**National Clinical Audit of Psychosis Early Intervention in Psychosis routine audit 2025**

**Summary privacy notice** - **version for young people:**

We collect information which includes personal details from NHS services to help us to report on the quality of care these services provide.

We make a special application to ensure that we can legally collect the personal information (NHS number, date of birth, postcode). This means we must show that we are able to hold these details securely in line with national and international regulations

We make sure that all our reporting is anonymised – we do not publish anything about individuals or any detail that can identify you in any way.

We **do not** allow any unauthorised access to the data or share information for marketing purposes.

We **do not** collect any information we do not need.

We **do not** keep the information for any longer than is necessary. This is specified in our permit to collect the data.

If you would prefer that we do not look at your information to report on care quality you can use the opt out process (patients in England only).

**Full privacy notice** - **version for young people**

**What is NCAP?**

NCAP is the [National Clinical Audit of Psychosis](https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/improving-care/ccqi/national-clinical-audits/national-clinical-audit-of-psychosis/audit-reports). In 2025 this audit programme is collecting information on the **care received by people with first episode psychosis** in Early Intervention in Psychosis Teams (EIP services) and Children and Young People’s Mental Health(CYPMH) services. We report on the **quality of care and treatment** they provided and make recommendations for how to improve. As of March 2025, we do not collect identifiable data for the purpose of the routine data audit. This may change in the future to report on other aspects of care, such as health alerts and outlier analysis.

**What information is collected?**

NCAP collects information about **the different treatments and interventions delivered** to people with first episode psychosis. This means therapies or medications, advice or help offered with physical health, e.g. to stop smoking, and other advice or help like work or education programmes.

**What is this notice about?**

This notice **explains what personal information we hold** about you, **what it is used for** and **how it is kept safe**. It also tells you **what to do if you don’t want us to hold this information.**

In this notice, you will see different names or terms used that you may not be familiar with such as:

**Clinical audit, or audit programme:** This means collecting and reporting on data from healthcare organisations to demonstrate how well they are performing and to identify ways that they can improve

**Data Controller:** The organisation in charge of the information we collect. This is NHS England together with the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership who commission and manage audit programmes in healthcare services.

**Data processor:** This organisation processes information for the data controller. The Royal College of Psychiatrists is the data processor for this audit programme. We also work with other organisations to process and keep the data secure.

The data processors we use are:

* Software providers/hosts for databases which hold the data (Athera, previously known as Netsolving);
* Hosting partner which provides the secure virtual datacentre (Microsoft/Egress);
* Statisticians who may carry out detailed analysis of sections of data, from which all personal information has been removed

These processors cannot do anything with the information unless we have instructed them to do it, nor can they share your data with any other organisation.

**Data protection officer (DPO):** This person makes sure we do everything the law says.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists DPO can be contacted at: DataProtection@rcpsych.ac.uk

**Personal data**: This means any information that can be used to identify someone. The personal data collected for this audit are NHS number, date of birth, and postcode.

**What is this information used for?**

We use the information to look at **how well services are performing** and **what treatments and therapies are provided in different parts of the country**.

**What happens to the information we collect?**

We will publish results on an online dashboard, showing performance at a national and local level. We will also publish an annual State of the Nation report. The report will contain anonymised data (e.g. “9 out of 10 patients had an appointment within 2 weeks”) and **do not contain any information about individuals**.

**Who looks after your information?**

The data is kept in **secure data centres** which comply with regulations (ISO 27001 security standards). We also comply with all data protection law and have legal contracts with anyone processing the data to make sure that they do this.

Only staff members working on the audit and data processors under contract have any access to your data. All data files are **stored in restricted areas.**

**How long do we keep personal information?**

Data that do not identify the individual is retained for the duration of the audit and for five years after it is completed.

We are allowed to keep identifiable data for one year under Section 251 approval. If reports are delayed for any reason and we need to keep it for a little longer we must make another application.

NCAP conducted a pilot study in May 2023 with a small number of services to test the new audit methodology. This is involved patient identifiable data such as NHS Numbers. Since then, NCAP has pursued a different audit methodology of extracting data via team codes and as of March 2025, under the current Data Sharing Agreement, this does not include any patient identifiable data (only pseudonymous data). For Wales, no identifiable information is collected.

**What other information is collected?**

We also collect:

* **Contact details for services**, including staff named as audit contacts
* **Demographic data** including age, sex, ethnicity;
* **Care data** including interventions received (e.g. medication, psychological therapies, physical health screening and interventions),
* processes of care;
* **Outcome data** (information showing the results of care)

Data that does not identify the individual is retained for as long as the audit runs and **for five years after the audit is completed.**

**Legal basis for processing**

This is permitted under **Article 6(1)(e) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** which allows for the processing of data where this is carried out in the public interest or to carry out government functions authorised by Acts of Parliament. This authority is delegated to our joint data controllers, HQIP and NHS England.

Collecting identifiable data is permitted under a process called **Section 251 approval**. This means that we make a special application to show that we need to collect the data to report on how well services are doing. We also must prove that **we comply with all legal requirements to keep your information secure and completely confidential,** and to inform you about your rights. (You can read more here about Section 251).

**What if I do not want my information used by the audit?**

**You can request that we do not use your information**. This is called opt-out. As of March 20205, under the current Data Sharing Agreement, NCAP will only be collecting pseudonymised (not identifiable) data therefore, the NCAP team will not have any way of identifying individual patients from the sample. As such, opt-outs are not currently applied. Nonetheless, the NCAP programme is exploring options to enable the removal of patients who wish not to be included in the NCAP routine audit.

**National data opt-out**

**NCAP complies with the National Data Opt-out policy.** To find out more or to register your choice to opt out, please visit <http://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters> and [Mental Health Services Data Set (MHSDS): GDPR information - NHS England Digital.](https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/keeping-data-safe-and-benefitting-the-public/gdpr/gdpr-register/mental-health-services-data-set#:~:text=This%20information%20is%20to%20help,quality%20of%20the%20care%20provided.)

**Complaints or queries**

The College takes any personal data complaints very seriously.

We encourage people to bring it to our attention if they think that our collection or use of information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate.

**If you want to make a complaint about the way we have processed your personal information you can contact us using the details at the bottom of this notice.**

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner’s Office directly:

Wycliffe House Waterlane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Website: http://www.ico.org.uk/