

The Clinical AI Autonomy Ladder

How much work can AI do on its own?

A practical guide to delegating clinical and operational work to AI, while keeping humans accountable.

A stronger clinical team for a healthier tomorrow.



HOW TO USE THE LADDER

Map each task and its delegated authority.

- 01 Define the task:**
Name the functions, inputs and decision boundary.
- 02 Name the human duties:**
Who approves, handles exceptions and can stop it?
- 03 Match the controls:**
Use clinical risk, autonomy and reversibility.
- 04 Measure the whole burden:**
Count review, correction and exception handling.

WHAT THIS MEANS

Delegation depends on the workflow.

- 01 Choose the appropriate rung.**
Advancement is not the goal.
- 02 One product can occupy different rungs**
for different tasks.
- 03 Risk, evidence and permitted use**
constrain delegation.
- 04 Clinical and organizational accountability**
remain with people.

Original delegation framework; not a validated maturity, clinical-risk or regulatory scale. Examples are illustrative. Classify the deployed task, not the product name. Approved result notices here mean nonurgent communications.