

# NCEPOD uses patient data collected from hospitals and the community to help improve the quality of care for future patients

## Getting involved

*If you would like to hear more about what we do or would like to be involved with our work we would like to hear from you - please use the contact details below.*

## Opting out

*All patients (aged 16 or over) or relatives/carers representing the patient (aged under 16\*) have the right to opt out of NCEPOD using personal information for the purpose described here. To do so please contact us by post, email or by telephone. We do not collect patient names so will require your NHS number to identify your data.*

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*\*A parent or carer can also contact us on behalf of a young person aged 16 or over if they are their court appointed Care and Welfare Deputy.*



@ncepod

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## What is NCEPOD?

NCEPOD is a national organisation that undertakes confidential enquiries to improve the quality of care for future patients. For over 30 years we have run studies in different areas of healthcare that have had a real impact on how healthcare is now delivered.

## What patient information NCEPOD collects

Contacts in every hospital identify a large sample of patients relevant to each study. This information is supplied to us electronically, and will include data such as NHS number/hospital number/date of birth or age and date of discharge. From this larger sample we pick a random sample of patients for inclusion of their data into a more detailed review by clinicians.

For each of the patients included we ask that a questionnaire is completed by the clinician involved in the patient's care, and that copies of extracts of case notes, reports and test results are returned to us. We may also request copies of letters and medical records from other doctors such as GPs; this is so we can look across the whole pathway of care to spot any areas that could be improved, such as delays in referral, or access to particular services

When we first receive this data it will be identifiable, however as we would never need to contact a patient, all identifiers are removed before any case is reviewed. And once all cases have been reviewed, and the study written up, the data are all securely destroyed.

## We currently collect information for two work programmes

### 1. The Medical and Surgical Clinical Outcome Review Programme

This work programme has been running since 1987 and as a result it has been influential in many areas such as:

*Reducing surgery being performed out of hours*

*An improvement in trauma and cancer services*

*Improving recognition of very sick patients who are getting worse*

### 2. The Child Health Clinical Outcome Review Programme

This programme is relatively new to us looks at the quality of care provided to children and young adults.

*Both work programmes are commissioned by HQIP as part of the National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme (NCAPOP). The programme is funded by NHS England, the Welsh Government and, with some individual projects, other devolved administrations and crown dependencies  
[www.hqip.org.uk/national@programmes](http://www.hqip.org.uk/national@programmes).*