

Original Article



# Development and Validation of Deep-Learning Algorithm for Electrocardiography-Based Heart Failure Identification

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## ABSTRACT

**Background and Objectives:** Screening and early diagnosis for heart failure (HF) are critical. However, conventional screening diagnostic methods have limitations, and electrocardiography (ECG)-based HF identification may be helpful. This study aimed to develop and validate a deep-learning algorithm for ECG-based HF identification (DEHF).

**Methods:** The study involved 2 hospitals and 55,163 ECGs of 22,765 patients who performed echocardiography within 4 weeks were study subjects. ECGs were divided into derivation and validation data. Demographic and ECG features were used as predictive variables. The primary endpoint was detection of HF with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF; ejection fraction [EF] ≤40%), and the secondary endpoint was HF with mid-range to reduced EF (≤50%). We developed the DEHF using derivation data and the algorithm representing the risk of HF between 0 and 1. We confirmed accuracy and compared logistic regression (LR) and random forest (RF) analyses using validation data.

**Results:** The area under the receiver operating characteristic curves (AUROCs) of DEHF for identification of HFrEF were 0.843 (95% confidence interval, 0.840–0.845) and 0.889 (0.887–0.891) for internal and external validation, respectively, and these results significantly outperformed those of LR (0.800 [0.797–0.803], 0.847 [0.844–0.850]) and RF (0.807 [0.804–0.810], 0.853 [0.850–0.855]) analyses. The AUROCs of deep learning for identification of the secondary endpoint was 0.821 (0.819–0.823) and 0.850 (0.848–0.852) for internal and external validation, respectively, and these results significantly outperformed those of LR and RF.

**Conclusions:** The deep-learning algorithm accurately identified HF using ECG features and outperformed other machine-learning methods.

**Keywords:** Deep learning; Heart failure; Electrocardiography; Machine learning; Artificial intelligence

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#### Conflict of Interest

The authors have no financial conflicts of interest.

#### Author Contributions

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## INTRODUCTION

Heart failure (HF) has a prevalence as high as 2% of adults overall (8% of adults aged  $\geq 75$  years), affecting 26 million patients worldwide and 3.5 million new patients every year.<sup>1)</sup> It is a critical disease, with 17–45% of patients admitted for HF dying within 1 year and the majority of the remaining patients dying within 5 years.<sup>2)</sup> Patients with HF have reduced physical activity, and many are hospitalized repeatedly, leading to deterioration of quality of life and great expense. The cost of treatment for patients with HF accounts for 2% of total health care expenses and is expected to double by 2030 due to population aging.<sup>3)</sup>

Various methods are used for the diagnosis of HF. These methods, however, require a physical examination, echocardiography, and laboratory tests, as well as a high level of expertise for interpretation of results and making a diagnosis.<sup>4)</sup> Furthermore, existing methods are fixed tools that do not account for the relationships among variables and thus provide limited performance.<sup>5,6)</sup> For these reasons, existing screening and early diagnosis strategies for HF are limited in value. Electrocardiography (ECG) is non-invasive and simple to perform and is widely used as part of a general check-up. The ability to identify HF using only demographic factors and ECG could be used for early diagnosis and would enable referral for further investigation.

A previous study showed a significant association between HF and ECG features.<sup>7)</sup> However, statistical limitations associated with logistic regression (LR) analysis prevented researchers from developing a predictive model for HF using ECG. Several attempts have now been made to develop a predictive model for HF using machine-learning.<sup>8-10)</sup> To achieve high accuracy with limited information, we used deep-learning techniques to develop a diagnostic algorithm. Deep-learning technique has achieved state-of-art performance in several medical domains, such as image detection and clinical outcome prediction.<sup>11-13)</sup> An advantage of deep-learning technique is the automatic-learning feature and ability to identify associations using available data.<sup>14)</sup> This study developed and validated a deep-learning algorithm for ECG-based HF identification (DEHF).

