



# **Regulatory, Infrastructural, and Workforce factors**

influencing AI implementation across  
diverse healthcare systems

Arunnit Boonrod  
Khon Kaen University, Thailand  
arunsi@kku.ac.th

# Outline

---

**01**

---

## **Data**

Basic understanding  
of PACS/RIS

**02**

---

## **Asian-Oceanian Context**

Regulation  
Infrastructure  
Workforce

**03**

---

## **From System to Practice and Beyond**

# Data Management



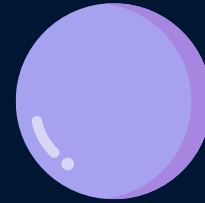
Collecting



Organizing



Storing



Protecting



Utilizing

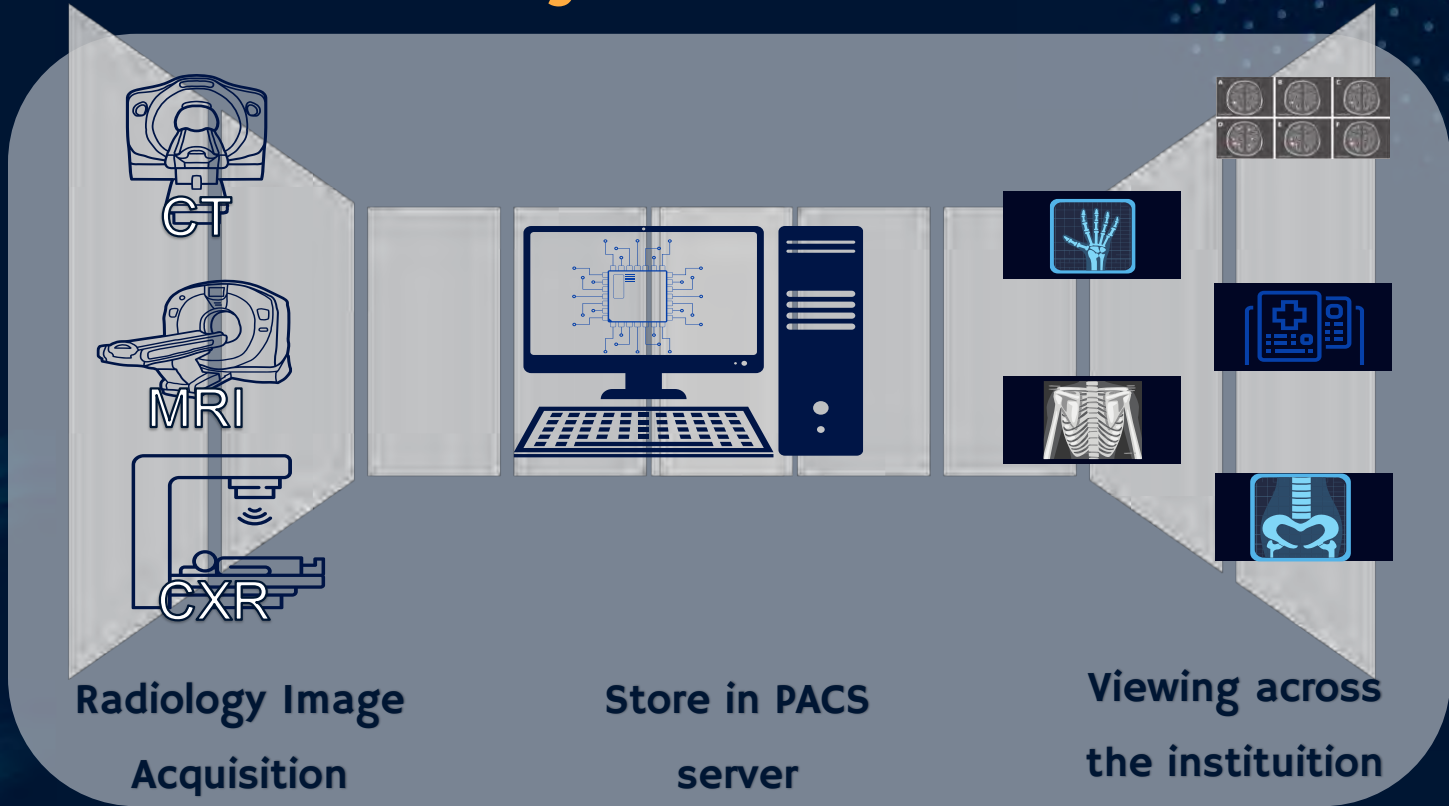


Analysis

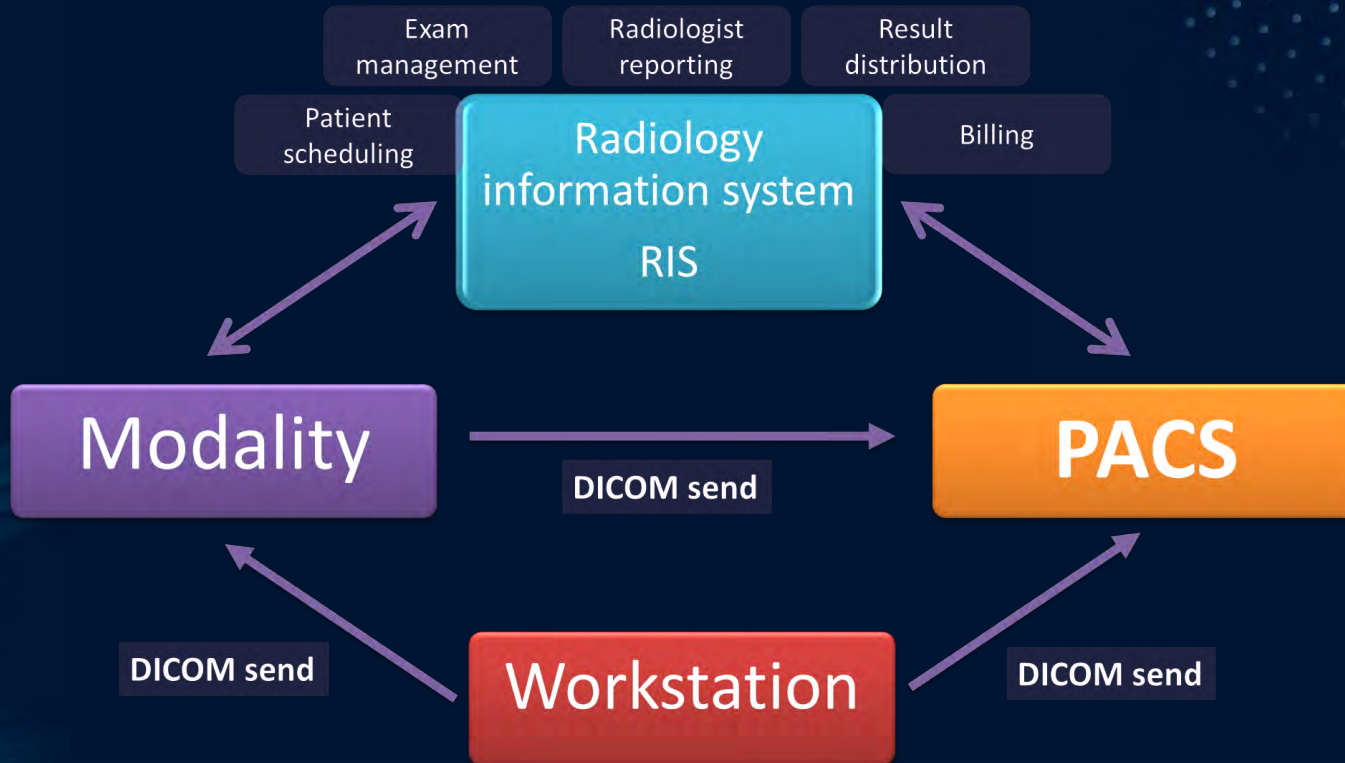


Visualization

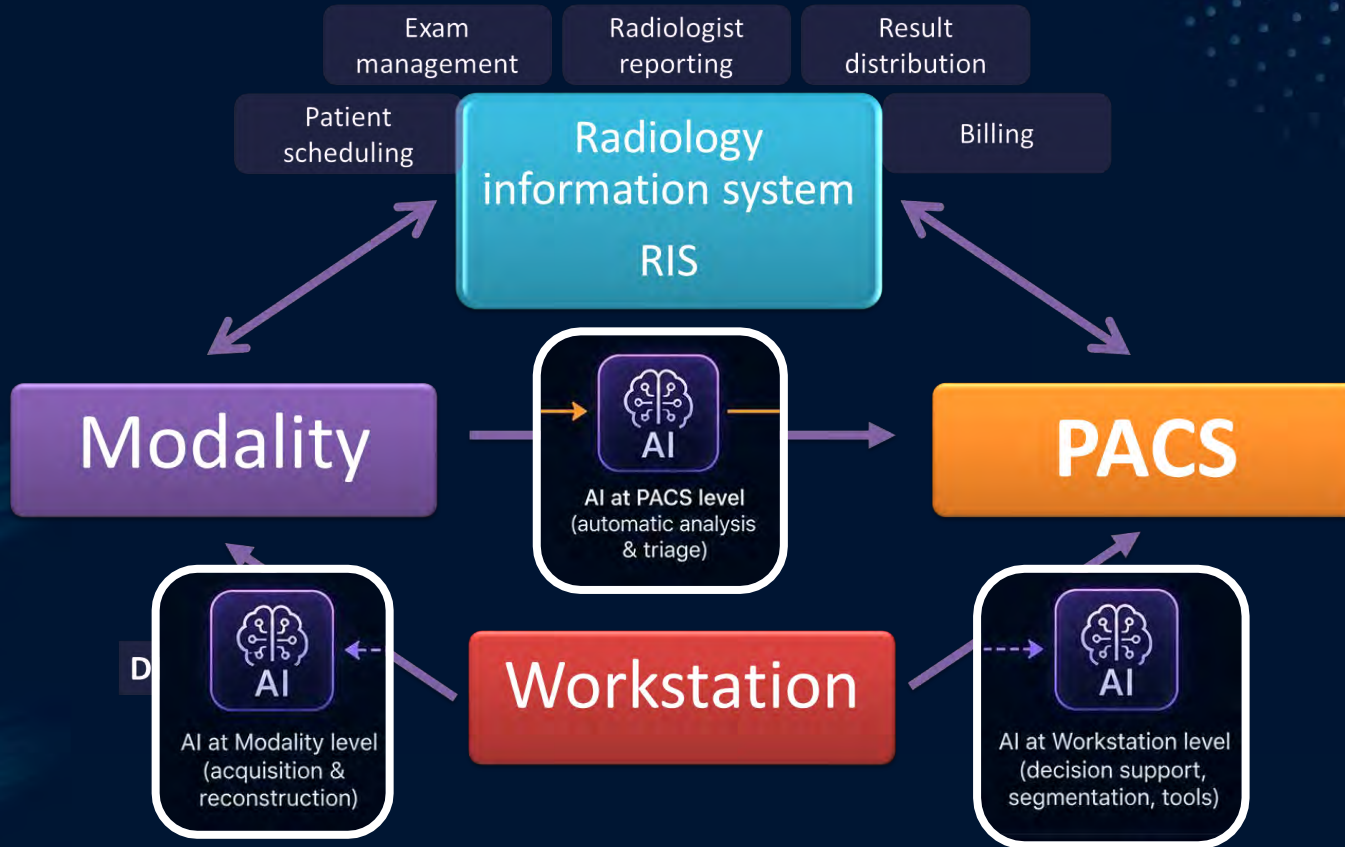
# PACS Picture Archiving and Communication System



