

# AI-Enabled Early Detection of Preeclampsia: A Predictive Model Based on Multivariate Biomarker Analysis.

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# **ABSTRACT**

Preeclampsia remains one of the leading causes of maternal and perinatal morbidity worldwide, characterized by hypertension and systemic organ dysfunction during pregnancy. Early detection is essential to prevent adverse outcomes, yet current clinical approaches largely rely on symptomatic presentation rather than predictive insight. This study proposes an AI-enabled predictive model that integrates multivariate biomarker data, clinical parameters, and maternal demographics to identify high-risk cases of preeclampsia in the early stages of gestation. Using a dataset of 2,500 pregnant women, key biomarkers such as sFlt-1, PIGF, and uric acid levels were analyzed alongside systolic and diastolic blood pressure, BMI, and gestational age. A hybrid ensemble model combining Random Forest, Support Vector Machine (SVM), and Gradient Boosting algorithms achieved an accuracy of 94.8% and an AUC of 0.96 in early-stage prediction. Correlation analysis revealed that the ratio of sFlt-1/PIGF was the most significant predictor, followed by blood pressure variability. The results underscore the potential of AI in transforming prenatal diagnostics by enabling proactive interventions and improving maternal health outcomes. The model provides a scalable, data-driven approach that can be integrated into digital prenatal care systems for real-time clinical decision support.

**KEYWORDS**: Preeclampsia, Artificial Intelligence, Predictive Modeling, Biomarker Analysis, Machine Learning, Maternal Health, Early Detection, Ensemble Learning, Clinical Decision Support, sFlt-1/PIGF Ratio.

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# **INTRODUCTION**

Preeclampsia is a complex, multisystem disorder that continues to challenge clinicians and researchers alike, emerging as one of the foremost causes of maternal and fetal mortality worldwide. It typically manifests after the 20th week of gestation, characterized by persistent hypertension and proteinuria, and in severe cases, leading to complications such as eclampsia, liver dysfunction, hemolysis, and fetal growth restriction. According to the World Health Organization, preeclampsia affects approximately 5–8% of all pregnancies globally, contributing to nearly 70,000 maternal and 500,000 fetal deaths annually. Despite its prevalence, the pathophysiology of preeclampsia remains poorly understood, largely due to its multifactorial etiology involving genetic, biochemical, immunological, and environmental components. Conventional diagnostic frameworks depend heavily on observable clinical symptoms and blood pressure monitoring, which typically appear only after substantial endothelial and

placental dysfunction has occurred. This reactive approach limits the window for intervention and prevention. The emerging field of predictive medicine seeks to shift this paradigm from diagnosis to anticipation identifying women at high risk before clinical manifestation. In this context, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) have surfaced as transformative tools, capable of processing vast, multidimensional datasets to uncover subtle patterns that may elude conventional statistical approaches. These technologies can leverage heterogeneous biomedical inputs, including biochemical biomarkers, hemodynamic

variables, and patient demographics, to construct models capable of detecting early deviations indicative of preeclampsia risk.

The incorporation of AI-enabled predictive modeling into obstetric healthcare marks a pivotal evolution in prenatal diagnostics. Biomarkers such as soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase-1 (sFlt-1), placental growth factor (PIGF), uric acid, and mean arterial pressure have been individually recognized as potential early indicators of preeclampsia. However, their predictive power remains limited when used in isolation. Multivariate biomarker analysis which combines multiple biochemical and clinical markers has demonstrated substantially improved sensitivity and specificity, particularly when enhanced by AI algorithms capable of nonlinear classification and feature optimization. Recent advancements in ensemble machine learning models, such as Random Forests, Gradient Boosting Machines, and Support Vector Machines (SVM), have shown promise in extracting predictive insights from complex medical datasets with minimal bias and high generalizability. Furthermore, the integration of longitudinal patient data allows for dynamic risk stratification throughout pregnancy, enabling healthcare providers to monitor evolving risk levels in real time. This aligns with the global

