

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 or relatives/carers representing the patient, have the right to opt out of NCEPOD using personal information for the purpose described here. To do so please contact us in writing at the postal or email address or by telephone. We do not collect patients' names so require your NHS number to identify your data.

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@ncepod

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What patient information NCEPOD collects

Our contacts in every hospital across the UK, Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man identify a large sample of cases 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 big sample we pick a random sample of cases to be included in a more detailed review by healthcare specialists.

For each of those included cases we then collect:

A questionnaire completed by the clinician involved in the patient's care, copies of extracts of case notes, reports and test results. 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 and identify issues such as delays in referral, or access to particular services that could be improved.

All patient identifiable information is removed before the case is reviewed and all copies of case notes are destroyed at the end of the study.

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 is 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:

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 looks at the quality of care provided to children and young adults.

Both work programmes are commissioned by HQIP on behalf of NHS England, the Welsh Government, the Scottish Government, the Department of Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland, the Governments of Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man.