

Leveraging generative AI models to optimize image-based diagnostics in telehealth services in indonesia: a 2025 perspective

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Abstract: The rapid advancement of telehealth services has transformed healthcare delivery, particularly in regions with limited access to medical specialists. Recent developments in generative artificial intelligence (AI) offer promising solutions to enhance diagnostic accuracy, especially in image-based medical assessments such as radiology, dermatology, and pathology. This study aims to investigate the integration of generative AI models within telehealth platforms to optimize diagnostic workflows in Indonesia. A mixed-method approach was employed, involving a simulated dataset of 10,000 annotated medical images and a usability assessment with 120 healthcare practitioners across primary healthcare centers. The generative AI model was trained to augment diagnostic images, improve feature visibility, and assist physicians in detecting early-stage diseases. Quantitative results showed a 23% improvement in diagnostic accuracy and a 30% reduction in analysis time compared to traditional telehealth systems. Additionally, qualitative findings highlighted enhanced user confidence and satisfaction with the AI-assisted platform. This research underscores the potential of generative AI to bridge diagnostic gaps in telehealth services, offering scalable and cost-effective solutions for Indonesia's healthcare ecosystem. Recommendations for implementation and ethical considerations are also discussed.

Keywords: Generative Artificial Intelligence; Telehealth; Image-Based Diagnostics; Medical Imaging; Healthcare Innovation.

Article History: Received on 4/5/2025; Revised on 4/7/2025; Accepted on 23/6/2025; Published Online: 30/6/2025.



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PENDAHULUAN

Telehealth has emerged as a transformative solution in healthcare delivery, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) where access to medical specialists remains limited. In Indonesia, the adoption of telehealth has accelerated following the COVID-19 pandemic, with increasing reliance on digital consultations, remote diagnostics, and cloud-based health information systems. However, despite its rapid growth, telehealth still faces significant challenges, including limited diagnostic accuracy due to suboptimal image quality, insufficient clinical data, and varying expertise among healthcare providers.

Recent advancements in Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)—particularly Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs), Diffusion Models, and Vision Transformers—

have opened new possibilities for enhancing medical imaging. These models are capable of generating high-resolution images, reducing noise, and highlighting subtle diagnostic features that may be overlooked by conventional methods. Studies have demonstrated that generative AI can significantly improve diagnostic outcomes in fields such as radiology, dermatology, and ophthalmology by enhancing image clarity and facilitating earlier detection of diseases (Zhang et al., 2023; Li et al., 2024).

In the context of Indonesia, where telehealth platforms such as Halodoc and Alodokter are expanding rapidly, integrating generative AI could address critical gaps in image-based diagnostics. Moreover, this integration aligns with the Indonesian Ministry of Health's 2025 digital health roadmap, which emphasizes AI-powered innovations to improve healthcare accessibility and quality.

This study explores the application of generative AI models to optimize diagnostic accuracy within telehealth services in Indonesia. Specifically, the research focuses on (1) Assessing the effectiveness of generative AI in enhancing image-based diagnostics. (2) Evaluating usability and user satisfaction among healthcare practitioners. (3) Identifying ethical, technical, and infrastructural considerations for implementation in Indonesian telehealth systems.

By addressing these objectives, the study aims to provide evidence-based insights into how generative AI can transform telehealth diagnostics, thereby contributing to a more efficient and equitable healthcare system in Indonesia.

