

1 **Creating an open data city for healthcare: A critical review of data**  
2 **management strategy and development in China**

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16  
17 **Abstract**

18 The unexpected increased cases of COVID-19 pressured the healthcare system to be exposed to  
19 unprecedented challenges, where healthcare management is a complex but essential process to  
20 manage and coordinate all information and resources. Critical problems are emerging in this new  
21 routine and demanding a higher efficiency of medical data sharing. It is becoming emergent to  
22 improve the performances of city systems and create an open data city for reliable information and  
23 data sharing (e.g., medical and testing) for better public awareness and healthcare services. This  
24 research aims to critically review past efforts in open data city for healthcare from the perspective  
25 of data management strategy and development. China was selected as a representative due to its  
26 fast development in healthcare infrastructure and medical big data, where 79 out of 4,611 articles  
27 have been selected, reviewed, and analyzed. A mixed-method approach has been implemented to  
28 review and assess the existing efforts of open data city for healthcare through latitudinal and  
29 longitudinal analyses from five aspects based on socio-technical systems: technology, people,  
30 infrastructure, processes, and culture. The gaps, missions, and challenges of developing an open  
31 data city for healthcare have also been summarised, and an open data city healthcare reinforcement

32 framework has been proposed accordingly. This research contributes a new multi-dimensional way  
33 to rethink the development of open data city in healthcare and helps establish the state-of-the-art  
34 of open data city.

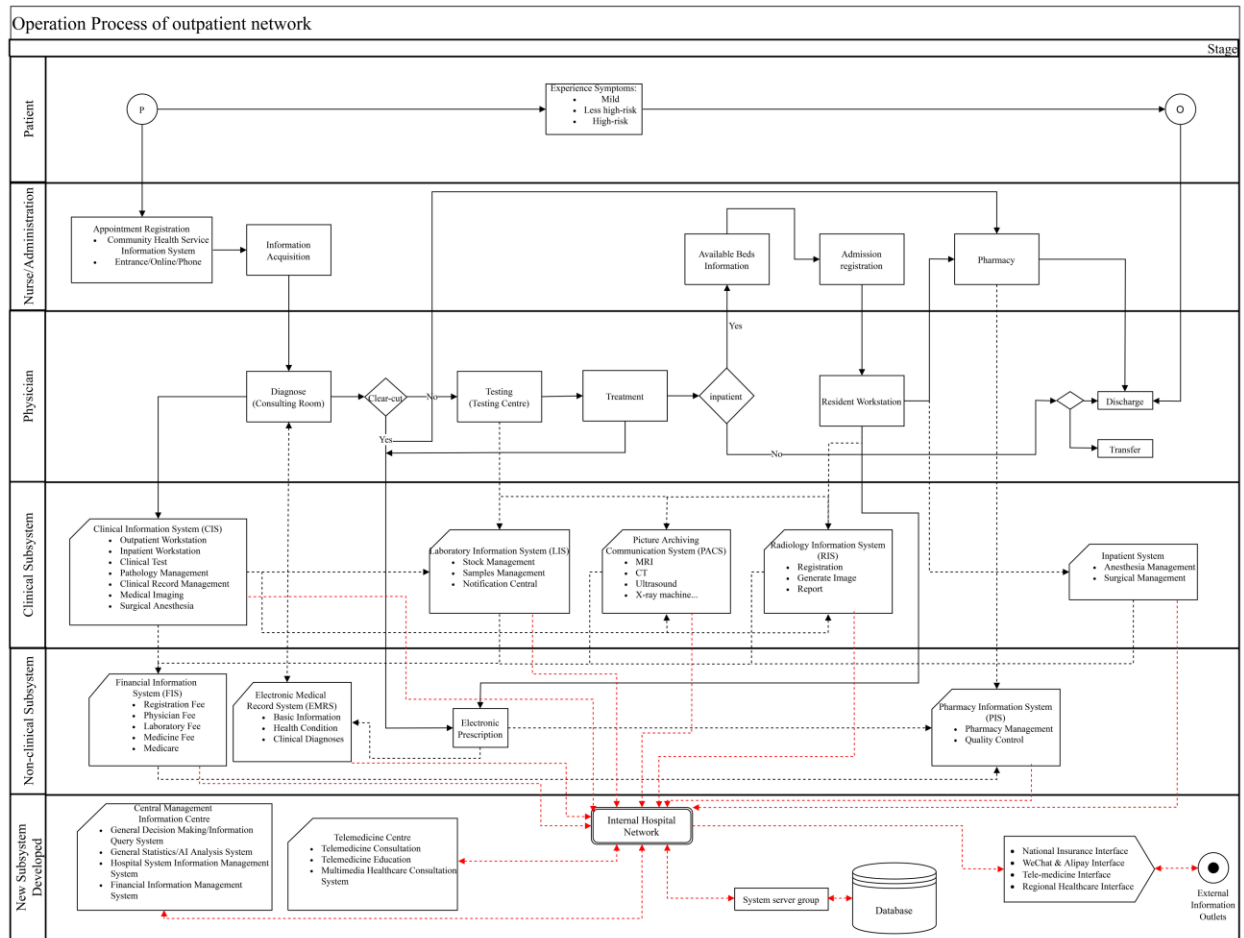
35 **Keywords:** Open data city, healthcare open data, socio-technical system, data strategies

## 36 **1. Introduction**

37 Compared with the relatively mild mortality rate of roughly 0.1%, COVID-19 is considerably  
38 deadlier with 15% of the infected patients having severe illness and 5% having a critical illness  
39 (Flavio Villanustre et al., 2021). For the vulnerable population, the fatality rates are even higher,  
40 as persons over 90 years old have a fatality rate of over 14% and patients with coexisting conditions  
41 with 10% and 7% fatality rate for the case of cardiovascular disease and diabetes. It is suggested  
42 that there is an urgent need for accessible epidemiologic data, as timely, accurate and accessible  
43 epidemiologic data is critical for informing public health response efforts (Berry et al., 2020).  
44 Accordingly, more and more publicly accessible open data (e.g., Ireland’s open data portal  
45 ([data.goc.ie](http://data.goc.ie)) and Glasgow’s open data website ([data.glasgow.gov.uk](http://data.glasgow.gov.uk))) have been made available  
46 for tackling the worldwide pandemic (Hunter et al., 2018). With these available datasets, more and  
47 more countries have realized the importance of healthcare open data for tackling the COVID-19  
48 pandemic, especially due to the fact that the model built on the open data is reproducible and can  
49 be revalidated over its correctness. Although the outbreak of COVID-19 has enlightened the  
50 development of this research, the centre of this research is to identify, evaluate, and mitigate the  
51 management issues related to the healthcare open data. This is because the implementation of the  
52 COVID-19 information governance and strategy needs to rely on the management of modern  
53 healthcare open data (Alamo et al., 2020). Derived from the original definition of open data, “the  
54 data can be freely modified, used, and shared by anyone for any purpose” (Vetrò et al., 2016), this  
55 research defines a new concept, the “open data city” as the city with adequate infrastructure,  
56 culture, technology development that supports the accessibility, exploitability, useability, and  
57 shareability of the data for both the public and private purposes.

58 The research experience suggests that the health information technology (HIT)-enabled healthcare  
59 system should be treated as a complex adaptive social-technical system (Begun et al., 2003). It is  
60 even harder for a country like China to provide high-quality healthcare services to a large  
61 population covering rural and urban areas during the pandemic. The Chinese healthcare

62 information systems are mainly constructed within a hospital, namely the hospital information  
63 system (HIS), where Figure 1 shows the generalized Chinese hospital information flow for  
64 outpatient networks (Cao, 2006). This hospital-level information sharing process contains different  
65 information systems like clinical information system (CIS), laboratory information system (LIS),  
66 picture archiving communication system (PACS), radiology information system (RIS), Financial  
67 information system (FIS), electronic medical record system (EMRS) and pharmacy information  
68 system (PIS). With the popularity of big data technology in healthcare, the massive amount of data  
69 scattered throughout these mentioned hospital information sub-systems can provide a basis for the  
70 decision-making activities within the hospitals and simplify the process of patient medical  
71 treatment. However, the outbreak of the Covid-19 epidemic made people realize that data sharing  
72 within the hospital system is far from enough. To better realize the prevention and control of  
73 epidemics, information sharing in the context of healthcare should be established on a higher level,  
74 for example, at the city level, integrating information from hospitals, other external institutions,  
75 and even smart wearable devices. Although it has been mentioned previously that there are more  
76 and more available datasets available for the public (Berry et al., 2020; Hunter et al., 2018). Only  
77 a few studies (Chang et al., 2003; Yan et al., 2021) have attempted to evaluate the role of these  
78 HIS in the healthcare open data at the city level. Therefore, it is suggested that the clinical sub-  
79 systems (CIS, LIS, PACS, and RIS) and non-clinical sub-systems (FIS, EMRS, PIS and electronic  
80 prescription system) shown in Figure 1 should be re-evaluated against how they can be connected  
81 or utilize the healthcare open data in further studies.



82  
 83 **Figure 1** HIS related information flow for operation process of the outpatient network (adapted  
 84 from Cao, 2006)

85 There are some conceptual models that were previously applied by HIT studies, including the user  
 86 acceptance of the information technology model (Venkatesh et al., 2003), the diffusion of  
 87 innovations theory model (Rogers, 2010), the distributed cognition model (Hutchins, 1995), the  
 88 seven-step human-computer interaction model (Norman, 1988), and the swiss cheese model  
 89 (Reason, 2000). Even though they all target one or more crucial facets when a new technology is  
 90 introduced, the scopes of most of these models are limited in evaluating the adoption of technology  
 91 itself and cannot address the complex relationships between the different stakeholders, information  
 92 content, and hardware and software infrastructure. This derives the first research gap of this study:  
 93 the lack of evaluation of the healthcare open data development from multi perspectives. This  
 94 research gap exists because it is still unclear whether the data sets current held by the hospital,  
 95 other government institutions, and technological infrastructure are complete or fit for their tasks.  
 96 Debates are continuing these days for the accessibility and utilisability of the public to the

97 healthcare data with the proper consideration of personal information protection. Besides this, the  
98 focus of many existing related to healthcare big or open data studies have been focused on the  
99 development of the technologies and systems themselves, which have not properly covered the  
100 finding of identifying problems and providing solutions for arising issues (e.g., user data privacy  
101 protection (Zhou et al., 2022)) related to the introducing of these new healthcare systems and  
102 information technologies. This derives the second major research gap of this study: the lack of  
103 existing studies that systematically review the existing problems in open data healthcare  
104 development, especially targeting the healthcare information engineering and management and  
105 sharing from a city level. A systematic and critical literature review is urgently needed to review  
106 the current open data city healthcare development to find the potential solutions to the arising  
107 challenges from the transformation from big data to open data city healthcare.

108 This research intends to close this gap through a critical literature review of healthcare open data  
109 based on socio-technical system theory and using China as a representative due to its fast  
110 development in healthcare infrastructure and medical big data. Although the research context is  
111 focused on the healthcare systems in China, the findings from the literature review can be applied  
112 to other countries and regions with necessary amendments, where the gaps in current research can  
113 be modified accordingly, and the mission and challenges of open data city for healthcare can be  
114 shared and discussed. To close the above-identified research gap, three research questions were  
115 set up accordingly: (1) How is healthcare open data developed based on the perspectives of the  
116 socio-technical systems? (2) What are the gaps and challenges for healthcare open data  
117 development in different social and technical dimensions? (3) What are the future directions of  
118 healthcare open data development? Through answering these research questions, this research can  
119 provide insights into the understanding of cities' healthcare open data development and  
120 engineering related management challenges, applying recommendations for city-side healthcare  
121 open data development, and using an open data city healthcare reinforcement framework.  
122 Although the focus of this study's open data analysis is on the city level, it is important to consider  
123 open data practice for both hospital and national levels. This is because the policies and  
124 technologies used in these two levels will affect the healthcare open data at the city level. It is also  
125 crucial to distinguish the analysis of existing studies and projects into three different levels, as  
126 characteristics of stakeholders and data security and culture concerns are different across these  
127 levels. For instance, the main national-level target stakeholders are likely the policy maker or

128 government. However, patients and physicians are more favoured by the hospital level. While  
129 for data security, the main target for the hospital level is usually related to patients' information.  
130 It is probably replaced with HIS information and national databases for the city and national level.  
131 Thus, the levels of information sharing in this research have been separated into three different  
132 levels: (1) Hospital level (e.g., a rural clinic, a single hospital, a single medical institution, a single  
133 project initiative, etc.); City level (e.g., a group of citywide hospitals, a regional group of rural and  
134 city hospital networks, a group of hospital and medical institutions from a province, etc.); National  
135 level (e.g., a country-wide genome database network, a country-wide healthcare information  
136 sharing platform, etc.). However, this research will focus on the gaps, recommendations, and  
137 challenges analysis of complex city-level open data healthcare systems from perspectives of the  
138 social-technical system beyond the traditional focus of new technologies. There are three main  
139 reasons behind this. Firstly, choosing city level healthcare information sharing target can provide  
140 comprehensive coverage from the micro-level open data issue (e.g., a specific HIS system's data  
141 interoperability problem) to the macro-level open data issues (e.g., an incentive policy for data  
142 sharing). Secondly, it provides better coverage of different socio-technical system stakeholders  
143 and perspectives. Lastly, it allows the recommendations, gaps and challenges analysis to be  
144 targeted against a complex city system rather than a single technology, hospital, or government  
145 policy. The predictive capability of the social-technical system theory combined with the literature  
146 review will help to foresee the potential challenges and potentials of healthcare open data. This is  
147 because the social-technical system has the potential to improve the add-value of open data through  
148 enhanced awareness and evaluation (Davis et al., 2014).

