

# A Guide to Why We Collect Information on Your Baby

**Children's Services**  
**Women & Children's Services**

**This leaflet has been designed to give you important information about your condition / procedure, and to answer some common queries you may have.**



# Information for patients and visitors

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## Introduction

The aim of this leaflet is to provide you as parents or carers with all the relevant information regarding why we collect information on your baby.

Your baby is on the Neonatal Unit to receive the expert care of the medical and nursing team. We continuously review the care babies and parents receive and in order to do this we need to collect information. This is completely anonymous. The information that we use in reports contains nothing that could identify you or your baby.

## Why do we need this information?

We use the information we collect to help us:

- Collect accurate details about the care of sick or premature babies in units within the hospital trust. This is then used to monitor neonatal care across the North Trent Region (a collection of different hospitals who will compare their data)
- To monitor neonatal care and make sure it is always up to date
- To plan and develop services for you and your baby within your area
- To produce reports that highlight areas of good practice that we can share with other neonatal units across the North Trent Region

## What information do we collect?

We record:

- The NHS number for you and your baby
- Your postcode
- Your baby's date of birth
- Your baby's birth weight
- How many weeks pregnant you were when your baby was born
- Your baby's condition and treatment
- How many babies you had
- Where your baby was born
- The hospitals where your baby was cared for

## Who collects the information?

The staff in the Neonatal Unit collect the information. Usually this is a neonatal nurse, doctor or ward clerk. It will then be stored on a nationally secure system.



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### **When will the information be collected?**

Information is updated regularly throughout your baby's stay in the Neonatal Unit.

### **How will the information be collected?**

We will collect the information from the medical notes and nursing records.

We collect it on paper initially and then input the data onto an electronic database that links directly a secure system held nationally.

### **Who will see the information?**

Only the people who care for your baby see all the details.

There are very strict regulations controlling access to personal information like your baby's NHS number and date of birth.

By law, everyone who works for the NHS must keep all personal information confidential.

The nationally held database has very strict confidentiality and security procedures in line with the Data Protection Act (1998). It will make sure that the information about your baby is not given to unauthorised people.

### **Can I see the records on the database?**

Yes, you can see a copy of the information we have about you and your baby. If you would like to do this, please talk to the nurse in charge about how you can apply for access to your baby's information.

### **Can I request that my baby's data is not collected?**

Yes, if you decide that you do not want any details about your baby to be used for secondary analysis please inform the Neonatal Unit staff.

### **Further Information**

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to speak to either nursing or medical staff, your GP / Health Visitor or visit the NHS Choices website or NHS Direct Online.

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

[www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk)

Please talk to a member of staff if you:

- Need any more information
- Have any more questions or concerns
- Want us to remove any information from the database



## Information for patients and visitors

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### Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service offers confidential advice, support and information on any health related matters.

If you have a comment, concern, complaint or compliment about the care or service you have received from the Trust you can contact the PALS team as follows:

Telephone: 03033 306518

Email: [nlg-tr.PALS@nhs.net](mailto:nlg-tr.PALS@nhs.net)

There are also offices at both the Diana Princess of Wales Hospital (near the main entrance) and Scunthorpe General Hospital (on the C Floor, near the outpatient department), should you wish to visit.

**Please note: PALS should not be contacted for clinical advice relating to the content of this leaflet. The service should be contacted directly in the first instance.**

### Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust

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Scartho Road  
Grimsby  
DN33 2BA

Scunthorpe General Hospital  
Cliff Gardens  
Scunthorpe  
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[www.nlg.nhs.uk](http://www.nlg.nhs.uk)

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