



# EXPLORING THE LANDSCAPE OF DIABETES DIETARY RECOMMENDER SYSTEMS: A SURVEY AND EVALUATION

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**Abstract :** Diabetes is a chronic disease that affects millions of people worldwide. Diet plays a critical role in managing diabetes, but it can be difficult for people with diabetes to know what to eat and how much to eat. Diabetes meal recommendation systems can help people with diabetes make informed decisions about their meals. These systems use machine learning algorithms to recommend meals that are tailored to the individual's needs and preferences, taking into account factors such as their blood glucose levels, insulin doses, and dietary restrictions. This survey paper reviews the state of the art in diabetes meal recommendation systems. We discuss the different types of systems that have been developed, the machine learning algorithms that are used, and the performance of these systems in real-world settings. We also identify some of the challenges that need to be addressed in order to develop more effective and user-friendly diabetes meal recommendation systems.

**IndexTerms -** Data-driven technology, Machine learning, Blood sugar monitoring, Meal recommendations, Glycemic control, Chronic disease management.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Diabetes is a chronic condition that impairs the body's capacity to make or use insulin. Insulin is a hormone that aids the body's cells in using glucose for energy. When patients with diabetes don't have enough insulin or their cells don't respond adequately to insulin, glucose builds up in their blood. This can result in major health issues such as heart disease, stroke, blindness, and renal failure. Diet is one of the most important parts of diabetes control. A balanced diet can help diabetics control their blood glucose levels and minimize their risk of problems. Diabetes patients, on the other hand, may struggle to know what to eat and how much to eat. A variety of factors can influence blood glucose levels, including the type and amount of carbohydrates consumed, the timing of meals, and the presence of other medical problems. Diabetes meal recommendation systems can assist people with diabetes in making intelligent meal choices. These systems employ machine learning algorithms to recommend meals based on the individual's needs and preferences, taking into account things like blood glucose levels, insulin doses, and dietary restrictions.

**Types of Diabetes Meal Recommendation Systems** There are two main types of diabetes meal recommendation systems: **1. Content-based recommender systems:** These systems recommend meals to users based on their past meal choices and their dietary preferences. **2. Collaborative filtering recommender systems:** These systems recommend meals to users based on the meal choices of other users with similar dietary needs and preferences. **Machine Learning Algorithms** A variety of machine learning algorithms have been used to develop diabetes meal recommendation systems. Some of the most prevalent algorithms are as follows: **1. Decision trees:** Decision trees are a type of machine learning algorithm that learns to make decisions by constructing a tree of decisions. The nodes of the tree represent different features of the input data, and the leaves of the tree represent the predicted outcomes. **2. Support vector machines (SVMs):** SVMs are a type of machine learning algorithm that learns to make predictions by finding a hyperplane that separates the positive and negative examples in the training data. **3. Random forests:** Random forests are a type of ensemble machine learning algorithm that combines the predictions of multiple decision trees to produce a more accurate prediction. A recommendation system is indispensable in the realm of diabetes meal recommendation systems for several compelling reasons. By leveraging data-driven algorithms and insights, recommendation systems can offer tailored and personalized meal plans, taking into account an individual's specific nutritional needs, blood glucose levels, dietary preferences, and health goals. Moreover, diabetes is a highly individualized condition, with varying degrees of severity and different response patterns to dietary interventions among patients. A recommendation system can adapt and evolve to cater to these diverse needs and challenges. It can learn from the experiences of individuals, take into account the latest research findings,

and continually refine its recommendations to optimize diabetes management. Furthermore, a recommendation system can help individuals with diabetes make informed and healthier food choices in their daily lives. It can consider the glycemic index, portion control, meal timing, and other critical factors that impact blood sugar levels. This not only simplifies the decision-making process but also empowers individuals to take control of their health. In summary, a recommendation system within the realm of diabetes meal recommendations is a valuable tool that can enhance the quality of dietary management, provide personalized solutions, and empower individuals with diabetes to make informed choices for better health outcomes.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

