



tOwaRds Informed dEisions iN colorecTal cancer screening

ML model for Shared Decision-Making Tool for CRC screening

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Prevention project realised with the support of KOTK (projectID: 12751)



Universiteit Antwerpen

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What will Orient try to do?

Provide the general practitioners (GPs) with the tools to discuss colorectal cancer screening and its benefits and harms with patients belonging to vulnerable groups, so that they are well-informed and can take a deliberate decision to participate or not in screening.



Key messages about SDM tools

- SDM tools for cancer screening are **effective in increasing knowledge** on cancer and cancer screening of **vulnerable people**.
- SDM tools are **effective in reducing decision conflicts** among people considering cancer screening.
- SDM tools are **effective in increasing screening intentions among vulnerable people**, especially those who are considering **colorectal cancer screening**.
- Given the complexities of patients' and clinicians' preferences in SDM tool characteristics, **fostering collaboration** between patients and clinicians **during the creation of an SDM tool** for cancer screening is essential.



Key messages about SDM tools

- Out of numerous risk prediction models for CRC with good model performance, **only a few** of them can be potentially **integrated** into practical healthcare settings.
- It is crucial to establish a **standardized reporting** of risk prediction models in CRC that accounts for the model's interpretability, generalizability, and potential clinical utility.

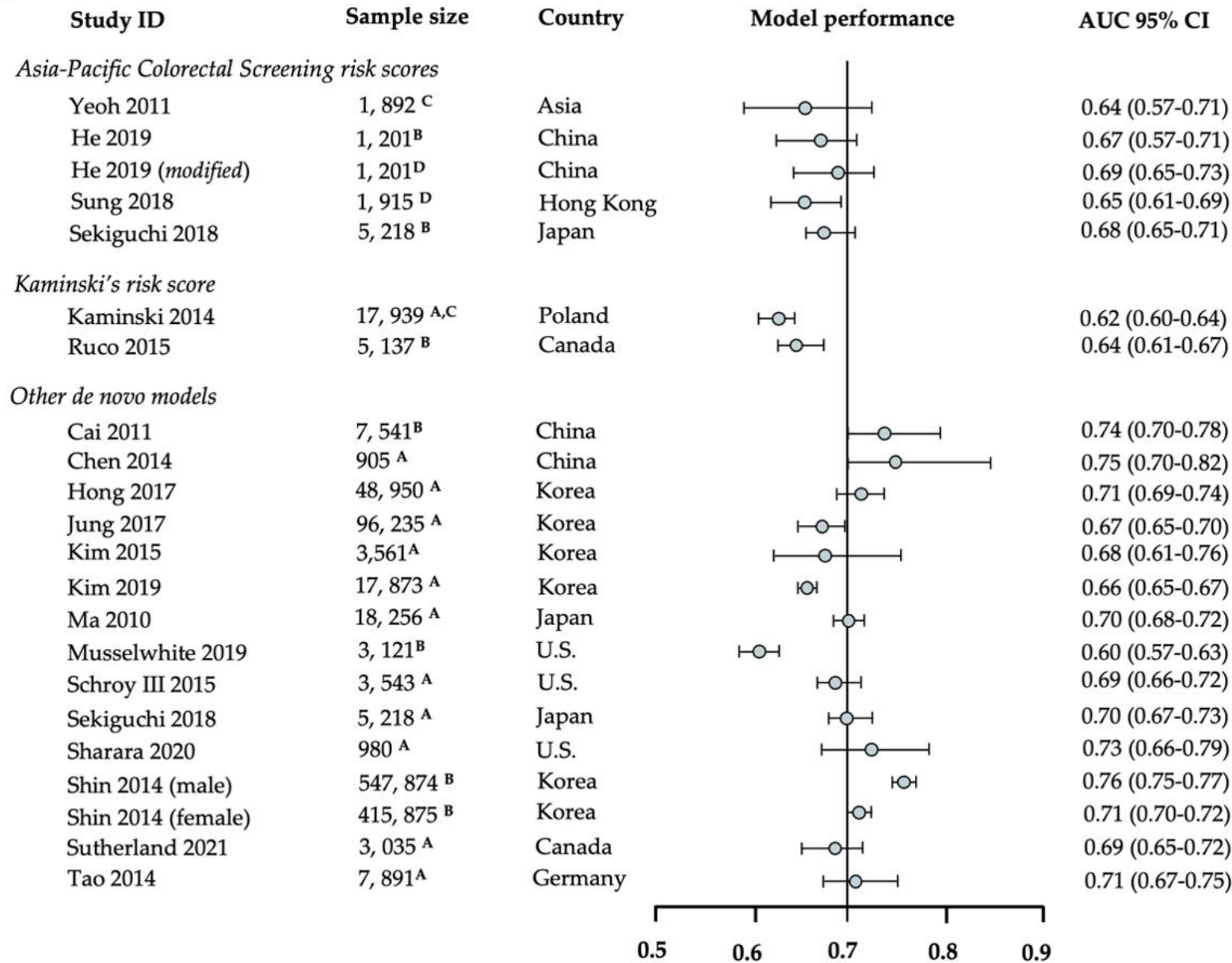


The constraints

- The tool need to be simple in a way to be used in a 15-min appointment.
- Features based in laboratory tests do not fit our objectives. (Conventional models)
- Information needed to feed into the model will be collected by the doctor.
- Things to keep in mind:
 - The language barrier over the vulnerable population.
 - Lack of knowledge about CRC screening.



