SMART INTRAVENOUS DRIP MONITORING SYSTEM

Dineshsanjay S P 1 , Poorani S 2 , Praveen P 3 , Selvaraj M 4

1,2,3 UG Students , Department of Medical Electronics , SRM Valliammai Engineering College, Kattankulathur

4 Professor , Department of Medical Electronics , SRM Valliammai Engineering College, Kattankulathur

Abstract—— ***Designed to improve patient safety and boost healthcare efficiency by automating the monitoring of intravenous (IV) fluid levels, the Smart Intravenous (IV) Drip Monitoring System is an innovative, cost-effective, and IoT-enabled solution. In traditional medical settings, nurses must manually check IV fluid bags, often leading to delayed responses and serious complications such as air embolism, backflow of blood, and over-infusion when the fluid is depleted unnoticed. To eliminate these risks, the system uses an ultrasonic sensor to continuously measure the fluid level and an LDR (Light Dependent Resistor) sensor to detect air bubbles or changes in the IV line's transparency. When a critically low fluid level is detected, a servo motor clamps the IV tubing to immediately stop the flow, preventing medical emergencies. Additionally, a buzzer and a 16x2 LCD provide local alerts. For remote monitoring, the ESP32 microcontroller with built-in WiFi communicates with the Blynk IoT platform, sending real-time notifications to medical staff via smartphones. This compact and scalable device is ideal for hospitals, clinics, and home care settings, significantly enhancing patient safety, responsiveness, and overall care quality by minimizing manual labor and human error.***

Keywords — ***Smart IV Drip, Fluid Level Monitoring, Ultrasonic Sensor, LDR Sensor, Servo Motor, ESP32, IoT Healthcare, Blynk Platform, Patient Safety, Automated IV Control, Medical IoT, Intravenous Monitoring.***

I. INTRODUCTION

Particularly with operations like intravenous (IV) fluid delivery, patient safety and effective care take highest priority in the healthcare sector. Often manually verifying the IV fluid levels, healthcare practitioners may find this time-consuming and prone to human mistakes. Inadequate rigorous fluid level checking can lead to serious issues such blood backflow, air emboli (air entering the IV line), or accidental over infusion. Particularly in busy hospitals, these risks not only jeopardize patient safety but also raise the workload for healthcare professionals. To address these issues, this study suggests a Smart Intravenous (IV) Drip Monitoring System that automates the fluid monitoring process using inexpensive, high efficiency electronic components. An ultrasonic sensor measures the fluid level within the IV bag; an LDR sensor notes the presence of air or transparency changes in the IV line. A servo motor engages to clamp the IV tube and stop the flow when the fluid level falls to a critical level, hence preventing maybe hazardous health effects. Best suited for home care, clinics, and hospitals, this intelligent, portable technology boosts safety, lowers manual inspections, and guarantees rapid response. The Blynk IoT system allows an ESP32 microcontroller with WiFi capability to handle sensor data and alert medical personnel to their phones in real time. A buzzer and a 16x2 LCD display offer instant local notifications.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Designed to improve accuracy, safety, and efficiency in intravenous therapy, the Smart Drip IV Infusion System is a creative idea. Conventional intravenous systems may be compromised in patient care by human error, manual monitoring, and limited alert capacity. To automate drip rate monitoring and fluid delivery, this system combines a microcontroller (PIC16F877A), IR sensors, servo motor, buzzer, and LCD display. It measures infusion rates in real time, sets anomaly alerts, and closes the tube under low fluid circumstances or over infusion. While the buzzer and display offer quick feedback, the user interface lets healthcare professionals input parameters like drip rate and volume. Breadboard implementation and simulations verify its correctness and dependability. The system is flexible for future upgrades such as wireless communication and predictive analytics, reduces workload, and guarantees timely interventions. Generally speaking, Smart Drip presents a better and more efficient way of IV treatment suitable for every medical environment [1].

An IoT-based system meant to improve intravenous fluid delivery's efficiency and safety in hospitals is the Smart IV Bag Monitoring and Alert System. Conventional manual monitoring techniques sometimes result in human mistakes because of the workload on healthcare professionals. Using an Arduino UNO, ESP8266 WiFi module, ultrasonic sensor for fluid level, and an LDR sensor to detect bubble formation, this system automates IV fluid level and bubble detection. The ThingSpeak system and a custom web app provide real time data so healthcare workers may remotely check fluid levels. Alerts are set off when fluid falls under a 25 cm limit or bubbles are found, therefore helping to avoid problems like air embolism. The system improves patient safety, lowers nurses' workload, and removes the need for manual checks. Its connection with cloud services guarantees exact, constant monitoring and creates opportunities for future developments such EHR integration and machine learning-based forecasting [2].

This project outlines an IoTbased system designed in healthcare settings to monitor intravenous (IV) fluid levels and prevent reverse blood flow. Conventional manual IV monitoring is prone to errors that could cause air embolism or death if the fluid bag drains silently. Using a tubeblocking technique, IR sensors, an LCD screen, and a NodeMCU (ESP8266), the recommended system automatically checks the fluid level and drip rate. Through a web dashboard, caregivers are warned if fluids drops to a dangerously low level. If not monitored, a motordrive clamp is set to stop the fluid line and stop blood backflow. An interface lets you change essential drench rate, time, and volume parameters. By automating important decisions and retrofitting for any IV stand, the system enhances patient safety and enables real-time data monitoring via the MQTT protocol. A universal arrangement for several bottle kinds and cooperation with ECG/temperature monitoring will define future potential [3].

