Supplementary Information

Supplementary 1. AAM-INSPIRED MODEL EXPERIMENT DETAILS

Supplementary 1A. Cohort characteristics

Supplementary Table 1. Summary of outcomes of patient cohort by hospital, and hospital characteristics. Outcome refers to the patient outcome, "ICU need", which is the prediction target of the AAM model.

Supplementary 1B. AAM-Inspired Model features and description

In our custom implementation of the AAM model, inspired by the AAM model developed in [\[1\]](#page-6-0), we used the subset of the original features available in the dataset. Table [2](#page-1-0) lists the features we used in our custom implementation of the AAM model, as well as the feature transformations (again following the transformations used in [\[1\]](#page-6-0)). The main differences from [\[1\]](#page-6-0) are that we did not include composite indices (LAPS2 and COPS2 [\[2,](#page-7-0) [3\]](#page-7-1), custom in-house scores created by the same organization that developed the AAM model), per-hospital indicators, and we trained the model to predict at the encounter level. We did not include the per-hospital indicators in our custom implementation of the AAM model because we wanted to apply it to data coming from hospitals that were not used in its development. Additionally, we trained the model to predict at the encounter level for simplicity of enabling encounter level analysis. For exact details regarding extraction of features used in the AAM model, please consult Section 2 and Table 1 of [\[1\]](#page-6-0).

The AAM-inspired model is a logistic regression. We trained it using the scikit-learn Python package [\[4\]](#page-7-2), with the inverse l2 regularization strength hyperparameter *C* set to 1000.

Supplementary 1C. Baseline model

The baseline model was selected to have overall performance comparable to, but worse than, the AAM-inspired model. To have some correspondence to a real-world model, we trained the baseline model using a subset of the AAM-inspired model's features that correspond to features used by the National Early Warning Score (NEWS) [\[5\]](#page-7-3), a frequently used patient deterioration risk score. The 15 features used were systolic blood pressure instability, latest systolic blood pressure, latest heart rate, heart rate instability, oxygen saturation instability, latest oxygen saturation, worst oxygen saturation, respiratory rate instability, latest respiratory rate, worst respiratory rate, temperature instability, latest temperature, and latest Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS), age, and sex. The feature definitions and transformations were the same as those used by the AAM-inspired model in Table [2.](#page-1-0)

To achieve more competitive performance with the AAM-inspired model despite the reduced feature set, the baseline model was trained as a gradient boosted machine (GBM) using the LGBM package [\[6\]](#page-7-4). After using FLAML for automatic hyperparameter tuning, the selected hyperparameters were: number of estimators = 200, number of leaves = 139, minimum samples per child = 8, and learning rate = 0.05. The baseline model achieved an AUROC of 0.944 (CI 0.940, 0.950) on the full multi-site evaluation dataset.

Supplementary 1D. Subgroup definition features

The features listed in Table [3](#page-0-0) were selected for the subgroup defining feature set in the Stability Analysis step of AFISP. Comorbidities were extracted from ICD-9 codes. In total there were 91 features.

Supplementary Table 2. Features used in the AAM-inspired model.

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Supplementary Table 3. Features selected for creating possible subgroup definitions in the first step of AFISP.

Supplementary 2. AN ADDITIONAL EXPERIMENT ON THE MIMIC DATASET

To further test the applicability of AFISP, we applied AFISP to the publicly available MIMIC-III dataset [\[7\]](#page-7-5). For this experiment, we considered evaluating our own implementation of the SICULA model [\[8\]](#page-7-6), a machine learning model intended to predict mortality in ICU patients based on their first 24 hours in the ICU.

Supplementary 2A. Features

This model uses the same types of features as the SAPS-II score [\[9\]](#page-7-7): the min and max vital sign values in the first 24 hours in the ICU for heart rate, systolic blood pressure, temperature, blood urea nitrogen, white blood cell count, potassium, sodium, bicarbonate, bilirubin, Glasgow coma scale, partial pressure of oxygen, and fraction inspired oxygen. Additionally, it uses patient age, the type of admission (scheduled surgical or emergency), and indicators for if the patient had HIV/AIDS, metastatic cancer, or a hematologic malignancy.

Supplementary 2B. Dataset

The extracted dataset consisted of 34,386 adult patient encounters in the ICU at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center between 2001 and 2012. 80% of the data was used to train the SICULA model while 20% was heldout for the evaluation set (6,878 patients in the evaluation set). The prevalence of the outcome (mortality) was 0.096 in the entire cohort.

