Arkansas State Board of Nursing

Arkansas Department of Health

Arkansas State Board of Nursing
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GUIDELINES FOR ETHICAL AND APPROPRIATE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) BY MEDICATION ASSISTANT TRAINING AND NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) acknowledges the expanding role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in educational and administrative settings. These guidelines establish the minimum standards and expectations for the appropriate, ethical, and transparent use of AI by Arkansas medication assistant training and nursing education programs. AI may serve as a supplemental tool to improve efficiency and accuracy in reporting and analysis; however, it shall not replace human judgment, expertise, or critical thinking essential to nursing education and regulatory compliance.

Scope

These guidelines apply to all ASBN-approved medication assistant and nursing education programs that elect to utilize AI tools for program reporting, documentation, data analysis, or other administrative activities submitted to the ASBN.

Acceptable Uses of AI

Programs may use AI to support, but not replace, human decision-making. Acceptable applications include:

- Collecting, organizing, or processing program-related data.
- Identifying trends or patterns within datasets.
- Assisting in preparation of program approval reports, annual reports, or required ASBN documentation.
- Reviewing program documents for clarity, structure, or consistency.
- Supporting analysis of program outcomes, performance metrics, or compliance indicators.
- Enhancing administrative efficiency while maintaining faculty and administrator oversight.
  AI may **not** independently generate final regulatory interpretations, evaluative decisions, or academic determinations.

Compliance with Institutional Policies

Programs must comply with all institutional, organizational, or program-level policies governing AI use. These ASBN guidelines do not override internal policies and should be applied in conjunction with existing institutional expectations. When internal policies are more restrictive, programs must follow the stricter standard.

Accuracy, Verification, and Human Oversight

Programs are responsible for validating the accuracy and reliability of AI-generated content submitted to the ASBN.

Expectations include:

- Faculty or qualified administrators must review, verify, and approve all AI-generated materials.
- Programs must be able to explain how AI tools were used and how final determinations were reached.
- AI-assisted content must be evidence-based, verifiable, and defensible.
- Programs must remain aware of AI limitations, including potential inaccuracies or inherent biases.

AI tools must never be used to produce content that program representatives cannot interpret or justify.

Ethical and Responsible Use
Programs must demonstrate ethical use of AI, including:

- Adherence to copyright and intellectual property laws.
- Avoidance of plagiarism or misrepresentation of authorship.
- Maintenance of academic integrity in all uses of technology.
- Awareness of bias within AI platforms and incorporation of appropriate safeguards.

AI use must support, not undermine, educational quality and regulatory accountability.

Security, Privacy, and Data Protection
To protect confidential and sensitive information, programs using open-source or externally hosted AI systems must:

- De-identify any personal or protected data before entering it into AI platforms.
- Follow all applicable federal and state privacy laws (e.g., FERPA, HIPAA when relevant).
- Ensure the AI platform offers adequate security controls and data protection measures.

Programs are accountable for maintaining privacy and confidentiality at all times.

Limitations of AI Use in Academic or Regulatory Decisions
AI may **not** be used for:

- Determining student clinical competency, academic progression, or evaluative judgments.
- Making decisions related to curriculum development or instructional methodology without human review.
- Interpreting ASBN laws, rules, standards, or compliance requirements.

Final decisions must always be the responsibility of qualified faculty or program administrators.

Transparency and Required Disclosure
Programs must disclose any use of AI in documents submitted to the ASBN.
Recommended citation formats include:
ChatGPT. (YYYY, Month DD of query). "Text of query." Generated using OpenAI.
Microsoft Copilot. (YYYY, Month DD of query). "Text of query." Generated using Microsoft Copilot.
Institutions may adapt citation formatting to align with internal style requirements, provided transparency is maintained.

ASBN Expectations and Accountability
Programs using AI must ensure compliance with these guidelines. The ASBN reserves the right to request clarification, documentation, or validation of AI use in any submitted material. Non-compliance may result in follow-up review or corrective action as determined by the Board.