Designed to monitor and control saline flow in medical environments, the project offers an IoTbased technology meant to stop reverse blood flow and guarantee patient safety. Detect saline levels and stop flow when appropriate using an ESP8266 microcontroller, load cell sensor, HX711 A/D converter, and servo motor in this system. When the saline bottle's weight falls below a set limit, the IFTTT server sends healthcare personnel text messages or phone calls via IFTTT. The servo motor acts to stop the saline flow—thereby stopping blood backflow—if ignored. A friendly web app offers multilingual accessibility and realtime monitoring. By providing automated alerts, effective saline level monitoring, and quick intervention, this intelligent system improves patient care. Built as a small and energy-efficient arrangement, it establishes a new benchmark for medical safety. Future improvements include wireless doctor communication, vital signs monitoring, and several bottle tracking [4].

To address issues including nurse shortages and human error, the LDR Sensor Based Smart Intravenous Drip System is an IoT-powered device intended to automatically monitor IV drip in hospitals. An ultrasonic sensor measures the fluid level; the NodeMCU microcontroller processes the data and sends alerts via mobile apps and web apps, therefore detecting light intensity variations induced by air bubbles and IV bag fluid levels using a light dependent resistor (LDR). When the liquid level goes below a predetermined threshold or air bubbles are detected, a buzzer alerts surrounding staff and notifies nurses' cellphones. This setup helps to avoid problems like air embolism by reducing the need for manual monitoring and guaranteeing quick intervention. Furthermore improving hospital efficiency is the systems capability for remote monitoring of many patients simultaneously. With a cost of under ₹400, it is very inexpensive, scalable, and 适合 for modern healthcare systems, especially in crisis situations like epidemics [5].

III. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Intravenous (IV) fluid delivery is a critical procedure in medical care, but it is often manually monitored to prevent complications such as air embolism, blood backflow, or fluid overload. In busy healthcare environments, this manual process can be time-consuming and error-prone, potentially delaying necessary interventions and increasing stress for medical staff. Although some automated IV systems exist, they are often costly, complex to operate, and require specialized knowledge, making them unsuitable for widespread use. Additionally, many lack essential features like wireless monitoring, automatic flow control, and real-time alerts. To address these limitations, there is a clear need for a low-cost, intelligent IV monitoring system capable of automatically detecting fluid levels, responding to critical conditions, and instantly notifying caregivers. Such a system would significantly enhance patient safety, reduce the workload on healthcare professionals, and improve the overall efficiency and reliability of IV therapy.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND DESIGN

Built to automate the process of IV fluid monitoring in hospitals and home care settings, the Smart Intravenous (IV) Drip Monitoring System helps to track IV fluids. Standard IV monitoring calls for repeated physical inspections by caregivers or nurses. Delays in refilling or halting the flow of fluids might cause problems including air embolism, blood backflow, or overinfusion. By developing a sensor-based, IoT-enabled solution that can continuously monitor fluid levels and identify air bubbles in real time while automatically activating alarms and safety measures, this project tackles these problems.

The ESP32 microprocessor chosen for its dual-core processing, low power usage, and built-in WiFi module is at the heart of the system. It facilitates through the internet real-time sensor data processing and smooth interaction with mobile devices. Two main sensors from which the ESP32 receives input are a light dependent resistor (LDR) and an ultrasonic sensor (HCSR04).

Mounted facing the IV bag, the ultrasonic sensor records the distance from the sensor to the fluid level. It accomplishes this by emitting ultrasonic waves and measuring the time required for the echoes to rebound. This distance information lets the ESP32 determine the remaining liquid level. The system detects a low-fluid situation and starts a reaction when the fluid drops below a safe level—say 15 cm.

Along with fluid monitoring, the LDR sensor is used to detect abnormal flow in the IV tube. Light passing across a piece of transparent tubing is tracked by the LDR. Under regular conditions, the fluid transmits consistent light levels. Light transmission varies as air bubbles form or the fluid finishes, hence varying the resistance of the LDR. The ESP32 reads this change to check for erratic flow, such as the presence of air.

The ESP32 activates a servo motor (SG90 model) attached to a tiny mechanical clamp if either a low fluid level or air bubble is sensed. The servo spins to compress the tubing and prevent more fluid or air from reaching the patient's bloodstream. At the same time, a buzzer rings to give nearby medical personnel an audible alarm. A 16x2 I2C LCD display displays messages such as Fluid Normal, Low Fluid Level, or Air Bubble Detected to guarantee clear status visibility.

Beyond local input, the ESP32 interfaces with the Blynk IoTplatform to transmit real-time alerts to carers via a smartphone app. Utilizing widgets like virtual LEDs, notifications, and live sensor values, Blynk enables data visualization. With this remote monitoring feature, healthcare professionals may react fast even if they are not actually at the patient.