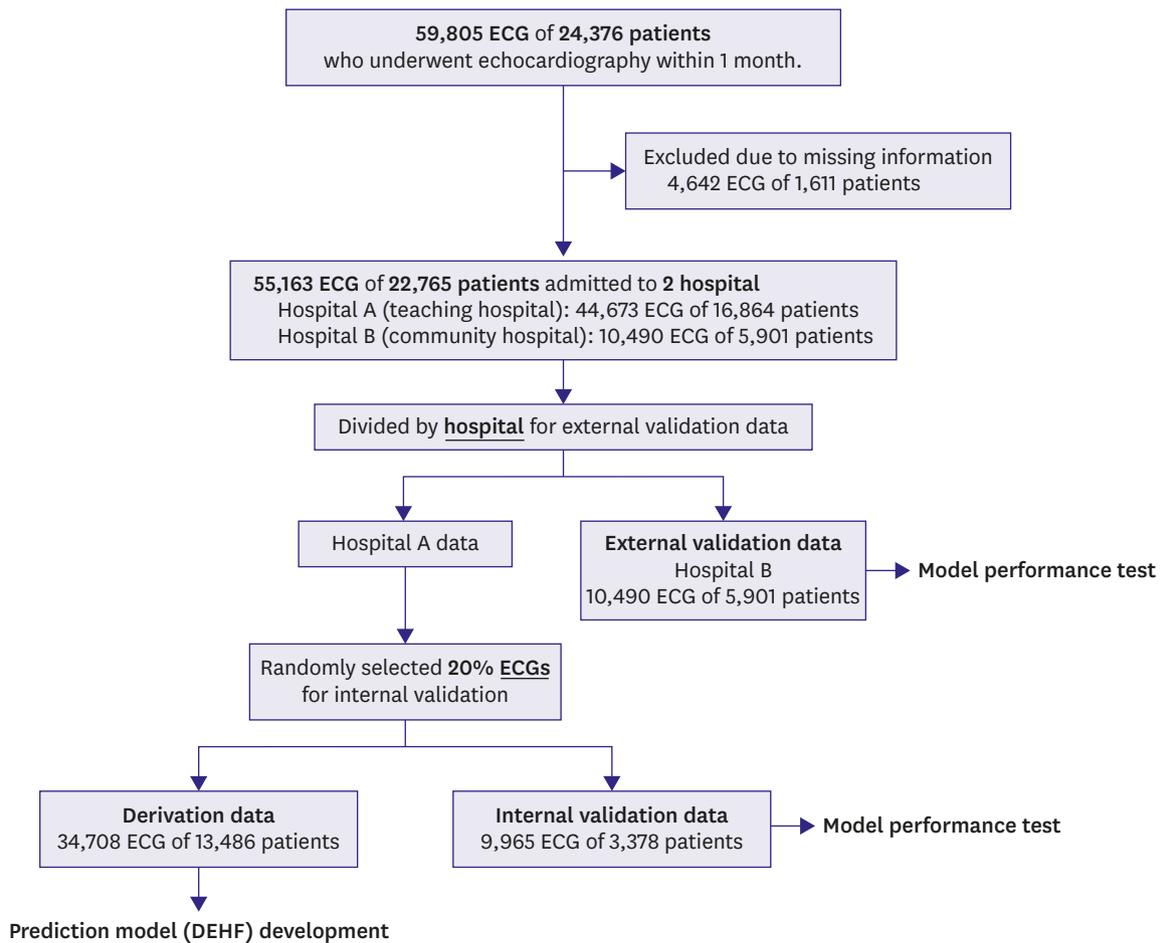
## METHODS

### Study population

We performed a multicenter retrospective cohort study involving 2 hospitals. The study subjects were ECGs of adult (aged  $\geq 18$  years) patients who had undergone echocardiography within 4 weeks. We excluded patients with missing values (**Figure 1**). The Sejong General Hospital Institutional Review Board (IRB) (No. 2018-0384) and Mediplex Sejong Hospital IRB (No. 2018-024) approved this study protocol and waived the need for informed consent due to impracticality and minimal harm. We excluded subjects with missing demographic and echocardiographic information.