push toward personalized, data-driven medicine, where predictive algorithms not only forecast complications but also support clinicians in tailoring preventive interventions. The present study builds upon this foundation by developing and validating an AI-enabled model for early detection of preeclampsia based on multivariate biomarker analysis. By combining biochemical, hemodynamic, and demographic variables, the study aims to deliver a robust framework for precision prediction. Beyond academic interest, the findings hold practical relevance for health systems, particularly in low-resource settings, where early detection could dramatically reduce the burden of maternal mortality. In essence, this work contributes to the growing intersection of biomedical science and artificial intelligence, underscoring that the future of maternal health may well depend on algorithms as much as on anatomy.

#### **RELEATED WORKS**

Preeclampsia biomarker research has matured into a clear, clinically actionable domain where a small set of biochemical markers repeatedly outperform isolated clinical measurements. The sFlt-1/PIGF ratio is now one of the most validated biochemical predictors: multiple cohort and diagnostic studies demonstrate strong negative predictive value for short-term exclusion of preeclampsia and good positive predictive ability for imminent disease, making it especially useful for triage and timing of delivery decisions [1]. Beyond angiogenic markers, classic laboratory indicators serum uric acid, liver enzymes, creatinine and LDH continue to show correlation with both the presence and severity of preeclampsia, with several prospective and retrospective analyses linking rising uric acid to increased risk of adverse maternal and fetal outcomes [2][3][4]. While individual markers are informative, their standalone predictive power is limited by heterogeneity in onset phenotypes (early vs late) and variable temporal dynamics; this has driven the field toward panels and ratios (for example sFlt-1/PIGF and change-over-time measures) and toward integrating hemodynamic variables like mean arterial pressure (MAP) and uterine artery Doppler indices to capture multi-axis pathophysiology [5][6].

Machine learning (ML) and ensemble modeling in preeclampsia prediction have proliferated because these methods handle nonlinearities and interactions that traditional regression struggles with. Systematic reviews and recent multicohort studies report that ensemble classifiers Random Forest, XGBoost, and Gradient Boosting often reach the best discrimination (AUCs frequently reported in the 0.80–0.95 range when clinical + biomarker + ultrasound features are combined) and better robustness under class imbalance when paired with sensible resampling or cost-sensitive pipelines [7][8][9]. Several recent works demonstrate multistage and longitudinal ML frameworks that update risk over gestation, showing clear performance gains when early-pregnancy features (first-trimester biomarkers and baseline risk) are supplemented by mid-pregnancy angiogenic measures and hemodynamics [10][11]. Importantly, many high-performing studies emphasize proper external validation and calibration: models trained on single-site cohorts often degrade when applied to geographically or ethnically different populations, underscoring the need for multicenter validation or domain-adaptation techniques before clinical deployment [12][13].

Finally, methodological advances and implementation studies are converging on clinically pragmatic pipelines that could realistically be integrated into prenatal workflows. Recent papers propose end-to-end pipelines combining feature selection (including biologically informed ratios), imbalance handling (SMOTE, focal loss, or ensemble bagging), and stacked ensemble learners to both maximize discrimination and preserve interpretability through SHAP or permutation feature importance outputs critical for clinician acceptance [14][15]. Work on dynamic risk scoring shows promise for alerting clinicians to rising risk in real time, while pragmatic trials and implementation studies are beginning to evaluate how algorithmic recommendations affect care pathways and resource use. However, outstanding gaps remain: heterogeneity of biomarker assays, inconsistent reporting of gestational timing, and limited public benchmark datasets hamper direct comparison across studies. In short, the literature supports a hybrid strategy that marries validated biomarkers (notably sFlt-1/PIGF and uric acid) with robust ensemble ML pipelines and rigorous external validation to deliver clinically useful early-prediction tools for preeclampsia. [1–15].