Using key libraries like Servo.h, LiquidCrystal_I2C.h, and BlynkSimpleEsp32.h, the program's software is produced in the Arduino IDE. The code is modular and organized into parts that control sensor readings, decisionmaking logic, motor control, and IoT communication. For future improvements, this company makes sure maintenance and scalability are simple.

The sensors were calibrated during implementation to increase precision. A water bottle was used to set the proper distance for actuating the servo for the ultrasonic sensor. To determine a reasonable threshold for bubble detection, the LDR was exposed to various illumination conditions. All components were powered by a regulated 5V supply with appropriate resistors for voltage matching and mounted on a breadboard during prototyping.

Tests included both critical and typical settings simulation. Real-time notifications were delivered to the Blynk app, the clamp was activated, warnings were displayed, and low fluid and air bubbles were successfully detected. The servo motor worked flawlessly to guarantee dependable closure of the IV tube during crises.

Basically, this project provides a dependable, inexpensive, and scalable answer for increasing IV therapy safety. Simple sensors, an ESP32 board, and wireless communication enable the system to minimize human labor and improve prompt medical response. Particularly in low-resource areas where equipment and personnel may be restricted, it is perfect for home care, clinics, and hospitals.

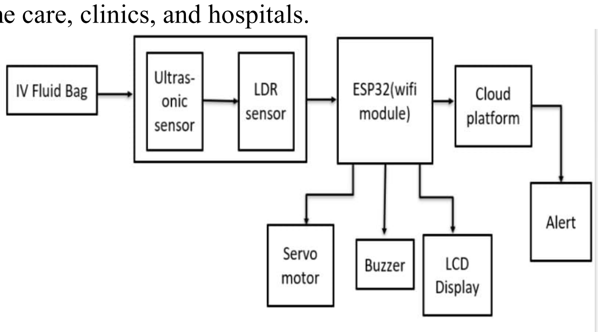

Fig. 1. Block Diagram

Fig. 2. Flowchart of Smart Intravenous drip monitoring system

V. RESULTS AND OUTPUT

To show its capacity to identify serious IV fluid conditions and react appropriately, the Smart Intravenous Drip Monitoring System was skillfully created, put into use, and tried. A water-filled container mimicked an IV bag, clear tubing replicated an IV line, and under several situations the system was tested.

The ultrasonic sensor was employed in the first test situation to gauge fluid levels. The servo motor was triggered as the fluid level fell below the predetermined threshold (15 cm), effectively clamping the IV tube. At the same time, the LCD display displayed "Low Level Detected," and the buzzer issued an audible alert. This guaranteed that low-fluid state alerts would reach local caregivers right away.

Air was introduced into the tubing during the second test to replicate an air bubble. The LDR sensor signaled the system by detecting a rapid shift in light intensity that changed its resistance. Once again activating the servo motor, ringing the buzzer, and showing "Air Bubble Detected" on the LCD, the ESP32 reacted.

Utilizing the WiFi capability of the ESP32, the system was also connected to the Blynk IoT platform. Real-time updates were properly relayed to a smartphone app. The app presented notifications via virtual widgets and caused notifications when unusual circumstances occurred. These fast and constant alerts validated the remote monitoring ability of the system.

The final output showed that the system could correctly track fluid level and identify air bubbles, act safely by clamping the IV tube, and deliver both local and remote alerts. With cheap components, the whole system worked well and showed great potential for use in homes, clinics, and hospitals.

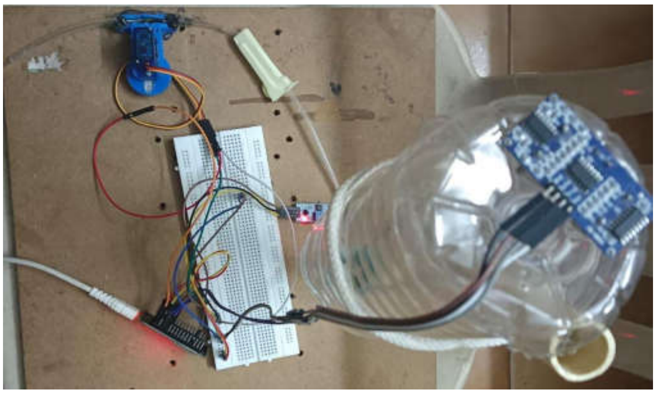

Fig. 3. Implementation of the Smart Intravenous Drip Monitoring System

Fig. 4. Intravenous Drip Monitoring in Blynk App

VI. CONCLUSION

The Smart Intravenous Drip Monitoring System automates the monitoring process thereby tackling major issues in IV fluid administration. Using an ESP32 microcontroller, ultrasonic and LDR sensors, and the Blynk IoT platform, the system guarantees realtime detection of low fluid levels and air bubbles. Instant warnings via a servo motor, buzzer, LCD display, and smartphone notifications improve patient safety and lighten the load on healthcare personnel. Suitable for hospitals and home care, the system is affordable, portable, and simple to install. It presents a realistic, expandable solution that enhances safety and efficiency in contemporary medical settings.