In the realm of diabetes management, the advent of technology has paved the way for innovative solutions aimed at assisting individuals in making informed dietary choices. This literature survey encapsulates a diverse range of studies that collectively contribute to the evolution of diabetes meal recommendation systems. The selected works delve into various aspects, from harnessing genetic algorithms for gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) to employing sophisticated machine learning techniques for precise insulin dosage calculations. Additionally, the survey encompasses studies exploring the potential of IoT-based sensors and questionnaires in early diabetes risk detection, underscoring the multidimensional approach adopted in contemporary research endeavors. By delving into the intricacies of these studies, we gain valuable insights into the burgeoning field of data-driven technologies revolutionizing diabetes care. [1] Marshima Mohd Rosli, Nor Shahida Mohamad Yusop, Aini Sofea Fazuly. This article outlines a mobile app designed for gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) patients, employing a genetic algorithm to predict ideal meal choices based on blood glucose levels. Successful algorithm testing supports the development of self-monitoring tools to enhance GDM blood sugar control. The study references diabetes-related topics like modeling, genetics, diet's impact on glucose, and prediction algorithms, offering a user-friendly app for GDM patients to monitor their blood sugar and dietary decisions. [2] Raciél Yera, Ahmad.A.Alzahrani, Luis Martinez, Rosa M. Rodriguez. This paper conducts a survey on food recommender systems for diabetic patients, identifying a gap in well-defined research in this domain. The study examines 34 relevant papers, categorizing them into four groups: semantic-based, optimization-based, rule-based/classification, and interaction-based approaches. It evaluates each category's strengths and weaknesses, including dataset availability, proposal evaluation, integration, and research advancement. [3] Salliah Shafi Bhat, Gufran Ahmad Ansari. Various machine learning algorithms including probabilistic-based Naive Bayes (NB), function-based multilayer perception (MLP), and decision tree-based Random Forests (RF) were employed. The evaluation of the model's performance was carried out using different techniques, such as 10-fold cross-validation (FCV), 66 percent percentage split (PS), and the use of the training dataset (UTD). [4] Giulia Noaro, Student Member, IEEE, Giacomo Cappon, Martina Vettoretti, Giovanni Sparacino, Simone Del Favero, and Andrea Facchinetti. Four machine learning models were developed: MLR, LASSO, LASSOQ, and LASSOQI. Later these developed models were compared with three existing methods (BU, SC, and ZI) that also aim to improve insulin dosage accuracy. The comparison involved assessing the goodness-of-fit (RMSE, R<sup>2</sup>). In the end validation with real data was done. [5] Giovanni Annuzzi1, Lutgarda Bozzetto1, Andrea Cataldo2, Sabatina Criscuolo3, Marisa Pesola3. The proposed ML-model takes into account BGLs, insulin doses, and nutritional factors in T1D patients to predict BGLs in 60-minute time windows after a meal. A Feed-Forward Neural Network (FFNN) was fed with different combinations of BGLs, insulin, and nutritional factors, providing a predicted glycaemia curve as output. [6] Sasmita Padhy, Sachikanta Dash, Sidheswar Routray, Sultan Ahmad, Jabeen Nazeer, Alfroz Alam. This research addresses early diabetes risk detection using traditional machine learning techniques and a hybrid ensemble model. It analyzes data from IoT sensors and questionnaires, achieving an impressive 98.4% accuracy in diabetes risk classification. Key factors influencing prediction include age, family history, physical activity, and regular medicine intake. The study aims to extend these approaches to forecast various health conditions in the future. [7] Muhammad Usman, Kashif Ahmad, Marwa Qaraq. This research addresses early diabetes risk detection using traditional machine learning techniques and a hybrid ensemble model. It analyzes data from IoT sensors and questionnaires, achieving an impressive 98.4% accuracy in diabetes risk classification. Key factors influencing prediction include age, family history, physical activity, and regular medicine intake. The study aims to extend these approaches to forecast various health conditions in the future. [8] Zhouyu Guan,1,5 Huating Li,1,5 Ruhan Liu,1,2,3,5 Chun Cai,1 Yuexing Liu,1 Jiajia Li,1,2 Xiangning Wang,4 Shan Huang,1,2. A patient could take a photo of their meal and upload it to the system. The system would then use AI to estimate the nutritional content of the meal and provide the patient with personalized recommendations for how to improve their meal composition. The authors used the model to generate personalized diet plans for each patient. The diet plans were designed to minimize the postprandial blood glucose response and meet the individual patient's nutritional needs. [9] Boshra Farajollahi1\*, Maysam Mehmnavaz2, Hafez Mehrjoo2, Fateme Moghbeli3, Mohammad Javad Sayadi1. This research paper focuses on the diagnosis of diabetes using machine learning techniques. The study aims to classify diabetes using various medical predictor variables such as the number of pregnancies, BMI, insulin level, and age. Six classifiers, including logistic regression, decision tree, support vector machine (SVM), xgboost, random forest, and adaboost, were compared based on their performance metrics such as accuracy, F1-score, recall, precision, and AUC. The results showed that Adaboost had the highest accuracy of 83%. The paper concludes that machine learning models can effectively classify diabetes and can be beneficial for early screening and diagnosis of the disease. [10] Jyotismita Chaki1, S. Thillai Ganesh2, S. K Cidham2, S Ananda Theertan2. In ML algorithms, most of the studies stated that Deep Neural Network and Support Vector Machine delivers better classification outcomes followed by random forest and Ensemble Classifier. This review delivers an analysis of the detection, diagnosis, and self-management techniques of DM from six different facets viz., datasets of DM, pre-processing methods, feature extraction methods, machine learning-based identification, classification, and diagnosis of DM, artificial intelligence-based intelligent DM assistant and performance measures. [11] Reema Golagana, V. Sravani, T. Mohan Reddy. The methodology involves utilizing USDA nutrition data, preprocessing the data for analysis, employing machine learning algorithms (Random Forest, K-Means) for recommendation purposes, and utilizing LSTM networks to predict user preferences based on their eating habits. [12] Suresh Reddy M and Ramakrishnan. The methodology involves data collection and preprocessing, division into two groups, implementation of the Voting Classifier and Random Forest algorithms, conducting independent sample t-tests using SPSS, and testing the model using specific software and hardware configurations.

