

Throughout the second collaborative discussion, we analysed Abi's actions in conducting ethical research while safeguarding his client's interests. In my post, I emphasised the importance of Abi remaining objective in his findings and avoiding any bias toward positive results. While Abi cannot control how others may use his research, he holds an ethical obligation to address concerns about the misuse of findings.

I also underscored Abi's heightened ethical responsibility due to the significant public health risks involved. Moreover, I argued that professional codes of conduct, though essential, cannot operate in isolation. Broader systemic measures, such as enhanced accountability and public awareness, are critical to mitigating the risks of misinformation (Boté-Vericad, 2020). To conclude, I recommended that Abi present his findings with transparency and accuracy to uphold professional integrity and protect public safety. Aminur contributed valuable suggestions, including establishing a formal agreement with the manufacturer to define clear guidelines for publishing both positive and negative findings. He also advocated for open communication to minimise the potential for misinterpretation. Similarly, Mario highlighted the importance of research integrity, urging Abi to provide robust justifications for his findings to preserve credibility and prevent external manipulation.

Overall, my peers provided thoughtful recommendations, such as using disclaimers, contractual agreements, and publishing findings in peer-reviewed journals. There was a shared consensus that Abi should prioritise the public's best interest by adhering to the principles outlined in the ACM and BCS codes of conduct (ACM, 2018; BCS, 2022).

## **References:**

ACM (2018). *The code affirms an obligation of computing professionals to use their skills for the benefit of society. Code of Ethics.* <https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics> [Accessed: 27 October 2024].

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Boté-Vericad, J. J. (2020). *Ethics, Fake News and information professionals.* Comunicació a: BOBCATSSS 2020: Information Management Fake News and Disinformation. Proceedings Book. January 22-24, 2020. InLitAs. Paris. pp: 53-61.