

Covid-19 supplementary Privacy Notice – November 2020

This notice describes how Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (NNUH) may use your personal information which it holds to protect you and others during the COVID-19 outbreak. It supplements the NNUH main Privacy Notice which is available on the intranet [Trust Docs ID: 14135](#) and on our internet website.

The health and social care system is facing significant pressures due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Health and care information is essential to deliver care to individuals, to support health and social care services and to protect public health. Information will also be vital in researching, monitoring, tracking and managing the outbreak. In the current emergency it has become even more important to share health and care information across relevant organisations. Your information will be used for the purposes listed below.

Purpose

A COVID-19 purpose includes but is not limited to the following:

- Understanding COVID-19 and risks to public health, trends in COVID-19 and such risks, and controlling and preventing the spread of COVID-19 and such risks
- Disease surveillance for the purposes of protecting public health, providing healthcare services to the public and monitoring and managing the outbreak. Further information about how your personal/confidential information is being used and shared by other NHS and social care organisations in a variety of ways to support the COVID-19 response can be found [here](#).
- Ensuring information is available to support the care of patients/service users.
- Identifying and understanding information about patients or potential patients with or at risk of COVID-19, information about incidents of patient exposure to COVID-19 and the management of patients with or at risk of COVID-19 including: locating, contacting, screening, flagging and monitoring such patients and collecting information about and providing services in relation to testing, diagnosis, self-isolation, fitness to work, treatment, medical and social interventions and recovery from COVID-19
- Monitoring and managing the response to COVID-19 and providing information to the national bodies about COVID-19.
- Delivering services, in partnership with other Health and Social Care providers, to patients, clinicians, the health services and adult social care services workforce and the public about and in connection with COVID-19, including the provision of information, fit notes and the provision of health care and adult social care services
- Research and planning in relation to COVID-19
- Remote consultation to our patients and service users via telephone or videoconferencing
- Send public health messages to you, either by phone, text or email.

Current Laws in place

- [Notice](#) served by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care under notice under Regulation 3(4) of the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002 (COPI) by Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to process personal/confidential information as stipulated in Regulations 3(1), 3(2) and 3(3) of COPI.
- Consent. By accepting the invitation and entering the remote consultation via videoconferencing, you are consenting to this.

Sharing your personal information

The above existing law allows confidential patient information to be used and shared appropriately and lawfully during a public health emergency. Using this law, the Secretary of State advised the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust will share confidential patient information with the following organisations to respond to the coronavirus outbreak:

- NHS Digital
- NHSX
- NHS England
- NHS Improvement
- Public Health England
- Local authorities
- Health Organisations
- GPs
- Dentists

In order to look after your health and care needs we may share your confidential patient information including health and care records with clinical and non-clinical staff in other health and care providers in the Norfolk and Waveney Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) such as GP practices, hospitals, including The Spire Hospital Norwich and NHS 111.

Any information used or shared will be limited to the period of the outbreak unless there is another legal basis to use the data. This period is currently set to **31 March 2021** but can be extended in writing by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. Further information is available on GOV.UK [here](#) and some FAQs on this law are available from [NHSX](#).

National Data Opt-Outs

During this period of emergency, opt-outs will not generally apply to the data used to support the COVID-19 outbreak, due to the public interest in sharing information.

However in relation to your Summary Care Record, existing choices will be respected. Where data is used and shared under these laws your right to have personal data erased will also not apply.

Data Access

The hospital is under pressure and therefore it may also take us longer to respond to Subject Access requests, Freedom of Information requests and new opt-out requests whilst we focus our efforts on responding to the outbreak.

Security

The Hospital will continue to apply the same robust safeguards to keep your information secure and will share them appropriately by secure means.

NHS England and Improvement and NHSX have developed a single, secure store to gather data from across the health and care system to inform the COVID-19 response. This includes data already collected by NHS England, NHS Improvement, Public Health England and NHS Digital. New data will include 999 call data, data about hospital occupancy, A&E capacity data as well as [data provided by patients themselves](#). All the data held in the platform is subject to strict controls which meet the requirements of data protection legislation.

Updates

We may amend this privacy notice at any time so please review it frequently. The date at the top of this page will be amended each time this notice is updated.