### III. METHODOLOGY

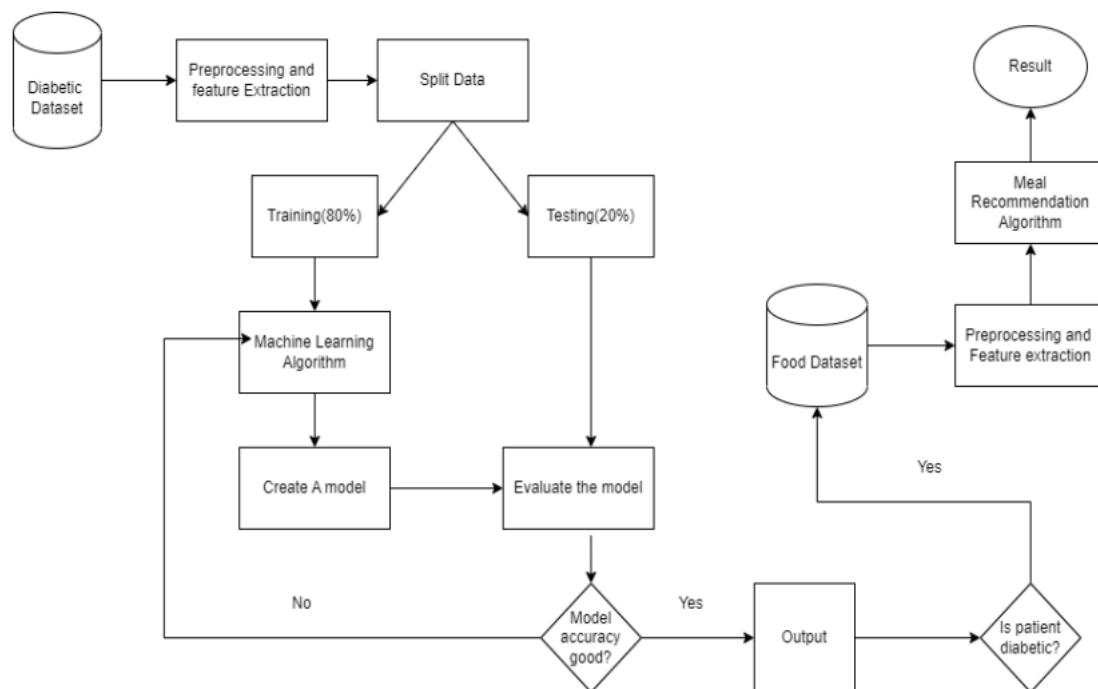
Building an effective and accurate meal recommendation system requires a good understanding of nutrition, diabetes management principles, and machine learning concepts. Additionally, involving healthcare professionals and nutritionists in the development process can provide valuable insights and ensure the system's recommendations align with established dietary guidelines for diabetes patients. Implementing a meal recommendation system for diabetes patients involves several steps, including data preprocessing, model development, and user interface design.