## 149 **2. Preliminary**

### 150 ***2.1 Healthcare information technology and socio-technical systems***

151 Healthcare systems as one kind of organization are usually complex and need to be researched in  
152 their entirety, where two sides should be considered conjointly, namely the social and technical  
153 dimensions (Sony and Naik, 2020). It is thus necessary to consider the servitization of healthcare  
154 information technologies as a socio-technical system to understand the healthcare systems from  
155 the combined perspectives of social and technical dimensions that consider behavioural aspects in  
156 the development and implementation of technologies (Münch et al., 2022).

157 The core ideology of the social-technical system theory reflected by the early work of (Clegg,  
158 2000) is the concept that "design is systemic". It was then developed by the UK Tavistock Institute

159 for identifying the interrelated nature of technological and social facets of the introduction of the  
160 coal mining machinery technology (Trist & Bamforth, 1951). Within the socio-technical systems,  
161 the core is that it can be improved and can only work satisfactorily when the social and technical  
162 dimensions are brought together and treated as interdependent dimensions of a wider system (Chen  
163 et al., 2020).

164 There have been three popular socio-technical system models for classifying interacting and  
165 coordinated dimensions. Davis et al. (2014)'s hexagon-shaped social-technical system model  
166 considers multiple factors, in addition, to solely the technology itself, including people,  
167 infrastructure, technology, culture, process, and goal. Sittig and Singh (2015) further developed a  
168 new socio-technical model for adopting health information technology in complex adaptive  
169 healthcare systems, which is an eight-dimensional interconnected structure, including hardware  
170 and software, clinical content, human-computer interface, people, workflow, communication, and  
171 two additional dimensions, internal organizational features, and external rules and regulations.  
172 This model was later modified by Wesley et al. (2019) to a six-dimensional model but with two  
173 sides from both patients and healthcare providers, which was used for investigating the use of HIT  
174 for patient-reported outcomes.

175 Although originated from social science, the capacity of social-technical systems for optimizing  
176 organisations has enlarged the range outside the territory of social science. Many efforts have been  
177 made to investigate the servitization of information technologies in healthcare through the social-  
178 technical systems approach. For example, Lawler et al. (2011) have used the social-technical  
179 system approach to examine a wide range of cognitive ergonomics issues related to HIT (e.g.,  
180 medication errors and electronic health records). Bonzo et al. (2016) used a large multidomain  
181 matrix representing the interactions across social-technical system domains for modelling  
182 processes and analysing communication in the hospital operating room. Fayoumi and Williams  
183 (2021) proposed an integrated conceptual model that incorporates the concept of a social-technical  
184 system to build an enterprise modelling framework that proves the power of providing a holistic  
185 IT modernisation for the healthcare system.

186 Built majorly based on Davis et al. (2014)'s model, this research will conduct a systematic  
187 literature review from the perspective of the social-technical system to understand the  
188 simultaneous effects of healthcare open data and related HIT across the five selected dimensions.

189 There were two reasons for adopting the model of Davis et al. (2014). Firstly, the works from Sittig  
190 and Singh (2015) and Wesley et al. (2019) are too focused on the technical dimension, but a more  
191 balanced model is needed for initiating this literature review. Secondly, other works are suitable  
192 to be used within a single hospital or specific HIT context but are too detailed and trivial when  
193 investigating the city-level healthcare system.

## 194 ***2.2 From ‘big data’ to open data city healthcare***

195 Recent data-driven research over large size sharable datasets has provided many opportunities for  
196 city-level health care at both system and individual levels (Kostkova et al., 2016). In the light of  
197 ‘opening’ this ‘big data’, it is easier than ever to identify the diffusion pattern of disease and  
198 evaluate the effectiveness of the government policy. With a significant amount of data generated  
199 each year, the healthcare data available in 2020 is projected to be 50 times more than in 2011  
200 (Austin & Kusumoto, 2016). Out of all data generated, data from private repositories and  
201 commercial organisations is not shareable. The focus, then, should be put on the openable data.  
202 Understanding the relationship between open data and ‘big data’ is crucial for researchers and  
203 industry practitioners. Similarly, it is also important to identify how the existing techniques,  
204 platforms, and tools’ capability of tackling big data’s high volume, high dynamism, and  
205 heterogeneous complexity can be utilised to benefit the open data practice (Palanisamy &  
206 Thirunavukarasu, 2019).

207 Because open data is required to be freely used, modified, and shared by anyone for any purpose  
208 (Vetrò et al., 2016). These requirements of open data have ruled out a significant amount of  
209 healthcare data gathered by commercial organisations and private institutions, especially due to  
210 the sensitivity of health information. It is suggested that open data is inseparable from the ‘big data’  
211 because for the healthcare domain, the target data to be opened is normally the ‘big data’ collected  
212 by the regional or central public health department and regulators. On the other hand, there has  
213 been an enthusiasm for using ‘large’ data resources and new information technology (IT) to tackle  
214 the existing medical obstacles (Obermeyer & Emanuel, 2016) and help the better decision-making  
215 for countering the challenges brought by COVID-19. Therefore, it is important to evaluate the  
216 healthcare open data from multiple perspectives and review the arising challenges to find solutions  
217 for current obstacles.



218 **3. Research Methodology**

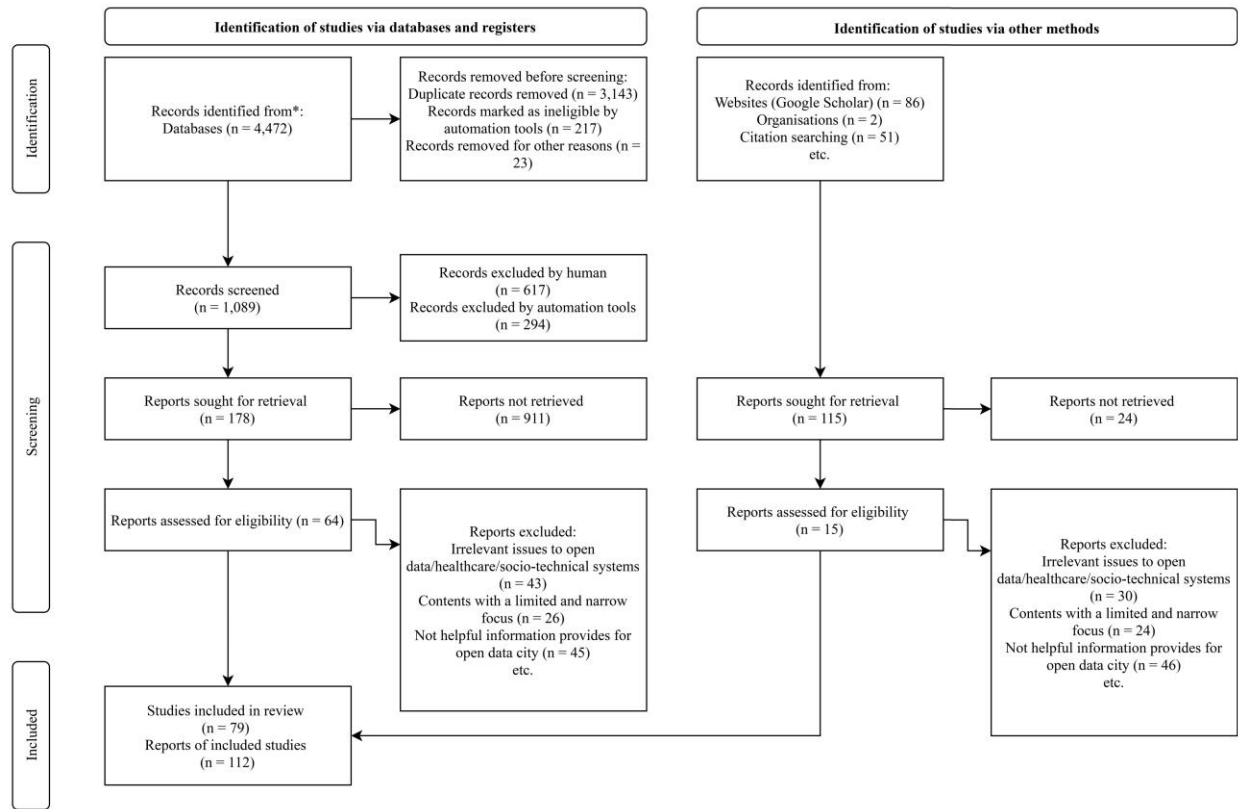
219 This study adopted the mixed systematic literature review (SLR) approach to reviewing healthcare  
 220 open data city-related studies recently conducted in China in a mix of HIT and architecture,  
 221 engineering, construction, and facility management (AEC/FM) domains, with the following of the  
 222 latest 2020 PRISMA systematic literature review standard (Page et al., 2021). Scopus, PubMed,  
 223 Web of Science, and China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) databases were selected as  
 224 they provide good coverage of both the medical and AECFM literature in English and Chinese.  
 225 Keywords in “open data” city, healthcare, and socio-technical system’s sub-groups using both  
 226 English and Chinese between 2000 and 2021 (Table 1). In general, the selected keywords were  
 227 classified into three major categories: open data, healthcare, and socio-technical systems. The  
 228 socio-technical system is further separated into five dimensions according to the model raised by  
 229 Davis et al. (2014). Inside each category or between sub-categories, keywords were searched using  
 230 the ‘OR’ operator. While, between categories, the search query is connected using the ‘AND’  
 231 operator.

232 **Table 1.** Keywords searched for systematic literature review

Category	Sub-category	Keywords
	Open data city-related	‘Open knowledge’ OR ‘open source’ OR ‘open research’ OR ‘open content’ OR ‘open access’ OR ‘data sharing’ OR ‘information sharing’ OR ‘crowdsourcing’ OR ‘crowdsensing’ OR ‘big data’ OR ‘citizen data’ OR ‘smart city’ OR ‘urban accessibility’
	AND ‘Healthcare-related’	‘Universal health care’ OR ‘primary care’ OR ‘secondary care’ OR ‘hospital’ OR ‘community hospital’ OR ‘general practice’ OR ‘private practice’ OR ‘clinical’ OR ‘wellness’ OR ‘medical’ OR ‘medicine’ OR ‘medicare’
	AND ‘social-technical system-related’	Culture ‘Culture’ OR ‘style’ OR ‘project’ OR ‘policies’ OR ‘governance’ OR ‘agency’ OR ‘event’ OR ‘organization’ OR ‘government’ People ‘People’ OR ‘group’ OR ‘record’ OR ‘portal’ OR ‘crowd’ OR ‘end-user’ OR ‘user involvement’ OR ‘leadership’ OR ‘coordination’ OR ‘role’ OR ‘responsibility’ City & Building & Infrastructure ‘City’ OR ‘city lab’ OR ‘smart city’ OR ‘urban’ OR ‘municipal’ OR ‘metropolitan’ OR ‘architecture’ OR ‘building’ OR ‘transportation’ OR ‘infrastructure’ OR ‘foundation’ Processes & Procedures ‘Analytics’ OR ‘process’ OR ‘procedure’ OR ‘application’ OR ‘uses’ OR ‘agenda’ OR ‘plan’ OR ‘preparation’ OR ‘step’ Technology ‘Information system’ OR ‘IoT system’ OR ‘system’ OR ‘technology’ OR ‘data mining’ OR ‘data harvesting’ OR ‘dashboard’ OR ‘information technology’ OR ‘information display’ OR ‘clinical information system’ OR ‘electronic health record’ OR ‘electronic medical record’ OR ‘health information system’ OR ‘hospital information system’ OR ‘drug prescription and distribution system’ OR ‘mobile nursing technology’ OR ‘clinical decision support system’ OR ‘picture archiving and communication system’ OR ‘radio frequency identification’ OR ‘electronic patient record’ OR ‘computerized physician order entry’ OR ‘electronic signature’ OR ‘mobile nursing information system’ OR ‘financial

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234 The systematic literature review of this article is constructed in two phases. The first phase is the  
235 article selection; the second phase is the content analysis. In the article selection phase's article  
236 identification stage, firstly, the articles from the keyword search and the primary manual-based  
237 reference review will be concatenated with duplicates removed (Figure 2). Secondly, in the  
238 screening stage, articles will be screened based on their titles and applying web-based systematic  
239 literature review software – Rayyan (Ouzzani et al., 2016). The web-based semi-automated  
240 literature review app allows the expedition of the initial screening of titles using algorithms like  
241 the support vector machine (SVM) classifier (Cortes & Vapnik, 1995). After the title screening  
242 step, articles that lack abstract or are irrelevant to the main topics of open data, healthcare, and  
243 socio-technical systems will be further excluded. Then, the full-text review is conducted over the  
244 rest of the articles to further screen out the article with missing full text, loosely connected to the  
245 selected main topics, with a limited or narrow focus, or with no supportive information for open  
246 data city. In total, 25 studies mentioned in this research were written in Chinese and 86 studies  
247 were written in English.



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**Figure 2** The working flow of the literature screening process

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In the article content analysis phase, after identifying and selecting the relevant articles, a mixed analysis method was conducted: (1) the latitudinal analysis is conducted to identify the milestones that marked by the major open data healthcare regulations and guidance published by the Chinese government, and summarise the recent trend of the open data healthcare-related studies; (2) the longitudinal analysis is conducted to view the existing studies of healthcare open data city in the lens of social-technical system’s five different dimensions. Accordingly, these studies were discussed over its benefits and limitations against the open data city for healthcare; (3) the gaps, missions, recommendations, and challenges of the open data city for healthcare are summarised from the previous longitudinal analysis, which also inspires the development of a new open data city healthcare reinforcement framework for guiding the research and development of a better integrated and connected healthcare open data powered city.

