Analysis of the Application of Smart Technologies in the Healthcare Industry to Improve Service Quality and Customer Satisfaction: An Investigation of Smart Hospitals in Kerala State, India



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### Introduction

Smart healthcare – born from concept of "Smart Planet" – IBM 2009. Technology is rapidly transforming- digitalize and informationalize

#### **Digitalization in healthcare industry:**

Access to Medical Information

Big Data

Improved Communication

Electronic Health Records

Telemedicine

Health Apps

Wearable Devices

# Research Aim, Objectives and Questions



#### Aim

• Understanding the factors of smart technologies relating to customer satisfaction and its impact on service quality.

#### **Objectives**

- Understand the use of smart technology factors of customer satisfaction in the current market.
- Identify the various Smart health provisions available and their influence on the patient.
- Examine factors of Smart Technology that influence the service quality
- To recommend strategies that can help in promoting the use of Smart Technology in Healthcare Industry

#### Questions

- What are the factors that lead to quality service and customer satisfaction with regard to Smart Technology?
- Are there any smart health provisions available in healthcare industry in Kerela that influence the patient?
- What are some specific factors that influence service quality leading to customer satisfaction in healthcare industry in Kerela, India?

### Literature Review



Park et al (2018)- technical feasibility, economic feasibility, organizational commitment and support for substantial smart healthcare.

Artificial intelligence support healthcare industry in administration, clinical and patient outreach- BOHR (2020)

Vatolkina et al (2020) customer experience has a significant influence on customer satisfaction Westbrook and Reilly (1983) proposed the Value-Percept theory. – customer satisfaction- emotional state – occurs due to evolution of services.

Owad et al (2022) relationship between patient flow and patient satisfaction is positively mediated through healthcare service quality.

