
Statement of AI Ethical Use and Principles (v1.1)

Critical Path Institute (C-Path)

Purpose

This statement articulates C-Path’s commitment to the ethical and responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), aligning with applicable laws and regulations. It defines the core principles that guide C-Path’ approach to AI across research, operations, and decision-making, supporting fairness, transparency, accountability, and security. These principles inform the development and application of C-Path’s policies, procedures, and governance practices related to AI.

Scope

This statement applies to all AI technologies developed, procured, or deployed by C-Path, and guides the responsible use of AI by employees, researchers, partners, and third-party vendors when engaged in C-Path-related activities.

Our Approach

C-Path interacts with Artificial Intelligence (AI) in different ways, and our responsibilities are guided by the interaction:

1. **For AI Systems C-Path Develops, we seek to:**
 - a. Align AI development with ethical principles, applicable regulatory requirements, and recognized best practices, including transparency, fairness, and appropriate human oversight.
 - b. Promote testing, validation, and risk-aware practices to support reliability and reduce the potential for bias.
 - c. Safeguard data and systems through appropriate security and privacy considerations.
2. **For third party AI systems C-Path deploys as part of it’s our services, we seek to:**

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- a. Consider vendor alignment with applicable laws data protection obligations, and ethical AI expectations.
 - b. Encourage transparency regarding system purpose, risk management approaches, and bias mitigation practices.
 - c. Remain attentive to ethical, security, and performance considerations throughout the use of such systems.
3. **For third-party AI systems C-Path uses, we seek to:**
- a. Use AI tools in a manner consistent with C-Path’s ethical values and security expectations, proportionate to the level of risk.
 - b. Apply appropriate human judgment and oversight when AI-generated insights inform decision-making.
 - c. Take responsibility for outcomes influenced by AI use and address potential risks in a responsible manner.

By articulating these responsibilities in this way, C-Path promotes ethical, transparent, and responsible AI use across its research, operations, and collaborations.

Guiding Principles

Transparency and Explainability

1. Promote clear and appropriate documentation to support the explainability and interpretability of AI systems.
2. Seek to ensure that AI-informed decisions are traceable and understandable to relevant stakeholders.
3. Support validation and performance evaluation practices that contribute to the reliability of AI systems developed by C-Path.

Fairness and Non-Discrimination

1. Strive to develop and deploy AI in ways that promote fairness and reduce the risk of bias.
2. Encourage the identification and mitigation of unintended discriminatory outcomes.

3. Support the use of data that is appropriate, representative and suitable for the intended AI purpose.

Accountability and Governance

1. Promote appropriate oversight and governance of AI activities.
2. Align AI development and use with defined risk assessment and mitigation approaches.
3. Encourage the documentation and review AI-related issues in alignment with established incident management and governance practices.

Privacy and Security

1. Respect privacy and data protection principles when AI systems involve personal or sensitive information.
2. Promote security considerations that protect AI systems and data from misuse, unauthorized access, or compromise.
3. Support privacy-by-design approaches and the consideration of privacy impacts where applicable.

Human Oversight and Autonomy

1. Use AI to support and augment human expertise, particularly in areas involving regulatory science and healthcare research.
2. Maintain appropriate human judgment and the ability to challenge or override AI-informed outputs when necessary.
3. Encourage monitoring and review practices to help ensure alignment with ethical principles and applicable legal obligations.

Safety and Robustness

1. Promote the development and use of AI systems that are resilient and reliable .
2. Seek to minimize the risk of harm to individuals or society arising from AI system failures or misuse.
3. Encourage responsible adaptation of AI systems as information, context, or conditions evolve.

Sustainability and Social Responsibility

1. Consider the broader societal and environmental impacts of AI development and use.
2. Encourage collaboration with partners and vendors that share C-Path's commitment to ethical AI principles.

Compliance and Risk Management

1. Support alignment of AI activities with applicable laws, regulations, and ethical expectations.
2. Promote consistency between AI-related risk considerations and C-Path's broader risk management approach.
3. Encourage ongoing learning, stakeholder engagement, and periodic review to adapt to evolving regulatory and ethical standards.

Review and Governance

1. Review this Statement of AI Ethical Use and Principles periodically, including in response to material regulatory or contextual changes.
2. Promote organizational awareness of and alignment with these principles.
3. Encourage the reporting of AI-related ethical concerns through appropriate channels.

Contact Us

For questions, feedback, or ethical concerns related to C-Path's AI Ethical Use and Principles, please contact **Compliance@c-path.org**.