

# **GEORGIAN MEDICAL NEWS**

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**ЕЖЕМЕСЯЧНЫЙ НАУЧНЫЙ ЖУРНАЛ**

Медицинские новости Грузии  
საქართველოს სამედიცინო სიახლენი

# GEORGIAN MEDICAL NEWS

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გამოიცემა თბილისის სახელმწიფო სამედიცინო უნივერსიტეტთან  
თანამშრომლობითა და მისი პატრონაჟით

ЕЖЕМЕСЯЧНЫЙ НАУЧНЫЙ ЖУРНАЛ  
ТБИЛИСИ - НЬЮ-ЙОРК

**GMN: Georgian Medical News** is peer-reviewed, published monthly journal committed to promoting the science and art of medicine and the betterment of public health, published by the GMN Editorial Board and The International Academy of Sciences, Education, Industry and Arts (U.S.A.) since 1994. **GMN** carries original scientific articles on medicine, biology and pharmacy, which are of experimental, theoretical and practical character; publishes original research, reviews, commentaries, editorials, essays, medical news, and correspondence in English and Russian.

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**GMN: Медицинские новости Грузии** - ежемесячный рецензируемый научный журнал, издаётся Редакционной коллегией и Международной академией наук, образования, искусств и естествознания (IASEIA) США с 1994 года на русском и английском языках в целях поддержки медицинской науки и улучшения здравоохранения. В журнале публикуются оригинальные научные статьи в области медицины, биологии и фармации, статьи обзорного характера, научные сообщения, новости медицины и здравоохранения.

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**GMN: Georgian Medical News** – საქართველოს სამედიცინო სიახლენი – არის ყოველთვიური სამეცნიერო სამედიცინო რეცენზირებადი ჟურნალი, გამოიცემა 1994 წლიდან, წარმოადგენს სარედაქციო კოლეგიისა და აშშ-ის მეცნიერების, განათლების, ინდუსტრიის, ხელოვნებისა და ბუნებისმეტყველების საერთაშორისო აკადემიის ერთობლივ გამოცემას. GMN-ში რუსულ და ინგლისურ ენებზე ქვეყნდება ექსპერიმენტული, თეორიული და პრაქტიკული ხასიათის ორიგინალური სამეცნიერო სტატიები მედიცინის, ბიოლოგიისა და ფარმაციის სფეროში, მიმოხილვითი ხასიათის სტატიები.

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2. Size of the article, including index and resume in English, Russian and Georgian languages must be at least 10 pages and not exceed the limit of 20 pages of typed or computer-printed text.

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2. სტატიის მოცულობა არ უნდა შეადგენდეს 10 გვერდზე ნაკლებს და 20 გვერდზე მეტს ლიტერატურის სიის და რეზიუმეების (ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე) ჩათვლით.

3. სტატიაში საჭიროა გაშუქდეს: საკითხის აქტუალობა; კვლევის მიზანი; საკვლევი მასალა და გამოყენებული მეთოდები; მიღებული შედეგები და მათი განსჯა. ექსპერიმენტული ხასიათის სტატიების წარმოდგენისას ავტორებმა უნდა მიუთითონ საექსპერიმენტო ცხოველების სახეობა და რაოდენობა; გაუტკივარებისა და დაძინების მეთოდები (მწვავე ცდების პირობებში).

4. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს რეზიუმე ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე არანაკლებ ნახევარი გვერდის მოცულობისა (სათაურის, ავტორების, დაწესებულების მითითებით და უნდა შეიცავდეს შემდეგ განყოფილებებს: მიზანი, მასალა და მეთოდები, შედეგები და დასკვნები; ტექსტუალური ნაწილი არ უნდა იყოს 15 სტრიქონზე ნაკლები) და საკვანძო სიტყვების ჩამონათვალი (key words).

5. ცხრილები საჭიროა წარმოადგინოთ ნაბეჭდი სახით. ყველა ციფრული, შემაჯამებელი და პროცენტული მონაცემები უნდა შეესაბამებოდეს ტექსტში მოყვანილს.