Supplementary 2C. Subgroup Definition Features

We selected the following features for the subgroup defining features used in the stability analysis step of AFISP: patient sex, ethnicity (Black, Asian, Hispanic, White, or Other), age, insurance

Supplementary Figure 1. (a) Performance stability curve of the SICULA model with respect to a shift in patient subgroup prevalence as measured by AUROC. Performance of the SICULA model decays from 0.880 (CI 0.867, 0.896) on the full evaluation set to 0.796 (CI 0.722, 0.845) on the worst 5% subset. The shaded region represents a 95% bootstrap confidence interval. (b) Plot of the effect size (Cohen's *d*) for the worst-case subsets of each subset fraction size. Because we did not have a reference performance threshold, we instead selected the worst-case subset based on the one with the highest effect size (subset fraction of 0.1).

(Medicaid, Medicare, Private, or Self Pay), first care unit (coronary care unit, medical ICU, surgical ICU, cardiac surgery care unit, and trauma surgical ICU), and admission type (emergency or not).

Supplementary 2D. Results

We analyzed how the performance of the SICULA model decays as the evaluation data distribution is gradually changed adversarially through shifts in the prevalence of subgroups defined with respect to the six features defined above. The resulting performance stability curve is shown in Figure [1a](#page-5-0). As expected, performance of the SICULA model decays from an AUROC of 0.880 (CI 0.867, 0.896) on the full evaluation set to an AUROC of 0.796 (CI 0.722, 0.845) on the worst 5% subset.

In this experiment, we did not have a reference performance threshold to compare to (as opposed to the baseline model that was compared to in the AAM-inspired model experiment). Thus, we selected the worst-case subset based on the one with the highest effect size, which was the one with a subset fraction of 0.1 (Figure [1b](#page-5-0)).

We applied SIRUS to determine interpretable subgroup phenotypes. We allowed for up to three features to be simultaneously considered in a phenotype definition. After filtering subgroups based on significance (and correcting for multiple comparisons) and effect size, AFISP recovered the 6 subgroups reported in Table [4](#page-6-1) (ordered by within-subgroup AUROC). The size of the subgroups are all quite large, ranging from 23% to 42% of the full evaluation set.

Supplementary 2E. Comparison to other algorithmic approaches

As in the AAM experiment, we also compared the subgroups found by AFISP to those found by SliceFinder (SF), a state-of-the-art algorithmic approach which searches all possible subgroups for those with poor performance. For this dataset we found that degree 3 slices (i.e., subgroups involving 3 features) were necessary to detect poor performance. Thus, we set (SF) to search the 225, 151 possible degree 3 slices. SF found 320 slices, which is much more than the 6 found by AFISP.

To enable the comparison, we jointly embedded the AFISP subgroups, SF slices, and 500 slices randomly sampled from the 225, 151 possible degree 3 slices into the same vector space using Partial Least Squares regression. The resulting loading plot is shown in Figure [2.](#page-6-2) The plot captures correlations between slices and performance: while the random slices (blue points) are distributed throughout the space, the SF slices are concentrated in the right two quadrants of the space.

The space also captures similarities between subgroups. For example, the vectors for AFISP subgroups 3, 5, and 6 are closely aligned, and these subgroups deal with the intersection of patients older than 66, whose first care unit was not the cardiac surgery intensive care unit, and whose admission was related to an emergency, unscheduled visit.

Supplementary Table 4. Subgroups found by AFISP on the MIMIC dataset

Supplementary Figure 2. Loading plot of the first two dimensions created by jointly embedding subgroups found by SliceFinder (SF) (green points), random candidate subgroups (blue points), and subgroups found by AFISP (portrayed as black vector direction arrows) using partial least squares (PLS) to predict model loss. While the random slices are spread throughout the space, all SliceFinder slices are in the right two quadrants, indicating that PLS was able capture subgroup-performance correlations. Further, the AFISP vectors "cover" the SF region of the space, capturing the relevant directions in only 6 subgroups as opposed to the 328 found by SF.

Finally, the 6 AFISP subgroup vectors do a good job of capturing the relevant directions in the space associated with the SF slices. Thus, AFISP found a concise set of subgroups that cover the slices selected by SF.

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