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## 4. Results and analysis

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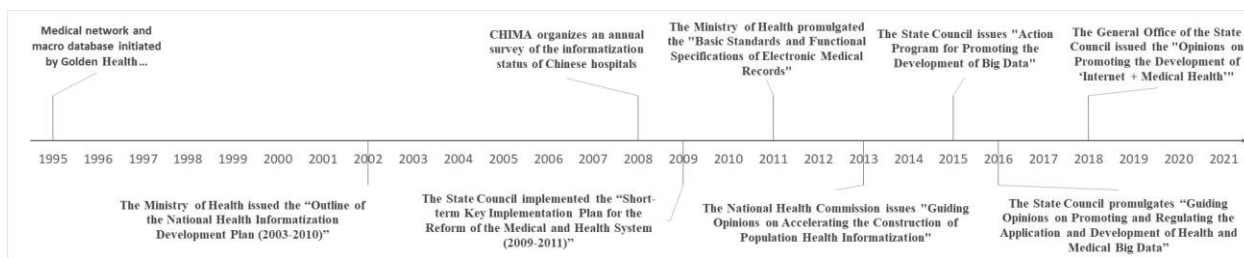
### 4.1 Latitudinal analysis

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Throughout the analysis of the selected literature, it is shown that the development of China’s open data healthcare is mainly driven by the issue of government guidance and regulations, most of

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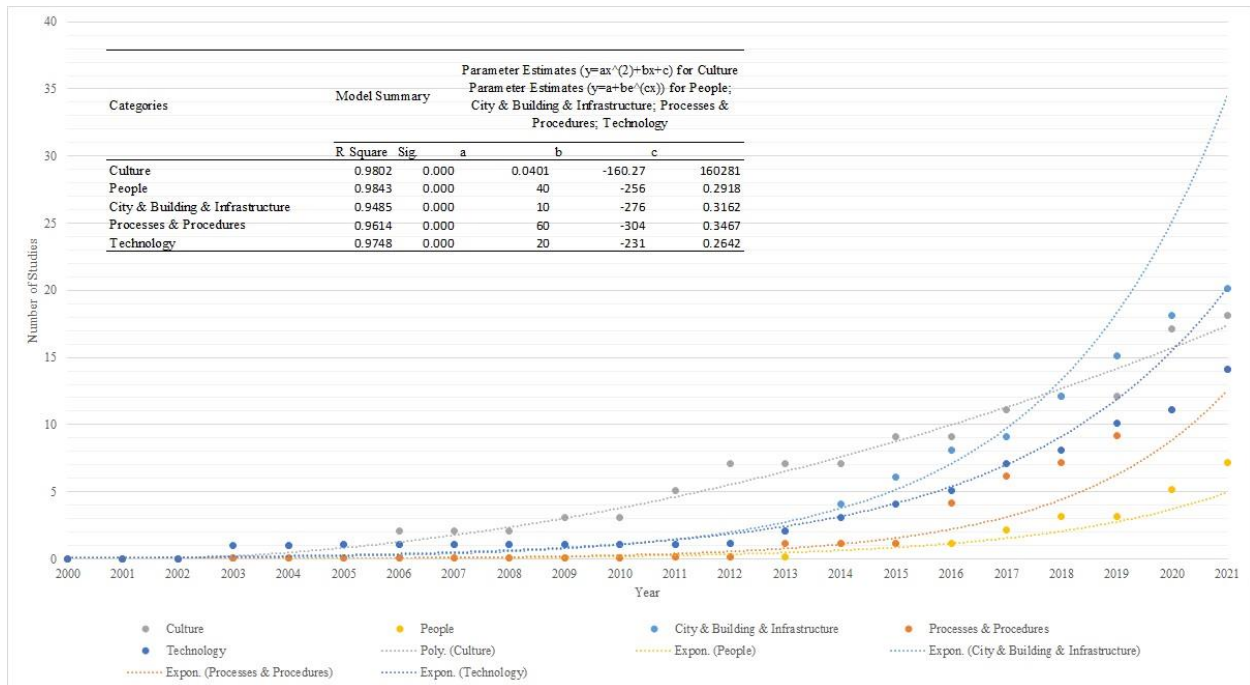
265 which have been published in 2008-2018 (Figure 3). It indicated that the development of healthcare  
266 open data had attracted attention in recent years.



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268 **Figure 3** The milestones of open data healthcare policies in China

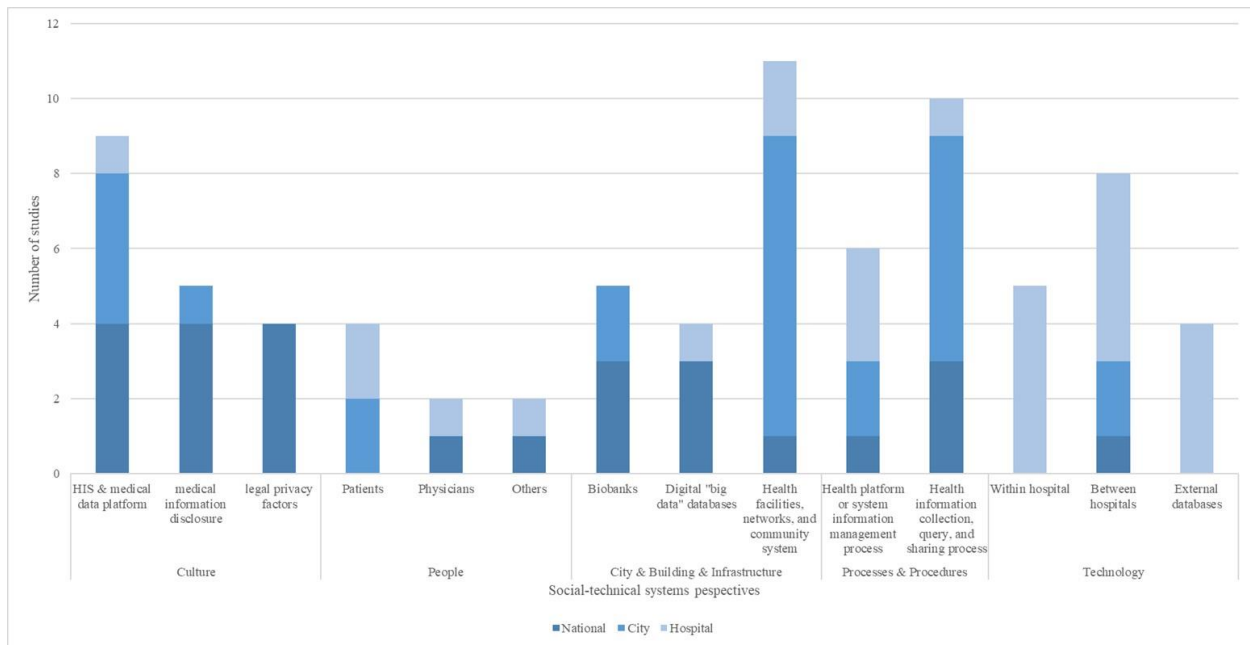
269 The result of latitudinal analysis (Figure 4) suggests in 2000-2010, the number of open data-related  
270 studies was very limited, and the research topics were mostly constrained to the culture (e.g.,  
271 organizational culture and government policy), healthcare information technology infrastructure  
272 (e.g., biobanks), and healthcare information technology (e.g., HIS). It was only until the recent  
273 decay studies gradually looked into the healthcare open data has grown sufficiently and covered  
274 more topics, including the healthcare-related stakeholders (e.g., patients, physicians, etc.) and the  
275 medical information management and sharing process (e.g., pharmacy information management  
276 process). Overall, out of five social-technical system model dimensions, the 'Culture' and 'City &  
277 Building & Infrastructure' dimensions are the most studied categories (Figure 5). While the  
278 number of existing studies for 'People' dimensions is limited. Potential explanations for this are  
279 the related research materials (e.g., biobank, medical "big data", and government policies) are rich  
280 in amount and regarded as the main stream of healthcare open data.



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**Figure 4** The tendency of China's Healthcare Open data studies in time series



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284

**Figure 5** The distribution of the selected studies in different dimensions

285 **4.2 Longitudinal analysis**

286 **4.2.1 Culture related to healthcare in China**

287 In the field of culture, as to say the policies and research related to open data and data sharing in  
 288 the context of healthcare in China, the main analysis can be divided into three parts: construction  
 289 of hospital information system (HIS) and healthcare big data platform; medical information

290 disclosure and communication by the government; and legal and regulatory privacy factors that  
291 applicable to medical information sharing (Table 2)

292 The need for an effective hospital information system was well recognised as the critical element  
293 for the feasibility of healthcare open data at a city level (Li et al., 2020). A series of rules and  
294 regulations have been implemented at the national level to promote the establishment and  
295 improvement of HIS in China. As early as 1995, the Golden Health Project clearly defined the  
296 goal of establishing the internal medical network and the domestic health macro database (liu &  
297 Huang, 2009). In the year 2002, the Ministry of Health issued the “Outline of the National Health  
298 Informatization Development Plan (2003-2010)”, emphasizing the importance of an integrated  
299 regional health information system (Luo & Ping, 2011; Zhu, 2011). In 2009, the State Council  
300 implemented the “Short-term Key Implementation Plan for the Reform of the Medical and Health  
301 System (2009-2011)”, requiring the gradual establishment of nationwide residents’ health files and  
302 a shared medical and health information system (Zhao, 2012). The “Guiding Opinions on  
303 Promoting and Regulating the Application and Development of Health and Medical Big Data”,  
304 promulgated by the State Council in 2016, emphasized the promotion of the sharing and openness  
305 of healthcare big data (Wu et al., 2020). In terms of research, many scholars indicated that HIS  
306 and big data improve the efficiency of the quality of medical service, along with the reduction of  
307 medical expenses, help to optimize the allocation of medical resources, and promote fairness and  
308 transparency of medical services (Chen et al., 2018; Li et al., 2019; Luo & Ping, 2011; Wan et al.,  
309 2012; Yin et al., 2020; Zhu, 2011). However, due to the insufficient construction and update of  
310 relevant data sets, the sharing and opening of high-value clinical data were still lagging (J. Zhang  
311 et al., 2020).

312 With the development of hospital informatization, especially after the spread of the SARS  
313 epidemic in 2003, medical information collection and disclosure were regarded as an important  
314 element in crisis management and medical service (Lv, 2018; Ma, 2015; Shangguan et al., 2020;  
315 Zhang et al., 2006). (Yu, 2006) pointed out that medical information asymmetry is the core cause  
316 of conflicts between doctors and patients, a serious social problem that urgently needs to be solved.  
317 This was further supported by (Ma, 2015), who argued that medical information disclosure holds  
318 a negative relationship with the hospital mortality rate, and better medical information disclosure  
319 can effectively eliminate the negative mortality rate by the health institutions. However, it was

320 worth noting that the foundation of medical and health information disclosure is government  
321 information disclosure (Lv, 2018). Unfortunately, China's current medical information opening  
322 was still rough and immature (Shangguan et al., 2020). In terms of healthcare research data sharing,  
323 platforms such as National Population Health Data Center (NPHDC) and CNGBdb-EBB (E-  
324 BioBank) promoted the scientific research and academic development of health and medical care  
325 in China. Nonetheless, most of the resources and databases were still low quality and hard to be  
326 successfully accessed (Liu & Dong, 2012).

327 Research on privacy frameworks in China has become popular these days under the circumstance  
328 of calling for healthcare data sharing and openness (Chen et al., 2015). Scholars have researched  
329 the patients' willingness to share healthcare data, considering privacy protection. Ma et al. (2019)  
330 used a sampling method to investigate whether Chinese patients would share their health and  
331 healthcare data anonymously. They found that patients are more willing to share data within the  
332 hospital and government departments than with other hospitals. Based on evolutionary game  
333 theory, Han et al. (2021) analysed the strategies of patients and hospitals in sharing healthcare data  
334 in the context of privacy protection. Some scholars in China tried using emerging technologies to  
335 build data sharing models to ensure the information security of healthcare data (Xue et al., 2017;  
336 Yu et al., 2019).

337 Overall, there were three major aspects of open data healthcare in the context of culture. These  
338 culture-related studies on medical and health data sharing and disclosure came from different  
339 aspects, from hospitals' internal sharing (Chen et al., 2018; Li et al., 2019; Luo & Ping, 2011; Wan  
340 et al., 2012; Yin et al., 2020; Zhu, 2011) to government medical information disclosure (Lv, 2018;  
341 Ma et al., 2015; Shangguan et al., 2020; Zhang et al., 2006) and discussion on patients' privacy  
342 (Chen et al., 2015; Han et al., 2021; S. Ma et al., 2019; Xue et al., 2017; Yu et al., 2019). In practice,  
343 despite the remarkable achievement of China's hospital informatization in the past 20 years, the  
344 quality of data openness and sharing still need to be improved in the areas like city-wide  
345 consideration of healthcare information, the medical and non-medical institution information  
346 communication, the realization of practice cases, and the consideration of the open healthcare data  
347 ownership.

