



National Respiratory Audit Programme (NRAP)

NRAP pulmonary rehabilitation patient information leaflet

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This leaflet provides information about the National Respiratory Audit Programme (NRAP) for patients referred to pulmonary rehabilitation (PR). The audit aims to improve the care provided to people who are referred to PR.

Key purposes of clinical audits

- > **To track change:** This involves continuous data collection that feeds into annual reports where we track progress against the expected standards of care.
- > **To explore variation:** We evaluate where performance differs in parts of the health system, this includes services (hospitals), trusts, health boards and regions.
- > **To support healthcare improvement:** We produce guidance and support services to improve aspects of care that are measured by the audit.

What is the NRAP pulmonary rehabilitation audit?

The NRAP PR audit looks at the way PR services in England and Wales are caring for people with respiratory conditions and compares it to guidelines which explain what care these people should be getting. This is to make sure that people are getting the right care, and if not, to see what needs to change.

NRAP is commissioned by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP), independent organisation that helps improve NHS care by collecting and analysing data to show what's working well and where improvements are needed. The audit is part of the Royal College of Physicians (RCP), a registered charity focussed on helping doctors improve patient care.

What information is collected by the audit?

Information about the treatment and care received, as well as some personal information such as NHS number, date of birth and postcode. Your personal information is kept confidential. We do this so we can follow your care even if you are treated at different times or in different places. We also collect your gender and ethnicity to find out if this affects the treatment you receive.

How is my confidential information collected and where does it go?

PR services taking part in this audit enter the information they collect about patients and their care into an online database called a 'web tool'. The information is held by an organisation called Crown Informatics who created the audit webtool. They follow strict NHS rules on keeping your information safe and can only use your confidential information for very specific reasons.*

Information is continuously collected from participating hospitals throughout the year. Data collection will continue until at least May 2028. Once collected, this information will never be published in a way that can identify you. Patient information will be kept safely for at least 5 years after the end of the audit.

How will my information be used?

NRAP produces a range of reports highlighting if patient care in England and Wales follows national guidelines for PR. This is also used by services to compare their data with the national and local average, as well as other services. This helps services to see how good they are and make improvements. [You can view our reports on our website.](#)

Third party organisations are permitted to request to use de-identified NRAP data for research purposes under HQIP's overarching section 251 research database approval (reference 24/CAG/0108).

How do we keep your info safe?

Strict NHS rules are in place to make sure your information is confidential and secure. All organisations that handle data for NRAP must follow these. NRAP have been granted Section 251 approval for England and Wales by the NHS Health Research Authority (CAG reference number: 23/CAG/0167), meaning that we are allowed to collect patient-identifiable data without patient consent.

What to do if you don't want your information to be used in the audit?

In England, patients who have chosen to opt out of their confidential data being used for purposes other than their own care and treatment (national data opt-out programme) will not be included in this audit. Wales does not operate a national opt-out programme, but patients are still able to opt out of individual audits such as this one - please speak to a member of your PR service's clinical team if you do not want information to be included. ***Saying this will not affect the care or treatment received in any way.***

What if I have a problem with the way my information has been used?

If you think that patient information is being used when you or some you care for didn't want it to, or is being used the wrong way, you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (www.ico.org.uk).

Any questions?

If you have any questions about the audit, please contact the NRAP team (for audit queries only) via: praudit@rcp.ac.uk / 020 3075 1526. We cannot help with medical issues or appointments.

If you have any queries concerning the PR programme, please contact your PR service. If you need medical help or advice, please call 111 and for emergencies call 999.

Commissioned by



*Each month, Crown Informatics send information which includes some identifiable information to NHS England. Upon receipt, data processors in the NHS. Data processors in the NHS replace your personal details in data with fake identifiers, so the data can't be linked back to you.