6. ფოტოსურათები უნდა იყოს კონტრასტული; სურათები, ნახაზები, დიაგრამები - დასათაურებული, დანომრილი და სათანადო ადგილას ჩასმული. რენტგენოგრაფიების ფოტოასლები წარმოადგინეთ პოზიტიური გამოსახულებით **tiff** ფორმატში. მიკროფოტოსურათების წარწერებში საჭიროა მიუთითოთ ოკულარის ან ობიექტივის საშუალებით გადიდების ხარისხი, ანათალების შედეგების ან იმპრეგნაციის მეთოდი და აღნიშნოთ სურათის ზედა და ქვედა ნაწილები.

7. სამამულო ავტორების გვარები სტატიაში აღინიშნება ინიციალების თანდართვით, უცხოურისა – უცხოური ტრანსკრიპციით.

8. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს ავტორის მიერ გამოყენებული სამამულო და უცხოური შრომების ბიბლიოგრაფიული სია (ბოლო 5-8 წლის სიღრმით). ანბანური წყობით წარმოდგენილ ბიბლიოგრაფიულ სიაში მიუთითეთ ჯერ სამამულო, შემდეგ უცხოელი ავტორები (გვარი, ინიციალები, სტატიის სათაური, ჟურნალის დასახელება, გამოცემის ადგილი, წელი, ჟურნალის №, პირველი და ბოლო გვერდები). მონოგრაფიის შემთხვევაში მიუთითეთ გამოცემის წელი, ადგილი და გვერდების საერთო რაოდენობა. ტექსტში კვადრატულ ფხიხლებში უნდა მიუთითოთ ავტორის შესაბამისი N ლიტერატურის სიის მიხედვით. მიზანშეწონილია, რომ ციტირებული წყაროების უმეტესი ნაწილი იყოს 5-6 წლის სიღრმის.

9. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს: ა) დაწესებულების ან სამეცნიერო ხელმძღვანელის წარდგინება, დამოწმებული ხელმოწერითა და ბეჭდით; ბ) დარგის სპეციალისტის დამოწმებული რეცენზია, რომელშიც მითითებული იქნება საკითხის აქტუალობა, მასალის საკმაობა, მეთოდის სანდოობა, შედეგების სამეცნიერო-პრაქტიკული მნიშვნელობა.

10. სტატიის ბოლოს საჭიროა ყველა ავტორის ხელმოწერა, რომელთა რაოდენობა არ უნდა აღემატებოდეს 5-ს.

11. რედაქცია იტოვებს უფლებას შეასწოროს სტატია. ტექსტზე მუშაობა და შეჯერება ხდება საავტორო ორიგინალის მიხედვით.

12. დაუშვებელია რედაქციაში ისეთი სტატიის წარდგენა, რომელიც დასაბეჭდად წარდგენილი იყო სხვა რედაქციაში ან გამოქვეყნებული იყო სხვა გამოცემებში.

აღნიშნული წესების დარღვევის შემთხვევაში სტატიები არ განიხილება.



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## LARGE-SCALE DATA IN HEALTH CARE: A CONCEPT ANALYSIS

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**Introduction.** Large-scale data or big data are relatively new concept in the era of technology [1]. These terms are used interchangeably to describe the accelerating growth of structured, semi-structured, and unstructured data which are huge and complex to be managed using the traditional data processing applications [2]. Moreover, large-scale data or big data are new concepts in the health care field [3]. Large-scale data shed the light on the large dataset of information that is stored in Electronic Health Records (EHRs) which are coming from different origins [4]. Furthermore, in the health filed domain, there is a huge amount of data that require advanced methods for analysis [5]. Nowadays, there are different analytical models known as data mining and machine learning algorithms [2 6].

