National Diabetes Audit:
how your information is used to help improve diabetes care



Your diabetes service is taking part in the National Diabetes Audit (NDA). The NDA checks whether people with diabetes are getting good care.

The NDA collects information about diabetes care from GP practices and hospitals. This information helps the NHS to improve care. The use of NDA information is controlled by law and strict rules of confidentiality.

The NDA is managed by the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC), working with Diabetes UK and Public Health England.

Taking part in the NDA can help improve understanding of the quality of care for people with diabetes. But you can choose not to take part if you have concerns.

Please read this leaflet carefully.

What information about you is collected?

The NDA only uses information about your diabetes care that is already recorded. For example, type of diabetes, latest blood pressure result and results of HbA1c, or eye screening tests. The NDA is not a research project. No extra blood tests, appointments or scans are needed.

The NDA collects information on:

- How many people with diabetes are registered at the GP practice or clinic
- Whether people with diabetes are receiving the annual healthcare checks
- Whether people with diabetes achieve the national targets for glucose control, blood pressure and cholesterol
- The numbers of people with diabetes who develop health problems, such as heart disease, stroke and kidney disease
- Whether people with diabetes have an increased risk of dying at a younger age
- How many people use an insulin pump, why they use a pump and how well it is working

Your NHS number (everyone has a unique number that is used by the NHS), date of birth and postcode are also collected. Your name and address are not collected. We explain below why we collect this information.

The type of information used in the audit is listed on the HSCIC website at **www.hscic.gov.uk/nda**



How is the information used?

The NDA links information from the different places where you receive care to help create a full picture. This means the care received in one area can be compared to the care received in another area.

The HSCIC will use your NHS number and date of birth to link information that is collected from your GP practice, or diabetes clinic, to other information recorded by the NHS relating to your diabetes. For example, we link information on annual checks, blood pressure levels and hospital admissions to help reduce heart attacks and strokes. We also link the information to a national register of deaths to find out about those people who have died in the past year.

Once your information has been linked, your NHS number and date of birth are removed. So, all your information is then **anonymous**.

The information about you is studied along with the information from all other diabetes services in England and Wales. We produce reports about each General Practice and diabetes service. We also produce local and national reports. Reports never identify individuals. All the reports are available on the NDA website.

How will your information be kept safe?

There are very strict rules about what happens to your information. The HSCIC has special legal permission to handle individual patient data for clinical audits. They must keep to very strict security and confidentiality standards and follow the laws on the protection of personal data.

Information about individuals is available only to a very small number of specially restricted staff at the HSCIC. They use a secure, password protected system to look at and analyse the information.

NDA data may be shared for research purposes. But only if this is allowed by law and meets the strict rules that are in place to protect your privacy.

Information that is collected by the NDA will never be passed on or sold onto organisations that could profit from it.

Saying 'no thanks'

If you do not want your information to be used, please inform the receptionist, your GP or nurse. They will make sure that this is noted on your medical records, so your information is not included. This will not affect your care in any way.

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Further information

If you would like more information about the National Diabetes Audit, ask your GP or nurse.

You can also contact the HSCIC:

Email: diabetes@hscic.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 303 5678

Website: www.hscic.gov.uk/nda

Address: Clinical Audit Support Unit
Health and Social Care
Information Centre
1 Trevelyan Square
Boar Lane
Leeds LS1 6AE

hscic Health & Social Care Information Centre

Public Health England

DIABETES UK CARE. CONNECT. CAMPAIGN.

HQIP Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership