

To: All GP Practices in Wales

28 June 2019

Dear Practice Manager

## **NATIONAL DIABETES AUDIT (NDA) – GP PRACTICE DATA COLLECTION 2018-2019**

The National Diabetes Audit (NDA) team is writing to you to inform you of the next annual round of data collection for the NDA.

### **Why you should take part**

Participation in the NDA gives you the opportunity to plan diabetes care in response to local needs and to look at local performance in comparison with similar organisations.

Participation allows you to:

- Assess how many patients are meeting the NICE clinical guideline standard for diabetes care.
- Assess how you are performing compared to other practices. Your data will be case mix adjusted for your patient population to take into account age, ethnicity and socioeconomic differences.
- Identify where resources need to be targeted, which will help to improve patient outcomes and ultimately result in cost savings.
- Identify and share best practice.
- Empower people with diabetes by informing them about the care they receive.

The latest national report on care processes and treatment targets for 2017-18 was published on 13 June 2019. Your practice data will be available in the coming weeks through the primary care information portal. The national report can be found at:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/national-diabetes-audit/report-1-care-processes-and-treatment-targets-2017-18-full-report>

### **Dates for the 2018-19 NDA collection**

The next audit collection period for the NDA will be as follows:

<b>Audit Year</b>	<b>Data Collection Period</b>
<b>2018-2019 (1 January 2018 - 31 March 2019)</b>	<b>1 July – 31 July 2019</b>

## **Legal basis to the National Diabetes Audit**

NHS England has directed NHS Digital to establish and operate a system for the collection and analysis of the National Diabetes Audit (NDA) including the National Diabetes Audit Core Audit, which is part of the NDA programme of clinical audits. This legal basis (Direction under section 254 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012) means that GP practices and specialist services in England are now legally required to supply the data for their practice or diabetes clinic.

In Wales, the legal permissions for the flow of data for NDA Core are through the Confidentiality Advisory Group, which has granted NHS Digital permission to collect data under Section 251 of The Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002.

The current method of data collection in Wales is that practices have signed up to continuous participation in this audit by notifying NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) that they wish to take part. NWIS then coordinate the data extraction from practices and submit a file for each practice to NHS Digital. NHS Digital has worked with NWIS to provide GP practice level data, which has been made available to practices in Wales via a secure dashboard.

## **Informing Patients – Fair Processing**

The NDA has always collected patient identifiable data from healthcare providers since it began in 2004. You do not need to consent individually for patients; however, we do ask that you do your best to raise awareness of the NDA and that your practice is participating in the NDA – this is known as ‘fair processing’. Some suggestions for making your patients aware are:

- Display posters about the NDA in waiting areas and relevant clinic areas. A poster is enclosed with this letter; further posters are available on our webpage at <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/national-diabetes-audit#user-documents>
- If you have a practice website, include information about participation in the NDA on your webpage
- Make NDA patient information leaflets readily available – English and Welsh language leaflets informing patients about the NDA can be downloaded from our webpage at <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/national-diabetes-audit#user-documents>
- Consider displaying NDA posters on any practice electronic display screens
- Try to make patients aware of NDA reports – patient friendly versions of the National Reports are available along with GP and specialist service level data; these can be found on the Diabetes UK webpage at <https://www.diabetes.org.uk/Professionals/Resources/National-Diabetes-Audit/NDA-reports/>
- If a patient objects to the sharing of their data for the NDA, apply the specific Read code to their patient record to record patient dissent from NDA participation. The specification for extraction is based on the 2017-18 Read v2 specification and the relevant Read codes are annexed under “Further Information”.

## **What you need to do**

You do not need to do anything. The data will be extracted automatically from your clinical system by NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) and securely transferred to NHS Digital.

**Useful information**

We have various resources available on the NDA webpage including guidance and information needed by practices and CCGs during the collection period:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/national-diabetes-audit>

**If you have any questions**

If you have questions about any aspect of this letter or the NDA please do not hesitate to contact the audit team on 0300 303 5678 or email [diabetes@nhs.net](mailto:diabetes@nhs.net)

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Dew'.

Chris Dew

Information Analysis Lead Manager – Clinical Audit and Registries  
NHS Digital

## Further Information

### Why is patient identifiable data required?

The following identifiable data are collected by the audit: NHS number, postcode, gender, date of birth, GP practice code. These fields are used to link multiple records across the care pathway – for example, primary care data linked to specialist service data to rationalise duplicate records submitted from more than one service provider and create one comprehensive record per patient; linkage to Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) data to understand complication rates; linkage to Office for National Statistics data for date and cause of death to determine mortality rates. Patient identifiable data are also used to validate the NHS number – the audit takes a minimum data possible approach to validate NHS numbers and no individual names are collected. Following linkage, the minimum amount of identifiable data is used in subsequent analysis, for example postcode is converted to Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) to calculate deprivation quintiles. GP practice codes are used to distinguish data submissions from individual practices and to group patient cohorts, for that practice, Clinical Commissioning Group or Local Health Board. The Audit queries uphold patient objections; therefore, no data will be collected from patients that are identified as having 'opted out' by the GP system.

During the submission window data quality reports will be provided to Clinical Commissioning Groups and Clinical Networks so that they can review practice participation for their area and identify any errors in the data before the submission window closes.

### Data security

NHS Digital is registered under the Data Protection Act 2018 for the purposes of the Audit.

All data processing is carried out on secure servers at NHS Digital.

NHS Digital works within the following legislation and standards:

- Caldicott principles
- The NHS Code of Practice
- The Data Protection Act 2018
- Freedom of Information Act 2001
- BS7799/ISO17799 Information Security Management
- NHS Information Governance Standards, and
- The Health and Social Care Act 2012
- General Data Protection Regulation 2018

### What analysis is available?

The audit year will be reported in national and local reports (Clinical Commissioning Group, Local Health Board, Trust/Hospital and General Practice). The report is expected to be published in late 2019.

### Withdrawal of patient consent (Read codes):

- 9M0.. National diabetes audit (NDA) and audit specific dissent withdrawn codes via consent
- 9M00. National diabetes audit (NDA) and audit specific dissent withdrawn codes via consent
- 9M1.. National diabetes audit (NDA) and audit specific dissent codes
- 9M10. National diabetes audit (NDA) and audit specific dissent codes
- 9Nu0. Dissent from secondary use of GP patient identifiable data
- 9Nu1. Dissent withdrawn from secondary use of GP patient identifiable data