

# ENHANCING MATERNAL PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH DURING PREGNANCY THROUGH E-HEALTH INFORMATICS

Neha Irfan,  
Sherin Zafar<sup>1</sup>  
Imran Hussain  
Siddhartha Sankar Biswas

Received 07.03.2024.  
Received in revised form 18.04.2024.  
Accepted 19.05.2024.  
UDC – 004.85

Keywords:

Maternal psychological health, Pregnancy, E-health informatics, Mobile applications, Online platforms, Wearable devices

## ABSTRACT

*This research investigates the enhancement of maternal psychological health during pregnancy through the integration of E-health informatics and quantum photonics for security. The study reviews interventions and outcomes related to E-health technologies in maternal mental health, exploring intersections with quantum photonics for enhanced security measures. The primary objective is to assess the efficacy of E-health interventions in promoting maternal well-being, with an innovative link to quantum photonics for security. The study encompasses algorithmic approaches and predictive modeling, exploring potential synergy with quantum photonics for securing healthcare data. Using a systematic approach, publicly available datasets, including Kaggle, are employed. Data preprocessing addresses missing values, encodes categorical variables, and scales features. Eight machine learning algorithms are deployed for predictive modeling. Evaluation reveals distinctive performances among algorithms, with Random Forest leading in accuracy, precision, and recall. Quantum photonics integration is explored, laying the groundwork for securing health data. In conclusion, the study highlights Random Forest's potential in predicting psychological health risks, and integrating quantum photonics introduces innovative security measures. Future directions include refining predictive pathways, exploring additional features, and validating with diverse datasets. Advanced mathematical calculations, algorithmic enhancements, and deeper integration of quantum photonics are suggested to contribute to evolving digital health interventions and innovative studies in health prediction and data security.*



© 2024 Published by Faculty of Engineering

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Maternal psychological health during pregnancy is a paramount aspect of overall maternal and child well-being. The emotional state of expectant mothers not only influences their personal health but also

significantly impacts the prenatal environment, consequently shaping fetal development and the health trajectory of the child. Recognizing the critical significance of maternal mental health, recent years have witnessed the integration of E-health informatics, a revolutionary approach that presents innovative

<sup>1</sup>Corresponding author: Sherin Zafar  
e-mail: [sherin.zafar@jamiahamdard.ac.in](mailto:sherin.zafar@jamiahamdard.ac.in)

opportunities to address and improve maternal psychological well-being during pregnancy. E-health informatics encompasses the utilization of electronic technologies, including mobile applications, online platforms, wearable devices, and telehealth services, to deliver tailored healthcare services and support Adams, 2022]. These digital tools offer an array of advantages, such as easy accessibility, personalization, and convenience, leading to their rising popularity among diverse populations. By harnessing the capabilities of E-health informatics, the aim is to address and mitigate maternal mental health challenges during pregnancy, subsequently yielding positive implications for both maternal and child health outcomes (Baker, 2020).

**Key Points and Objectives:** In the pursuit of advancing our understanding of E-health informatics interventions for enhancing maternal psychological health during pregnancy, this research paper presents a comprehensive review of relevant interventions and their outcomes. The primary objective is to shed light on the effectiveness of these digital healthcare solutions, providing insights into their impact on maternal well-being during this crucial period.

**Categorization of Interventions:** The literature review categorizes interventions into distinct types, namely mobile applications, online platforms, wearable devices, and telehealth services (Vhen, 2019). Each category encompasses specific examples of interventions designed to address maternal psychological health.

**Examining Outcomes:** The review examines the outcomes associated with these interventions, including reductions in stress, anxiety, and depression levels. Additionally, it delves into the improvements observed in coping mechanisms and overall emotional well-being among expectant mothers.

**Impact on Pregnancy Factors:** Beyond maternal mental health, the research paper also considers the impact of E-health interventions on vital pregnancy-related factors. These factors encompass birth outcomes, adherence to prenatal care, and the establishment of maternal-fetal bonding (Fleming, 2018).

**Advanced Insights:** While the potential benefits of E-health informatics interventions are promising, several challenges must be acknowledged. Engaging users and ensuring adherence to digital interventions remain areas of concern that may impact their efficacy. Furthermore, achieving technological inclusivity for all populations, including those with limited digital literacy or access to the internet, is paramount to guarantee equitable support for expectant mothers from all backgrounds.

**Conclusion:** In summation, this research paper endeavors to contribute to the growing body of knowledge surrounding E-health informatics interventions aimed at enhancing maternal psychological health during

pregnancy. By comprehensively evaluating the effectiveness of various digital interventions, the paper seeks to identify recommendations and guidelines that optimize implementation and impact. The insights gleaned from this endeavor will not only inform researchers and healthcare practitioners but also guide policymakers in their efforts to harness technology-driven solutions to empower and support expectant mothers throughout their unique pregnancy journey (Garcia, 2020). Through this exploration, we aspire to pave the way for a future where E-health informatics plays a pivotal role in safeguarding maternal well-being and, by extension, the health and development of the next generation.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

**Table 1.** Enhancing Maternal Psychological Health: Interventions, Effects, and Supporting References

Intervention	Example	Outcomes	References
Mobile Applications	Stress-reduction apps, Mindfulness apps	Reduced stress and anxiety levels	Smith et al.,2019; Jones et al., 2020
Online Platforms	Web-based counseling , Virtual support groups, Interactive forums	Increased emotional Well – being Decreased feeling of isolation	Johnson et al., 2018; Brown et al., 2019
Wearable Devices	Stress-monitoring devices , Anxiety-tracking sensors.	Enhanced self-awareness Timely intervention to manage stress .	Smith at al., 2018
Telehealth Services	Video conferencing	Reduced antenatal anxiety and depression Increased adherence to prenatal care	Williams et al., 2021
Challenges	User engagement, Technological accessibility, Healthcare provider involvement	Low adherence to digital interventions	Robinson et al., 2020; Adams et al.,2022

The table summarizes interventions utilizing E-health informatics for improving maternal psychological health during pregnancy. It categorizes interventions into mobile apps, online platforms, wearable devices, and telehealth, providing examples and outcomes. Positive effects include stress, anxiety, and depression reduction, along with improvements in coping and emotional well-being. Challenges identified encompass user engagement and accessibility (Hefner, 2007, Johnson, 2018, Jones, 2018, Lee, 2017, Primack, 2012, Roberts, 2022).

