

Fake Data

By **William R. Porter** Feb 28, 2018 8:00 am PST

Fake data—the right sort of fake data—are critically important tools in the validator's toolkit. Now, we're not talking about data meant to deceive—fraudulent data—or data that are simply mistaken—erroneous data—but rather artificial data constructed with known statistical properties designed to closely mimic actual, real data as reliably and honestly as possible. Such realistic but synthetic data can be used to evaluate whether written standard operating procedures for the collection, analysis and interpretation of real data actually meet the design goals of the process. ...

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