Developers guidance

Using health data during technology development

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This is required guidance

It is legally required and it is an essential activity.

This Guide covers:

- England

From:

- Health Research Authority (HRA)

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You may need to use personal data during the development stage of the technology. This is because using synthetic data or anonymous data may not be appropriate for the clinical-environment validation of the performance and safety of your technology.

When using **personal data**, remember that you need to have a lawful basis for doing so under data protection legislation (within the UK GDPR). The disclosure of any **confidential patient and service-user information** to you as a developer (when you do not work as part of the direct care team) will also need to have a lawful basis under the UK common law duty of confidentiality. This avoids harm to patients or service users from improper use of data. Otherwise, you may risk prosecution, a fine or damage to reputation.

How to process health and care data

When processing personal data related to health and care provision, you need to follow the requirements of the:

- UK GDPR (if the individual is still living) and
- common law duty of confidentiality (for both living and deceased individuals)

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