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Development and Evaluation of a Deep Learning Model for Classifying Kidney Conditions Using Image Data

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Objectives : This study aimed to create and test a deep learning model based on EfficientNet-B0 to classify kidney conditions into four categories: Normal, Cyst, Tumor, and Stone. The goal was to improve diagnostic accuracy for kidney diseases using advanced image analysis techniques.

Methods : We collected 12,446 images of kidneys, each labeled into one of four categories. Before training, data preprocessing involved augmentation and normalization. The dataset was partitioned into training (70%), validation (15%), and testing (15%). The model, EfficientNet-B0, pretrained on ImageNet, was adapted by adding a dropout layer (to prevent overfitting) and a fully connected layer with softmax activation for classification. The training process used stochastic gradient descent (SGD) with a learning rate of 0.01, momentum of 0.9, cross-entropy loss, batch size of 32, and ran for 10 epochs.

Results : The EfficientNet-B0 model achieved an overall test accuracy of 84.7%, compared to a training accuracy of 89.1%. Individual class accuracies varied, with the highest accuracy observed for Normal (89.7%), followed by Cyst (87.6%), Tumor (84.2%), and Stone (81.5%). Training accuracy steadily improved, reaching 93.4% by the final epoch. The validation accuracy peaked at 86.2% at epoch 8, indicating some degree of variance but minimal overfitting. Test loss was moderate, highlighting reasonable generalization capability to unseen data.

Conclusions : The EfficientNet-B0 model demonstrated good performance in classifying kidney diseases, suggesting potential utility as a diagnostic aid. The model shows promise as a supportive tool for clinical diagnosis.