



TITLE: The evolution of role of (nonclinical) statisticians in an AI-era

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ABSTRACT: This talk will explain how we are helping nonclinical statisticians not just to use AI, but to take responsibility for it, including AI awareness for the scientists we support.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly visible in scientific workflows, yet literacy in what AI is, how it works, and how it should be used responsibly remains limited. The DMS (*Discovery Statistics and Manufacturing*) Applied AI Forum was initiated in January 2025 to address this gap by providing AI training specifically tailored to nonclinical statisticians. The forum was designed to build foundational understanding of AI vocabulary, concepts, and tools in a statistical context, while emphasizing implementation within established AI governance procedures. Learning was structured around two perspectives:

- 1) **using AI** enterprise provided AI tools (from copilot premium, coding assistants, agents, etc.) and how to get the most from these provided
- 2) **developing AI** solutions e.g. retrieval augmented generation, predictive AI, models that require formal governance, evaluation, and oversight.

As the forum matured, the focus evolved from basic literacy toward risk awareness and stewardship, including responsible use, cybersecurity, evaluation, user experience considerations, and specification design roles when managing AI systems and agents. This statistician led approach has resulted in AI literate statisticians who are equipped not only to use AI tools, but to critically evaluate their outputs, operate within governance constraints, and advise scientists and other departments on appropriate and responsible use of AI in nonclinical settings.

BRIEF SPEAKER BIO: Hannah Lennon is a Principal Statistician, Ph.D. at Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine. Passionate about responsible AI. She provides statistical support to non-clinical/pre-clinical studies predominantly in immunology compound discovery in-vitro and in-vivo studies; includes support for NME declarations and patent filings.