## LIMICS at ArchEHR-QA 2025

# Prompting LLMs Beats Fine-Tuned Embeddings



Background: Clinicians are increasingly overwhelmed by the volume of patient messages received through online portals. The ArchEHR-QA 2025 shared task addresses this challenge by aiming to automatically generate evidence-grounded responses to patient questions using their electronic health records.

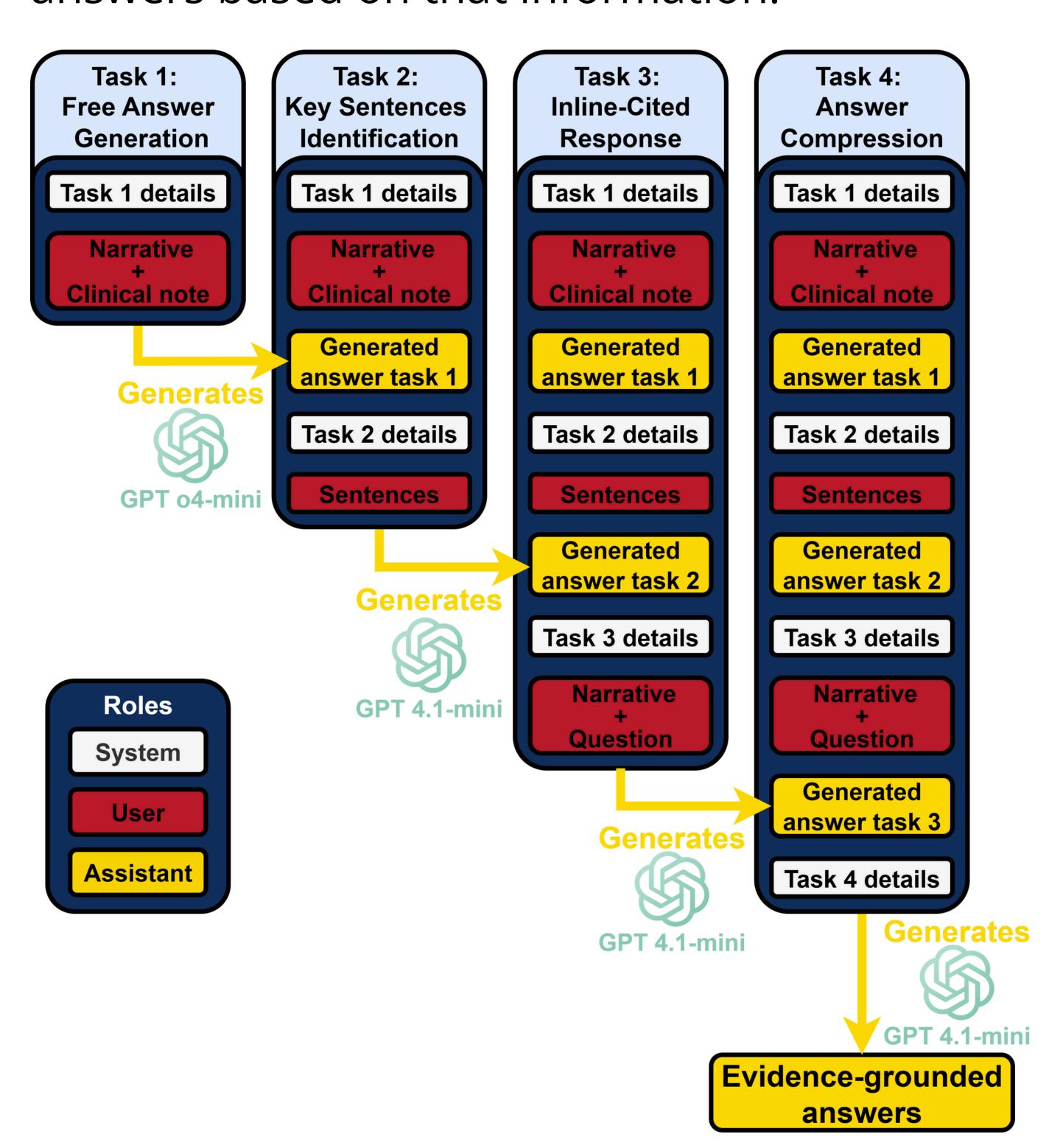
#### Method 1: Fine-Tuned Cross-Encoder.

We used a BERT-based cross-encoder model **fine-tuned** on the development dataset, supplemented with synthetic data from three external corpora using GPT-4o-mini. Its task is to identify which sentences in a clinical note are relevant to a given patient question.

### Dev **Synthetic** Data Data Aug Fineo4-mini tuning Training CROSS ENCODER **Patient** Clinical note question sentence **Not relevant** Relevant

#### Method 2: Prompt Chaining with LLM.

This method uses large language models in a structured prompt chaining approach. The task is broken down, guiding the model to first select relevant information from the clinical notes, and then generate evidence-grounded answers based on that information.



**Results:** Comparison of F1-scores for both methods in identifying sentences relevant to the question.



Key sentences identification (micro F1-score)









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