

Dear Practice Manager,

Barts Health AI Lung Cancer Screening Programme Phase 2: linking GP and Hospital Data

Introduction:

We are writing to inform the General Practitioners (GPs) in Northeast London about a significant initiative in collaboration with the NEL ICB Data Service that involves using patient data for adults between the ages of 40 and 80.

Use Case – Purpose:

The existing diagnostic process for lung cancer relies heavily on the intuition of the GP to recognise symptom presentations as being consistent with lung cancer to progress a patient down the clinical pathway. Given the number of patients seen by GPs each year and how nebulous the symptoms are, the likelihood of patients being missed is high. Additionally, screening programmes, in the UK, for asymptomatic patients are limited due to cost and therefore have narrow inclusion criteria, meaning non-smokers rarely tip over any of the current risk thresholds and patients under the age of 55 and over the age of 75 are not included. To address this, Barts Health in collaboration with the ICB aims to proactively risk stratify patients using an AI model trained on a combination of primary and secondary care electronic health record data, inviting those at highest risk for a chest x-ray.

How is the processing of information necessary for the work?

This initiative involves the sharing of pseudonymised patient data for all patients aged 40-80, who have previously received care at a Barts Health NHS Trust Hospital, from NEL ICB Data Service to Barts Health (Life Science Team)

The key aspects of this collaboration include:

Data Sharing: NEL ICB will provide Barts Health (BLST) access to a regularly updated feed of primary care data of patients that meet the inclusion criteria of the study.

Outcome(s):

Proactive contact with at-risk patients by the secondary care team to determine lung cancer status should result in earlier diagnoses, resulting in improved treatment responses, thereby providing a cost benefit to the NHS and ensuring more efficient use of healthcare resources.

We have been working with the NEL Integrated Care Service IG Team and your Data Protection Officers to establish a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) and Data Sharing Agreement to facilitate this export and invitation. These were recommended for approval by the NHS North East London (NEL ICB) Data Access Group and this decision was ratified by the NEL ICB Information Governance Steering Group to provide you with reassurance.

Please could you take the following actions (once you receive the alert from the Data Controller Console) to confirm (as Controller(s)) that you are happy for the information about your patients to be shared with North East London ICB.

1. Log on to the Data Controller Console
2. Review and accept the [List of the IG documents]
3. Update the Practice's Privacy Notice to include this processing.

Please note that by accepting the DSA on the Data Controller Console, you are responsible for:

- putting in place effective procedures to manage data subject access requests (from your patients) about the processing; and
- managing your own data breach(es).

Please contact your relevant Data Protection Officer if you have any information governance concerns.

Should you wish to discuss further about the programme, please contact Andrew.houston4@nhs.net

We look forward to being able to provide you with the findings from this work.

Best wishes,

Andrew Houston
Barts Health (Direct Care Team)