### Data management

The characteristics of both hospitals were different (hospital A: a cardiovascular teaching hospital, hospital B: a community general hospital). Data from hospital A (October 2016–July 2018) were split into algorithm derivation and internal validation data by randomization. Data from hospital B (March 2017–July 2018) were only used for external validation. The derivation data were used to develop the deep-learning algorithm, DEHF. We evaluated the



**Figure 1.** Study flow chart.

DEHF = deep-learning algorithm for electrocardiography-based heart failure identification; ECG = electrocardiography.

accuracy of the algorithm using internal validation data that were not used for algorithm derivation. Furthermore, we used external validation data from hospital B to verify that the algorithm was applicable across centers.

The primary endpoint was detection of HF with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF), defined as  $\leq 40\%$  on echocardiography.<sup>4)</sup> The secondary endpoint was detection of HF with mid-range to reduced ejection fraction (EF), defined as  $\leq 50\%$  on echocardiography.<sup>4)</sup> We used demographic information and ECG features including age, sex, weight, height, heart rate, presence of atrial fibrillation (AF) or atrial flutter (AFL), QT interval, QRS duration, R wave axis, and T wave axis, as the predictive variables. For use of the algorithm in AF, we did not include the P wave axis or PR interval as predictive variables.

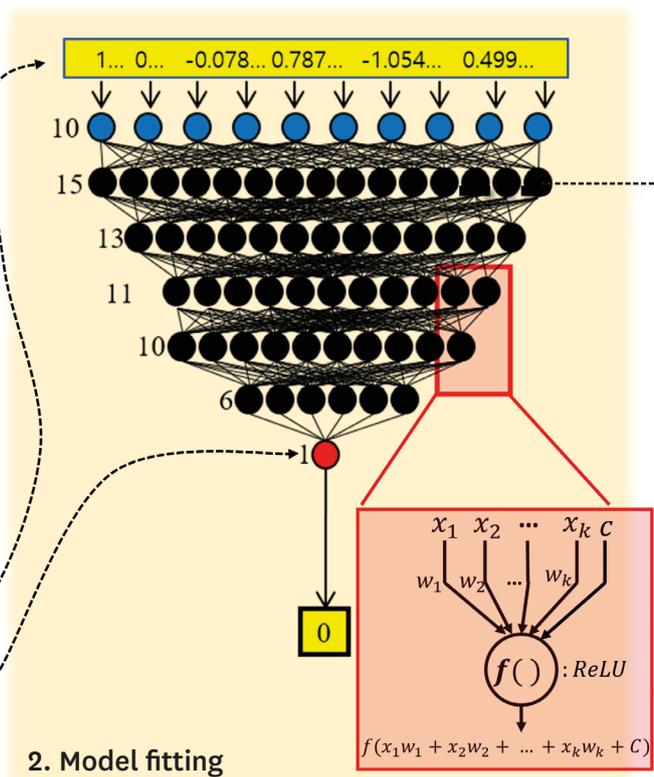
### Development of deep-learning algorithm

As shown in **Figure 2**, we developed the deep-learning algorithm, DEHF, using only derivation data. The algorithm was developed using deep neural network (DNN), a method of deep-learning with 5 hidden layers, 45 nodes, and dropout layers.<sup>15)</sup> Because there was no gain in accuracy with more than 5 layers, we used 5 to minimize the parameters to be learned. The first to fifth layers consisted of 15, 13, 11, 10, and 6 nodes, and used a rectified linear unit

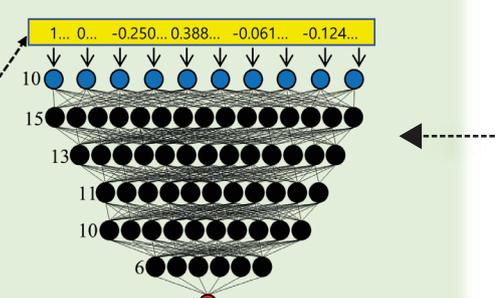
### 1. Model derivation data and processing