348 **Table 2.** Development of culture for open data healthcare

Category	Level	Objectives	Pros	Cons	References
HIS & healthcare data platform	National	This paper analyses the typical principles of medical information sharing	This study reveals the important components in health and healthcare data sharing to guide Chinese application	This study lacks a detailed pattern for medical sharing	(Zhang et al., 2020)
		This paper summarises the research progress and highlights Chinese medical data sharing	This study analyses the research themes and application practice of healthcare data sharing in China and points out the lack of regional data sharing	This study does not consider the sharing of medical information in the city as a whole	(Yin et al., 2020)
		This paper analyses the content of hospital informatisation in China and discusses its development trend	This study comprehensively introduces the development process of Chinese hospital informatisation	This study lacks the elaboration on medical information sharing	(Liu & Huang, 2009)
		This paper introduces the sharing of medical and health information and relative technologies	This paper shows the development of electronic health records (EHR) and electronic health management (EHM) in China	This study focuses on different components of HIS and does not involve medical information sharing	(Yao, 2006)
	City	This paper concludes four modes for Chinese regional medical information development and analyses the influencing factors of regional medical information construction mode	This study uses quantitative methods and finds that the construction of regional shared medical information platforms is in line with China's development status	This paper is constrained to healthcare information sharing between hospitals, ignoring the data sharing between hospitals and non-medical institutions	(Wan et al., 2012)
		This paper introduces the development status of regional health information	This study illustrates the concept and practice of health informatisation at the city level	This study ignores the data sharing between hospitals and non-medical institutions	(Luo & Ping, 2011)
		This paper introduces the technologies for regional health care big data platform	This study explores the establishment of regional medical big data platforms and data sharing from the perspective of computer and information technology	This study contains no in-depth analysis of the medical information sharing mode in China	(Wu et al., 2020)
		This paper takes Shanghai's regional medical informatisation construction as an example, analysing the related achievements and problems	This study introduces the establishment of the regional healthcare data platform in detail	This study's discussion on health information sharing is not enough; ignoring the data sharing between hospitals and non-medical institutions	(Zhu, 2011)
	Hospital	This paper analyses the current issues in the establishment and management of residents' health records in China	This study takes a Chinese hospital as an example and summarises the achievements of regional medical informatisation from the perspective of health record management	This study selects only one case, which is not enough to summarise the current situation of China's regional medical development	(Zhao, 2012)



Medical information disclosure	National	This paper discussed the connotation of medical and health information disclosure policy based on the analysis of the research background of it	This study defines the study framework of medical and health information disclosure policy	This study only considers the medical information disclosure from the perspective of policy, lack of practical cases	(Lv, 2018)
		This paper analyses the reason for the outbreak of COVID-19 in China from the perspective of crisis management	This study considers the relationship between medical information disclosure and crisis management	The study only focuses on the government control over information, ignoring other forms of medical information sharing	(Shangguan et al., 2020)
		This paper makes some countermeasures and suggestions to the medical information opening	This study points out that the asymmetry and non-disclosure of medical information are the core of the contradiction between doctors and patients.	This study has insufficient research on medical information disclosure and sharing channels	(Yu, 2006)
		This paper analyses the research theme and hot trends in medical and health information disclosure	This study conducts a systematic literature review on Chinese research focused on medical information disclosure	This study lacks content on current practice in medical and health information disclosure	(Lv, 2017)
	City	This paper analyses the relationship between the information disclosure and the service quality of health institutions	This study uses the method of quantitative analysis and takes Beijing as an example to study the effect of hospital information disclosure in China	This study only considers the information disclosure on the website of medical institutions, ignoring other forms of information sharing	(Ma, 2015)
Legal privacy factors	National	This paper studies the willingness of patients and medical service providers to participate in medical data sharing from the perspective of privacy protection	This study builds a dynamic equation based on evolutionary games and solves stable evolutionary strategies under various conditions	This study fails to consider the influence of government management departments, platform service providers and other stakeholders on the willingness to participate in the process of healthcare data sharing	(Han et al., 2021)
		This paper studies the protection and disclosure of patients' personal medical information from the perspective of law study	This study discusses in detail the factors involved in personal privacy in the disclosure of medical information	This paper only analyses the legal issues and does not establish a complete medical information disclosure system	(Yang, 2017)
		This paper analyses the privacy and security risk factors in medical data under the background of big data	This study considers healthcare data sharing in the context of big data and cloud services	This study only considers the privacy issues of medical big data from the questionnaire survey data and does not provide in-depth solutions.	(Lv & Qiao, 2020)
		This paper studies the privacy and biobanking in China in the context of policy in transition	This study investigates and integrates legal issues related to the sharing of medical big data, especially on biobanks	This study lacks connection with real practice cases	(Chen et al., 2015)

350 *4.2.2 People perspective towards healthcare open data*

351 Along with healthcare personnel and patients, who are the main factors within the healthcare open  
352 data framework, researchers and policymakers are also important to benefit from medical and  
353 healthcare data sharing and openness. Hence, in the context of people related to healthcare open  
354 data, three categories are classified for further research: patients, physicians, and others (Table 3).

355 Patients are the people who are most closely associated with the openness of healthcare data. On  
356 the one hand, accurate, complete, comparable and timely data were crucial for disease treatment  
357 and surveillance of patients (Tian et al., 2020); on the other hand, the unsound legal system of  
358 security privacy protection in China laid a huge risk of healthcare data abuse, which concerns the  
359 patients and their relatives. Furthermore, patients can benefit from improved hospital logistics with  
360 the integration of medical and non-medical information in the hospital (Xie et al., 2022).

361 Another important component of people related to healthcare open data is physicians in hospitals  
362 and medical institutions. Through the aggregation and real-time analysis of healthcare data from  
363 Hospital Information System (HIS), such as Picture Archiving and Communications System  
364 (PACS) and Laboratory Information System (LIS), physicians and doctors can adjust their  
365 treatment plans in time to make evidence-based and personalized treating decisions (Y. Liu et al.,  
366 2018; Yao et al., 2014). What is more, healthcare data sharing from different institutions promoted  
367 interoperability in diagnosing, enabling doctors to identify patients with similar diagnose and  
368 symptoms and to determine treatment plans in cooperation (Hasan et al., 2021). By recognizing  
369 patient population forecasts, doctor scheduling, and hospital structure from daily healthcare-  
370 related data, hospital personnel scheduling could be settled to meet the patients' needs (Feng et al.,  
371 2021).

372 Besides, healthcare open data benefits researchers and policymakers in an unprecedented way.  
373 Healthcare open data like hospital information disclosure facilitated transparent government  
374 transformation and improved government credibility (Lee, 2020). In terms of reasonable policy,  
375 available data for scientific research plays an essential role. Healthcare open data creates the  
376 opportunity for the researcher to have data-driven insights and data-based analysis to penetrate the  
377 policy process more deeply than ever before.

378 To sum up, in terms of people related to medical and healthcare open data, patients, medical  
379 personnel, researchers, and policymakers were the main beneficiaries. There were various benefits

380 for different groups of these open data “stakeholders”. For instance, patients benefitted from better  
381 disease treatment and surveillance (Tian et al., 2020) and better integration of medical and non-  
382 medical information (Xie et al., 2022); medical practitioners were leveraged from more evidence-  
383 based and flexible treatment plans and decision-making (Liu et al., 2018; Yao et al., 2014), as well  
384 as, interoperability and cooperation in disease diagnosis (Hasan et al., 2021) and shift scheduling  
385 (Feng et al., 2021); while, government benefitted from improved creditability and transparency  
386 (Lee, 2020). However, it is also worth noting that there were still many areas of improvement from  
387 the perspective of people. They include patient-physician communication’s efficiency and legal  
388 protection, the channels of medical information sharing, and the lack of healthcare policy  
389 supporting information.

390 **Table 3.** Development of people perspective for open data healthcare

Category	Level	Objectives	Pros	Cons	References
Patients	City	This paper connects insurance-system-based claims data in two regions with cancer incidence rates	This study establishes a medical-insurance-system-based cancer surveillance system in China and evaluates its completeness and timeliness	This study fails to discuss the perspective of medical information sharing	(Tian et al., 2020)
		This paper discusses the situations of sharing and application of medical big data	This study mentions and discusses the online health communication for patients and physicians	This study lacks a detailed classification of healthcare data sharing discussion on the benefits to patients	(Liu et al., 2018)
	Hospital	This paper investigates the methods for improving the credibility and interestingness of social media healthcare information	This study takes WeChat public account as a medical information sharing platform and explores the effect on patients	This study is limited to one specific social media, WeChat and no detailed discussion on further medical information sharing	(Fan et al., 2017)
		This paper facilitates the integration of patient-related information with the conventional FM processes	This study demonstrates the potential improvement in hospital logistics and pharmaceutical services due to the integration of medical and non-medical information in the hospital	This study's information integration and sharing between patient-related information and conventional FM processes only stay at the pilot stage	(Xie et al., 2022)
Physicians	National	This paper takes the cloud-based hospital information system as a service for grassroots healthcare institutions	This study analyses the utilisation of different parts of HIS for physicians in the treatment	This study lacks a more detailed discussion of different clients' needs of the HIS	(Yao et al., 2014)
	Hospital	This paper optimises the hospital personnel scheduling through patient prediction based on big data	This study investigates the model for optimising the allocation of various hospital resources using big data, especially on physicians' personnel scheduling	This study is based only on a project level, which lacks a discussion on the city-level	(Feng et al., 2021)
Others	National	This paper investigates the big data strategies for government, society and policy-making	This study emphasises the importance of data for policymakers and governments	This study does not focus on the field of medical and health data sharing	(Lee, 2020)
	Hospital	This paper explores the application of blockchain in medical data sharing	This paper mentions the healthcare data sharing for policymakers and physicians	This study mainly focuses on technology, with only a brief discussion of healthcare stakeholders in the context of healthcare data sharing	(Hasan et al., 2021)

391

392 *4.2.3 infrastructure supported open data healthcare*

393 The "open data" healthcare's city, buildings, and infrastructure dimension in the context of the  
394 social-technical system is about examining the physical and digital format of city, building, or  
395 even national-wide system infrastructure that supports the "open data" related healthcare projects.  
396 The main analysis targets for infrastructure supports can be broadly classified into the following  
397 categories given the found literature: biobanks; digital "big data" databases; health facilities,  
398 networks, and community systems (Table 4).

399 Unlike other industries, one of the major sources of "big data" that can be opened - the biobank -  
400 is established and operated by hospitals and research institutes. As early as 1992, the Chinese  
401 Marrow Donor Program (CMDP) set up its first population-based blood biobank that contains  
402 about 1,650,000 specimens (Cheng et al., 2013). Then, in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, many different  
403 hospitals set up their disease-oriented biobanks to collect different specimen types, including tissue,  
404 RNA, DNA, cell, blood, and plasma (Li et al., 2004; Yang et al., 2012). Unfortunately, no unified  
405 network infrastructure was applied across the country, and the specimen information could not be  
406 communicated and shared among different biobanks efficiently (Cheng et al., 2013). It was also  
407 recognized that the lack of an official unified-standard implementation method and procedure was  
408 the major obstacle to specimen information sharing, including clinical information, specimen  
409 information, and other derived data (Y. Zhang et al., 2015). In order to integrate the existing  
410 separated biobanks to establish a virtual biobank, an intra-hospital virtual cancer bank network has  
411 been proposed to share the information of bio-samples stored in individual banks using a single  
412 hospital pilot study (L. Zhang et al., 2015). More recently, some regional cooperated biobank like  
413 the China Health Big Data was built to utilize and store the Low-Dose Chest Computed  
414 Tomography (LDCT) from lung cancer screening to improve the Quantitative Computed  
415 Tomography (QCT) (Wu et al., 2019). This project gathered 16 clinical centres to use the HIS for  
416 data export and sharing.

417 Besides biobanks that store biological samples and data, digital databases service is another major  
418 data source for "open data". Recently, an increasing amount of genome and "big data" databases  
419 were established across the entire country. For example, some researchers used the genome  
420 sequence data that the 1000 Genomes Project Consortium published to build the population-based  
421 virtual Chinese Genome Database (VCCGDB) (Ling et al., 2014). In the year 2018, to meet the  
422 demand of development of biomedical and improve the big data management and sharing, the

423 Beijing Institute of Genomics (BIG) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences founded the BIG Data  
424 Center (BIGD) in the year 2016 to provide genetic information sharing database that contains a  
425 variety of different resources including the GWH (Genome Warehouse), GSA (Genome Sequence  
426 Archive), GEN (Gene Expression Nebulas), GVM (Genome Variation Map), MethBank  
427 (Methylation Bank), Science Wikis, and BioCode (Zhang et al., 2018). Other researchers used the  
428 more disease-specific data sharing database platform to control, monitor and analyze mumps  
429 (Jiang et al., 2019). In the path of "open data", the research team of this project went even one step  
430 further to publish the construction code of PIC on GitHub for public utilization and visualization.  
431 There were also tidied up and publicly available data like China Physiological Signal Challenge  
432 (CPSC) 2018 and 2019 database that offered the ECG data collected from different hospitals and  
433 devices (e.g. wearable ECGs), which can be further used for ML-based feature engineering and  
434 prediction (Gao et al., 2020). Furthermore, 2019's COVID pandemic also raised the need for an  
435 openly accessible coronavirus database for research.

436 Other than the biobanks and databases, other important infrastructure facilities and networks play  
437 an important role in promoting healthcare "Open Data". The 'scattered' patient clinical information  
438 and the "data islands" problem were some of the major challenges medical institutions faced.  
439 Researchers proposed an encrypted XML based cloud platform to facilitate the information  
440 exchange through the web service with the protection of data privacy (Wu & Wang, 2014). To  
441 further boost the effectiveness of some existing IT-based community care systems for countering  
442 diabetes, some researchers further embedded cloud technology and integrated multi-source data to  
443 enable the timely monitoring of patients' health can exchanging the patients' information (Yang &  
444 Cao, 2017). Some researchers looked into the data sharing and connection barriers between EMR  
445 and the web-based Public Health Information Systems (PHIS) for some regional health  
446 information platforms in China to guide public health decision-making and support public health  
447 surveillance (Su & Zhao, 2016). One of the major technical challenges that stopped the data  
448 sharing between EMR and the PHIS is that there was no standardized data translation and exchange  
449 messaging format like Health Level 7 (HL7) existed in China. Also relying on the cloud-based  
450 computing and service collaboration model and big data technology, the Big Data Medical Service  
451 Platform (BDMSP) was proposed to provide the technical solutions and knowledge sharing  
452 capability for the regional medical informatization in China (G. Song et al., 2019). Besides the  
453 cloud-based and blockchain protected platforms (Wang et al., 2019b; Al Omar et al., 2019), some

454 regional healthcare infrastructures provide health system, population health, and patient medical  
455 information integration for the rural area (Wang et al., 2016), the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao  
456 Greater Bay Area (Q. Zhang et al., 2020), the smart city (B. Xu et al., 2018), and multicentre  
457 projects (Li et al., 2021a).

