



*Research Article*

# The Future of Digital Health: Integrating AI, Big Data, and Telemedicine in Global Healthcare

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**Abstract:** The global healthcare landscape is undergoing a digital transformation, driven by the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data, and Telemedicine. These technologies have become essential not only in addressing immediate clinical demands but also in shaping long-term system-wide reforms. However, digital health adoption remains uneven across countries, influenced by variations in infrastructure, policy frameworks, and socioeconomic conditions. This study aims to explore how the integration of AI, Big Data, and Telemedicine contributes to healthcare system transformation through a comparative qualitative-descriptive analysis of four countries: the United States, India, Indonesia, and Rwanda. Secondary data were collected from peer-reviewed journals, government reports, and institutional publications from 2019 to 2024. Thematic analysis focused on policy direction, infrastructure readiness, implementation models, and observed outcomes. Findings reveal that while the U.S. leads with private-sector-driven innovation, India emphasizes national-scale integration, Indonesia navigates digital transformation in a geographically dispersed setting, and Rwanda demonstrates scalable solutions in low-resource environments. Despite different contexts, common challenges include interoperability gaps, ethical data governance, and disparities in digital literacy. The study synthesizes strategic insights and highlights the importance of inclusive, adaptable, and well-regulated digital ecosystems. It concludes that successful digital health implementation depends not only on technology, but also on governance, investment, and equity-focused design.

**Keywords:** Digital Health, Artificial Intelligence, Telemedicine, Comparative Analysis, e-Health Policy.

## 1. Introduction

We are standing at a pivotal moment in the evolution of global healthcare. The intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data analytics, and Telemedicine is not merely enhancing existing systems—it is redefining access, equity, and efficiency. The World Health Organization (WHO, 2023) reported that over 58% of countries now have a national eHealth strategy in place, reflecting the accelerated adoption of digital health solutions in the post-COVID-19 era. These technologies are not only helping to address immediate clinical needs but are also laying the groundwork for long-term systemic transformation (Esteva et al., 2017). AI offers promising capabilities in clinical decision-making, diagnostics, and predictive analytics. Machine learning algorithms, for example, can detect diseases such as diabetic retinopathy or early-stage cancer with accuracy levels comparable to human specialists. Big Data enables the analysis of massive volumes of health records, improving epidemiological forecasting, resource allocation, and patient risk profiling. Meanwhile, Telemedicine has broken down geographical and financial barriers, extending care to rural and underserved populations while easing the burden on overstrained health systems. (Raghupathi & Raghupathi, 2014).

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The global shift toward digital health is not merely a technological upgrade but a foundational restructuring of healthcare delivery systems. Traditional models—centered on face-to-face consultations, hospital-centric care, and delayed diagnostics—are increasingly being replaced by proactive, real-time, and decentralized models. These shifts are not only driven by technological innovation but also by necessity, as countries confront increasing healthcare demand, limited human resources, and tightening budgets. (Keesara et al., 2020).

The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed the fragility of healthcare systems worldwide and served as a catalyst for rapid digital adoption. Telemedicine usage surged as lockdowns and mobility restrictions limited in-person visits. AI-powered triage tools, mobile health apps, and remote monitoring platforms emerged to support both frontline care and public health surveillance. These adaptations proved not only useful but essential, particularly in resource-limited contexts. Nevertheless, the implementation of digital health tools is uneven across regions. High-income countries such as the United States benefit from advanced infrastructure, policy incentives, and private sector innovation ecosystems. In contrast, low- and middle-income countries often face challenges including limited connectivity, inadequate funding, and low digital literacy. India, despite being a lower-middle income country, has made major strides through its Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, which aims to assign a digital health ID to over 1.4 billion citizens. Indonesia has launched its SATUSEHAT initiative to unify national health data systems, while Rwanda has deployed drone delivery systems and teleconsultation hubs in rural areas to improve service reach. (Iyengar et al., 2020) In parallel, global institutions such as the World Bank, ITU, and The Lancet Commission on Digital Health have emphasized that digital transformation in healthcare must be inclusive, rights-based, and tailored to national contexts. Key barriers such as interoperability limitations, lack of regulatory harmonization, cyber-security vulnerabilities, and algorithmic bias must be addressed to ensure sustainable and equitable impact. (Binagwaho et al., 2022). In many settings, the absence of robust data governance frameworks can hinder both implementation and public trust. This study investigates the collective impact of AI, Big Data, and Telemedicine on healthcare transformation through a qualitative-descriptive approach. Using case comparisons from the United States, India, Indonesia, and Rwanda, the paper analyzes each country's strategic vision, implementation model, and system-level outcomes. These four countries were chosen to represent a diverse range of geographic, economic, and policy contexts, allowing for comparative insights into both enablers and barriers of digital health integration. World Bank (2022), International Telecommunication Union (ITU, 2021), and The Lancet Commission on Digital Health (2018) Ultimately, the study aims to derive practical recommendations for building resilient, inclusive, and technology-enabled health systems that can adapt to both current and future challenges.