Sex.	Rhythm.	Age.	Weight.	Heart rate.	QT interval.	Ejection Frac.
Male	A.Fib	61	74	56	432	48%
Female	Sinus	46	78	86	404	70%
Male	Sinus	59	74	58	420	60%
Female	Afib	66	73	173	300	58%
Female	Sinus	74	46	104	384	35%
Female	Sinus	75	46	70	434	38%
Male	Sinus	47	72	83	352	58%
Female	Sinus	65	78	61	424	55%
Male	Sinus	26	63	61	368	45%
Female	Afib	80	51	89	340	60%
Male	Sinus	68	59	75	404	65%
Male	Sinus	60	55	54	416	60%
Female	Sinus	67	82	88	365	70%
.	.	.	.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Sex.	Rhythm.	Age.	Weight.	Heart rate.	QT interval.	Heart Failure
1	0	-0.078	0.787	-1.054	0.499	0
0	0	-1.098	1.102	0.506	-0.061	0
1	0	-0.214	0.787	-0.950	0.259	0
0	1	0.262	0.708	5.030	-2.140	0
0	0	0.806	-1.423	1.442	-0.461	1
0	0	0.874	-1.423	-0.326	0.539	0
1	0	-1.030	0.629	0.350	-1.101	0
0	0	0.194	1.102	-0.794	0.339	0
1	0	-2.458	-0.081	-0.794	-0.781	0
0	1	1.214	-1.028	0.662	-1.341	0
1	0	0.398	-0.397	-0.066	-0.061	0
1	0	-0.146	-0.713	-1.158	0.179	0
0	0	0.330	1.418	0.610	-0.841	0
.	.	.	.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.



### 2. Model fitting



### 4. Performance test of developed model

### 3. Validation data and processing

Sex.	Rhythm.	Age.	Weight.	Heart rate.	QT interval.	Ejection Frac.
Male	Sinus	56	70	73	400	65%
Male	Sinus	66	80	57	428	35%
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Sex.	Rhythm.	Age.	Weight.	Heart rate.	QT interval.
1	0	-0.250	0.388	-0.061	-0.124
1	0	0.407	1.139	-0.922	0.475
.	.	.	.	.	.

Figure 2. Development and validation of DEHF.

DEHF = deep-learning algorithm for electrocardiography-based heart failure identification; ECG = electrocardiography; HF = heart failure.

as the activation function.<sup>16)</sup> The last layer consisted of 1 node, which represented the risk of each outcome and used a sigmoid function.

We used TensorFlow (the Google Brain Team) as the backend.<sup>17)</sup> Furthermore, we used the Adagrad optimizer with default parameters and binary cross-entropy as the loss function. As shown in **Figure 2**, the value at 1 node of the DNN is added by multiplying the values from the upper layer nodes ( $x_k$ ) by their weights ( $w_k$ ). The added value,  $(x_1 + w_1 + x_2 + w_2 + \dots + x_k w_k + c)$ , is processed by the activation function, and the value of  $f(x_1 + w_1 + x_2 + w_2 + \dots + x_k w_k + c)$  is sent to the next node.

As shown in **Figure 2**, before using the derivation data for DEHF development, we replaced the values of the categorical variables with binary numeric values and normalized the value of the continuous variables.<sup>18)</sup> This data preprocessing was separately performed for the derivation, interval validation, and external validation data.<sup>18)</sup> To train the deep-learning algorithm, we input each value of the derivation data in the input layer and adjusted the weight ( $w_k$ ) using back propagation.<sup>18)</sup>

### Development of machine-learning-based algorithm for comparison

We also developed LR and random forest (RF) machine-learning algorithms, for comparison of performance with the DEHF. In previous studies, LR and RF were the most commonly used machine-learning methods and showed better performance than traditional methods in several medical domains.<sup>19)</sup> We identified the best LR algorithm among all possible algorithms using the glmulti package in R (R Foundation, Vienna, Austria).<sup>20,21)</sup> We used original Akaike IC as the information criterion and used pairwise interactions. For LR algorithm selection, we used forward-backward directions.

RF is used to construct a multitude of decision trees. Each decision tree partitions the sample data by splitting the variables at discrete cut-points. Each tree is derived by randomly selecting data from the derivation data, and the RF algorithm concludes with a summary result for each decision tree. In this study, the RF algorithm consisted of 10,000 decision trees using the randomForest package in R (R Foundation).<sup>21)</sup> The optimal number of variables, which were randomly sampled as candidates at each split, was determined using 10-fold cross-validation.

