

National Data Opt-Out.

The National Data Opt-out (NDO) is a central registry of patients who do not want their medical information to be used by any organisations for research or future planning.

Patients have to register at [Registration for opt out](#). This will ensure that their data is removed from any searches carried out centrally before patient data is shared to be used for research or planning purposes.

Practices cannot add a National Data Opt-out for the patient, but they can code a patient's request not to be included in any planning or research that the practice may carry out. This is called a Type 1 opt out and prevents patient data from leaving the practice for anything other than their direct care.

Compliance with the NDO is now a part of the GMS contract requirements, the date for all practices to have achieved compliance has now been extended to 30th September 2021. As part of the compliance requirements practices should ensure that staff understand the process for patients to register for an opt-out, that information about the NDO is readily available on the website and in practice premises, and new patients should be given information as part of their registration pack. Compliance must be confirmed by each practice on the Data Security and Protection Toolkit.

Resources to help practices publicise this are at [NDO Patient information and resources](#)

Both Emisweb and TPP SystemOne have system facilities to enable practices to identify patients who have registered on the NDO – these are not yet activated on the clinical systems but are expected to be by 30th September 2021. This will allow practices to identify who has registered an opt out and remove them from any searches or data that may be shared.

To apply the national data opt out to any reports run from EMIS in the meantime please see details of the MESH solution :

<https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-data-opt-out/compliance-with-the-national-data-opt-out/compliance-implementation-guide#set-up-the-technical-solution>

The Covid 19 pandemic requires that Covid related data is shared nationally, and this is excluded from the NDO under the Control of Patient Information (COPI) notice issued in July 2020. This means that patients who have registered on a NDO **will be** included in national information used during the pandemic, which could include mail outs, research and planning of services. This will remain current until 30th September 2021 when it will be reviewed.