CMB: A Comprehensive Medical Benchmark in Chinese

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Abstract

Large Language Models (LLMs) provide a possibility to make a great breakthrough in medicine. The establishment of a standardized medical benchmark becomes a fundamental cornerstone to measure progression. However, medical environments in different regions have their local characteristics, e.g., the ubiquity and significance of traditional Chinese medicine within China. Therefore, merely translating English-based medical evaluation may result in contextual incongruities to a local region. To solve the issue, we propose a localized medical benchmark called CMB, a Comprehensive Medical Benchmark in Chinese, designed and rooted entirely within the native Chinese linguistic and cultural framework. traditional Chinese medicine is integral to this evaluation, it does not constitute its entirety. Using this benchmark, we have evaluated several prominent large-scale LLMs, including ChatGPT, GPT-4, dedicated Chinese LLMs, and LLMs specialized in the medical domain. We hope this benchmark provide first-hand experience in existing LLMs for medicine and also facilitate the widespread adoption and enhancement of medical LLMs within China. Our data and code are publicly available at https://github.com/FreedomIntelligence/CMB.

1 Introduction

Over the past two centuries, medical advancements have substantially increased human life expectancy. Medicine's effectiveness often hinges on experience, with veteran physicians typically outperforming novices. In parallel, large language models like ChatGPT are shaped by their vast data experiences. This mutual reliance on experiential learning between physicians and LLMs suggests a promising frontier for LLMs in the medical domain.

Medical evaluation is highly professional. Although the future of *LLMs for medicine* is promis-

ing, their evaluation is a challenging topic. Deploying LLMs in hospitals raises significant ethical concerns that real-world feedback becomes difficult. Existing works on LLMs tend to leverage subjective evaluation (Zheng et al., 2023) where none of references is used during the assessment. However, the evaluation in medicine is much more professional than that of the general domain. For instance, assessing *radiology*-related issues poses a challenge for the public, a senior professor in medicine, or even a *general practitioner*. Subjective evaluation would be difficult to be scaled up since professional manual judging is expensive.

Benchmark for medical knowledge. Another school of evaluation protocol is objective evaluation, where the expected output has a clear reference. Certain protocols emphasize natural language understanding tasks that are not knowledgeintensive, as seen in studies (Zhang et al., 2022; Peng et al., 2019). In the era of Large Language Models (LLM), modern NLP evaluations underscore the significance of knowledge (Huang et al., 2023; Hendrycks et al., 2021b). In biomedicine, a typical example to probe knowledge is Bio-LAMA (Sung et al., 2021); however, it is tailored to evaluate masked language models instead of autoregressive ones. Another benchmark is MultiMed-Bench (Tu et al., 2023), covering question answer, report summarization, visual question answering, report generation, and medical image classification. Note that MultiMedBench is only in English.

The necessity to localize medical benchmark. During economic globalization, a unified medical standard may overlook the unique medical needs and practices of different regions and ethnic groups, indicating the necessity to localize medical benchmarks. For example, in Asia, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) not only offers profound insights and localized medical solutions in the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of diseases but also has formed a medical paradigm closely associated

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with regional, climatic, dietary, and lifestyle characteristics, over its long historical evolution. In TCM, a disease has two aspects: "bing" and "zhèng". The former is often translated as "disease entity". The latter, and more important one, is usually translated as "pattern". For example, the disease entity of a common cold might present with a pattern of wind-cold in one person, and with the pattern of wind-heat in another¹.

Simultaneously, it poses significant challenges when applying the Western medical framework to a local environment, which needs cross-cultural communication and understanding. In terms of disease diagnosis, examination of the tongue and the pulse are among the principal diagnostic methods in TCM. For example, redness on the tip of the tongue might indicate heat in the Heart, while redness on the sides of the tongue might indicate heat in the Liver. For drugs, there are roughly 13,000 compounds used in China and over 100,000 TCM recipes recorded in the ancient literature. Therefore, we should adopt a *native* medical benchmark instead of a translated medical benchmark for a local environment. Note that the precise translation of medical terminologies necessitates both medical professions and the cultural context in the target language.

CMB's Philosophy. The CMB dataset comprises two parts: CMB-Exam, featuring multiplechoice questions from qualification exams, and CMB-Clin, including complex clinical diagnostic questions derived from real case studies. The dataset spans 6 major categories and 28 subcategories, totaling 280,839 multiple-choice questions. For CMB-Exam, we selected 400 questions from each subcategory to create an evaluation set. Additionally, **CMB-Clin** is formed from 74 expert-curated medical record consultations, drawn from clinical diagnostic teaching materials. Each multiple-choice question in the dataset offers four to six options, with one or more correct answers. The clinical diagnostic questions are based on real, intricate cases, with correct answers determined by a consensus of teaching experts.

Take-away messages from CMB. After benchmarking various LLMs in CMB, we get the following observations that might be insightful. I) GPT-4 and recent open-sourced LLMs such as Qwen-72B-Chat and Yi-34B-Chat, have achieved an accuracy

rate exceeding 60%, surpassing the threshold required for obtaining license; II) Accuracy exhibits significant disparities across professional levels and knowledge areas, notably between **traditional Chinese medicine** and Western medicine; III) The effectiveness of the **CoT and few-shot prompts** varies among models with different accuracy levels, especially presenting potential risks in knowledge-intensive tasks; and IV) Results of automatic evaluation using GPT-4 highly agree with **expert evaluation** results.

2 The Philosophy of CMB

2.1 The Overall Philosophy

We surveyed different medical professionals (physicians, nurses, technicians, and pharmacists) about the exams they encountered in their career development. Our research focused on common assessment types, leading us to select two key tasks for further study: multiple-choice questions and iterative questioning based on complex medical records. The former evaluates the model's knowledge grasp, while the latter assesses its practical problem-solving skills. Both tasks, having standard answers, provide reliable and stable performance indicators.

2.2 Philosophy of CMB-Exam

Existing medical benchmarks, sourced from the internet (Li et al., 2023b), hospitals, etc., face privacy and accuracy challenges. We opted for qualification exams as our data source, creating the CMB-**Exam** subset. This choice is due to two key advantages: (I) qualification exams offer objective and typically accurate ground truths; (II) they provide a clear benchmark, namely a 60% accuracy rate, which corresponds to the expertise level in specific domains. The multiple-choice questions in CMB-**Exam** encompass four clinical medical professions: physicians, nurses, medical technicians, and pharmacists. These exams span the entire professional journey, from undergraduate basics, graduate selections, standardized tests, professional qualifications, to intermediate and advanced professional title exams.

In the Chinese medical field, significant work has been done on multiple-choice tasks. MLEC-QA (Li et al., 2021) compiled 21,700 manually annotated questions from the Chinese National Licensed Pharmacist Examination. Similarly, CMExam (Liu et al., 2023) gathered 68,119 tagged questions from

Ihttps://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Traditional_ Chinese_medicine#Six_Excesses

Category	Subcategory	# Subject	# Questions
Physician (医师)	Resident Physician (住院医师); Licensed Assistant Physician (执业助理医师); Licensed Physician (执业医师); Associate Professional Physician (中级职称); Advanced Professional Physicians (高级职称)	81	124,926
Nurse (护理)	Practicing Nurse (护士); Licensed Practical Nurse (护师); Charge Nurse (主管护师); Advanced Practice Nurse (高级护师)	8	16,919
Technicians (医技)	Medical Technician (医技士); Medical Technologist (医技师); Supervising Technologist (主管技师)	21	27,004
Pharmacist (药师)	Licensed Pharmacist (执业西药师); Licensed TCM Pharmacist (执业中药师); Junior Pharmacist (初级药师); Junior Pharmacist (初级药士); Junior TCM Pharmacist (初级中药中); Junior TCM Pharmacist Assistant (初级中药士); Chief Pharmacists (主管药师); Chief TCM Pharmacists (主管中药师)	8	33,354
	Fundamental Medicine (基础医学); Clinical Medicine (临床医学); Traditional Chinese (TCM) and Chinese Herbal Medicine (中医学与中药学); Preventive Medicine and Public Health (預防医学与公共卫生学)	53	62,271
Graduate Entrance Exam (考研)	Integrated Western Medicine (西医综合); Integrated TCM (中医综合); Political Science (政治); Nursing (护理学)	5	16,365
Total	28	176	280,839

We referenced the National Standard Subject Classification of the People's Republic of China, see https://xkb.pku.edu.cn/docs/2018-10/20220328083301969071.pdf.

Table 1: Statistics of the CMB-Exam Categories, Subcategories, Subjects, and Questions.

Split	#subcategory	#Q per subcategory	#Q in total
Test	28	400	11,200
Dev	28	10 ¹	280
Train	28	_2	269,359

¹ It is with explanations in dev set.

Table 2: Data split in CMB-Exam.

the same exam. However, it's important to note that the potential assistance provided by LLMs in medical professions is not confined to just pharmacy. It also encompasses a broad range of other health-related occupations, such as nursing and medical technology, among others. Given that the Licensed Pharmacist Examination represents only a fraction of the career growth spectrum, its limited knowledge scope and occupational coverage do not provide detailed feedback. To address this, we compiled **CMB-Exam**, encompassing all medical-related occupations and the full range of exams encountered throughout their professional development.

