

## General Practice Data for Planning and Research (GDPR) Update July 2021

On 19<sup>th</sup> July we received a letter from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Care (you can read the letter [here](#))

NHS Digital has announced that the GDPR extraction which was due to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> September has now been postponed until the following 4 conditions have been met:

- The ability to delete data if patients choose to opt-out of sharing their GP data with NHS Digital, even if this is after their data has been uploaded
- The backlog of opt-outs has been fully cleared
- A Trusted Research Environment has been developed and implemented by NHS Digital
- Patients have been made more aware of the scheme through a campaign of engagement and communication

We will continue to accept and register your type-1 opt outs for you.

This page will be updated when we receive further communication from NHS Digital.

## General Practice Data for Planning and Research (GDPR) June 2021

You may have seen reports in the press and on social media regarding data being extracted from your GP records. We want to provide you with the information we have and to offer you the chance to opt-out of this data sharing.

The data held in the GP medical records of patients is used every day to support health and care planning and research in England, helping to find better treatments and improve patient outcomes for everyone. NHS Digital has developed a new way to collect this data, called the General Practice Data for Planning and Research data collection.

NHS Digital will not collect patient's names or addresses. Any other data that could directly identify a patient (such as NHS Number, date of birth, full postcode) is replaced with unique codes which are produced by de-identification software before the data is shared with NHS Digital.

From **1<sup>st</sup> September 2021**, GP practices nationwide have a legal obligation under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to supply patients' personal and confidential medical information on a regular and continuous basis, to NHS Digital via a system known as General Practice Data for Planning and Research (GDPR).

NHS Digital will become the data controller for that information; they will administer the data, and use it for planning health services, commissioning, population health management and research.

This is known as **secondary uses** of your medical records.

Although we are not able to object to this information leaving the practice, we can inform you of your right to opt-out of data sharing for secondary uses.

You can opt-out by completing the Type 1 opt-out form on our website and emailing it to [stthomas@nhs.net](mailto:stthomas@nhs.net), or by handing it in to reception. **Please ensure your completed form is returned to us before 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.** Once we are in receipt of your completed form we will add an exception code to your medical records which will prohibit extraction of your data for all of the following secondary uses:

- General Practice Data for Planning and Research (GDPR)
- Risk stratification schemes (<https://www.england.nhs.uk/ig/risk-stratification/>)
- National clinical audits (e.g. National Diabetes Audit)
- Extraction of de-identified information about you concerning any eMed3 Statement of Fitness to Work reports (i.e. sick notes), uploaded to NHS Digital, and subsequently passed by NHS Digital to the Department of Work and Pensions
- All extractions and uploading of identifiable information about you to NHS Digital, for any secondary purpose (previously known as GPES extractions)

A Type 1 objection will in no way affect the medical care you receive at St Thomas Medical Group, nor will it affect the NHS screening programmes (Cervical Cancer, Bowel Cancer, Breast Cancer, Diabetic Retinopathy, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm), GP2GP transfers, referrals or the Electronic Prescription Service.

More information can be found by following the links below:

- [About the General Practice Data for Planning and Research \(GDPR\)](#)
- [NHS Digital GDPR Privacy Notice](#)
- [NHS Digital GDPR Transparency Notice](#)
- [NHS Digital GDPR Video](#)

[Health and Social Care Act 2012](#) (sections 254(1) and (6), section 260(2)(d) and sections 305(9), (10) and (12))



Find out more



## The daily NHS data collection from GP practices supports essential health and care planning and research