The infancy of the big data concept was in the 1970s [7]. The shape of big data starts to formulate since the time of sharing information at huge rates via the internet in 1989 [8]. In 1997, the development of numerous technological innovations took place including areas of machine learning algorithms and big data analytics including relational databases and open sources providing an easy way to retrieve and store a large amount of data [9]. More acceleration of big data concepts was impacted in the 21st century to include the 'Vs' to define the characteristics and properties of big data[10]. With the big data revolution that transforms our lives, works, and thinking, it becomes a necessity to cope with this large amount of data [11].

Clear and accurate conceptual and operational definitions of large-scale data in the health care field are still needed [12]. Hence, the purpose of this paper is to do a concept analysis of 'large-scale data or big data in the health care field by identifying their antecedents, attributes, and consequences. Developing a clear definition of large-scale data will add to the body of knowledge, which will assist health care professionals to utilize, analyze, and predict patterns of collected information in their research.

**Materials and methods.** A search was conducted in health databases including CINAHL, MEDLINE, Research Gate, and Science Direct. The terms included in the search are "large-scale data", "big data", "healthcare providers", "health technology", and "data analytical techniques". Inclusion criteria were: papers published between 2015 and 2021, original research, conferences paper, systematic review, and books that have large-scale data or big data terms in the context of health care. Any paper that has quantitative, qualitative, or mixed study designs and is published in the English language was included in the analysis. Titles and abstracts are checked to remove the duplicated papers and eliminate the irrelevant articles that did not meet the inclusion criteria. Full-text articles were retrieved and reviewed to assess if the contextual data are consistent with the large-scale data concept. Furthermore, references

were reviewed for additional sources of information about the concept. (Figure 1)

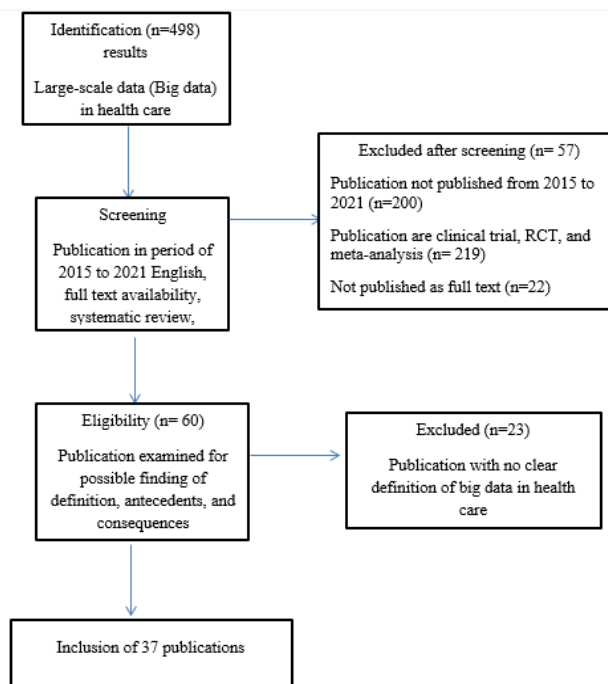


Fig. 1. Flow chart of the study selection process.

Walker and Avant [13] ENREF\_23 method was applied in this concept analysis to get a deep understanding of the concept of large-scale data in health care. Concept analysis is a crucial step in theory development as it transfers science and professional expertise into new stages of development [14]. The concept analysis process explores the clarity of the concept systematically and logically that is composed of seven steps: select the concept, determine the aims of analyzing the concept, identify all use of the concept, determine the defining attributes, construct a model case, identify antecedents and consequences, and define empirical referents [13]. Health systems are rapidly evolving due to the advancement in health technologies [15]. However, no clear definition of large-scale data or big data in different disciplines exists [16].

**Results. Definition of the concept.** According to the Cambridge English dictionary, large-scale data are also known as big data which is defined as "very large sets of data that are produced by people using the internet, and that can only be stored, understood, and used with the help of special tools and methods" [17]. The European Commission defines large-scale data as "large amounts of different types of data produced from various types of sources, such as people, machines or sensors"

[18]. This data include climate information, satellite imagery, digital pictures and videos, transition records or GPS signals” [4]. Likewise, the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the United States denotes the large-scale data as “large, diverse, complex, longitudinal, and/or distributed data sets generated from instruments, sensors, Internet transactions, email, video, click streams, and/or all other digital sources available today and in the future”[19].

