According to Ellenberg et al. (2002), the Data Safety Monitoring Boards (DSMBs) in Uganda are tasked with keeping an eye on all clinical trials' data management pipelines to ensure the safety of research participants. Data must be gathered for specific, stated, and legal purposes in order to assess the safety and efficacy of a certain medication. Data cannot be further processed in a way that is inconsistent with these goals (Sven, 2020).

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union serves as the foundation for Uganda's 2019 data protection Act, which aims to establish a thorough legislative framework for the country's personal data protection (The Republic of Uganda, 2019). In certain circumstances and with restrictions, the Data Protection and Privacy Act, 2019 allows for exceptions to the data protection principles in the areas of national security and law enforcement (The Republic of Uganda, 2019, Section 48) (Sebastian, 2018).

GDPR must be followed by research facilities in all aspects of data management, including the gathering, handling, and archiving of participant data. In compliance with GDPR, standard operating procedures (SOPs) are created to advise data users on what actions to take and which ones to avoid, among other things. Policies on data sharing and confidentiality are detailed in the consent SOP. This is being done in order to ensure the transparency of participant information (GDPR, 2016).

Overall, institutions have been significantly impacted by the GDPR, particularly those engaged in the collection, use, and storage of personal data of persons residing in Uganda and elsewhere, particularly in the European Union (EU).

References:

Sven, B. (2020). Data Strategy: Good Data vs. Bad Data. Towards Data Science from https://www.datasciencecentral.com/profiles/blogs/no-data-is-better-than-bad-data

Ellenberg, S. S., Fleming, T. R., & DeMets, D. L. (2002). Data monitoring committees in clinical trials: a practical perspective. John Wiley & Sons.

European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). (2016). Available from: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1532348683434&uri=CELEX:02016R0679-20160504

The Republic of Uganda. (2019). The Data Protection and Privacy Act, 2019. Available from: https://ict.go.ug/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Data-Protection-and-Privacy-Act-2019.pdf [Accessed 10 Sep 2023]

Sebastian, S (2018) Government raids MTN Uganda data center Four servers disconnected at facility run by Huawei. Available from: https://www.datacenterdynamics.com/en/news/government-raids-mtn-uganda-data-center/ [Accessed 12 Oct 2023]