Ahus utilizes advanced cognitive technology to decode information in medical journals

Capgemini enables Ahus to conduct a quality study with IBM Watson Explorer

Overview

Client: Akershus University Hospital
Region: Norway
Sector: Public Services

Client challenge/Business needs: Ahus wanted to conduct a study on the quality of its medical record keeping processes by analyzing information written in patients’ MRI-reports.

Solution: Capgemini implemented IBM Watson Explorer tools to classify and quantify findings on patients in different stages of cancer, by paying attention to and extracting details written by radiologists in MRI-reports.

Contribute to potential long-term benefits:

- Identify patients in early stages of cancer accurately
- Discover cancer pathway optimization opportunities
- Optimize hospital resources
- Early identification and release of patients without cancer from cancer pathways
The battle rages on
The Norwegian health authorities have established 28 cancer pathways intended to create well-organized, structured and comprehensive treatment plans that will move the patient through the medical process without unnecessary delays in the stages of diagnosis and treatment. Ahus wanted to uncover potential sources of valuable information in these pathways, and initiated a quality study on the prostate cancer pathway together with Capgemini.

Building on success
To increase the quality of the work at the hospital and the efficiency of the cancer pathways, Ahus decided to conduct a study that would analyze MRI findings documented in medical records. The study was conducted in alignment with current Norwegian data protection and privacy regulations.

Ahus needed a study that would determine what kind of information that could be extracted from their free-text, unstructured medical journals and transitioned into a quantifiable format. This would not only better organize the diagnostic information but would also allow for significantly faster quantitative studies of content.

Based on the previous successful Watson project at Ahus, Capgemini was the ideal partner for this project.

Defining a new path for cancer treatment
This kind of quality study, based on cognitive technology in relation to cancer pathways, had never been done before. Ahus and Capgemini decided to start with one cancer pathway and focused on patients in the pathway for prostate cancer.

IBM Watson Explorer was able to provide Ahus with information enabling them to conduct a quality assurance on its' work with cancer pathways. This information was previously only available by manual reading of each medical journal. The study showed that IBM Watson Explorer was able to extract relevant information from medical journals effectively and efficiently.

Fighting cancer with technology
The implementation of IBM Watson with Capgemini has provided Ahus with significant insights that will empower the hospital to improve the quality of cancer pathways and continue to deliver high quality patient care.

Results count
Capgemini helped Ahus to:
• Identify the key information in patients’ medical records
• Extract and quantify medical findings in journals for quality assurance purposes
• Enable optimization of the cancer pathways

Collaborative Approach
Capgemini and Ahus worked together to decode the vast information stored in medical journals.

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