Enabling Audit Success

Using AI Responsibly

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How Will AI Change the Audit Lifecycle

Planning — Leverages data to pinpoint areas of risk

Survey — Condenses relevant laws, policies, procedures, and earlier findings

Fieldwork — Prepares and examines datasets to surface anomalous transactions, duplicate payments, absent documentation, or indicators of fraud.

Reporting — Refines drafts to elevate overall writing quality

A Continuous Cycle
AI can augment every stage of the audit lifecycle

Enterprise Data Warehouses

- **Structured data:** Working with governed and cleansed data sources.
- **Continuous auditing:** Automated, recurring tests over transaction data.
- **Goal:** Identify improper payments and the control weaknesses that allowed them.
- **Tools:** SQL, Python, and low-code data mining tools.

Ad Hoc Analytics

- **Fragmented data:** Spreadsheets, PDFs, scanned documents.
- **Low-code platforms:** Ingest, cleanse, and standardize data without heavy coding.
- **Tools:** Python for advanced extraction and transformation.

Key Points

Governance first — Governance and controls must come before reliance on AI

Human judgment — Human judgment remains essential

Risk assessment — Auditors must assess risk to determine what controls are needed

Reskilling — Audit teams need to obtain needed skills: AI literacy, data skills, and critical thinking

The Takeaway

Strong controls and human judgment lead the way; AI supports the audit rather than replacing it.