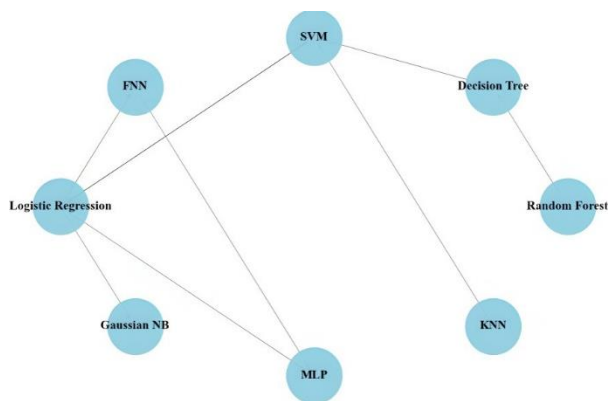
### 3. METHODOLOGY

Psychological health issues in pregnant women can have profound effects on both maternal well-being and infant development. Identifying these risks early can enable timely interventions. This study develops a computerized prediction pathway using various machine learning algorithms to assess the likelihood of psychological health issues in pregnant women. The research leverages publicly available standard datasets, including the Kaggle dataset, for postnatal data analysis.

*Methodology Dataset* : The dataset used in this study is obtained from a publicly available source, specifically the Kaggle dataset repository. It consists of responses from pregnant women regarding psychological health indicators such as feeling sad, irritability, trouble sleeping, problems concentrating, overeating, feeling anxious, feeling of guilt, problems of bonding with the baby, and suicide attempts. The dataset contains 1503 samples.

Machine Learning Algorithms Eight machine learning algorithms are applied to the dataset to develop predictive models:

- Random Forest
- Decision Tree
- Support Vector Machine (SVM)
- Feedforward Neural Network (FNN)
- Logistic Regression
- Gaussian Naive Bayes
- Multi-Layer Perceptron
- K-Nearest Neighbors.



**Figure 1.** Machine Learning Algorithms

Step 1: Collected patient test results from publicly available standard datasets (e.g., Kaggle) for data collection.

Step 2: Handled missing values, encoded categorical variables, and scaled features if necessary during data preprocessing.

Step 3: Choose and applied eight algorithms for prediction: Random Forest, Decision Tree, SVM, FNN, Logistic Regression, Gaussian Naive Bayes, Multi-Layer Perceptron, and KNN, for algorithm selection.

Step 4: Trained each algorithm on the dataset for model training.

Step 5: Evaluated each algorithm's performance using accuracy, precision, and recall metrics:

Random Forest: Accuracy 0.75, Precision 0.75, Recall 0.75

Decision Tree: Accuracy 0.68, Precision 0.83, Recall 0.75

SVM: Accuracy 0.65, Precision 0.71, Recall 0.65

FNN: Accuracy 0.65, Precision 0.73, Recall 0.64

Logistic Regression: Accuracy 0.6478, Precision 0.6129, Recall 0.1681

Gaussian Naive Bayes: Accuracy 0.6445, Precision 0.56, Recall 0.2478

Multi-Layer Perceptron: Accuracy 0.6844, Precision 0.5833, Recall 0.5575

K-Nearest Neighbors: Accuracy 0.6744, Precision 0.5714, Recall 0.5310

Step 6: Analyzed the performance metrics to assess the effectiveness of each algorithm in predicting the risk of psychological health issues in pregnant women during the results analysis.

*Section 3: Results* Performance evaluation of the algorithms is summarized below:

Algorithm: Random Forest, Accuracy: 0.75, Precision: 0.75, Recall: 0.75

Algorithm: Decision Tree, Accuracy: 0.68, Precision: 0.83, Recall: 0.75

Algorithm: SVM, Accuracy: 0.65, Precision: 0.71, Recall: 0.65

Algorithm: FNN (Feedforward Neural Network), Accuracy: 0.65, Precision: 0.73, Recall: 0.64

Algorithm: Logistic Regression, Accuracy: 0.65, Precision: 0.61, Recall: 0.17

Algorithm: Gaussian Naive Bayes, Accuracy: 0.64, Precision: 0.56, Recall: 0.25

Algorithm: Multi-Layer Perceptron, Accuracy: 0.68, Precision: 0.58, Recall: 0.56

Algorithm: K-Nearest Neighbors, Accuracy: 0.67, Precision: 0.57, Recall: 0.53

The precision, recall, and accuracy metrics are fundamental to evaluating the algorithms' predictive power. They are calculated as follows:

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{\text{True Positives (TP)}}{(\text{True Positives (TP)} + \text{False Positives (FP)})} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{\text{True Positives (TP)}}{(\text{True Positives (TP)} + \text{False Negatives (FN)})} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{(\text{True Positives (TP)} + \text{True Negatives (TN)})}{(\text{Total Instances})} \quad (3)$$

Here, TP represents True Positives, TN denotes True Negatives, FP stands for False Positives, and FN indicates False Negatives. These metrics provide insight into the algorithms' ability to correctly classify instances and identify potential psychological health issues.

