

Privacy Notice - St George's University of London - Research and Social Care Research

Project Specific – Spatio-Temporal Exposure Assessment Methods for estimating the health effects of air pollution (STEAM)

Who we are

St George's, University of London (SGUL) is an active healthcare university with research at the core of our activity. We are the 'Data Controller' of personal data provided directly or indirectly to us and are registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for the purposes of UK data protection legislation, registration number Z5770328.

How to contact us

The University has a Data Protection Officer who can be contacted at:

Email: dataprotection@sgul.ac.uk
Tel: 020 8725 0668
Address: Data Protection Officer, Information Services, St George's University of London, Cranmer Terrace, LONDON SW17 0RE

What research information we collect from you and why

As an active healthcare university with research at the core of our activity we use personally-identifiable information to conduct health and social care research in the pursuit to improve healthcare and services. As a publicly-funded organisation, we have to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally-identifiable information from people who have agreed to take part in one of our research projects, either directly or by a 3rd party such as NHS Digital. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study we are leading or collaborating in, we will use your data in the ways needed to conduct and analyse the research study.

Health and care research should serve the public interest, which means that we have to demonstrate that our research serves the interests of society as a whole. We do this by following the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research. For SGUL general research privacy notice please see:

https://www.sgul.ac.uk/images/about/Policies/Privacy_Notice_Research_SGUL.pdf

Project specific research information we collect and why

Project Name - STEAM

Project STEAM is researching the health effects of air pollution and will use information gleaned from Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) Admitted Care for respiratory or cardiovascular disease in patients over 35 years old. This information is provided from NHS Digital via their Data Access Request Service (DARS). DARS ensures that the appropriate legal basis has been checked and safeguards are in place for us to store and handle your data securely. (See <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/data-access-request-service-dars>).

Category of HES personal data collected (pseudonymised by NHS Digital) relates to:

Counts of hospital admissions by date and Lower Super Output Area (LSOA – a geographical area with on average approx. 1500 households) in adults living in Greater London for respiratory or cardiovascular disease in patients over 35 years old. Personal names or addresses are not used or provided.

NHS Digital Framework Contract Reference:

CON-302837-H8G8T

DARS reference:

DARS-NIC-127189-R2K8F-v0.9

Funding:

Medical Research Council MR/N014464/1

Data Controllers:

St George's, University of London - DPA Registration Number Z5770328.

Data Source:

National Health Service (NHS) Digital are the national information and technology partner to the health and social care system using digital technology to transform the NHS and social care.

Details on NHS Digital's responsibilities regarding looking after your health and care information can be found at: <https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/our-work/keeping-patient-data-safe/how-we-look-after-your-health-and-care-information>

Contact details NHS Digital Data Protection Officer:

Email: enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk

Tel: 0300 303 5678

Who we share your information with

The HES data provided by NHS Digital will not be shared with anyone outside of the immediate research team.

How long we keep your information for

The HES data will be retained for a period of 24 months after completion of the project and then deleted.

What your rights are

STEAM is a research project carried out in the public interest therefore, under the data protection legislation, your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage the data in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate.

In addition, though the data protection legislation gives data subjects the right to request erasure of personal data about them (including pseudonymised data) in specific circumstances. However, this right does not apply where data is processed for research purposes and appropriate safeguards are in place. We will keep the information about you that we have already obtained to ensure research integrity is maintained in the public's interest.

To safeguard your rights, we will strive to use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible.

How to make a complaint

If you are unhappy with the way in which your personal data is being processed you may, in the first instance, lodge a complaint with the University Data Protection Officer using the contact details above.

If you continue to have concerns thereafter you have the right to contact the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted as below

Helpline: 0303 123 1113

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/raising-concerns/>