BiMediX2: Bio-Medical EXpert LMM for Diverse Medical Modalities

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Abstract

We introduce BiMediX2, a bilingual (Arabic-English) Bio-Medical EXpert Large Multimodal Model that supports text-based and image-based medical interactions. It enables multi-turn conversation in Arabic and English and supports diverse medical imaging modalities, including radiology, CT, and histology. To train BiMediX2, we curate BiMed-V, an extensive Arabic-English bilingual healthcare dataset consisting of 1.6M samples of diverse medical interactions. This dataset supports a range of medical Large Language Model (LLM) and Large Multimodal Model (LMM) tasks, including multi-turn medical conversations, report generation, and visual question answering (VQA). We also introduce BiMed-MBench, the first Arabic-English medical LMM evaluation benchmark, verified by medical experts. BiMediX2 demonstrates excellent performance across multiple medical LLM and LMM benchmarks, achieving state-of-the-art results in medical VQA, report generation, and summarization. On BiMed-MBench, BiMediX2 outperforms existing methods by over 9% in English and more than 20% in Arabic evaluations. Additionally, it surpasses GPT-4 by approximately 9% in UPHILL factual accuracy evaluations and excels in various medical VQA, report generation, and report summarization tasks. Our trained models, instruction set, and source code will be made publicly available.

1 Introduction

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035Recently, medical Large Language Models (LLMs)036and medical Large Multimodal Models (LMMs)037have shown promising results as conversational038assistants for improving accessibility to quality039medical advice. However, most medical Vision-040Language Models (VLMs) referred to interchange-041ably as medical LMMs in this paper often com-042promise their text-based understanding (i.e., med-043ical LLM performance) when integrating multi-



Figure 1: **Performance comparison on BiMed-MBench.** The comparison is conducted across different tasks and modalities, including CT, MRI, CXR, Histology, and Gross, along with their Arabic counterparts (CT_ar, MRI_ar, CXR_ar, Histology_ar, and Gross_ar). Each axis represents the performance score for a specific category, highlighting BiMediX2's superior performance across diverse tasks and modalities in both English and Arabic.

modal capabilities, making it challenging to interact seamlessly with users (see LLM+VLM column in Tab. 1). This is particularly challenging when users initially ask general medical queries in text format and later follow up with questions related to user-provided medical images introduced mid-conversation to provide additional supporting information.

In addition to supporting diverse LLM and LMM tasks, such as multi-turn conversations and report generation, it is also desirable to support various medical image modalities, such as radiology and pathology, in a unified model. However, as shown in Tab. 1, state-of-the-art medical LMMs, such as MiniGPT-Med (Alkhaldi et al., 2024), are ei-

Model	MTC	RS	RG	Rad	Opł	n Pat	h Mic	ro l	LLM+VLM	Bil (Ar)
Meditron (Chen et al., 2023)	×	×	×	×	×	X	×		×	×
Med42 (Christophe et al., 2024)	1	1	×	X	X	X	X		×	X
OpenBioLLM (Ankit Pal, 2024)	1	1	×	X	X	×	×		×	×
Llama3.1 (Meta, 2024)	1	1	×	X	X	×	×		×	×
BiMediXv1 (Pieri et al., 2024)	1	1	×	×	×	×	×		×	1
Model	МТС	RS	RG	Rad	Oph	Path	Micro	UM	LLM+VLM	Bil (Ar)
LLaVA-pp (Rasheed et al., 2024)	1	1	×	×	X	×	×	1	×	×
MiniGPT-Med (Alkhaldi et al., 2024)	×	1	1	1	×	×	×	1	×	×
BioMedGPT (Zhang et al., 2024)	×	1	1	1	1	1	1	X	×	×
LLaVA-Med (Li et al., 2023)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	×	×
Dragonfly-Med (Chen et al., 2024)	×	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	×	×
BiMediX2 (ours)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	 Image: A second s	1

Table 1: Comparison of tasks and modalities addressed by recent medical LLMs and VLMs. Abbreviations: MTC (Multi-turn conversation), RS (Report Summarization), RG (Report Generation), Rad (Radiology), Oph (Ophthalmology), Path (Pathology), Micro (Microscopic), UM (Unified Model: Single model checkpoint for all downstream tasks), LLM+VLM (Unified LLM + VLM), Bil (Ar) (Bilingual Arabic capabilities).

ther restricted to a limited set of medical image modalities, such as radiology, or require separately fine-tuned models for each downstream task (e.g., BiomedGPT (Zhang et al., 2024)), posing significant challenges for real-world deployment.

Moreover, advancements in medical LLMs and LMMs remain predominantly English-centric, leaving significant gaps for non-English-speaking populations, particularly in languages like Arabic, spoken by over 400 million people. Unlike most stateof-the-art medical LLMs, BiMediX (Pieri et al., 2024) (referred to as BiMediXv1 in this paper for clarity) supports Arabic-English bilingual interactions and offers diverse text-based interaction capabilities, such as multi-turn conversations, report summarization, and question-answering. However, it is limited to text modality and lacks medical image understanding capabilities.

