

Patient privacy notice - Summary Hospital-level Mortality Indicator (SHMI)

We process patient data to help healthcare organisations achieve sustainable improvements in their performance. This notice explains more about how we use your personal information as a data controller. Specifically it describes what we do with Summary Hospital Mortality Indicator (SHMI) data supplied under licence by [NHS Digital](#).

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What information we hold about you

SHMI is supplied to us by NHS Digital. It is defined as ‘the ratio between the actual number of patients who die following hospitalisation at the trust and the number that would be expected to die on the basis of average England figures, given the characteristics of the patients treated there. It covers patients admitted to hospitals in England who died either while in hospital or within 30 days of being discharged.’

NHS Digital have produced a [detailed explanation](#) and a [privacy notice for SHMI](#). You can manage your NHS personal data choices [here](#).

We cannot identify you in the SHMI data that we hold.

How we use your information

We present informatics, insights and analysis to healthcare customers using our tools and services. These are described on our [website](#). We use SHMI data to provide NHS customers with a free of charge dashboard that allows for them to analyse and benchmark their performance in terms of the SHMI measure of mortality.

The SHMI data is required to produce/analyse statistics using births/deaths data solely to help the NHS perform its duties.

Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) we must identify specific legal bases for collecting and using your data. We process HES data under the following legal bases:

- It is necessary in our legitimate interests. Our legitimate interest is in being able to provide tools and services that will benefit healthcare organisations. You have the right to object to your data being processed on the basis of legitimate interests and may opt out by managing your patient data choices [here](#).
- It is necessary for reasons of public interest in the area of public health, in particular to ensure high standards of quality and safety of health care. Although we are not a public body we provide services to help public healthcare organisations monitor and improve their services. Our processing is designed to benefit patients and society as a whole through better healthcare.

Information we share with other organisations

SHMI is shared at aggregated level with our NHS customers. It is not used to identify individual patients.

Information processed abroad

The patient data we receive from NHS Digital and from other NHS bodies is only ever processed in the UK. It is never sent abroad.

How long we keep your information

SHMI data are retained for a minimum of three years.

Accessing your information and other rights

You have a number of rights relating to your personal information. These include:

- Access** You have the right to request a copy of any personal information we hold about you. We will not be able to identify you from the SHMI data we hold. Please contact [NHS Digital](#) for more information on how you can access data relating to you.
- Portability** This does not apply to the information we hold about you. If you have provided information on the basis of your consent or for a contract then you can request a digital copy so you can send it to another organisation.
- Correction** If any of the information we hold about you is incorrect or incomplete then this should be corrected through your healthcare provider or via [NHS Digital](#).
- Erasure** This is also known as the right to be forgotten. You can request that your personal information is erased if it is no longer necessary for Dr Foster to keep it, or you withdraw consent that you have previously provided, or you object and there are no overriding grounds to keep it or if it is unlawful to continue to keep it. You can manage your patient data choices at <https://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters>.
- Restriction** You can request that the use of your personal information is limited to storage only and that we use it for no other purpose. This applies where you contest the accuracy of the personal information we hold, or our use of the information is unlawful, or we no longer need the information except in relation to legal claims, or you object to the use of your data and we need to verify whether or not our purpose for keeping it overrides the grounds of your objection.

Find out more about your personal data rights at the [Information Commissioner's Office \(ICO\) website](#).

How to object or withdraw consent

SHMI data is not processed on the basis of consent. You cannot object to it being processed or used. However you can manage your patient data choices at <https://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters>.

How to contact us

For general enquiries please call +44 (0)20 7332 8800 or write to Dr Foster, 3 Dorset Rise, London, EC4Y 8EN.

If you have a query about your personal information rights then please contact our Data Protection Officer by email on DrFoster-InfoGovInbox@health.telstra.com or by post at: Information Governance, Dr Foster, BioCity Nottingham, Pennyfoot Street, Nottingham, NG1 1GF.

How to complain

If you feel that we have let you down in relation to your information rights then please contact our Data Protection Officer using the details above.

You can also make complaints directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO is the independent authority upholding information rights for the UK. Their website is ico.org.uk and their telephone helpline number is 0303 123 1113.