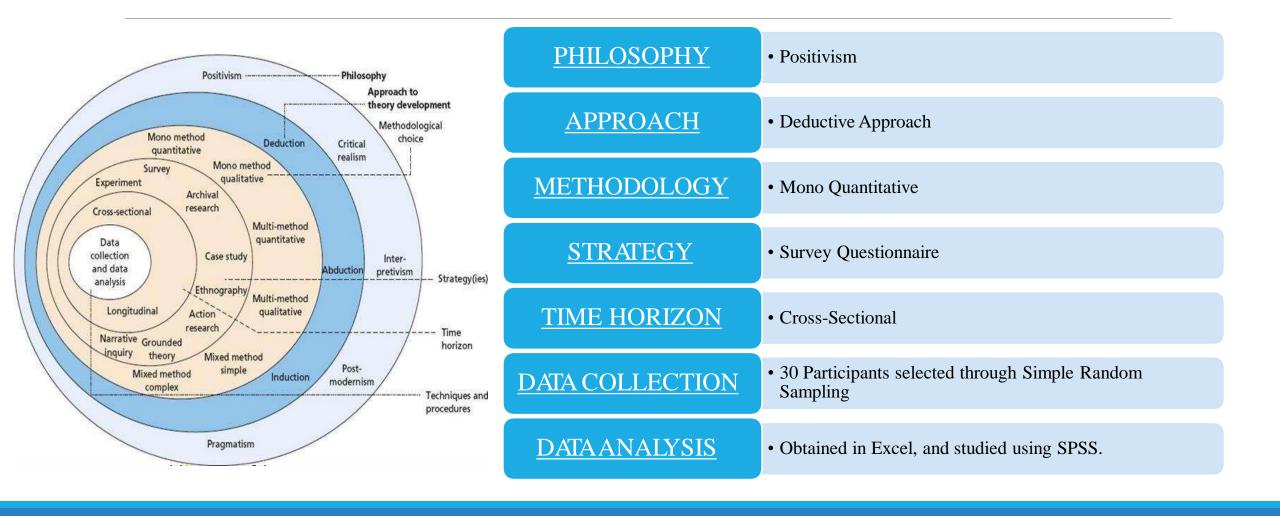
#### Research Gap

Smart Healthcare has gained importance in recent years

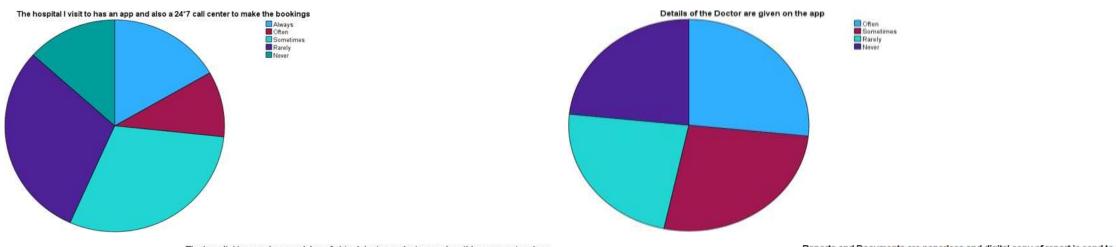
There is a dearth of analysis of smart healthcare specific to regions

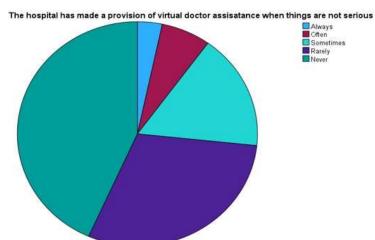
Very few studies done on private sector hospitals

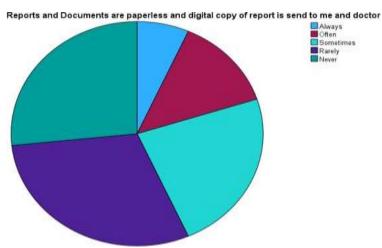
## Research Methodology



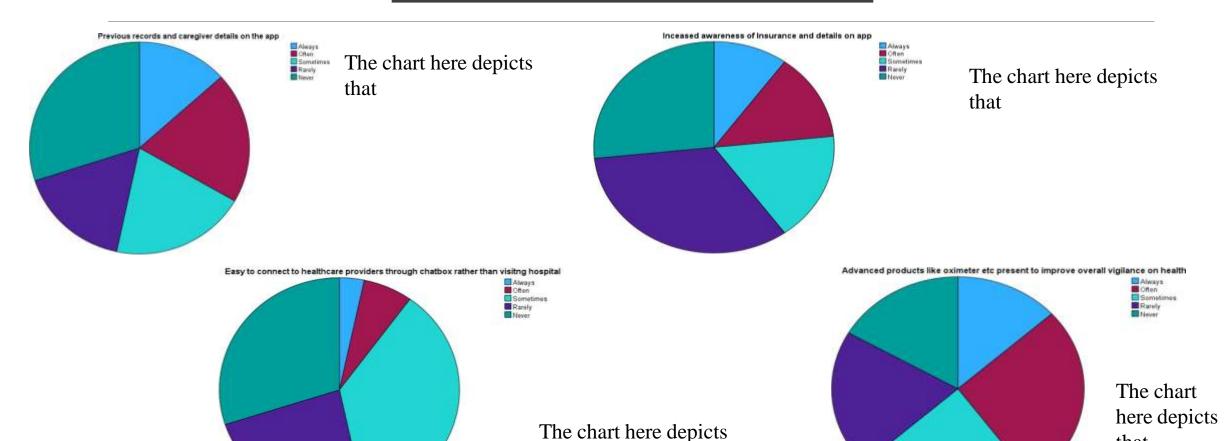
## Analysis and Interpretation - Smart Healthcare Services