2.3 Philosophy of CMB-Clin

Besides the theoretical exam content in CMB-Exam, the second subset, CMB-Clin, focuses on practical skills. This subset comprises complex clinical diagnostic problems to test the model's synthesis of knowledge and reasoning. It requires the model to utilize its medical knowledge for answering questions and to analyze case reports for informed responses. CMB-Exam and CMB-Clin together offer a comprehensive evaluation framework, applicable to both the career development of medical professionals and the learning trajectory of medical LLMs. To our knowledge, CMB-Clin is the inaugural multi-round question-answering dataset based on real, complex medical records.

3 Dataset Creation

3.1 Taxonomy of CMB-Exam

To obtain a precise taxonomy of medical evaluation, we aligned it with the disciplinary and examination systems of the medical field. First, we chose four main medical professions: physicians, pharmacists, medical technicians, and nurses, covering various occupational difficulty levels of examinations. Considering the learning trajectories and professional growth paths, we additionally include discipline examinations and graduate entrance examinations for these four professions, ultimately resulting in six categories: Physician, Nurse, Technician, Pharmacist, Undergraduate Disciplines, and Graduate Entrance Exam. One could refer to Table 1 for the detailed taxonomy. Moreover, we carried out a more detailed subject division within each subcategory, resulting in a total of 174 categories, the detailed directory list of which can be found in Appendix B. Through this structured arrangement, our directory structure reflects characteristics closely connected to the actual medical field, providing a solid foundation for further analysis and research.

3.2 Creation of CMB-Exam

Data Sources The data is derived from publicly available examination questions and coursework exercises with clear solutions provided by experts. A significant portion of these materials comes from the Medtiku², from which we obtain explicit permission to share the data.

Data Preprocessing Questions undergo a standardized data preprocessing procedure, including de-duplication and cleansing. For character recognition errors caused by OCR, we conduct a large amount of manual calibration to ensure the consistency with the original document. For possi-

² Each subcategory has a different number of questions.

²https://www.medtiku.com/

Department	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Urology	Neurology	Hepatobiliary	Endocrinology	Pediatrics	Gynecology	Orthopedics	Dermatology
Percentage (%)	15.57	14.87	13.51	12.16	10.81	8.11	8.11	6.76	4.06	4.06

Table 3: Distribution of medical records across various departments.

Diagnosis process	Treatment principles	Diagnosis	Differential diagnosis	Medical test recommendation	Medical history analysis	Operational knowledge	Indications for surgery
Percentage (%)	30.09	18.44	14.32	12.71	11.65	9.7	3.09

Table 4: Distribution of questions located within the consultation process.

ble grammatical or transcription errors, we use the comment system of Medtiku to delete data items with "problematic", "wrong question" and "incorrect" comments. Comparison of different directories before and after deletion is shown in Table 5.

Data Statistics Finally, we obtained a total of 280,839 multiple-choice questions. To assess the model's comprehension of medical knowledge, we randomly selected 400 questions from each subcategory as a test set. Additionally, to facilitate experiments with few-shot learning strategies, we randomly selected 10 questions from each subcategory as a development set. We then enlisted the help of three medical specialists to generate explanations for each of these questions, specifically for the purpose of conducting chain-of-thought experiments (example shown in Figure 4). The remaining 269,359 questions were used as the train set.

3.3 Creation of CMB-Clin

CMB-Clin is designed to investigate models' proficiency in knowledge application amidst real-life diagnosis and treatment circumstances.

Data Preprocessing In order to obtain a highquality dataset, we initially collected 108 cases with questions and answers from a variety of official medical textbooks. These problems covered a wide range of disease types. Subsequently, we performed quality screening based on the following criteria: Firstly, we eliminated problems that required reliance on image information, such as those that needed CT, MRI, and other imaging data for resolution. Secondly, we selected problems that contain sufficient diagnostic information to answer the questions. Lastly, we removed cases with similar diseases to ensure the diversity of the problems. After such screening, we finally obtained 74 highquality, complex, and real cases with 208 questions, as exemplified in Figure 1, for the construction of the CMB-Clin subset.

Task Formulation We transform the question answering task into the multi-turn dialogue task. Specifically, for each case with questions, we simulate dialogue interactions between an **examiner** and a **candidate**, focusing on assessing the model's diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities.

Figure 1 illustrates the structure of each case, which includes three main parts: **I)** Description D: patient information, including medical history summaries and chief complaints, physical examinations (e.g., visual and tactile inspection), and ancillary examinations (e.g., biopsy and CT scans); **II)** Questions Q: questions related to diagnosis and treatment based on descriptions. Some questions might be interrelated; and **III)** References R: corresponding reference answers to questions.

Formally, to simulate dialogue interactions, we concatenate the patient's description with the previous question-answer pairs and the current question in each conversation round (e.g., the k-th round). This concatenated input, denoted as x, is represented as follows: $x = D_i + Q_i + R_i + \dots Q_{i+k}$. The reference answer for this input is R_{i+k} . For the response \hat{R}_{i+k} , we will evaluate it from four dimensions, including: Fluency, Relevance, Completeness, and Proficiency. These dimensions are adopted as per suggestions from experts.

Data Distribution We commissioned a medical professional to examine the distribution of questions within the CMB-Clin from two perspectives: the department associated with the medical record, and the point in the consultation process where the question arises. Table 3 displays the distribution of medical records across various departments. It reveals a wide-ranging coverage, with internal medicine and surgery representing the most substantial segments (15.57% and 14.87% respectively). Table 4 illustrates where in the consultation process the questions are situated. It indicates that questions permeate the entire diagnostic procedure, with a significant portion arising during the treatment principles stage (30.09%).

Category	Physician	Nurse	Technicians	Pharmacist	Undergraduate Disciplines	Graduate Entrance Exam
Before Processing	125,102	16,923	27,008	33,362	62,435	16,367
After Processing	124,926	16,919	27,004	33,354	62,271	16,365

Table 5: Sample Numbers of different directories before and after Preprocessing

现病史 **病史摘要**:周XX,男,25岁,1年前因车祸致小肠损伤,行部分小肠切除吻合术。术中切除小肠约40cm。术后病人恢复良好,未诉特殊不适。1个月前病人无明 显诱因突然出现腹痛、腹胀、停止排气排便,至急诊就诊,诊断为肠梗阻,急诊行剖腹探查术。术中发现小肠与腹壁多处粘连带压迫小肠肠管,距屈氏韧带 60cm以下至距回盲部约25cm间小肠缺血坏死。遂切除坏死肠管,行空肠、回盲部端侧吻合 。 术后至今病人每日大便10余次,为水样便,量较多,无脓血,无 腹痛、腹胀。 **查体:** 体温:36.9°C,血压:115/78mmHg,脉搏:96次/分。腹部平坦,全腹无压痛、反跳痛,无肌紧张。 **辅助检查:** 大便常规提示:WBC 0-1/HPF, 潜血(-)。**血常规提示:** WBC 5.5×109/L, Hb 102g/L, 血小板计数: 192×109/L。**血生化提示:** Na+: 134mmol/L, K+: 3,4mmol/L, Ca2+: 2.42mmol/L, Mg2+: 0.75mmol/L。近1个月体重下降约4kg,睡眠质量差。 Present Medical History

Summary of Medical History: Mr. XX, male, 25 years old, had a small intestine injury due to a car accident one year ago, underwent partial small intestine resection and anastomosis surgery. Approximately 40cm of the small intestine was removed during the operation. The patient recovered well postoperatively and did not report any specific discomfort. One month ago, he suddenly experienced abdominal pain, abdominal distension, and cessation of gas and bowel movements without apparent cause. He sought emergency medical attention and was diagnosed with intestinal obstruction. Emergency exploratory laparotomy revealed adhesions between the small intestine and the abdominal wall, compressing the small intestine, with ischemic necrosis approximately 60cm below the ligament of Treitz to about 25cm proximal to the ileocecal junction. The necrotic segment was removed, and an end-to-end anastomosis between the jejunum and the ileocecal region was performed. Since the surgery, the patient has been having more than 10 watery bowel movements per day, with a significant amount, no pus or blood, and no abdominal pain or distension. Physical Examination: Temperature: 36.9°C, Blood Pressure: 115/78mmHg, Pulse: 96 beats/min. The abdomen is flat, with no tenderness, rebound tenderness, or muscle tension throughout. **Ancillary Examinations:** Stool routine: WBC 0-1/HPF, occult blood (-). **Blood Routine:** WBC 5.5×109/L, Hb 102g/L, Platelet count: 192×109/L. **Blood Blochemistry:** Na+: 134mmol/L, K+: 3.4mmol/L Ca2+: 2.42mmol/L, Mg2+: 0.75mmol/L. Weight loss of approximately 4kg in the past month, poor sleep quality 问题1: 该病人目前的诊断是什么? estion 1: What is the current diagnosis of the patient? 参考答案:短肠综合征(急性期)。病人因车祸及术后粘连致肠坏死两次行小肠切除手术,小肠残留长度不足100cm,术后不足2个月,出现了大量腹泻、电解 质紊乱及体重明显下降,符合短肠综合征急性期的临床表现。 Reference: Short Bowel Syndrome (acute phase). The patient underwent two small intestine resection surgeries due to a car accident and postoperative adhesions leading to intestinal necrosis. The remaining length of the small intestine is less than 100cm. Less than two months after surgery, the patient has developed significant diarrhea, electrolyte disturbances, and substantial weight loss, which are consistent with the clinical manifestations of the acute phase of Short Bowel Syndrome. 问题2:该病人的治疗方法是什么? Question 2: What is the treatment method for this patient? 参考答案:①尽快给予全胃肠外营养支持,补充病人正常所需水份、钠钾镁等电解质、能量及营养物质;②给予抑制肠蠕动药物;③给予H2受体拮抗剂或质子 泵抑制剂;④腹泻症状初步被控制后,给予少量等渗肠内营养。 Reference: ① Provide total parenteral nutrition support as soon as possible to supplement the patient's normal water, electrolytes such as sodium, potassium and magnesium, energy, and nutrients; ② Administer drugs to inhibit intestinal motility; ③ Administer H2 receptor antagonists or proton pump inhibitors; ④ After the symptoms of diarrhea are initially controlled, provide a small amount of isotonic enteral nutrition.