### Validation of algorithm performance and statistical analysis

After we developed the deep-learning and machine-learning algorithms, we compared their performance using the internal and external validation data that were not used for algorithm development. We used the area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUROC) as the comparative measure. The AUROC is a frequently used metric and the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve shows the sensitivity against 1-specificity. We evaluated the 95% confidence interval (CI) using bootstrapping (10,000 times resampling with replacement).<sup>22)</sup>

We confirmed characteristics of the HF patient group as shown in **Table 1**. Continuous variables are presented as mean and standard deviation and compared using the unpaired Student's t-test or Mann-Whitney U-test. Categorical variables are expressed as frequencies and percentages and compared using the  $\chi^2$  test.

We confirmed the importance of variables in each developed algorithm. We confirmed the deviance difference of each predictive variable in the LR model and mean decrease in

**Table 1.** Baseline characteristics

Characteristics	HFrEF (EF≤40%)	HFmrEF (40%≤EF≤50%)	Normal left ventricular systolic function (50%≤EF)	p value*
Total patients	1,391	1,538	19,836	
Age (years)	64.30±14.20	64.82±13.30	60.83±15.03	<0.001
Female	504 (36.21)	558 (36.28)	9,796 (49.38)	<0.001
Body surface area (m <sup>2</sup> )	1.68±0.21	1.69±0.20	1.68±0.20	0.082
Echocardiography data				
EF	27.97±7.36	44.07±2.77	59.90±6.50	<0.001
Left atrial dimension (mm)	45.84±12.64	43.67±9.47	40.34±8.46	<0.001
Septal dimension (mm)	10.08±1.87	10.61±1.74	10.12±1.90	<0.001
Posterior wall thickness (mm)	9.82±1.66	10.14±1.60	9.73±1.59	0.036
Aortic dimension (mm)	32.85±4.96	33.14±4.53	31.60±4.12	<0.001
E	69.32±25.22	63.94±21.35	65.03±18.56	<0.001
A	65.71±23.73	71.78± 20.78	70.75±19.58	<0.001
Deceleration time	167.34±59.73	191.50±56.06	203.87±52.25	<0.001
E'	4.81±2.11	5.37±1.96	6.53±2.51	<0.001
A'	6.26±2.52	7.59±2.28	8.47±2.13	<0.001
E/E'	17.35±9.79	14.17±8.12	11.45±5.71	<0.001
Peak TRPG	27.76±12.18	23.59±10.05	21.91±7.92	<0.001
Estimated PA pressure	33.75±14.31	27.97±11.08	25.63±9.05	<0.001
Left ventricular systolic dimension (mm)	46.62±10.98	36.23±6.94	29.19±5.11	<0.001
Left ventricular diastolic dimension (mm)	57.94±9.55	51.03±6.47	47.24±5.29	<0.001
Total Electrocardiograms				
AF or AFL	2,010 (27.14)	1,369 (24.62)	5,036 (11.93)	<0.001
Heart rate	85.41±22.91	79.08±20.00	73.76±17.66	<0.001
QT interval	410.43±58.77	412.54±55.91	405.42±46.52	<0.001
QTc	478.00±40.83	463.76±41.19	442.17±36.75	<0.001
QRS duration	111.95±27.81	102.65±23.04	96.21±18.36	<0.001
R wave axis	24.19±68.54	30.59±56.06	37.32±45.62	<0.001
T wave axis	94.04±87.79	69.10±81.08	49.94±59.54	<0.001

Data are shown as mean±standard deviation or number (%).

AF = atrial fibrillation; AFL = atrial flutter; EF = ejection fraction, HFrEF = heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; HFmrEF = heart failure with mid-range ejection fraction; PA = pulmonary artery, TRPG = trans-tricuspid pressure gradient.

\*An alternative explanation for this p value is based on differences between the 3 groups.

Gini coefficient for each predictive variable in RF to assess the importance of the variable. For variable importance in the deep-learning model, we assessed the decrease in accuracy (AUROC) when each variable was excluded.

