Australian Library and Information Association

Submission on the Draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guidance for Health Services

Health Libraries Australia (HLA) | Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)

ALIA Health Libraries Australia welcomes the Commission's *Draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guidance for Health Services*. HLA supports its emphasis on multidisciplinary governance, workforce capability, evidence-informed decision-making, and ongoing stewardship of AI.

However, the Guidance identifies clinical, technical, management and consumer expertise, but does not explicitly recognise **information and evidence expertise**.

Health librarians and information specialists bring expertise in evidence quality, information governance, critical appraisal, source verification, information literacy, procurement, licensing and copyright. These capabilities are increasingly important as AI systems retrieve, synthesise and generate information used in healthcare.

HLA recommends explicit recognition of this expertise in four areas of the Guidance:

1. Roles and responsibilities

Add "Health librarians and information specialists" to Table 1, Suggested allocation of roles and responsibilities for AI implementation considerations.

Suggested wording

Health librarians and information specialists – Provide specialist expertise in evidence quality, information governance, source provenance and verification, information literacy, procurement, licensing and copyright, and critical appraisal of AI-generated information.

2. Testing, validation and collaboration

Recognise health librarians and information specialists as relevant multidisciplinary expertise for AI systems that retrieve, synthesise, summarise or generate evidence-based information.

3. Workforce capability and AI literacy

Recognise the contribution of health librarians to AI literacy, critical appraisal, source verification, and the responsible use of AI-generated information.

4. Procurement and information governance

Include copyright, licensing, authorised use of subscribed information resources, and provenance of evidence sources when assessing AI tools.

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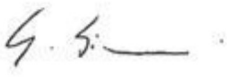
Recommendation

HLA recommends that the Guidance explicitly recognise health librarians and information specialists as part of the multidisciplinary expertise health services may draw upon when implementing and governing AI.

This would address an important gap and ensure that clinical, technical, governance and consumer perspectives are complemented by specialist expertise in the quality, provenance, interpretation and responsible use of information and evidence.

Health Libraries Australia welcomes the opportunity to contribute further to the development of the Guidance.

Yours sincerely,



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Yours sincerely,