## 5 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT NHS DATA

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|  | The NHS has been collecting patient health records since it started in 1948, making it one of the biggest and longest running sources of population health data in the world. |
|  | NHS data is helping the UK lead the world in genomic medicine and has allowed researchers to map the genomes of 100,000 patients with rare diseases and cancer. |
|  | NHS data is used for real-time decision-making and planning. During the COVID-19 pandemic, NHS data on infection rates, vaccine rollout, and hospital capacity helped guide how resources were used. |
|  | No single part of the NHS has a complete record of your health history – some of this is about where and how your data is stored but it’s also about protecting your privacy. |
|  | When your data is used for research any personally identifiable information – such as your name or NHS number – is removed or disguised. |

The Wessex Secure Data Environment (Wessex SDE) aims to unlock the potential of everyone’s NHS data in the region to improve health outcomes. Find out more and share your thoughts on our website: [wessexsde.nhs.uk/have-your-say](https://wessexsde.nhs.uk/have-your-say).

## TOP 5 BENEFITS OF THE WESSEX SDE

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|  | **Accelerate life-changing research** by bringing together the widest range of NHS patient data in one secure space, helping approved researchers access more information, more easily. |
|  | **Pave the way for important breakthroughs** that could make a real difference to people’s livesby shortening the journey from idea to discovery and enabling new treatments and medicines to be developed. |
|  | **Help local people** byonly working with researchers whose projects are for the public good and stand to benefit the health of people in Wessex, with patients and the public helping decide what’s prioritised. |
|  | **Save the NHS money** with research that helps NHS teams to plan better, streamline services, reduce waiting times, and improve safety. |
|  | **Protect your data** by giving the NHS full control over who can access your data, what data they can see, and how they use it. |

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## 5 RESEARCH PROJECTS THE WESSEX SDE WILL SUPPORT

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|  | **Fighting Bladder Cancer.** A pioneering study to tackle high-risk and aggressive bladder cancer – identifying the disease earlier, giving patients better treatment, and improving outcomes. |
|  | **Revolutionising Emergency Care.** The PRANA project connects hundreds of data sources to map the entire critical care journey - from emergency response to recovery. It will help researchers improve patient care and promote road safety to save lives. |
|  | **Early lung cancer diagnosis.** Lung cancer is the UK’s third most common cancer, but early detection can transform survival rates. IDx Lung is exploring whether taking blood and tissue samples during lung health checks can boost the current 10% survival rate. |
|  | **Making personalised cancer medicines.** The Cancer Genomics project will link DNA data from tumours with patient records to better understand the genetic changes that drive the disease, paving the way for medicines and treatment plans tailored to the individual patient. |
|  | **Increasing access to cancer vaccines**. The NHS Cancer Vaccine Launch Pad will use the Wessex SDE data to help it bridge the gap between cancer patients and cutting-edge cancer vaccine trials so more people can have access to personalised treatment, with a national target of 10,000 people by 2030. |

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