Big Data in Healthcare

The healthcare industry historically has generated large amounts of data, driven by record keeping, compliance & regulatory requirements, and patient care [2]. While most data is stored in hard copy form, the current trend is toward rapid digitization of these large amounts of data. Driven by mandatory requirements and the potential to improve the quality of healthcare delivery meanwhile reducing the costs, these massive quantities of data (known as 'big data') hold the promise of supporting a wide range of medical and healthcare functions, including among others clinical decision support, disease surveillance, and population health management [2-5] (adapted from [1]).

Various companies are also interested in the big data management in Healthcare, like IBM [7] and HP [8]. Numerous scientific publications in the area discuss societal, scientific and application issues [1, 9, 10, 11].

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