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CASE STUDY · MARLUC SYNOPSIS

People's Hospital of Hunan Province: local DeepSeek and the provincial rule on AI prescriptions

IMPLEMENTED 2025 · HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES · CHINA · BAND D · CLAIMED ONLY

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A provincial hospital in Hunan put a locally hosted DeepSeek model on its office system in February 2025 and reported heavy staff use within days. The same month the province's medical insurance bureau barred AI-generated prescriptions at internet hospitals, and national guidance on AI in health followed in November 2025.

ABOUT THIS SYNOPSIS

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NOTICE WORDING LAST UPDATED 16 NOVEMBER 2026

AT A GLANCE

AI used: Locally hosted large language model (DeepSeek) used by hospital staff; the model version is not reported.

Implemented: 2025. Grade: band D, Task support, Claimed only.

Headline result, as reported: By the hospital's account, 1,237 staff used a local DeepSeek model daily within five days of launch; Hunan barred AI-generated prescriptions at internet hospitals, February 2025

1 · The case

The facts, as reported by the 5 sources listed at the end. Where a source is silent, the field says "Not reported".

Organisation

People's Hospital of Hunan Province. Provincial people's hospital in Hunan, China. More than 4,000 hospital terminals can reach the system. Staff numbers and bed count: Not reported. Canvas block: 6. Data and technology. Also 4. Operations and process, 8. Governance and risk.

Business challenge

The challenge. Not reported by the hospital in operational terms. Red Net says the aim was to build an efficient and secure intelligent service ecosystem for medical staff and to lay a base for later upgrades to intelligent medical scenarios.

How it was addressed. On 16 February 2025 the hospital completed a local deployment of DeepSeek and connected it to its office automation system. By its account the system runs on domestic computing hardware inside the hospital, with all processing on internal servers, encryption and tiered permissions. Staff use it through more than 4,000 terminals for document drafting, question answering and data analysis, and for approvals, scheduling and document flow. The hospital planned to start linking it to its electronic medical record and hospital information systems within 2025. Separately, the Hunan Healthcare Security Administration signed notice Xiang Yi Bao Fa [2025] No. 8 on 11 February 2025. It requires internet hospitals to connect to the provincial e-prescription centre and says using AI and similar means to generate prescriptions is strictly prohibited. [1] [2] [3] [4] [5]

Who implemented it

DeepSeek (Model or cloud provider): Developer of the model the hospital deployed locally; any contract is not reported.
In-house (In-house): Ran the local deployment and the link to its office system.
Hardware, integrator and any contractor are not reported.

Technology (SEAM pillar E)

SEAM types: T6 Open-source / locally hosted models. Deployment: Own infrastructure. Vendors and products: DeepSeek, DeepSeek (version not reported).

Where it was built in: Connected to the hospital's office automation system for approvals, scheduling and document flow, reached from more than 4,000 hospital terminals. Links to the electronic medical record and hospital information system were planned for 2025; whether they happened is not reported.

What changed

Before: Not reported. After: staff had a hospital-hosted DeepSeek service. By 21 February it had handled 4.27 million requests. Red Net says doctors most often asked about result indicators and medication guidance, and most often used it to interpret examination and laboratory reports. [1] [2] [3] [4] [5]

What it cost

Not reported.

What it saved

Not reported. Red Net says AI-assisted interpretation greatly shortened report interpretation time but gives no figure. [1] [2] [3] [4] [5]

Governance and control

The hospital describes local hosting, encryption and tiered permissions. Staff quoted say AI gives suggestions and doctors decide. The province's rule bars AI-generated prescriptions at internet hospitals, and national guidance published in November 2025 calls for filing of large models and monitoring of their use. Owner, testing and review of answers: Not reported.

S2 · Accountable owner · Not reported
No accountable owner is named; a deputy director of the information centre and a vice-president are quoted as spokespeople. [2] [3]

A1 · Safe use · Claimed
The hospital says the deployment is fully local, with data processed on hospital servers, multiple encryption and tiered permissions. [2]

A2 · Human in the loop · Claimed
Hospital staff quoted by Red Net say AI offers diagnosis and treatment suggestions and that medical staff play the leading role in the end. [3]

A3 · Monitoring and assurance · Not reported
No monitoring of accuracy or safety is reported; the information centre says accuracy depends on training data, algorithm tuning and clinical validation. [3]

A4 · Vendor AI · Not reported
The hospital's agreement with DeepSeek and its hardware and software suppliers are not reported.

A5 · Agent controls · Not reported
No agents are described at this hospital.

A6 · Standards and regulation · Outside scrutiny (a regulator, court, auditor or similar body acted)
The provincial medical insurance bureau barred AI-generated prescriptions at internet hospitals in February 2025, and national bodies issued an implementation opinion in 2025 calling for filing of large models and monitoring; these are general rules, not a review of this hospital. [1] [4]

What worked, what did not, what is unproven

WORKED

– By the hospital's account, an average of 1,237 medical staff used the platform each day within five days of launch.

– Interpreting examination and laboratory reports was the most frequent use.