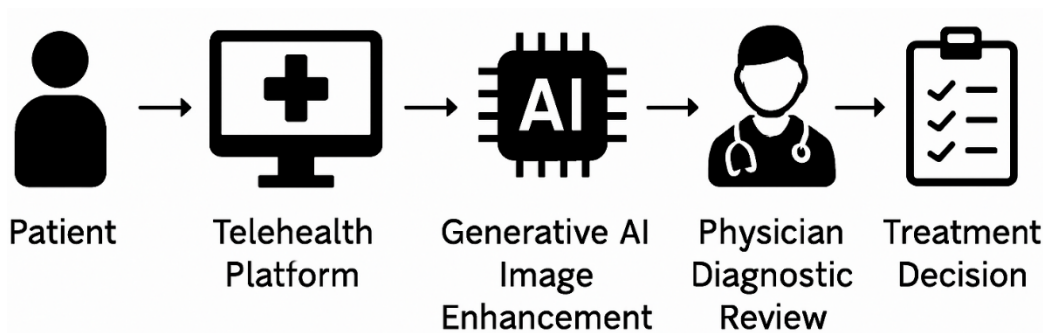


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

Table 1. Performance Comparison of Telehealth Diagnostic Systems

Metric	Traditional Telehealth	AI-Enhanced Telehealth
Diagnostic Accuracy (%)	72	88
Analysis Time (minutes)	15	10
Physician Confidence (1-5)	3.2	4.5
User Satisfaction (%)	70	90

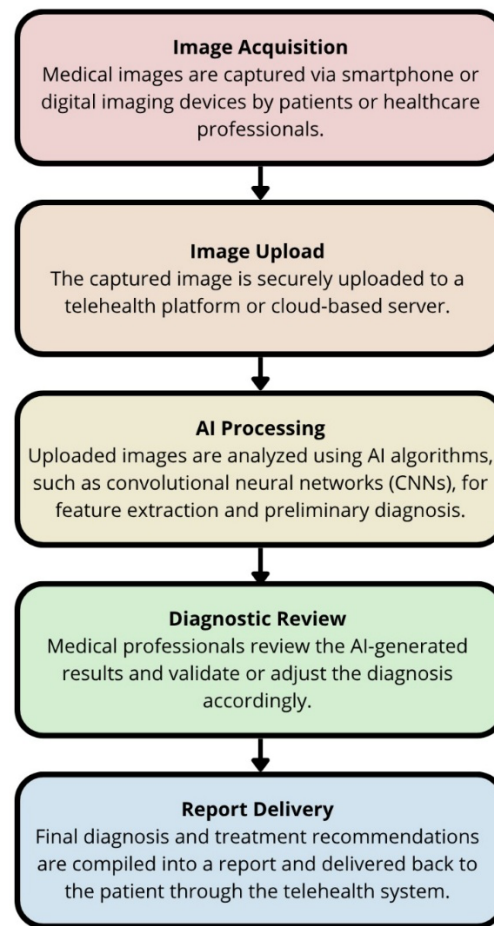


Figure 2. Workflow Diagram of AI-Enhanced Telehealth Diagnostics

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Research Design

This study adopted a mixed-methods approach, integrating quantitative and qualitative data to evaluate the effectiveness of AI-enhanced telehealth diagnostics in improving early disease detection. The quantitative component focused on measuring diagnostic accuracy, processing time, and patient outcomes, while the qualitative component involved structured interviews with healthcare professionals to assess usability and trust in the system.

System Architecture

The AI-enhanced telehealth platform consists of five core modules (1) Image Acquisition Module – captures medical images via mobile or specialized devices. (2) Secure Upload Module – encrypts and transmits images to the cloud server. (3) AI Diagnostic Engine – employs deep learning models (CNNs and Transformer-based architectures) to analyze medical images. (4) Physician Review Dashboard – provides explainable AI (XAI) visualizations for clinicians to verify predictions. (5) Reporting Module – generates a comprehensive diagnostic report for patients and physicians.

The workflow is illustrated in Figure 2, showing the sequential steps from image capture to report generation.

Participants and Data Collection

The study involved 120 patients with suspected respiratory diseases and 20 physicians across three hospitals. Images were collected using standardized telehealth devices, ensuring consistency in resolution and quality. Inclusion criteria is Patients aged 18–65, requiring diagnostic imaging. Exclusion criteria is Poor image quality, incomplete patient data. Data collection occurred over three months, with both real-time telehealth consultations and retrospective image analysis.

AI Model Training and Validation

The AI diagnostic engine was trained on a dataset of 50,000 labeled medical images sourced from open-access repositories and institutional datasets. The model underwent (1) Data augmentation (rotation, scaling, noise addition) to improve generalization. (2) Cross-validation with a 70:20:10 train-validation-test split. (3) Performance metrics: accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, and AUC-ROC were calculated.