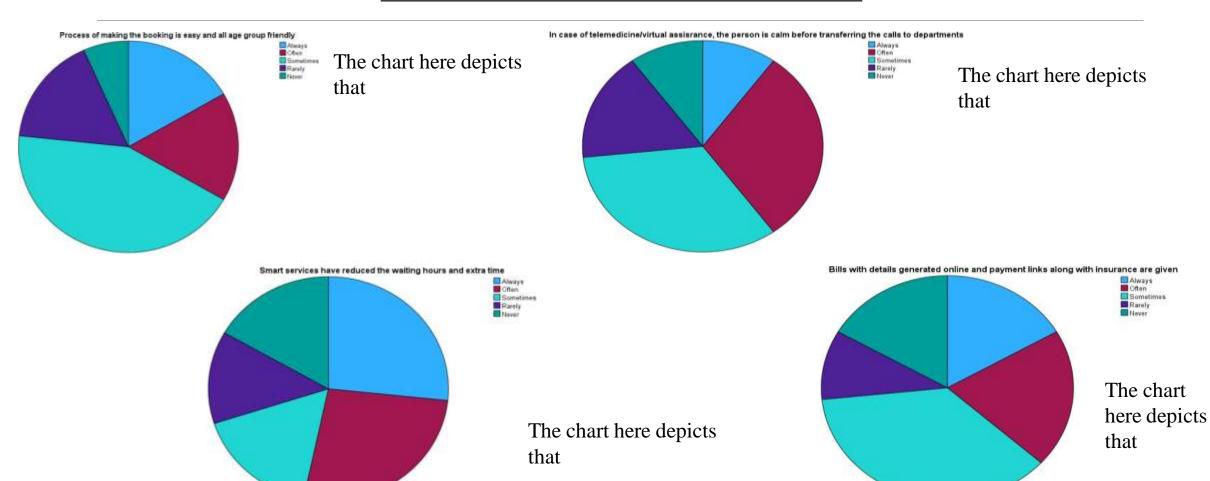
## Analysis and Interpretation - Smart Healthcare Services



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## Analysis and Interpretation - Smart Healthcare Services



#### Reliability and Data Mean Calculation

Itam Statistics

Reliability Statistics	
Cronbach's	N of
Alpha	Items
.725	17

Since the reliability of all the questions was more than 0.6, it indicates that the data has acceptable level of reliability and good to go for research.

	n Statistics Mean	Std. Deviation	N	
Age of Respondent	2.8667	.93710	30	
Education of Respondent	2.9000	.84486	30	
Occupation of the Respondent	2.2667	9994 (F-200 PC)	1.08066 30	
experience using smart apps	3.1667		1.01992 3	
hospital visit in last 3 months	1.8333	1.08543	30	
The hospital I visit to has an app and also a 24*7 call center to make the bookings	3.1333	1.27937	30	
he hospital has made a provision 4.0333 1.09807 f virtual doctor assistance when hings are not serious		30		
Reports and Documents are paperless and digital copy of report is send to me and doctor	3.5667	1.22287		
Details of the Doctor are given on the app	3.4333	1.13512	30	
Previous records and caregiver details on the app	3.3000	1.44198	30	
Increased awareness of Insurance and details on app	3.5333	1.30604	30	
Easy to connect to healthcare providers through chatbot rather than visiting hospital	3.7000	1.08755	30	
Advanced products like oximeter etc. present to improve overall vigilance on health	3.0000	1.31306	1.31306 3	
Process of making the booking is easy and all age group friendly	2.8000	1.12648	30	
In case of telemedicine/virtual assistance, the person is calm before transferring the calls to departments	2.8667	1.13664	30	
Bills with details generated online and payment links along with insurance are given	2.9000	1.29588	30	
Smart services have reduced the waiting hours and extra time	2.6667	1.44636	30	

From the mean analysis it is noted that in the smart services. availability of the virtual doctor was the most used Smart service, while inclination to agree that smart services have reduced waiting hours was the lowest. This means smart services is an addition to services reducing the number of visit to hospitals, but has not reduced the waiting hours or extra time at the hospital.

## **Conclusion and Implications**



People are aware of the smart health provisions in the healthcare industry
The quality of service had a direct influence on the customer satisfaction. The five dimensions of service quality namely reliability, responsiveness, assurance, empathy and tangibility play key role in customer satisfaction and loyalty.
taligibility play key fole in customer satisfaction and loyalty.
People, system and the process are often not connected. People are technically updated but are not generally aware of the smart provisions in healthcare.
Telemedicine have come up a long way and are better adapted by the customers.

#### Recommendations



- Communication with patients encourages better feedback.
- The hospital environment has a major role in customer service.
- The information generated in the hospital paperless, autoformatted and in a structured format.
- Management should train workforce to introduce policies and processes to embrace AI.
- The market size of the smart hospitals should be increased.

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