

Core Training Workshop

Hands-On Training on Artificial Intelligence Understanding AI Research Oversight in Healthcare

Mark Lifson, PhD

AI Research & Ethics Specialist

Core Training Workshop Series

2025

AI vs Traditional Research

Clinical Intent

Risk Assessment

Oversight Framework

Impact Metrics

Experience

15+ Years

Citations

1300+

Mark Lifson, PhD

Director, AI/ML Engineering

Mayo Clinic Center for Digital Health

Technical Expertise

Medical AI/ML

FDA/CE Regulatory

Diagnostic Biosensors

Clinical Translation

Health Equity

SaMD Governance

Key Contributions

Regulatory & Oversight

- AI/ML Expert IRB Reviewer

- FDA/CE-Mark Approvals

- Medical & Scientific Affairs

Technical Achievements

- Hematology AI Systems

- Biosensor Platforms

- Point-of-Care Diagnostics

Career Impact

Biosensor Development

Label-free detection platforms

AI/ML in Clinical Practice

FDA-approved diagnostic algorithms

Healthcare Governance

Frameworks for responsible AI

Regulatory Innovation

Automated oversight systems

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What Makes AI Different? Data Traditional Research

1

Lab bench

2

Animals

3

IRB starts

4

Humans

5

Trials

VS

AI Research

1

Human data

2

Training

3

Validation

4

Testing

?

IRB?

AI research **starts with human data** - there's no pre-human exploration phase

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Phases of AI Clinical Evaluation

Exploratory/Discovery

Pre-clinical

Identify study aims & hypotheses

Literature searches

Secondary data analysis

Professional society guidelines

Initial algorithm development

Pilot/Validation

Early feasibility

Preliminary safety assessment

Performance evaluation

Small study cohorts

Analytical validation

Clinical validation metrics

Intervention/Treatment

Clinical efficacy

Confirms clinical efficacy

Safety & risk assessment

Impacts patient care

Pivotal trials

Post-market surveillance

Analytical Validation

Accuracy, Reliability, Precision

Clinical Validation

Sensitivity, Specificity, PPV/NPV

Performance Monitoring

Long-term effectiveness & safety

AI requires **three distinct phases** - each with unique validation requirements

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What Both Sides Want

IRB Specialists

Speaking Regulatory

"Per 45 CFR 46.111(a)(2), risks must be reasonable in relation to anticipated benefits..."

Need: Complete documentation demonstrating compliance with Common Rule, FDA regulations, and institutional policies

Translation Gap

AI Researchers

Speaking Technical

"Our CNN achieves 94% AUC with cross-validation on the hold-out test set..."

Want: Clear guidance on what's needed without having to learn regulatory frameworks

The Challenge: How do we bridge this gap without requiring either side to become experts in the other's domain?

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The same technology described differently triggers different regulatory pathways

⚠Clinical Trigger Words

diagnose treat screen detect clinical decision deployed patient care

☑Research Indicators

investigate analyze explore retrospective patterns correlations hypotheses

STUDY OBJECTIVES

The primary objective is to develop a deep learning model that will diagnose pneumonia from chest X-rays with accuracy comparable to board-certified radiologists. The system will be deployed in emergency departments to expedite treatment decisions for patients with respiratory symptoms.

Clinical Intent - FDA pathway likely

RESEARCH AIMS

This study will investigate novel biomarkers in retinal images by analyzing patterns across large retrospective datasets. We aim to explore correlations between retinal features and cardiovascular risk factors to generate hypotheses for future prospective studies.

Exploratory Research - IRB focus on data privacy

METHODOLOGY

Our AI platform will analyze patient data to predict 30-day readmission risk. Results will be provided to clinicians for evaluation of potential treatment modifications. The system will support clinical teams in decision-making processes.

Mixed signals - Contains both clinical and research language

DATA ANALYSIS PLAN

The AI algorithm will screen mammography images to identify suspicious lesions requiring immediate radiologist review. Cases flagged as high-risk will trigger automatic scheduling for follow-up imaging, with the AI assessment documented in patient records.

Clinical Intent - Direct patient impact

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Patient impact level determines IRB oversight requirements

Minimal

Moderate

Significant

Silent/Shadow Mode

AI runs in background without clinical use

Example: Algorithm validation study

IRB Oversight: Standard data review + annual reports

Advisory Mode

AI provides recommendations for review

Example: Risk scores shown in EHR

IRB Oversight: Performance monitoring + quarterly safety reviews

Active Intervention

AI triggers actions or alerts directly

Example: Auto-schedules follow-ups

IRB Oversight: Real-time monitoring + DSMB + FDA consultation

Oversight Intensity: Proportional to the degree of patient care impact

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Direct Care

Indirect

No Impact

Enhanced Review**Medium-High Risk**

Exploratory with direct impact

Potential Risk Controls**Full IRB****High Risk**

Translational affecting patients

Potential Risk Controls**Full IRB + Monitoring****Critical Risk**

Clinical deployment to patients

Potential Risk Controls**Standard Review****Low-Medium Risk**

Exploratory with indirect effects

Potential Risk Controls**Enhanced Review****Medium Risk**

Translational validation phase

Potential Risk Controls**Full IRB****Medium-High Risk**

Clinical decision support

Potential Risk Controls**Minimal****Low Risk**

Pure research, no patient involvement

Potential Risk Controls**Standard Review***Based on ISO 14971 Risk Management*