



NATIONAL OPT OUT POLICY

September 2020

The Trauma Audit and Research Network (TARN) has Section 251 approval from CAG to allow us to collect data without patient consent.

The national opt-out policy was introduced on 25th May 2017 enabling patients to opt out from the use of their data for anything other than their individual care and treatment for example research. By the end of March 2021 all health and adult social care organisations are required to be compliant with the national data opt-out policy, where they are using confidential patient information for purposes beyond an individual's care and treatment.

The deadline for health and care organisations to comply with national data opt-out policy is currently the end of March 2021. It has been extended to enable health and care organisations to focus their resources on the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

As TARN data is collected and held under section 251 approval the national data opt-out applies.

Please do not submit opt out patients to TARN. The HES data we receive from NHS Digital excludes opt out patients, therefore there should be no impact on case ascertainment percentage. Nationally opt out cases only account for 2% therefore any impact should be minimal

Therefore you do not need to get consent from all patients to enter their data, but if a patient objects to their data being used they should not be submitted to TARN and they should be made aware of their right to opt out. Any person registered on the Personal Demographic Services (PDS) and who consequently has an NHS number allocated to them is able to set a national data opt-out.