A

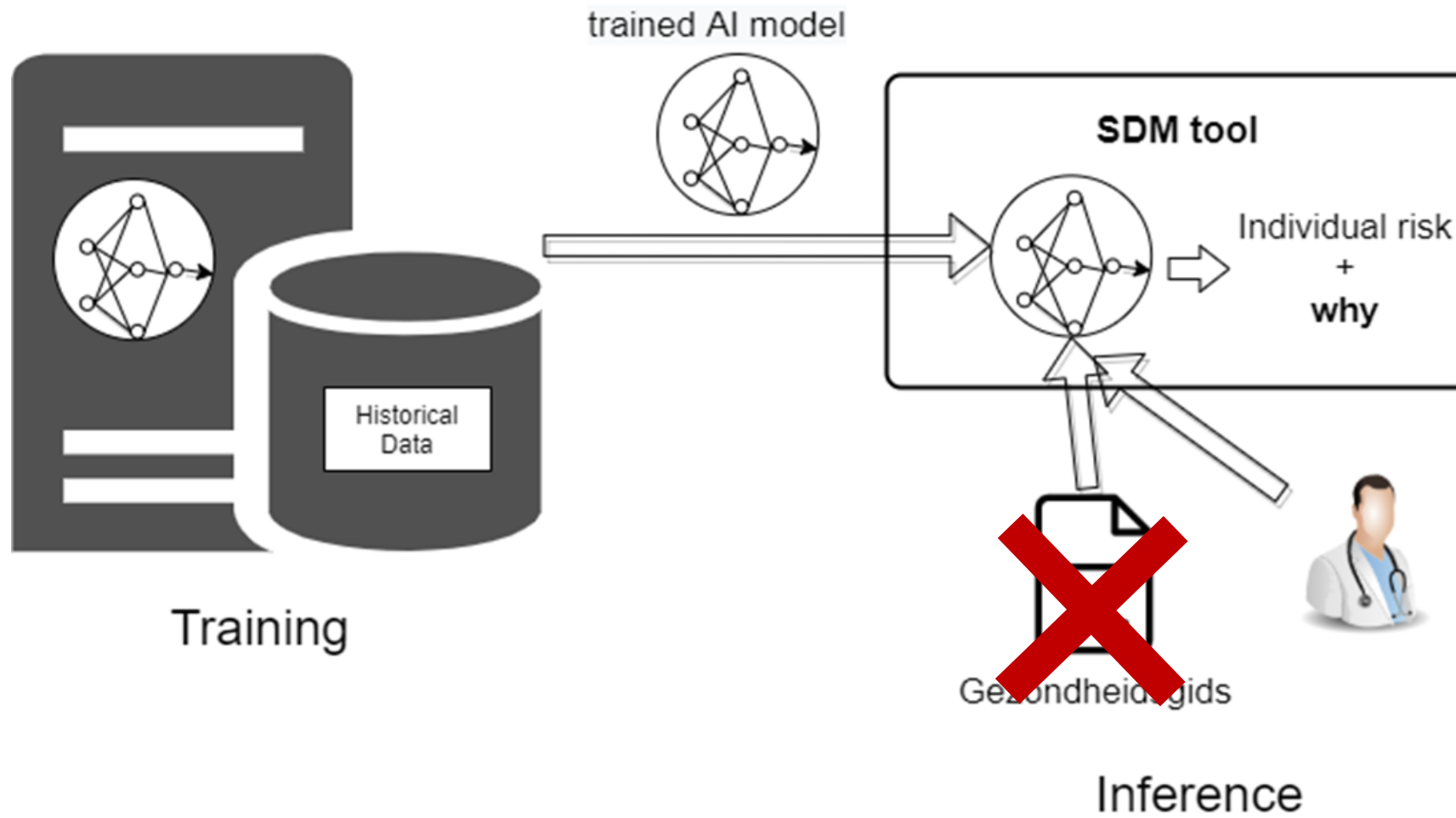


A Internally validated model
 B External validation
 C Original model
 D Updated model



Model performance of conventional risk models for colorectal cancer with 95% confidence interval (CI)
 Info collected during the literature review performed in the project.