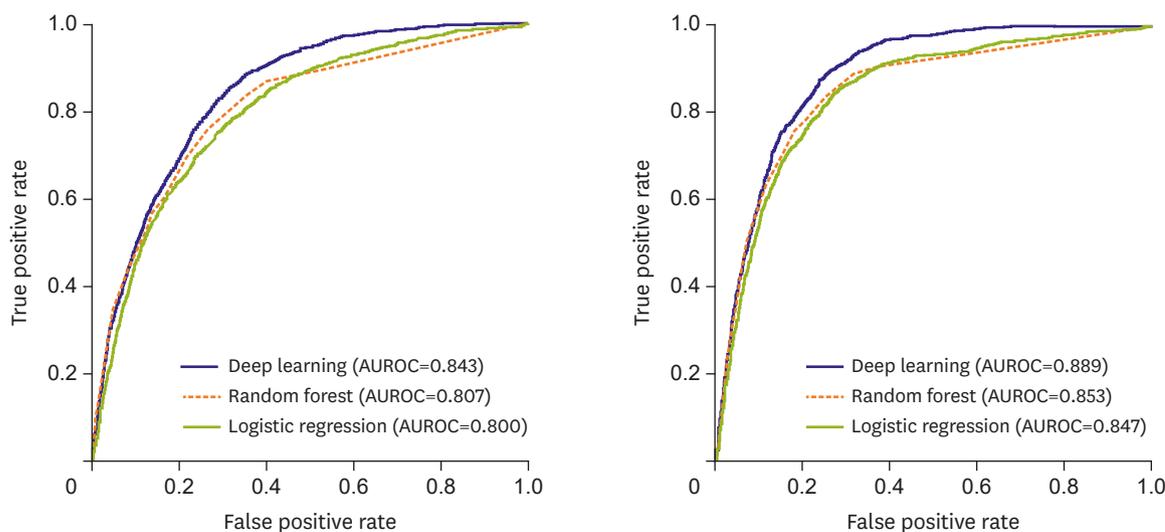
## RESULTS

We included 59,805 ECG studies of 24,376 patients with value of left ventricular systolic function confirmed on echocardiography within 4 weeks. We excluded 4,642 ECG studies of 1,611 patients with missing values. As shown in **Figure 1**, the study population comprised 22,765 patients, of whom 1,391 had HFrEF. Baseline characteristics of study subjects are shown in **Table 1**. A deep-learning predictive model was developed using 34,708 ECG studies with derivation data. The performance test was conducted using 9,965 interval validation data from hospital A and 10,790 external validation data from hospital B. We provided the deep-learning algorithm (DEHF), coding book for input data, example of input data, and python code for validation as a supplemental file to this article.

As shown in **Table 1**, HF patients had a significantly prolonged QT interval and QRS duration, as well as a significantly greater heart rate, longer T wave duration, and significantly shorter R wave duration. HF patients also had a greater proportion with AF/AFL.

As shown in **Figure 3**, the ROC curve of the DEHF was above the ROC curve of the other models for the primary and secondary endpoints. This means that the DEHF is more accurate than the other models in all aspects of sensitivity and specificity. During internal validation for identification of the primary endpoint (HF<sub>r</sub>EF), the AUROC of the deep-learning algorithm, DEHF, was 0.843 (95% CI, 0.840–0.845), and this result significantly outperformed RF (0.807 [0.804–0.810]) and LR (0.800 [0.797–0.803]). In the external validation, the AUROC of the DEHF was 0.889 (0.887–0.891), and this result significantly outperformed the RF (0.853 [0.850–0.855]) and LR (0.847 [0.844–0.850]). The AUROC values of DL were significantly higher than those of RF and LR ( $p < 0.001$ ). At the 90% sensitivity point in external validation, the specificities of DL, RF, and LR were 0.604, 0.587, and 0.487, respectively. As shown in **Figure 3**, the AUROC values of DL for identification of the secondary endpoint, i.e., mid-range to reduced left ventricular EF ( $\leq 50\%$ ), were 0.821 (0.819–0.823) and 0.850 (0.848–0.852) for internal and external validation, respectively, and the AUROC value of DL was significantly higher than that of RF or LR ( $p < 0.001$ ).