– The hospital says patient and medical data stay on its own servers.

DID NOT

– No results beyond usage counts have been published.

– Red Net reported online comments asking whether patients still need doctors if doctors use DeepSeek.

– The province's insurance bureau barred AI-generated prescriptions at internet hospitals the same month the hospital launched.

UNPROVEN

– Whether the model was linked to the electronic medical record and hospital information system as planned: Not reported.

– Time saved, error rates or patient outcomes: Not reported.

– What the 63 per cent figure is a share of: Red Net gives no base.

– Whether the Hunan notice has been amended since February 2025: not found in the sources opened.

2022 National Health Commission rules on internet diagnosis and treatment say prescriptions are to be issued by the doctor who sees the patient and bar AI from generating them automatically, per a 2025 peer-reviewed article [5]

Feb 2025 Hunan Healthcare Security Administration signs notice Xiang Yi Bao Fa [2025] No. 8 (11 February), which says AI and similar means must not be used to generate prescriptions [1]

Feb 2025 People's Hospital of Hunan Province completes local deployment of DeepSeek and connects it to its office automation system (16 February) [2]

Feb 2025 Hospital reports 4.27 million requests and 1,237 average daily active staff users (figures to 21 February) [3]

Mar 2025 Expert consensus on deploying DeepSeek in medical institutions released at a Beijing forum (29 March), per the same article [5]

Jun 2025 Over 830 hospitals reported to have completed local DeepSeek deployment, per the same article [5]

Nov 2025 National Health Commission and four other bodies publish an implementation opinion on AI in healthcare (dated 20 October 2025, posted 5 November) [4]

2 · Grade and SEAM assessment

MarLuc's opinion, made on the evidence above. How cases are graded: marluc.co.uk/case-studies/how-we-rate

Level of change and impact

Claimed: Not applicable. Grade: D, Task support. Proof: Claimed only. Level of change: Task support.

Task support (Level 1, band D). Staff use the model for individual tasks. Links to clinical systems were planned and are not reported as done.

Staff use the model for drafting, approvals, scheduling, question answering and interpreting reports. The reported results are usage counts. Time saved, errors and outcomes are not reported, and links to clinical systems were planned rather than reported as done, so this is task support with the benefit claimed only.

The SEAM view and lessons learnt

The hospital's rollout and the province's prescription rule sit side by side: the model supports staff, and the rule keeps prescribing with certified physicians. The sources show how much the tool is used but not what it achieved. For a mid-sized or larger health organisation, the transferable point is to write down which uses are advisory, keep diagnosis and prescribing with named clinicians, and measure outcomes as well as request counts.

1. Keep prescribing and final clinical decisions with a named, certified clinician.
2. Measure time saved and error rates as well as the number of requests.
3. Check local and national rules on AI in clinical work before linking a model to patient records.

Evidence

Score 2 of 4. Mixed: hospital figures reported by provincial media, an official notice and national guidance, and a peer-reviewed legal article. No independent evaluation of results.

Evaluation method. Public sources: media reports of the hospital's own figures, the text of an official notice, national guidance and a peer-reviewed article. No comparison group or audit.

Sources disagree. The notice is signed 11 February 2025; Red Net says it was issued on 12 February. Red Net describes its effect as a ban on accepting AI-generated prescriptions, while the notice text says AI and similar means must not be used to generate them. The 63 per cent figure has no stated base. The notice's stated purpose is tighter control of designated retail pharmacies after inspections found false prescriptions and similar problems.

Status. Deployment live from 16 February 2025 by the hospital's account. The notice states it applies from the date of issue. Later changes to either: Not reported.

3 · Original sources

Read these in full. To challenge a fact or a grade, use the contact form at marluc.co.uk or the link on https://marluc.co.uk/case-studies/hunan-provincial-hospital-deepseek-prescription-rule

[1] Jiemian News: Hunan Healthcare Security Administration, strictly prohibit using AI to automatically generate prescriptions (reproduces notice Xiang Yi Bao Fa [2025] No. 8), in Chinese
https://m.jiemian.com/article/12387637.html

[2] Red Net via Tencent News: People's Hospital of Hunan Province completes local deployment of DeepSeek (17 February 2025), in Chinese
https://news.qq.com/rain/a/20250217A04RWE00

[3] Red Net via Voice of Hunan: Hunan hospitals rush to deploy DeepSeek locally, the controversy and exploration after 'Doctor D' goes on duty (22 February 2025), in Chinese
https://hunan.voc.com.cn/news/202502/27798982.html

[4] Guiyang Municipal Health Commission (copy of National Health Commission document): Implementation opinion on promoting and regulating 'AI plus healthcare' applications, Guo Wei Ban Gui Hua Fa [2025] No. 30, in Chinese
http://wsjkj.guiyang.gov.cn/zfxxgk_500627/fdzdgknr/ghxx/fzgh/202511/t20251105_88916653.html

[5] Frontiers in Public Health: Wang and Zhou, legal liability risk prevention for DeepSeek deployment in Chinese hospitals (2025)
https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2025.1726205/xml

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