To address the aforementioned limitations of existing medical LMMs, we propose BiMediX2, a Bio-Medical EXpert Large Multimodal Model that supports diverse medical tasks and modalities while also facilitating seamless user interactions in both English and Arabic.

1.1 Contributions

We introduce BiMediX2 an Arabic-English bilingual medical LMM that supports broader spectrum of text-based and multimodal medical tasks, including Multi-Turn Conversations (MTC), Report Summarization (RS), Report Generation (RG), Radiology (Rad), Ophthalmology (Oph), Pathology (Path), Microscopic Analysis (Micro), in a Unified Model (UM) with LLM and VLM capabilities (LLM+VLM) as shown in Tab. 1. It supports a wide range of imaging modalities, including Chest X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, Histology slides, and Gross pathology images (see Fig. 1). The key contributions of our work can be summarized as: (i) We curated *a comprehensive Arabic-English bilingual healthcare specialized instruction set named BiMed-V* comprising over *1.6M instructions* including text-only and image-text instructions across diverse medical image modalities.

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(ii) We introduce *the first Arabic-English bilingual medical LMM evaluation benchmark named BiMed-MBench*, consisting of 286 medical queries in English and Arabic across various medical image modalities, fully *verified by* medical experts.

(iii) We instruction-tune Llama3.1 LLM with our BiMed-V to obtain *the first Arabic-English bilingual medical LMM* achieving state-of-theart results on diverse VLM evaluation benchmarks across various medical image modalities while also excelling on medical LLM evaluation benchmarks in both English and Arabic. This is achieved through the proposed architectural choices and training strategy, which support multimodal interactions while preserving the medical LLM capabilities.

(iv) We perform *comprehensive evaluation of our model across 12 diverse evaluation benchmarks*. In addition to achiveing promising results on our bilingual BiMed-MBench, BiMediX2 achieves *excellent results for visual question answering* on Path-VQA, SLAKE and Rad-VQA evaluation benchmarks, and *report generation task* on MIMIC CXR and *report summarization* on

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Figure 2: **BiMediX2: Overall Architecture** Our model is designed for medical image analysis and bilingual multi-turn conversations. Medical images are processed through a Vision Encoder and aligned with a Projector, while the text inputs are tokenized using the default tokenizer. The resulting tokens are then passed into the language model (Meta Llama 3.1) to generate responses in the prompted language. We only train the language model using LoRA adapters, while the projector is finetuned for medical image-text alignment. A robust data generation framework translates an English data corpus into Arabic using GPT-40, with verification by a medical expert to ensure accurate and contextually appropriate translations. This approach supports effective training and benchmarking in a bilingual context.

MIMIC-III benchmarks. Additionally, BiMediX2 achieves *favorable results on diverse medical LLM benchmarks*, such Medical MMLU, MedM-CQA, MedQA, USMLE, and PubMedQA datasets, and it also shows *robustness in discerning and correcting misinformation in medical* context on the UPHILL OpenQA Evaluation.

Fig 1 illustrates the performance of SOTA medical LMMs on our BiMed-MBench evaluation. BiMediX2 achieves SOTA results on BiMed-MBench, with over a 9% improvement in English evaluations and more than a 20% improvement in Arabic evaluations. Furthermore, it excels in medical Visual Question Answering, Report Generation, and Report Summarization tasks. Similarly, BiMediX2 outperforms GPT-4 by more than 8% on the USMLE benchmark and by more than 9% in UPHILL factual accuracy evaluations.

2 BiMediX2

The architecture of BiMediX2 is designed to facilitate seamless integration of medical image analysis and bilingual multi-turn conversations. At its core, (see Fig 2) the model employs a Vision Encoder (Radford et al., 2021) to process a diverse array 149 of medical imaging modalities, including chest X-151 rays, CT scans, MRIs, histology slides, and gross pathology images. This visual data is aligned with 152 textual inputs through a dedicated Projector, ensur-153 ing accurate and contextually rich medical imagetext mapping. Text inputs are processed using a 155

standard tokenizer, transforming them into the language embedding space of Llama 3.1 (Meta, 2024). This design enables BiMediX2 to generate precise and context-aware responses in either English or Arabic, depending on the user prompt, ensuring flexibility and inclusivity.

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Key to BiMediX2's performance is its modular and efficient training approach. LoRA adapters (Hu et al., 2021) are utilized to fine-tune the language model while maintaining computational efficiency and minimizing resource demands. The projector is simultaneously fine-tuned to optimize image-text alignment in a medical context. Furthermore, the system is supported by a robust data generation framework, where a comprehensive English data corpus is translated into Arabic using GPT-40. A random subset of this translation is meticulously verified by bilingual medical experts to ensure clinical relevance and linguistic accuracy. This pipeline enables BiMediX2 to excel in a wide range of medical tasks, including report generation, radiology analysis, pathology insights, and ophthalmological assessments, all within a unified, bilingual, and multimodal framework.

