

Privacy notice COVID-19 (coronavirus) supplement

This notice supplements our main Privacy Notice, which is available at www.insighthealthcare.org/privacy-notice

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.

Existing laws which allow confidential patient information to be used and shared appropriately and lawfully in a public health emergency is being used during this outbreak. Using this law, the Secretary of State has required NHS Digital, NHS England and Improvement, arm's length bodies (such as Public Health England), local authorities, health organisations, and GPs to share confidential patient information to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Any information used or shared during the COVID-19 outbreak will be limited to the period of the outbreak unless there is another legal basis to use the data. Further information is available here on gov.uk and some FAQs on this law are available here on nhsx.nhs.uk.

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. This includes national data opt-outs. Where data is used and shared under these laws, your right to have personal data erased will also not apply.

During this period of emergency, some of our services will offer you an appointment via telephone or video-conferencing. By accepting the invitation and entering the consultation you are consenting to this. Your personal/confidential information will be safeguarded in the same way it would with any other appointment.

We will also be required to share personal/confidential information with health and care organisations and other bodies engaged in 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 health and care data is being used and shared by other NHS and social care organisations in a variety of ways to support the COVID-19 response is available here at nhsx.nhs.uk.

In such circumstances where you tell us you're experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, we may need to collect specific health data about you. Where we need to do so, we will not collect more information than we require, and we will ensure that any information collected is treated with the appropriate safeguards.

We may amend this privacy notice at any time so please review it frequently.

If you have any questions, please contact our Data Protection Officer at data.protection@concerngroup.org.