458 To summarize, there were three main exploration areas of the healthcare open data for the  
459 infrastructure context. The first group of research investigated the current development progress  
460 and characteristics of China's biobank over healthcare information management and  
461 communication (Cheng et al., 2013; Li et al., 2004; Wu et al., 2019; Yang et al., 2012; Zhang et  
462 al., 2015). The second group of articles looked at the digital "big data" databases, where the  
463 spectrum of the articles covers the Genome databases (Ling et al., 2014; Xu et al., 2018b; Zhang  
464 et al., 2018), disease-specific database (Jiang et al., 2019), and technology-specific database (Gao  
465 et al., 2020). The last research group comes to the health systems, facilities, networks and  
466 communities. Articles covered cloud-based community care systems and platforms (Wu & Wang,  
467 2014; Song et al., 2019a; Su & Zhao, 2016; Yang & Cao, 2017), multi-department, regional or  
468 citywide health infrastructure (Cai et al., 2020; Li et al., 2021; Wang et al., 2016; Xu et al., 2018a;  
469 Zhang et al., 2020b; Wang et al., 2019b; Al Omar et al., 2019). Unfortunately, some limitations  
470 restricted a wider sharing of medical information from the healthcare infrastructure's perspective:  
471 the scattered storage of genome and patients' clinical information, the lack of unified network  
472 infrastructure applied across the country, and the lack of China's standardised data translation and  
473 exchange messaging format.

474 **Table 4.** Development of infrastructure for open data healthcare

Category	Level	Objectives	Pros	Cons	References
Biobanks	National	This paper summarises Chinese biobanks thorough investigation and survey of operative, managerial, ethical conditions and challenges of biobanks	This study suggests that more than 20 different types of biobanks exist in China that can potentially be used as the data source for healthcare open data	This study does not provide a unified network to be applied to all the biobanks across China, which stops the sharing of specimen information	(Cheng et al., 2013)
		This paper provides a detailed overview of China’s biobanking in (i) characteristics of the current biobank; (ii) development status; (iii) international cooperation; (iv) new prospects for Chinese biobanks	This study identifies the necessity to properly integrate specimens and related comprehensive information and establish sharing platform among biobanks for rational and efficient application of valuable biomedical information	This study lacks sufficient discussion on biobanks’ data independence, integration, and communication	(Zhang et al., 2015b)
		This paper introduces a new project, the China Health Big Data, which combines low-dose chest computed tomography (LDCT) scan images and quantitative computed tomography (QCT)	This study showcases the possibility of a nationwide biobank for a large number (16) of HIS’s information sharing.	This study is constrained only to the information on the lung cancer LDCT.	(Wu et al., 2019)
	City	This paper explores the conditions of the establishment of the Wuxi city tumour bank applied for molecular biological research	This study recognises the fact that the establishment of a tumour bank is helpful in sharing tumour information resources effectively	This study is constrained to a citywide tumour information resources sharing with have not covered too much information over inter-biobank medical information communication	(Li et al., 2004)
		This paper introduces the details of the establishment of a centralised biobank facility in a common storage environment	The study indicates a growing interest in integrating biomaterial repositories into larger infrastructures to meet research demands	This study’s contribution is limited to the challenges of identifying and balancing different stakeholders’ interests	(Zhang et al., 2015a)
	Digital “big data” databases	National	This paper uses sequencing data published by the 1000 Genomes Project Consortium to construct the Virtual Chinese Genome Database (VCGDB)	The VCGDB developed by this study provides an interactive, user-friendly virtual Chinese genome browser (VCGBrowser) with seamless zooming and a real-time searching function for genome data sharing	This study’s Chinese genome data (VCGDB) is still insufficient when considering the data required to illustrate the human genome’s complexities fully.
This paper introduces the National Genomics Data Center (NGDC),			This study indicates the effort to make the NGDC database publicly accessible	The study requires the improvement of the website accessibility,	(Xu et al., 2018b)



		developed by the Chinese Academy of Science	by creating a user-friendly web access portal	especially for downloading of international researchers	
		This paper investigates the epidemiological characteristics of mumps in mainland China from 2004 to 2018 to provide data and analysis for the key population to prevent and control mumps	The study shows how the mump-related healthcare data obtained from the National Population and Health Science Data Sharing Service Platform can be used for the analysis of the patterns and trends for mumps prevention and control	This study's data analysis has not applied advanced statistical analytic techniques in the data analysis, which limits the applicability and effectiveness of the suggestions made	(Jiang et al., 2019)
	Hospital	This paper tidies up and publishes the six opened-accessed standard electrocardiograms (ECG) databases to provide help for feature detection and disease diagnosis algorithms	The study shows the details and processes of making generalised and robust ECG databases that can increase the number of available 'opened' ECG databases	This study's ECG-related databases still need to be further improved with their size and diversity	(Gao et al., 2020)
	National	This paper discusses the current status and problems of public health information systems (PHIS) in China and shares lessons from a pilot project on automatic notifiable infectious disease reporting	The study has re-emphasised the five priority areas that need to be considered to achieve interoperability in health care applications: patient identifiers, semantic interoperability, data interchange standards, core data set and data quality	This study provides no technical support for data translation and exchange in HL7 messaging format in China.	(Su & Zhao, 2016)
		This paper presents a novel cloud platform for clinical information exchange between medical institutions based on web services	The study's web-based data exchange cloud platform uses the encrypted and compressed extensible markup language (XML) to ensure clinical information communication's interoperability and privacy	The study only suggests that the clinical information for the patient is still scattered, fragmented and isolated in different medical institutions	(Wu & Wang, 2014)
Health facilities, networks, and community system	City	This paper learns the lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and focuses on epidemiological information-sharing strategies for medical institutions in megacities like Shanghai	This study suggests that the government should guide and support the sharing of epidemiological data among medical institutions	This study only suggests that during the patient's visit to the hospital during the pandemic period, the pre-examination staff cannot confirm the personal information provided by the patients	(Cai et al., 2020)
		This paper proposes a multicenter hybrid semi-supervised transfer learning model (MHSTL) based on a unified common data model to ensure multicenter data standardised representation	This study proves the possibility of solving the challenges of limited clinical data and the lack of labels by applying transfer learning to leverage large-scale patient data from multiple hospitals	This study only briefly points out the health infrastructure like the multicentre collaborative research network to share hospital-specific data	(Li et al., 2021)
		This paper analyses health system integration and develops	The study shows the patient's medical information can be communicated	This study only uses a case study to indicate that the county hospitals in	(Wang et al., 2016)

	recommendations for achieving integration	efficiently from upper-level institutions and institutions at the county level	rural China do not share e-health records with other institutions	
	This paper proposes a healthcare data analysis system for a regional medical union to support doctors from different hospitals in assessing patients' health conditions	The study suggests a redesigned clinical process can improve collaboration among general hospitals and community medical centres	This study only suggests some challenges found when patients are referred to different hospitals in the regional medical unions during treatment processes	(Xu et al., 2018a)
	This paper introduces the basic situation and information construction process of five hospital medical institutions	The study suggests that comprehensive interconnection and information sharing can improve healthcare services and innovate medical technology	The study only suggests that the interconnection of the hospital systems is still the biggest problem in developing China's health informatisation.	(Zhang et al., 2020b)
	This paper proposes a blockchain based secure and privacy-preserving electronic health records (EHR) sharing protocol	This study allows the data requester to search the relevant EHR information on the EHR blockchain with encryption ciphertext using the Ethereum platform	This study limits its data sharing limited to the text and numerical based EHR information without taking into account the sharing of graphical information (e.g., X-Ray)	(Wang et al., 2019b)
	This paper presents a patient-centric healthcare data management system with the blockchain storage technology	This study uses cryptographic functions to encrypt patient's data that ensure the pseudonymity	This study does not encounter the interoperability issue between different entities (e.g., diagnostic centre, hospital, doctors, patients) in the healthcare process	(Al Omar et al., 2019)
	This paper proposes a medical information sharing system to promote medical informatisation development for China's regional medical informatisation	The study suggests it is possible to develop a service pattern that realises the reasonable distribution and sharing of medical resources in a patient-oriented manner	This study has not provided a practical case to prove the designed platform's applicability and validity.	(Song et al., 2019a)
Hospital	This paper designs a cloud-based national diabetes community care system that consists of the cloud deployment, the architecture, and the applications model	The study proves that a planned community diabetic care system can be created through sharing information, knowledge, and techniques within a healthcare team	This study only suggests that China's community care services for diabetes mellitus (DM) are still at an early stage, and some existing IT-based community care systems for diabetes are not cost-effective due to the issue of data islands	(Yang & Cao, 2017)

#### 476 4.2.4 Processes of public hospitals in China

477 The processes and procedures dimension of the socio-technical systems' analysis in the "open data"  
478 city healthcare context mainly investigates the current applications and research for China's  
479 detailed data related to healthcare information preparation, communication, and storage processes.  
480 The priority of this section is to identify the current situation, challenges, and demands for  
481 healthcare data information management processes. Therefore, two categories are identified for  
482 processes of public hospitals, given the found literature: healthcare service information  
483 management process, healthcare information collection and query and sharing processes (Table 5).

484 One of the wildly discussed topics in the platform or system related healthcare service information  
485 management process is tackling low-quality public health services. First, as the unevenly  
486 distributed medical resources in China, where resources were concentrated in mega cities'  
487 hospitals, there was a general lack of information-sharing platforms and regulations for many small  
488 or middle-sized hospitals. Some researchers made some attempts to explore the possibility of  
489 combining various latest technologies (e.g., mobile internet technology, cloud computing, IoT.) to  
490 create a cloud-based integrated service platform (Zeng & Wu, 2019). Besides the overspent of  
491 medical resources over large cities' first-tier hospitals, the shortage of medical personnel was  
492 another tough challenge many hospitals face. By integrating the data from some open data sources,  
493 some researchers come up with a mixed-integer linear programming (MILP) based optimization  
494 system to address the personnel scheduling procedure in the hospital to improve the treatment  
495 capabilities (Feng et al., 2021). In comparison, some researchers were more focused on tackling  
496 the problem of potential drug safety problems embedded in the drug distribution system and  
497 issuing processes due to the drug knowledge-sharing mechanism (Li et al., 2016). Similarly, some  
498 researchers looked into solutions for prescription errors due to doctors' career experiences (Bao &  
499 Jiang, 2016). By applying the big data-based data mining and recommender technologies utilizing  
500 the diagnosis history records, an error-prone way of prescribing medication for the future was  
501 designed (Bao & Jiang, 2016). The second group of fiercely discussed topics is about optimizing  
502 the supply chain management processes inside the hospital. With the help of the classification and  
503 regression tree (CRT) forecasting model, the inventory data was used to help provide a more  
504 consistent prediction for market demand based on previous transaction data (Xu & Tan, 2016).  
505 Also, scholars suggested that sharing and finding external data outside the healthcare institution is  
506 challenging (Li et al., 2020) and will cause service and cost implications to hospital supply chain

507 management (Xu & Tan, 2016). It was also suggested that the lack of a drug knowledge sharing  
508 mechanism and portal (Li et al., 2016) is not the only challenge faced by Chinese health workers.  
509 Due to the complexity and uncertainty of many diseases, China's drug procurement planning  
510 process has been traditionally bothered by drug overstocking or understocking. Countering that, a  
511 big data empowered deep learning (DL) network was used to optimize the drug procurement  
512 planning process (Q. Song et al., 2019). This research also used open city data like weather and  
513 temperature data and historical morbidities records to optimize drug procurement planning  
514 processes.

