

In the Name of God



University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Technology

**Comprehensive Regulation on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Scientific
Publishing**

Introduction

In the present era, artificial intelligence, as one of the most important technological developments, has transformed the traditional boundaries of the production and dissemination of knowledge. Tools based on machine learning and large language models have been able to influence the process of research and scientific publishing from the stage of study design to writing and peer review. This transformation has created unprecedented opportunities to improve the quality, speed, and accessibility of knowledge; however, alongside these opportunities, serious challenges have also emerged in the areas of research ethics, scientific transparency, authors' accountability, and public trust.

The University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences, as a leading institution in the fields of rehabilitation sciences, social health, behavioral sciences, and mental health, with the publication of reputable journals and the guidance of specialized research centers, has a responsibility to adopt a systematic and forward-looking approach to this global transformation. The formulation of the Comprehensive Regulation on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Scientific Publishing is not only a response to the University's internal needs, but also a strategic measure for alignment with international standards and for consolidating the University's position at the national and regional levels.

This Regulation is founded on the four principles of ethics, including justice (example: attention to the efforts and precision of researchers in scientific publishing and, from another perspective, attention to mere use of artificial intelligence tools in content generation), non-maleficence (example: preventing violation of researchers' rights), beneficence (example: improving the quality of research and scientific publications), and autonomy (example: appropriate use of artificial intelligence tools subject to disclosure of the type and manner of use). The articles and clauses of this document also emphasize principles including accountability, transparency, professional ethics, privacy, and confidentiality.

Objectives

This Regulation has been developed with a broad and strategic perspective in order to define the path for responsible and effective use of artificial intelligence in the production and dissemination of knowledge. The main objectives of this Regulation are as follows:

1. Establishing scientific transparency and trust: Requiring precise and standardized disclosure of the use of artificial intelligence tools in all scientific works published by the University.
2. Preserving research originality: Ensuring human responsibility for generated content and preventing the replacement of the researcher's scientific judgment with automated and machine-generated outputs produced by artificial intelligence tools.

3. Defining the role of artificial intelligence in improving publishing quality: Using artificial intelligence to improve writing, specialized translation, organization, formatting, and the transparency of scientific works.
4. Protecting data and research ethics: Protecting the confidentiality of patient data and respecting intellectual property rights when using artificial intelligence tools.
5. Informing researchers: Promoting a culture of awareness among researchers for responsible and informed use of artificial intelligence tools in research and publishing.
6. Creating a framework aligned with international and national requirements: Strengthening the University's publishing position in producing and disseminating scientific content through the use of artificial intelligence, in alignment with global and national standards.
7. Risk management and scientific governance: Designing mechanisms for supervision, evaluation, and enforcement to prevent misuse and enhance public trust.

Chapter One: Abbreviations and Key Definitions

- **Regulation / Regulatory Policy**

A regulation is a set of binding rules and standards formulated by public or organizational institutions to guide and control activities. The main features of a regulation include setting standards, monitoring implementation, and applying enforcement measures. Interdisciplinary studies have shown that regulations constitute a form of “intentional and sustained intervention” in activities that are valuable to society (Koop C and Lodge M, 2017).

- **Large Language Models (LLMs)**

Large language models are deep learning systems based on transformer architecture that have been trained on massive volumes of textual data and are capable of understanding and producing natural language at a level close to that of humans. These models are used in tasks such as translation, summarization, text generation, and analysis of linguistic data (Lee et al., 2025).

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

Artificial intelligence refers to systems that are capable of exhibiting intelligent behavior, meaning that they analyze the environment, make decisions, and perform actions with a degree of autonomy in order to achieve specific objectives (Khan et al., 2025).

- **Scholarly Publishing**

Scholarly publishing is the process of producing, evaluating, and disseminating research works

such as articles, theses and dissertations, research proposals/projects, and academic books. This process includes writing by researchers, peer review, decision-making by editors, and publication by scholarly publishers. Its main purpose is to communicate reliable knowledge and create a platform for scientific dialogue among specialists (Fettiplace et al., 2025).

