

# DATA PROTECTION OFFICE NEWS

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## Contact Details

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### Accelerated Access to records update

As you will be aware, NHS England have dictated in the recently imposed GP contract that 31st October is now the deadline for the requirement of enabling patients to have access to prospective data in the GP record, via the NHS app and other equivalent apps. The GP Committee of the BMA recently published further guidance and resources to support practices and for ease of reference, I have reattached these documents. They include a DPIA (Data Protection Impact Assessment) which you may wish to amend and use at your practice. If you have concluded that NHSE's proposal of enabling access presents risks which cannot be satisfactorily mitigated, you may consider adopting the BMA's suggested approach of using an opt in model to meet the contractual requirement. The attached documents include wording, which you could send out to your patients via AccuRx/ MJog, asking if they would like access to their prospective health data. This allows for a more measured approach, and as it could be potentially time consuming, you may wish to set up a waiting list for patients wanting to have access. The SNOMED codes, which I have also reattached, can be applied to a patient record, e.g., the "104 code" would prevent a patient from accessing their health data until the practice has had the opportunity to review the record.

### Biobank UK – Request for coded data

You may recently have received an email from Biobank UK, requesting that you share coded data with them for patients who have given consent to be part of Biobank's research programme. I'm aware of the potentially groundbreaking work Biobank does and if a patient has consented to their data being shared that should of course be honoured where possible. However, I can't see a clear process whereby the GP Data Controller is made aware of which patient's/ patients' data is being

shared. I also want assurance from Biobank that they have a clear process for addressing requests from patients to revoke consent. I have contacted Biobank in the hope of getting the assurances I feel I need, and I will let you know as soon as I have a clear steer.

### **Reminder re Secure email addresses**

If you are sharing P.I.D. (person identifiable data) via email, please ensure you are sending it to a secure email address. The following are considered secure:

- Nhs.net
- nhs.uk
- Gov.uk
- Cjsm.net
- Pnn.police.uk
- Mod.uk
- Parliament.uk

It is also advisable to password protect a document containing P.I.D. or encrypt it in transit.

### **Information Sharing Gateway**

It has been brought to my attention that some practices' assurance has expired on the Information Sharing Gateway. It is usually because there isn't an updated ICO registration number recorded. Are you able to please sign into the Information Sharing Gateway and check this? Thank you.

[Home Page - Information Sharing Gateway](#)

### **Caldicott Guardian Training**

<https://www.ukcgc.uk/>

The UK Caldicott Guardian Council will be delivering a training session via Teams on Tuesday 5th December at 5.30pm. If you wish to book onto this session, please contact Helen Dyer at [helen.dyer10@nhs.net](mailto:helen.dyer10@nhs.net)

### **Data Protection training**

I have started to deliver Data Protection training sessions for GP practice teams. If you think your team would benefit from a short F2F session, I am very happy to come out to your practice building to support you with this.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, or any other Data Protection concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07951 530 417 or [Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net](mailto:Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net)