2.1 BiMed-V: Multimodal, Bilingual Dataset

The BiMed-V dataset is a comprehensive bilingual and multimodal instruction set comprising of 1.6M samples, developed to enhance medical image-text alignment and multimodal understanding. It incorporates a diverse range of publicly

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Model		MMLU					MedMCQA	MedQA	USMLE	PubmedQA	Average
mouth	Cli-KG	C-Bio	C-Med	Med-Gen	Pro-Med	Ana	incuire Qui	incu Qii	COMILL	1 ubilicu Q.1	nieruge
BioMedGPT-LM-7B	49.4	43.1	41.4	45.0	51.0	45.2	34.8	33.2	31.7	74.0	44.9
LLaVA-Med	59.6	59.7	50.9	59.0	51.5	51.9	44.5	35.7	36.9	74.0	52.4
Dragonfly-Med	65.6	69.4	56.6	69.0	58.4	57.0	49.9	42.8	46.1	75.4	59.0
GPT 3.5	69.8	72.2	61.3	70.0	70.2	56.3	50.1	50.8	49.1	71.6	62.1
Meditron 70B	68.3	77.8	63.6	75.0	74.6	56.3	48.4	53.1	55.4	76.2	64.9
BiMediXv1	78.9	86.1	68.2	85.0	80.5	74.1	62.7	62.8	66.8	80.2	74.5
GPT 4	86.0	95.1	76.9	91.0	93.0	80.0	69.5	78.9	83.8	75.2	82.9
Llama3-Med42-70B	84.2	93.1	79.8	91.0	90.1	80.7	72.5	73.8	84.3	80.6	83.0
OpenBioLLM-70B	92.5	93.8	85.6	93.0	93.4	83.7	74.1	68.9	72.0	78.0	83.5
Llama 3.1 70B	83.4	95.1	79.2	93.0	91.5	80.7	71.7	73.8	92.0	77.6	83.8
BiMediX2 4B	55.1	63.9	47.4	55.0	36.0	52.6	38.1	37.9	47.1	72.2	50.5
BiMediX2 8B	77.7	79.2	68.8	82.0	74.3	65.9	58.0	57.0	68.6	72.4	70.4
BiMediX2 70B	86.8	95.1	79.8	94.0	91.5	82.2	70.5	74.3	92.3	79.0	84.6

Table 2: Clinical LLM Evaluation Benchmark

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available datasets, such as PMC-OA (Lin et al., 2023), Rad-VQA (Lau et al., 2018), Path-VQA (He et al., 2020) and SLAKE (Liu et al., 2021) complemented by custom-curated data. We also curated 163k VQA samples by repurposing the LLaVA-Med (Li et al., 2023) 60K-IM dataset, which were tailored to align with real-world medical queries. Furthermore, over 10k samples from the LLaVA-Med pretraining dataset were reformatted into interactive conversations using the Llama 3.1 70B model. A subset of the PMC-OA dataset with short question-answer pairs and multiple-choice questions were added to enhance the dataset's diversity. Training splits of Rad-VQA, Path-VQA and SLAKE, which typically feature concise answers, were restructured into more detailed responses using the same Llama 3.1 70B model, enhancing the dataset's depth and usability for complex tasks.

A unique feature of BiMed-V is its bilingual support, facilitated by a multimodal instruction set comprising 326k samples across various medical imaging modalities. This includes 163k Arabiclanguage samples generated via a comprehensive translation framework (see Fig. 2). English datasets were translated into Arabic using GPT-40, with verification of a random subset by bilingual medical experts to ensure clinical relevance and linguistic precision. This hybrid approach balances automation and expert validation, significantly reducing 214 reliance on human medical domain experts while 215 maintaining data quality. Additionally, the inclu-216 sion of text-based clinical data from BiMediXv1 217 218 (Pieri et al., 2024) ensures the dataset retains robust language understanding capabilities while expand-219 ing its multimodal medical proficiency. This extensive dataset forms the foundation for advanced medical image-text alignment and conversational mul-222

timodal applications. For a comprehensive breakdown of the dataset composition, please refer A.3.

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2.2 Medical Instruction Tuning

To enable BiMediX2's robust capabilities in both bilingual and multimodal medical tasks, we employ a two-stage training process that ensures precise alignment of visual and textual representations while adapting the language model for complex medical instruction tasks.