# RIS Radiology information system



# Where does AI go?





**AI in Radiology **always**  
performs well in papers**

But implementation in real  
life is often **inconsistent.**

# Outline

---

**01**

---

## **Data**

Basic understanding  
of PACS/RIS

**02**

---

## **Asian-Oceanian Context**

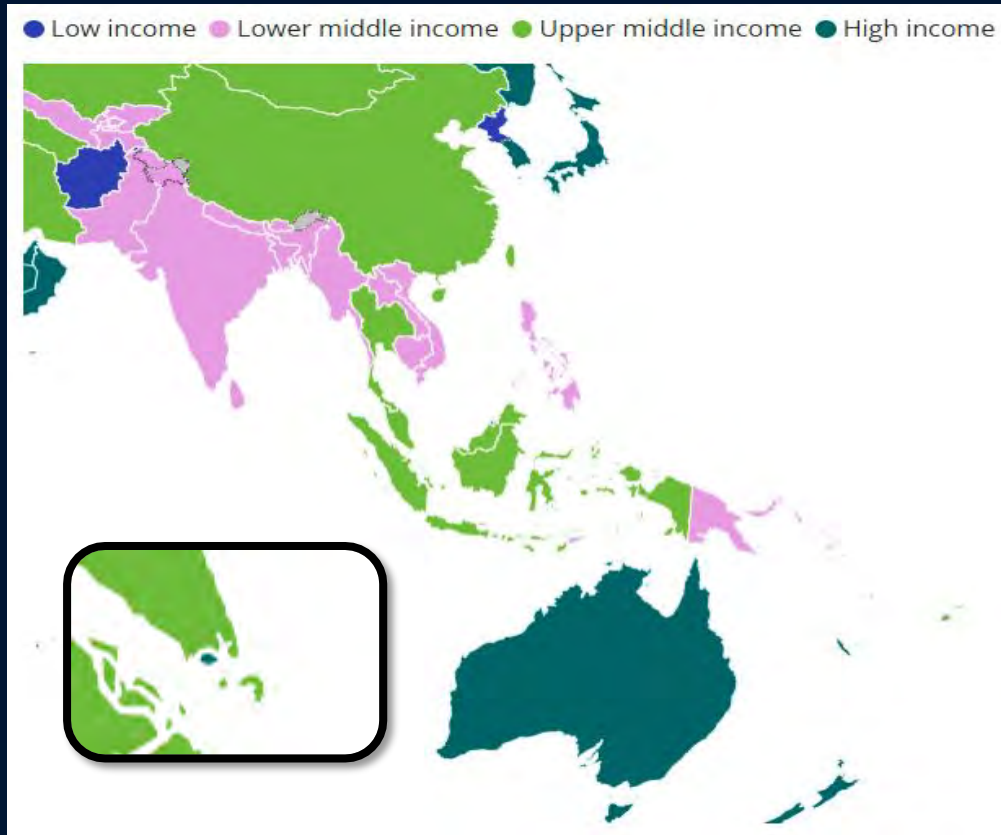
Regulation  
Infrastructure  
Workforce

**03**

---

## **From System to Practice and Beyond**

# Asian-Oceanian Context



Countries with CT scanners  
180

Countries with Radiologists  
141

Population (mil)  
8bn

Number of CT scanners  
93,429

CT scanners (per 1 mil)  
11.94

Number of Radiologists  
363,710

Radiologists (per 1 mil)  
46.47



Countries with CT scanners  
55

Countries with Radiologists  
32

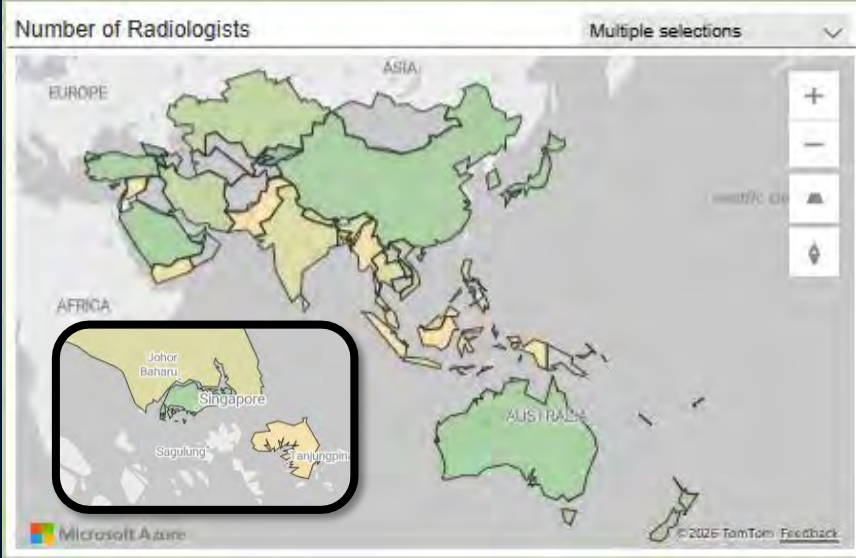
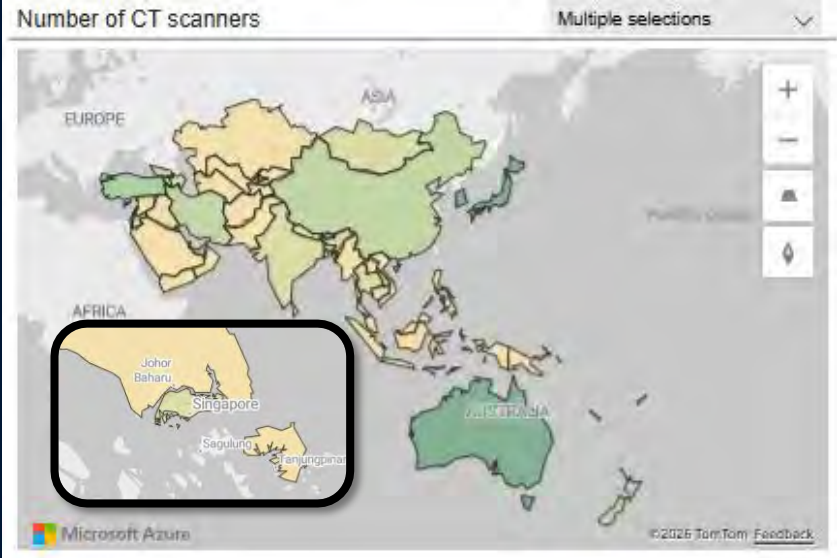
Population (mil)  
5bn

Number of CT scanners  
48,140

CT scanners (per 1 mil)  
10.28

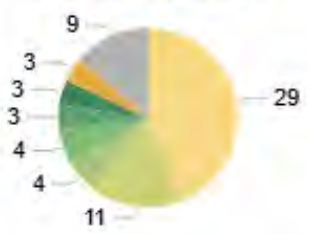
Number of Radiologists  
182,616