515 Through the review of the procedure and process -related healthcare "open data" articles, it is  
516 suggested that another group of articles have spent more paragraphs to emphasize the details of  
517 health information collection, query, and sharing procedures. Some scholars developed a multi-  
518 tiered electrocardiogram (ECG) network system to facilitate clinical data sharing and improve  
519 medical information resource integration (Gong et al., 2020). Other scholars tried to solve China's  
520 "difficulties and high expense in medical care" problem by effectively using medical resources  
521 through information sharing. Some researchers investigate the interactive behaviour between  
522 hospitals during the information sharing process based on China's recent constructed medical  
523 consortium (Zhang et al., 2017). Research suggested encouraging hospitals' information sharing  
524 process, reducing risk-sharing costs, and increasing information using capability are the keys for  
525 improving the information sharing processes (Zhang et al., 2017). Furthermore, the uneven  
526 distribution of the medical resource occurred not only among the different hospitals in a single city  
527 but also among the country's different regions. A Medical-Insurance-System-based Cancer  
528 Surveillance System (MIS-CASS) was built accordingly to generate and share cancer-related  
529 medical information to address the lack of cancer registries and lengthy cancer statistics collecting  
530 time (Tian et al., 2020). In the meantime, a series of rigorous procedures (e.g., data extraction,  
531 cleaning, processing, privacy protection, case ascertainment, etc.) were established to ensure the  
532 normal function of the whole system (Tian et al., 2020). Although more and more evidence  
533 suggests there is an unavoidable trend of "open data", unfortunately, the data sharing process in  
534 China was still not uniform with low data utilization and risk of health information security breach  
535 (Y. Liu et al., 2018). Countering that, some researchers discussed the potential causes of challenges  
536 faced by medical information sharing in China and proposed a regional data sharing strategy (Y.  
537 Liu et al., 2018). Except for the problem of inaccessible medical care, some research also focused

538 on the caring process of chronic disease. Chronic disease care is a long-term, complex process that  
539 requires the collaboration and coordination of different clinical professionals. A data mining  
540 approach was used to mine the temporal information dependency for type 2 diabetes patients data  
541 from three hospitals to understand the caring process's information flow (Sun et al., 2013). It was  
542 suggested that the discovered information dependency is vital for guiding the "open data" process  
543 and optimizing the governance of chronic disease care (Sun et al., 2013). Recently, some  
544 researchers turned their attention to the COVID epidemic. It was suggested that the information  
545 leakage and asymmetry of public health emergencies had been argued to distort and alienate the  
546 social governance during the COVID pandemic (Wu & Shan, 2021). It was, therefore,  
547 recommended by some scholars that artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) can be  
548 used to enhance traceability and prediction, medical diagnosis and vaccine research with the help  
549 of some "big data" (Wu & Shan, 2021). It was also proposed that standardized data collection,  
550 sharing, and protection procedures are important in tackling the problem of lacking the proper  
551 summary and reflection on the emergency response experience (Wu & Shan, 2021) and the  
552 payment mechanisms for the eldercare facilities (Dai et al., 2021). Except for information leakage,  
553 the COVID pandemic also raised various challenges regarding epidemic prevention and control.  
554 Through exploring the multiple case studies, it was recognized that some latest technology like  
555 blockchain is useful not only for the prevention of patient medical information breaches but also  
556 the healthcare data sharing, real-time monitoring, identification of non-credible suppliers, and  
557 beguiling insurance claims (Hasan et al., 2021). The COVID pandemic locked people inside their  
558 shelters. Social media, as a result, played an important role as many citizens' primary information  
559 sharing and obtaining platform. Even before the pandemic, there was research focusing on  
560 analysing the information sources and authors' authority, as well as the information's length and  
561 format's influence during the "open data" processes (Fan et al., 2017).

562 In summary, there were two main focuses for the healthcare open data process aspects. These  
563 articles for healthcare open data process can be separated into two groups; one is platform or  
564 system related, and the other one is data collection, query, and sharing related. For the first group,  
565 the low-quality public health services caused by the uneven distribution of medical resources was  
566 the primary motivation for some research (Feng et al., 2021; Zeng & Wu, 2019). The second  
567 motivation for optimizing healthcare open data was to amend the problems or enhance the  
568 efficiency of the existing medical information management process (Bao & Jiang, 2016; Feng et

569 al., 2021; Li et al., 2016; Song et al., 2019b; Xu & Tan, 2016; Li et al., 2020). For the second  
570 group, some studies attempted to integrate the medical resource to ensure that the medical services  
571 and data are more accessible (Gong et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2018; Tian et al., 2020; Zhang et al.,  
572 2017), while other were designed for helping the epidemics (i.e., COVID) governance and  
573 information sharing (Fan et al., 2017; Hasan et al., 2021; Wu & Shan, 2021; Dai et al., 2021) and  
574 chronic disease care (Sun et al., 2013). Unfortunately, there are still some areas waiting to be  
575 improved from the process's perspective, including the unequally distributed medical resources  
576 between different ranked hospitals, the medical information leakage and low utilization, and the  
577 lack of proper control and environment for the management of medical data quality, preservation,  
578 and integration.

579 **Table 5.** Development of processes & procedures for open data healthcare

Category	Level	Objectives	Pros	Cons	References
Health information collection, query, and sharing process	National	This paper proposes a preliminary ingredient drug analysis system that collects all drug names from the website of the China Food and Drug Administration	The study shows the possibility of tackling the drug prescription safety problem within the drug distribution system and issuing processes through a drug knowledge-sharing platform	This study only points out the problem of the existing drug distribution system and issuing processes for traditional Chinese herbal medicine suffer from the ingredients overtaking	(Li et al., 2016)
		This paper documents a framework for answering how some of the major challenges associated with COVID-19 can be alleviated by leveraging blockchain technology	The study suggests that blockchain technology is useful for preventing breaching patient medical information and healthcare data sharing, real-time monitoring, and identification of non-credible suppliers	This study only presents facts about the COVID pandemic and raises various challenges regarding the epidemic prevention and control related to medical information like information leakage	(Hasan et al., 2021)
		This paper studies the application of artificial intelligence to social governance capabilities under public health emergencies	The study proves that artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), with the help of medical big data, can enhance traceability and prediction, medical diagnosis and vaccine research	The study only suggests that the information leakage and asymmetry of the public health emergencies are currently distorting and alienating the social governance during the COVID pandemic	(Wu & Shan, 2021)
		This paper investigates the relationships between the characteristics of eldercare facilities and the payment mechanism	This study assists the informed decision-making on the PPP payment mechanisms of the elderly healthcare facilities using shared information from the Ministry of Finance database	This study limits its payment mechanism to viability gap funding (VGF) which is limited to three payment types	(Dai et al., 2021)
	City	This paper establishes an optimisation system with a two-layer mixed-integer linear programming for the hospital personnel scheduling	The study proves the data from the open-source platform can be utilised to analyse the scheduling issue of the healthcare management process	The study briefly suggests that research is still limited to using big or open healthcare data to forecast the future patient population, doctor scheduling and hospital structure	(Feng et al., 2021)
		This research made some attempts to explore the possibility of combining various latest technologies to create a cloud-based integrated service platform	The study suggests that the integrated service platform can be used as a quantitative management platform for government to manage grassroots health effectively	The paper briefly suggests that there is a general lack of information-sharing platforms and regulations for many small or middle-sized hospitals	(Zeng & Wu, 2019)
		This paper develops a multi-tiered electrocardiogram (ECG) network system to solve traditional ECG monitoring problems	The study suggests that a multi-tiered ECG network system can be built to facilitate clinical data sharing and	This study lacks proposing methods for improving effective intersectoral coordination and cooperation for the primary healthcare services' quality	(Gong et al., 2020)

	improvement in medical resource integration efficiency		
	This paper analyses the concept of big data and regional medical information sharing and attempts to promote medical information sharing in China	The study develops the strategy for regional medical information data sharing in the big data era from different aspects	The study only briefly points out that China's current data sharing process is still not uniform with low data utilisation, risk of health information security, and unsatisfied data quality management and integration (Liu et al., 2018)
	This paper develops a medical-insurance-system-based cancer surveillance system (MIS-CASS) to determine cancer diagnosis	The study proves the applicability of using MIS-CASS to generate and share cancer-related medical information to amend the lack of cancer registries and length of cancer statistics collection time	This study only briefly suggests the fact that the uneven medical resource distribution occurs not only among the single city's hospitals but also between the country's regions (Tian et al., 2020)
	This paper studies the problem of medical information sharing based on the medical consortium constructed by the Chinese government	The study suggests encouraging hospitals' information sharing behaviour, reducing risk sharing costs, and increasing information using capability are keys to improving the information-sharing processes	This study only points out that hospital information sharing can cost a lot due to a non-universal and imperfect medical environment without providing a practical solution to the problem (Zhang et al., 2017)
	This paper focuses on the influence of the authority of information sources and authors as well as the format and length of information	The study shows that the information format and authority subscriptions are both important and have a huge impact on the shared information's attractiveness and credibility	This study only briefly suggested that the existing research for analysing open data or medical information sharing on the social media platform is still limited (Fan et al., 2017)
	This paper proposes an approach to main temporal information dependency in outpatient encounter records	The study suggests that the discovered information dependency is vital for guiding the "open data" process and optimising the governance of chronic disease care	This study suggests that fact that physicians suffer from information overload and have to spend lots of time seeking relevant information in their daily practice (Sun et al., 2013)
Hospital	This paper designs and implements a universal medicine recommender system framework to the recommendation system to reduce prescription errors	The study suggests it is possible to use an open dataset with data mining and recommender technologies to explore potential knowledge from the records of diagnosis history	This study only focuses on the data cleaning process and the algorithms used for building recommender technology (Bao & Jiang, 2016)
	This paper proposes a big data-driven approach to predicting the morbidities of acute gastrointestinal infections	The study shows the potential benefit of open city data like weather and temperature data and historical morbidity records to optimise the healthcare management process	This study only points out China's traditional drug procurement planning process's drug overstocking or understocking issues due to inadequate medical information (Song et al., 2019b)



This paper demonstrates a case study on classification and regression tree (CRT) forecasting model of inventory data to predict the market demand	This study suggests that inventory data can be used to help provide a more consistent prediction for market demand based on previous transaction data	This study only suggests China's current experience-based supply chain decision-making has suffered the changing policies and license delays problems	(Xu & Tan, 2016)
This paper proposes a functionality-based assessment approach of hospital resilience to the hazard scenario	This study improves the development of effective engineering measures and informed policies to enhance the seismic resilience of hospital	This study does not provide a hospital seismic resilience information sharing mechanism that can benefit other similar medical institutions	(Li et al., 2020)

580

581 *4.2.5 Technologies (digital tools) developed for sharing and opening healthcare data*  
582 The technologies used in the clinical practice in terms of data sharing and opening are about the  
583 technology framework and tools utilized based on the hospital information system, regional health  
584 information system and multi-level data-sharing platform. Therefore, according to different  
585 application scopes of these technologies, literature can be divided into three categories:  
586 technologies applied within the hospital; technologies utilized for information exchangeable  
587 among various medical institutions; and technologies involved in connecting external non-native  
588 healthcare databases (Table 6).

589 The acquisition and storage of information within the individual hospital are the basis of sharing  
590 and openness of healthcare data. The key technical support was guaranteed by the information  
591 integration among Hospital Information System (HIS), more precisely, Clinical Information  
592 System (CIS), Electronic Medical Record System (EMRS), Pharmacy Information System (PIS),  
593 Financial Information System (FIS), Radiology Information System (RIS) and Picture Archiving  
594 Communication System (PACS), for the sake of medical information sharing and hospital  
595 efficiency enhancement (Chang et al., 2003). This integration procedure involved recognition,  
596 translation and transmission of multimedia information flow containing the data of patient profile,  
597 registration, clinical images, healthcare reports and medical expenditure etc. (Chang et al., 2003;  
598 Yan et al., 2021), and the corresponding health data privacy and security scheme (Xu et al., 2019).  
599 For many years, the mainstream of medical informatics development in China has been  
600 establishing and improving the HIS through Information and Communication Technology (ICT).  
601 Recently, with the development of big data technology, deep neural networks (Song et al., 2019),  
602 data processing approach, and machine learning were utilized to make useful explorations in the  
603 integration of HIS.

604 Information transfer among different medical institutions is a milestone for healthcare open data.  
605 The realization of such a process mainly depends on the development of cloud computing  
606 technology. The cloud-based medical information approach helped to build a comprehensive  
607 regional medical system to collect and analyse large-scale medical and biological big data from  
608 hospitals, biobanks and other related institutions for clinical diagnosis, laboratory tests and, more  
609 advanced, smart healthcare (Zeng & Wu, 2019). Many scholars in China explored relevant  
610 technology frameworks in multi-source data integration in the field of healthcare. Data labelling  
611 and coding (Cui et al., 2015), data mining (Hu et al., 2017), Bluetooth (Zeng & Wu, 2019),

612 artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques such as transfer learning were demonstrated  
613 in the literature for online registration, diseases diagnosis and disease treatment by building data-  
614 driven collaborative models (Li et al., 2021a). Meanwhile, information security for personalized  
615 data was emphasized, along with the utilization of medical big data. The key technologies in  
616 healthcare privacy protection included data encryption (Wang et al., 2019a), data anonymity,  
617 access control, identity authentication and management, authorization, and auditing (Hu et al.,  
618 2016).

619 The ultimate level of healthcare data sharing and openness is beyond the information exchange  
620 among medical institutions. For a healthcare open data city, personal data from electronic sensors,  
621 smart wear and mobile Internet could be utilized for disease surveillance and prediction. Moreover,  
622 multiple external datasets from government and other non-medical institutions were able to be  
623 employed for medical service. For example, during COVID-19, location-based databases like  
624 Baidu (Chao et al., 2018; F. Villanustre et al., 2021) were used by scholars to predict the spread of  
625 disease and build hospital recommendation systems. In addition, big data analytic techniques,  
626 geographic information system (GIS) technology (Yan et al., 2013), and mobile Internet  
627 technology (Wang et al., 2017) were also implemented appropriately. However, it is also  
628 recognised that some digital technologies for open data healthcare have not been established well  
629 and are waiting for further investigations, such as electronic signature (e-signature) and the Internet  
630 of Things (IoT).

631 To sum up, recent literature on technologies related to medical data sharing mainly focused on big  
632 data analysis, connecting different databases from multiple institutions. For technologies applied  
633 within the hospital, the information integration process has involved various HIS information flow  
634 (Chang et al.; Yan et al., 2021). Various different modern techniques like Bluetooth (Zeng & Wu,  
635 2019), data mining (Hu et al., 2017), data sharing (Cui et al., 2015), neural network (Li et al., 2021;  
636 Song et al., 2019b), location-based databases (Chao et al., 2018; Villanustre et al., 2021),  
637 geographic information system (GIS) technology (Yan et al., 2013), blockchain (Xu et al., 2019;  
638 Wang et al., 2019a), intelligent shelter hospital system (Zhou et al., 2022), and mobile Internet  
639 framework (Wang et al., 2017) have been widely tested and applied in the healthcare big data  
640 practice. With the increased awareness in medical crisis management and disease surveillance,  
641 GIS techniques and technologies on multi-source data systems are increasingly involved in the

642 healthcare open data framework. However, there were still many areas of improvement from the  
643 perspective of technologies. They include the lack of inter-hospital information sharing and the  
644 data qualities issues when applying the healthcare technologies.

