

Privacy Notice – for Patient care

Plain English explanation

Connect Health keeps data on you relating to who you are, where you live, what you do, your family, possibly your friends, your employers, your habits, your problems and diagnoses, the reasons you seek help, your appointments, where you are seen and when you are seen, who by, referrals to specialists and other healthcare providers, tests carried out here and in other places, investigations and scans, treatments and outcomes of treatments, your treatment history, the observations and opinions of other healthcare workers, within and without the NHS as well as comments and aide memoires reasonably made by Connect Health healthcare professionals who are appropriately involved in your health care.

If your health needs require care from others elsewhere outside Connect Health, we will exchange with them whatever information about you that is necessary for them to provide that care. When you make contact with healthcare providers outside Connect Health, but within the NHS, it is usual for them to send us information relating to that encounter. We will retain part or all of those reports. Normally we will receive equivalent reports of contacts you have with non NHS services but this is not always the case.

Your consent to this sharing of data, within Connect Health and with those others outside the organisation is assumed and is allowed by the Law.

People who have access to your information will only normally have access to that which they need to fulfil their roles, for instance admin staff will normally only see your name, address, contact details, appointment history and registration details in order to book appointments however healthcare professionals you see or speak to will normally have access to everything in your record.

You have the right to object to our sharing your data in these circumstances but we have an overriding responsibility to do what is in your best interests. Please see below.

We are required by Articles in the General Data Protection Regulations to provide you with the information in the following 9 subsections.

1) Data Controller contact details	Connect Health Ltd, The Light Box, Quorum Park, Benton Lane, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE12 8EU, UK
2) Data Protection Officer contact details	Mr Umar Sabat umarsabat@connecthealth.co.uk

3) Purpose of the processing	Direct Patient Care is care delivered to the individual alone, most of which is provided within Connect Health. We receive information from Primary Care organisations to help treat and support you . We to also need to share this information however this is only shared with people who are involved in your care and treatment. This may include organisations such as your GP and the hospital.
4) Lawful basis for processing	<p>The processing of personal data in the delivery of direct care and for providers’ administrative purposes in this surgery and in support of direct care elsewhere is supported under the following Article 6 and 9 conditions of the GDPR:</p> <p>Article 6(1)(e) ‘...necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority...’.</p> <p>Article 6(1)(f) “processing is necessary for the purposes of legitimate interests pursued by the Controller or by a third party”</p> <p>Article 9(2)(h) ‘necessary for the purposes of preventative or occupational medicine for the assessment of the working capacity of the employee, medical diagnosis, the provision of health or social care or treatment or the management of health or social care systems and services...’</p> <p>We will also recognise your rights established under UK case law collectively known as the “Common Law Duty of Confidentiality”*</p>
5) Recipient or categories of recipients of the processed data	The data will be shared with Health and care professionals and your GP Practice, diagnostic and treatment centres who contribute to your personal care.
6) Rights to object	<p>You have the right to object to some or all the information being processed under Article 21.</p> <p>Please contact our Data Protection Officer. You should be aware that this is a right to raise an objection, that is not the same as having an absolute right to have your wishes granted in every circumstance.</p>

7) Right to access and correct	You have the right to access the data that is being shared and have any inaccuracies corrected. There is no right to have accurate medical records deleted except when ordered by a court of Law.
8) Retention period	The data will be retained in line with the law and national guidance. Please see the NHSx Records Management Code of Practice.
9) Right to Complain.	<p>You have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office, you can use this link https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/</p> <p>or calling their helpline Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545 745 (national rate)</p> <p>There are National Offices for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, (see ICO website)</p>

* "Common Law Duty of Confidentiality", common law is not written out in one document like an Act of Parliament. It is a form of law based on previous court cases decided by judges; hence, it is also referred to as 'judge-made' or case law. The law is applied by reference to those previous cases, so common law is also said to be based on precedent.

The general position is that if information is given in circumstances where it is expected that a duty of confidence applies, that information cannot normally be disclosed without the information provider's consent.

In practice, this means that all patient information, whether held on paper, computer, visually or audio recorded, or held in the memory of the professional, must not normally be disclosed without the consent of the patient. It is irrelevant how old the patient is or what the state of their mental health is; the duty still applies.

Three circumstances making disclosure of confidential information lawful are:

- where the individual to whom the information relates has consented;
- where disclosure is in the public interest; and
- where there is a legal duty to do so, for example a court order.

Date created: 13th March 2021.

Last updated: N/A