**3.1. Data Collection and preprocessing:** In the initial phase of the project, the focus will be on data collection, where a comprehensive dataset comprising nutritional details of diverse foods and meals will be gathered. Subsequently, the attention will shift to data preprocessing, where the acquired dataset will undergo rigorous cleaning procedures to handle missing values and outliers, ensuring the data's integrity and accuracy. To enhance the dataset's usability, foods will be categorized based on essential features, including their glycemic index and other relevant nutritional attributes, setting the stage for subsequent analysis and model development.

**3.2. Model and User-Interface Development:** In the model development phase, the project will involve selecting a suitable machine learning algorithm for recommendation purposes, considering options like collaborative filtering, content-based filtering, or a hybrid approach. The chosen algorithm will be trained using the preprocessed dataset. Evaluation of the model's performance will be conducted utilizing metrics such as accuracy, precision, or recall to ensure its effectiveness. Simultaneously, the user interface development will focus on creating a user-friendly platform, either a web application or a mobile app.

**3.3. Meal Recommendation Algorithm:** In the meal recommendation algorithm, user input and health data will serve as crucial inputs, passing this information to the trained recommendation model. Leveraging the model's capabilities, personalized meal suggestions will be generated, meticulously tailored to align with the user's specific dietary requirements and diabetes management goals.

**3.4. Testing and Deployment:** In the testing and deployment phase, rigorous testing procedures will be employed to meticulously evaluate the recommendation system, aiming to identify and rectify any potential issues or discrepancies. Once the system has undergone exhaustive testing and quality assurance, it will be deployed on a reliable server or cloud platform, ensuring its accessibility to users across various devices and locations. Deploying the system on a robust platform guarantees seamless user experience while interacting with the meal recommendation service.



architecture diagram

### IV. CONCLUSION

This survey paper offers a comprehensive overview of the current state of diabetes meal recommendation systems, highlighting their pivotal role in personalized diabetes management. The reviewed literature encompasses a wide array of approaches, from content-based and collaborative filtering systems to a spectrum of machine learning algorithms. These systems leverage technology to provide tailored dietary recommendations, taking into account crucial factors such as blood glucose levels, insulin doses, and dietary restrictions. The diverse range of studies included in this survey showcases the breadth of research efforts aimed at enhancing the quality of life for individuals with diabetes. However, it is important to acknowledge the challenges that lie ahead, including the need for user-friendly interfaces and the integration of real-time data sources. By addressing these hurdles, we can pave the way for the development of more effective and accessible diabetes meal recommendation systems, ultimately empowering individuals to take charge of their health and well-being.

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