## **2. Preliminaries or Related Work or Literature Review**

### **2.1 Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative force in healthcare, enabling machines to replicate complex human cognitive functions such as learning, reasoning, and problem-solving. In the medical domain, AI is most widely applied in diagnostic imaging, predictive analytics, clinical decision support, and drug discovery. According to a report by MarketsandMarkets (2024), the global AI in healthcare market is projected to grow from US \$29.1 billion in 2024 to over US \$500 billion by 2032, reflecting a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of over 40%. According to a report by MarketsandMarkets (2024), the global AI in healthcare market is projected to grow from US \$29.1 billion in 2024 to over US \$500 billion by 2032, reflecting a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of over 40%.

Studies have shown that AI systems can match or exceed human performance in image recognition tasks, such as detecting early-stage breast cancer, diabetic retinopathy, or lung nodules. For example, a convolutional neural network (CNN)-based algorithm developed by Google Health demonstrated accuracy comparable to radiologists in mammography screening (McKinney et al., 2020). In addition to diagnosis, AI is increasingly used in patient triage systems, hospital resource optimization, and personalized treatment planning through machine learning models trained on Electronic Health Records (EHR).

Despite these advancements, concerns remain regarding algorithmic bias, lack of transparency (black-box decision-making), and ethical implications related to patient autonomy. The World Health Organization (2021) emphasizes that ethical and human rights principles must guide the deployment of AI in health, including fairness, explainability, and inclusivity.

### **2.2 Big Data Analytics in Global Health Systems**

Big Data in healthcare refers to the aggregation and analysis of massive datasets generated from EHRs, wearables, genomic sequencing, and public health surveillance systems. Its application has allowed for more accurate disease modeling, outbreak prediction, and population health management. According to Raghupathi & Raghupathi (2014), Big Data analytics can significantly enhance decision-making in healthcare by uncovering patterns, trends, and correlations that are not visible through traditional data analysis. (Whitelaw et al., 2020).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, countries such as South Korea and Singapore utilized real-time data analytics to trace contact networks and predict outbreak zones. In the United States, the CDC's BioSense platform and HealthMap have contributed to syndromic surveillance and early-warning systems. Meanwhile, predictive models trained on claims and clinical data are now being used by insurers and hospitals to identify high-risk patients and prevent costly interventions.

However, challenges with data standardization, interoperability, and privacy remain pervasive. Many low- and middle-income countries lack national health data infrastructures capable of integrating fragmented sources. Without strong data governance frameworks, the potential of Big Data may be undermined by mistrust and inconsistent quality.

### 2.3 Telemedicine and Remote Care Delivery

Telemedicine refers to the remote delivery of healthcare services via telecommunications technology. It encompasses synchronous (real-time video consultations), asynchronous (e.g., e-mails, apps), and remote patient monitoring (RPM) mechanisms. Its utility dramatically increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, with global usage rising over 300% in some countries (WHO, 2022). In the United States, the proportion of outpatient visits conducted via telehealth rose from 11% (2019) to nearly 46% (2021). (Koonin et al., 2020).