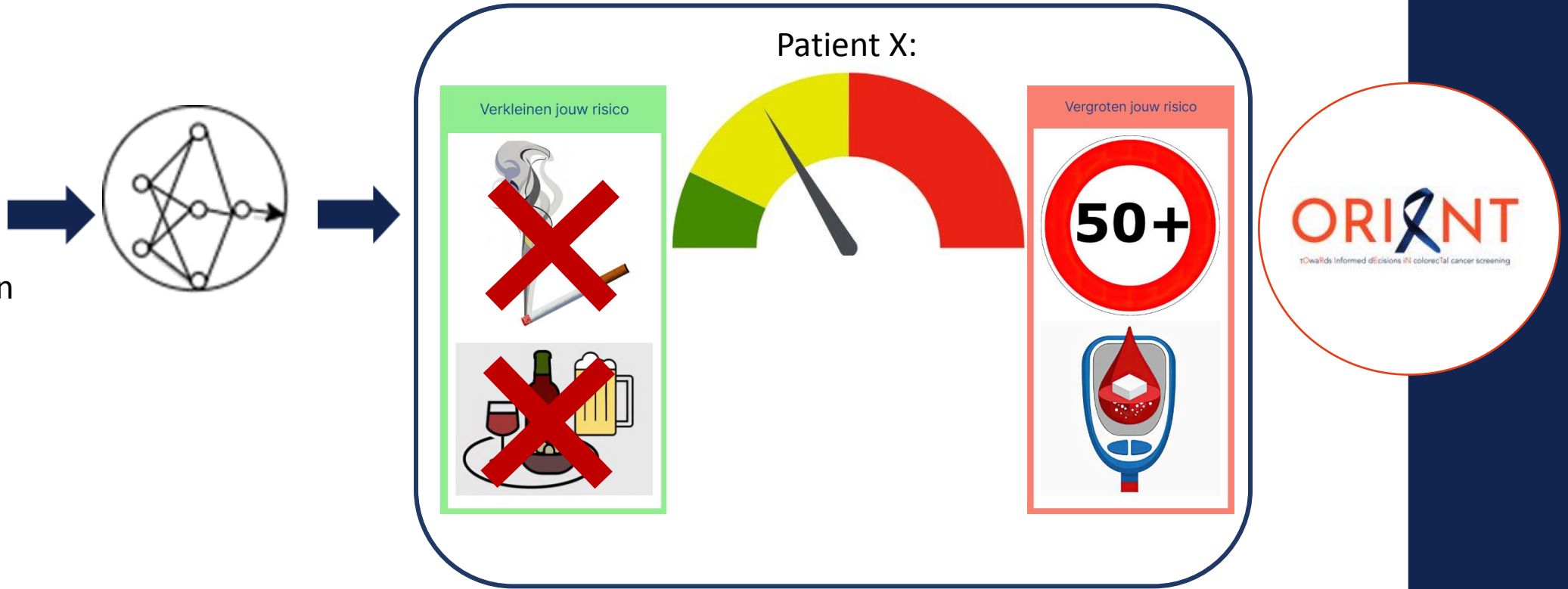
AI for ORIENT



AI for ORIENT – Inference example

Patient X:

- 65 years old
- Former smoker
- Diabetes
- No Hypertension
- ⋮



⇒ Using *Explainable AI*

Data: PLCO - The Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian Cancer

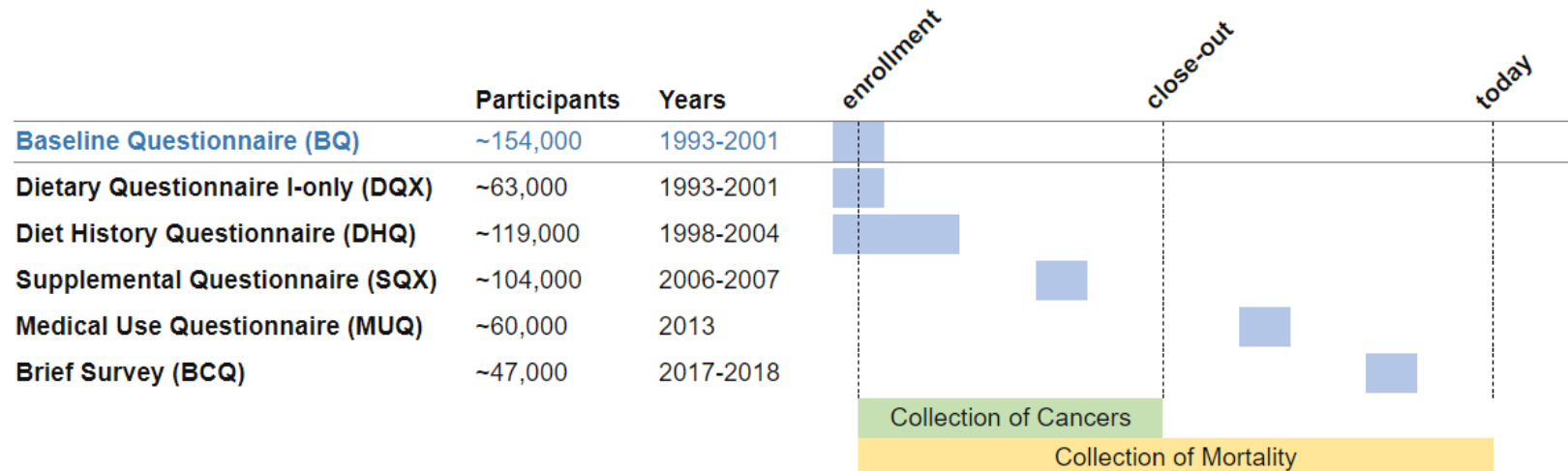
PLCO study aimed to evaluate the impact of screening exams on reducing mortality from prostate, lung, colorectal, and ovarian cancers. Participants assigned to the control arm received usual care, whereas participants assigned to the intervention arm were invited to receive screening exams.

