

National Data Opt-Out



The National data opt-out allows patients to stop their confidential patient information being used for any reason other than direct care. However, there are sometimes exceptions to this rule. If the information is vital to improving patient care and public health, then the Confidentiality Advisory Group of the Health Research Authority can recommend an exemption in the public interest.

Exemption recommended

The Confidentiality Advisory Group has agreed that our work is of benefit to patients and the public, and has recommended that we do not have to exclude people based on the national data opt-out.



Improving care and safety for people who self-harm

The Manchester Self-Harm Project collects information on people who self-harm and go to Accident and Emergency departments in Manchester. Recommendations based on this information help improve care for ALL people who self-harm as well as people who may be at risk of suicide, and help to combat health inequalities.

Data security

We take the security of patient data very seriously, and follow strict policies to ensure identifiable patient information is only accessible to trained staff on the Manchester Self-Harm Project. We never publish data on individuals, only on groups. Individuals will never be identifiable in any papers, reports or recommendations that we publish.



Who created this infographic?

This infographic has been co-produced by patients and carers with lived experience of mental illness, self-harm and/or suicidality from the group MS4MH-R (<https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/ms4mh-r/>) and researchers from the Manchester Self-Harm Project and the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health.

For more information about our project and the National Data Opt-Out

visit <https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/mash-project/data-security-and-privacy/>

To request removal of your patient data from our research databases, please follow the instructions in the 'How to request removal of your data' section of the above website