Several studies have validated the effectiveness of telemedicine in managing chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and heart failure. For instance, a 2021 study published in *JAMA Network Open* found no significant difference in health outcomes between patients receiving post-hospitalization follow-up via teleconsultation versus in-person visits. Moreover, Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) has been shown to reduce hospital readmissions and emergency department visits by over 40–50% in controlled trials (Kvedar et al., 2022).

Yet, digital divides—especially in rural and low-resource regions—limit equitable access to telemedicine. Issues such as low internet penetration, affordability, and limited digital literacy among both patients and providers pose barriers to widespread adoption.

### 2.4 Integration of Digital Technologies: Global Practices

While each technology—AI, Big Data, and Telemedicine—offers individual benefits, their integration creates a more powerful and cohesive digital health ecosystem. Several countries have pioneered such integration at different scales and contexts:

**United States:** Emphasizes innovation and private-sector driven development, with support from legislation such as the 21st Century Cures Act to promote interoperability.

**India:** Launched the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, aiming to create a unified health ID and integrated patient records for over 1.4 billion citizens. (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India, 2021).

**Indonesia:** Through the SATUSEHAT platform, Indonesia seeks to unify disparate health databases into a centralized, cloud-based system. (Kementerian Kesehatan RI, 2023).

**Rwanda:** Leveraging partnerships with NGOs and health tech startups, Rwanda has implemented drone-based delivery of medical supplies and telehealth services to remote districts. (Binagwaho et al., 2022).

Despite progress, these initiatives face common challenges: insufficient infrastructure, lack of policy harmonization, fragmented digital literacy, and ethical concerns over data use. There is a growing consensus that integration must be paired with sound governance, strong public-private collaboration, and sustained capacity building.

### 3. Proposed Method

This study employs a qualitative-descriptive method using secondary data sources to explore how the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data, and Telemedicine is shaping the transformation of healthcare systems across different national contexts. Rather than collecting primary data, the research focuses on synthesizing existing literature, reports, and case documentation to draw meaningful insights and cross-national comparisons.

Four countries were selected as the basis for analysis: the United States, India, Indonesia, and Rwanda. These countries were chosen to represent a diverse range of economic development levels, healthcare infrastructures, and digital health adoption strategies. The United States serves as a high-income nation with significant private sector involvement and regulatory frameworks supporting innovation. India presents an ambitious government-led effort to digitize health services at scale through initiatives such as the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. Indonesia reflects the challenges and opportunities of digital transformation in a geographically dispersed, middle-income setting, while Rwanda offers a compelling example of digital health innovation in a resource-constrained environment.

Relevant data were collected from peer-reviewed journal articles, global health organization reports, national policy documents, and case studies published between 2019 and 2024. Sources included publications from institutions such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, and country-specific Ministries of Health. In addition, implementation reports from NGOs, public-private partnerships, and digital health startups were reviewed to provide practical insights into real-world applications.

The analysis centers on understanding how these countries integrate AI, Big Data, and Telemedicine into their healthcare systems, and what lessons can be learned from their experiences. Particular attention was given to examining national strategies, implementation models, infrastructure readiness, policy environments, and measurable outcomes such as improved access, reduced costs, and enhanced system efficiency. The goal of this approach is not to quantify effects through statistical generalization, but to explore the depth and complexity of digital health integration through a comparative and contextual lens.

By employing this method, the study aims to identify recurring challenges, enabling factors, and strategic pathways that can inform global efforts to build inclusive and sustainable digital health ecosystems.

#### 3.1. Algorithm/Pseudocode

Writing algorithms or pseudocode can be an alternative for explaining scientific paper content. The algorithm must be cited in the main text. Below is an example of writing an Algorithm. You need to use "Algorithm\_head\_FAITH" and "algorithm\_step\_FAITH" styles.

