

# The Success Of Saudi Healthcare System: Opportunities And Challenges A Systematic Review 2024

Abdulmajeed Sulaiman H Alrabiah<sup>1</sup>, Thamer Saleh ALjohani<sup>2</sup>, Naif Moneer Alsehli<sup>3</sup>, Rami Suliaman Almaghazawi<sup>3</sup>, Amer Salman Alsaedi<sup>3</sup>, Khalid Jadaan Alotaibi<sup>4</sup>, Mansour Helou Salfiq Al-Shammari<sup>5</sup>, Manal AbdulAziz Alotaibi<sup>6</sup>, Waad Ali Arawi<sup>7</sup>, Waad Ahmed Abuillah<sup>7</sup>, Ahmed abdalhadi alhemdi<sup>8</sup>, Ahmad Abdulrahman Aljuhani<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Health Services and Hospitals Management, First Health Cluster / Al-Quwayiyah General Hospital, Saudi Arabia.

<sup>2</sup>Health Administration Ministry of Health in Medina, Saudi Arabia.

<sup>3</sup>Health Services and Hospitals Management in Ministry of Health in Medina, Saudi Arabia.

<sup>4</sup>Specialist Health Administration, Medical City, King Saud University, King Khalid University Hospital, Saudi Arabia.

<sup>5</sup>specialist-health administration, Aja Hospital in Hail, Saudi Arabia.

<sup>6</sup>Health Informatics, Dawadmi Hospital, Saudi Arabia.

<sup>7</sup>Secretary Technical, Dawadmi Hospital, Saudi Arabia.

<sup>8</sup>Health administration specialist, Umlujj hospital, Saudi Arabia.

## Abstract

### Background

As Success of Saudi Healthcare System plays an important role in implementing Saudi Arabia's health strategy, this paper offers a review of publications on the Saudi Healthcare System. The healthcare system of Saudi Arabia needs to be modernized to achieve the targets of Vision 2030 and to meet future challenges of ensuring efficient, effective, and high-quality healthcare for all people in an affordable and accessible manner. The challenges in this respect are many. In the context of the rising demand for quality care due to the increasing population, especially of the elderly, increasing prevalence of chronic diseases, and pandemics, there is immense pressure on the capacities, Workforce, and financial resources. Saudi Arabia is currently passing through a transformational phase. There is a huge demand on the Saudi Healthcare System to provide better healthcare facilities to the rapidly increasing population, as well as the growing elderly population. Saudi Arabia guarantees citizens the right to receive medical care and treatment during emergencies or sickness and aging.

**Aim of the study:** To address an overview of Success of Saudi Health care System in through the opportunities and Challenges a systematic review 2024.

**Method:** Using databases, Pro Quest and Scopus, data extracted from published articles were systematically analyzed for determining the Success of Saudi Healthcare System for improvement and obstacles to achieving higher level.

**Results:** Presents method used for selecting eligible studies for this review. In the first stage, ProQuest and Scopus returned 498 articles. After duplicate articles and those published before 2020 were removed. After excluding studies with sample sizes under 100 and response rates under 60%, 6 articles were included in this review.

**Conclusion:** The Healthcare area in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is fundamentally overseen by the Government through the Ministry of Health (MOH) and number of semi Public association who particularly work Saudi Healthcare System. The Success of Saudi Healthcare System in Saudi Arabia varies among the different services. To improve opportunities and Challenges quality, management programmer and organizational culture must be promoted in Saudi Healthcare System. Professional development strategies are also needed for improving the skills and knowledge of healthcare professionals.

**Keywords:** Success, Saudi, Healthcare, System, Opportunities, Challenges.

## Introduction

### Background:

Health care services in Saudi Arabia have been given a high need by the government (1). The government now faces challenges to sustain free Saudi Health care System services to its population due to several reasons opportunities and Challenges such as changing population health needs, escalating costs of healthcare, diminished oil revenues, demographical changes, improved life expectancies, changes in disease patterns, increasingly sedentary lifestyles, and inadequate management practices in success of Saudi Health care System services delivery.(2)When considering Success of Saudi Health care System it is important to understand that people in the Middle East and the Arab expect best possible health services provided to them while containing the costs for those amenities . (3) Under the Saudi law, healthcare is declared a fundamental right of all its citizens, meaning that the government has the responsibility to provide free Saudi Health care System services to its population. This has been provided for many decades without any need for supplementary financial support due to oil revenues . (4)

Through the previous couple of decades, health and health administrations have enhanced extraordinarily as far as amount and quality (5). Saudi Healthcare System has expressed that Although numerous countries have seen sizable development in their medicinal services frameworks, likely no other country (other than Saudi Arabia) of substantial geographic scope and populace has, in similar time, accomplished such a great amount on a wide national scale, with are a generally abnormal state of consideration made accessible to for all intents and purposes all portions of the populace .(6,7)

This comprehensive rapid review meticulously evaluates the transformative influence of Vision 2030 on the Saudi Health care System in Saudi Arabia. (8,9) Vision 2030, with its broad scope, targets an extensive overhaul of healthcare through infrastructure enhancement, digital health adoption, workforce empowerment, innovative public health initiatives, and advancements in quality of care and patient safety(10) . By employing a systematic review approach, this review synthesizes a broad spectrum of article highlighting Saudi Arabia's significant progress toward establishing an accessible, efficient, and superior healthcare system. (11) It delves into the kingdom's alignment with global healthcare trends and its distinctive contributions, notably in opportunities and Challenges and public health, illustrating a proactive stance on future healthcare challenge. (12)

Saudi Health care System prior to 1925, healthcare resources in Saudi Arabia were scarce and the infrastructure was relatively weak.(13) In the early 1900s, only three small-sized private hospitals, the Al-Juad Hospital, Al-Kaban Hospital and Al-Shareef Hospital existed in Mecca (13,14) The preliminary Saudi Health care System service infrastructure had started to develop only after 1925, and it gained momentum after the establishment of the MOH in 1950) .(15)

The KSA was having hospitals in Mecca, Medina, Taif, Jeddah, Riyadh and Al-Hasa besides a considerable number of clinics which, by the year 1950, increased the number of hospital beds to 1000 with 111 physicians (16) Human and financial resources were made available in both the public and private sector hospitals for improving the Saudi Health care System quality and preventive care. (17) The 1978 Alma Alta Declaration on primary healthcare reforms was also adopted to expand the healthcare delivery across the KSA (18, 19). Moreover, the Saudi Health care sector was one of the major beneficiaries of public spending during the oil boom of the 2003–2013. The total healthcare spending increased in this period by an average of 9.6% per year over the decade to reach around SAR 84.4 billion in 2013 (16,20)

## Methodology

### Aim of the study:

To address an overview of Success of Saudi Health care System in through the opportunities and Challenges a systematic review 2024.

### Study design:

Systematic reviews Using multiple databases, including PubMed, Web of Science, Up-to-date, and Google Scholar data extracted from published articles were systematically to Success of Saudi Health care System in through the opportunities and Challenges.

#### **Search strategy:**

Reference lists of the included studies were searched to identify additional potentially relevant studies. Studies in systematic reviews of success of Saudi Health care System opportunities and Challenges. The strategy of interest in this review was objectively measured the better use of Saudi Health care System. The same methods were used for searching the Scopus databases. Electronic searches were supplemented by cross-checking the reference lists of all identified studies.

#### **Searches and Data Sources**

A comprehensive search was performed to obtain studies on the Success of Saudi Healthcare System in Saudi Arabia. The databases used in the search included ProQuest and Scopus, and the keywords used were ‘Success’, ‘Saudi Healthcare System’, ‘Saudi Arabia’, ‘Opportunities’, ‘Challenges’. These keywords were used to find articles with matching terms in their abstracts or titles. To discover the most recent studies and literature on our review topic, the search was limited to articles published between 2020 and 2024.

#### **Inclusion criteria**

This review included Saudi Health care System opportunities and Challenges: a systematic review as the dependent variable. Success factors of Saudi Health care System in KSA to find out how focusing on the goals help KSA restructure and reimagine its healthcare systems and practice to improve overall health quality, accessibility, affordability, and universality. Studies were only considered if participants through Saudi Health care System .

#### **Exclusion Criteria**

Exclusion criteria were studies that not review of the abstract met the inclusion criteria, but on reading the full text were not RCTs or in which the outcomes of Saudi Health care System but not opportunities and Challenges.

#### **Data Extraction**

The extracted data are summarized in table 1 includes the Findings of the Selected Studies based Success of Saudi Healthcare System Opportunities and Challenges, the Author, Date, Country, result, region and type of organization where the study was performed. Focuses on the results of the opportunities and Challenges reviews and to Saudi Health care System to in each study and lists which dimension of Saudi Health care System each article addressed.

**The process of selecting the articles**, which are contained in this review .

Presents method used for selecting eligible studies for this review. In the first stage, ProQuest and Scopus returned 498 articles. After duplicate articles and those published before 2020 were removed, 124 remained. Non-peer-reviewed articles (75) and articles not mainly about Saudi Health care System (22) were then excluded. After excluding studies with sample sizes under 100 and response rates under 60%, 6 articles were included in this review.

