

Privacy Notice – Commissioning, planning, risk stratification, patient identification



The records we keep enable us to plan for your care

'Risk stratification for case finding' is a process for identifying and managing patients who have or may be at-risk of health conditions (such as diabetes) or who are most likely to need healthcare services (such as people with frailty). Risk stratification tools used in the NHS help determine a person's risk of suffering a particular condition and enable us to focus on preventing ill health before it develops.

Information about you is collected from a number of sources including NHS Trusts and your GP Practice. A risk score is then arrived at to help us identify and offer you additional services to improve your health.

In addition data with your identity removed is used to inform the development and delivery of services across the local area.

Risk stratification has been approved by the Secretary of State, through the Confidentiality Advisory Group of the Health Research Authority (approval reference (CAG 7-04)(a)/2013)) and this approval has been extended to the end of September 2020 NHS England Risk Stratification which gives us a statutory legal basis under Section 251 of the NHS Act 2006 to process data for risk stratification purposes which sets aside the duty of confidentiality. We are committed to conducting risk stratification effectively, in ways that are consistent with the laws that protect your confidentiality.

If any processing of this data occurs outside the practice your identity will not be visible to the processors. Only this practice will be able to identify you and the results of any calculated factors, such as your risk of having a heart attack in the next 10 years or your risk of being admitted to hospital with a complication of chest disease

You have the right to object to our processing your data in these circumstances and before any decision based upon that processing is made about you. Processing of this type is only lawfully allowed where it results in individuals being identified with their associated calculated risk. It is not lawful for this processing to be used for other ill-defined purposes, such as "health analytics".

Despite this we have an overriding responsibility to do what is in your best interests. If we identify you as being at significant risk of having, for example a heart attack or stroke, we are justified in performing that processing.

1) Data Controller contact details	Frome Medical Practice, Frome Medical Centre, Enos Way, Frome, Somerset, BA11 2FH Telephone: 01373 301301
2) Data Protection Officer contact details	Kevin Caldwell GP Data Protection Officer Somerset CCG Wynford House Lufton Way Yeovil Somerset BA22 8HR Telephone: 01935 384000 Email: somccg.GPDPO@nhs.net

<p>3) Purpose of the processing</p>	<p>The practice performs computerised searches of some or all of our records to identify individuals who may be at increased risk of certain conditions or diagnoses i.e. Diabetes, heart disease, risk of falling. Your records may be amongst those searched. This is often called “risk stratification” or “case finding”. These searches are sometimes carried out by Data Processors who link our records to other records that they access, such as hospital attendance records. The results of these searches and assessment may then be shared with other healthcare workers, such as specialist, therapists, technicians etc. The information that is shared is to enable the other healthcare workers to provide the most appropriate advice, investigations, treatments, therapies and or care.</p>
<p>4) Lawful basis for processing</p>	<p>The legal basis for this processing is:</p> <p><i>Article 6(1)(e); “necessary... in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller’</i></p> <p>and:</p> <p><i>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...’</i></p> <p>We will recognise your rights under UK Law collectively known as the “Common Law Duty of Confidentiality”*</p>
<p>5) Recipient or categories of recipients of the shared data</p>	<p>The data will be shared for processing and for subsequent healthcare with Somerset CCG, NHS Foundation Trusts, NHS England</p>
<p>6) Rights to object</p>	<p>You have the right to object to this processing where it might result in a decision being made about you. That right may be based either on implied consent under the Common Law of Confidentiality, Article 22 of GDPR or as a condition of a Section 251 approval under the HSCA. It can apply to some or all of the information being shared with the recipients. Your right to object is in relation to your personal circumstances. If you wish to object please contact the practice.</p>
<p>7) Right to access and correct</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>8) Retention period</p>	<p>The data will be retained in line with the law and national guidance. https://digital.nhs.uk/article/1202/Records-Management-Code-of-Practice-for-Health-and-Social-Care-2016</p>
<p>9) Right to Complain.</p>	<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/ or calling their helpline 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545 745 (national rate)</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.