Enrolment period: 1993 - 2001

Data size: ~154,000

Screening period: 1993 - 2009

Data Collection: +500 risk factors, collected through 6 questionnaires



AI model: feature engineering

US dataset



- $\pm 150\,000$ patients
- 500 + risk factors



First risk factor selection.

E.g. factors removed:

- Screening & diagnosis features
- US specific
- Too specific



US dataset



- $\pm 150\,000$ patients
- 248 risk factors
- 1 label

Second risk factor & patient selection.

E.g. removed:

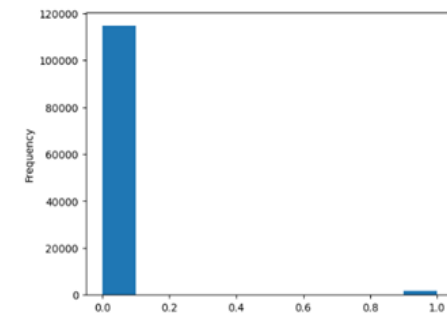
- Patients with too many missing values
- Factors statistically too insignificant



US dataset



- $\pm 116\,000$ patients
- 98 risk factors
- 1 label



- Balance $\pm 1:70$



AI model: feature engineering

US dataset



- ± 116 000 patients
- 98 risk factors
- 1 label



Third risk factor selection:

E.g. factors kept:

- Already known in literature

E.g. factors removed:

- Low importance in the model



US dataset



- ± 116 000 patients
- 20 risk factors
- 1 label

Fourth risk factor selection:

E.g. factors removed:

- Too many assumptions needed to be calculated.
- Too difficult to be collected by GP (**vulnerable population**)



US dataset



- ± 116 000 patients
- 12 risk factors
- 1 label



Selected risk factors (Features)

1. **Sex:** *Male, Female*
2. **Age:** *Numeric*
3. **Height:** *Numeric*
4. **Weight:** *Numeric*
5. **BMI:** *Numeric*
6. **Hypertension:** Did the participant ever have high blood pressure? *Yes/No*
Question modified: Do you take medication for hypertension ? *Yes/No*
7. **Heart problems:** Did the participant ever have coronary heart disease or a heart attack? *Yes/No*
Question modified: Do you take medication for heart problems? *Yes/No*
8. **Diabetes:** Did the participant ever had diabetes? *Yes/No*
9. **Family History of Colorectal Cancer:** Colorectal cancer family history in first-degree relatives. Includes parents full-siblings and children. *Yes/No/Possible, cancer type not clear*
10. **Smoke history:** Participant's current cigarette smoking status. *Former smoker/ Current smoker / Never smoked*
11. **Smoke quantity:** In the time that you smoked, how many cigarettes per day (approximately)? *0 / 1-10 / 11-20 / 21-30 / More than 30*
12. **Alcohol drink history:** Alcoholic Beverages (drinks/day) – DHQ. *Does not drink / Drinks, but less than 7 drinks per week / Drinks, more than 7 drinks per week*
Alcohol from Beer Wine and Liquor - Age 40-54 (drinks/day) – DHQ. *Did not drink / Drank, but less than 7 drinks per week / Drank, more than 7 drinks per week*



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#9

This factor is an exception factor in our tool.

Following the local guidelines, who has family history of colorectal cancer, should be advised to go through colonoscopy directly.

Selected risk factors (Features)

1. **Sex:** *Male, Female*
2. **Age:** *Numeric*
3. **Height:** *Numeric*
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Alcohol from Beer Wine and Liquor – at your forties (drinks/day) – DHQ. *Did not drink / Drank, but less than 7 drinks per week / Drank, more than 7 drinks per week*

#6 and #7

Heart and Hypertension factor in our model decreased the risk. We discovered that previous studies indicated the use of standard medication for these conditions also reduced the risk. As a result, we decided to modify our research question.