Raghupathi and Raghupathi [20], stated that large-scale data in health care is the digitalization of information that is vast and complex, which is not easy to be managed by traditional software or hardware application, thus it needs conventional methods and analytical tools. Baro, et al. [21] asserted that big data in health care has been set with  $\log(n \cdot p) \geq$  with high speed and a variety of attributes. Cheung, et al. [22], pointed out to large-scale data in health care is “large datasets that are collected routinely or automatically, and stored electronically” [22]. Alwan and Ku-Mahamud [23] refer to large-scale data as any dataset that has a large amount of information and complex data that need special processing to be managed and it was exist in many subjects such as business, government, and sciences, transport, and health care.

**Defining attributes.** Concluding the information that is reviewed in the literature, the defining attributes of large-scale data were a volume which refers to the large quantity of data, the velocity refers to the speed of data during the handling of information and in data generation, the variety that means the range of data and different sources of information, and veracity that refers to quality and origin of data [23,24].

## MODEL CASE

Collecting data from the Electronic Health Records (EHRs) at Jordan’s health institutions for all patients with heart disease over the past five years. The data include the patients’ demographical data, reports, laboratory results, diagnostic procedures, radiological studies, and histories as taken by patients. The estimated number is between one million and one million and a half. Special software programs will be used to analyze the hidden pattern of the disease. This will help in analyzing the huge amount of data to predict individuals who may get heart disease as early as possible, cardiovascular complications prevention, and improve population health by utilizing large-scale data analysis techniques effectively.

Volume in the above case refers to the enormous amount of information. Velocity refers to the unprecedented speed at which data are generated and received, that cannot be handled using the traditional software application. Variety refers to diversity in data type to include images such as radiological studies, the numeric flow of information such as laboratory results, and free-text notes such as histories taken from families and patients. Veracity refers to the quality and accuracy of collected data that are stored in the EHRs to get accurate predictions of chronic health conditions such as cardiovascular diseases.

## ANTECEDENTS.

Many antecedents of large-scale data, as well as, big data were identified; namely data, technology, people, and health care organization. Firstly, data that build up large-scale data

are heterogeneous by nature including structured, semi-structured, and unstructured data. Thus, large-scale data are composed of multiple data from multiple sources. Furthermore, the centralization of data is envisioned to ensure that all information is easily accessible to be analyzed and enable data operation [25]. Secondly, technology or process technology is an important requirement of large-scale data to manage the heterogeneous amount of information for analysis. Since the large data in volume is meaningless as with volume. It has its meaning, insight, and positive impact with technical processes such as large-scale data analytical techniques, e.g. data mining, artificial intelligence that utilizes machine learning algorithms, which transform such data into actionable sources of information, and appropriate decisions based on data analysis. It is known as precision medicine that includes clinical care tailored to individuals’ characteristics leading to data enrichment that could be used as diagnostic and prognostic to provide high-quality services [26]. Health care organizations had a direct influence on large-scale data quality by providing easily accessible patient data, and providing encouragement to utilize such data in experimentation to offer discovery of hidden patterns of collected data in EHRs. To sum up, large-scale data quality could be judged based on data discovery, compatibility, and operation [27].

## CONSEQUENCES.

Utilizing large-scale data effectively is a crucial step toward the integration with the evolution of health care technology, especially with the rapid advancement in technology and the availability of multiple huge sources of data. Many positive impacts of large-scale data will be reflected on individuals, families, healthcare professionals, and healthcare institutions. Initially, effective use of large-scale data can improve clinical-decision-making through early detection of chronic health conditions, and cost reduction by reducing the number of unnecessary hospital admissions and re-admissions. In addition, it could improve the performance of both health care providers and patients by focusing on patient-centered care and improving the quality of health care by extracting the hidden pattern of data extracted from the large dataset of EHRs.