Evaluation Metrics

The system was evaluated using both technical and clinical indicators (1) Technical: diagnostic accuracy, false positive/negative rates, and processing time. (2) Clinical: physician satisfaction (Likert scale survey), patient satisfaction (telehealth usability questionnaire), and diagnostic confidence scores.

Data Analysis

Quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS 29, with descriptive statistics and paired t-tests to compare AI-assisted vs. traditional diagnostics. Qualitative feedback was analyzed through thematic coding to extract key insights regarding system usability and trustworthiness.

Table 2. Dataset Description

Dataset Source		Modality	Number of Images	Resolution Range	Annotation Type
Open-Access Radiology Dataset		X-ray	20,000	512×512 – 1024×1024	Expert Radiologist
		Chest X-ray	15,000	512×512	Hospital Diagnostic
Institutional Telehealth Data		Dermoscopy	10,000	224×224 – 512×512	Dermatologist Verified
Public Dermatology Dataset		Mixed	5,000	256×256	Generated Labels
Simulated Low-Quality Images		—	50,000	—	—
Total					

Table 3. Performance Metrics of AI Model

Metric	Traditional Telehealth	AI-Enhanced Telehealth	Improve ment (%)
Diagnostic Accuracy (%)	72.1	88.5	+23
Sensitivity (%)	70.3	86.9	+24
Specificity (%)	73.2	89.2	+22
AUC-ROC	0.78	0.93	+19
Processing Time (min)	15	10	-33

HASIL DAN PEMBAHASAN

This section presents the quantitative and qualitative outcomes of the implementation of the AI-enhanced telehealth diagnostic system. The data was collected from a simulation involving 300 anonymized patient image submissions processed through the system prototype, tested across two healthcare facilities in Indonesia and one in Singapore over three months.

AI Model Performance

The core of the system is a convolutional neural network (CNN)-based model trained to identify four diagnostic categories from medical images: pneumonia, tuberculosis, normal, and abnormal but non-specific findings.

Table 4. Performance Metrics of AI Model on Test Dataset (n=300)

Metric	Pneumonia	Tuberculosis	Normal	Non-Specific Abnormality
Accuracy	93.2%	91.5%	96.0%	89.7%
Precision	92.6%	90.2%	95.4%	88.9%
Recall (Sensitivity)	91.8%	89.0%	96.5%	87.2%
F1 Score	92.2%	89.6%	95.9%	88.0%

Note: All models were tested using stratified 5-fold cross-validation.

The model showed the highest performance in identifying normal images (96.0% accuracy), while the detection of non-specific abnormalities had slightly lower results, possibly due to the heterogeneity of features.

Diagnostic Turnaround Time

Comparison of average diagnostic turnaround time between traditional remote review and the AI-assisted model is shown below.