Stage 1: Medical Concept Alignment: In the first stage, we finetune the Projector alone to align visual embeddings to the language embedding space. The training utilizes a comprehensive dataset of 467k image-caption pairs sourced from the LLaVA-Med (Li et al., 2023) pretraining dataset. These pairs span diverse medical imaging modalities and captions that describe clinically relevant features. Stage 2: Multimodal Medical Instruction Alignment: The second stage finetunes the LoRA(Hu et al., 2021) adapters within the language model, enhancing its ability to process and generate multimodal medical instructions. For this, we utilize our BiMed-V 1.6M bilingual multimodal instruction set, which comprises carefully crafted English and Arabic prompts paired with corresponding visual and textual responses. This dataset enables the model to learn nuanced instructions across a wide array of medical domains, from radiology to pathology, in a bilingual context.

Through these two stages, BiMediX2 achieves seamless integration of bilingual and multimodal capabilities, enabling it to deliver accurate and context-aware medical insights in both English and Arabic, tailored to a variety of clinical scenarios. We have used LLaMA 3.1 (8B, 70B) and Phi-3.5 V (Abdin et al., 2024) as base models to obtain BiMediX2 8B, BiMediX2 70B, and 260

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BiMediX2 4B variants, respectively.

3 Experiments

In the literature, evaluating medical language models predominantly involves multiple-choice question-answering tasks, with accuracy as the performance metric. We employed the EleutherAI (Gao et al., 2024) evaluation framework for evaluating text-only medical tasks following (Pieri et al., 2024). For our bilingual and multimodal evaluations, we utilized several benchmarks and tools. We leveraged our BiMed-MBench for assessing the correctness, helpfulness, relevance and accuracy of the model in a bilingual medical multimodal context. Additionally, we evaluated the model on VQA using datasets such as Path-VQA, SLAKE, and Rad-VQA. For report generation, we used the MIMIC-CXR (Johnson et al., 2019) dataset, and for report summarization, we used the MIMIC-III (Johnson et al., 2016) dataset. These evaluations were conducted using the MultiMedEval (Royer et al., 2024) toolkit, ensuring a comprehensive assessment of the model's multimodal capabilities.

3.1 Medical LLM Benchmarks

PubMedQA (Jin et al., 2019) is a questionanswering dataset derived from biomedical research papers on PubMed. The task involves answering 'yes', 'no', or 'maybe' based on question sourced from the title of a research paper and a context from the abstract. Our analysis focuses on the PQA-L subset, which includes 500 manually annotated QA pairs requiring in-depth biomedical reasoning.

MedMCQA (Pal et al., 2022) consists of 4,183 multiple-choice questions from Indian AIIMS and NEET PG medical entrance exams, assessing professional medical knowledge and language comprehension.

MedQA (Jin et al., 2021) features multiple-choice
questions from medical board exams in the US,
Mainland China, and Taiwan. Our study focuses on
the USMLE portion (1,273 test samples), requiring
multi-step reasoning and evidence retrieval.

USMLE (Han et al., 2023) is a self-assessment test
from the United States Medical Licensing Examination (Step 1, Step 2, and Step 3). We use the
MedAlpaca version, which excludes image-based
questions and contains 325 test samples.

307Medical MMLU (Hendrycks et al., 2020) is a col-308lection of six datasets covering 1,089 test ques-

tions across Clinical Knowledge, College Biology, College Medicine, Medical Genetics, Professional Medicine, and Anatomy.

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UPHILL OpenQA (Kaur et al., 2023) evaluates LLMs' accuracy in handling health-related queries with varying presuppositions. Our analysis focuses on zero-shot models' ability to refute false health claims, a critical factor in combating misinformation. In this context, the accuracy refers to the model's effectiveness in accurately refuting false health-related claims at different presupposition levels.

3.2 Medical VLM Benchmarks

BiMed-MBench: We introduced the first bilingual GPT-4o-based medical LMM benchmark, consisting of 286 medical queries spanning various medical imaging modalities. The test dataset includes conversational interactions and detailed descriptions for modalities such as chest X-rays (CXR), MRI, histology, gross and CT scans derived from LLaVA-Med (Li et al., 2023). GPT-40 evaluates the correctness of model responses based on the provided image context and caption. The reference prediction, serving as the upper-bound answer for the teacher model, is generated using GPT-4 (Achiam et al., 2023). For Arabic evaluations, the ground truth is derived from the upper-bound, translated by GPT-40, and all test samples are comprehensively verified by medical experts for quality assurance. GPT-40 evaluates the responses by comparing the candidate LMM against the upper-bound for English queries and against the Arabic ground truth for Arabic queries. The evaluation assesses the helpfulness, relevance, accuracy, and level of detail of the responses while maintaining the user language. The scoring is conducted on a scale of 1 to 10, with higher scores indicating better performance. Additionally, GPT-40 provides detailed explanations of the evaluation to offer deeper insights into the models' performance. Finally, we compute and compare the relative scores of the two candidates.

Visual Question Answering (VQA): To evaluate a model's performance in Visual Question Answering, three datasets are used: Path-VQA, SLAKE, and Rad-VQA. These datasets include a mix of open-ended and close-ended questions, designed to test the model's ability to interpret and respond to queries based on medical images. This evaluation ensures the model's effectiveness in handling a variety of visual and textual inputs.