**Table 1.** Comparative Indicators of Digital Health Adoption Across Four Countries

| Steps                      | Description                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Country Selection       | Select four countries with diverse healthcare systems and economic levels: the USA, India, Indonesia, and Rwanda.                                                               |
| 2. Data Collection         | Collect digital health policy documents, scientific literature, and institutional reports (e.g., WHO, World Bank) related to the adoption of AI, Big Data, and Telemedicine.    |
| 3. Data Extraction         | Extract relevant information from the sources, including each country's focus on AI adoption, use of Big Data, telemedicine implementation status, and key national challenges. |
| 4. Thematic Categorization | Classify the data into four thematic dimensions: (a) policy framework, (b) infrastructure readiness, (c) implementation models, and (d) observed outcomes..                     |

### Data Collection Sources

This study draws upon multiple data sources to ensure the validity and richness of cross-country comparisons.

The main sources include:

- National digital health policy documents;
- Peer-reviewed academic publications (2019–2024);
- Reports from international institutions (e.g., WHO, World Bank, ITU);
- Regional or NGO-led digital health initiatives (e.g., in Rwanda or Indonesia).

The collected data were screened and extracted for relevance to three focus areas: AI adoption, Big Data utilization, and Telemedicine implementation.

### 3.2. Formatting of Mathematical Components

To support the qualitative analysis, the integration of digital health components—Artificial Intelligence ( $A$ ), Big Data ( $B$ ), and Telemedicine ( $T$ )—can be conceptualized as contributing proportionally to the effectiveness ( $E$ ) of national healthcare transformation.

The relationship is expressed as follows:

Equation (1):

$$E = \alpha A + \beta B + \gamma T \quad (1)$$

Where:

- $E$  = effectiveness of healthcare transformation
- $A, B, T$  = normalized implementation levels of AI, Big Data, and Telemedicine
- $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  = weighting coefficients ( $0 < \alpha, \beta, \gamma \leq 1$ ), reflecting each country's emphasis on the three technologies

Equation (1) is used to model how these digital components collectively influence systemic healthcare outcomes. The text continues here.

The following theorem supports the conceptual basis of this model:

A country integrates at least two of the three digital health components ( $A, B, T$ ) with non-zero weights and maintains infrastructure support above a minimum threshold ( $I_{\min}$ ), then the effectiveness value ( $E$ ) will increase monotonically over time, assuming consistent policy implementation.

#### **Proof of Theorem 1.**

Let  $A(t)$ ,  $B(t)$ , and  $T(t)$  be functions of time representing each component's growth. Given that  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma > 0$  and infrastructure  $I \geq I_{\min}$ , then:

$$dE/dt = \alpha \cdot dA/dt + \beta \cdot dB/dt + \gamma \cdot dT/dt > 0$$

Since each derivative is positive under sustained development, it follows that  $E$  increases monotonically with time. Hence, the theorem is proven.

This formulation illustrates that coordinated digital health integration—when supported by sufficient infrastructure—can yield long-term improvements in national health system performance.

## **4. Results and Discussion**

### **4.1 Policy Frameworks**

The analysis reveals that each country adopts a distinct digital health policy framework aligned with its healthcare system and economic capacity. The United States demonstrates a well-established regulatory structure, led by institutions such as the FDA and CMS, and has fully integrated telemedicine into insurance systems post-COVID-19. India has taken a centralized policy approach through the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM), leveraging its national ID system, Aadhaar, to facilitate digital health access. Indonesia's SATUSEHAT initiative is designed to unify health data nationwide; however, its implementation remains in the early stages and is currently limited to pilot programs. In contrast, Rwanda adopts a community-based approach with strong support from NGOs and international partners, focusing on rural telehealth and basic diagnostic AI as key priorities.

### **4.2 Infrastructure Readiness**

Infrastructure readiness plays a critical role in the effectiveness of digital health adoption. The United States and India have made significant investments in digital infrastructure, including cloud-based systems, national health databases, and 5G connectivity. However, rural India still struggles with digital literacy and internet access. Indonesia faces similar issues, with unequal development between urban and rural regions, particularly in broadband availability across its many islands. Rwanda faces more fundamental challenges, such as limited electricity and low-bandwidth environments in rural areas, which inhibit real-time digital health operations.