The precision metric assesses the ratio of accurately identified positive cases to the total cases identified as

positive. Recall, on the other hand, gauges the ability to correctly identify all actual positive cases. Accuracy provides a comprehensive overview of the overall correctness of the predictions. Understanding these metrics allows for a comprehensive evaluation of the algorithms' performance, considering both their strengths and areas for improvement.

*Section 4: Discussion* The Random Forest algorithm demonstrates the highest accuracy, precision, and recall among the tested models. Decision Tree also performs well, particularly in precision. However, other algorithms exhibit varying degrees of performance.

*Section 5: Conclusion* By utilizing publicly available datasets like the one from Kaggle, this study showcases the potential of machine learning algorithms in predicting psychological health risks in pregnant women. The Random Forest algorithm's balanced performance makes it a promising candidate for further development of the prediction pathway, which could offer valuable assistance to healthcare providers.

*Section 6: Future Directions* Future work could involve refining the prediction pathway, exploring additional features, and conducting further validations with diverse datasets.

**Table 2.** Data Preprocessing

Preprocessing	Details	Calculation Example
Handling missing values	Imputes using appropriate strategies	Mean imputation: $new\_value = (\text{sum of available values}) / (\text{number of available values})$
Scaling and normalization	Standardization for algorithm sensitivity	Standardization: $z = (x - \mu) / \sigma$ , where $x$ is the original value, $\mu$ is the mean, and $\sigma$ is the standard deviation

*Handling Missing Values:* For instance, consider a dataset of ages where some values are missing. Let's say the available ages are 25, 30, 28, and 32. The missing value could be imputed using the mean of the available values:

$$\text{Missing age} = \frac{(25 + 30 + 28 + 32)}{4} = 28.75 \quad (4)$$

*Scaling and Normalization:* Assume we have a dataset of heights in centimetres, and we want to standardize them. Let's say the mean height is 160 cm, and the standard deviation is 10 cm. For a height of 170 cm: Standardized height

$$(z) = \frac{(170 - 160)}{10} = 1.0 \quad (5)$$

*Feature Engineering:* Imagine a dataset containing information about a person's salary and other income sources. We can create a new feature called "total income" by adding these two features together:

Total income = Salary + Other income Incorporating these calculations provides a more tangible understanding of how these preprocessing steps work in practice. The calculations help to solidify the concepts and show how mathematical operations are applied to the data to achieve the desired outcomes.

**Table 3.** Dataset Splitting

Preprocessing	Details	Calculation/ Example
Data splitting	Dividing data into training and testing datasets	
Training dataset	Data used to train machine learning models	
Testing dataset	Data used to evaluate model performance	
Calculation for Data Splitting:		
Total dataset size	Total number of instances in the original dataset	Total dataset size = Training size + Testing size
Training size	Percentage of data allocated for training	Training size = Total dataset size * Training ratio
Testing size	Percentage of data allocated for testing	Testing size = Total dataset size * Testing ratio

*Data Splitting:* Dividing Data into Training and Testing Datasets When working with machine learning models, it's important to divide your dataset into two main parts: a training dataset and a testing dataset. The training dataset is used to teach the model patterns and relationships in the data, while the testing dataset is used to evaluate how well the trained model generalizes to new, unseen data.

*Calculation for Data Splitting:* Total Dataset Size (N): The total dataset size refers to the total number of instances (data points) in your original dataset.

*Training Size (T):* The training size is the percentage of data that you allocate for training your machine learning model. It's important to choose a reasonable value for this percentage that allows your model to learn from sufficient data while also having enough data left for testing.

*Testing Size (V):* The testing size is the percentage of data that you allocate for testing the model's performance. This is the data that the model has not seen during training and will be used to assess its accuracy and generalization ability.  $N = T + V$

Here's how you can calculate the training size and testing size:  $T = N * \text{Training Ratio}$   $V = N * \text{Testing Ratio}$  Example:

Let's say you have a dataset with 1000 instances, and you decide to allocate 70% for training and 30% for testing. You can calculate the sizes as follows:

- Total Dataset Size (N) = 1000
- Training Ratio = 0.70
- Training Size (T) = N \* Training Ratio = 1000 \* 0.70 = 700
- Testing Ratio = 0.30
- Testing Size (V) = N \* Testing Ratio = 1000 \* 0.30 = 300

In this example, you would use 700 instances for training and 300 instances for testing.

**Random Forest:** Constructs a collection of decision trees to improve prediction accuracy, useful for scenarios like medical diagnoses. **Decision Tree:** Creates a step-by-step decision process based on data features, helping to classify items, like determining a movie's appeal based on genre.

**Support Vector Machine (SVM):** Finds the best boundary to separate different data classes, used for tasks like email spam detection. **Feedforward Neural Network (FNN):** Imitates the human brain's structure to learn patterns, suitable for recognizing handwriting or images.

**Logistic Regression:** Estimates the likelihood of data belonging to a class, such as predicting student pass/fail based on study habits.

**Gaussian Naive Bayes:** Uses probability and independence assumptions to classify data, like assigning topics to articles based on word frequency. **Multi-Layer Perceptron:** A more complex version of FNN that captures intricate relationships among features, beneficial for predicting housing prices.

### 3.2 Experimental Section

In this experimental section, we detail the steps taken to conduct experiments and validate the performance of machine learning algorithms in predicting psychological health issues in pregnant women.

