# Policy 04.6 - Interpersonal Reinforcement Loops in Team-Based Testing

Summary:

Policy 04.6 outlined the structure and oversight parameters for interpersonal reinforcement loop protocols conducted during collaborative trial modules. Designed to assess whether synchronized memory vaulting in team-based environments enhanced retrieval stability, the approach embedded subtle reinforcement stimuli into shared simulations involving three to five subjects at a time.

Experimental Setup:

- Each subject was exposed to parallel conditioning nodes containing relational cues, including shared identifiers, mirrored decisions, and co-dependent outcomes.
- Behavioral responses were cross-referenced across subjects for loop convergence metrics.
- Vault recovery thresholds were measured against non-reinforced solo conditions in the same cohort.

Preliminary Observations:

Subjects engaged in team-based modules exhibited elevated confidence during recall assessments and showed a 14.2% reduction in post-retrieval confusion. However, measurable recall accuracy did not significantly exceed baseline. Anecdotal reports noted residual 'phantom memory' effects, with participants referencing decisions they never personally made, attributed to perceived peer input during loop states.

Concerns and Limitations:

- Several subjects (notably B-05 and B-08) developed tightly coupled behavioral patterns, responding to prompts with nearly identical latency and phrasing.

- One test loop resulted in circular consensus behavior, wherein subjects looped in agreement without introducing new data for 3.7 minutes of real-time processing.

- Attempts to decouple relational loops in later sessions triggered mild disorientation and reported emotional distress.

Conclusion:

Policy 04.6 was decommissioned following inconclusive outcomes and unresolved theoretical risks. While interpersonal reinforcement shows promise as a motivational tool, its application within memory vaulting remains ethically ambiguous and operationally unstable. Further study has been suspended indefinitely.

Effective Date: Decommissioned as of July 2023

Review Date: Not scheduled

Authorized by: Director, Collaborative Systems Evaluation Unit