

Responsibilities of Researchers Using AI Technology

Researchers have a responsibility of discretion, verification, and disclosure.

Verification

- Verify the accuracy and validity of AI technology results.
- Confirm diversity in the source and assure that bias is limited.
- GenAI: Check for unintended plagiarism. GenAI can generate exact duplications of existing work.
- GenAI: Determine whether any data sets have any contractual / legal restrictions before inputting them into GenAI
- Apply ongoing monitoring to assure the model is working as intended. If there is no retraining of models taking place, explain why.

Disclosure

- Disclose the use and/or testing of AI technology with human participants and/or their data in IRB submissions
- Disclose any connections to other crucial systems such as the electronic medical record
- Document and disclose use of AI technology in all aspects of a research process
- Unless the IRB has issued a waiver of consent, disclose the use of AI to participants in the consent form, including potential risks, limitations of the AI, and whether or not they can decline participation.

Discretion

- GenAI: DO NOT assume that GenAI is private or secure. GenAI systems run on training examples, and user input and behavior are a prime source. Even if creators of GenAI tools do not currently claim to use data in this way, there is no guarantee that they may not in the future.
- GenAI: DO NOT share confidential, sensitive, proprietary, and export-controlled information with publicly available GenAI tools. This includes HIPAA protected health information. Using these tools with private, confidential, or proprietary data may violate legal (e.g., HIPAA) or contractual requirements (e.g., with commercial sponsors), or expectations for privacy.
- GenAI: DO NOT assume that the output is already part of the public domain (e.g., not copyrighted). GenAI tools can "memorize" their training data and repeat it with a level of accuracy that violates copyright. Even material that is not copyrighted may lead to liability.