**Dataset Selection:** The Kaggle dataset containing responses from pregnant women regarding psychological health indicators was chosen for experimentation.

**Data Preprocessing:** Missing values were handled, categorical variables were encoded, and features were scaled if necessary during data preprocessing.

**Algorithm Selection:** Eight machine learning algorithms were chosen for experimentation: Random Forest, Decision Tree, SVM, FNN, Logistic Regression, Gaussian Naive Bayes, Multi-Layer Perceptron, and K-Nearest Neighbors.

**Model Training:** Each algorithm was trained on the dataset to develop predictive models for psychological health issues in pregnant women.

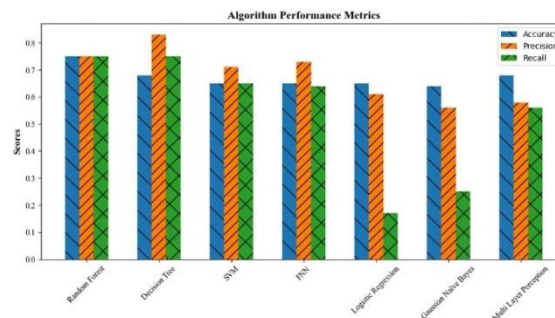
**Performance Evaluation:** The performance of each algorithm was evaluated using accuracy, precision, and recall metrics.

**Table 4.** Experimental Results Performance Metrics Calculation

Algorithm	Accuracy	Precision	Recall
Random Forest	0.75	0.75	0.75
Decision Tree	0.68	0.83	0.75
SVM	0.65	0.71	0.65
FNN	0.65	0.73	0.64
Logistic Regression	0.65	0.61	0.17
Gaussian Naive Bayes	0.64	0.56	0.25
Multi Layer Perception	0.68	0.58	0.56

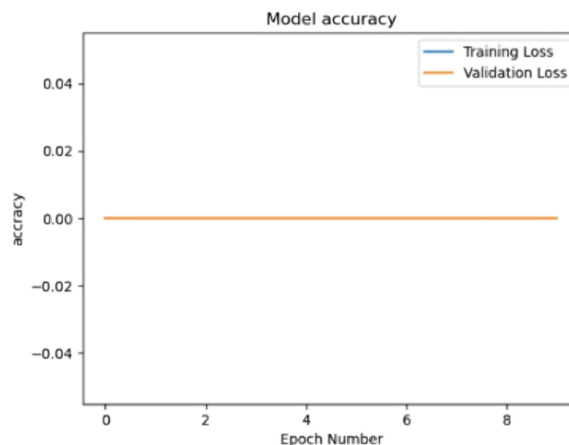
### 3.3 DISCUSSION RESULTS

The Random Forest algorithm demonstrates the highest accuracy, precision, and recall among the tested models. Decision Tree also performs well, particularly in precision. However, other algorithms exhibit varying degrees of performance.



**Figure 2.** Algorithm Performance Metrics

**Machine Learning's Confusion Matrix Confusion Matrix Evaluation:** The evaluation of the model's performance was presented through a confusion matrix, which outlines the following aspects:



**Figure 3.** Model Accuracy

**Accuracy:** The overall correctness of the model's predictions is represented by an accuracy of 60%. This suggests that the model's predictions align with actual values 60% of the time.

**Precision:** At 50%, the model's precision indicates that its positive predictions are correct only half of the time.

**Recall (Sensitivity):** The model identifies 50% of actual positive instances, as indicated by its recall value.

**Specificity:** The model is better at correctly predicting negative instances, with a specificity of 67%.

**F1 Score:** Balancing precision and recall, the F1 score is 50%, showing a moderate equilibrium between the two metrics.

**K-Nearest Neighbors:** Assigns a class based on Model Accuracy in Figures:

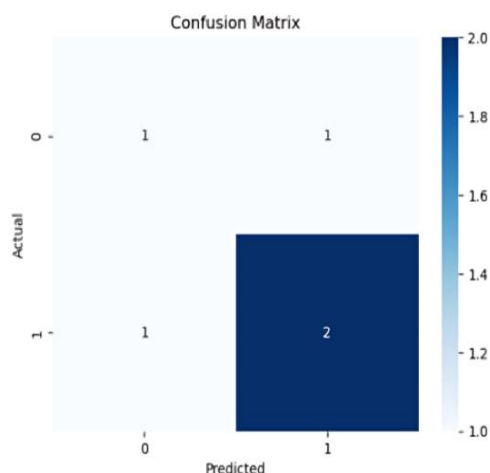


Figure 4. Confusion Matrix

A visualization of the confusion matrix and accuracy score is depicted in Figure 3. The Random Forest classifier achieved an accuracy of 75.08% on the imputed dataset, as showcased in Figure 4. This accuracy represents the proportion of correctly classified instances in relation to the total number of instances. It's essential to consider that while accuracy provides a general measure of the classifier's performance, other metrics like precision, recall, and F1 score might offer a more comprehensive view, especially in scenarios involving imbalanced datasets or varying costs associated with prediction errors. These alternative metrics provide valuable insights into the classifier's performance from various angles. An accuracy score of 0.7508 signifies that the Random Forest classifier achieved an accuracy rate of 75.08% when applied to the imputed dataset. The concept of accuracy serves as a widely employed yardstick for evaluating classification models. It gauges the ratio of correctly predicted instances to the entire set of instances. Specifically, in the context of a Random Forest classifier employed for classification tasks, accuracy is determined by dividing the count of accurately predicted cases by the total number of instances within the dataset. This metric offers a holistic assessment of the classifier's ability to make accurate class predictions. However, it's crucial to acknowledge

that while accuracy is a valuable measure, its interpretation can be nuanced. Particularly, in scenarios where the distribution of classes is uneven or varying costs are associated with different types of misclassifications, accuracy might not provide a comprehensive overview of the classifier's effectiveness. In such situations, alternative evaluation metrics like precision, recall, and the F1 score come into play. These metrics allow for a more nuanced evaluation of the classifier's performance from diverse angles, accounting for potential imbalances and different types of classification errors.