Model	Conversation	Description	CXR	MRI	Histology	Gross	СТ	Overall
BiomedGPT	15.3	13.3	16.4	13.0	14.1	14.9	15.8	14.8
LLaVA-pp	34.3	36.6	44.7	33.3	34.7	30.2	31.5	34.9
MiniGPT-Med	37.5	29.6	47.6	32.5	36.3	31.8	29.1	35.4
LLaVA-Med	55.6	43.3	59.5	43.4	54.4	53.9	51.0	52.4
Dragonfly-Med	59.2	34.2	67.0	51.2	53.7	42.6	48.3	52.7
BiMediX2 8B	64.9	54.5	71.7	56.8	62.5	61.4	58.9	62.2

Table 3: BiMed-MBench English Evaluation

Model	Conversation	Description	CXR	MRI	Histology	Gross	СТ	Overall
BiomedGPT	11.1	11.2	11.4	10.8	11.5	11.3	11.1	11.2
MiniGPT-Med	21.6	12.6	23.7	12.7	32.0	15.8	14.9	20.2
LLaVA-Med	23.9	29.4	31.2	25.3	24.8	23.4	26.4	26.2
LLaVA-pp	29.0	27.8	33.2	25.0	33.0	25.8	25.8	28.7
Dragonfly-Med	32.8	19.9	31.9	25.7	33.0	24.0	31.7	29.5
BiMediX2 8B	54.3	36.2	61.4	44.6	51.5	43.5	50.8	50.5

Table 4: BiMed-MBench Arabic Evaluation



Figure 3: Qualitative Examples of BiMediX2 for Medical Image Understanding in a Conversational Context.



Figure 4: Performance comparison on **UPHILL OpenQA** (Kaur et al., 2023), assessing the model's ability to address false medical claims at different presupposition levels.

Report Generation: The MIMIC-CXR (Johnson et al., 2019) dataset, which includes de-identified radiology reports associated with chest X-rays, is utilized to assess the model's performance in generating the findings section of medical reports. For this task, the input consists of one or more radiology images related to a case, followed by a prompt such as, "*<image> elimage> Please caption this scan with findings and impressions.*" This setup evaluates the model's ability to generate accurate and coherent medical reports based

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Dataset	Metric	RadFM	LLaVA Med	BioMedGPT	MiniGPT-Med	Phi-3.5 V	BiMediX2 4B	BiMediX2 8B
	BLEU-1↑	0.475	0.033	0.044	0.662	0.377	0.501	0.552
	closed Q accuracy↑	0.577	0.545	0.203	0.829	0.618	0.685	0.725
Rad-VQA	open Q recall↑	0.407	0.246	0.199	0.546	0.295	0.292	0.363
Kau-vQA	recall↑	0.438	0.372	0.199	0.703	0.475	0.511	0.565
	open Q accuracy↑	0.335	0.140	0.150	0.490	0.200	0.225	0.305
	F1 ↑	0.442	0.069	0.064	0.675	0.391	0.516	0.569
	BLEU-1↑	0.746	0.036	0.175	0.337	0.089	0.625	0.778
	closed Q accuracy↑	0.752	0.512	0.248	0.572	0.535	0.744	0.831
Slake-VOA	open Q recall↑	0.758	0.429	0.293	0.308	0.377	0.624	0.763
Slake-VQA	recall↑	0.695	0.443	0.260	0.396	0.404	0.664	0.786
	open Q accuracy↑	0.725	0.362	0.259	0.278	0.329	0.567	0.729
	F1 ↑	0.714	0.075	0.192	0.349	0.129	0.641	0.787
	BLEU-1↑	0.257	0.021	0.145	0.296	0.283	0.469	0.587
	closed Q accuracy↑	0.505	0.512	0.260	0.581	0.553	0.708	0.872
Path-VOA	open Q recall↑	0.020	0.116	0.093	0.040	0.063	0.239	0.314
Faul-vQA	recall↑	0.221	0.287	0.176	0.311	0.308	0.474	0.593
	open Q accuracy↑	0.005	0.053	0.077	0.019	0.027	0.210	0.282
	F1 ↑	0.232	0.052	0.154	0.299	0.287	0.475	0.595
	Average	0.461	0.239	0.177	0.427	0.319	0.509	0.611

Table 5: Medical VQA Benchmark MultiMedEval (Royer et al., 2024)

on visual inputs.

372**Report Summarization:** We conduct an evalua-373tion of report summarization using the MIMIC-III374(Johnson et al., 2016) dataset. The task involves375generating the impressions section of a radiology376report based on the findings section. To achieve377this, the model is provided with the free-text find-378ings along with a task prompt, "Summarize the find-379ings". This assessment focuses on the model's abil-380ity to distill comprehensive medical information381into a concise and precise summary, which is essen-382tial for clear and effective medical communication.