Figure 1: Case of Short Bowel Syndrome from CMB-Clin. English translations are shown for better readability.

4 Experiments on CMB-Exam

4.1 Experimental Setup

Models We evaluate the following Chinese medical LLMs to compare their performance on CMB-Exam: HuatuoGPT-II (Chen et al., 2023a), ChatMed-Consult (Zhu and Wang, 2023), MedicalGPT (Xu, 2023), ChatGLM-Med (Wang et al., 2023b), DoctorGLM (Xiong et al., 2023), BianQue-2 (Chen et al., 2023b), Bentsao (Wang et al., 2023a), IvyGPT (Wang et al., 2023c), Sunsimiao (Xin Yan, 2023) and DISC-MedLLM (Bao et al., 2023). In addition to these specialized models, we also evaluate some publiclyavailable general-domain instruction-following model series, namely ChatGLM3-6B (Du et al., 2022), Baichuan2 (Baichuan, 2023), Owen (Bai et al., 2023), Yi³, Deepseek-llm (AI, 2023), Mistral (Jiang et al., 2023) and Internlm (Team, 2023). For closed source commercial models, we evaluate ChatGPT⁴, GPT-4⁵, ShunkunGPT, AntGLM-Med and JianpeiGPT. We also test the performance of DISC-MedLLM trained on CMB-Exam-Train. All experiments are conducted in August, 2023. Please

refer to Appendix C for more details about models and training.

Decoding Hyperparameters For all the aforementioned open source models, we adopt their default hyper-parameters. Besides, to reduce the variance in generation, we adopt greedy decoding for all models on both CMB-Exam and CMB-Clin. And the min_new_tokens and max_new_tokens are set to 1 and 512, respectively, to avoid empty or lengthy answers on CMB-Exam.

Evaluation Details We evaluate the models in both answer-only and chain-of-thought (CoT) settings. We extract answers from model outputs using an empirically designed regular expression. Each extracted answer is compared to the solution and is deemed correct if and only if they are exactly matched. We adopt accuracy as our metric. All evaluation experiments and training experiments take around 1000 GPU-hours on 8 NVIDIA A800 80GB GPUs.

4.2 Benchmarking Results

We report the results in Table 6 and Table 7. There are several observations drawn from different aspects.

³https://github.com/01-ai/Yi

⁴We use the version gpt-3.5-turbo-16k-0613.

⁵We use the version gpt-4.

Model	Open	Physician	Nurse	Pharmacist	Technician	Disciplines	Graduate Entrance Exam	Average
				General Mo	dels			
Qwen-72B-Chat + CoT	/	78.55 (80.00) 78.40 (76.15)	83.56 (84.06) 83.31 (81.69)	79.78 (80.31) 80.13 (76.78)	77.92 (79.50) 77.08 (73.00)	68.26 (67.55) 67.69 (65.38)	58.19 (57.44) 58.81 (55.50)	74.38 (74.81) 74.24 (71.42)
Yi-34B-Chat	/	71.10 (72.95)	77.56 (80.44)	73.16 (74.03)	73.67 (76.92)	66.56 (67.31)	52.94 (55.63)	69.17 (71.22)
+ CoT		69.05 (58.45)	74.75 (63.13)	70.25 (60.06)	68.00 (57.08)	63.00 (56.31)	51.69 (45.44)	66.12 (56.75)
Yi-6B-Chat	\ \	67.25 (68.70)	76.38 (77.06)	68.50 (69.38)	67.83 (68.00)	61.75 (62.44)	53.50 (55.88)	65.87 (66.91)
+ CoT		64.30 (59.95)	73.50 (67.38)	64.44 (61.03)	65.33 (56.67)	59.63 (55.25)	50.50 (48.75)	62.95 (58.17)
GPT-4	x	59.90 (60.19)	69.31 (70.14)	52.19 (53.25)	61.50 (62.38)	59.69 (60.25)	54.19 (55.12)	59.46 (60.22)
+ CoT		58.15 (59.63)	70.31 (71.02)	53.09 (52.15)	62.34 (61.38)	60.69 (62.25)	52.30 (54.21)	59.45 (60.11)
Deepseek-llm-67B-Chat	\	52.90 (59.15)	61.50 (65.19)	54.28 (59.22)	51.42 (55.25)	51.19 (55.63)	40.63 (38.88)	51.99 (55.55)
+ CoT		56.20 (51.80)	60.19 (60.25)	54.44 (53.69)	50.75 (47.58)	51.38 (51.63)	41.00 (38.50)	52.33 (50.58)
Baichuan2-13B-Chat	\ \	49.55 (50.05)	56.75 (57.75)	49.41 (50.50)	50.08 (49.50)	48.25 (49.06)	39.18 (40.63)	48.87 (49.58)
+ CoT		48.90 (48.55)	57.25 (54.75)	49.88 (49.16)	49.33 (47.08)	46.88 (44.37)	38.06 (36.44)	48.38 (46.73)
Qwen-7B-Chat	/	48.00 (49.45)	54.25 (55.13)	48.34 (47.94)	48.08 (49.25)	44.87 (45.00)	35.94 (36.56)	46.58 (47.22)
+ CoT		48.00 (45.65)	54.25 (52.63)	48.34 (47.28)	48.08 (43.08)	44.88 (44.06)	35.94 (36.19)	46.58 (44.82)
Baichuan2-7B-Chat	/	42.55 (43.30)	51.75 (51.56)	44.59 (44.59)	45.50 (43.00)	43.00 (40.44)	32.56 (34.00)	43.33 (42.82)
+ CoT		43.55 (38.25)	51.06 (47.13)	44.72 (43.91)	43.17 (39.50)	42.69 (39.63)	32.44 (20.56)	42.94 (38.16)
ChatGLM3-6B	/	42.55 (40.30)	47.31 (44.81)	39.56 (38.22)	41.08 (39.33)	37.44 (37.63)	32.06 (32.13)	40.00 (38.74)
+ CoT		38.90 (38.15)	45.38 (43.25)	38.19 (34.53)	38.08 (37.08)	36.12 (35.25)	30.13 (26.75)	37.80 (35.84)
ChatGPT	×	40.75 (40.75)	45.69 (45.69)	36.59 (36.59)	40.08 (40.08)	37.94 (37.94)	28.81 (28.81)	38.31 (38.31)
+ CoT		17.75 (17.75)	19.94 (19.94)	16.00 (16.00)	20.25 (20.25)	19.25 (19.25)	16.19 (16.19)	18.23 (18.23)
Internlm-Chat-20B	/	39.35 (39.55)	45.44 (43.00)	38.53 (36.25)	37.92 (38.25)	38.12 (38.06)	29.63 (29.63)	38.17 (37.46)
+ CoT		39.60 (34.00)	44.44 (41.00)	36.41 (32.50)	40.08 (34.17)	37.88 (32.81)	30.88 (26.19)	38.21 (33.45)
Internlm-Chat-7B	/	34.45 (32.55)	42.13 (36.81)	33.69 (32.41)	37.50 (35.00)	33.75 (31.06)	27.94 (26.94)	34.91 (32.46)
+ CoT		35.55 (34.70)	41.38 (38.31)	33.88 (32.41)	35.83 (35.42)	33.88 (32.19)	27.88 (25.50)	34.73 (33.09)
Mixtral-8x7B-32kseqlen	/	34.50 (39.00)	42.00 (41.88)	25.06 (33.13)	30.83 (39.50)	31.81 (36.44)	22.25 (28.25)	31.07 (36.37)
+ CoT		34.50 (28.00)	42.00 (34.06)	25.06 (24.69)	30.83 (34.75)	31.81 (27.50)	22.25 (17.56)	31.07 (27.76)
Qwen-1.8B-Chat	✓	26.20 (44.15)	34.06 (50.63)	28.03 (39.78)	27.08 (39.25)	25.69 (36.56)	23.50 (33.75)	27.43 (40.69)
+ CoT		26.20 (30.95)	34.06 (41.50)	28.03 (32.25)	27.08 (28.00)	25.69 (27.81)	23.50 (28.00)	27.43 (31.42)
Mistral-7B-Instruct-v0.1	/	23.75 (19.55)	22.19 (22.50)	20.97 (19.88)	25.83 (21.42)	21.94 (19.25)	18.88 (16.75)	22.26 (19.89)
+ CoT		21.90 (19.95)	23.06 (21.44)	20.97 (19.97)	23.08 (20.83)	21.81 (19.00)	15.56 (12.94)	19.02 (19.02)

Table 6: Accuracy in the answer-only and CoT settings across different categories for **general models**. Values in parentheses are the Three-shot accuracy.

