

Patients who have a type 1 opt-out

Some patients will have a type 1 opt-out registered with their GP practice, which indicates they do not want their confidential patient information leaving the practice for research and planning purposes. These existing type 1 opt-outs will continue to be respected until 2020, when the Department of Health and Social Care will consult with the National Data Guardian on their removal. GP practices can continue to record and apply a patient's type 1 opt-out choice.

Patients who previously had a type 2 opt-out

Where a patient had a type 2 opt-out registered on or before 11 October 2018, this was automatically converted to a national data opt-out and if they were aged 13 or over they were sent a personal [letter](#) explaining the change and a handout with more information about the national data opt-out.

Patients can be reassured that their choices will continue to be respected. If they want to change their choice, they can use the national data opt-out service to do this.

National Data opt out (Type 2) October 18 Onwards

Informing patients about the national data opt-out

Resources to help organisations and their workforce communicate the national data opt-out to patients are available on our [website](#).

If you received these materials in the post, then please ensure they are displayed and available in your waiting room areas.

The British Sign Language video, audio and braille, Easy Read, and other language translations of the handout are also available. Organisations can order more materials for free and download the screen text for patient waiting rooms. Visit the NHS Digital website for further details.

If you have any patients who are unable or do not want to use the [Your NHS Data Matters](#) online service, they can phone our contact centre on 0300 3035678. The number is included on the [patient handout](#)