

GUIDELINES ON AI USE IN THESES AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

The University of Helsinki and the Faculty of Medicine encourage the diverse use of artificial intelligence in support of learning. When writing their theses, students familiarise themselves with the appropriate use of AI in research. The Faculty of Medicine complies with the University's guidelines on AI use in teaching and learning: <https://teaching.helsinki.fi/instructions/article/artificial-intelligence-teaching>. These guidelines elaborate on the University guidelines for the Faculty of Medicine.

Maturity test

In maturity tests, the use of AI is forbidden.

AI use in theses

Reporting on AI use

If you have used AI in any form or at any stage of writing your thesis, include above its list of references a section entitled 'AI use in the thesis' that describes your AI use in accordance with the instructions below.

General

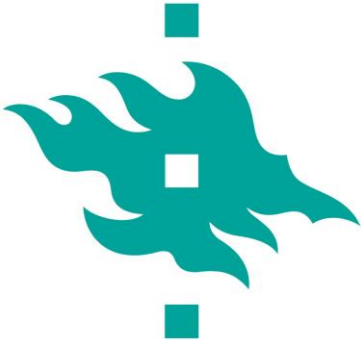
Duty of notification

In your thesis, you must indicate whether you have used AI-powered solutions (e.g., large language models, chatbots, image generators, data analysis models) in a way that such use is evident in the final work.

Reporting on AI use

Enabling reproducibility is a guiding principle in scholarly reporting. You should keep it in mind when reporting on the use of AI in your thesis. Example:

"A language model [CurreChat: OpenAI ChatGPT, version xx] was used in writing this thesis, supporting spelling and brainstorming structural heading options. Scopus AI and Undermind were used to find literature and identify gaps in the research field. All final content is produced or checked by the author. All facts and references have been verified from original sources. An AI tool (Aiforia Create: Aiforia Oyj, version xx) was used to analyse histological data. The validation methods and results of the data analysis carried out by the tool are presented in section nn. A summary of these can be found in the appendices."



Responsibilities and obligations related to AI use

Students' responsibilities

Students are responsible for all material produced with the help of AI, as well as its validity, ethics and originality. When necessary, supervisors can request log data or descriptions of the prompts used.

Supervisors' responsibilities

Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that students are aware of these guidelines and for assessing the appropriateness of AI use on the basis of students' reporting. Supervisors must also have access to incomplete and draft texts.

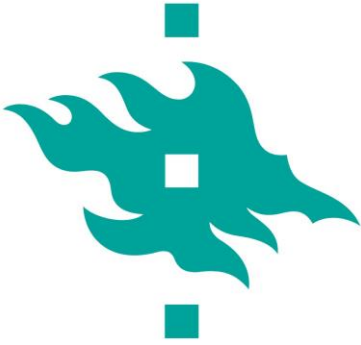
Data protection

Do not enter personal, sensitive or unpublished data into AI services without the permission of your supervisor and organisation. As a rule, only input into external services material that is entirely public, open and unrestricted by any licences. Comply with the guidelines on data protection and research ethics. Please note that metadata related to data entered into AI solutions, such as photo locations, device IP addresses and devices used for photography, may serve as identifiers either directly or when combined with geolocation data from mobile devices found in Google systems. Use primarily AI services provided by the University, such as Microsoft Copilot and CurreChat, with your University credentials, and Kontra to translate text (<https://translate.helsinki.fi/>). However, you are not obliged to restrict yourself to AI services provided by the University, as long as you ensure the data protection and reliability of the services you use.

Do not cheat

Content produced with AI cannot be included in theses without acknowledgement. Depending on the situation, such use can be interpreted as plagiarism or the use of a 'ghost writer', both of which are considered academic misconduct, or cheating. You must not present text or images produced by others or AI as your original work. Make sure that your thesis contains no plagiarised or ghost-written sections. Comply with the University guidelines on [cheating and plagiarism](#). In some cases, the use of AI-generated images as such may be justified for data protection reasons. Such situations may include the need to describe pathological changes without using images taken of actual patients. If you include unedited AI-generated output in your thesis, clearly indicate it as such.

NB! The guidelines for AI use may evolve due to rapid developments in the field. Always comply with the latest University guidelines. In case of inconsistencies, the latest guidelines override these guidelines. Degree programmes may provide their own further instructions.



Student reporting checklist

If you have used AI in any form or at any stage of writing your thesis, include above its list of references a section entitled a section entitled 'AI use in the thesis' where you describe your AI use in accordance with the instructions below.

Description of use

In your thesis, state clearly

- Whether AI has been used or not

If you have used AI, describe

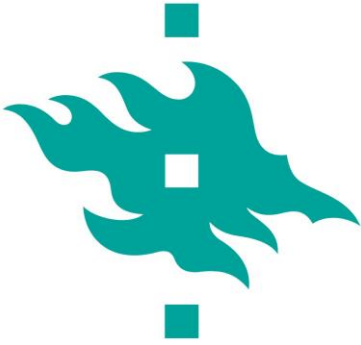
- Which stage it supported (e.g., familiarisation with the topic, brainstorming, drafting, spelling, source search suggestions, analysis support, figure drafting)
- Which tool you used and how
- How you ensured the validity and ethics of the results. Write the description in the section on data and methods and, if necessary, a summary in the acknowledgements or the appendices (e.g., under the sub-heading 'AI tool use').
- Verify each reference provided by AI solutions from the original source.

If you have not used AI

- Indicate this in your thesis

Be prepared to be asked to provide a report on your AI use. If you use AI tools, you must check all the content generated by them, verify the validity of all facts down to details from the original sources, and ensure that the conclusions are based on reliable evidence, not on an impression of the authority of AI. Please note that all thesis content must be authored by students. In terms of AI, this means that authorship makes it necessary for students to edit AI output. Otherwise, it is not authored by students. Students must demonstrate their original thinking and how it improves the output of AI tools.

The results provided by AI models used for data analysis should be explainable and verifiable, provided the data and the nature of the analysis make it possible. For example, AI solutions used in image analysis must visually or otherwise indicate what they have identified in the image. AI models are able to analyse data whose calculation models exceed human comprehension, as well as data that humans cannot sense or understand (e.g., quantum data analysed with quantum AI computing). Even in such cases, you should aim for explainability, whenever possible, with the help of post-hoc models. Comprehensive explainability is not always possible. In theses, it is important to identify and accurately describe situations where something cannot be explained. In such cases, students must indicate which parts of the model are understandable and which are not, and how this affects the conclusions. A well-documented description of limitations is a valuable part of the thesis.



Referring to AI

Artificial intelligence cannot be an author, and cannot be referred to in the list of references.

Producing figures and graphs

If you use AI solutions to draft or edit figures and graphs, indicate this in the method section and make sure that no copyright or ethics problems arise.