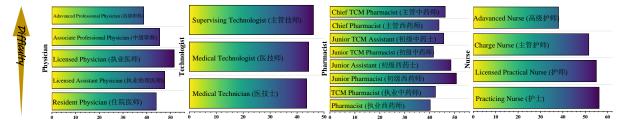


Figure 2: Accuracy across various clinical medicine fields at different career stages. The accuracies are the Zero-shot average values for all the models using direct response strategy. The difficulty increases from bottom to top.

On General LLMs. As shown in Table 6, there is no general model that is particularly lacking in medical knowledge. Taking GPT-4 and Chat-GPT as the watershed, Qwen-72B, Yi-34B, and Yi-6B have achieved accuracy exceeding GPT-4, and most models have achieved performance exceeding ChatGPT. Yi-6B achieves such good results with a smaller number of parameters is impressive, but it also reminds us of the possibility of data leakage. At the same time, we also noticed that Qwen-1.8B showed strong in-context learning capabilities. Considering its number of parameters, this is also an exciting discovery. Domestic general models have completed catching up with OpenAI in medical knowledge in chinese.

On Medical LLMs. As shown in Table 4, the gap between medical models is obvious. HuatuoGPT-II surpasses all commercial models and ranks first, demonstrating its outstanding capabilities. At the same time, the commercial model is also significantly ahead of other open source medical LLMs except HuatuoGPT-II. Considering that it has been a long time since most medical LLMs were open sourced, we believe that the new generation of open source medical LLMs will quickly close the gap. After trained on CMB-Exam-Train, DISC-MedLLM ranked second among open source medical models, indicating that the large amount of deterministic medical knowledge contained in multiple-choice questions in CMB-Exam-Train is

Model	Open	Physician	Nurse	Pharmacist	Technician	Disciplines	Graduate Entrance Exam	Average
			Commerc	ial Medical Mode	ls			
JianPeiGPT	X	73.60*	77.00*	72.84*	65.00*	70.13*	78.40*	72.84*
ShuKunGPT	X	68.65*	71.44*	70.78*	61.92*	62.81*	51.06*	64.44*
AntGLM-Med	X	62.85*	66.81*	60.06*	48.50*	54.69*	51.06*	55.00*
			Open sour	rce Medical Mode	els			
HuatuoGPT-II-34B (华佗II) + CoT	/	75.65 (75.65) 76.13 (76.13)	82.31 (82.31) 83.15 (82.15)	76.81 (77.12) 76.81 (76.81)	76.17 (74.12) 77.12 (70.12)	74.38 (74.38) 71.22 (70.22)	75.56 (75.56) 75.56 (76.12)	76.82 (76.52) 76.67 (75.26)
HuatuoGPT-II-13B (华佗)	<	67.85 (67.85)	66.12 (66.12)	64.91 (64.91)	62.00 (63.05)	61.94 (62.15)	53.69 (54.69)	62.75 (63.13)
+ CoT		68.02 (68.05)	65.32 (65.32)	65.12 (65.12)	63.01 (62.55)	62.01 (61.53)	54.60 (54.63)	63.01 (62.87)
HuatuoGPT-II-7B (华佗)	/	64.55 (64.55)	63.75 (63.75)	61.06 (61.06)	56.25 (56.25)	56.63 (56.90)	51.81 (53.82)	59.00 (59.39)
+ CoT		65.12 (65.12)	64.33 (63.12)	60.05 (61.50)	57.12 (56.03)	56.63 (57.01)	51.81 (52.18)	59.18 (59.16)
DISC-MedLLM-13B	/	42.25 (42.20)	46.88 (47.87)	38.44 (38.94)	38.83 (38.92)	40.75 (39.38)	31.44 (31.25)	39.76 (39.76)
+ CoT		41.85 (41.30)	47.19 (46.44)	38.97 (38.41)	39.17 (38.17)	40.31 (39.81)	31.37 (31.44)	39.78 (39.26)
IvyGPT-13B	/	37.70 (37.34)	43.56 (43.56)	40.47 (41.25)	38.08 (39.06)	35.31 (36.31)	36.12 (37.15)	38.54 (39.11)
+ CoT		37.15 (38.23)	44.12 (45.12)	41.23 (42.33)	38.08 (39.12)	36.12 (37.20)	36.12 (36.88)	38.80 (39.81)
Sunsimiao-7B (孙思邈)	<	38.75 (38.12)	44.37 (45.12)	38.81 (39.12)	38.33 (38.33)	37.50 (38.12)	33.31 (34.21)	38.51 (33.13)
+ CoT		39.12 (39.12)	45.12 (45.12)	38.81 (39.12)	38.33 (39.31)	37.50 (38.12)	34.12 (34.12)	38.84 (39.96)
MedicalGPT-7B	·	26.40 (26.56)	30.94 (30.94)	24.72 (24.84)	27.17 (27.32)	25.44 (25.62)	21.50 (21.64)	26.03 (26.15)
+ CoT		24.80 (25.61)	27.19 (27.98)	23.09 (24.07)	24.58 (26.00)	23.75 (24.77)	21.06 (21.79)	24.08 (25.04)
ChatMed-Consult-7B	·	20.20 (21.41)	22.31 (23.48)	20.59 (21.58)	22.67 (23.55)	20.38 (21.36)	17.44 (18.08)	20.60 (21.58)
+ CoT		19.40 (20.92)	21.69 (23.56)	20.00 (21.65)	22.83 (23.59)	18.88 (20.44)	18.56 (19.55)	20.23 (21.62)
ChatGLM-Med-7B	·	21.75 (23.59)	22.06 (23.37)	21.84 (22.67)	21.00 (21.85)	18.44 (19.72)	17.50 (18.14)	20.43 (21.56)
+ CoT		15.55 (20.89)	16.25 (22.13)	17.34 (21.06)	16.33 (20.65)	12.63 (17.12)	12.56 (16.88)	15.11 (19.79)
Bentsao-7B (本草)	·	21.55 (21.67)	19.94 (19.99)	20.94 (21.07)	22.75 (22.85)	19.56 (19.83)	16.81 (16.93)	20.26 (20.39)
+ CoT		21.00 (21.10)	20.56 (20.61)	20.66 (20.78)	22.17 (22.24)	19.25 (19.53)	16.44 (16.54)	20.01 (20.13)
BianQue-2 (扁鹊-2)	<	4.90 (4.40)	4.19 (5.19)	4.28 (7.97)	3.58 (8.08)	3.31 (5.69)	3.25 (4.00)	3.92 (5.89)
+ CoT		7.85 (6.95)	6.63 (7.31)	7.34 (7.25)	8.33 (9.75)	6.63 (6.94)	5.94 (6.06)	7.12 (7.38)
DoctorGLM	/	2.70 (0.10)	3.31 (0.38)	3.84 (0.34)	3.75 (0.50)	3.19 (0.37)	2.25 (0.81)	3.17 (0.42)
+ CoT		3.15 (2.35)	3.13 (2.50)	3.41 (3.28)	2.50 (1.17)	3.38 (3.06)	2.25 (3.88)	2.97 (2.71)
			Models Traine	ed by CMB-Exam	-Train			
DISC-MedLLM-13B (CMB-Exam-Train)	·	43.22 (43.22)	48.13 (47.56)	39.12 (40.23)	40.12 (45.12)	41.25 (42.25)	33.25 (33.75)	40.85 (42.02)
+ CoT		42.65 (43.65)	47.15 (48.13)	40.12 (41.22)	39.32 (40.12)	42.25 (41.58)	33.80 (34.80)	40.88 (41.58)

Table 7: Accuracy in the answer-only and CoT settings across different categories for **medical models**. Values in parentheses are the Three-shot accuracy. * means we only have the best score and the generation strategy is unknown.

very helpful for improving performance. How to efficiently inject the knowledge of multiple-choice questions into LLM is a promising task.

On Different Categories. LLMs show varied performance across clinical specialties. Specifically, scores for pharmacist-related questions tend to be lower, while those concerning nursing staff are typically higher. This difference might arise from the foundational knowledge nurses require, which is straightforward, compared to the intricate distinctions in drug names and indications pharmacists deal with. Despite these performance variations among specialties, the models exhibit a consistent trend, suggesting no inherent bias towards any particular domain.