Chapter Two: Principles and Rules Related to the Use of Artificial

Intelligence Tools in Scientific Publishing

This chapter has been developed in four main sections so that all stakeholders and role-players in the University's scientific publishing process, from authors and reviewers to editors and publishers, have a clear and integrated framework for the ethical and responsible use of artificial intelligence.

Principles and Rules Related to Authors

Article 1 - Scope of Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools

Clause 1 - Permitted applications of artificial intelligence tools in the preparation of scientific works include the following: language editing; specialized translation (subject to review by the authors); structuring scientific references (such as creating the correct referencing style); statistical data analysis (subject to author supervision, precise disclosure of AI actions, and complete review of the data before publication); and extracting keywords for searching sources.

Clause 2 - Prohibited applications of artificial intelligence tools in the preparation of scientific works include the following: complete generation of a scientific text; fabrication of research data without a real basis; use of artificial intelligence outputs without human review; generation of images by artificial intelligence or manipulation of real images; searching, extracting, and screening articles in systematic review studies without human involvement; and data analysis (such as interview texts, observations, or focus-group discussion sessions) in qualitative research.

Article 2 - Authorship and Attribution

Clause 1 - Artificial intelligence shall under no circumstances be recognized as the main author or as a co-author.

Clause 2 - The role of artificial intelligence must be mentioned as a tool, similar to software or a database.

Clause 3 - The human contribution to design, analysis, interpretation, and final responsibility for the content must be explicitly specified.

Article 3 - Disclosure and Documentation

Clause 1 - The use of artificial intelligence must be declared in a specified section of the article or book (in the Methods section or the Acknowledgments section), as well as in the submission system for the work, whether it is a research project, article, or book.

Clause 2 - Authors are required to state in which sections (for example, initial design and ideation, literature review, data analysis, writing, tables, images) artificial intelligence assistance was used.

Clause 3 - The exact name of the tool, version, developer company, and date of use must be recorded.

Clause 4 - In cases where artificial intelligence has had a key and permitted role (data collection, data analysis) in content production, the outputs and processing steps must be stored by the author as supplementary files and, if confidential data are present, in a secure location, so that they can be provided to reviewers upon request.

Article 4 - Verification and Quality Control

Clause 1 - All content generated by artificial intelligence must be reviewed before publication in terms of scientific accuracy, source validity, and logical coherence, and final responsibility for this content shall rest with all authors.

Clause 2 - No text generated by artificial intelligence may be submitted without review and rewriting by the authors in accordance with the principles of academic writing.

Clause 3 - All suggested sources must be checked and verified by the authors before being recorded. Identification of even one fabricated source shall result in rejection of the scientific work.

Clause 4 - Known limitations and biases of artificial intelligence tools must be mentioned in the draft of the work alongside the other limitations of the research.

Article 5 - Privacy and Intellectual Property

Clause 1 - Personal data and patient information must be anonymized before being uploaded to artificial intelligence tools, and information that can be easily identified (such as rare diseases) must not be entered.

Clause 2 - Intellectual property rights must be respected; any generated or processed content must be accompanied by detailed disclosure and permission from the owner of the work.

Principles and Rules Related to Reviewers of Scientific Works

Article 6 - Full Responsibility

Clause 1 - Reviewers are responsible for examining the validity, accuracy, and fairness of the evaluation of a scientific text, and artificial intelligence cannot replace a reviewer in making scientific judgments about a work.

Article 7 - Scope of Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools for Reviewing a Work

Clause 1 - Permitted applications of artificial intelligence tools in reviewing a scientific work include the following: checking grammar and clarity of the text from linguistic and scientific perspectives, and organizing the reviewer's comments (subject to human review).

Clause 2 - Prohibited applications of artificial intelligence tools in reviewing a scientific work include the following: using artificial intelligence to decide on the novelty of the work, the validity and accuracy of the methodology, the scientific credibility of the findings and the draft of the work, and using artificial intelligence to express the final recommendation to reject, revise, or accept a work.

Article 8 - Maintaining Confidentiality

Clause 1 - Uploading the full text of a scientific manuscript (such as the text of an article or book) by the reviewer into artificial intelligence tools for the purpose of reviewing the work is strictly prohibited.