645 **Table 6.** Development of technologies for open data healthcare

Category	Level	Objectives	Pros	Cons	References
Within hospital	Hospital	This paper discusses the integrating method and working procedure of a digital HIS	This study adopts a unique modularised structure to integrate HIS, RIS and PACS and applies the structure in reality	This study only considers the information exchange within the hospital and does not consider a higher level of information sharing	(Chang et al., 2003)
		This paper utilises the big-data and deep neural network to optimise the drug procurement planning	This study presents a good combination of big data driven approach (deep neural network) and the medical and healthcare field	This study lacks a further discussion on a higher level of healthcare data sharing	(Song et al., 2019b)
		This paper presents a big data analytics platform for the gastroenterology department in a Chinese hospital	This paper introduces the data centre operating system, computing techniques like machine learning, and data processing approaches for medical information	This study is limited in the types of diseases and data range	(Yan et al., 2021)
		This paper proposes a large-scale health data privacy preserving scheme using blockchain technology to prevent privacy leakage and single-point bottleneck	This study allows patients to revoke or add authorised doctors for key management with avoiding medical disputes by disallowing the deleting of IoT data and doctor's diagnosis	This study fails to consider the patient diagnosis information's integration with other existing hospital information systems	(Xu et al., 2019)
		This paper gains experience in the development and utilisation of an intelligent system in Fangcang shelter hospital	This study provides an intelligent platform that is capable of delivering remote consultation and guidance for the implementation of the intelligent shelter hospital system	This study lacks the providing of solutions for ensuring the reliability of the cloud data platform and proper measures for the IoT users' privacy protection	(Zhou et al., 2022)
Between hospitals	National	This paper takes the cloud-based hospital information system as a service for grassroots healthcare institutions	This study emphasises a cloud-based hospital information approach and proposes a cloud-based medical service delivery framework in healthcare data sharing	This study lacks a further discussion on healthcare data sharing from external databases	(Yao et al., 2014)
	City	This paper shows an integrated medical information sharing platform based on the privacy protection system	This study shows key technologies in privacy protection of healthcare data: data encryption, data anonymity, access control, identity authentication authorisation and auditing	This study needs to include more administrative strategies and strategic thinking in a city-level	(Hu et al., 2016)
		This paper targets to improve the data security and the accuracy of the online medical diagnosis service	This study develops a privacy-preserving collaborative model learning scheme that learns a global	This study's privacy-preserving collaborative model learning scheme	(Wang et al., 2019a)

		diagnosis model through local diagnosis models with sensitive medical data protection	requires a trusted authority to issue the key distribution		
Hospital		This paper presents a cloud-based electronic medical record (EMR) system for medical data sharing between healthcare institutions	This study applies the cloud computing technology and data mining approach in healthcare data sharing between hospitals	This study needs to be improved with a mobile-based end and more comprehensive data	(Hu, et al., 2017)
		This study presents a sample repository and information sharing biobank platform	This study mentions the data labelling and coding techniques for biobank information management	This study's data sharing is limited to medical sharing, which can be improved if added external databases	(Cui et al., 2015)
		This paper presents a multicentre hybrid semi-supervised transfer learning model (MHSTL)	This paper introduces machine learning techniques such as transfer learning in healthcare data sharing	This study lacks a further discussion on a higher level of healthcare data sharing in a city-level	(Li et al., 2021)
		This paper introduces the open HER and OMOP CDM as open source tools for medical distributed data	This study develops a healthcare data platform from distributed sharing data, emphasising an open EHR system	This study lacks a further discussion on a higher level of healthcare data sharing	(Li & Tsui, 2020)
		This paper provides a healthcare service platform using mobile Internet technology, cloud computing, Internet of Things, big data etc	This study introduces smart healthcare and Bluetooth technology in healthcare data sharing and proposes real-time health monitoring with intelligent technology	This study needs to be improved from the perspective of a higher level of data sharing, not constrained within the context of healthcare data	(Zeng & Wu, 2019)
External databases		This paper uses Baidu large-scale location-based service (LBS) big data to guide and disperse outpatients	This study presents a long short-term memory (LSTM) based deep learning method in healthcare data sharing and utilises the external platform like Baidu large-scale LBS logs database	The study fails to have a further discussion on a city-level healthcare data sharing	(Chao et al., 2018)
	Hospital	This paper describes a model of Corona spread to model and track COVID-19 cases by using innovative big data analytics techniques	This study uses mathematical compartmental models on personal relationships, health centre location and spread mechanisms of Coronavirus to predict the behaviour of disease outbreak	The study cannot explain other factors that can affect the trend, such as mobility, weather and others; More comprehensive features need to be added to the model	(Villanustre et al., 2021)
		This paper describes an electronic surveillance system for the early detection of infectious disease epidemics in rural China	This study emphasises the role of the electronic surveillance system, combined with modern communication and GIS technology	This study needs to be improved with longer time series of data in the formal implementation with more surveillance units	(Yan et al., 2013)
		This paper discusses the challenges with the hierarchical medical system in China and how big data and mobile	This study focuses on mobile medical care, pointing out the functions of sensors, smart-watches, and mobile health apps in healthcare data sharing	The study fails to have a further discussion on a city-level healthcare data sharing	(Wang et al., 2017)

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Internet can be used to mitigate these  
challenges

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646

## 647 **5. Discussion**

### 648 ***5.1 Achievements and gaps of current research***

649 After the longitudinal analysis of healthcare open data development from five perspectives, it is  
650 possible to re-evaluate how the new technology and healthcare services introduced have changed  
651 China's HIS related information flow (Figure 1). There were four major developments (linked with  
652 red dash lines) compared with the classic 2006 HIS information flow: (1) the internal hospital  
653 network (with the system server group and database); (2) the central management information  
654 centre; (3) the telemedicine centre; and (4) the external information outlets. From the culture's  
655 perspective, compared with the classic 2006 information flow framework, the hospitals' internal  
656 medical information sharing (Chen et al., 2018; Li et al., 2019; Luo & Ping, 2011; Wan et al., 2012;  
657 Yin et al., 2020; Zhu, 2011) has been enhanced with the establishment of the hospital system  
658 information management system and the hospital database. While the requirement of government  
659 medical information disclosure (Lv, 2018; Ma et al., 2015; Shangguan et al., 2020; Zhang et al.,  
660 2006) has led to the development of many hospitals' general information query systems. From the  
661 People's perspective, the general decision-making/information query system (Ahamed &  
662 Ramkumar 2016) has also met the need for more evidence-based and flexible treatment plans and  
663 decision-making (Lv, 2018; Ma et al., 2015; Shangguan et al., 2020; Zhang et al., 2006). At the  
664 same time, the emergence of social network platforms (e.g., WeChat) (Fan et al., 2017) has  
665 contributed to the development of a multimedia healthcare consultation system. From the  
666 infrastructure's perspective, the building of system server group and hospital databases and the  
667 regional healthcare interface made digital "big data" databases- cloud-based community care  
668 systems and platforms (Wu & Wang, 2014; Song et al., 2019a; Su & Zhao, 2016; Yang & Cao,  
669 2017) and regional or city-wide health infrastructure (Cai et al., 2020; Li et al., 2021; Wang et al.,  
670 2016; Xu et al., 2018a; Zhang et al., 2020b; Wang et al., 2019b; Al Omar et al., 2019) become  
671 possible. From the process's perspective, the increase of hospital information outlets like the  
672 national insurance interface has made the integration of the insurance system possible (Tian et al.,  
673 2020). Finally, from the technology perspective, due to the demand for information integration of  
674 various HIS' information flow (Chang et al.; Yan et al., 2021), hospital system information  
675 management system is set up in some hospitals for the coordinating of different HIS. The setting-  
676 up of general statistics/AI analysis system has further benefitted prediction, medical diagnosis with  
677 the use of "big data" (Wu & Shan, 2021), the data analysis using neural networks (Li et al., 2021;



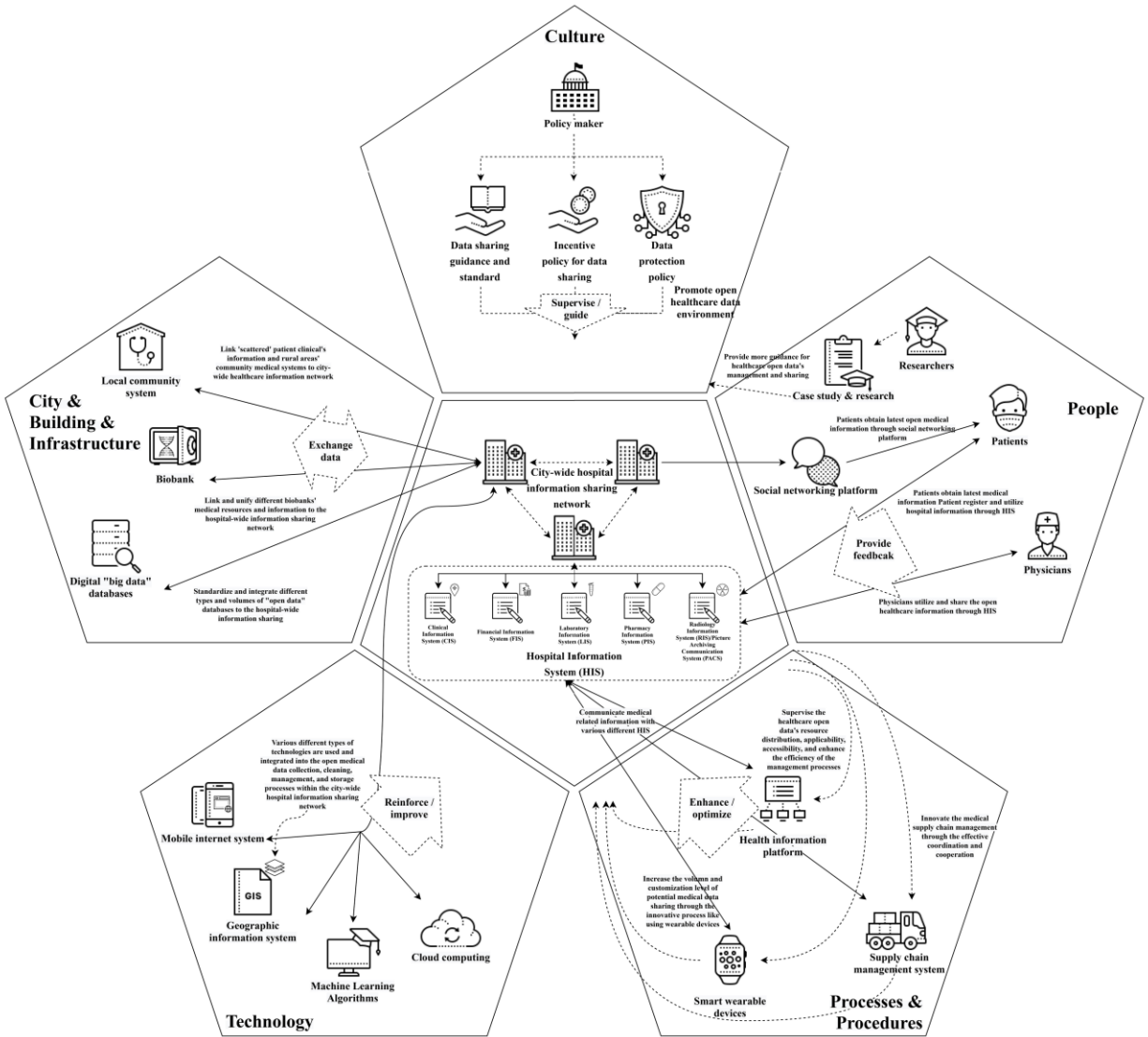
678 Song et al., 2019b). However, the development of the healthcare open data related to HIS cannot  
679 conceal the fact that many gaps are still waiting to be explored.