On Prompt Strategies For the vast majority of domestic General LLM and Medical LLM, both the Few-shot and CoT strategies have little effect on improving model accuracy. The few-shot strategy has improved significantly for models such as Deepseek-llm, Mistral-7B, Mixtral-8x7B, which originally had limited support for Chinese, and smaller models such as Qwen-1.8B and Yi-6B. The

CoT strategy even has negative effects on models such as Mistral and ChatGLM-Med, which have very low original accuracy. In CMB-Exam, for problems that do not require reasoning, the CoT strategy may confuses correct information with irrelevant context, thereby reducing accuracy.

On the Perceived Difficulty As shown in Figure 2, the professional level continues to improve from bottom to top. Only the Nurse category meets expectations with accuracy decreases from bottom to top. For the Physician, Advanced Professional subcategory have the lowest accuracy and Resident Physician have the second lowest accuracy. After sample analysis, we found that the questions covered in the Resident Physician subcategory involve many uncommon details and knowledge, which increases the probability of hallucinations. For Technologist, it's interesting that the accuracy rate is completely opposite to expectations. We found that there are many questions focus on personnel management and communication in Supervising Technologist subcategory, which is indeed what LLMs are good at. For the Pharmacists, there is no obvious trending. But subcategories involving

Aspects	GPT-4	Yi-34B	Qwen-72B	ChatGPT	Baichuan2-13B	ChatGLM3-6B	Internlm-20B	Deepseekllm-67B	Mixtral-8x7B
Fluency	4.95	4.99	4.96	4.97	4.93	4.92	4.9	4.78	2.53
Relevance	4.71	4.69	4.58	4.49	4.41	4.11	3.91	4.04	2.28
Completeness	4.35	4.34	4.12	4.12	4.03	3.74	3.25	2.62	1.54
Proficiency	4.66	4.64	4.55	4.53	4.36	4.23	4.14	4.16	3.04
Average	4.67	4.67	4.55	4.53	4.43	4.25	4.05	3.90	2.35

Table 8: Results of CMB-Clin on Automatic Evaluation using GPT-4 for General Models.

Aspects	HuatuoGPT-II-34B	BianQue-2	DISC-MedLLM	ChatMed-Consult	MedicalGPT	DISC-MedLLM-Train	DoctorGLM	Bentsao	ChatGLM-Med
Fluency	4.96	4.86	4.82	4.88	4.48	4.57	4.74	3.88	3.55
Relevance	4.61	3.52	3.24	3.08	2.64	2.52	2.00	2.05	1.97
Completeness	4.31	3.02	2.75	2.67	2.19	1.89	1.65	1.71	1.61
Proficiency	4.53	3.60	3.51	3.30	2.89	3.19	2.30	2.58	2.37
Average	4.60	3.75	3.58	3.48	3.05	3.04	2.67	2.55	2.38

Table 9: Results of CMB-Clin on Automatic Evaluation using GPT-4 for Medical Models.

traditional Chinese medicine always have relative low accuracy, indicating that additional data on traditional Chinese medicine still needs to be supplemented.

5 Experiments on CMB-Clin

5.1 Experimental Setup

Prompt construction Every prompt comprises two components: a description that may (or may not) encompass conversation history D_i , and the question Q_i . To integrate the conversation history into the description, we prepend the appropriate roles to each question and reference.

Expert and Automatic Evaluation To prove the validity of our evaluation, we engage three annotators with professional medical knowledge to evaluate on a randomly selected subset of 320 responses of 11 models from different tiers. Equipped with a reference solution, they score each response across four aspects — Fluency, Relevance, Completeness, and Medical Proficiency — using a grading scale from 1 to 5. The user interface is shown in Appendix D.1. To enhance efficiency and reduce expert evaluation costs, we leverage GPT-4 to assess the responses of all models, adhering to the same guidelines as those used in expert evaluations. The prompt template for the automatic evaluation is detailed in Appendix D.2.

5.2 Benchmarking Results

On General LLMs As shown in Table 8, except for Deepseekllm-67B and Mixtral-8x7B, which have insufficient support for Chinese models, the other General LLMs have shown strong dialogue capabilities based on complex medical records.

Taking GPT-4 and ChatGPT as the dividing line, Yi-34B has achieved the same medical dialogue capability as GPT-4. Qwen-72B is weaker than GPT-4 but stronger than ChatGPT, and the remaining models are all weaker than ChatGPT. Compared with their strong performance in CMB-Exam, domestic General LLMs still lag behind OpenAI in CMB-Clin, which is closer to real scenarios. Except for the Yi LLMs, the ability of other domestic LLMs to solve real problems does not match their ability to answer multiple-choice questions, suggesting that they may have been specially strengthened for multiple-choice questions. Such model iteration direction actually deviates from actual needs. During the iteration process, we recommend using both CMB-Exam and CMB-Clin for model capability awareness.

On Medical LLMs As shown in Table 9, the overall dialogue ability of Medical LLMs is lower than that of General LLMs. Although the three models of DoctorGLM, Bentsao, and ChatGLM-Med all claim to be optimized for consultation, the actual results show that their conversational capabilities have not been enhanced. It is worth noting that although BianQue-2 performed poorly in CMB-Exam, it performed well in CMB-Clin, indicating that it just lacks the ability to do multiplechoice questions and follow instructions. though HuatuoGPT-II-34B surpasses GPT-4 in CMB-Exam, it still lags behind GPT-4 and is even lower than its base model Yi-34B in CMB-Clin, indicating that multiple rounds of dialogue data need to be added during its training process. It is noted that performance of DISC-MedLLM trained on CMB-Exam-Train drops significantly on CMB-Clin, indicating the need to add other data or re-

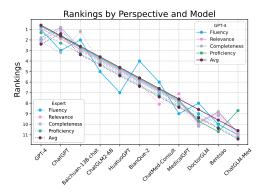


Figure 3: Rankings by perspective and model. Dashed lines and solid lines are the resulted rankings from expert and ChatGPT evaluation, respectively. For visual clarity, each line is shifted vertically for a small value. A model is better if it has a smaller ranking (a higher position) on the vertical axis.

construct multiple-choice questions in the form of dialogues. To enhance the robustness of our findings, we have included supplementary evaluation results in Appendix E.2.

On Different Metrics Regarding the Fluency indicator, there is not much difference between General LLMs with most LLM above 4.9, but there are still many Medical LLMs models below 4.5, indicating a lack of basic dialogue capabilities. Relevance, Completeness and Proficiency are all highly differentiated indicators, among which Completeness has the lowest average value, indicating that for medical record consultation scenarios, the completeness of the dialogue and obtaining complete information are the most difficult task.

5.3 Agreements between Automatic and Expert Evaluation

Figure 3 demonstrates a strong agreement of resulted rankings between GPT-4 and expert evaluation, with the spearman correlation of rankings being 0.93. The rankings agree with each other except for a flip for GPT-4 and ChatGPT (dashed and solid brown lines are parallel, except for a flip at GPT-4 and ChatGPT). We also provide a more fine-grained alignment analysis in Appendix E.3. The results indicate that the automatic evaluation is highly aligned with expert evaluation.

6 Conclusion

Although LLMs have potential in the realm of medicine, their accurate evaluation remains pivotal for real-world applications. The introduction of the CMB benchmark, tailored to the local cultural environment in China, gives a more contextualized and comprehensive evaluation benchmark. Although not framed as a competitive leaderboard, it serves as a crucial tool for tracking LLM progress in medical domains. This might pave the way for a broader and more effective utilization of LLMs in China's medical landscape.

Ethical Statement

In terms of Data Anonymity, all data utilized in this study primarily originate from publicly accessible examination questions and coursework exercises that have been processed by experts, and there is no personal information.

In terms of Data Quality, we fully ensure data quality from two aspects: data source and data cleaning. Through strict screening of data sources, the accuracy and authority of the exercises are ensured; through strict data processing, character errors caused by OCR and low-level errors generated during the transcription process are minimized.

In terms of Exaggerating the Abilities of the LLM, we follow the reviewer's suggestions and conducted multiple experiments to ensure the stability of the experimental results. We provide an explanation based on experimental results that provides a possible option for solving the evaluation dilemma of open-ended questions.

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Limitations

The limitations of our study are twofold. Firstly, while our benchmark encompasses various subjects in the Chinese medical domain, there remain numerous subjects that necessitate multi-modal capabilities for addressing real-world issues. Secondly, within the CMB-Clin section, we standardized the model evaluation method. However, in the real world, diverse medical conditions may require distinct evaluation criteria. Therefore, we advocate the adoption of disease-specific criteria for assessing model performance.

