



# Health Research Authority

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24 February 2023

Helen Stacey  
Epilepsy12 Project Manager  
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health  
5-11 Theobalds Road  
London  
WC1X 8SH

Dear Ms Stacey,

**Application title:** UK collaborative clinical audit of health care for children and young people with suspected epileptic seizures (Epilepsy12)  
**CAG reference:** 17/CAG/0184

Thank you for the provision of an annual review report for your **non-research** application, submitted for support under Regulation 5 of the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002 to process confidential patient information without consent. Supported applications enable the data controller to provide specified information to the applicant for the purposes of the relevant activity, without being in breach of the common law duty of confidentiality, although other relevant legislative provisions will still be applicable.

The role of the Confidentiality Advisory Group (CAG) is to review applications submitted under these Regulations and to provide advice to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care on whether an application should be supported, and if so, any relevant conditions. The purpose of the annual review is to confirm progress against the specific conditions of support where applicable, confirm progress of the activity, review the need to process confidential patient information, and ensure the minimum amount of identifiable information is being used.

## Secretary of State for Health and Social Care decision

1. The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care confirms the annual review is satisfactory.
2. All pre-existing specific and standard conditions remain applicable.
3. This annual review letter confirms a change in data processor for your application from NHS Digital to NHS England, regarding data sources Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) & ONS Mortality Data.

## Annual review outcome

As a whole, it was noted that the activity was proceeding as planned and the justification for continuing support had been satisfactorily made.

However, as the annual review indicated that a data processor for the application has changed, a letter has been issued to confirm this change to Regulation 5 support.

### **Data processor change**

As part of the original Regulation 5 support, NHS Digital is listed in the application as a data processor regarding the data sources Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) & ONS Mortality Data. Due to organisational changes outside your control, the data processor for this source has changed to NHS England. Therefore, this letter confirms Regulation 5 support has been updated for this application to continue using data sources Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) & ONS Mortality Data, with NHS England as the new data processor.

### **Security assurance**

It is a policy requirement of the Department of Health and Social Care in England that relevant entities processing confidential patient information under support maintain a satisfactory security assurance level for the duration of support, with similar arrangements in Wales. The need to maintain appropriate security assurance is a condition of support for all applications.

The current status of relevant entities processing information under support is as follows:

1. The NHS England 21/22 DSPT review for **Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health, Net Solving Limited, SysGroup PLC, Microsoft UK & NHS Digital** were confirmed as '**Standards Met**' on the NHS England DSPT Tracker (checked 24 February 2023)

The Register of Approved Applications on the HRA website will shortly be updated to reflect the changes in the data processor for the application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries following this letter. I would be grateful if you could quote the above reference number in all future correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Watchurst  
Confidentiality Advisor  
On behalf of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

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