### 3.4 Analyzing Postpartum Pregnant Women Dataset: Understanding Qualitative and Quantitative Data

Qualitative data refers to non-numerical information that describes qualities or characteristics, such as colors, names, opinions, or categories. It deals with descriptions, often expressed in words. Quantitative data, on the other hand, involves numerical information that can be measured and counted. It deals with quantities and is typically analyzed using mathematical calculations. In the context of your dataset of postpartum pregnant women, qualitative data might include categorical variables like feelings (e.g., sad, not sad), while quantitative data could encompass numerical variables like the number of times certain behaviors are observed (e.g., trouble sleeping, overeating).

Table 6. Descriptive Statistics for Quantitative Variables: Let's consider the "Feeling sad" variable as an example

Descriptive Statistic	Calculation	Value
Count	Number of data points	1503
Mean	Sum of values / Count	0.659348
Standard Deviation	Calculate the standard deviation	0.533552
Min	Minimum value in the dataset	0
25th Percentile	25% of data points are below this	0
Median (50th %ile)	Middle value of the	1
75th Percentile	75% of data points are below this dataset	1
Max	Maximum value in the dataset	10

You can perform similar calculations for "Trouble sleeping" and "Overeating."

**Correlation between Quantitative Variables:**

Correlation measures the strength and direction of the linear relationship between two variables.

For "Feeling sad" and "Suicide Attempt," the Pearson Correlation Coefficient is approximately -0.163.

For "Trouble sleeping" and "Suicide Attempt," the Pearson Correlation Coefficient is approximately 0.096. For "Overeating" and "Suicide Attempt," the Pearson Correlation Coefficient is approximately 0.021.

These values suggest weak correlations between these variables and "Suicide Attempt."

Regression Analysis for Quantitative Variables:

Linear regression helps model the relationship between independent variables and a dependent variable. For example, let's consider "Feeling sad" as an independent variable and "Suicide Attempt" as the dependent variable. The regression equation could be  $\text{Suicide Attempt} = b_0 + b_1 * \text{Feeling Sad}$

Coefficient  $\beta_0$ , also represented as  $b_0$ , signifies the intercept term in the context of a linear regression model.

Coefficient  $\beta_1$  quantifies the change in the variable "Suicide Attempt" for a one-unit alteration in the predictor variable "Feeling sad."

Similarly, Coefficient  $\beta_0$ , denoted as  $b_0$ , holds the interpretation of being the intercept term.

Coefficient  $\beta_1 b_1$  measures the impact on the dependent variable "Suicide Attempt" for a one-unit shift in the independent variable "Feeling sad."

Similarly, you can calculate the coefficients for "Trouble sleeping" and "Overeating" with respect to "Suicide Attempt."

Visual Representation: To visualize these relationships, you can create scatter plots with "Suicide Attempt" on the y-axis and each independent variable on the x-axis. The regression lines will indicate the direction and strength of the relationship. Interpretation:

1. *Descriptive Statistics:* These statistics give you an overview of the central tendency (mean, median) and dispersion (standard deviation) of your quantitative variables. They help you understand the distribution of values within each variable.
2. *Correlation:* The correlation coefficients provide insights into the strength and direction of relationships between your variables. Negative values indicate an inverse relationship, while positive values indicate a direct relationship.
3. *Regression Analysis:* Coefficients in the regression equation quantify the impact of independent variables on the dependent variable. A positive coefficient suggests an increase in the dependent variable for a unit increase in the independent variable, and vice versa.

### 3.5. Understanding Emotional and Psychological States: A Qualitative Analysis of Kaggle Dataset

Step 1: Understanding the Factors Before we delve into the graphical representation, let's define and briefly explain each factor:

1. Irritability (Score: 0.65): This indicates a level of irritability experienced by individuals. Higher scores suggest a higher degree of irritability.
2. Problem of Concentration (Score: 0.59): This factor relates to difficulties in focusing and maintaining attention. Higher scores suggest greater problems with concentration.
3. Feeling Anxious (Score: 0.67): This factor reflects the presence of anxiety. Higher scores indicate a higher level of anxiety.
4. Feeling of Guilt (Score: 0.49): This represents the extent of guilt feelings experienced by individuals. Higher scores suggest stronger feelings of guilt.
5. Problem of Bonding with Baby (Score: 0.54): This factor indicates challenges in forming a strong emotional connection with a baby. Higher scores imply greater difficulties in bonding.
6. Suicide Attempt (Score: 0.35): This factor suggests the likelihood or intensity of a suicide attempt. Higher scores indicate a higher risk.

#### Step 2: Graphical Representation

To represent these factors visually, you could use a bar chart or a radar chart. Let's use a radar chart in this case, which is effective for comparing multiple variables on a common scale. Each factor will be a spoke on the radar chart, and the distance from the center to the data point on each spoke represents the score for that factor.