As shown in **Table 2**, the variable importance was different for each prognostic model. All 3 models used T wave duration as an important predictive variable. While LR and RF used heart rate and QRS duration as important predictive variables, their importance in deep-learning is low. Instead, deep-learning used weight and presence of AF or AFL as important variables.



	Internal validation (Hospital A)		External validation (Hospital B)	
	AUROC (95% CI)	p-value	AUROC (95% CI)	p-value
<b>Primary endpoint: heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (EF<sub>r</sub>≤40%)</b>				
Deep learning	0.843 (0.840–0.845)	-	Deep learning	0.889 (0.887–0.891)
Random forest	0.807 (0.804–0.810)	<0.001	Random forest	0.853 (0.850–0.855)
Logistic regression	0.800 (0.797–0.803)	<0.001	Logistic regression	0.847 (0.844–0.850)
<b>Secondary endpoint: heart failure mod-range to reduced ejection fraction (EF<sub>r</sub>≤50%)</b>				
Deep learning	0.821 (0.819–0.823)	-	Deep learning	0.850 (0.848–0.852)
Random forest	0.755 (0.753–0.758)	<0.001	Random forest	0.782 (0.779–0.784)
Logistic regression	0.771 (0.768–0.773)	<0.001	Logistic regression	0.809 (0.806–0.811)

**Figure 3.** AUROC of each algorithm for identification of HF. AUROC = area under the receiver operating characteristic curve; EF = ejection fraction; HF = heart failure; HF<sub>r</sub>EF = heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; HF<sub>m</sub>rEF = heart failure with mid-range ejection fraction.

**Table 2.** Importance of variables in derivation data for each algorithm

Variable importance	LR (deviance difference)	RF (mean decreased Gini)	Deep-learning (difference in AUROC)
1	Heart rate (-1,265.7)	T-wave axis (777.0)	T-wave axis (0.103)
2	T-wave axis (-821.7)	QRS duration (416.0)	Weight (0.087)
3	QRS duration (-502.6)	Heart rate (299.5)	AF/AFL (0.073)
4	QT interval (-323.9)	R wave axis (183.4)	Age (0.070)
5	Sex (-176.8)	Height (76.1)	Heart rate (0.069)
6	AF/AFL (-106.3)	Age (65.7)	QT interval (0.067)
7	R-wave axis (-30.1)	QT interval (44.8)	R-wave axis (0.064)
8	Weight (-29.0)	AF/AFL (44.7)	QRS duration (0.063)
9	Height (-2.2)	Weight (40.6)	Height (0.061)
10	Age (-0.4)	Sex (34.4)	Sex (0.055)

AF = atrial fibrillation; AFL = atrial flutter; AUROC = area under the receiver operating characteristic curve; LR = logistic regression; RF = random forest.

## DISCUSSION

This study developed and validated a deep-learning algorithm, DEHF, for identification of HF using ECG. Through validation, this study confirmed that the performance of the deep-learning algorithm was excellent for identification of HF, with greater accuracy than that using RF or LR.

HF has high prevalence, and is associated with increased health care expenses, repeated hospitalization, and significant reduction in quality of life, which may be resolved with rapid diagnosis and effective treatment. Recent guidelines from the American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association<sup>4)</sup> for the initial diagnosis of HF and referral for echocardiography recommend the use of B-type natriuretic peptide in combination with clinical assessment. These methods, however, require consultations and many tests, as well as a high level of expertise for interpretation of large amounts of complex data and determination of a treatment plan. Furthermore, existing methods are fixed tools that do not account for the relationships among variables and thus provide limited performance for early diagnosis and screening.<sup>5,6)</sup>

This led to various attempts to use a new method, i.e., machine-learning, for the diagnosis of HF. Deep-learning and machine-learning are branches of artificial intelligence science, a study of algorithms that allows computers to independently collect data and make new predictions. Thus, machine-learning enables computers to establish a new predictive algorithm without direct and explicit input by a human. Son et al.<sup>23)</sup> and Masetic and Subasi<sup>24)</sup> developed machine-learning predictive algorithms based on age, sex, blood pressure, and findings of hematology; echocardiography; ECG; radiography; and physical activity in populations ranging from 15 to 4,489 patients, with an AUROC of 0.77 to 0.95 for the accuracy of HF diagnosis. Betanzos et al.<sup>25)</sup> and Isler<sup>26)</sup> developed classification algorithms based on the type of HF (HF with preserved EF, mid-range EF, and reduced EF). Melillo et al.<sup>27)</sup> developed classification algorithms based on the severity of HF. Guidi et al.<sup>28)</sup> developed a remote care system and a monitoring tool for patients with HF.

