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ICN welcomes the proposed regional framework for responsible AI in health. AI can strengthen health systems, expand access, support humanitarian response and accelerate research. Its use must, however, be safe, equitable and grounded in public trust.

Member States should apply clear minimum safeguards wherever AI influences clinical decisions, care pathways or access to services. These include risk-proportionate regulation and oversight; protection of human rights, patient safety, privacy, confidentiality and informed consent; transparency, data protection, local validation, human oversight, accountability, ongoing monitoring, and the ability to suspend unsafe systems.

Nurses must be recognised not only as users of AI requiring training, but as regulated professionals with distinct clinical, ethical and leadership responsibilities. Nurses are central to assessment, clinical decision-making, care coordination, advocacy and continuity of care. AI must augment, not replace, professional judgement, accountability and the human dimensions of care.

Nurses and other health workers must be involved throughout the technology lifecycle: assessing whether AI is appropriate; co-designing, testing and implementing systems; and evaluating effects on safety, quality, equity, workload and trust. Nursing has a vital role in building public trust in responsible AI.

AI literacy, critical thinking and safe use should be integrated into nursing education and continuing professional development. AI must be culturally and linguistically appropriate, locally relevant, and designed to reduce, not deepen, health inequalities.

ICN calls for representation of Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers, nursing regulators, health workers and professional associations in regional technical mechanisms and partnerships. Regional and global cooperation must complement national and local governance.

Responsible AI must also be environmentally sustainable, including attention to energy, water and e-waste.

Thank you.