Throughout this discussion, Abi, a statistical programmer with a conflict of interest, was discussed. His investigation for the manufacturer Whizzz produced positive as well as negative findings. The circumstances surrounding Abi raise concerns regarding research bias, data integrity, and ethical obligations.

Research bias may result in incorrect conclusions (Simundic, 2013). Abi should disclose potential conflicts of interest and provide both positive and negative results to reduce bias (Smith & Noble, 2014; Simundic, 2013). Sharing data analysis algorithms can also improve Abi's program's accuracy (Herndon et al., 2014).

Abi's obligations hinge on his contract. If the research is subject to a non-disclosure agreement (NDA), he may be limited in his ability to resolve any misrepresentation of his study (Witman, 2005). Abi could be morally justified in disclosing his findings despite the NDA if the product is detrimental and misrepresented deceptively (Paeth, 2013), although this would not protect him from legal consequences.

Using legal frameworks such as the Whistleblower Protection Directive (European Union, 2019), federal institutions in the EU can safeguard whistleblowers. Open science practises can help maintain transparency and accountability in the context of research integrity (McKiernan et al., 2016; Nosek et al., 2018).

Abi should aspire for transparency, data integrity, and ethical responsibility in his research, while also taking legal and contractual obligations into consideration. In such situations, whistleblower protection and open science practises can play a role in protecting research integrity and ensuring ethical behaviour.

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