Data visualization in healthcare

Adina Levi & Shaya Samet April 4, 2024

Learning objectives

History of data visualization in healthcare



Review data visualization benefits and tools in healthcare



A case study on Purdue Pharma misleading stakeholders through manipulated visualizations



Understand the impact data visualization has on healthcare decisions

Section 1: History of data visualization

The history of data visualization in healthcare

- Early Visualizations
 - 19th Century: Florence Nightingale utilized graphical representations to illustrate the significance of sanitation in preventing mortality during the Crimean War ('The Florence Effect').
 - 20th Century: Charts and graphs were commonly used to present healthcare data, often in primary forms.

History: Florence Nightingale's groundbreaking healthcare visualization





The history of data visualization in healthcare (cont'd)

- Digital Revolution
 - 1980s-1990s: The advent of computers and software allowed for more sophisticated data visualization techniques.
 - 1990s-Present: With the rise of electronic health records (EHRs) and big data analytics, healthcare visualization became more widespread and impactful.
- Modern Innovations
 - Interactive Dashboards: Real-time data visualization tools enable healthcare professionals to monitor patient outcomes and trends instantly.

Section 2: Data visualization benefits in healthcare

The benefits of data visualization in healthcare

Improved decision-making and patient outcomes

• Enables quick and efficient analysis of vast datasets, enhancing decisionmaking processes.

Enhanced operational efficiency and resource allocation

• They facilitate real-time sharing of information and response to performance issues.

Identifying population health trends

- Data visualization tools help monitor population health trends.
- E.g., forecasting disease outbreaks, identifying chronic disease risk factors, and pre-empting patient-specific health crises.

The benefits of data visualization in healthcare (cont'd)

Enhancing patient education and empowerment

• Visualization techniques in health apps and software improve patient understanding of complex data and empower them to manage their health effectively.

Detecting fraud and ensuring transparency

• Data visualization helps map financial transactions, patient billing, and insurance claims, highlighting inconsistencies and potential fraud.

The process of developing data visualizations in healthcare settings



Vaniukov, 2024

Enhancing patient care through visualization



Enhancing patient care through visualization?



Common healthcare visualization types

Charts and Graphs		
Diagrams and Flowcharts		
Tables		
Maps		
Infographics		
Dashboards		

Section 3: Data visualization tools in healthcare settings

How is data visualization used in healthcare?





Patient Health Summary O

Patient ID	Name	Gender	Age	Blood Type	Weight	Body Mass	BMI Weigh
PATIENT_1	Rita Moos	Male	48	A+	70 kg	22 kg	Normal
PATIENT_2	Simon Roult	Female	49	B+	64 kg	21 kg	Normal
PATIENT_3	Matti More	Male	57	0+	70 kg	23 kg	Normal
PATIENT_4	Pirkko Nina	Female	53	AB+	55 kg	23 kg	Normal
PATIENT_5	Fran Tonini	Male	48	0+	49 kg	34 kg	Obese

Sleep Hours vs. Deep Sleep Hours Summary - PATIENT_1 © Last 30 Days



Patient Experience Analysis Dashboard



How is data visualization used in healthcare?



Interactive website example: My Health Explained



Interactive map example: Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation



Interactive map example: COVID-19 cases



BBC, 2022

How is data visualization used in healthcare?







WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT BREAST CANCER



Lee, 2021

SCREENING IS THE KEY TO PREVENTION





Begin having annual mammograms at age 40.



Survival rate by detection. Early detection leads to higher survival rates.

In 2020, there are more than

3,500,000

breast cancer survivors in the United States.





How is data visualization used in healthcare?



Time Scale Chart

Comorbidity Risk



Vaniukov, 2024

Incident vs. cumulative rates of COVID-19

Padilla et al., 2022



Section 4: A case study on Purdue Pharma and the opioid crisis

Opioid crisis: Background

Bernard et al., 2018



How Purdue mislead stakeholders

- Purdue Pharma gained FDA approval for OxyContin in 1995, marketing it as nonaddictive.
- Representatives claimed low addiction rates, citing extensive studies.
- Congressional hearings exposed Purdue's dissemination of false addiction risk.
- OxyContin's misleading data visualization contributed to the opioid epidemic.



Groundbreaking study: Porter & Jick, 1980

- Purdue claimed that 1 in 10,000 patients can become addicted based on "research"
- "Recently, we examined our current files to determine the incidence of narcotic addiction We conclude that **despite widespread use of narcotic drugs in hospitals, the development of addiction is rare in medical patients with no history of addiction.** "



The misleading Purdue visualization

Cabanski et al., 2018





Misleading log vs. linear scale



Cabanski et al., 2018

Interactive website examples



THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC BY THE NUMBERS

2016 and 2017 Data



130+ People died every day from opioid-related drug overdoses3 (estimated)



11.4 m People misused prescription opioids1



42,249 People died from overdosing on opioids2



2.1 million People had an opioid use disorder¹



886,000 People used heroin¹



81,000 People used heroin for the first time!



2 million People misused prescription opioids for the first time1

17,087 Deaths attributed to overdosing on commonly prescribed opioids2

15,469 Deaths attributed to overdosing on heroin²



19,413 Deaths attributed to overdosing on synthetic opioids other than methadone²

SOURCES

- 1. 2017 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, Mortality in the United States, 2016
- 2. NCHS Data Brief No. 293, December 2017
- 3. NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Estimates for 2017 and 2018 are based on provisional data.



Total Opioid Prescriptions (in millions)



Manchikanti et al., 2021

Adverse impact for chronic pain care

- Doctors are pressured to restrict opioid prescriptions
- Patients are pressured to sign a treatment agreement to ensure that patients do not sell their opioids or go "doctor shopping."
- Reduction in prescriptions led to rationing pain medication and being unable to increase dosage at the onset of a pain crisis
- Reduction of opioid prescriptions is due to what is permissible by their doctor's health insurance company or their pharmacy stocking inadequate supplies of opioids
- Patient testimony:
 - "They just ask me what my pain is. You okay with just using morphine? And that's about it and they take my blood work. That's all the conversation I have. I've never had any real indepth conversation concerning pain management."

Sinha et al., 2019



Provisional Data Point to Increase in Synthetic Opioid Deaths During the Pandemic





Takeaway messages



Questions

Discussion questions

In what ways can data visualization be used to address disparities in healthcare access and outcomes among different population groups?



What responsibility do pharmaceutical companies have in ensuring the accuracy and transparency of data visualization used in marketing and educational materials?

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How might healthcare providers critically evaluate data visualizations presented by pharmaceutical companies to ensure informed decision-making regarding treatment options and patient care



Considering the rapid advancements in technology and data analytics, what do you envision as the future of data visualization in healthcare, and what challenges might arise in its implementation?