EXECUTIVE BRIEF

The Data-Ready Foundation: Powering the GCC's AI-Powered Healthcare Future

By Mike Fuller, Regional Marketing Director EMEA at InterSystems

The AI Imperative Is Now

The case for AI in healthcare has moved beyond theoretical potential to operational necessity. Physicians across our region spend significant time on documentation and administrative tasks for every encounter of direct patient care. Medical knowledge now doubles every 73 days, creating an impossible cognitive burden to stay up-to-date while delivering direct patient care. Meanwhile, healthcare costs continue their upward trajectory, demanding solutions that simultaneously improve quality while containing expenditure.

Yet the question confronting healthcare leaders today is not whether to adopt AI, but how to implement it in a way that delivers sustainable value rather than creating new complexities.

The rising evidence of AI impact on healthcare makes it a critical pillar in any future healthcare strategy, there are several use cases that has demonstrated the importance of AI in Healthcare. Recent studies demonstrate that AI-assisted clinical documentation alone can save clinicians time on documentation per encounter while improving productivity and patient centricity. Predictive analytics used for population health programs can identify high-risk patients, before crises occur. Diagnostic AI can detect diseases earlier and with greater accuracy. Assisted coding can reduce billing errors and accelerate revenue cycles.

InterSystems®
Creative data technology

The Data-Ready Imperative

Here is the fundamental truth that many organizations must consider: artificial intelligence is only as powerful as the data infrastructure that supports it. An AI algorithm trained on fragmented, inconsistent data will produce fragmented, inconsistent results. Multiple AI tools bolted-on to legacy systems may create new additional friction.

A data-ready approach centers on ensuring data completeness and continuity across the care continuum. This means creating unified data architectures where patient information flows seamlessly across systems and departments, while maintaining the flexibility to integrate with external health information exchanges as they evolve. Equally critical is establishing robust data quality and governance frameworks that ensure information accuracy, security, and compliance. These foundational capabilities create the integration points necessary for both current operations and future AI systems to access the comprehensive, longitudinal patient context they require to deliver meaningful insights.

Organizations with mature data foundations achieve measurably better AI outcomes.

Organizations with mature data foundations (e.g., governance and data platforms) achieve measurably better AI outcomes: in BCG's 2024 DAICAMA survey, leaders scaled 4× more use cases and realized 5× greater average financial impact than laggards. Conversely, Gartner predicts that through 2026, organizations will abandon 60% of AI projects that are not supported by AI-ready data. They create a foundation that supports not just today's AI applications, but tomorrow's innovations that we cannot yet imagine.

AI-at-Center Architecture: The Strategic Difference

Traditional approaches to healthcare AI follow a bolt-on model: purchasing point solutions from multiple vendors, each addressing a specific use case, each requiring separate integration, governance, and management. This approach may appear expedient initially, but it creates long-term challenges that ultimately limit AI's transformative potential.

The answer—AI-built-in solution—embeds intelligence directly within the electronic health record platform itself. This approach delivers several strategic advantages. Unified solutions eliminate the workflow friction that drives clinician resistance. Unified governance simplifies oversight and ensures consistent policy application. Consolidated vendor management reduces complexity and often the total cost of ownership. Most importantly, AI algorithms gain direct access to comprehensive patient data, enabling more accurate insights and recommendations.

For GCC healthcare organizations pursuing national digital health initiatives, managing data residency requirements, and supporting Arabic language workflows, architectural simplicity becomes even more critical. Every additional system integration adds complexity, cost, and potential points of failure.

The future of healthcare is data-ready. The future of healthcare is AI-powered. The future of healthcare is now.

InterSystems: Partner in National Healthcare Transformation

InterSystems has supported healthcare transformation globally for over four decades. Our TrakCare platform is deployed in more than 600 hospitals worldwide across 29 countries, and our healthcare solutions help manage over one billion health records across the world. In the Middle East, we work with leading healthcare organizations to build the data-ready foundations that national healthcare visions require.

Our approach reflects the realities of GCC healthcare environments. We understand data sovereignty requirements and in-country deployment mandates. We support Arabic language throughout clinical workflows, not as an afterthought but as a core capability. We integrate with national health information exchanges, facilitating participation in programs like NABIDH and NPHIES. We provide local presence and regional expertise to support implementation and ongoing operations.

With InterSystems IntelliCare™, we have created an AI-at-center architecture that eliminates integration complexity while delivering the intelligent automation that clinicians need: ambient clinical documentation, assisted coding, and clinical workflow support.

A Call to Strategic Action

Healthcare leaders across the GCC face a choice that will define the next decade of their organizations' trajectories. The path of fragmented AI adoption, multiple vendors, complex integrations, disparate governance, may satisfy short-term pressures but creates long-term technical debt that becomes increasingly difficult to manage.

The alternative path requires discipline and strategic thinking. It means investing in data readiness before rushing to deploy AI applications. It means selecting architecture that unifies rather than fragments. It means partnering with vendors who understand the unique requirements of GCC healthcare and who commit to long-term relationships, not transactional sales.

This is precisely the moment when strategic choices matter most. The organizations that get this foundation right will achieve the vision articulated in our national healthcare strategies: improved quality, enhanced efficiency, innovation leadership, and ultimately, better health outcomes for the populations we serve.

The question is not whether artificial intelligence will transform healthcare in the Gulf region. The question is which organizations will lead that transformation, and which will struggle to keep pace because they built on the wrong foundation.

The future of healthcare is data-ready. The future of healthcare is AI-powered. The future of healthcare is now.

For More Information

InterSystems is the information engine that powers some of the world's most important applications. In healthcare, business, government, and other sectors where lives and livelihoods are at stake, InterSystems has been a strategic technology provider for over 40 years. InterSystems is a privately held company headquartered in Boston (USA), with offices worldwide, and its software products are used daily by millions of people in more than 80 countries. For more information, visit **InterSystems.com**.

InterSystems Corporation: One Congress Street, Boston, MA 02114-2010, USA. SRN: DE-AR-000005430

InterSystems®
Creative data technology