|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ITU Logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | | FG-AI4H-G-201 | |
| **ITU-T Focus Group on AI for Health** | |
| **Original: English** | |
| **WG(s):** | | Plenary | New Delhi, 13-15 November 2019 | |
| **DOCUMENT** | | | | |
| **Source:** | | Editor | | |
| **Title:** | | DEL01: AI4H ethics considerations | | |
| **Purpose:** | | Discussion | | |
| **Contact:** | | Andreas Reis Ethics & Governance Unit Research for Health Department Division of the Chief Scientist World Health Organization | | Email: reisa@who.int |
| **Contact:** | | Julia Mohapatra, NICF, India | | Email: juliam24@gmail.com |
| **Contact:** | | Secretariat of the Focus Group | | Email: tsbfgai4h@itu.int |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Abstract:** | This initial draft of the abstract describes the topics to be addressed in the forthcoming deliverable “AI for Health Ethics Considerations” to help seed future content. Digital technologies, machine learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are revolutionizing the fields of medicine, research and public health in an unprecedented manner. While holding great promise, this rapidly developing field raises a number of ethical, legal and social concerns, e.g. regarding equitable access, privacy, appropriate uses and users, liability and bias and inclusiveness. These issues are trans-national in nature, as capturing, sharing and using data generated and/or used by these technologies goes beyond national boundaries. The tools, methods and technologies used in “Big Data” and AI are being applied to improve health services and systems. However, many questions remain unanswered concerning the ethical development and use of these technologies, including how low- and middle-income countries will benefit from AI developments. A number of government agencies, academic institutions, NGOs and National Ethics Committees have started to address the ethical issues and challenges posed by digital technologies in general, but there remains no international guidance on the specific case of health. There is an urgent need to develop harmonised ethics guidance for the design and implementation of AI in global health. Moreover, to secure AI benefits at the global scale, a new collaborative research agenda should be established. |

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_