On the other hand, many challenges of utilizing large-scale data in health care could be related to data security, privacy, confidentiality, and duplication of data in the system. The second challenge is related to the lack of standardization of data documentation due to language barriers, medical terminology, and global sharing. Thirdly, storage and transformation of data include expensive storage, lack of skills of users, and the transmission of data from one place to another [28].

## EMPIRICAL REFERENTS.

Big or large-scale data implies dealing with a huge heterogeneous amount of information that is difficult to be managed using traditional software applications. However, many tools can be used to handle large-scale data such as Hadoop, MapReduce, and Spark [29].

Hadoop is known as an open-source software solution that is designed to work with large-scale data. This tool helps in processing the load that is required to process a huge amount

of data across a few hundred thousand separate computing nodes. Hadoop can vastly speed the rate of information that can be processed which is considered a flexible, cost-effective data processing model that could scale as data volume increases in size which enhances the ability to predict the likelihood of patient readmission and take the appropriate preventive measures to reduce the readmission rates [30].

MapReduce is popular data processing engine for utilizing large-scale data effectively [31]. MapReduce performs two main functions including compiling and organizing data sets to be reduced to a smaller and organized dataset that could respond to queries and tasks. It is introduced to be a state-of-the-art for query processing, data mining as well as data processing [32].

Spark is known as a substantial combined analytical engine of comprehensive data processing and machine learning algorithms that are widely accepted as an open-source project from the Apache foundation [33]. It is characterized by ultra-fast processing applications that can stand alone to be used in large health care institutions to put large-scale data in effective utilization use.

It is concluded that many tools can be used to analyze large-scale data, which are characterized by its potentials such as being open source, portability, easy to use, and most importantly integrated data quality to improve the health quality of patients and health care, professionals.

**Discussion.** The large-scale data concept is relatively new in healthcare field. However, it is popular in other disciplines such as education, manufacturing industries, and advanced technology [34]. Many challenges face health care providers in taking benefits from the large-scale data and to apply it in academic research. Thus, it is crucial to explore the accurate meaning of large-scale data in order to develop a collective and clear framework to be used in the research network. This study shed the light on the main attributes of large-scale data definition which are known as the “Vs”, volume, velocity, variety, and veracity. Furthermore, many studies presented different definitions for large-scale data and its component as structured, semi-structured, and unstructured [4 35 36]. These studies have shown that large scale data are produced from different EHR and other technological devices that need special tools to deal with such large amounts of data. On the other hand, different studies agree that large-scale data or big data concept has a flexible cultural meaning that has different implications in psychology, sociology, industry, and technology [4]. Surprisingly, it was discussed that not all forms of big data literature share the same attributes, which depends on the form of the data and the field that has been utilized in its applications [37].

**Conclusion.** Large-scale data (big data) is described as a huge amount of data that is beyond managing, storing, and analyzing with traditional software applications. The main characteristics of big data are volume, velocity, variety, and veracity. Besides, it has many antecedents and different consequences. Hadoop, MapReduce, and Spark were the most technical tools that were used to analyze large-scale data effectively. Choosing the most appropriate tool depends on the availability of special characteristics such as open-source, portability, easy to use, and improved health quality.

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## LARGE-SCALE DATA IN HEALTH CARE: A CONCEPT ANALYSIS

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**Abstract.** This paper aims to conceptually analyze “large-scale data” in the healthcare field to improve its clarity in the literature. Thematic analysis was applied to avoid the haphazard results in recognizing the attributes, antecedents, and consequences of the concept analysis. Large-scale data is a huge heterogeneous amount of data characterized by high volume, velocity, variety, and veracity. large-scale data analysis supports the early

prevention measures through the prediction of chronic diseases, reducing the cost, and unnecessary admission and re-admission of hospitalization. Large-scale data is a huge amount of data that is beyond managing, storing, and analyzing with traditional software applications.

**Keywords.** Large-scale data, big data, concept analysis, health care, data mining, disease prediction.