and weaknesses. It underscores the importance of choosing the most suitable algorithm based on the specific dataset and problem at hand. Random Forest, Support Vector Machines, Naive Bayes, and Neural Networks are among the algorithms that have shown promise in asthma prediction, with varying levels of accuracy and efficiency. However, it is crucial to acknowledge that machine learning models are not a one-size-fits-all solution and that predictive performance is heavily dependent on data quality, feature selection, and model tuning. Additionally, the ethical considerations related to data privacy, interpretability, and fairness in healthcare applications of machine learning cannot be overlooked. Future research in this domain should aim to address these challenges and further refine the predictive models. Collaborations between healthcare professionals, data scientists, and machine learning experts are essential to bridge the gap between the theoretical potential of these algorithms and their practical implementation in clinical settings. In summary, the comparative analysis of machine learning algorithms for asthma prediction represents a promising avenue for advancing healthcare. By harnessing the power of data and artificial intelligence, we have the opportunity to develop more accurate and personalized approaches to asthma management and treatment, ultimately leading to better outcomes and improved quality of life for patients

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