

Use of AI in CU-IRB Submissions

Researchers are solely responsible for the content they submit to CU-IRB and are encouraged to exercise caution and due diligence when using artificial intelligence (AI) in materials submitted for CU-IRB review. AI presents concerns, including but not limited to:

Plagiarism: AI can unintentionally generate text that includes existing copyrighted or published material. Researchers are responsible for reviewing AI-generated content for originality, proper attribution, and compliance prior to submission to CU-IRB.

Accuracy: AI can produce content that is inaccurate, misleading, incomplete, or entirely fictitious. Researchers should understand the risks, read their AI tool's Terms of Use for statements about potential inaccuracies, and critically evaluate all AI-generated content to verify all factual claims, citations, and references. Researchers are solely responsible for the accuracy of any AI-generated content submitted to CU-IRB.

Regulations: Asking AI a general question about human subjects research requirements could result in receiving an inaccurate or incomplete response.

Citations: AI may fail to provide reliable citations for referenced information. Because these systems generate responses based on patterns learned from large datasets rather than explicit source attribution, cited references may be inaccurate, incomplete, or fabricated.

Data: AI may incorporate novel ideas from other projects or sources into their training models, creating a risk that proprietary information could later appear in generated content. This could expose researchers to allegations of plagiarism, misappropriation, or misconduct.

Conflicts: AI may generate responses based on information drawn from multiple sources and numerous institutions; therefore, AI-generated responses may not accurately reflect CU or CU-IRB policies and procedures and should not be relied upon as an authoritative source.

Variation, Specificity, and Inconsistency: Requirements for recruitment, informed consent, and confidentiality depend on the target population, study design, and applicable regulations. AI-generated responses are unlikely to provide accurate guidance for a particular research protocol. AI-generated responses often provide generalized information rather than the specific details needed to address a particular question. AI-generated answers may lack the necessary context or contain inaccuracies about the study. Additionally, using AI to answer individual questions within the IRBManager submission form may result in inconsistencies across the overall submission.

Consent: AI-generated informed consent forms may be incomplete as they often omit required elements of informed consent or fail to include all information required by the CU-IRB informed consent form templates.

CU-IRB Approval: AI tools may produce information that is inaccurate, inconsistent, or otherwise unsuitable for review. Reliance on unverified AI-generated content may result in increased requests for clarification, revisions, and additional review cycles. Researchers are responsible for reviewing and validating all information generated by AI prior to its inclusion in any CU-IRB submission.