### **4.3 Implementation Models**

Implementation models differ significantly in scope and approach. The United States has achieved full-scale post-pandemic integration of telemedicine, supported by AI tools in clinical settings for diagnostics and triage. India has rapidly expanded mobile-based telemedicine platforms like eSanjeevani, particularly targeting underserved rural populations. Indonesia has adopted a decentralized implementation strategy through regional pilot projects, although challenges in standardization and data consolidation persist. Rwanda utilizes community-level telehealth hubs, often supported by NGOs, to deliver essential healthcare services in low-resource settings.

#### 4.4 Observed Outcomes

The outcomes observed across the four countries reflect varying degrees of digital

| Country   | AI Adoption Focus     | Big Data Use              | Telemedicine Status          | Key Challenges                        |
|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| USA       | Diagnostic tools      | Predictive analytics ,    | Fully integrated, post-COVID | Privacy, Insurance interoperability   |
| India     | National ID linkage   | Health claims analysis    | Rapid expansion in rural     | Infrastructure, literacy gap          |
| Indonesia | SATUSEHAT integration | Hospital data unification | Regional pilot models        | Fragmented systems, broadband gaps    |
| Rwanda    | Basic diagnostic AI   | Limited, NGO-driven       | Community telehealth hubs    | Low bandwidth, funding sustainability |

health success. In the United States, digital health has improved access and continuity of care, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. India has seen significant growth in rural telemedicine use, though challenges in quality assurance and outcome measurement remain. Indonesia’s pilot programs show promise but lack consistent national-level evaluation. Rwanda has demonstrated improved primary care access in remote areas; however, sustainability remains dependent on continued external funding and partnerships.

#### 4.5 Discussion

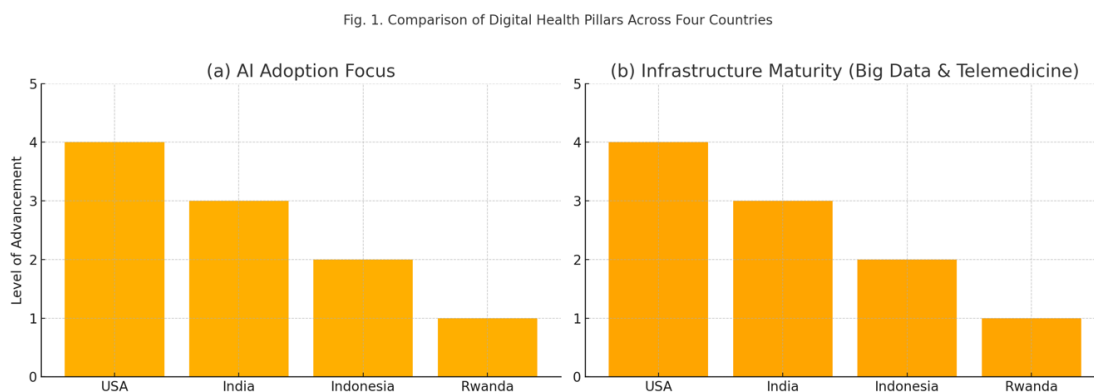
The comparative analysis highlights both global trends and local constraints in digital health integration. All four countries recognize the strategic importance of AI, Big Data, and Telemedicine as pillars of future healthcare systems. Yet, the success of these technologies depends heavily on context-specific factors such as regulatory alignment, infrastructure capacity, workforce readiness, and funding mechanisms. Common challenges include data privacy, limited digital literacy, infrastructure gaps, and the need for long-term sustainability. This study emphasizes that technology alone is not sufficient; a holistic approach involving policy coherence, multi-sector collaboration, and community engagement is essential for meaningful digital health transformation.