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A Related work

A.1 Medical Benchmark

Medical benchmarks have evolved to broadly encompass two types of tasks based on the capabilities of the models they seek to probe: objective tasks and subjective tasks. The former typically assumes the form of multiple-choice questions (Welbl et al., 2018; Pal et al., 2022; Hendrycks et al., 2021b; Singhal et al., 2022), information retrieval (Abacha et al., 2017; Zhu et al., 2019; Abacha et al., 2019), and cloze-style reading comprehension (Suster and Daelemans, 2018; Pampari et al., 2018; Zhu et al., 2020), which serve to evaluate a model's medical knowledge with unbiased accuracy. Sources for these tasks range from medical textbooks and exams to case reports (Suster and Daelemans, 2018), Wikipedia (Welbl et al., 2018), and medical practices (Hendrycks et al., 2021b; Pal et al., 2022). In contrast, subjective tasks involve open-ended text generation constructed directly from consumer queries and doctor responses, often sourced from online medical forums. The task typically demands models to generate consumer-oriented replies (Singhal et al., 2022; Li et al., 2023b) or explanations for multiple-choice questions (Liu et al., 2023). As of now, there are relatively few openended text generation question-answering tasks that specifically center around providing consultation based on diagnostic reports.

Few existing benchmark datasets encapsulate both task types, with PromptCBLUE (Zhu et al., 2023), MultiMedQA (Singhal et al., 2022) and CMExam (Liu et al., 2023) sharing the closest resemblance to our work. Our dataset exceeds in size and includes questions not only from the Chinese National Medical Licensing Examination but also from various authoritative medical textbooks.

Several other datasets have been developed that contribute to the ongoing advancement of medical NLP, albeit with a narrower career focus. For instance, the ExplainCPE (Li et al., 2023a) is solely career-specific to pharmacists, while GenMedical-Eval (Yang et al., 2023), Medbench (Cai et al., 2024) and Medbench_Opencompass⁶ are exclusive to physician careers. Our dataset includes questions not only pertaining to physicians but also to nurses, technicians, and pharmacists. These questions are derived from a mix of sources, including

the Chinese National Medical Licensing Examination and various authoritative medical textbooks, thereby offering a larger and more comprehensive resource than previously available datasets.

A.2 Other Benchmarks of Large Language Models

The explosive growth in the number and capability of LLMs has led to a multitude of works aiming to discern their true capacity, evaluating both their general and specific abilities. General ability benchmarks include comprehensive test suites, each targeting different aspects of LLM's proficiency, ranging from handling multi-turn dialogues (Zheng et al., 2023) to gauging language comprehension and reasoning abilities (Srivastava et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2023a; Zhong et al., 2023).

In terms of specific abilities, several benchmarks, apart from those related to medicine, aim to evaluate different capabilities of models. ARB (Sawada et al., 2023) was introduced to assess LLMs' performance in high-level reasoning tasks across multiple domains. C-Eval (Huang et al., 2023) serves as the first comprehensive benchmark to evaluate the advanced knowledge and reasoning abilities of Chinese-based models. Gaokao (Zhang et al., 2023b), MATH (Hendrycks et al., 2021c), and APPS (Hendrycks et al., 2021a) focus on assessing LLM proficiency in complex, context-specific tasks, and code generation, respectively.

B Dataset

Table 15, 16, 17 present a detailed directory structure of CMB-Exam. Initially, the organization is based on clinical professions and the exams commonly undertaken by these professionals, divided into six primary sections. Upon this foundation, each section is further categorized based on career progression and examination subjects. Within each sub-category, we have meticulously classified according to specific departments or courses.

B.1 Keywords in the TCM subcatalog and Medqa-USMLE

We used jieba⁷ and NLTK⁸ to perform 2-gram word segmentation on the CMB TCM subcatalog and Medqa-USMLE (Jin et al., 2020) respectively, and compared the top 5 keywords (excluding words with no medical meaning). The results are shown

⁶https://medbench.opencompass.org.cn/home

⁷https://github.com/fxsjy/jieba

⁸https://www.nltk.org/

in the Table 10. It can be seen that the expressions in TCM and English medicine are very different.

C Details of Evaluated Models

In this section, we introduce and detail the models utilized in our evaluation. These models fall under three primary categories: 12 Chinese medical LLMs, 5 proprietary LLMs, and 13 publicly-available general-domain LLMs.

Chinese medical LLMs:

- HuatuoGPT-II: HuatuoGPT2 employs an innovative domain adaptation method to significantly boost its medical knowledge and dialogue proficiency. It showcases state-of-the-art performance in several medical benchmarks, especially surpassing GPT-4 in expert evaluations and the fresh medical licensing exams. The number of parameters of the model is 7B, 13B, and 34B.
- BianQue: It enhances its questioning ability by asking patients for more information to solve the issue that patients may not reveal all information in a single-turn conversation.
- ChatMed-Consult: It is built upon Chinese LLaMA (Cui et al., 2023) using real-world questions and synthetic responses from Chat-GPT.
- MedicalGPT: It is based on Ziya-LLaMa (Wang et al., 2022) and adopts a four-stage training recipe, including continued pre-training, supervised fine-tuning, reward modeling, reinforcement learning.
- ChatGLM-Med: It is finetuned on ChatGLM-6B (Du et al., 2022) using instruction tuning data, which are built upon CMeKG⁹.
- Bentsao: It is finetuned on LLaMa-7B (Touvron et al., 2023) using the same data as ChatGLM-Med. It's the first Medical LLM trained on LLaMa.
- DISC-Med: DISC-MedLLM is a large model in the medical field specially designed for medical and health conversational scenarios.
- DISC-MedLLM-13B (CMB-Exam-Train): The model after fine-tuning DISC-MedLLM on CMB-Exam-Train. ALL of above large

- IvyGPT: An LLM based on LLaMA that is trained and fine-tuned with high-quality medical question-answer (QA) instances and Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback (RLHF).
- Sunsimiao: Sunsimiao is fine-tuned from Baichuan-7B and ChatGLM-6B series on 100,000-level high-quality Chinese medical data.
- DoctorGLM: Based on the Chinese consultation model of ChatGLM-6B, it is fine-tuned on a single A100 80G in 13 hours. It's the first Medical LLM trained on ChatGLM.

Proprietary models:

- ChatGPT: Developed by OpenAI, ChatGPT, rooted in the GPT-3.5 architecture, excels in both understanding and generating natural language.
- GPT-4: Another offering from OpenAI, GPT-4 employs deep learning techniques to elevate natural language processing capabilities, showcasing remarkable advancements across diverse tasks.
- JianPeiGPT:A Medical LLM developed by the Pecking Doctor team of Hangzhou Jianpei Technology Co., Ltd ¹⁰. The evaluation results were submitted and made public on December 15, 2023 after the opening of CMB.
- ShukunGPT: A Medical LLM developed by Shukun Technology¹¹. The evaluation results were submitted and made public on October 23, 2023 after the opening of CMB.
- AntGLM-Med: A Medical LLM developed by the algorithm research group from AntGroup¹². The evaluation results were submitted and made public on December 23, 2023 after the opening of CMB.

language models are fine-tuned for 2 epoch on the full training set with a batch size of 32, with a learning rate of 105 using Adam. The warm-up rate of cosine scheduling is set to 0.03.

⁹https://github.com/king-yyf/CMeKG_tools

¹⁰http://www.jianpeicn.com/

¹¹https://www.shukun.net/

¹²https://www.antgroup.com/en

Dataset	Top 5 Medicine-Related Keywords
CMB-TCM	气血 (Qi and blood), 舌苔 (tongue coating), 虚证 (deficiency syndrome), 病程 (course of disease), 舌淡 (pale tongue)
Medqa-USMLE	blood pressure, respiratory rate, physical examination, heart rate, abdominal pain

Table 10: Keywords in the TCM subcatalog and Medqa-USMLE

慢性呼吸衰竭患者机械通气的指征,错误的是 Indications for mechanical ventilation in patients with chronic respiratory failure, the incorrect one is A. PaCO2进行性升高 Progressive increase in PaCO2 B. PaCO2升高达到80mmHg以上 PaCO2 increases to above 80mmHg C. 严重的低氧血症,积极氧疗后,Pa02仍小于40mmHg Severe hypoxemia, after aggressive oxygen therapy, PaO2 is still less than 40mmHg D. 呼吸频率超过35次/分 Respiratory rate exceeds 35 times/minute E. 并发肺性脑病 Complicated with pulmonary encephalopathy 答案: B 解释:慢性呼吸衰竭是在原有肺部疾病基础上发生的,最常见病因为COPD,早期可表现为 | 型呼吸衰竭,随着病情逐渐加重,肺功能愈来愈差,可表现为 || 型呼 吸衰竭。慢性呼吸衰竭稳定期,虽PaC02降低和PaC02升高,但患者通过代偿和治疗,可稳定在一定范围内,患者仍能从事一般的工作或日常生活活动。一旦由于 呼吸道感染加重或其他诱因,可表现为PaCO2明显下降,PaCO2显著升高,此时可称为慢性呼吸衰竭的急性发作,这是我国临床上最常见的慢性呼吸衰竭类型。长 期家庭氧疗应在极重度慢阻肺患者中应用,具体指征:①Pa02小于等于55mmHg或Sa02小于等于8%,有或无高碳酸血症;②Pa02为55~60mmHg或Sa02为0.55。长期 家庭氧疗一般是经鼻导管吸入氧气,流量1.0~2.0L/分,每日吸氧持续时间大于15小时。故选B。 Explanation: Chronic respiratory failure occurs on the basis of existing lung diseases, with the most common cause being COPD. Early stages may manifest as Type I respiratory failure. As the condition progressively worsens and lung function deteriorates, it can manifest as Type II respiratory failure. During the stable period of chronic respiratory failure, although PaCO2 decreases and PaCO2 increases, patients can stabilize within a certain range through compensation and treatment, and they can still engage in general work or daily life activities. Once exacerbated due to respiratory infections or other triggers, it can manifest as a significant drop in PaCO2 and a significant increase in PaCO2, which can be referred to as an acute exacerbation of chronic respiratory failure, the most common type of chronic respiratory failure in our country's clinical practice. Long-term home oxygen therapy should be applied in patients with severe COPD c indications: ①PaO2 less than or equal to 55mmHg or SaO2 less than or equal to 88%, with or without hypercapnia; ②PaO2 is 55~60mmHg or SaO2 is 0.55. Long-term home oxygen therapy is generally inhaled through a nasal cannula, with a flow rate of 1.0~2.0L/min, and the duration of oxygen inhalation is more than 15 hours per day. Therefore, the answer is B.

