e-Portfolio Activity: Collaborative Learning Discussion 2: Case Study: Accuracy of information
Initial Post

The discussion regarding Abi's ethical quandary underscores the vital convergence of professional integrity, transparency, and legal accountability in statistical work. My initial post highlighted Abi's duty to disclose all results, whether positive or negative, to maintain scientific integrity and to adhere to ethical standards (American Statistical Association, n.d.). This viewpoint aligns with feedback from peers such as Amrol Miah, who emphasized the dangers of selective reporting and the necessity of impartial data sharing (Mlinarić et al., 2017). Christopher Butterworth further supported this by pointing out the potential legal consequences of altering results, citing consumer protection laws (ASA 2022).

Both peers advocated complete transparency and additional steps to ensure accountability. Amrol recommended involving external parties or superiors to prevent data misuse, whereas Christopher suggested third-party reviews or referrals to professional organizations such as the ASA. These suggestions echo my initial recommendations, such as conducting further research or seeking independent assessments to balance ethical duties with practical outcomes (Resnik, 2025).

The discussion also brought to light broader consequences, such as the deterioration of public trust and professional credibility if the results are manipulated (Simmons et al., 2012). Legal frameworks, such as the EU's nutritional regulations (GOV.UK, 2021), further emphasize the importance of accurate reporting to safeguard consumer interests. In summary, Abi's situation serves as a reminder of the ethical and legal responsibilities researchers bear. By prioritizing transparency, advocating thorough reporting, and utilizing external oversight, professionals can navigate such challenges while protecting public trust and maintaining scientific standards.

References:

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