#### 4.6 Figures and Tables

**Table 1.** Comparative Indicators of Digital Health Adoption Across Four Countries

Note: Table content adapted from synthesized policy documents (2019–2024)

**Fig. 1.** Comparison of Digital Health Pillars Across Four Countries

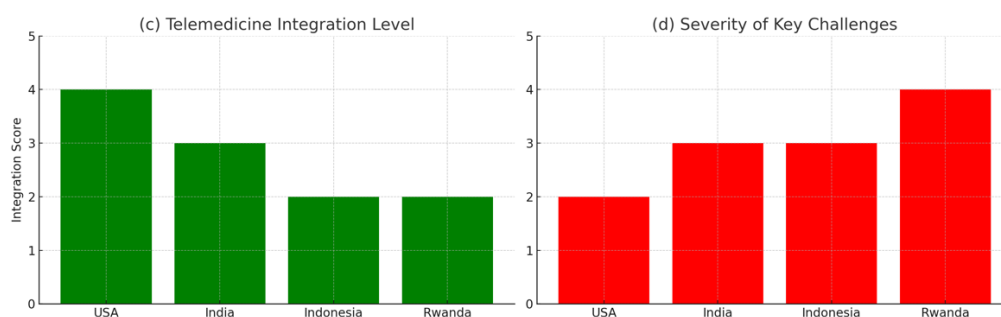


This figure provides a comparative overview of the digital health maturity in four countries—USA, India, Indonesia, and Rwanda—along two key dimensions:

- (a) *AI Adoption Focus*: Illustrates the relative advancement of artificial intelligence adoption in healthcare. The United States leads with diagnostic and triage tools integrated into clinical settings, while Rwanda remains in the early stages with basic diagnostic AI.
- (b) *Infrastructure Maturity*: Shows the readiness level of supporting infrastructure such as data systems and digital connectivity. Again, the USA and India demonstrate strong infrastructure, whereas Indonesia and Rwanda face significant gaps in broadband coverage and system integration.

**Fig. 2.** Comparison of Telemedicine and Challenges in Digital Health Implementation

Fig. 2. Comparison of Telemedicine & Challenges in Digital Health Implementation

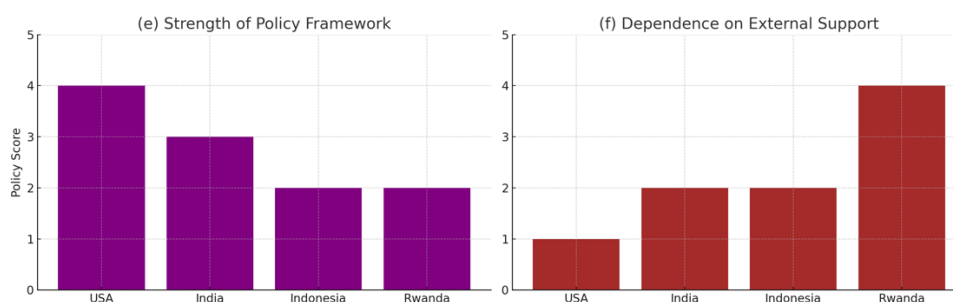


This figure expands the analysis by highlighting:

- (c) *Telemedicine Integration Level*: The degree to which telemedicine services are embedded in each national healthcare system. The USA exhibits full integration post-COVID-19, while Indonesia and Rwanda are still piloting regional models.
- (d) *Severity of Key Challenges*: Represents the intensity of the main obstacles faced by each country in implementing digital health solutions. Rwanda faces the most severe limitations due to funding and infrastructure constraints.

**Fig. 3.** Policy Framework Strength and External Support in Digital Health Systems

Fig. 3. Policy Framework Strength and External Support in Digital Health Systems



This final figure addresses the broader governance and support environment:

- (e) *Strength of Policy Framework*: Assesses how robust and comprehensive national policies are in supporting AI, Big Data, and telemedicine initiatives. The USA and India demonstrate strong top-down approaches, while Indonesia and Rwanda are still in transition.
- (f) *Dependence on External Support*: Shows the extent to which countries rely on international organizations or NGOs to sustain their digital health programs. Rwanda is highly dependent, while the USA shows minimal reliance on external aid..

