

National Data Opt Outs

The National Data opt out gives everyone the ability to stop health and social care organisations, including Darwen Healthcare, from sharing your confidential health information for research and planning purposes.

The practice has a responsibility to make you aware of your choices relating to the uses made of your confidential health information. This does not affect the collection and use of your health information to provide you with general healthcare at the practice or any other clinics or hospitals.

The practice has procedures in place to identify whether they have information disclosures where the national data opt out applies. Our computers now have new ways that enable the practice to easily remove the records of patients who have registered a national data opt-out from information disclosures, when the opt-out applies.

Qualifying

National data opt outs only apply to the following: -

- Patient identifiable information is disclosed (it is not anonymised or pseudonymised)
- The purpose for disclosure is research/planning only and is
 - not general health care
 - not monitor/control of communicable diseases or other public health risks
 - not a disclosure because of a legal requirement
 - not a disclosure in the overriding public interest
 - not one of the following specific examples
 - National Disease Registers
 - 'Assuring Transformation'
 - National Patient Experience surveys
 - Disclosures to NHS Digital under s259 Health & Social Care Act
 - Disclosures to Controlled Environments for Finance (CEfFs)
- No explicit consent for disclosure has been received from the patient(s)
- The recipients, i.e., a research body, confirm they have Confidentiality Advisory Group (CAG) section 251 approval for disclosure of confidential identifiable patient information

Please remember, the opt out only applies to stop the use of your confidential health information for research and planning. It does not affect any necessary sharing of information to directly support your care as a patient.

How to register an Opt Out

Registration can be done via the website nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters. Alternatively, patients can ring 0300 303 5678. It is useful if you have your NHS number handy when registering. Also, it is always useful to keep your contact details with the practice up to date,

particularly any email address and mobile phone number. This will be used to verify your identity when registering.

Of course, if you are happy for the use of your information for research and planning, you do not have to do anything.

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