Radiologists (per 1 mil)  
38.98



CT scanners by Range

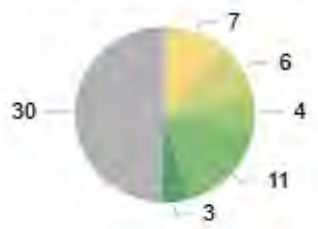
Range: Number of CT scanners per mil



- Between 0 and 5
- Between 5 and 10
- Between 10 and 15
- Between 15 and 20
- Between 20 and 30
- More than 30
- No CT scanners
- Data not available

Radiologists scanners by Range

Range: Radiologists per 1 mil



- Between 0 and 10
- Between 10 and 25
- Between 25 and 50
- Between 50 and 100
- More than 100
- Data not available

# Asian–Oceanian Diversity: One Region, Many Realities

*From highly resourced to resource-limited systems*



## HIGH-RESOURCE SYSTEMS

Japan, Singapore, Australia



Radiologists per million population  
**70 – 80+**



Fully integrated PACS, EMR  
and hospital systems



Strong regulatory frameworks  
and data governance



AI adoption: measured,  
cautious, evidence-driven



**Technically ready,  
structurally cautious**



## MIDDLE-RESOURCE SYSTEMS

Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia,  
Philippines, China (many regions)



