Open Science practices to advance digital health/AI research: Balancing ethical and legal hopes and fears

The much-discussed reproducibility crisis in psychology and health research can partly be counteracted by using ‘Open Science’ practices. While progress is being made, it is not yet standard practice in digital health/AI research to pre-register study protocols and analysis plans, or to routinely share intervention materials, data, source code, and analytical code. This session will first provide an overview of the scientific and ethical values (‘hopes’) underpinning the Open Science movement. Next, key ethical and legal challenges (‘fears’) which act as barriers for digital health/AI researchers to embed Open Science practices in their day-to-day work will be discussed, including the sharing of intensive longitudinal or in-depth qualitative patient data and the commercialisation of algorithms and digital health interventions. Practical examples of how to overcome these barriers in digital health/AI research, alongside available Open Science resources, will be provided.

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