

# National Diabetes Audit:

How your information is used to improve care for people at increased risk of Type 2 diabetes



**Your GP practice is taking part in the National Diabetes Audit (NDA). The NDA checks whether people who have an increased risk of Type 2 diabetes are getting good preventative care.**

The NDA collects information about people with non-diabetic hyperglycaemia, impaired glucose tolerance or pre-diabetes as these people have an increased risk of developing Type 2 diabetes. This information helps the NHS to improve care. The use of NDA information is controlled by law and strict rules of confidentiality.

The NDA is managed by NHS Digital (formerly known as the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC)), working with Diabetes UK and Public Health England.

Taking part in the NDA can help improve understanding of the quality of care for people at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes. But you can choose not to take part if you have concerns.

**Please read this leaflet carefully.**

## What information about you is collected?

The NDA only uses information about your care that is already recorded. For example, your latest blood pressure results, HbA1c (blood glucose levels), or cholesterol tests. The NDA is not a research project. No extra blood tests, appointments or scans are needed.

The NDA collects information on:

- How many people at high risk of



developing Type 2 diabetes are registered at the GP practice

- Whether people who are at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes have been referred to a NHS diabetes intervention programme
  - Whether people who are at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes have received annual health checks for the development of diabetes and risk factors for related 'vascular' disease such as heart attacks and stroke
  - The results of any health checks (e.g. blood glucose levels, cholesterol, blood pressure, BMI)
  - Whether people with a learning disability or severe mental health illness at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes receive the same level of care as everyone else.
- Your NHS number (everyone has a unique number that is

used by the NHS), date of birth and postcode are also collected. Your name and address are not collected. We explain below how this information is used.

The type of information used in the audit is listed on the NHS Digital website at <http://content.digital.nhs.uk/nda>

## How is the information used?

To get a complete picture of care, we will also link this information to other health information.

NHS Digital will use your NHS number and date of birth to link information that is collected from your GP practice to other information recorded by the NHS and NHS Digital relating to your care.



Specifically, the information is linked to:

- The Hospital Episode Statistics database for England which includes information on any outpatient appointments, visits to A&E and other hospital admissions. This will help us understand how many people at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes also develop health problems, such as heart disease or stroke.
- A national register of deaths collected by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). This will give us information about those people who have died.
- NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme database for England, this includes information about people at high risk of developing diabetes and if they have been offered or attended an intervention programme. This will help us to understand whether the intervention programme has helped reduce the risk of people developing Type 2 diabetes.

- The National Diabetes Audit also collects information about people with diabetes. If you develop Type 2 diabetes, we will look at your data before and after you developed diabetes to understand any patterns that would help improve care for others.

Once your information has been linked, your NHS number and date of birth are removed. So, all your information is then **anonymised**.

The information about you is studied along with the information from all other diabetes services in England. We produce national and local reports, including one for each GP practice. Reports never identify individuals.

All the reports are available on the NDA website. An easy read summary report is also available from Diabetes UK's website **[www.diabetes.org.uk/NDA-reports](http://www.diabetes.org.uk/NDA-reports)**

## How will your information be kept safe?

There are very strict rules about what happens to your information. NHS Digital has special legal permission to handle individual patient data for clinical audits. They must keep to very strict security and confidentiality standards and follow the laws on the protection of personal data.

Information about individuals is available only to a very small number of specially restricted staff at NHS Digital. They use a secure, password protected system to look at and analyse the information.

NDA data may be shared for research purposes. But only if this is allowed by law and meets the strict rules that are in place to protect your privacy.

Information that is collected by the NDA will never be passed on or sold onto organisations that could profit from it.

## Saying 'no thanks'

If you do not want your information to be used, please **inform the receptionist, your GP or nurse. They will make sure that this is noted on your medical records, so your information is not included. This will not affect your care in any way.**

### Further information

If you would like more information about the National Diabetes Audit, ask your doctor or nurse.

You can also contact NHS Digital:

**Email:** [diabetes@nhs.net](mailto:diabetes@nhs.net)

**Telephone:** 0300 303 5678

**Website:** <http://content.digital.nhs.uk/nda>

**Address:** Clinical Audits & Registries Management Service  
NHS Digital  
1 Trevelyan Square  
Boar Lane  
Leeds LS1 6AE

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