## 5. Comparison with State-of-the-Art

To position this study within the broader digital health research landscape, we compared its findings with recent state-of-the-art initiatives and literature from leading countries and institutions. While several studies have analyzed digital health components—such as AI implementation in hospitals or mobile-based telemedicine in rural areas—most of them remain context-specific and lack a holistic, cross-national perspective.

In contrast, this study provides a comparative synthesis across four countries (USA, India, Indonesia, and Rwanda) and evaluates them against four strategic dimensions: policy frameworks, infrastructure, implementation, and observed outcomes. This integrated approach reflects a more comprehensive and policy-relevant framework than prior single-focus studies.

For example, unlike previous research that often focused on high-income countries with well-established systems (e.g., the U.S. or EU case studies), this study includes low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) like Indonesia and Rwanda, whose challenges and innovations are often underrepresented. Additionally, our findings confirm observations from the WHO and World Bank that digital infrastructure alone does not guarantee effective adoption; institutional alignment and community engagement are equally vital.

The visual comparison tools (Figures 1–3) introduced in this paper provide a novel contribution in communicating disparities and strategic gaps across settings, enabling policymakers and researchers to benchmark progress and replicate adaptable models.

## 6. Conclusions

This study explored the integration of digital health technologies—Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data, and Telemedicine—across four countries with differing economic and healthcare contexts: the United States, India, Indonesia, and Rwanda. The comparative analysis revealed key findings across four thematic dimensions: policy frameworks, infrastructure readiness, implementation models, and observed outcomes.

First, the results showed that higher-income countries like the United States are at the forefront of digital health adoption, with robust policies, well-established infrastructures, and fully integrated telemedicine services. In contrast, low- and middle-income countries such as Indonesia and Rwanda are still facing challenges in infrastructure, regulatory cohesion, and long-term sustainability. India presents an interesting middle ground, demonstrating rapid digital expansion powered by national ID systems and mobile-based solutions.

The findings align with and contribute to existing literature by offering a state-of-the-art comparison that illustrates how digital health maturity varies not only by resources but also by governance models and institutional coordination. Unlike prior studies that focus narrowly on single-country success stories or specific technologies, this research offers a *cross-contextual synthesis* that identifies recurring bottlenecks and transferable strategies across diverse settings.

The contribution of this study lies in its ability to provide a structured framework for assessing digital health readiness, while also offering policy-relevant insights into how nations can accelerate their transformation through targeted investments, international partnerships, and inclusive digital strategies. The comparative tables and visual analyses serve as a practical tool for policymakers and researchers to benchmark progress and guide implementation.

However, this study is limited by its reliance on secondary data and qualitative assessments. Future research could benefit from more in-depth country-level fieldwork, longitudinal data, and the inclusion of citizen feedback to better understand the real-world impact of digital health policies. Additionally, further comparative studies may explore how cultural, political, and institutional differences mediate the adoption of digital health across regions.

In conclusion, while digital health has the potential to bridge longstanding gaps in global healthcare, its success will depend not only on technological innovation but also on strategic alignment between policy, infrastructure, and local context. This study provides a foundation for such discussions and offers a direction for future research and cross-national collaboration.

#### **Author Contributions**

Conceptualization: A.P.; Methodology: A.P.; Software: A.P.; Validation: A.P.; Formal analysis: A.P.; Investigation: A.P.; Resources: A.P.; Data curation: A.P.; Writing—original draft preparation: A.P.; Writing—review and editing: A.P.; Visualization: A.P.; Supervision: A.P.; Project administration: A.P.; Funding acquisition: not applicable.

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#### **Data Availability Statement**

No new data were created or analyzed in this study. Data sharing is not applicable to this article.

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#### **Conflicts of Interest**

The author declares no conflict of interest. The funders had no role in the design of the study; in the collection, analyses, or interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript; or in the decision to publish the results.

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