Article 9 - Disclosure and Transparency

Clause 1 - Reviewers must declare in the review form that they have used artificial intelligence in reviewing a scientific work.

Clause 2 - The name of the tool, version, date of use, and reviewed sections must be fully stated.

Article 10 - Review and Quality Control

Clause 1 - Artificial intelligence outputs present in the work must, to the extent possible, be reviewed and verified by the reviewer. If the reviewer does not have the required means for verification, the matter must be reported to the editorial board so that the journal/publisher can conduct the evaluation.

Clause 2 - Sections related to the methodology or data obtained from a study must be independently validated by the reviewer without the involvement of artificial intelligence tools.

Article 11 - Acquiring and Enhancing Knowledge Regarding Artificial Intelligence Tools

Clause 1 - Reviewers of scientific works must acquire full awareness of publishing regulations and the use of artificial intelligence in scientific works. At the discretion of journals or relevant officials, reviewers must participate in training courses on artificial intelligence tools and ethical principles in the use of these tools.

Clause 2 - Reviewers must be informed of the permitted level of use of artificial intelligence tools in review so that proper monitoring and evaluation of review processes can be carried out.

Principles and Rules Related to Editors-in-Chief and Editorial Boards

Article 12 - Transparent Policy-Making

Clause 1 - Editors-in-chief are required to formulate clear policies regarding the use of artificial intelligence and to provide the Regulation on the Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools as guidance for authors and reviewers.

Clause 2 - Terms such as “assistive artificial intelligence” and “generative artificial intelligence” must be defined, and permitted and prohibited applications of artificial intelligence tools must be determined and presented.

Article 13 - System for Registration and Publication of Scientific Works

Clause 1 - The article submission system must have a specified and structured section for disclosure of the use of artificial intelligence by authors and reviewers.

Clause 2 - The journals’ websites must provide the possibility of uploading artificial intelligence outputs used in producing a scientific work (such as diagram design) as supplementary files.

Article 14 - Screening and Detection of Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools

Clause 1 - Tools for detecting the use of artificial intelligence must be used as a preliminary stage in the evaluation of a scientific work. The final decision regarding rejection or continuation of the evaluation and review process must be made by the editor-in-chief or editorial board.

Article 15 - Enforcement Guarantee for Compliance with the Principles of Using Artificial Intelligence Tools

Clause 1 - Violations must be addressed through a specified mechanism. Accordingly, in the event of failure to disclose permitted applications, the work shall be returned to the corresponding author for correction and disclosure. In the event of failure to disclose prohibited applications, misuse, or fabrication, the work shall be rejected; or, in the case of extensive violation, based on the opinion of the editorial board, a report shall be submitted to higher-level authorities.

Article 16 - Education and Empowerment of Role-Players

Clause 1 - Editors-in-chief, editorial board members, and/or the Publication Council must acquire the necessary awareness regarding ethics in the use of artificial intelligence tools, limitations of detection tools, and methods for handling violations.

Clause 2 - Where necessary, journals and publishing units must hold periodic training for reviewers and editorial board members on available tools, ethics in the use of artificial intelligence, regulations, and updates to national and international policies.

Clause 3 - Checklists for evaluating the use of artificial intelligence in the review of works involving artificial intelligence must be developed.

Article 17 - Periodic Review

Clause 1 - The Regulation and policies adopted for the use of artificial intelligence tools in publishing and reviewing scientific works must be periodically reviewed, in accordance with the speed of advancement of artificial intelligence tools, so that they remain aligned with technological and ethical developments.

Principles and Rules Related to Journals and Publishers

Article 18 - Institutional Coordination

Clause 1 - Journal and publishing policies must be aligned with the University's regulations on the use of artificial intelligence tools in publishing scientific works and on publication ethics, in order to prevent conflicts among guidelines.

Article 19 - Transparency of the Publication Cycle

Clause 1 - The use of artificial intelligence must be declared at all stages (submission, review, publication), and the manner in which artificial intelligence tools have been used by the owners of the work (authors or translators) must be disclosed.