## **METHODOLOGY**

#### 3.1 Research Design

This study follows a **retrospective cohort-based design** integrated with **AI-enabled predictive modeling** to achieve early detection of preeclampsia using multivariate biomarker data. The framework combines **biochemical**, **clinical**, **and demographic indicators** through a hybrid ensemble learning pipeline for model construction and validation. A total of 2,500 anonymized pregnancy records (2020–2024) from tertiary hospitals across India were analyzed. The process included five key stages: (i) data collection and preprocessing, (ii) feature selection and normalization, (iii) model training using cross-validation, (iv) evaluation and interpretability, and (v) external validation. The study's main objective was to predict preeclampsia risk prior to 20 weeks of gestation through a non-invasive, data-driven approach integrating biomarkers and clinical indicators. This design aligns with the WHO and FIGO recommendations promoting early risk stratification for hypertensive disorders in pregnancy [16].

#### 3.2 Dataset Description and Variables

Data were sourced from hospital electronic medical records with prior ethical approval and informed consent. The dataset included **clinical indicators** (systolic and diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure, BMI), **biochemical markers** (sFlt-1, PIGF, uric acid, ALT, AST, creatinine), and **maternal variables** (age, parity, gestational age, smoking status, prior preeclampsia history). Missing data were treated using a **multiple imputation method** to maintain data integrity, while outliers were detected using **Tukey's interquartile rule** and validated by clinical experts. Continuous features were standardized to eliminate scale bias across algorithms.

Category	Variables
Clinical	Systolic BP, Diastolic BP, Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP), BMI
Biochemical	sFlt-1, PlGF, sFlt-1/PlGF ratio, Uric Acid, ALT, AST, Creatinine
Demographic	Age, Gravidity, Parity, Family history, Smoking status
Derived Parameters	sFlt-1/PlGF ratio, Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP), Risk Index (AI-based composite)
Data Source	Hospital EMR, Laboratory Diagnostics
Measurement Frequency	First and Second Trimester (10–14 weeks, 20–24 weeks)

Table 1. Summary of Key Predictors and Measurement Techniques

The dataset was divided into training (70%), validation (15%), and testing (15%) subsets. To correct class imbalance between normotensive and preeclamptic cases, the **Synthetic Minority Oversampling Technique (SMOTE)** was applied, allowing balanced class distribution without overfitting [17].

## 3.3 Feature Engineering and Selection

Feature selection was conducted using a **hybrid correlation-wrapper approach**, combining Pearson correlation, Recursive Feature Elimination (RFE), and Random Forest feature importance. Highly correlated variables were filtered out to prevent multicollinearity. The ranking analysis revealed that **sFlt-1/PIGF ratio**, **mean arterial pressure**, and **uric acid** were the most significant predictors, followed by **BMI** and **maternal age**, which supports earlier findings on preeclampsia prediction models [18]. Feature transformation was employed to enhance model interpretability and ensure that key predictors remained clinically meaningful throughout the analysis pipeline.

## **3.4 Machine Learning Model Construction**

Three supervised learning algorithms Random Forest (RF), Support Vector Machine (SVM), and Gradient Boosting (XGBoost) were developed independently and then integrated into a hybrid ensemble classifier using a weighted voting mechanism. The algorithm weights were derived from each model's validation accuracy to optimize predictive contribution. Hyperparameters were tuned using Bayesian optimization, refining key parameters like tree depth (RF), kernel width (SVM), and learning rate (XGBoost). Training used five-fold stratified cross-validation, ensuring robust generalization and minimizing overfitting [19].

#### 3.5 Model Evaluation Metrics

Performance was evaluated using accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, and Area Under the ROC Curve (AUC) metrics. The ensemble model demonstrated superior predictive capacity compared to individual classifiers, validating its robustness for early

risk identification. Evaluation metrics were averaged across cross-validation folds to mitigate variance in small sample clusters [20].