**Table1: Summary of Findings of the Selected Studies based Success of Saudi Healthcare System Opportunities and Challenges.**

<b>Author, Date, Country</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Type Organization</b>	<b>Study aim</b>	<b>Results</b>
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<p><b>Uraif, A. (2024)(21)</b></p>	<p>Jeddah</p>	<p>Saudi Ministry of Education, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia</p>	<p>To explore the challenges and opportunities associated with developing healthcare infrastructure in Saudi Arabia through the implementation of smart technologies.</p>	<p>Improved Healthcare Accessibility and Affordability Enhanced Quality of Care, Global Implications. It holds promise for addressing global health challenges, from aging populations to rising costs. <b>Conclusions</b> Saudi Arabia's commitment to healthcare transformation through Vision 2030 has yielded remarkable progress and positioned the nation as a global leader in healthcare innovation. Here are the followed points: Vision 2030 serves as the driving It extends beyond healthcare to encompass economic diversification and societal advancement, The healthcare sector is a focal point, with ambitious goals to enhance infrastructure, quality of care, and accessibility. Digital Health: Embracing global trends, Saudi Arabia has invested in digital health solutions.</p>
<p><b>Khalid et al (2024) (22)</b></p>	<p>Saudi Arabia</p>	<p>National Transformation Program (NTP) in Saudi Arabia.</p>	<p>To address the potential and risks behind the National Transformation Program (NTP) in Saudi Arabia through the lens of the Value Transformation Framework.</p>	<p>The insufficient studies have been conducted on infrastructure and people. Following a thorough critical review of the literature utilizing the value transformation theoretical framework, the most cited concern was the sustainability and workforce of the healthcare system. Furthermore, limited information is available on how to assess the transformation, which remains an unaddressed research question, according to the literature, disagreements among researchers and arguments were found on the use of best strategies for success in NTP . <b>Conclusions</b></p>

				<p>The transformation journey in Saudi Arabia could meet several hurdles. The planning phase was critical. Furthermore, future research should incorporate expert consultation and more databases and search engines, such as Scopus and CINAHL and examine the impact of NTP from the point of view of medical college faculty members, policymakers, managers, and leaders</p>
<p><b>Mani et al (2024) (23)</b></p>	<p>Saudi Arabia</p>	<p>Healthcare in Saudi Arabia</p>	<p>To rigorously explores Vision 2030's ambitious objectives and the concrete outcomes achieved, It assesses the global ramifications of these reformative efforts, equity, and excellence as the foundation for future healthcare advancements</p>	<p>Saudi Arabia can further advance its healthcare system, ensuring that it not only meets but exceeds the objectives set forth by Vision 2030, fostering a healthier future for all of its residents. As Saudi Arabia continues to navigate its ambitious Vision 2030 healthcare transformation, it stands as both a beneficiary of and contributor to the global discourse on healthcare innovation and reform. The lessons learned from the kingdom's experience can offer valuable insights to other nations pursuing similar healthcare objectives, emphasizing.</p> <p><b>Conclusions</b> The journey of Saudi Arabia's healthcare transformation under Vision 2030 exemplifies an unprecedented shift toward excellence, innovation, and accessibility. Through a meticulous examination, this review unveiled how the kingdom's ambitious goals are being met with strategic actions that embrace global healthcare</p>

				trends while addressing unique challenges, including those posed by environmental considerations and the need for sustainable practices within healthcare delivery.
<b>Tobaiqy, et al (2023) (24)</b>	University of Jeddah (UJ) Saudi Arabia	Medical Center In University of Jeddah (UJ)	To assess the perceptions of staff working at the University of Jeddah (UJ) Medical Center on the possibility of finding new financing methods for the administration and privatization of the primary and specialized medical care services it provides	Believed that virtual clinics, using primary medical services (clinical examinations, laboratory, radiology), organizing scientific conferences and training courses, and offering consulting services to companies would be a potential benefit for the medical centers and an area of privatization of services. Of note, respondents believed that the Revenue Development Project would contribute to increasing the employees' income and motivating them. That privatizing health services would increase their effectiveness, quality, and public satisfaction while enabling the government to perform its constitutional obligations. <b>Conclusions</b> This study were satisfied with the medical services provided by the Medical Center and the potential application of the Revenue Development

				<p>Project. However, the majority also believed that the UJ Medical Center is still being prepared for the Revenue Development Project at the current time. Future work should focus on how responsibility is applied and upheld in environments where it has never been performed.</p>
<p><b>Alanazi, K. (2023), (25)</b></p>	<p>Alqassim</p>	<p>Ministry of Health (MOH)</p>	<p>The KSA restructure and reimagine its healthcare systems and practice to improve overall health quality, accessibility, affordability, and universality.</p>	<p>Healthcare transformation programs generally aim at enhancing quality of care, promoting patient safety, equitability, accessibility, and feasibility of healthcare services. Although the transformation process is gradual, and may often fail to achieve the desired outcomes, nations such as KSA have made substantial public health developments over the last two decades.</p> <p><b>Conclusion</b> Saudi Health care System is a crucial part of Saudi Vision 2030, and it seeks to restructure the healthcare sector to establish a more comprehensive, accessible, affordable, efficient, and integrated healthcare system that prioritizes the wellbeing of every citizen. This system aims to offer value-based care that ensures financial sustainability, quality care, and transparency to prevent disease and improve the well-being of the public. So far, KSA has made significant steps toward achieving comprehensive Saudi Healthcare System transformation by 2030. However, several opportunities and Challenges persist due to factors such as population growth, elevated rate of preventable injuries, disparities in Saudi Health care System.</p>

