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## The ATA's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Principles

Utilizing AI in healthcare – including telehealth – can improve quality and service capability at every stage of the care journey. The ATA supports efforts to ensure trustworthy AI development, integration, and utilization. AI use should maximize potential benefits as a meaningful tool for patients and providers and keep them at the center of healthcare decision-making. The ATA supports policies, practices, and regulatory frameworks that enhance patient and provider trust, safety, and efficacy of AI adoption as a tool in healthcare, including in telehealth.

**Accountability and Engagement:** AI should streamline workflows and be a fully integrated component in clinical decision-making. However, the patient-provider relationship, expectations of adherence to the applicable standard of care, and accompanying accountability mechanisms remain central to positive health outcomes.

**Transparency and Explainability:** Disclosures should allow patients, providers, regulators, and the general public to understand where and how data is being processed, used, shared, and stored and how algorithms are developed to ensure AI outputs are secure, trustworthy, clinically appropriate, and reliable.

**Safeguards to Mitigate Against Bias:** AI solutions that supports clinical care should provide clear and publicly available evidence that algorithms and correlations drawn in output from AI are as free from bias as possible. Like broader telehealth, utilization of AI should seek to eliminate – and not further – healthcare disparities brought on by bias and institutional racism that has plagued traditional healthcare. Policy should promote transparent exposure of bias found within AI systems, alongside allowance for actions to address uncovered bias and strive to reduce bias in the future.





**Clear Regulatory Guardrails:** A unified AI regulatory framework at the federal level is essential for consistent compliance across the national level and should be recognized across jurisdictions and regulatory bodies to ensure uniform compliance by providers, developers, and researchers regardless of geography. States that identify a need for additional AI regulations should prioritize alignment with federal standards and seek harmonization with other states, ensuring a cohesive approach. Where appropriate, regulations should align with international AI healthcare standards. Before introducing new laws or regulations, policymakers should evaluate if existing rules adequately address AI use. Explainability of AI solutions in regulatory frameworks, accompanied by industry-accepted benchmarks, is crucial in understanding and building trust in these tools. Regulations should be risk-based, ensuring that proven AI solutions are easily adopted without stifling innovation.

**Economic and Workforce Evolution:** AI adoption has the potential to address critical worker shortages across the healthcare ecosystem, and enhance the ability of providers to work at the top of their licenses. To harness AI's full potential, priority must be placed on education for both current and upcoming healthcare professionals on the importance of AI integration and best practice utilization. Systems should guide those whose roles may shift due to AI, ensuring they transition into vital roles that bolster workforce's strength and capacity. Along with AI integration, emphasis on AI in cloud training and workforce development programs is crucial to support the smooth implementation of AI in healthcare. Furthermore, it is essential that healthcare workers and providers are actively involved in the AI adoption decision-making process. Their firsthand experience and insights will ensure that technology is integrated in ways that genuinely complement patient care and enhance their professional practices.

**Privacy:** Privacy, as it relates to the utilization of AI, should mirror privacy policies and practices across the healthcare system. More on ATA's Health Data Privacy Principles for Telehealth can be found [here](#).



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