Data change

1. Alcohol drink history:

- Alcoholic Beverages (drinks/day) – DHQ. *Does not drink / Drinks, but less than 7 drinks per week / Drinks, more than 7 drinks per week*
- Alcohol from Beer Wine and Liquor – At your forties (drinks/day) – DHQ. *Did not drink / Drank, but less than 7 drinks per week / Drank, more than 7 drinks per week*

2. Age: *The age was collected when all patients were enrolled.*

- *We have the age that the cancer was discovered, for positive cases.*
- *And what about negative cases?*
 - *Age that colonoscopy was performed (just for intervention arm)*
- *Ages based in the colonoscopy date was added for negative cases.*
Cases where a person died from colorectal cancer but was negative, were excluded.

A regular beer is considered as one drink.

The threshold of 7 beers was defined based in the local dietary guidelines and, also the proportion of cancer incidence in our data.



Model

US dataset



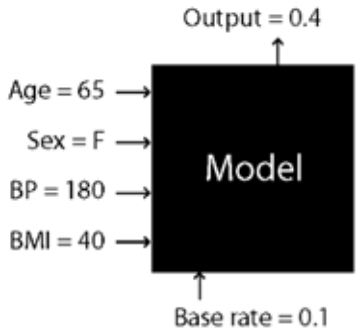
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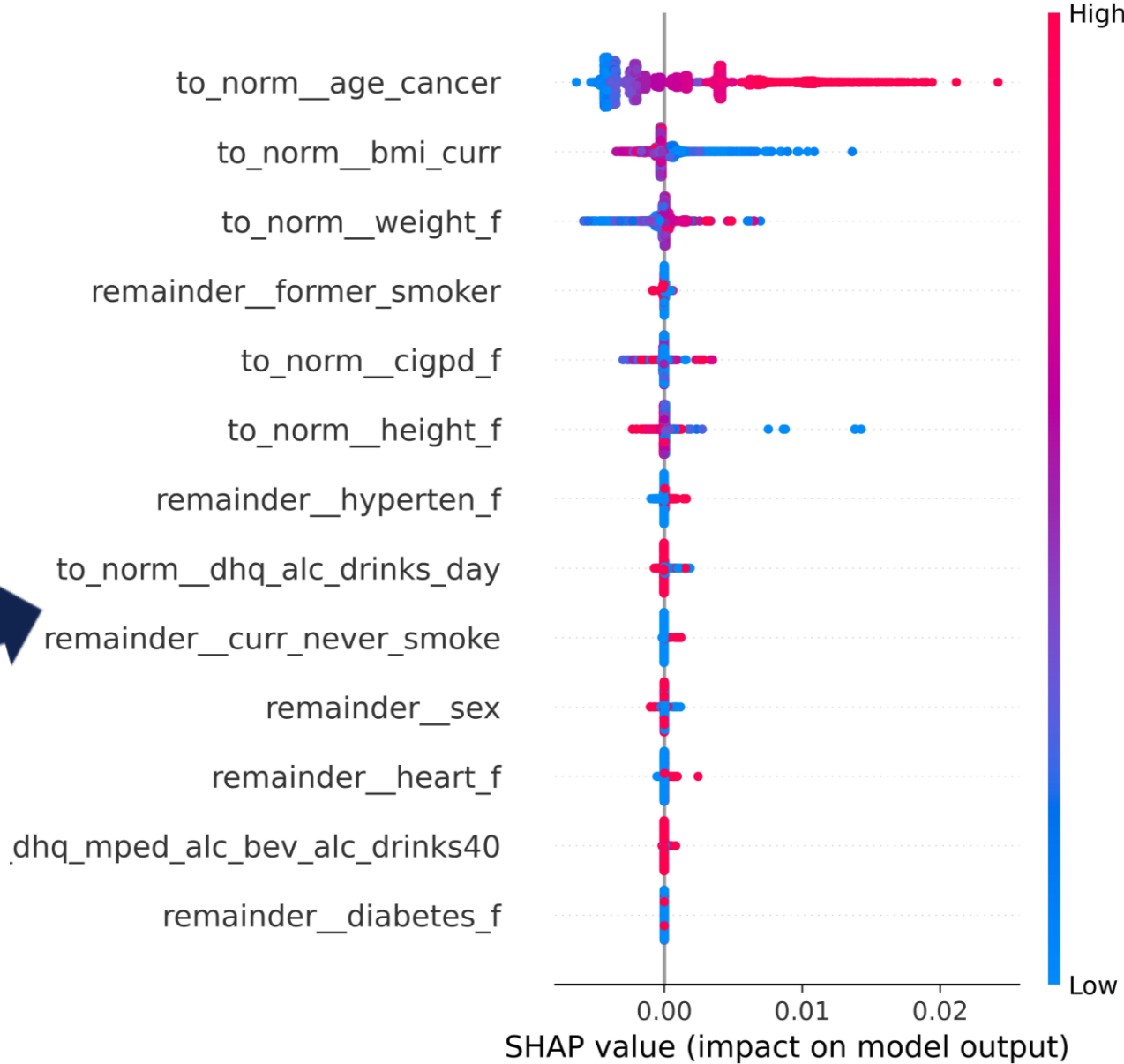
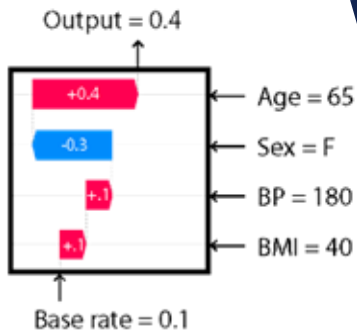
Explainable AI



