

Privacy Notice

DARS-NIC-29827-Q8Z7Q: The role of patient factors, surgical factors and hospital factors upon patient outcomes and NHS costs in the treatment of upper limb musculoskeletal conditions: spatial and longitudinal analysis of routine data.

Who is responsible for your data?

The data controller for the data used in this study is the University of Oxford (the “University”).

About the personal data in the study

This study uses data from the national Hospital Episode Statistics to investigate trends and regional variation in surgical treatments for upper limb conditions, the outcomes and complications following these procedures, and procedure and patient factors that may be associated with a favourable or adverse outcome.

The data will be made available to the University for the purposes of the study by NHS Digital (<https://digital.nhs.uk/>) on the terms of a Data Sharing Agreement. The data will be supplied in a pseudonymised, or de-identified, format (i.e. personal identifiers, such as names and dates of birth, will be removed and replaced with a unique patient ID). The researchers at the University will only have access to the de-identified data and will not be able to directly identify individuals.

The de-identified data provided includes patient medical conditions, age, treatment hospital regions, operations performed, dates and length of stay in hospital, and mortality records.

You can find out more about pseudonymisation here:

<https://understandingpatientdata.org.uk/what-does-anonymised-mean>

and more about the safeguards put in place by NHS Digital to protect the sharing of data here:

<https://understandingpatientdata.org.uk/how-data-kept-safe>

How we use personal data

The University will use the de-identified data for the purposes of this study, as described above. The University is processing the data for this purpose in order to undertake research being carried out by the University in the public interest. This is known as the legal basis for processing personal data under data protection law.

The University will share the data within the University with those who need to view it as part of their work in carrying out the study. The data will not be shared with any other researchers or third-parties.

How long we keep your data

The University will retain the data until 8th January 2022 for the purposes of the study.

How we protect your data

In compliance with the Data Sharing Agreement with NHS Digital, we protect your personal data against unauthorised access, unlawful use, accidental loss, corruption or destruction.

We use technical measures such as encryption and password protection to protect your data and the systems they are held in. We also use operational measures to protect the data, for example by limiting the number of people who have access to the databases in which your data is held.

We keep these security measures under review and refer to University Security Policies to keep up to date with current best practice. The university's data protection policy is at: <https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/universitypolicondataprotection/>

Your rights

Under data protection law, individuals may request access to their data, request that processing of their data is restricted, object to processing of their data or request that their data be corrected or transferred to another party, subject to certain restrictions. Individuals may also request that their data be deleted or withdraw their consent to its use, if applicable.

The right to access, change, or move personal information may be limited, as the University needs to manage the data in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. For example, the University may need to continue to process information where required for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes, in accordance with applicable data protection laws.

If you would like to exercise any of the rights mentioned above or if for any reason you are not happy with the way that we have handled your data, please contact the University's Information Compliance Team at data.protection@admin.ox.ac.uk. The same address can be used to contact the University's Data Protection Officer. If you are still not happy, you have the right to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office.

Contact us

If you would like to contact us directly for more information about how we process and protect data collected for research, please email: infogov@ndorms.ox.ac.uk (quote BHDG project 14)