

DATA PROTECTION OFFICE NEWS

June 2021

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NHS Digital GP Practice data Collection for planning and Research

As I confirmed in the email I sent out earlier this week, further to pressure from the BMA, the government have now confirmed that they will delay the start of this data collection until September 1st, 2021. My hope is that NHS Digital will use the extra time to do the relevant stakeholder and patient engagement, enabling proper understanding of the data collection for all involved.

[General Practice Data for Planning and Research \(GPDPR\) - NHS Digital](#)

Information Sharing Gateway

The ISG is flagging some practices as “organisation assurance expired”. Can you please double check your practice’s assurance is up-to-date by, for example, updating your ICO registration expiry date?

The following DPIAs have been recently uploaded onto the ISG for data controller sign off. In both cases, I have scrutinised the DPIAs and am satisfied that these data sharing initiatives meet all relevant data protection and Information Governance requirements.

For practices in T&G:

Willow Wood – GP Practices

This is to enable bidirectional read only data sharing for Willow Wood hospice and the GP practices in T&G.

For practices in Oldham:

UEC by appointment

In response to the Urgent Care by Appointment initiative, the CCG are currently commissioning a Primary Care Led Urgent Care Service from the Integrated Care Centre (ICC) in Oldham and a Pre-ED Rapid Assessment at The Royal Oldham Hospital A & E Department.

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NHS Data Security & Protection Toolkit – deadline 30th June 2021

The deadline for submitting your 202-21 DSPT return is 30th June 2021. If you require any further support with the completion of the toolkit, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sharing safeguarding information via email

We recently received a query about whether it is safe to send safeguarding information via email. Sensitive data including P.I.D. (person identifiable data) can be sent, *with caution*, from one secure email address to another.

The following email addresses are considered secure:

- • Nhs.net
- • nhs.uk domains accredited to the DCB1596 secure email standard
- • Gov.uk
- • Cjsm.net
- • Pnn.police.uk
- • Mod.uk
- • Parliament.uk

As data controller, you are of course right to be cautious about sending safeguarding information. The GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 puts the onus on the data controller to assess and mitigate any risks. You may wish to password protect your email or use an encryption tool.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at jane.hilldpo@nhs.net or westpenninelmc@btconnect.com, or mobile 07951 530 417