<p><b>M. M. et al (2022) (27)</b></p>	<p>Saudi Arabia</p>	<p>Applications of Edge-AI for connected healthcare in smart cities.</p>	<p>To conduct a systematic review based on identifying new challenges, opportunities, and evaluation of case studies.</p>	<p>Recent development in this era of modern technology, the installation of smart healthcare systems is required to satisfy the needs of individual patients and to assist healthcare professionals to provide better diagnosis and treatment opportunities. With the integration of has become easy provide better healthcare real-time solutions along with encouraging privacy, satisfying latency criteria, reducing cost, and energy consumption</p> <p><b>Conclusions</b> The advanced technologies that are being currently used in various parts of connected health car in Smart Cities. use of these technologies in the monitoring and management of connected healthcare can also prove to be very efficiency as they can reduce the required human efforts and improve the efficiency of management .</p>
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### Results and discussion

In recent years, the concept of Saudi Healthcare System has gained global traction, driven by the increasing interest in opportunities and Challenges to address urban challenges. Within this landscape, the Saudi Healthcare System stands out as a critical area where smart technologies can revolutionize patient care, accessibility, and overall efficiency. In this study, we explore the Saudi Healthcare System faced by healthcare systems worldwide and the transformative potential of opportunities and Challenges.

The Saudi Health care System has achieved considerable success, and it is considered a pioneering programmed in the country within a few years of its establishment. This is reflected in certain effective and accessible healthcare services, such as diabetes care education and maternal health care. However, dental services are still unavailable in most PHCCs, and variations in some aspects of Saudi Health care System quality, such as the management of chronic diseases, have been identified. In a study performed similar variations in Saudi Health care System quality were observed (28).

Research by Alhazmi (2021) shows that presently eleven healthcare workers serve over 1000 patients in KSA , which is over half the average rate of 22 healthcare professionals serving 1000 patients

in G20 countries. To this end, the study concluded that KSA needs to employ and train over 710,000 healthcare professionals by 2030 in order to reach the average benchmark experienced by other developed and developing nations. Reaching this target necessitates a 360,000 increase in the current number of healthcare professionals employed every year. Additionally, the study pinpointed the need to create more opportunities for KSA citizens to be recruited in the healthcare sector in order to achieve Saudi Vision 2030 (29)

Also the major challenges of smart health care are identified, which includes device communication, the barrier to information management, security issues, sensors' interoperability, device management, and use of AI efficiency. It has also been identified that IoMT devices can help to diagnose disease and to reduce illness (22)

Also Mobile medical units have been implemented as an alternative solution to supply the standard of dental care to reach the underserved population in several countries. These units have been shown to be highly successful in improving access and cost-efficiency (25). A school-based study in the south of Africa showed that having a mobile dental unit was cost effective; it showed cost savings of 9.1% and eliminated missed appointments(30) .

Thus, this intervention can be implemented as alternative solution for unviable Saudi Healthcare services in some Saudi Healthcare System settings in Saudi Arabia (18)

Attempts have been made to promote the practices of Saudi Healthcare System Opportunities and Challenges in Saudi health care, but because of poor professional development and guideline dissemination, these efforts have yet to achieve their potential. Studies have shown that health care worker face barriers to education, such as work pressure, distance, the unavailability of suitable CME and a lack of time. In addition, few physicians have access to international journals. Improve Saudi Healthcare System will contribute to improving Saudi Healthcare System .

## Conclusion

Success of Saudi Healthcare System could meet several hurdles. The planning phase was critical. However, measurement and assessment phases to track development could help to interfere with correction toward the success of Saudi Healthcare System.

Healthcare success of System is a crucial part of Saudi Vision 2030, and it seeks to restructure of Saudi Healthcare System sector to establish a more comprehensive, accessible, affordable, efficient, and integrated healthcare system that prioritizes the wellbeing of every citizen. So far, KSA has made significant steps toward achieving comprehensive healthcare transformation by 2030. However, several challenges persist due to factors such as population growth, elevated rate of preventable injuries, disparities in the quality of healthcare, insufficient primary healthcare services, limited human resource capacity, and lack of an integrated IT system in healthcare. As a result, this creates the need for a more transformational strategy to improve the healthcare sector and promote the well-being of KSA citizens by improving the standard and uniformity of services as well as optimizing cost-effectiveness and health outcomes.

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