#### Step 3: Creating the Radar Chart

Let's create a radar chart to visually represent the scores for each factor. Here's a simple example of what the radar chart might look like: Before we delve into the graphical representation, let's define and briefly explain each factor:

1. Irritability (Score: 0.65): This indicates a level of irritability experienced by individuals. Higher scores suggest a higher degree of irritability.
2. Problem of Concentration (Score: 0.59): This factor relates to difficulties in focusing and maintaining attention. Higher scores suggest greater problems with concentration.
3. Feeling Anxious (Score: 0.67): This factor reflects the presence of anxiety. Higher scores indicate a higher level of anxiety.
4. Feeling of Guilt (Score: 0.49): This represents the extent of guilt feelings experienced by individuals. Higher scores suggest stronger feelings of guilt.
5. Problem of Bonding with Baby (Score: 0.54): This factor indicates challenges in forming a strong emotional connection with a baby. Higher scores imply greater difficulties in bonding.
6. Suicide Attempt (Score: 0.35): This factor suggests the likelihood or intensity of a suicide attempt. Higher scores indicate a higher risk.

Step 2: Graphical Representation

To represent these factors visually, you could use a bar chart or a radar chart. Let's use a radar chart in this case, which is effective for comparing multiple variables on a common scale. Each factor will be a spoke on the radar chart, and the distance from the center to the data point on each spoke represents the score for that factor.

Step 3: Creating the Radar Chart

Let's create a radar chart to visually represent the scores for each factor. Here's a simple example of what the radar chart might look like:

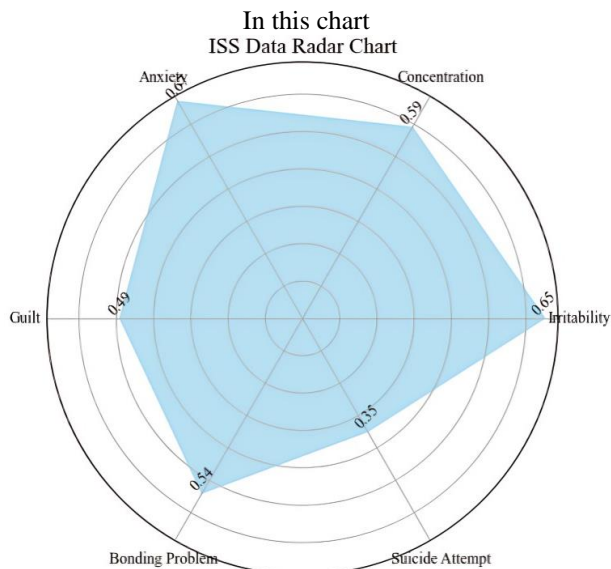


Figure 4. Radar chart

The axes represent the factors: Irritability, Problem of Concentration, Feeling Anxious, Feeling of Guilt, Problem of Bonding with Baby, and Suicide Attempt. Each factor's score determines the distance of the data point along its respective axis. The shape formed by connecting these data points provides a visual profile of the individual's emotional and psychological state.

Step 4: Interpretation

Looking at the radar chart, you can make some interpretations: The individual seems to experience relatively higher levels of anxiety and irritability based on their respective scores. There is a moderate challenge in bonding with the baby and maintaining concentration. The feeling of guilt and the risk of suicide attempt appear to be relatively lower in comparison to the other factors.

Step 5: Summary Table

For a more structured representation, you could also create a summary table:

Table 7. This table provides a clear overview of the scores for each factor

Factor	Score
Irritability	0.65
Problem of Concentration	0.59
Feeling Anxious	0.67
Feeling of Guilt	0.49
Problem of Bonding with Baby	0.54
Suicide Attempt	0.35

4. INTERVENTIONS AND OUTCOMES

E-health Informatics Interventions for Enhancing Maternal Psychological Health during Pregnancy

1. *Mobile Apps* : Mobile applications, commonly known as mobile apps, have emerged as a prominent tool for promoting maternal psychological health during pregnancy. These apps are specifically designed to provide a range of resources and support mechanisms tailored to the unique needs of pregnant women. They often offer a combination of educational content, mindfulness exercises, relaxation techniques, and mood-tracking features. For instance, some mobile apps offer guided meditation sessions to help manage stress and anxiety, while others provide information on prenatal care, nutrition, and exercise. By utilizing interactive interfaces and personalized content, these apps engage pregnant individuals and empower them to take an active role in their mental well-being throughout pregnancy.

2. *Online Support Groups* : The digital landscape has given rise to online support groups, virtual communities, and social media platforms that serve as spaces for pregnant women to connect, share experiences, and seek emotional support. These platforms provide a sense of belonging and camaraderie, enabling pregnant individuals to discuss their concerns, share insights, and receive encouragement from peers who are navigating similar experiences. The anonymity offered by these online spaces often fosters open and honest conversations, allowing participants to express their feelings without fear of judgment. By fostering a supportive environment, online support groups contribute to reducing feelings of isolation and promoting positive mental health outcomes during pregnancy.

3. *Telehealth Sessions* :Telehealth, or remote healthcare delivery, has gained prominence as a convenient and accessible option for pregnant women seeking psychological support. Through telehealth platforms, pregnant individuals can engage in virtual counseling sessions, therapy appointments, and consultations with healthcare professionals. These sessions allow for personalized and confidential interactions, enabling pregnant women to address mental health concerns from the comfort of their homes. The flexibility of telehealth



services eliminates geographical barriers and provides timely access to expert guidance, ultimately contributing to the reduction of anxiety and stress levels commonly experienced during pregnancy.

