

Data Provision Notice

ICNARC Case Mix Programme for Adult Critical Care

Information Asset Owner: Bethan Thomas

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Background

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (the Act) gives the Health and Social Care Information Centre, now known as NHS Digital and hereafter referred to by this name, statutory powers, (under section 259) to require or request data from organisations, where it has been directed to establish an information system by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care or NHS England.

The data, as specified by NHS Digital in this published Data Provision Notice, is required to support a direction from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to NHS Digital. Therefore, organisations that are in scope of the notice are requested, under section 259(1)(b) of the Act, to provide the data in the form and manner specified below.

Purpose of the collection

The Secretary of State has directed NHS Digital to collect and analyse data in connection with COVID-19 to support the Secretary of State's response to COVID-19 and support various COVID-19 purposes set out in the COVID-19 Public Health Directions 2020, 17 March 2020 (as amended) (COVID-19 Direction). NHS Digital is requesting that the Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre (ICNARC) provide NHS Digital with:

- a one-off historic feed for all daily ICNARC collections dating from 1st March 2020
- a weekly collection thereafter until such time as the COVID-19 Direction is revoked.

The ICNARC data is required by NHS Digital to support a number of requests for COVID-19 data analysis and linkage for COVID-19 purposes as set out in the COVID-19 Direction. These requests are often urgent and will be required for research purposes only. Research is one of the functions that NHS Digital has been asked to undertake as the national safe haven of health and social care data in England in response to COVID-19 under the COVID-19 Direction.

Benefits of the collection

This data set will support vital analysis, linkage and sharing of data including:

- COVID-19 outcomes and treatments
- COVID-19 medical research.

The collection will also reduce duplication of data collection across NHS resources and reduce burden on ICNARC and other NHS organisations.

An example of the intended use of ICNARC data is the British Heart Foundation which will request the data for use within NHS Digital's Trusted Research Environment, for the purpose of COVID-19 specific cardiovascular research. The data will be linked to other data held by NHS Digital and analysed within the Trusted Research Environment.

Legal basis for the collection, analysis, publication and dissemination

Collection and Analysis

NHS Digital has been directed by the Secretary of State under section 254 of the Act to establish and operate a system for the collection and analysis of the information specified for this service. A copy of the Direction is published here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/corporate-information-and-documents/directions-and-data-provision-notice/secretary-of-state-directions/covid-19-public-health-directions-2020>

This information is requested by NHS Digital under section 259(1)(b) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

In line with section 259(1)(b) of the Act, all organisations in scope, in England, are requested to provide information to NHS Digital in the form, manner and period specified in this Data Provision Notice.

This Notice is issued in accordance with the procedure published as part of NHS Digital duty under section 259(8).

Dissemination

NHS Digital has various powers to disseminate data obtained under the COVID-19 Direction to appropriate organisations for COVID-19 Purposes under section 261 of the Act. NHS Digital has also been served Notice by the Secretary of State under Regulation 3(4) of the Health Service (Control of Patient Information Regulations) 2002 (COPI) to disseminate confidential patient information to organisations permitted to process confidential patient information under Regulation 3(3) of COPI for the purposes set out in Regulation 3(1) of COPI to support the Secretary of State's response to COVID-19 (NHS Digital COPI Notice).

NHS Digital will only share data with other organisations where this is necessary for a COVID-19 Purpose and where those other organisations have a lawful basis to process the ICNARC data.

Data will be made available primarily in the NHS Digital Trusted Research Environment (TRE) but could be made available through direct dissemination to a customer. Data will be made available when a data sharing agreement (DSA) has been signed. The process to agree the DSA is governed by the NHS Digital Data Access Request Service (DARS). The TRE as a service provides researchers with support on data access requests, provision of data using the secure Data Processing Service (DPS) and cloud based analysis tooling. Approved research projects will help to guide national decision making and recommend potential interventions to reduce the severity of COVID-19 outcomes.

Persons consulted

Following receipt of a direction to establish a system to collect ICNARC data, NHS Digital has, as required under section 258 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, consulted with the following persons:

- Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre (ICNARC).

Scope of the collection

Under section 259(1)(b) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, this Notice is served in accordance with the procedure published as part of the NHS Digital duty under section 259(8) on the following persons:

- Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre (ICNARC).

The organisation types specified in the above Scope are requested to comply with the Form, Manner and Period requirements below:

Form of the collection

The data collection includes patient level identifiable data including the fields listed in the specification document published alongside this Notice.

Manner of the collection

The data sets will be transferred to NHS Digital via the Message Exchange for Social Care and Health (MESH).

Once collected, the data will be stored in the secure NHS Digital Data Processing Service (DPS).

Period of the collection

The data collection is due to commence in August 2021, to include data from the period 1 March 2020, and will be submitted weekly thereafter until the expiry of the COVID-19 Direction or until such time as the COVID-19 Direction is revoked, if earlier.

Data quality

The data collection and processing of the data should include data quality checks including:

- Feedback loop to data providers to enable correction of data submitted
- Resolution of any recurring data quality issues and inherent systemic errors.

Burden of the collection

A burden assessment has not taken place for this collection. The urgent requirement for the data to support the nationwide response of the NHS to COVID-19 outweighs the requirement for such assessments at this time. In addition, the burden on frontline staff would be calculated as part of their submission of data to ICNARC, not the transfer of data from ICNARC to NHS Digital.

For further information

www.digital.nhs.uk

0300 303 5678

enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk

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