SHAP



Explanation



Other terminologies used in the literature

Measures of prediction model performance

Terms	Definition
AUC	Area under the curve, in this case the receiver operating characteristic curve. A measure of discrimination. For prediction models based on logistic regression; this corresponds to the probability that a randomly selected diseased patient had a higher risk prediction than a randomly selected patient who does not have the disease
Calibration	Correspondence between predicted and observed risks is usually assessed in calibration plots or by calibration intercepts and slopes.
Sensitivity	The proportion of true positives in truly diseased patients
Specificity	The proportion of true negatives in truly non-diseased patients.
Positive predictive value	The proportion of true positives in patients classified as positive.
Negative predictive value	The proportion of true negatives in patients classified as negative.



Info from the literature reviews performed in the project.

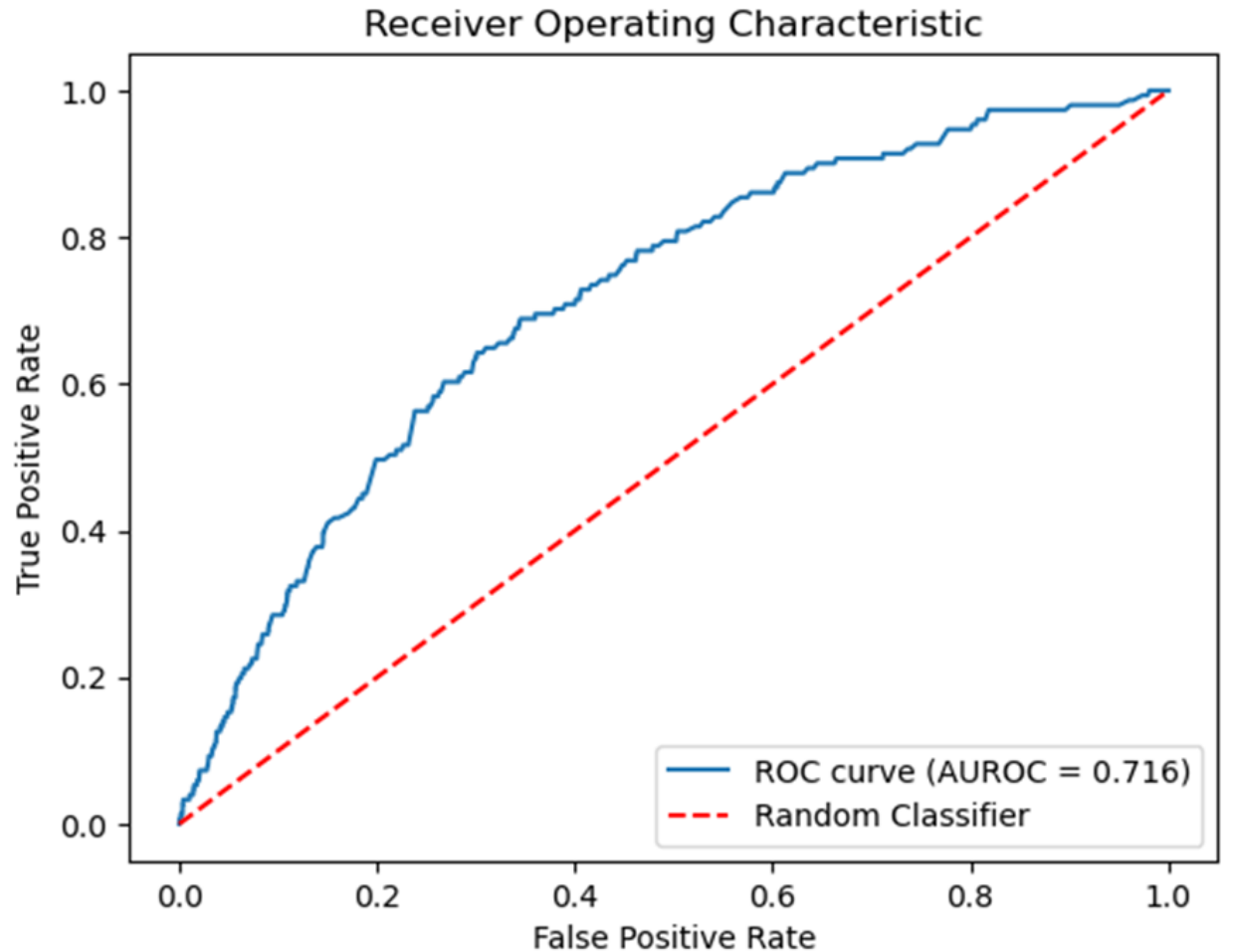
Model's performance

AUROC of our model is 0.716.

