

East of England Secure Data Environment

The East of England Secure Data Environment (SDE) is a digital platform that allows approved researchers to securely access de-personalised patient data for health research.

It has been built in partnership with NHS organisations across the East of England, with state-of-the-art cyber security measures, controlled access and robust oversight of data usage.



Research is vital to improve the way that we prevent, predict, diagnose and treat health conditions. The East of England SDE will make research using NHS data safer and easier, while retaining control of that data in the NHS.

The East of England SDE protects the **privacy**, **security** and **integrity** of NHS patient data during research use by:

- **Anonymisation** – all directly identifying information is removed from the data before researchers use it
- **Security testing and accreditation** – the SDE has been built to industry-leading standards of cybersecurity and has been independently tested
- **Minimisation** – researchers will only receive access to the specific data required for their approved research
- **Environment controls** – researchers can only access the approved data within the controlled environment of the SDE, where they cannot copy, delete, remove or change the data
- **Exit control** - research outputs are manually checked to ensure that no information that could be re-identified is removed from the SDE
- **Verification** – researcher and organisation credentials and experience are verified before access
- **Contractual controls** – researcher organisations agree to legally-binding terms and conditions for use of the data
- **Benefit to public health** – all applications for data access are assessed by an independent panel, which includes members of the public, against consistent and well recognised standards to determine whether they are in the public interest



Opting Out:

If you do not want your NHS data to be used for research through the East of England SDE, you can opt out using one of the options below:

The East of England SDE Opt Out

This will opt you out only from applicable research taking place through the East of England SDE.

Email: cuh.eoe.sde@nhs.net

Phone: 01223 348 490

The National Data Opt Out (NDOO)

This will opt you out of all applicable research using your data.

For more information, visit: nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters/

By phone: 0300 303 5678

By email: enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk

Via the NHS App: Your Health/Your health choices/Choose about your health records data