



Council of Academic Family Medicine



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Council of Academic Family Medicine (CAFM) Guiding Values on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Family Medicine Education

Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming education, research, and clinical care. As AI's role in family medicine continues to evolve, CAFM recognizes the importance of thoughtful engagement, shared learning and ethical considerations in the use of AI, now and moving forward.

While individual institutions should make their own decisions regarding AI policies, CAFM offers these guiding values to frame discussions and highlight key considerations relevant to AI's integration in family medicine education.

The purpose of this document is to provide a set of values that reflect CAFM's guidance on the use of AI in family medicine education.

Guiding Values on the Use of AI in Family Medicine Education

1. **Transparency & Disclosure:** The use of AI in family medicine education should be transparent and disclosed, particularly when it influences academic work, admissions, or clinical decision-making. Institutions are increasingly adopting AI disclosure policies, reinforcing the importance of authenticity and fairness in educational and professional settings.
2. **Human Oversight & Decision-Making:** AI should complement—not replace—human judgment in education, research, and clinical care. Learners, educators, scholars, and clinicians must assume accountability and responsibility for their work.
3. **Bias Awareness & Mitigation:** AI has the potential to either alleviate or exacerbate biases in education, research, and clinical care. When possible, bias mitigation strategies should be adopted, taught, and disseminated.
4. **Critical Thinking & Educational Excellence:** AI should augment and personalize learning, not hinder or degrade it. AI should be used with clear guardrails to preserve critical thinking, problem-solving, and independent reasoning—essential skills for family physicians. Safeguards are needed to address risks such as plagiarism, misinformation, and over-reliance on AI-generated content.
5. **A Forward-Looking Approach:** AI will continue to evolve, raising new challenges and opportunities. Rather than adopting rigid or reactionary stances, academic family medicine is

best served by remaining engaged, adaptive, and committed to its core values of equity, excellence, and human-centered care.

Balancing Opportunities & Challenges

CAFM recognizes that AI presents both opportunities and challenges for family medicine education. Institutions are actively exploring their role in:

- **Enabling precision medical education** and personalizing learning journeys for medical students and residents.
- **Supporting learners in studying for and taking examinations**, including AI standardized patients and simulations.
- **Reducing administrative burdens in medical education**, including learner assessments, medical school admissions, and residency selection.
- **Supporting curriculum development and evaluation** for faculty.

At the same time, AI raises important concerns, including:

- **The risk of over-reliance on AI** and the erosion of foundational medical knowledge and skills.
- **Challenges in assessing learners' critical thinking** in an AI-integrated environment.
- **Potential for bias, misinformation, and inequitable access** to AI tools.
- **The need for faculty development** to engage effectively with AI.

As institutions refine their approaches, CAFM remains committed to fostering dialogue, promoting knowledge-sharing, and ensuring that AI in education aligns with the core mission of family medicine.