

Guidelines for Ethical Deployment of AI in Healthcare

Objective

Ensure responsible, equitable, and transparent use of AI in healthcare, respecting patient rights and maintaining public trust.

1. Patient Consent Protocols

- Informed Consent: Patients must be clearly informed when AI is used in diagnosis, treatment, or monitoring-including its purpose, limitations, and data usage.
- Opt-in Policy: AI use should require explicit patient consent, except in emergencies where AI is standard protocol.
- Data Privacy Compliance: All data use must align with privacy laws (e.g., HIPAA, GDPR). Patients have the right to review, correct, or withdraw their data.
- Human Oversight: AI decisions must always be reviewed and validated by qualified medical professionals.

2. Bias Mitigation Strategies

- Inclusive Data Sets: Train AI on diverse data representing various races, genders, ages, geographies, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Bias Audits: Conduct routine evaluations to identify and eliminate discriminatory outcomes.
- Fairness Testing: Apply fairness metrics (e.g., demographic parity, equal opportunity) before deployment.
- Diverse Design Teams: Include cross-disciplinary, inclusive teams in AI development to proactively flag bias sources.

3. Transparency Requirements

- Explainability: AI outputs must be interpretable and explainable to both clinicians and patients.
- Model Documentation: Publish detailed documentation on AI design, training data, limitations, and risks.
- Performance Monitoring: Continuously track clinical performance and publicly report findings; update usage policies accordingly.
- Clear Accountability: Assign individuals responsible for monitoring AI behavior, managing ethical issues, and responding to adverse events.