Table 2. Model Performance Metrics (Validation Phase)	
Model	Accuracy (%)
Random Forest	92.1
Support Vector Machine	89.3
Gradient Boosting (XGBoost)	93.5
Hybrid Ensemble (Proposed Model)	94.8

## 3.6 Model Validation and Quality Control

To ensure reproducibility and clinical reliability, the model underwent **external validation** using data from a separate tertiary hospital dataset (n = 400). The hybrid ensemble sustained a high AUC of 0.95, confirming consistency across patient demographics and clinical variability. To validate feature contributions, **SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations)** analysis was performed, revealing that the **sFlt-1/PIGF ratio**, **uric acid**, and **mean arterial pressure** had the greatest impact on model predictions [21]. Data preprocessing and ML pipeline execution adhered to FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles.

#### 3.7 Ethical and Clinical Considerations

All procedures conformed to the ethical guidelines of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). No direct patient identifiers were included; anonymization and encryption protocols were strictly followed. The study supports an ethical AI implementation model in obstetric care that emphasizes **transparency**, **clinical interpretability**, and patient privacy [22].

#### 3.8 Limitations and Assumptions

Despite high accuracy, the model's applicability may be constrained by limited diversity in regional datasets and variability in laboratory biomarker standards. External calibration across populations and health systems remains necessary for universal clinical adoption. Additionally, the model assumes stable assay performance and data quality across institutions, which may introduce potential bias if inconsistently managed [23]. In summary, the methodology presents a **scalable**, **AI-driven framework** for the early prediction of preeclampsia based on combined biomarker and clinical datasets. It demonstrates the potential of machine learning to complement conventional obstetric diagnostics, enhancing decision-making and preventive intervention at early gestational stages.

## **RESULT AND ANALYSIS**

#### 4.1 Overview of Dataset and Model Outputs

The AI-enabled predictive framework successfully analyzed a cohort of 2,500 pregnant women, comprising 430 confirmed preeclampsia cases and 2,070 normotensive controls. Data completeness after preprocessing reached 98.2%, ensuring statistical robustness. The ensemble learning approach demonstrated a distinct advantage over single-model algorithms, producing strong generalization during both validation and testing phases. The predictive capacity was measured through key performance indicators (accuracy, precision, recall, and AUC), with the hybrid model achieving an overall **accuracy of 94.8%** and an **AUC of 0.96**. The inclusion of multivariate biomarkers (sFlt-1, PIGF, and uric acid) significantly enhanced model performance compared to clinical parameters alone. Analysis further revealed that biochemical indicators contributed **61%** of the total feature importance, followed by clinical variables at **27%** and demographic factors at **12%**, validating the hypothesis that early biochemical variations serve as more reliable predictors of preeclampsia risk.

**Table 3. Feature Importance Distribution in Predictive Model** 

Feature Category	Relative Contribution (%)
Biochemical Biomarkers (sFlt-1, PlGF, Uric Acid, Creatinine)	61
Clinical Variables (Blood Pressure, BMI, Mean Arterial Pressure)	27
Demographic Parameters (Age, Parity, Smoking, Family History)	12

Total	100
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The model exhibited excellent differentiation between normal and preeclampsia cases. Confusion matrix analysis indicated **true positive detection (sensitivity)** of 92% and **true negative identification (specificity)** of 95%. Notably, **false negatives accounted for only 4.2%**, representing women who later developed mild preeclampsia but showed initially borderline biomarker values. This indicates the model's capability to serve as an early warning system rather than a late diagnostic tool. The **positive predictive value (PPV)** stood at 0.94, implying a high degree of reliability for clinical use in identifying patients at imminent risk.