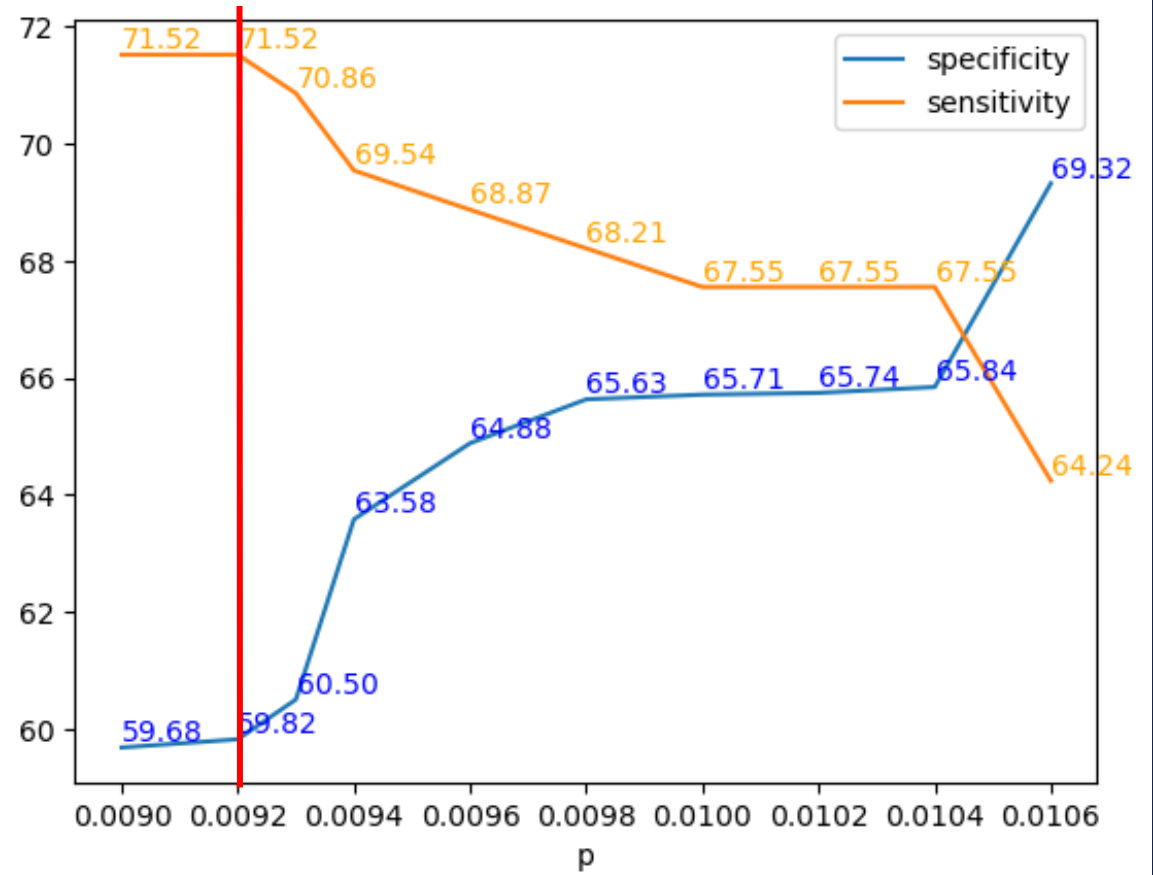
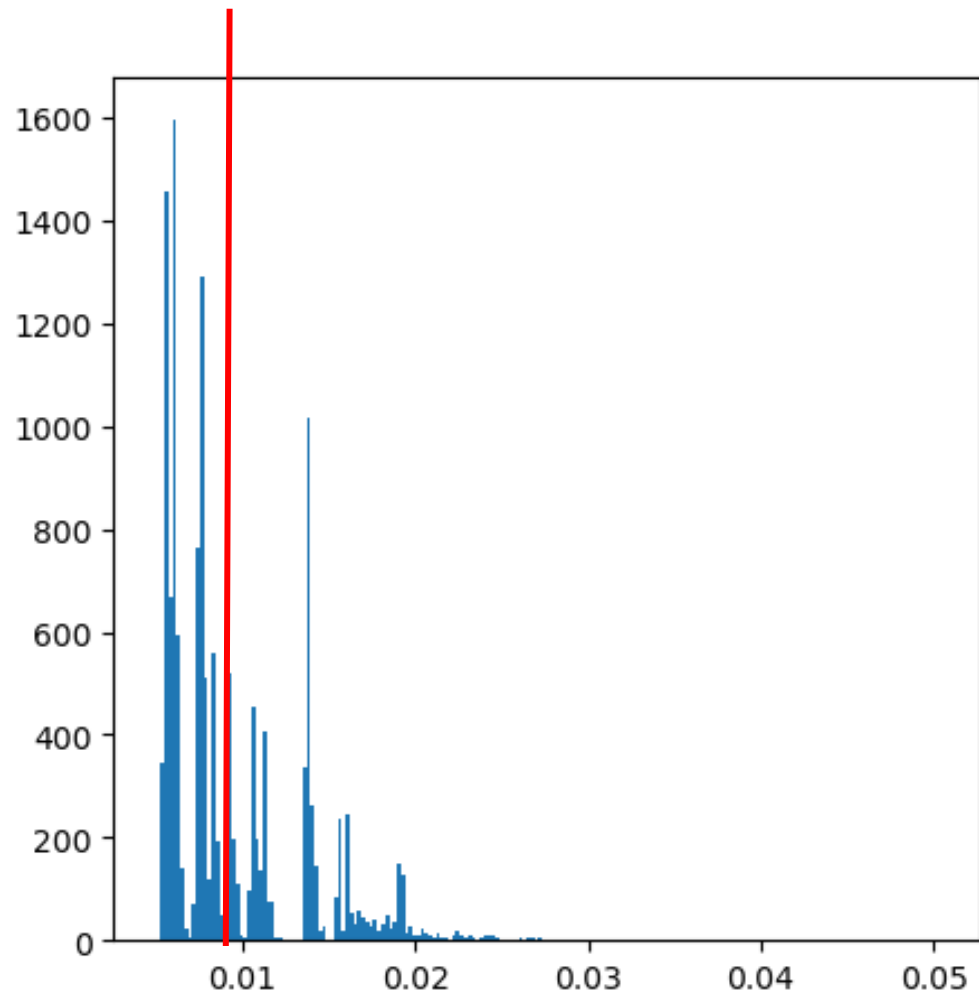
It is a metric used to evaluate the performance of binary classification models.

The Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve is a **graphical representation of the true positive rate (sensitivity) plotted against the false positive rate (1 - specificity)** as the discrimination threshold of the model varies.

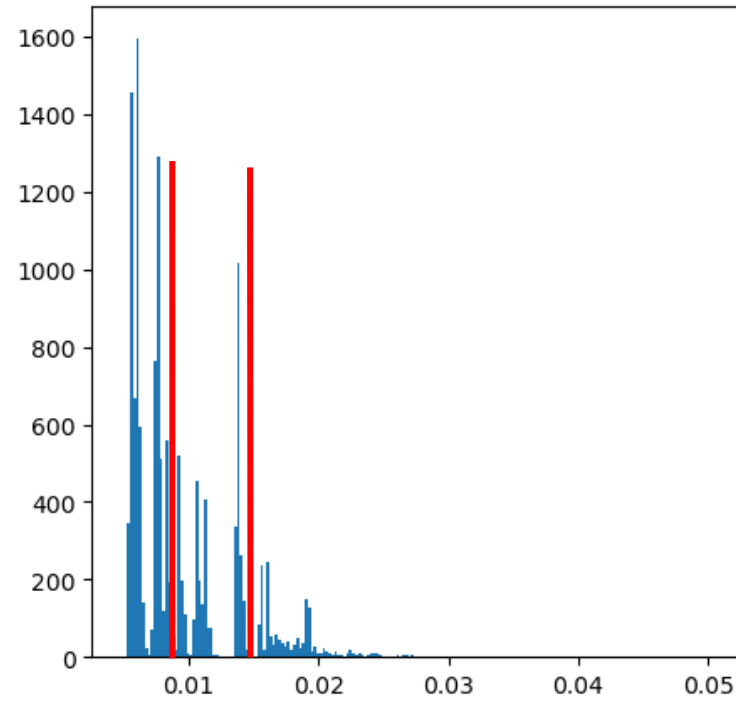
The area under this ROC curve, the AUROC, is a single scalar value that summarizes the overall performance of the model across various threshold settings.



Model's performance



How to present the risk



Thank you!

Questions?

You can contact us by e-mail:
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karen.feyen@thomasmore.be

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The logo for ORIENT is contained within a white circle with a thin orange border. The word "ORIENT" is written in orange, with a blue ribbon symbol integrated into the letter "I". Below the word, the tagline "Towards informed decisions in colorectal cancer screening" is written in a smaller, grey font.

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Towards informed decisions in colorectal cancer screening