



Do you have questions about the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and medical records?

We've cut through the legal jargon to answer your FAQs.

Maintaining trust in how we store and process anonymised patient data is crucial to our relationships with Healthcare and Academics Partners.

1. What is GDPR?

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into force on 25th May 2018. It's an EU Regulation that directly applies to all Member States, and it intends to:

- strengthen accountability
- enhance individuals' rights
- give people greater control over their data

Currently, the UK relies on the Data Protection Act. The new legislation will supersede it and cover new and unforeseen ways of using data. Organisations that process and control personal data will have new responsibilities.

Although the UK intends to leave the EU, it has also signalled its

intention to mirror the EU Regulation. The Data Protection Bill was adopted in 2016 and had its first parliamentary reading in August.

2. What is changing?

1. Organisations must show they are compliant with its principles
2. There is a more expansive definition of personal data
3. The right to access personal data and know how it is used
4. The right to have personal data erased and forgotten when there is no compelling reason to use it
5. The right to have personal data moved from one controller to another in a safe and secure manner.
6. An increased responsibility of data processors and data controllers.

3. How are The Health Improvement Network (THIN) preparing for GDPR?

We currently store, in an anonymised format, millions of patient records for community pharmacies and GP practices through individual agreements with each entity.

We duly understand our responsibility to handle sensitive information with respect. We have robust safeguards in place to maintain your confidence and trust in The Health Improvement Network (THIN).

We are currently compliant with the Data Protection Act with a goal to be compliant with the new legislation. We have appointed a Data Protection Officer who will track our compliance and make sure everyone at The Health Improvement Network (THIN) understands their obligations.

GDPR/THIN/May 2018 v1.1