Studies to date have shown potential for the diagnosis of HF; however, the fact that they use test results from various modalities limits their use for early diagnosis of HF as a screening tool. Because of this, we developed an identification algorithm using only baseline demographic information and ECG features. We used deep-learning to develop a high-performance algorithm. An important advantage of deep-learning compared with machine-

learning is feature learning.<sup>14)</sup> Machine-learning techniques are limited in their ability to process natural data in their raw form. Machine-learning requires careful engineering to design a feature extractor that transforms the raw data into suitable internal representation. This process requires a lot of manpower, and important information may be missed. On the other hand, deep-learning includes feature learning, which is a set of methods that allows a model to be created using raw data for automatic identification of the features and relationships needed to perform a task.<sup>14)</sup> It is important to note that feature learning is not designed by humans. As this process is conducted automatically, it is effective at identifying intricate structures in high-dimensional data without information loss and requires very little engineering by humans.<sup>14)</sup> Therefore, it can be quickly applied to other tasks with ease. Owing to these prospects, deep-learning has been applied in various domains, and shows better performance than all other methods.<sup>14)</sup>

In general, the predictive accuracy of external validation is lower than that of internal validation. However, in the present study, the accuracy of external validation outperformed internal validation in all predictive models. As shown in the **Supplementary Figure 1**, hospital A (internal validation) had a greater proportion of HF patients, as well as a greater proportion of patients in bordering areas. This finding may be due to differences in the characteristics of the 2 hospitals (hospital A: a cardiovascular teaching hospital, hospital B: a community general hospital). Therefore, the task of predicting HF using internal validation might be easier than that using external validation.

DEHF, LR, and RF predicted endpoints using different structures. The patients in whom each model correctly predicted the endpoints also differed. Moreover, the variable importance of DEHF is different from that of LR or RF, as shown in **Table 2**. For this reason, different algorithms can complement each other's weaknesses; thus, many researchers attempt to improve accuracy by combining predictive algorithms. This method, called an ensemble algorithm, is our next area of research.

Several limitations were present in our study. First, deep-learning is considered a black box. Although we can fit the deep-learning algorithm by confirming each weight, we cannot interpret the algorithm in terms of the approach to the decision for a clinical endpoint. For example, if the deep-learning algorithm in this study predicts that a patient has HF, the reason for the prediction cannot be ascertained. Attempts to explain deep-learning are recent, and this will be our next area of study.<sup>29)</sup> Second, as this study was only conducted in 2 hospitals in Korea, it is necessary to validate this model in HF patients in other countries.<sup>30)</sup> For this reason, we have provided supplemental files with our deep-learning model (DEHF), data preprocessing method, and code for validation. The deep-learning algorithm can be developed more easily than a machine-learning method. Using our results, other researchers can develop algorithm for their own patients. Third, we did not use raw ECG signals but instead used features of ECG. We aimed for easy application of DEHF in local clinics and general check-ups, but this method could limit the performance of a predictive algorithm. We plan to conduct a study with raw ECG signals for prediction of HF. Despite several limitations, deep-learning has achieved high predictive performance in several medical domains. Medical researchers should investigate the applicability and future development of deep-learning in various domains of medicine.

Competency in medical knowledge: this study developed and validated a DEHF. With this algorithm, we can identify HF using only demographic and ECG features. Many patients can

be identified at an early stage and referred for diagnostic investigation. The deep-learning algorithm achieved state-of-the-art performance in identification of HF and outperformed other machine-learning algorithms.

Translational outlook: deep-learning technology has not been widely applied in the medical field. Hence, further investigation and validation are required in various medical fields.

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

### Supplementary Figure 1

Distribution of EF in validation groups.

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