Radiologists per million population  
**10 – 30**



PACS widely used but  
fragmented and heterogeneous



Regulations growing,  
pathways still evolving



AI adoption: active in leading  
centers, expanding rapidly



**Rapid adoption,  
uneven systems**



## LOWER-RESOURCE SYSTEMS

Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar,  
Bangladesh, Nepal, Pacific Islands  
and other low-resource countries



Radiologists per million population  
**< 10**



Limited imaging access,  
especially in rural areas



Infrastructure and IT systems  
limited or absent



AI adoption: early stage,  
leapfrogging potential



**Limited access,  
high potential**



**> 50%**  
of the world's population  
lives in Asia–Oceania



**> 60%**  
of MRI scanners are  
concentrated in a few  
high-income countries



**> 20x**  
difference in radiologist density  
between the highest (e.g.,  
Japan) and the lowest (<1–2)  
in the region



**Diverse economies,  
cultures, languages  
and health system  
maturities**

# Singapore A Highly Integrated System

- Nationwide EMR (NEHR)
- Fully integrated PACS–RIS–EMR
- Centralized Infrastructure (AimSG): AI Medical Imaging Platform for Singapore Public Healthcare
- AI-ready infrastructure



# Outline

---

**01**

---

## **Data**

Basic understanding  
of PACS/RIS

**02**

---

## **Asian-Oceanian Context**

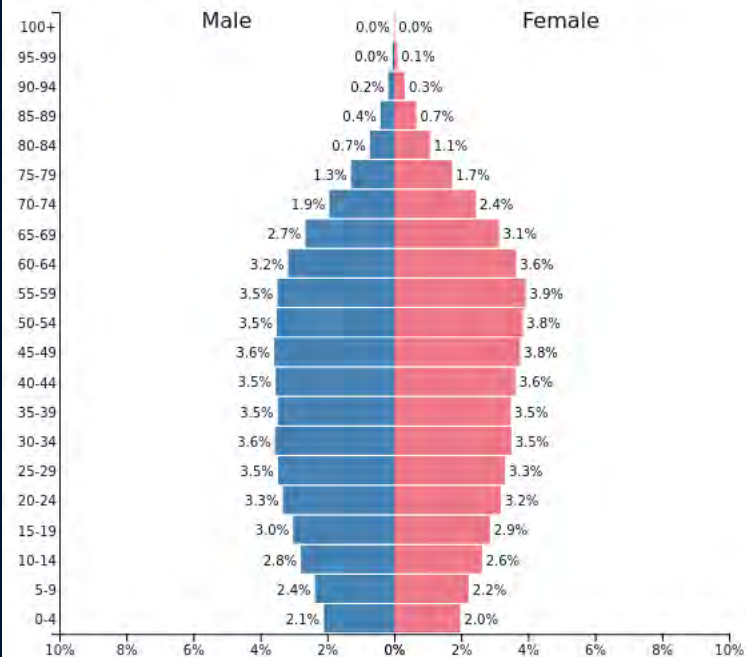
Regulation  
Infrastructure  
Workforce

**03**

---

## **From System to Practice and Beyond**

# Thailand context



PopulationPyramid.net

Thailand - 2026  
Population: 71,559,614

# The Changing Landscape

- 3,528 Radiologists
- Estimated growth in the number of diagnostic radiological examinations in PACS was approximately 8%–12% per year.





AI is a **current** tool, a great tool.

Never

Rarely

But it can ..... mislead us.

Often

Always



# What we should be capable of?

- Know how to use it and actually use it.
- Know when the AI is wrong, and speak up.
- Know that no one can know everything, not even about single subject.– Life long learning
- Advanced training (fellowship or equivalent) will matter more.
- Replaceable?



# What our kids should be capable of?

- Learn how to learn
- Be an **expert** in the field, but have the ability to **expand** beyond one profession.
- Develop judgment: knowing what and who to trust.



*PACS scaled images*

# AI will scale expertise

As tools scale, human judgment becomes more important.

Arunnit Boonrod, MD