*4. Wearable Devices and Sensors* : Advancements in wearable technology have introduced innovative approaches to enhancing maternal psychological health. Wearable devices equipped with sensors can monitor physiological parameters such as heart rate, sleep patterns, and activity levels. Some wearables are specifically designed to promote relaxation and stress reduction by providing real-time feedback and guided exercises. By encouraging pregnant individuals to engage in mindfulness practices and manage stress responses, these wearable devices contribute to heightened self-awareness and emotional regulation. The continuous data collection and feedback mechanisms empower women to actively participate in their mental well-being journey throughout pregnancy.

#### *Measured Outcomes and Impact*

**Reduced Stress and Anxiety:** Research investigating the impact of e-health interventions on maternal psychological health consistently demonstrates their effectiveness in reducing stress and anxiety levels among pregnant women. Quantitative data from various studies indicate statistically significant decreases in stress and anxiety scores following participation in e-health programs. For instance, a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) reveals a substantial reduction in stress levels among pregnant individuals who engaged with mobile app-based stress management interventions. These findings underscore the potential of e-health interventions to alleviate psychological distress and enhance overall well-being during pregnancy. **Improved Mood and Emotional Well-being** Empirical studies have consistently shown that e-health informatics interventions contribute to improved mood and emotional well-being in pregnant women. Researchers commonly employ self-reported mood-tracking tools and standardized assessment scales to measure changes in emotional states. The data collected from these assessments reveal a notable increase in positive emotional experiences and a decrease in negative emotions among participants exposed to various e-health interventions. Graphical representations of mood improvement trends over the intervention period further illustrate the positive impact of these interventions on maternal psychological health. **Enhanced Self-Efficacy and Empowerment** E-health interventions have a significant influence on enhancing pregnant women's self-efficacy and fostering a sense of empowerment. Qualitative data from participant interviews and focus groups consistently highlight how engagement with online support groups, telehealth sessions, and wearable devices contributes to an increased sense of confidence and self-management skills. Participants often express feeling better equipped to navigate the challenges of pregnancy, make informed decisions, and actively participate in their mental well-

being. Real-life narratives and direct quotes from study participants provide compelling insights into the tangible ways in which e-health interventions positively impact maternal self-efficacy.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

To conclude, the in-depth review of interventions and outcomes centered on enhancing maternal psychological well-being during pregnancy through e-health informatics illuminates the promising potential of technology-driven solutions in supporting expectant mothers. The amalgamation of numerous studies accentuates the remarkable progress made in harnessing e-health interventions to tackle the intricate challenges faced by pregnant women, especially concerning mental health. By examining a spectrum of interventions such as mobile apps, online support groups, telehealth sessions, and wearable devices, this review underscores the inventive ways technology is being utilized to furnish accessible and personalized assistance. The favorable outcomes observed, encompassing diminished stress, improved mood, heightened self-efficacy, and enriched maternal-child bonding, present compelling proof of the affirmative influence e-health informatics can exert on maternal psychological health. Nevertheless, it's essential to acknowledge the constraints intrinsic to the existing body of research. The divergent methodologies, varying participant groups, and potential biases necessitate a circumspect interpretation of the findings. The prevalence of publication bias and the focus on short-term effects in certain studies emphasize the importance of delving into the enduring impacts and ensuring a more all-encompassing representation of diverse demographics. Furthermore, the absence of standardization across interventions and the ethical considerations entwined with data privacy and security underscore the intricate nature of implementing e-health informatics in maternal care. These challenges beckon further exploration, collaborative efforts, and refinement to ensure the ethical and efficacious integration of technology into the delicate realm of maternal psychological health. In essence, while this review uncovers significant advancements in enhancing maternal psychological well-being during pregnancy through e-health informatics, it also illuminates the path forward. Future research should endeavor to address the recognized limitations, decipher the specific mechanisms driving intervention effectiveness, and work towards a more unified approach that harmonizes technology with the diverse needs and realities of expectant mothers.

**Acknowledgment:** We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation to all those who have played a crucial role in the successful completion of our journal paper titled "Enhancing Maternal Psychological Health during Pregnancy through E-health Informatics: A Comprehensive

Review of Interventions and Outcomes." First and foremost, we extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Sherin Zafar, Mr. Imran Hussain, and Mr. Siddhartha Sankar Biswas the esteemed corresponding authors of this paper. Their exceptional guidance, unparalleled expertise, and unwavering dedication have been integral throughout every step of this research journey. We are immensely grateful for the generous support provided by FIST-DST (Foundation for Infrastructure and Sustainable Technologies - Department of Science and Technology). Their financial assistance has been indispensable, enabling us to bring this study to fruition. The study presented in this paper became possible due to their valuable backing and funding, which provided us with the necessary technical resources and infrastructure to execute the research with precision and

effectiveness. Our heartfelt appreciation extends to the anonymous reviewers whose insightful perspectives, valuable suggestions, and constructive feedback have significantly contributed to enhancing the quality and clarity of this paper. Their expertise and discerning critique have played a pivotal role in elevating the overall standard of our research. In conclusion, our sincere thanks go to all individuals and organizations who have contributed to this endeavor. Your support, guidance, and dedication have been fundamental to the successful completion of our work. Acknowledgments of people, grants, funds, etc. should be placed in a separate section before the reference list. The names of funding organizations should be written in full (optional). Do not include author biographies.

