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The Academy Statement on Ethics in Artificial Intelligence in Radiology

The development and commercialization of artificial intelligence (AI) has opened new frontiers in medicine that stand to revolutionize the way physicians diagnose and treat deadly and debilitating diseases. Nowhere are these possibilities more exciting than in the clinical practice of radiology and imaging research.

The Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research (The Academy) is working with federal agencies, Congress, imaging societies, industry, and academia to advance the “Diagnostic Cockpit” initiative. The Diagnostic Cockpit is a vision for using AI to aggregate, analyze and present to clinicians in a meaningful way high-resolution imaging, personal medical history, genetics, and other voluminous sources of data to help diagnose patients more accurately and treat patients more effectively.

The Academy stands with the American College of Radiology (ACR), European Society of Radiology (ESR), Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine (SIIM), European Society of Medical Imaging Informatics (EuSoMII), Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR) and American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) in recognizing that alongside these revolutionary possibilities stand significant challenges and risks affecting physicians, industry, academia, and—most importantly—patients.

Foremost among these challenges is developing a framework for AI use in imaging that ensures the highest ethical standards for patient safety, dignity, and privacy are observed and followed at all times. An emerging ecosystem of clinical practice and imaging research that incorporates AI must be guided by clear standards on practice, research, and data use that prioritize the best interest of the patient above any other factor.
With respect to the Diagnostic Cockpit, ethics in AI, and other issues, the Academy will continue working with its membership to educate policymakers and advocate for federal policies that help patients by advancing imaging research and the clinical practice of radiology in a safe, secure and effective manner.

To read the complete article on “Ethics of Artificial Intelligence in Radiology: Summary of the Joint European and North American Multisociety Statement,” please go to Radiology or the Journal of the College of American Radiology.

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About the Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research

The Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research is an advocacy organization, whose mission is to advocate for support of federal investment for medical imaging research on behalf of the imaging research community. Academy members are imaging societies, foundations, and academic radiology departments. The Academy’s Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research further engages patient advocacy groups and industry partners. Visit www.acadrad.org to learn more.