**🚀 How to Run generate\_test\_data.py in Visual Studio Code**

**This guide walks you through installing Python, setting up VS Code, and running the script to generate test data.**

**🔹 1. Install Visual Studio Code**

1. **Go to Visual Studio Code Download**
   1. [**https://code.visualstudio.com/Download**](https://code.visualstudio.com/Download)
2. **Download the installer for Windows (User Installer 64-bit).**
3. **Run the installer and check:**
4. **✅ *Add to PATH***
5. **✅ *Add “Open with Code” action***
6. **Finish installation.**

**1. Install Python (if not installed)**

* **Download from 👉** [**https://www.python.org/downloads/**](https://www.python.org/downloads/)
* During installation, **check the box** ✅ “Add Python to PATH”.
* Install following extension in VS code

 **Python** (by Microsoft)  
👉 Core extension for running/debugging Python, linting, IntelliSense.

*  **Pylance** (by Microsoft)  
  👉 Super-fast IntelliSense and type checking (works with Python extension).

**2. Open the Project in VS Code**

* Open **Visual Studio Code**.
* Go to **File > Open Folder** → select your project folder (PATIENT\_DATA\_GENERATOR).
* Confirm that generate\_test\_data.py is visible in the **Explorer** sidebar.

**3. Open a Terminal in VS Code**

* In VS Code menu: **Terminal > New Terminal**.
* This opens a terminal at the bottom of the screen.
* Run command 🡪 python –version
* (You should see something like Python 3.x.x)

**4. Create a Virtual Environment (optional but recommended)**

In the terminal:

Run following command

1. Create Virtual Environment: **python -m venv venv**
2. Activate Virtual Environment: **.\venv\Scripts\Activate**
   1. If you get error “running scripts is disabled on this system”, run following command
      1. Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope CurrentUser
   2. Rerun activate command
3. **Install Dependencies:** pip install faker pandas
4. **Run the Script:** python generate\_test\_data.py

**5 Check the Output**

The script will generate files into:

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