680 Gaps are raised from the different perspectives of socio-technical systems for open data cities. For  
681 culture, many studies indicated that there is a lack of consideration of healthcare data information  
682 sharing for the city as a whole (Yin et al., 2020; Zhu, 2011), as there is no culture initiative for  
683 sharing medical information between hospitals and non-medical institutions (Wan et al., 2012). It  
684 is also suggested that, from the culture perspective, the promoting of healthcare data sharing for  
685 some projects mainly stays at the policy level. There is a lack of practice cases (Lv, 2018) and a  
686 variety of formats and channels of medical information sharing (Ma, 2015; Shangguan et al., 2020;  
687 Yu, 2006). From the management of open healthcare data at the city level, there is a lack of enough  
688 information and practical cases for both real-world projects and declaring the ownership of open  
689 healthcare data (Chen et al., 2015; Han et al., 2021; Lv, 2017; Lv & Qiao, 2020; Yang, 2017).  
690 Furthermore, although some researchers have discussed the protection of patient's medical  
691 information especially under the background of big data (Han et al., 2021; Yang, 2017; Lv & Qiao,  
692 2020; Chen et al., 2015), there still lacks studies that systematically analyse the critical legal issues  
693 involved for the medical information disclosure and the initiatives and barriers for government  
694 policy maker to participate in the healthcare open data. From people's perspective, it is  
695 demonstrated that the privacy of patients' health-related information lacks proper protection from  
696 a legal perspective (Tian et al., 2020). The communication between patients and physicians lacks  
697 efficiency. Social media like WeChat is currently the only channel the public and patients rely  
698 heavily on to receive medical information sharing (Fan et al., 2017; Y. Liu et al., 2018). The lack  
699 of sufficient information is also raised as the biggest challenge for policymakers to make  
700 appropriate policies (Lee, 2020). For the city, building, and infrastructure, the "data islands" issue  
701 has suffered by many of the open medial data infrastructures like biobanks and hospitals from both  
702 inner-city and between cities (Cheng et al., 2013; Li et al., 2004; Y. Zhang et al., 2015). The  
703 integration is lacking from different perspectives like: balancing the interests of different  
704 stakeholders (L. Zhang et al., 2015), compromising the different requirements of databases (Gao  
705 et al., 2020; Ling et al., 2014), biobanks (Wu et al., 2019), general clinical information (Wu &  
706 Wang, 2014; Li et al., 2021a; Wang et al., 2016; B. Xu et al., 2018; Q. Zhang et al., 2020), and  
707 providing or adopting a better format of sharing (Su & Zhao, 2016; X. Xu et al., 2018) in both city  
708 level and national level. While for the processes and procedures perspective, it is found that the

709 information sharing platform and resources for many small and middle-sized hospitals are still  
710 lagged behind (Tian et al., 2020; Zeng & Wu, 2019). There is a lack of universal and quality  
711 assured hospital information sharing process and cooperation environment (Gong et al., 2020; Y.  
712 Liu et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2017), which hinders the applicability of the use of open healthcare  
713 data in areas like level supply chain management (Xu & Tan, 2016), doctor scheduling (Feng et  
714 al., 2021), and drug distribution (Li et al., 2016; Q. Song et al., 2019). From the technology  
715 perspective, it is suggested that there is a lack of inter-hospital information sharing for the existing  
716 healthcare information technology communication structure (Chang et al., 2003; Cui et al., 2015;  
717 Li & Tsui, 2020; Li et al., 2021b; Q. Song et al., 2019; Yao et al., 2014; Zeng & Wu, 2019). The  
718 data shared and used in some projects are fragmented, non-standardized, and error-prone (Cui et  
719 al., 2015; Hu et al., 2017; Li et al., 2021a; Li et al., 2021b; Zeng & Wu, 2019). Last but not least,  
720 the introduction of many new technologies (e.g., smart IoT for telemedicine (Zhou et al., 2022),  
721 machine learning (Yan et al., 2021), etc.) and systems (e.g., cloud-based electronic medical record  
722 (EMR) system (Hu et al., 2017), cloud-based hospital information system (Yao et al., 2014), etc.)  
723 to the healthcare open data environment often requires the integration of various sensitive  
724 information (e.g., patients' diagnosis information). However, there is currently a lack of studies  
725 that can provide measures for protecting new system users' data privacy, especially during the data  
726 integration.

## 727 ***5.2 Mission of open data city for healthcare***

728 To fill the gaps of the existing open data city for healthcare, a city-wide healthcare open data  
729 sharing framework based on the socio-technical system's five different dimensions is developed  
730 to provide guidance and raise the upcoming missions for a better city level healthcare open data-  
731 sharing environment (Figure 6).



732  
 733 **Figure 6** The open data city healthcare reinforcement framework from social-technical system's  
 734 five dimensions

735 From the culture aspect, the focus of the open data should be put on how to leverage the  
 736 government policies to improving the open healthcare data environment. Therefore, the mission  
 737 for the city-level healthcare open data is to let the government supervise and guide the building of  
 738 a healthy open healthcare data culture environment. From people's perspective, the concentration  
 739 is on the different healthcare institution's stakeholders. The mission of the researchers is to provide  
 740 more case studies and research that can facilitate the development of open healthcare data sharing  
 741 and management. While for patients and physicians, the mission is to enhance the communication  
 742 channel of medical information so that the feedback can be provided in an effortless manner. While

743 for the city, building, and infrastructure perspective, the target is the resources and user points of  
744 medical “big data”. The mission is to promote the data exchange between the existing city-wide  
745 hospital information sharing network and the established biobanks and digital open healthcare  
746 databases and the integration of the local community medical service point’s information system  
747 with the city-wide network. For the processes and procedures aspect, the contents discussed is  
748 related to many different applications, platforms, and systems that are covered in other social-  
749 technical system aspects. However, the concentration is put on the processes themselves rather  
750 than the others. The mission of this aspect of the social-technical system is to explore how to  
751 improve the utilization efficiency and integration of the healthcare open data to enhance and  
752 optimise healthcare data sharing practice. For the final aspect social-technical system, the  
753 technology, the focus is on how the currently available technologies can benefit the open  
754 healthcare data sharing environment. The mission is to explore the ways of using existing  
755 technologies (e.g., mobile internet system, geographical information system, machine learning  
756 algorithms, etc.) to improve and reinforce the collection, cleaning, management, and sharing of  
757 city-wide healthcare open data.

758 Recommendations, therefore, were made to help achieve these missions (Figure 6). From the  
759 culture perspective, there are three different types of policies recommended to be focused by the  
760 city or country’s government and policymakers, include: (1) the guidance and standard for data  
761 sharing that can help set up and unify the criterion and technical details for the medical information  
762 sharing; (2) the incentive policy for data sharing to initiate the pilot projects and studies for the  
763 exploring the applicability and possibility of the open healthcare data; and (3) the data privacy  
764 protection policy that outlines the patients' related information storage and destruction  
765 requirements and the ownership of the data, which is frequently undermined especially under the  
766 current pandemic environment. Due to the importance of healthcare data, government institutions  
767 should take the leader role in setting up legal requirements, accountability and the ownership of  
768 the healthcare open data.

769 The recommendations for the people perspective are majorly related to patients. The target  
770 stakeholder for this perspective is the patient. It is suggested that, in addition to a more efficient  
771 and less error-prone hospital patient information registration and communication channels, more  
772 resources should also be put on exploring the possibility of other means of open healthcare data

773 communication channels like social networking platforms (e.g., WeChat) and mobile apps. How  
774 to control the quality and level of medical information that can be obtained through these channels  
775 are crucial as more and more patients are relied on these methods for gaining medical information.

776 The city, building, and infrastructure recommendations are mainly targeted at the healthcare data  
777 centres and biobanks' managers. These managers with the management of similar medical  
778 information and resource types need to sit together and discuss the way how these resources can  
779 be connected and shared in a more efficient and standardised manner.

780 It is suggested that more research and case studies should be conducted from the processes and  
781 procedures perspective to explore how the use of healthcare open data can benefit the key services  
782 of medical service management. For instance, the study can be conducted to explore how the use  
783 of external healthcare open data can increase the efficiency of hospital supply chain management.  
784 Also, it is suggested that technology and financial support should be given especially to the  
785 community and rural areas' medical service points to ensure the city-wide medical information  
786 can be easily accessed by the medical professionals there. From this perspective, researchers from  
787 both the academic and industry should shoulder the responsibility of pilot research and case study  
788 development.

789 Finally, from the technology perspective, many current medical-related technologies and  
790 applications (e.g., mobile internet systems, machine learning applications) are still majorly focused  
791 on separately within a single hospital, between hospitals, or external databases. It is recommended  
792 that those researchers and medical professionals can combine the study covered topic to include  
793 both the utilisation of external (e.g., medical information from private institutions or social  
794 networks) and different types of potentially useful information (e.g., weather information), and  
795 how this information can be connected and integrated to the existing hospital HIS or  
796 communicated within the city-level healthcare open data network. Besides, the technology like  
797 blockchain should be applied to prevent the leakage of patients' medical information and avoid  
798 the potential medical dispute due to the unauthorised changing of a doctor's diagnosis. Both the  
799 scientists (e.g., big data scientists), industry technology developers (e.g., blockchain developers),  
800 and medical professionals should work together to safeguard patients' medical information and  
801 the adoption of new technologies.

### 802 ***5.3 Challenges of open data city for healthcare***

803 The major challenge comes from the integration and the connection of healthcare data in the open  
804 data city. This big challenge can be further decomposed into several small confrontations. Firstly,  
805 it lacks a national level standard for the transfer of clinical and administrative healthcare data like  
806 HL7 (Su & Zhao, 2016). Although policymakers have issued “medical big data” and “Internet +  
807 Medical Health” related policy (Wu et al., 2020), there is no “open healthcare data” specific  
808 detailed policies and regulations guidance available. The governance structure and healthcare  
809 infrastructure are needed for data management in healthcare (Alhassan et al., 2018; Sharma et al.,  
810 2021). Although some large hospitals have started to explore the possibility of healthcare open  
811 data, the sharing and using of open medical information in community healthcare service points  
812 and rural medical stations are still in infancy (Wang et al., 2016). Moreover, from a technological  
813 point of view, there is no proven standardised and effective solution or platform to connect and  
814 share medical information at the entire city level. In the process of integrating and sharing  
815 healthcare information and resources, it is suspicious to encounter resistance of information  
816 sharing between hospitals due to conflicts of interests. For instance, hospitals might be reluctant  
817 to share patient-related medical information with their major competitor due to the potential  
818 grabbing of the clientele. All the above-mentioned confrontations will challenge the integrating  
819 and sharing of the city level healthcare data. It is also suggested the issues like patient information  
820 security will potentially let the progress of open city-level healthcare data be overshadowed.  
821 Fortunately, the use of blockchain might be a possible solution for safeguarding the information  
822 security and the data ownership issue (Xu et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2019b; Al Omar et al., 2019).  
823 The discussion over the protection of patient information security at the country level is still at a  
824 relatively early stage, with no specific detailed regulations and guidance on the ownership,  
825 management, and destruction of patient-related information.

### 826 **6. Conclusions**

827 This research has conducted a systematic literature review of the previous accomplishments in  
828 open data city for healthcare. First, this study provided a critical evaluation of the existing hospitals’  
829 HIS’s open data development (Figure 1) from a different angle. Then the study further reviewed  
830 the development of healthcare open data in five socio-technical systems’ dimensions (Figure 2-6).  
831 As a result, this study has solved three research questions (section 1) in the field of healthcare open  
832 data. To answer the first research question, a mixed-method based review of 79 out of 4,611

833 articles has been conducted in open data city healthcare in China from the five perspectives of the  
834 socio-technical system, including (1) culture, (2) people, (3) infrastructure, (4) processes, and (5)  
835 technologies. Based on the latitudinal analysis, it is found that the development of open data city  
836 for healthcare is still at its early stage with biases, being policy-driven and focusing on the  
837 construction of healthcare infrastructures and adoption of technologies.

838 Insights have been further provided through the longitudinal analysis of the existing environment  
839 in open data city healthcare in China. To answer the second research question, the research gaps  
840 and missions of the current studies have been identified in the five perspectives of socio-technical  
841 system. These gaps include: (1) from culture's perspective, the lack of culture initiative, practical  
842 cases, and consideration for the city as a whole; (2) from people's perspective, the lack of legal  
843 protection, information communication efficiency, and sufficient information for policy maker; (3)  
844 from infrastructure's perspective, the lack of data connection, databases requirements, and  
845 guidance for the format of sharing; (4) from process's perspective, the lack of information sharing  
846 quality ensuring, cooperation environment, and platforms for small-sized hospitals; (5) from  
847 technology's perspective, the lack of inter-hospital information sharing, data privacy protection,  
848 and completed, standardised, and correct data. For the third research question, in order to fill these  
849 gaps and achieve the missions, an open data city healthcare reinforcement framework has been  
850 proposed for strategies of future development: (1) from culture perspective, three kinds of policies  
851 are encouraged for data sharing and protection, including the guidance and standard for data  
852 sharing, the incentive policy for data sharing, and the data privacy protection policy; (2) from  
853 people perspective, the use of social networking platform should be quality controlled and more  
854 specified for healthcare; (3) from city, building, and infrastructure perspective, medical  
855 infrastructures' managers should negotiate and explore how their resources can be connected and  
856 shared in an efficient and standardised manner; (4) from processes and procedures perspective, it  
857 is recommended to focus on the use of healthcare open data for benefits of key medical services;  
858 and (5) from technology perspective, research and practice are encouraged to be focused on  
859 healthcare open data sharing and integration at the city level.

860 This study provided three main contributions to the body of knowledge and practice: (1) This study  
861 contributes to the understanding of cities' healthcare open data development and management; (2)  
862 This study uses Chinese cities as an example to provide potential gaps, missions, and

863 recommendations for other countries' city-wide healthcare open data development, after taking  
864 into account the different countries' healthcare system structures and engineering technologies,  
865 regulations and policies, and the interoperability of different HIS and databases; (3) This study  
866 provides an open data city healthcare reinforcement framework for the guidance of healthcare city  
867 open data development and engineering related management practice.

868 This study has two major limitations. The first limitation is its focus of analysis and  
869 recommendations were targeted at the city level. The second limitation is that when applying the  
870 framework and recommendations developed by this study to other countries, although  
871 amendments can be made during the application, the types and extent of amendments are unknown.  
872 Therefore, future work is needed to evaluate the healthcare open data in different target levels and  
873 countries.

874 This research contributes a new multi-dimensional way to rethink the development of open data  
875 city in healthcare and helps establish the state-of-the-art open data city for future research and  
876 practice.

#### 877 **Data Availability Statement**

878 All data, models, and code generated or used during the study appear in the submitted article.

#### 879 **Acknowledgement**

880 This research is supported by the grants from the UCL Global Engagement Strategic Partner Funds  
881 and UCL Centre for Blockchain Technologies (CBT).

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