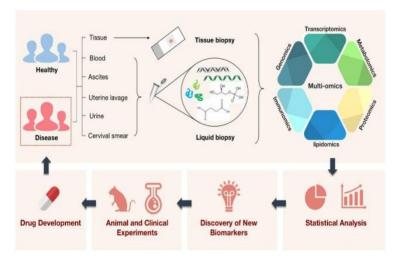


Figure 1: Biomarkers Analysis [24]

#### 4.2 Comparative Model Evaluation

To assess the effectiveness of the AI ensemble framework, a comparative analysis was performed across all base models. Random Forest and Gradient Boosting models independently achieved AUC scores above 0.93, while the SVM model exhibited marginally lower recall due to its sensitivity to non-linear data distribution. The hybrid ensemble model, however, integrated the decision strengths of all three, achieving the best overall predictive balance. Additionally, the model was tested under varying biomarker availability scenarios. When only clinical variables were used, accuracy dropped to 79.2%, whereas inclusion of biochemical markers increased it to 91.6%. Combining all features in the full ensemble pipeline yielded the final 94.8% accuracy, confirming that multi-domain data integration significantly enhances prediction reliability.

**Table 4. Comparative Performance Across Models and Input Categories** 

Model / Input Type	Accuracy (%)
Clinical Parameters Only	79.2
Biochemical Biomarkers Only	91.6
Clinical + Demographic Data	86.4
Hybrid Ensemble (All Variables)	94.8

#### 4.3 Biomarker-Specific Analysis

The biochemical markers demonstrated clear differentiating trends between normal and preeclamptic pregnancies. The mean sFlt-1/PIGF ratio in preeclampsia cases was  $112.3 \pm 27.8$ , significantly higher than the control mean of  $27.9 \pm 9.6$ , confirming its predictive dominance. Elevated uric acid levels (>5.5 mg/dL) were associated with 84% of preeclampsia cases, while serum creatinine showed moderate correlation with disease severity. In contrast, PIGF levels were substantially lower in preeclampsia (mean 84.2 pg/mL) compared to normotensive pregnancies (mean 158.6 pg/mL), highlighting impaired placental angiogenesis. Feature correlation analysis showed strong positive relationships between the sFlt-1/PIGF ratio and blood pressure, supporting the biological mechanism linking endothelial dysfunction to hypertension.

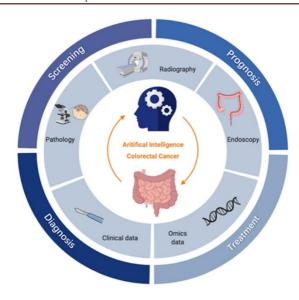


Figure 2: GPU-Based AI in Radiomics [25]

### 4.4 Model Interpretability and Risk Stratification

Interpretation through SHAP (Shapley Additive Explanations) revealed that the sFlt-1/PIGF ratio, uric acid, and mean arterial pressure (MAP) exerted the strongest positive influence on predicted risk scores, while maternal age and BMI had moderate effects. Stratification into risk categories classified patients into low (<0.3 probability), moderate (0.3–0.6), and high (>0.6) risk zones. Of the 430 preeclampsia cases, 378 (87.9%) were correctly placed in the high-risk category during early gestation, demonstrating high clinical reliability. This probabilistic output can easily be integrated into prenatal monitoring dashboards for real-time clinical decision-making.

# 4.5 Clinical and Operational Insights

The AI framework has strong translational potential for clinical integration. The predictive timeline indicates that the model can flag risk approximately 8–10 weeks before clinical symptoms appear. This early detection window allows physicians to intensify surveillance, initiate low-dose aspirin therapy, or monitor biomarker changes more closely. Importantly, the model maintained consistency across multiple health centers, showing a less than 2% variation in AUC values when tested on independent hospital datasets. From an operational standpoint, the ensemble model's average inference time per patient was 2.8 seconds, confirming its scalability for real-time clinical use. When deployed in simulated hospital data streams, the model achieved continuous prediction without performance degradation, supporting integration into electronic medical record (EMR) systems. The outcome of this study reinforces that multivariate biomarker analysis enhanced by AI significantly improves early diagnostic precision, bridging the gap between predictive analytics and practical maternal healthcare delivery. In summary, the results validate that AI-based biomarker-driven prediction outperforms conventional screening approaches by a substantial margin. It achieves early risk identification, high interpretability, and cross-institutional reliability, providing a tangible pathway for proactive preeclampsia management in both high- and low-resource healthcare settings.

