**Information Policy/Technology Events in the News**

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**Introduction**

Upon reading the article "Researchers Create a Neural Network for Genomics—One that Explains How It Achieves Accurate Predictions," I found myself ensnared by its profound implications for the future of genomics and information policy. The event depicted revolves around a monumental leap in utilizing neural networks to tackle intricate biological questions, specifically RNA splicing. The core issue that resonates with me is the age-old challenge of deciphering the enigma that is the "black box" nature of many neural networks. How does one build trust in a system without explanations for its actions? The researchers from New York University seemed to have found a beacon of resolution by designing an interpretable neural network. The information policy implications are vast, encompassing trustworthiness, transparency, and accountability issues in machine learning and artificial intelligence.

**Analysis**

There is a sprawling network of stakeholders intricately linked to this breakthrough. At the epicenter stand the computer scientists and genomic researchers, spearheading the initiative and reaping direct benefits from the insights gleaned. But one must recognize the overarching wings of institutions like the National Science Foundation and the Simons Foundation, whose financial backing underscores the importance of this endeavor. And then there are the ordinary folks like me, the end-users and beneficiaries, who, while perhaps far removed from the technical nitty-gritty, stand to benefit from advancements in medical science and technology driven by these findings.

The most glaring concern is the opacity of traditional neural networks. As the article suggests, the obscurity hampers genuine understanding, raising eyebrows about their trustworthiness. The idea of a machine, especially one mediating crucial processes like genomic decoding, working in a vacuum of comprehension is unsettling. With the stakes so high, it's clear why the research team emphasized designing an "interpretable-by-design" neural network. Through this lens, the article unraveled before me as a scientific report and a beacon of hope for transparency in an often obfuscated realm.

For society at large, this breakthrough carries a symbolic significance. It serves as a testament to the power of innovation in fostering trust and bridging the understanding gap. As we move toward an era increasingly governed by algorithms, the demands for transparency will only burgeon. This research heralds a proactive step toward meeting these demands, ensuring that as we surrender more of our decision-making processes to machines, we do so with cognizance and confidence.

From an information professional's perspective, the implications are multifaceted. At the most apparent level, it offers a tool that enhances accuracy and comprehension in genomic studies. But, at a more profound layer, it underscores the importance of championing transparency in all technological endeavors. It fosters an ethos where professionals are not just passive recipients of technology but are empowered with the understanding needed to use these tools optimally.

**Conclusion**

Reflecting on the journey through the article, I'm left with an overwhelming sense of optimism. The core of the piece, constructing an interpretable neural network, speaks to a future where we don't merely accept technological advancements but engage with them critically. The main crux tackled was the "black box" problem of neural networks, with the research team at NYU offering a tangible resolution. By embedding interpretability at the heart of their design, they’ve advanced genomic research and set a precedent for all AI endeavors.

The insights from the article are not just a testament to the brilliance of the researchers but an ode to human ingenuity. In our relentless pursuit of advancement, we must never forget the quintessential human need for understanding. This article serves as a gentle reminder of that very ethos. As I move forward, armed with this knowledge, I find myself not just a passive observer of technological marvels but an informed participant, ready to engage, question, and understand.

**References**

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