

24th October 2017

To all practices Surrey and Sussex LMCs

Dear Colleagues

Individual GP Level Data Collection via CQRS

I have written recently to all practices regarding several data collection exercises being undertaken by NHS Digital [on behalf of NHS England]. This includes 'The Third Next Available Appointment', which is a workload information collection, together with data collection relating to GP Contract Agreements, such as patients' frailty and over 75 health checks.

All practices may already, or will, receive a further communication from NHS Digital relating to 'Individual GP Level Data collection'; once again this is a request practices cannot legally refuse, as it is being made under provisions of Section 259 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

The ostensible aim of this data collection is to provide General Practitioners with information, at an individual GP level, on the care provided to their patients: GPs will also receive comparative data from their CCGs.

As this is initially a pilot exercise, there will be there will be two data collections, one in October 2017, and one in January 2108; NHS Digital recognises that, as data has never before been collected from the 'usual GP' data field [this is being used as a proxy for the patients 'named accountable GP'] there are likely to be significant issues with the validity and relevance of the data to General Practitioners, who as reflective professionals might not unreasonably be expected to be, and be fully capable of, considering the care provision of their patients simply by virtue of actually providing and coordinating that care.

The following metrics are being collected: -

- % patients >65 years with a record of flu immunisation
- % at risk patients <65 years with a record of flu immunisation
- % women eligible for the cervical smear screening program who have had a cervical smear in the last five years
- % of patients with hypertension in whom the last bp reading is 150/90 mm Hg or less
- % of patients with Atrial fibrillation with an assessed stroke risk using a CHAZDSZ - VASc score
- % of patients with diabetes in whom the last IFCC - H bA1c is 64 mmol/mol or less

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- % of patients with COPD with a diagnosis confirmed by post bronchodilator spirometry
- % of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder or other psychoses who have a comprehensive care plan documented
- % of patients with dementia who have had a F2F care review
- % of patients who have had an Emergency Admission for one or more of 19 Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions [drawn from a Kings Fund Study]

NHS Digital will contact practices later this year to explain how this data will be returned to practices and GPs, but currently it is planned this will be as a pdf Report.

The data collection involves extracting patient identifiable data, and therefore NHS Digital has issued a Privacy Notice for this data collection exercise, this is available at:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/article/7754/Privacy-Notice---individual-GP-level-data>

The information provided in this Notice will allow GP practices to fulfil their legal duty to provide appropriate for processing information to patients; this would include:-

- Informing patients how their personal data will be used
- Reassuring patients that their personal data will remain safe and confidential — all data analysis will take place within NHS Digital's Data Management Service
- Allow patients to opt-out of sharing their data should they choose to do so

The above is a summary, full details are available at the Data Provision Notice for Individual GP Level Data at:

<https://www.digital.nhs.uk/article/7598/Data-Provision-Notice-for-individual-GP-level-data>

Practices should therefore put up the Privacy Notice in their waiting rooms and a link to it [under: Individual GP Level Data Collection] on their website.

If any patient has further queries, the link above to the full details of the data collection exercise can be provided.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Dr Julius Parker
Chief Executive