Figure 4: An development example with explanations in CMB-Exam. English translations are shown for better readability.

Publicly-available general-domain LLMs:

- ChatGLM-3: The third version of ChatGLM, which is an open source, bilingual dialogue language model.
- Baichuan2-chat: An advanced variant of Baichuan-13B model, focuses on dialogue tasks, boasting 13 billion parameters for efficient and effective conversation generation. The number of parameters of the model is 7B and 13B.
- Qwen-Chat: Tongyi Qianwen large model series developed by Alibaba Cloud based on Transformer, which is trained on extremely large-scale pre-training data. The number of parameters of the model is 1.8B, 7B and 72B.
- Yi: Large language models trained from scratch by developers at 01.AI¹³. The number of parameters of the model is 6B and 34B.
- Deepseek-llm-67B-Chat: An advanced language model comprising 67 billion parame-

- Internlm-Chat: It's pre-trained on over 2.3T Tokens containing high-quality English, Chinese, and code data. Chat version has undergone SFT and RLHF training, enabling it to better and more securely meet users' needs. The number of parameters of the model is 7B and 20B.
- Mistral¹⁴: A 7B dense Transformer, fast-deployed and easily customisable. Small, yet powerful for a variety of use cases. Supports English and code, and a 8k context window.
- Mixtral-8x7B-32kseqlen: A 7B sparse Mixture-of-Experts model with stronger capabilities than Mistral 7B. Uses 12B active parameters out of 45B total. Supports multiple languages, code and 32k context window.

ters. It has been trained from scratch on a vast dataset of 2 trillion tokens in both English and Chinese.

¹³ https://www.lingyiwanwu.com/

¹⁴https://mistral.ai/

D Experiment Details of CMB-Clin

D.1 Screenshot of Human Evaluation UI

We show the screenshot of human evaluation UI in Figure 6 and Figure 7. We split the screenshot into two figures for better visual clarity.

D.2 Prompts for Automatic Evaluation

The prompt for automatic evaluation contains task instructions, metrics, criteria, and placeholders for information to be evaluated. It is designed based on the suggestion of experts and used by both Chat-GPT and GPT-4.

You are an AI evaluator specializing in assessing the quality of answers provided by other language models. Your primary goal is to rate the answers based on their fluency, relevance, completeness, proficiency in medicine. Use the following scales to evaluate each criterion: Fluency: 1: Completely broken and unreadable sentence pieces 2: Mostly broken with few readable tokens 3: Moderately fluent but with limited vocabulary 4: Mostly coherent in expressing complex subjects 5: Human-level fluency Relevance:

- 1: Completely unrelated to the question
- 2: Some relation to the question, but mostly off-topic
- 3: Relevant, but lacking focus or key details
- 4: Highly relevant, addressing the main aspects of the question
- 5: Directly relevant and precisely targeted to the question

Completeness:

- 1: Extremely incomplete
- 2: Almost incomplete with limited information
- 3: Moderate completeness with some information
- 4: Mostly complete with most of the information displayed
- 5: Fully complete with all information presented

Proficiency in medicine:

- 1: Using plain languages with no medical terminology.
- 2: Equipped with some medical knowledge but lacking in-depth details
- 3: Conveying moderately complex medical information with clarity
- 4: Showing solid grasp of medical terminology but having some minor mistakes in detail

```
5: Fully correct in all presented
    medical knowledge
You will be provided with the following
    information:
- a description
- a conversation based on the
   description (optional)
 a question based on the description
    and conversation
 the solution to the question
- a model's answer to the question
[description]
{description}
[end of description]
[conversation]
{history}
[end of conversation]
[question]
{question}
[end of question]
[solution]
{solution}
[end of solution]
[answer]
{answer}
[end of answer]
Make sure to provide your evaluation
    results in JSON format and ONLY the
    JSON, with separate ratings for each
     of the mentioned criteria as in the
     following example:
{`fluency': 3, `relevance': 3,
   completeness': 3, `proficiency': 3}
```

Additional Results on CMB-Clin

Results of Expert evaluation

320 model responses are randomly sampled for this experiment due to a large number of answers to be evaluated and limited expert resources. We present the detailed results of expert evaluation in Table 11.

E.2 Robustness Experiments on CMB-Clin

To show the robustness of GPT-4-as-a-judge, we also present the results of 3 independent runs for each general and medical LLMs in Table 13 and Table 14, respectively. All experiments are conducted between January 20th and January 26th, 2024.

For Medical LLMs, as shown in Table 14, although the absolute scores deviate from the results in Table 9, their rankings remain the same. For General LLMs, as shown in Table 13, the rankings remain the same except for Yi-34B. The standard deviations shown in each cell indicate the robustness of evaluating CMB-Clin with GPT-4.

Models	Fluency	Relevance	Completeness	Proficiency	Avg.
ChatGPT	4.93	4.65	4.22	4.34	4.53
GPT-4	4.88	4.61	4.20	4.39	4.52
Baichuan-13B-chat	4.79	4.29	4.22	4.30	4.40
ChatGLM2-6B	4.77	4.06	3.96	3.99	4.20
HuatuoGPT	4.70	3.89	3.69	3.81	4.02
BianQue-2	4.44	3.50	3.30	3.43	3.67
ChatMed-Consult	4.26	3.39	3.16	3.27	3.52
MedicalGPT	4.21	3.40	3.09	3.10	3.45
DoctorGLM	3.74	2.46	2.35	2.30	2.71
Bentsao	3.52	2.62	2.36	2.30	2.70
ChatGLM-Med	2.92	2.23	1.98	1.92	2.26

Table 11: Results of *expert* evaluation on CMB-Clin. *Avg.* are the averaged scores of each model over all perspectives. Models are arranged in descending order of *Avg.*

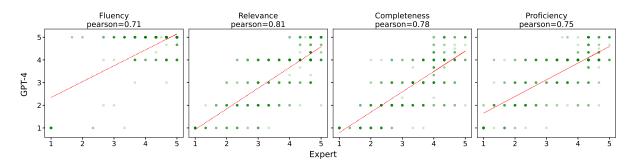


Figure 5: Correlation of expert and automatic evaluation on CMB-Clin of each perspective with pearson correlation. The four plots show correlations in fluency, relevance, completeness and proficiency in medicine, respectively. Each plot consists of 320 data points with many overlapped. The darker a point is, the more overlapped data there are at that position. Each expert score is averaged over the three expert annotators.

Settings	Original	T-0.2	T-0.6	T-1.0	T-1.5
Original	1.00	0.95	0.90	0.87	0.87
T-0.2	0.95	1.00	0.98	0.88	0.88
T-0.6	0.90	0.98	1.00	0.90	0.90
T-1.0	0.87	0.88	0.90	1.00	1.00
T-1.5	0.87	0.88	0.90	1.00	1.00

Table 12: Pairwise Spearman correlations between results under different decoding temperatures. Original: results of greedy decoding (temperature 0). T-x: results of using nucleus sampling under temperature x.

E.3 Agreement of Expert and GPT-4 Evaluation

Figure 5 shows the agreement between expert and GPT-4 evaluation on each perspective. The pearson correlations are all above 0.71, indicating a strong linear correlation between the two evaluation approaches.

E.4 Pairwise Correlation of Rankings under Different Temperatures

We evaluate the results generated under each setting (*i.e.*, under different temperatures) using ChatGPT. Then for each setting, we obtain a ranking for all

models. We then calculate the pairwise spearman correlation between all sets of rankings. The results are summarized in Table 12.