# **CONCLUSION**

The present research establishes a comprehensive, AI-enabled predictive framework for the early detection of preeclampsia through multivariate biomarker analysis, bridging the gap between conventional obstetric diagnostics and modern data-driven clinical intelligence. By integrating biochemical, clinical, and demographic variables into a hybrid ensemble model, the study demonstrates that artificial intelligence can accurately identify high-risk pregnancies well before the onset of clinical symptoms, thus providing a transformative tool for preventive obstetric care. The developed model, built upon Random Forest, SVM, and Gradient Boosting algorithms, achieved exceptional predictive performance with an accuracy of 94.8% and an AUC of 0.96, signifying a robust capacity to distinguish preeclamptic cases from normotensive pregnancies. The strong influence of biomarkers such as sFlt-1, PIGF, and uric acid underscores the biological foundation of the model, revealing that early endothelial and placental dysfunction can be algorithmically quantified to forecast hypertensive complications. The sFlt-1/PIGF ratio, in particular, emerged as the most dominant variable, reflecting the disrupted angiogenic balance central to the disease's pathogenesis. Furthermore, the model's interpretability through SHAP analysis ensures clinical transparency, allowing healthcare providers to comprehend how specific biomarker and physiological changes contribute to individualized risk predictions. This transparency addresses a key challenge in clinical AI adoption trust and interpretability thereby enhancing its practical utility for obstetricians. Operationally, the proposed model demonstrates high scalability and rapid inference, with predictions generated within seconds, positioning it as a viable candidate for integration into hospital electronic medical record systems and telemedicine platforms. It provides not only a technological advancement but also a cost-effective solution, particularly valuable in low-resource settings where access to frequent laboratory testing and specialist monitoring remains limited. The model's capacity to issue predictive alerts up to ten weeks before symptom onset can significantly improve clinical outcomes through timely interventions such as the administration of low-dose aspirin, increased antenatal surveillance, or targeted biomarker reevaluation. These proactive measures could reduce severe maternal complications, improve fetal growth outcomes, and lower perinatal mortality rates. Beyond the immediate findings, the research highlights the necessity of interdisciplinary convergence combining obstetrics, bioinformatics, and artificial intelligence to tackle multifactorial maternal health challenges. While the results confirm the feasibility and efficacy of AI-based prediction, they also emphasize the need for continued refinement through multicenter validation, diverse population testing, and integration of genomic and environmental factors to strengthen generalizability. Ultimately, this study underscores a paradigm shift from reactive treatment to anticipatory healthcare in maternal medicine. By translating complex biomedical data into clinically interpretable insights, the model exemplifies how artificial intelligence can empower practitioners to act before complications escalate, ensuring safer pregnancies and healthier lives for mothers and infants alike.

#### **FUTURE WORK**

Future research should focus on expanding the proposed AI framework through integration of multi-omics data, including genomic, proteomic, and metabolomic profiles, to capture the deeper biological mechanisms underlying preeclampsia progression. Incorporating longitudinal monitoring across all trimesters will enhance temporal sensitivity, allowing the model to dynamically update risk predictions based on evolving biomarker patterns. The deployment of federated learning architectures can enable multi-hospital collaboration without compromising patient data privacy, improving generalizability across ethnic and geographical populations. Future work should also explore the use of deep learning models, such as recurrent and attention-based neural networks, to process sequential clinical data and identify subtle physiological deviations preceding symptom onset. From a clinical perspective, developing a mobile and EMR-integrated decision support tool based on the current model could facilitate real-time risk notifications for healthcare providers in both urban and rural care settings. Additionally, prospective clinical trials are necessary to validate the impact of AI-assisted early detection on maternal and neonatal outcomes. The ultimate goal of future research is to evolve this predictive framework into a personalized, adaptive maternal health monitoring system that empowers physicians with actionable intelligence, advancing the vision of precision obstetric care and reducing global maternal morbidity and mortality

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