Enhanced subgroup identification in heterogeneous clinical courses of disease burden using a machine learning score from CT images

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Background

- Quantitative lung fibrosis (QLF) score has been developed using non-contrast computed tomography (CT) by applying machine-learning (ML) algorithm with AUC=0.96
- The performance QLF score has been evaluated in clinical trials as a secondary or an exploratory endpoint
- However, the study visits of a clinical trial have the pre-specified visits to evaluate a study drug. Scans from clinical care/ real-world CT are used to test patient's response after initiating a new therapy or confirmation of worsening.

1. One Pipeline: Automated Fibrosis Classifier & Quantitative Lung Fibrosis (QLF) Score: *starts from 30 slices, now 300 slices, large cohorts, need to be faster*



Denoised vs. Original Images



Radiomics (texture)



Example) Co-occurrence Matrix: within a window, set a categorical level (bin size) of HU intensities and generate cooccurrence matrix (P). Here, HU intensities were set to 4 levels and P was generated for predetermined 0° with distance 1.

3 🤇	0	1	1
0 🤇	0	1)1
0	2	2	2
2	2	3	3

for isotropic)

$$P_{0^{\circ},1} = \begin{pmatrix} p(0,0) & p(0,1) & p(0,2) & p(0,3) \\ p(1,0) & p(1,1) & p(1,2) & p(1,3) \\ p(2,0) & p(2,1) & p(2,2) & p(2,3) \\ p(3,0) & p(3,1) & p(3,2) & p(3,3) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{12} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Angular \quad Second \quad Moment: \quad f_1 = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} \{p(i,j)\}^2$$

$$Entropy \quad : \quad f_9 = -\sum_{i} \sum_{j} p(i,j) \log\{p(i,j)\}.$$

$$Contrast: \quad \sum_{i} \sum_{j} (i-j)^2 p(i,j)$$

HRCT scans: QLF score



Coronal CT Image



QLF classifier: blue+ red dots

Omics-Based Test Development Process



Evolution of Translational OMICS lessons learned and the path forward (March 2012) by IOM (Institution of Medicine) report

Status of UCLA Quantitative Lung Fibrosis Scores



Clinical Use

High-throughput : image QC/segmentation &=> Automated Fibrosis Classifier => Quantitative Lung Fibrosis (QLF) Score=> report: Human in the loop





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Modeling and its notation

1. $f(t) = e^{-dt} + e^{gt} - 1$

d represents a decrease pattern over time, g, represents an increase in QLF score, where initial decrease is followed by progressive increase.

2. $f(t) = (\phi)e^{-dt} + (1 - \phi)e^{gt}$

** When $\phi = 0$, this model is labeled as *gx*, and it describes consistent progressively increase pattern over time, with *d* being eliminated.

• ** When $\phi = 1$, this model is labeled as, with g being eliminated.

Examples) idiopathic inflammatory myopathy-associated interstitial lung disease: follow-up times are varied



Table 1. Categorization of total subjects according to growth-rate model application

	Evaluable – Fitted			Evaluable –	Not evaluable
				Not fitted by	by the model
				the AIC	
Assigned patterns	decrease (<i>dx</i>)	progressive (gx)	$convex (gd + gd\phi)$	concave	stable
n (%)	20 (25.0)	19 (23.8)	10 (12.5)	22 (27.5)	9 (11.2)
9/11/2024					

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Varia	bles	Hazard Ratio	95% confidence interval	p-value
Age		1.052	0.968—1.169	0.253
ILD st	ubtypes			
UIP		1.158	0.084–12.193	0.909
OP (organizing pneumonia)	0.376	0.027–2.801	0.365
NSI	P and others	1	ref.	ref.
QLF (a	at landmark time)	1.042	0.981—1.109	0.162
Patte	rn groups			
Rapi	id progression [†]	15.926	1.079–548.324	0.043
Slov	w progression [†]	0.447	0.002–9.018	0.644
Cone	cave	2.134	0.239–28.755	0.495
Refe	erence*	1	ref.	ref.
Treat	tment group			
Inter	nsive immunosuppression	2.385	0.398–15.864	0.337
9/11/2024 Not	intensive immunosuppression	1	ref.	ref.

Cox proportional hazard regression analysis on mortality



Conclusion/Summary

- Growth-rate model can be practical approach, revealing five distinct patterns over time that substantiate the dynamic changes.
- By the pattern groups, characterizing and estimating a progression rate (g) is feasible
- Easy interpretation of complex data for the disease course, potentially contributing to more personalized treatment strategies and improved patient care.

Discussion

• Future research with larger datasets and adopting prospective registry may provide firm evidence for the efficacy of our approach and expand upon our findings.

Thank you

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↔ Medical Services

Connective Tissue Disease-Interstitial Lung Disease (CTD-ILD

Our specialized expertise with connective tissue disease-re