Aspects	GPT-4	Yi-34B	Qwen-72B	ChatGPT	Baichuan2-13B	ChatGLM3-6B	Internlm-20B	Deepseekllm-67B	Mixtral-8x7B
Fluency	4.94 ± 0.06	5.00 ± 0.00	5.00 ± 0.00	5.00 ± 0.00	4.96 ± 0.01	4.96 ± 0.01	4.92 ± 0.01	4.82 ± 0.07	2.38 ± 0.20
Relevance	4.54 ± 0.17	4.77 ± 0.04	4.51 ± 0.05	4.43 ± 0.06	4.13 ± 0.05	4.07 ± 0.05	3.98 ± 0.08	4.12 ± 0.08	2.25 ± 0.13
Completeness	4.10 ± 0.24	4.65 ± 0.04	4.06 ± 0.06	4.15 ± 0.07	3.85 ± 0.04	3.74 ± 0.07	3.48 ± 0.06	2.73 ± 0.07	1.56 ± 0.08
Proficiency	4.45 ± 0.29	4.76 ± 0.06	4.47 ± 0.08	4.45 ± 0.07	4.17 ± 0.05	4.12 ± 0.05	4.15 ± 0.07	4.18 ± 0.11	2.73 ± 0.16
Average	4.51	4.79	4.51	4.51	4.28	4.22	4.13	3.96	2.23

Table 13: Results of multiple runs on CMB-Clin using GPT-4 for **general models**. Each cell in the first four rows show the mean and standard deviation of repeating the experiments 3 times. The last row shows the average values of means in their corresponding column.

	HuatuoGPT-II-34B	BianQue-2	DISC-MedLLM	ChatMed-Consult	MedicalGPT	DISC-MedLLM-Train	DoctorGLM	Bentsao	ChatGLM-Med
Fluency	5.00 ± 0.00	4.97 ± 0.01	5.00 ± 0.00	4.97 ± 0.01	4.54 ± 0.02	4.48 ± 0.07	4.89 ± 0.03	4.01 ± 0.05	3.63 ± 0.02
Relevance	4.55 ± 0.05	3.55 ± 0.07	3.25 ± 0.07	3.05 ± 0.06	2.62 ± 0.04	2.52 ± 0.07	1.97 ± 0.07	2.06 ± 0.06	2.01 ± 0.04
Completeness	4.36 ± 0.05	3.07 ± 0.06	2.71 ± 0.07	2.62 ± 0.07	2.22 ± 0.03	1.95 ± 0.05	1.71 ± 0.05	1.66 ± 0.03	1.64 ± 0.02
Proficiency	4.48 ± 0.04	3.71 ± 0.07	3.52 ± 0.12	3.38 ± 0.1	2.89 ± 0.1	3.07 ± 0.1	2.31 ± 0.11	2.58 ± 0.14	2.42 ± 0.06
Average	4.60	3.82	3.62	3.51	3.07	3.01	2.72	2.58	2.43

Table 14: Results of multiple runs on CMB-Clin using GPT-4 for **medical models**. Each cell in the first four rows show the mean and standard deviation of repeating the experiments 3 times. The last row shows the average values of means in their corresponding column.



Figure 6: The guideline for human evaluation and the introduction to components of user interface (in Chinese). Note that Figure 6 precedes Figure 7 in the same webpage.

Category	Subcategory	Subject	# Questions
	Resident Physician	Clinical Pathology Oral Otolaryngology Rehabilitation Medicine Ophthalmology Neurology Orthopedics Anesthesiology Pediatrics Dermatology Psychiatry General Practice Medical Imaging Internal Medicine Ultrasound Surgery Obstetrics and Gynecology Pediatric Surgery	1124 1074 952 461 951 791 939 907 749 977 903 712 964 752 430 829 800 296
	Licensed Assistant Physician	Integrated Chinese and Western Medicine Clinical Chinese Medicine Public Health Oral	3441 5364 3454 2067 1090
	Licensed Physician	Chinese Medicine Public Health Clinical Oral Integrated Chinese and Western Medicine	4490 4085 10241 1505 5320
Physician	Associate Professional Physician	General Medicine Internal Oral Orthopedics Chinese Internal Medicine Surgery Ultrasound Medicine Dermatology and Venereology Otolaryngology Internal Medicine Infectious Diseases Obstetrics and Gynecology Cardiovascular Internal Medicine and Respiratory Internal Medicine Oncology Acupuncture Attending in TCM Pathology Preventive Medicine Pediatrics Psychotherapy Radiology Psychiatry Oral Restoration Dermatology Digestive Internal Medicine Rehabilitation Medicine Infectious Disease Nuclear Medicine Integrated Chinese and Western Internal Medicine Ophthalmology Anesthesiology Hospital Infection Nutrition Tuberculosis Critical Care Medicine Psychological Counselor Pain Medicine Neurology Orthodontics Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Plastic Surgery Nephrology Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology Occupational Disease	3492 858 894 2896 5071 2218 1158 983 5671 600 2641 617 942 1169 1642 2817 3773 1393 2401 754 1183 909 160 630 861 1250 862 1101 988 923 827 1009 58 579 495 884 126 578 367 187 81 37 54
	Advanced Professional Physicians	Respiratory InternalMedicine Orthopedics Endocrinology Cardiology Digestive Internal Medicine General Surgery Senior Gynecology and Obstetrics General Internal Medicine General Practice Pediatrics	1522 1245 1326 1604 1577 1850 3249 607 74 65

Table 15: Catalog Structure of Physician



Figure 7: The user interface for scoring an answer (in Chinese). Note that Figure 7 follows Figure 6 in the same webpage.

Category	Subcategory	Subject	# Questions
		Pathophysiology	1455
		Medical Psychology	932
		Biochemistry and MolecularBiology	2402
		Cell Biology	1399
		Medical Immunology	2485
		Pathology	2786
		Medical Genetics	1369
		Parasitology	806
	Foudamental Medicine	Systematic Anatomy	1967
	Poudamentai Medicine	Bioinformatics	185
		Physiology	2306
		Pharmacology	2424
		Medical Microbiology	1342
		Local Anatomy	489
		Histology and Embryology	1398
		Human Parasitology	766
		Medical Statistics	198
		Medical Imaging	1858
		Radiology	541
		Experimental Diagnostic Medicine	548
		Neurology	1163
	Clinical Medicine	Surgery	2164
		Dermatology and Venereology	2168
		Pediatrics	3760
		Nuclear Medicine	1383
		Physical Diagnosis	621
Undergraduate Disciplines		Dental Pulp Disease	346
		Basic Nursing	978
		Diagnostics	103
		Ultrasonic Medicine	192
		Oral Care	263
		Evidence-Based Medicine	95
		Fundamental Nursing	393
		Epidemiology	864
		Oral Tissue Pathology	387
		Infectious Disease	287
		Oral Anatomy and Physiology	362
		Anesthesiology	606
		Interventional Radiology	81
		Preventive Medicine	1926
	TCM and Chinese Herbal Medicine	Hygiene	1316
		Medical Ethics	500
	1	TCM Ophthalmology	915
		Essential Prescriptions Worth a Thousand Gold	1051
		Basic Theories of TCM	2706
		TCM Diagnosis	2036
		TCM Diagnosis TCM	
	Descriptive Medicine and Dukli - II - 14	_	1921
	Preventive Medicine and Public Health	Warm Disease Theory	1088
		History of Chinese Medicine	662
		TCM Internal Medicine	1738
		TCM Pediatrics	694
		Treatise on Cold Pathogenic Diseases	1390
		Lecture on Inner Canon	456

Table 16: Catalog Structure of Undergraduate Disciplines

Category	Subcategory	Subject	# Questions
	Practicing Nurse	Practicing Nurse	3303
ĺ	Licensed Practical Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	4223
Nurse	Charge Nurse	Pediatric Internal Medicine Charge Nurse Surgery Obstetrics and Gynecology	905 958 4558 341 755
I	Advanced Practice Nurse	Advanced Practice Nurse	1876
	Medical Technician	Rehabilitation Medicine Therapy Radiology Inspection Oncology	1752 1033 1166 1086
	Medical Technologist	Rehabilitation Medicine Therapy Oncology Radiology Inspection	1739 1538 1337 1458
Technician	Supervising Technologist	Radiation Therapy for Oncology Ultrasonic Medicine Blood Transfusion Technology Microbiological Inspection Radiology Pathology Physical and Chemical Inspection Clinical Medicine Inspection Medical Record Information Nuclear Medicine Electrocardiology Disinfection Technology Rehabilitation Medicine and Treatment	1701 145 2199 704 1428 2407 783 1378 1331 1275 1021 575 948
	Nursing	Surgical Nursing Basic Nursing	1112 902
Graduate Entrance Exam	Political Science	Political Science	1514
1	Integrated Western Medicine	Integrated Western Medicine	8913
I	Integrated TCM	Integrated TCM	3924
	Licensed Pharmacist	Licensed Pharmacist	8248
I	Licensed TCM Pharmacist	Licensed TCM Pharmacist	4460
Pharmacist	Junior Pharmacist	Junior Pharmacist	2720
i	Junior Pharmacist Assistant	Junior Pharmacist Assistant	3705
·	Junior TCM Pharmacist	Junior TCM Pharmacist Assistant	3502
İ	Junior TCM Pharmacist	Junior TCM Pharmacist Assistant	4017
i	Chief Pharmacist	Chief Pharmacist	3403
	Chief TCM Pharmacist	Chief TCM Pharmacist	3299

Table 17: Catalog Structure of Nurse, Technician, Graduate Entrance Exam and Pharmacist