AI in Education: Stop Guessing, Start Testing

What a pediatric trial teaches us about evidence-based learning

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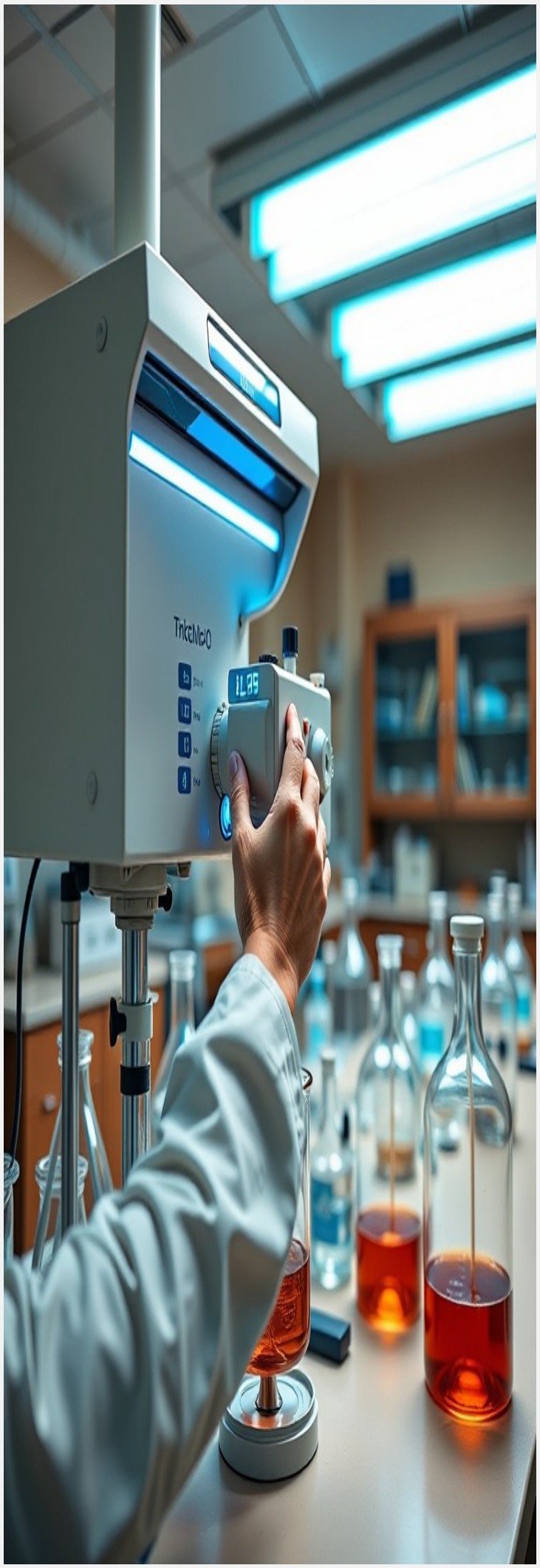
THE DATA

424

Children in Trial

The PROSpect trial included 424 children across 75 hospitals in 18 countries.

This massive, global study tested two widely used interventions—prone positioning and high-frequency oscillatory ventilation—in pediatric acute respiratory distress syndrome (PARDS). The scale of this trial underscores the need for similarly rigorous, real-world validation in AI-driven educational tools before widespread adoption.

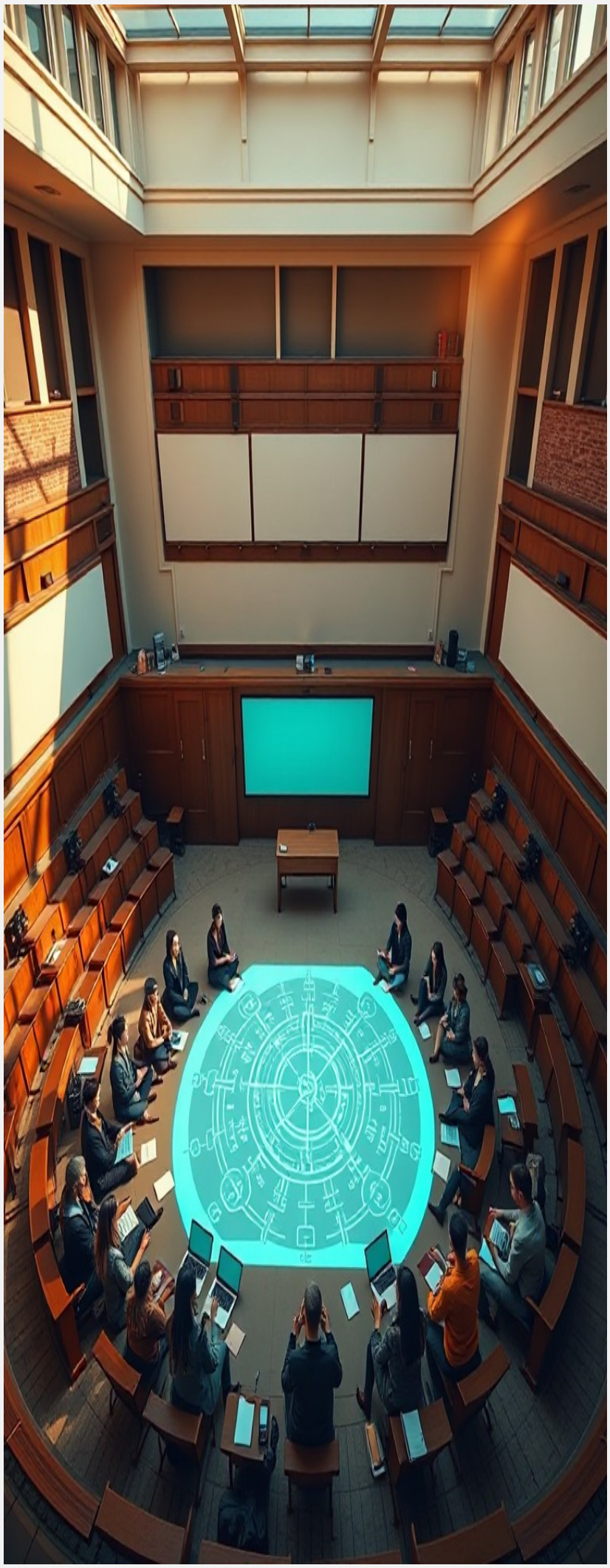


Source: Penn Nursing · Published November 20, 2026
https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/live/news/3938-international-study-finds-that-prone-positioning

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Rigor > Hype in AI Learning

Just as prone positioning and HFOV were assumed effective for years despite lacking proof, many AI education tools are deployed without randomized, large-scale trials. The PROSpect trial proves that even widely accepted clinical practices must be tested—especially when they carry risk. In education, untested AI models can reinforce bias or mislead students, making evidence-based validation not just ideal, but essential.



02

Safety First, Even in Learning

The study found prone positioning increased airway obstruction and skin injuries, while HFOV caused hemodynamic instability. This mirrors a critical risk in AI education: untested algorithms can 'injure' learning by distorting understanding, creating dependency, or reinforcing cognitive shortcuts. Just as clinical tools must be safe before use, AI in education must undergo safety and efficacy testing—especially in high-stakes learning environments.

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