

Rapid evaluation of the 2024 death certification reforms and statutory medical examiner system

How we will store, process and manage your personal data

This page provides more details about how your personal data – which includes your contact details, and the information you share with us during interview – will be stored, processed and managed. If you would like to know more about the data processing arrangements, or have any queries based on the information below, please do get in contact with a member of the research team (contact details can be found at the bottom of this page).

Who is the data controller?

The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT is the data controller for the personal data that we process in relation to you.

What personal data are we collecting and using?

The evaluation is being conducted by a team of researchers who are part of the BRACE Rapid Evaluation Centre (a collaboration between the University of Birmingham, RAND Europe and the University of Cambridge). The project is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR).

There are two types of personal data we will collect about you:

1. Your name and contact details
2. Information that you provide directly to us, for example during interview or in a survey.

How will your personal data be used in the evaluation?

We will collect and process your personal data to conduct the research project, as explained in the Participant Information Sheet. Your contact details are solely used to enable your participation in the evaluation - to organise your interview, store your response against your identifiers, and send you a copy of our results if you have indicated that you would like to receive these. Your responses will be used for analysis and your personal data will not be associated with the responses thereafter without your permission. Information will be reported to the NIHR in aggregate form in a report which will be later published. Otherwise, the recordings, any notes and transcripts will be kept strictly confidential and never be made available to any third party, including the NIHR. We may also publish findings in academic journals, present at conferences, produce blogs and share findings via social media.

What is the legal basis for processing your data?

The legal justification we have under data protection law for processing your personal data is that it is necessary for our research, which is a task we carry out in the public interest.

Who will my personal data be shared with?

The University of Birmingham is the data controller. Data will be shared with members of the evaluation team at RAND Europe so that they can undertake interviews and data analysis. We may also need to share information with transcription service providers. We have appropriate agreements in place with transcription service providers to protect and safeguard your data.

How do we keep your data secure?

Data will be stored and managed in accordance with the UK Data Protection Act (2018) and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018. The University, as data controller, takes great care to ensure that personal data is handled, stored and disposed of confidentially and securely. Our staff receive regular data protection training, and the University has put in place organisational and technical measures so that personal data is processed in accordance with the data protection principles set out in data protection law.

The University has an Information Security Management System based on ISO27001 with a range of controls covering the protection of personal information. Annual security awareness training is mandatory for staff and the University is accredited under the NHS Information Governance Toolkit, the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard and is in the process of gaining Cyber Essentials Plus for defined services. In relation to this project, all data will be stored securely on a restricted access, network drive, which can only be accessed by members of the research team via password-protected laptops.

How long do we keep your data?

Data will be retained for ten years from the conclusion of the project, in line with University of Birmingham's Research Data Management Policy, after which it will be destroyed. Your contact details will be deleted as soon as data collection has been completed. If you decide to withdraw (within the time period stipulated), your data will be destroyed.

What rights do you have in our use of your data?

The evaluation team (University of Birmingham, RAND Europe, University of Cambridge) operate in accordance with UK and EU law including GDPR. You are provided with certain rights that you may have the right to exercise through us. In summary those rights are:

- To access, correct or erase your personal data (in certain circumstances).
- To object to the processing of your personal data (in certain circumstances).
- To request that our processing of your data is restricted (in certain circumstances).

- To request that your data be transferred (in certain circumstances).

However, your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate.

If you would like more information on your rights, would like to exercise any right or have any queries relating to our processing of your personal data, please contact:

The Information Compliance Manager, Legal Services, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT Email:
dataprotection@contacts.bham.ac.uk Telephone: +44 (0)121 414 3916

If you wish to make a complaint about how your data is being or has been processed, please contact our Data Protection Officer.

The Data Protection Officer, Legal Services, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT Email:
dataprotection@contacts.bham.ac.uk Telephone: +44 (0)121 414 3916

You also have a right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) about the way in which we process your personal data. You can make a complaint using the ICO's website.

How do you contact us?

If you have any questions or want to find out more about the evaluation, please get in touch with a member of the research team: H.dent@bham.ac.uk