

Covid-19 and your information

Supplementary privacy notice on Covid-19

This notice describes how we may use your information to protect you and others during the Covid-19 outbreak. It supplements our Privacy Notice which is available on our website [here](#).

The health and social care system is facing significant pressures due to the Covid-19 outbreak. Health and care information is essential to deliver care to individuals, to support health and social care services and to protect public health. Information will also be vital in researching, monitoring, tracking and managing the outbreak. In the current emergency it has become even more important to share health and care information across relevant organisations.

Existing law which allows confidential patient information to be used and shared appropriately and lawfully in a public health emergency is being used during this outbreak. This includes legitimate interests, legal obligation, and public interest, provision of healthcare and treatment, and public health. Using this law the Secretary of State has required health organisations, such as Elysium Healthcare, to share confidential patient information to respond to the Covid-19 outbreak. Any information used or shared during the Covid-19 outbreak will be limited to the period of the outbreak unless there is another legal basis to use the data. Further information is available on gov.uk [here](#) and some FAQs on this law are available [here](#).

During this period of emergency, opt-outs will not generally apply to the data used to support the Covid-19 outbreak, due to the public interest in sharing information. Where data is used and shared under these laws your right to have personal data erased may also not apply. It may also take us longer to respond to subject access requests and other information rights, whilst we focus our efforts on responding to the outbreak.

In order to look after your health and care needs we may share your confidential patient information including health and care records with clinical and non-clinical staff in other health and care providers, for example GP practices, hospitals, NHS providers and NHS 111. We may also use the details we have to send public health messages to you, either by phone, text or email.

We may also be required to share personal/confidential patient information with health and care organisations and other bodies engaged in disease surveillance for the purposes of protecting public health, providing healthcare services to the public and monitoring and managing the outbreak. Further information about how health and care data is being used and shared by NHS and social care organisations in a variety of ways to support the Covid-19 response is [here](#).

In such circumstances where you tell us you're experiencing Covid-19 symptoms we may need to collect specific health data about you. Where we need to do so, we will not collect more information than we require and we will ensure that any information collected is treated with the appropriate safeguards.

We may amend this privacy notice at any time so please review it frequently.