Article 20 - Secure Storage

Clause 1 - Data and artificial intelligence outputs submitted by the owners of the work must be stored in secure repositories and in accordance with anonymization standards.

Article 21 - Infrastructure Development

Clause 1 - Journals and publishers are required, to the extent possible, to provide the necessary tools for detecting the use of artificial intelligence in the publication of scientific works. These tools must be secure, preferably domestic, and appropriate to the country's existing infrastructure.

Article 22 - Education and Empowerment

Clause 1 - Continuous education must be provided for authors, reviewers, and editors-in-chief regarding the ethical use of artificial intelligence.

Article 23 - Monitoring and Reporting

Clause 1 - Publishers are required to publish periodic reports on violations, corrective actions, and lessons learned from the evaluation of scientific works, and to report them to higher-level centers.

Article 24 - Equity and Inclusion

Clause 1 - Adopted policies must support non-English-speaking authors and prevent algorithmic biases (such as rejection of works that have been translated into English).

Article 25 - Review and Research

Clause 1 - Journals and publishers must support research related to evaluating policies and tools for detecting artificial intelligence in the publication of scientific works and must publish the results.

Chapter Three: Regulations Governing the Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools

Article 26 - Scope and Applicability of the Regulation

Clause 1 - This Regulation covers all scientific works of the University, including books and scientific articles, research projects, and other scientific documents. All University units, including schools, research centers, and affiliated scientific journals, are subject to this Regulation. In addition, all faculty members, researchers, students, and relevant staff are required to comply with its provisions.

Article 27 - Enforcement and Handling of Violations

Clause 1 - In order to ensure proper implementation of the Regulation, specified mechanisms have been provided for handling violations. Unauthorized use of artificial intelligence in prohibited areas, such as complete generation of a scientific text or scientific review, shall be considered a violation, and the offending individual or individuals (all authors of a work or reviewers) shall be subject to placement on a blacklist. With regard to published articles, violations shall be handled by the editor-in-chief, and failure to disclose the use of artificial intelligence shall lead to correction, rejection of the scientific work, or retraction. With regard to published books, handling shall be carried out by the University Publications Office. If a violation is established, the publication license shall be revoked, reprinting shall not take place, and notification in this regard shall be published on the website.

Article 28 - Education and Empowerment of Role-Players

Clause 1 - The University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences is required to hold educational programs for authors, reviewers, and editors-in-chief on the ethical and responsible use of artificial intelligence. These trainings shall include in-person and online workshops, guidance resources, practical examples, and implementation checklists.

Article 29 - Review and Updating of the Regulation

Clause 1 - This Regulation must be reviewed periodically and at appropriate intervals so that it remains aligned with global and national developments in the field of artificial intelligence. The review shall be conducted by the Oversight Committee with the participation of stakeholders, and new changes shall be officially communicated and updated in University systems.

Article 30 - Infrastructure and Data Security

Clause 1 - The University may provide secure infrastructure for evaluating the use of artificial intelligence tools and processing sensitive data. The use of internal or secure tools is mandatory for confidential data. Artificial intelligence outputs must be stored by the researcher in secure repositories with controlled access, and data anonymization standards must be observed before uploading.

Article 31 - Reporting and Institutional Transparency

Clause 1 - To enhance public trust, journals are required to publish in their annual reports the results of periodic evaluations regarding the extent of artificial intelligence use in scientific works, identified violations, and corrective actions.

Clause 2 - The University may also establish an online reporting system for recording and following up on cases of violation or responsible use of artificial intelligence tools.

Article 32 - Research and Development

Clause 1 - The University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences must support studies evaluating artificial intelligence policies in scientific publishing. The development and validation of tools for detecting the use of artificial intelligence, examination of equity-related effects and algorithmic biases, and publication of research findings for continuous improvement of the Regulation are necessary. This section turns the Regulation into a living and dynamic document that will always remain aligned with current scientific and ethical needs.

This Regulation, consisting of 32 articles, was approved on 6/11/1404 at the meeting of the **Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Technology** of the University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences.

With thanks,

Department of Medical Information and Scientific Resources

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