

NHS England Care.Data

Care.Data is an initiative that covers only English patients. There has been considerable disquiet in the UK about this development both from patients and health professionals across the UK. Further consultation is now being undertaken in England over the next 6 months before any further action is taken

Patients registered with Welsh GPs or attending Welsh hospitals will not have their data sent to this new database.

However, if you are a Welsh resident registered with a GP in England you could have your data sent into the care.data system unless you opt out of this process. You will need to contact the practice if you wish to discuss the matter further. You should also receive a leaflet explaining your rights and how to opt out should you choose to do this.

The reactions in England to the care.data database have raised concerns for some people in Wales that the Individual Health Record (IHR) may be connected to this new database. This is not the case. The IHR has no connection with this new database in England. The IHR was created to make sure that if you are treated in an Emergency the doctors providing your care can see a summary of your GP record in order provide you with the best care. This is the only purpose of the IHR. It is not connected to any other system and not connected to care.data.

Wales has a different approach to sharing information. If you want to find out more about how information is shared in Wales and for what purposes please go to [‘Your Information, Your Rights’ on the NHS Direct Wales website.](#)