

Saving lives in the West Midlands

The important part you play



Every time you visit your local doctor or hospital, you could be helping save someone's life.

It might be a family member or friend. At some point, their care might even save you. Every x-ray, blood test and treatment we have leads to information doctors, researchers and those who plan health and care services can learn from. That is how we get new life-saving medicines, develop new healthcare technology and improve health and care services. Our health information has been used to help others as well as ourselves for many years. It has led to the better care and longer lives we have today.

Now the NHS is creating a new way for this to happen. It's called the West Midlands Secure Data Environment. It will make it much easier for doctors, researchers and health and care service planners to learn from our health information, while keeping it safer and more secure.

We operate under s251 regulations with support from the HRA (for research) and the secretary of state for health and social care on advice from the Confidentiality Advisory group (CAG). This allows us to link patient information from different resources for specific healthcare and research purposes. When data is requested or used, it is always provided in an anonymised form, meaning no personal details that could identify you are shared.

Opting out

From West Midlands SDE-supported research and care service planning only, or to opt back in:

- visit <https://westmidlandssde.nhs.uk/your-data/local-data-opt-out/>
- download and complete a form
- email to WMSDEOptout@uhb.nhs.uk,
- or post to: **West Midlands SDE, R&D, 1st Floor, ITM, Heritage Building, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, B15 2TH**
- watch out for details of our phone service, coming soon.

Like to get involved?

mlcsu.involvement@nhs.net

Want to know more?

<https://westmidlandssde.nhs.uk>

**Scan me to
be directed to
our website**



If you would like this information in an alternative format, (for instance, braille, audio, easy read or your spoken language) please email WMSDE@uhb.nhs.uk