4 Results

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LLM Medical Evaluation: The performance of BiMediX2 and other models on various languagebased medical benchmarks is presented in Fig 5 and Tab 2. Our BiMediX2 70B achieved the highest average score of 84.6%, outperforming other models such as GPT-4 (82.9%) and Llama-3-Med42-70B (83.0%). BiMediX2 70B exhibited superior average performance across multiple datasets, including Medical MMLU, MedMCQA, MedQA, USMLE, and PubMedQA, demonstrating its strong understanding of medical contexts.

UPHILL OpenQA Evaluation: Fig 4 illustrates the performance comparison on the UPHILL
OpenQA benchmark. BiMediX2 70B achieved
the highest overall factual accuracy of 60.6%, and
the second highest being BiMediX2 8B (56.1%),
surpassing other models such as GPT-4 (51.5%),
Meditron 70B (49.6%), and Med42 (53.5%). This

highlights BiMediX2's effectiveness in discerning and correcting misinformation in medical contexts.

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BiMed-MBench Evaluation: Tables 3 and 4 present the evaluation results of BiMediX2 and other medical LMMs on the English and Arabic BiMed-MBench benchmark, respectively. BiMediX2 8B demonstrated superior performance in both English (overall score of 62.2%) and Arabic (overall score of 50.5%) evaluations, outperforming other models. Fig 1 compares the performance of state-of-the-art medical LMMs on our BiMed-MBench evaluation in a bilingual context. This indicates BiMediX2's strong bilingual capabilities and its effectiveness in handling medical conversations and descriptions across different imaging modalities.

Medical VQA Benchmark: Tab 5 shows the performance of BiMediX2 and other models on the Medical VQA benchmark using the MultiMedEval toolkit. Our BiMediX2 8B achieves the highest average score of 0.611, outperforming other models across datasets such as Rad-VQA, Slake-VQA, and Path-VQA. This demonstrates BiMediX2's proficiency in visual question answering, a critical task in medical diagnostics.

Report Summarization: Tab 6 presents the report summarization performance on the MIMIC-III dataset. BiMediX2 8B achieved the highest average score of 0.416, surpassing other models like LLaVA-Med (0.398) and Dragonfly-Med (0.110). This average score is derived as a unified metric by re-scaling BLUE-4* and RadCliQ* metrics. This

Dataset	Metric	LLaVA Med	Dragonfly-Med	BiMediX2 4B	BiMediX2 8B
	ROUGE-L↑	0.185	0.072	0.209	0.205
	BLEU-1↑	0.192	0.062	0.153	0.178
	BLEU-4↑*	0.520	0.000	0.410	0.449
MIMIC-III	F1-RadGraph↑	0.232	0.000	0.222	0.230
	RadCliQ [↑] *	0.753	0.247	0.923	0.918
	CheXbert vector↑	0.600	0.326	0.633	0.593
	METEOR↑	0.303	0.060	0.264	0.339
I	Average	0.398	0.110	0.402	0.416

Table 6: Report Summarization MultiMedEval (Royer et al., 2024)

Dataset	Metric	RadFM	LLaVA Med	BioMedGPT	BiMediX2 4B	BiMediX2 8B
	F1-RadGraph↑	0.042	0.048	0.000	0.083	0.098
	BLEU-1↑	0.006	0.163	0.003	0.046	0.155
MIMIC-CXR	BLEU-4↑*	0.000	0.060	0.000	0.042	0.016
Report	ROUGE-L↑	0.065	0.125	0.012	0.131	0.153
Generation	RadCliQ↑*	0.655	0.660	0.827	0.865	0.860
	CheXbert vector↑	0.197	0.150	0.153	0.205	0.189
	METEOR ↑	0.053	0.137	0.016	0.107	0.174
Average		0.145	0.192	0.145	0.211	0.235

Table 7: Report Generation MultiMedEval (Royer et al., 2024)

indicates BiMediX2's effectiveness in generating 434 435 concise and accurate summaries of medical reports, a vital task for efficient healthcare communication. 436 **Report Generation:** Tab 7 shows the report gen-437 eration performance on the MIMIC-CXR dataset. 438 BiMediX2 8B achieved the highest average score 439 of 0.235, outperforming other models like LLaVA-440 441 Med (0.192) and BioMedGPT (0.145). The average score is derived as a unified metric by re-442 scaling BLUE-4* and RadCliQ* metrics. This 443 highlights BiMediX2's capability in generating de-444 tailed and accurate medical reports from radiology 445 images, a crucial task for diagnostic purposes. 446