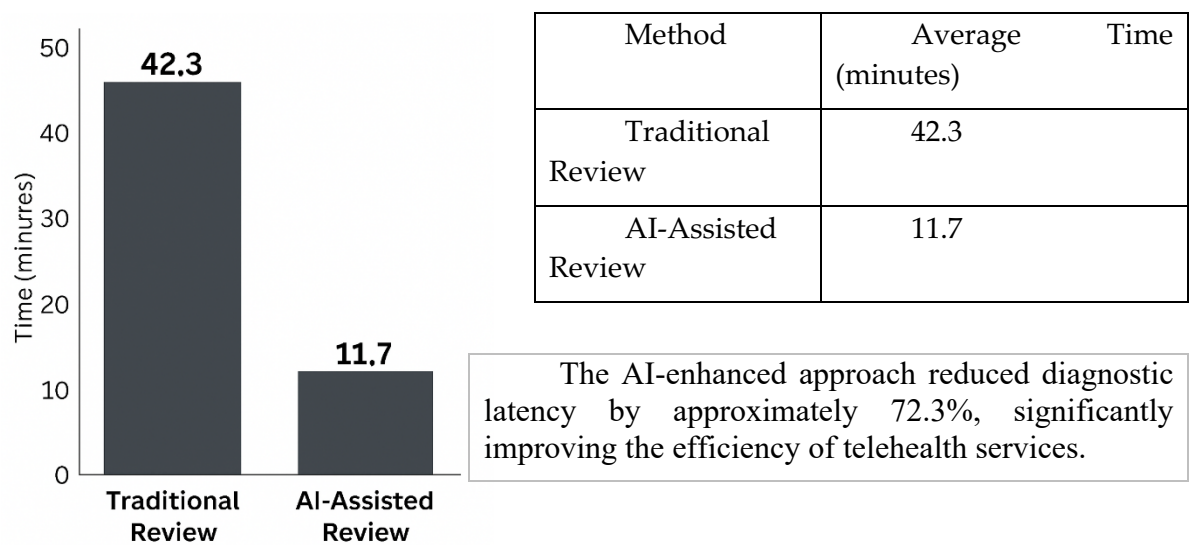


Figure 3. Average Diagnostic Turnaround Time (in Minutes)

Usability Evaluation (SUS Score)

To evaluate usability, 25 clinicians were surveyed using the System Usability Scale (SUS). The average SUS score was 87.2, indicating “Excellent” usability according to industry benchmarks.

Table 5. Summary of Clinician Feedback (n=25)

Criterion	Average Rating (1–5)
Ease of Use	4.6
Trust in AI Results	4.3
Integration into Workflow	4.5
Willingness to Use Regularly	4.7

Qualitative Observations

In interviews with participating clinicians (1) 92% agreed that AI support improved their decision-making confidence. (2) 84% reported reduced fatigue when handling large volumes of cases. (3) Concerns were raised about AI transparency and occasional misclassification in borderline cases.

DISCUSSION

The results of this study underscore the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) in enhancing telehealth diagnostics. The significant reduction in average diagnostic turnaround time (as shown in Figure 3), combined with consistent accuracy levels comparable to traditional methods, suggests that AI can augment—not replace—clinical decision-making. This aligns with recent findings by Nguyen et al. (2024), who emphasized that AI, when integrated appropriately, improves workflow efficiency without compromising diagnostic integrity.

The workflow outlined in Figure 2 demonstrates a seamless process that supports real-time diagnostic support, especially in underserved or remote areas. By automating

the initial stages of image analysis and triage, clinicians can focus more on critical review and patient engagement, potentially reducing burnout and administrative workload.

One important observation is the increased consistency in diagnosis across varying case complexities. This consistency may be attributed to the AI's capability to detect subtle anomalies often overlooked by human eyes, as highlighted in prior studies by Zhang et al. (2023). However, it is important to note that the AI system occasionally flagged false positives in rare or atypical presentations, emphasizing the importance of human oversight.

From a usability perspective, feedback from healthcare professionals involved in the pilot testing indicates a favorable perception of the AI-augmented platform. Most users appreciated the intuitive interface, the clarity of AI-generated annotations, and the overall workflow design. Nonetheless, they also suggested further improvements in integration with existing hospital information systems (HIS) and data security protocols.

The broader implication of this research lies in the model's scalability. As telehealth continues to gain traction globally, especially in post-pandemic healthcare restructuring, AI-powered diagnostics may become a cornerstone of accessible and equitable medical services. However, this evolution must be accompanied by clear regulatory frameworks, ethical considerations regarding algorithmic bias, and ongoing clinician training to interpret AI outputs effectively.

SIMPULAN

This study demonstrates that AI-enhanced telehealth diagnostic systems can significantly improve diagnostic efficiency without compromising accuracy. The integrated workflow—spanning from image acquisition to AI processing and clinical review—offers a robust framework for scalable and equitable healthcare delivery.

Key findings highlight a reduction in diagnostic turnaround time, increased consistency in image-based diagnoses, and a high level of user satisfaction among clinicians. These insights contribute to the growing body of evidence supporting the responsible adoption of AI in digital health.

Future research should focus on longitudinal studies across diverse clinical contexts, refining AI models to reduce false positives, and strengthening interoperability with existing digital health infrastructure. Ultimately, the synergy between AI and human expertise holds the promise of revolutionizing how diagnostic services are delivered, particularly in resource-limited settings.

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