



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

University of
Cumbria 



Privacy Notice

What is the purpose of the research

The study is funded by Cancer Research UK. It aims to assess how effectively GPs use direct referrals to radiology tests for investigation of suspected cancers in the North East and Cumbria, and to understand the factors that influence GPs when making referrals. It will inform the planning of services and will explore the potential of digital applications and telemedicine options for improving the referral and diagnostic test parts of the cancer pathway.

What information we hold about you

This study uses routine data collected by the NHS including data collected by GP practices and hospital trusts. This data is controlled by NHS Digital and Public Health England. The legal basis by which Northumbria University is processing this data is under Article 6(1) (e): “processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested the controller” and Article 9 (2) (j) “processing necessary for scientific and historical research purposes”.

The information NHS digital and Public Health England share with us is:

- specific for this piece of research and will only be used for monitoring and research
- pseud-anonymised and stringent measures are taken to ensure that individual patients cannot be identified.

If you do not want your personal confidential information to be shared outside of the NHS for purposes other than for your direct care, you can manage your data sharing choices here: <https://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters/>.

How we use your information

We will use the data that NHS Digital and Public Health England share with us to:

- conduct health research and development – specifically establish the clinical and cost effectiveness of direct GP access versus the urgent 2 week-wait referral pathway to radiology by GPs for patients in whom cancer is suspected.
- write a summary research report for Cancer Research UK as well as papers for conference presentations or publications in academic journals. Only summary data will be published or presented. No patient level data will be reported and small numbers will be suppressed.

The data will be retained for 10 years in line with the Northumbria University Research Records Retention Schedule. For information about your rights regarding the data we hold about you, including details of how to contact our Data Protection Officer; please see the following link <https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/leadership-governance/vice-chancellors-office/legal-services-team/gdpr/>. If you

are dissatisfied with the University's processing of your personal data you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office.

How we store your information

All data will be handled confidentially. No patient identifiable data will be requested or available to the project study team. Pseud-anonymised patient level data will be stored on the University of Northumbria password protected network. Where necessary, the data will be shared on a Northumbria University faculty shared drive with restricted access to the project study team only. Storage arrangements of all data will be in accordance with general data protection regulation (GDPR) and adhere to all university guidelines around information and data protection. Northumbria University employees are all fully GDPR trained and IT security trained as this is part of their mandatory training on an annual basis.