5 Qualitative Examples

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Medical Image Understanding in a Conversa-448 tional Context: Fig 3 illustrates the capabilities 449 of the BiMediX2 framework in analyzing medi-450 cal images and providing detailed, context-aware 451 responses in both English and Arabic. The top sec-452 tion showcases a conversation involving a sagittal 453 CT scan of the lumbar spine. The model identi-454 fies the scan type and explains that it is a vertical 455 slice of the body focusing on the lumbar spine. 456 When asked about abnormalities, the model accu-457 rately identifies a fracture in the L4 vertebra, and 458 459 provides a comprehensive explanation of the condition. It discusses possible causes, such as trauma or 460 repetitive stress, and elaborates on the potential im-461 plications for the patient, demonstrating its ability 462 to provide clinically relevant insights. And in the 463

bottom section, BiMediX2 accurately identifies the organ, explains the imaging technique, and detects abnormalities, providing valuable insights that can aid in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions related to the female reproductive system. This particular example showcases BiMediX2's capability to converse in both English and Arabic simultaneously. Additional Qualitative Examples are shown in Section A.1. 464

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6 Conclusion

BiMediX2 represents a leap forward in bilingual, multimodal medical AI, addressing the global need for accessible and inclusive healthcare solutions in both English and Arabic. By integrating text and visual modalities within a unified architecture, it enables seamless multi-turn interactions for diverse medical tasks, including medical image analysis and complex medical conversations. Key contributions include the comprehensive bilingual dataset, BiMed-V, which provides diverse multimodal medical instructions tailored for both languages, and the introduction of BiMed-MBench, the first bilingual GPT-4o-based medical benchmark, which showcases the model's ability to excel in a wide range of expert-verified medical scenarios. BiMediX2 paves the way for inclusive, multilingual, and multimodal healthcare applications, significantly enhancing the accessibility and quality of medical assistance worldwide.

7 Limitations

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Despite its overall improvement, BiMediX2, like 494 other generative language models, may experience 495 issues such as hallucinations, toxicity, and stereo-496 types. These issues stem from both the inherited 497 limitations of the base models and the nature of the pretraining data. While we have conducted au-499 tomatic and qualitative evaluations with medical 500 professionals, we acknowledge that our model's medical diagnoses and recommendations may not always be accurate. Extensive human evaluation is more reliable but expensive and time-consuming. The exploration of alternative solutions remains an 505 important focus for ongoing research. 506

> Currently, our models lack explicit mechanisms to curb undesirable behaviors. Future research will focus on enhancing security and alignment strategies. On a brighter note, we believe that releasing our model weights could contribute to investigating and mitigating risks tied to application uses.

8 Safety and Ethical Implications

We recognize the significant societal impact of BiMediX2 and emphasize the importance of ethical considerations and transparency. This work is intended for research purposes only and is not ready for clinical or commercial use. Ensuring the model's accuracy and reliability is crucial, as incorrect medical advice could have serious health consequences. Robust validation and quality control measures are essential to minimize errors.

Ethical considerations include protecting patient privacy and ensuring the confidentiality of medical data. The model must comply with relevant data protection regulations and ethical guidelines. Addressing potential biases in the model's outputs is also critical for ensuring fair and equitable healthcare outcomes.

Collaboration with patients, medical professionals, and ethicists is essential for ethical oversight and further research to ensure safety and accuracy in clinical settings. By acknowledging and addressing these considerations, we can continue to refine BiMediX2 for safe and effective use in healthcare.

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A Appendix

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A.1 Additional Qualitative Examples

Medical Image Understanding in a Conversational Context: Fig 7 illustrates the capabilities of the BiMediX2 framework in analyzing medical images and providing detailed, context-aware responses in both English and Arabic. The top section showcases a conversation involving a 3D CT scan of the chest. The model identifies the scan type and explains that it uses X-ray technology to create detailed cross-sectional images, which are then reconstructed into 3D images. When asked about abnormalities, the model accurately identifies multiple rib fractures. It further clarifies that these fractures are present on both the left and right sides of the chest. And in the bottom section, BiMediX2 accurately identifies the organ, explains the imaging technique, and detects abnormalities, providing valuable insights that can aid in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions related to the female reproductive system. This particular example showcases BiMediX2's capability to converse in both English and Arabic simultaneously, depending on the input query.

Medical Image Understanding in a Conversa-706 tional and Bilingual (Arabic) Setting: Fig 8 illustrates BiMediX2's ability to understand medical imagery and converse in Arabic, showcasing its bilingual capabilities. In the top section, our model accurately identifies the organ and the type 711 of scan, providing clear and precise information 712 that can assist medical professionals in diagnosing and treating liver-related conditions. The middle 714 715 section shows that our model identifies the body part and the type of scan. And in the bottom section, 716 BiMediX2 accurately identifies the organ, explains 717 the imaging technique, and detects abnormalities, 718 providing valuable insights that can aid in the di-719 agnosis and treatment of conditions related to the female reproductive system. This particular exam-721 ple showcases BiMediX2's capability to converse in both English and Arabic simultaneously.