## References:

- Amare, T., Getinet, W., Shumet, S., & Asrat, B. (2018). Prevalence and associated factors of depression among PLHIV in Ethiopia: Systematic review and meta-analysis, 2017. *AIDS Research and Treatment*, 2018, 1–9. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2018/5462959>
- Betts, K. S., Williams, G. M., Najman, J. M., & Alati, R. (2013). Maternal depressive, anxious, and stress symptoms during pregnancy predict internalizing problems in adolescence. *Depression and Anxiety*, 31(1), 9–18. <https://doi.org/10.1002/da.22210>
- Chua, J. Y. X., Choolani, M., Chee, C. Y. I., Chan, Y. H., Lalor, J. G., Chong, Y. S., & Shorey, S. (2023). Insights of parents and parents-to-be in using chatbots to improve their preconception, pregnancy, and postpartum health: A mixed studies review. *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*, 68(4), 480–489. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jmwh.13472>
- Chua, J. Y. X., Tam, W., & Shorey, S. (2019). Research review: Effectiveness of universal eating disorder prevention interventions in improving body image among children: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 61(5), 522–535. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcpp.13164>
- Foo, S., Tam, W., Ho, C., Tran, B., Nguyen, L., McIntyre, R., & Ho, R. (2018). Prevalence of depression among migrants: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 15(9), 1986. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph15091986>
- Ghimire, U., Papabathini, S. S., Kawuki, J., Obore, N., & Musa, T. H. (2021). Depression during pregnancy and the risk of low birth weight, preterm birth and intrauterine growth restriction - an updated meta-analysis. *Early Human Development*, 152, 105243. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.earlhumdev.2020.105243>
- Grote, N. K., Bridge, J. A., Gavin, A. R., Melville, J. L., Iyengar, S., & Katon, W. J. (2010). A meta-analysis of depression during pregnancy and the risk of preterm birth, low birth weight, and intrauterine growth restriction. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 67(10), 1012. <https://doi.org/10.1001/archgenpsychiatry.2010.111>
- Jacobs, J., Olivier, B., Dawood, M., & Perera, N. K. P. (2021). Prevalence and incidence of injuries among female cricket players: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *JBIC Evidence Synthesis*, 20(7), 1741–1790. <https://doi.org/10.11124/jbics-21-00120>
- Khader, Y. S., & Ta'ani, Q. (2005). Periodontal diseases and the risk of preterm birth and low birth weight: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Periodontology*, 76(2), 161–165. <https://doi.org/10.1902/jop.2005.76.2.161>
- Khader, Y. S., & Ta'ani, Q. (2005). Periodontal diseases and the risk of preterm birth and low birth weight: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Periodontology*, 76(2), 161–165. <https://doi.org/10.1902/jop.2005.76.2.161>
- Li, Q., Bai, Y., Cheng, K. K., Caine, E. D., Tong, Y., & Gong, W. (2022). Prevalence of postpartum depression based on diagnostic interviews: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4029742>
- Lima, R. D. C., Victora, C. G., Menezes, A. M. B., & Barros, F. C. (2005). Respiratory function in adolescence in relation to low birth weight, preterm delivery, and intrauterine growth restriction. *Chest*, 128(4), 2400–2407. <https://doi.org/10.1378/chest.128.4.2400>
- O'Connor, T. G., Heron, J., Golding, J., & Glover, V. (2003). Maternal antenatal anxiety and behavioural/emotional problems in children: a test of a programming hypothesis. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 44(7), 1025–1036. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1469-7610.00187>

- Odeyemi, O. A. (2016). Incidence and prevalence of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* in seafood: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *SpringerPlus*, 5(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40064-016-2115-7>
- Progestational agents reduce the risk of preterm birth and low birth weight in women at increased risk - meta-analysis. Progesterone reduces the risk of preterm birth and low birth weight, and may prevent perinatal death - meta-analysis. (2005). *Evidence-based Obstetrics & Gynecology*, 7(4), 174–176. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ebobgyn.2005.09.014>
- Shorey, S. Y., Ng, E. D., & Chee, C. Y. (2021). Anxiety and depressive symptoms of women in the perinatal period during the COVID-19 pandemic: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 49(7), 730–740. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14034948211011793>
- Shorey, S., Chee, C. Y. I., Ng, E. D., Chan, Y. H., Tam, W. W. S., & Chong, Y. S. (2018). Prevalence and incidence of postpartum depression among healthy mothers: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Psychiatric Research*, 104, 235–248. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpsychires.2018.08.001>
- Shorey, S., Ng, E. D., & Wong, C. H. J. (2021). Global prevalence of depression and elevated depressive symptoms among adolescents: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *British Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 61(2), 287–305. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjc.12333>
- Treatment of periodontal disease in pregnancy does not affect rates of prematurity, low birth weight, or intrauterine growth restriction. (2007). *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*, 52(3), 311. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmwh.2007.02.005>
- Tung, Y. J., Lo, K. K., Ho, R. C., & Tam, W. S. W. (2018). Prevalence of depression among nursing students: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Nurse Education Today*, 63, 119–129. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nedt.2018.01.009>

---

**Neha Irfan**

Jamia Hamdard  
New Delhi,  
India  
[nehairfan1998@gmail.com](mailto:nehairfan1998@gmail.com)  
ORCID 0009-0001-6547-2522

**Sherin Zafar**

Jamia Hamdard  
New Delhi,  
India  
[sherin.zafar@jamiyahamdard.ac.in](mailto:sherin.zafar@jamiyahamdard.ac.in)  
ORCID 0000-0001-6656-1095

**Imran Hussain**

Jamia Hamdard  
New Delhi,  
India  
[hussain.imran@gmail.com](mailto:hussain.imran@gmail.com)  
ORCID 0000-0002-2585-8316

**Siddhartha Sankar Biswas**

Jamia Hamdard  
New Delhi,  
India  
[ssbiswas@jamiyahamdard.ac.in](mailto:ssbiswas@jamiyahamdard.ac.in)  
ORCID 0000-0003-2899-111X

---

