

# Your data. Your choice.

Improving access to health and care data for research.



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**Your health and care information is held by organisations that provide care for you, like your hospital, GP or social care provider.**

This information – or data – can be used to provide your individual care. It can also be used to carry out research to find new treatments or develop services.

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## What is the South West Secure Data Environment?

**The South West Secure Data Environment, or SDE, is a platform for approved researchers to analyse sensitive data, in the safest and most secure way possible.**

The SDE meets the highest standards of security and confidentiality.

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## What sort of data is stored and used?

Types of information in the South West SDE could include:

- Illnesses and conditions
- Treatment and care
- Medical imaging such as X-rays
- Test results
- Medicines and allergies
- Hospital appointments and admissions
- Care and support outside hospital including social care

Potential research uses include testing new treatments, enabling earlier diagnosis and improving health and care services.

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## How is my data kept safe?

Each South West SDE partner is bound by a duty of confidentiality and must follow the legal requirements set out in the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Partners include any NHS organisations that provide care for you, like your hospital or GP.

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## What are my choices?

**You can choose whether your data is used in research. If you're happy with your information being used for research, you don't need to do anything.**

If you would like to know more about your choices, or to opt out of the South West Secure Data Environment, visit the website or contact us: **[www.southwestsde.nhs.uk/data](http://www.southwestsde.nhs.uk/data)**

We will ask for your name, date of birth, postcode or NHS number so that we can register your choice.

**Your choice will not affect your care.**




### Find out more or opt out of the South West Secure Data Environment

 0800 073 0907

 [bnssg.swsde@nhs.net](mailto:bnssg.swsde@nhs.net)

 [www.southwestsde.nhs.uk](http://www.southwestsde.nhs.uk)

 **South West Secure Data Environment  
(South West SDE),**  
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Gloucestershire, Integrated Care Board, Floor 2,  
North Wing, 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6AG



## About the South West SDE

The South West Secure Data Environment is a partnership across the region, which includes NHS organisations, local authorities, universities and research groups. The partnership is led by Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board.

If you're interested in how patient information is used in research, get in touch: **[www.southwestsde.nhs.uk/contact-us](http://www.southwestsde.nhs.uk/contact-us)**

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## What areas do we cover?