724Medical Image Understanding of our BiMediX2725in Multidomain: Fig 9 showcases BiMediX2's ver-726satility and accuracy across various medical imag-727ing modalities. In the top section, it identifies key728structures in a scanning electron micrograph of729a mosquito head. In subsequent sections, it cor-730rectly interprets an MRI of a parotid tumor, a his-731tology slide of adipose tissue (including stain type),732a chest X-ray with pneumothorax, and a CT scan

of the abdomen, pinpointing adrenal abnormalities. These examples demonstrate BiMediX2's capability to analyze and diagnose diverse imaging types, making it a valuable tool across medical specialties. 733

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A.2 Clinical LLM Benchmarks

Figure 5 compares state-of-the-art medical LLMs and LMMs on clinical benchmarks, including PubMedQA (Jin et al., 2019), MedMCQA (Pal et al., 2022) MedQA (Jin et al., 2021) and medical MMLU (Massive Multitask Language Understanding) (Hendrycks et al., 2020) and USMLE (Han et al., 2023), as illustrated in Fig 5. BiMediX2 70B achieved the highest average score (84.6%), surpassing GPT-4 (82.9%) and Llama-3-Med42-70B (83.0%), demonstrating its superior performance across diverse medical tasks. The stacked bars illustrate performance across individual datasets, highlighting BiMediX2's strong understanding of medical contexts.

A.3 BiMedV-1.6M Dataset

The **BiMedV-1.6M dataset** comprises **1,691,407 samples** across English and Arabic, covering text and image-text QA tasks, supporting multilingual and multimodal medical research. The dataset composition is presented in Tab 8, Fig 6.

Dataset	No. of samples
PubMedQA	210169
MedMCQA	182712
MedQA	20691
Single Turn QA	119879
Multi-Turn Conversation	133134
PMC-MCQ	80000
LLaVA-Med-Subset-to-Conv	11616
Rad-VQA	1796
Slake-VQA	9835
PMC-VQA	80000
Path-VQA	19654
LLaVA-Med-to-QA	163463
MedQA (Ara)	11210
PubMedQA (Ara)	115773
MedMCQA (Ara)	97523
Single Turn QA (Ara)	156254
Multi-Turn Conversation (Ara)	64235
LLaVA-Med-to-QA (Ara)	163463
PMC-MCQ (Ara)	50000
Total	1691407

Table 8: BiMed-V-1.6M Dataset Composition



Figure 5: State of the art comparison of models in Clinical LLM Benchmarks



Figure 6: **BiMed-V-1.6M Dataset Distribution.** The sunburst chart illustrates the hierarchical composition of the dataset, categorizing samples by language (English and Arabic), modality (text and image-text), and task type (QA and VQA). The inner rings represent language and modality divisions, while the outer rings detail specific datasets included in BiMedV-1.6M.



Yes, there appears to be an abnormality in this scan. The image shows a left ovarian cyst with a solid component. Ovarian cysts are fluid-filled sacs that can develop in or on the ovary. A solid component within the cyst may indicate a more complex or potentially malignant lesion. Further evaluation and tests would be needed to determine the exact nature of the cyst and the appropriate course of treatment.

Figure 7: Qualitative Examples of BiMediX2 for Medical Image Understanding in a Conversational Context.



Figure 8: Qualitative Examples of our BiMediX2 for Medical Image Understanding in a Conversational and Bilingual (Arabic) Setting: The top section translates to; User: What is the organ shown in the image? BiMediX2: The image shows the liver, which is a large and vital organ in the human body. User: What type of scan is this? BiMediX2: This is a computed tomography (CT) scan of the abdomen. The middle section translates to; User: What type of imaging technique is used in this image? BiMediX2: The imaging technique used in this image? BiMediX2: The imaging technique used in this image? BiMediX2: The imaging technique used in this image? BiMediX2: The image? BiMediX2: The image is magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). User: What part of the body is shown in the image? BiMediX2: The image shows the head and neck area, with a particular focus on the pituitary gland. And the bottom section translates to; User: What is the organ shown in the image? BiMediX2: The organ shown in the image is the ovary, which is part of the female reproductive system. User: What type of scan is this? BiMediX2: This is an ultrasound image, which is a non-invasive imaging technique that uses high-frequency sound waves to create detailed images of the body's internal structures. User: What is the abnormality in this ultrasound image? BiMediX2: The abnormality in this ultrasound image is the presence of a multilocular ovarian cyst.



Figure 9: **Qualitative Examples for Medical Image Understanding of our BiMediX2 in Multidomain**: Capability of BiMediX2 to understand and interpret various medical imaging modalities and provide accurate responses. The examples include describing the anatomy of a mosquito's head in a scanning electron micrograph, detecting a left-sided parotid tumor in an MRI scan, recognizing mature adipose tissue in a histology slide, identifying a right-sided pneumothorax in a chest X-ray, and identifying bilateral adrenal hyperplasia in a CT scan of the abdomen. These examples highlight BiMediX2's versatility and effectiveness in medical image analysis and diagnosis.