Last updated 24/07/2026

National Child Mortality Database: Data Flows

KEY:

- Transfer of personally identifiable data
- Transfer of fully anonymised, aggregate data
- Transfer of aggregate, depersonalised data
- Data controller
- Data processor
- Proposed data flow

Primary care:
GP
Health visitor
School nurse service

Secondary and tertiary healthcare providers

Emergency care/transport
Ambulance services
Hospital retrieval services
Coastguard
Fire and rescue services

Community healthcare:
Community paediatrics
Hospice
Community nursing
Palliative care services

Mental health services

Social care

Law enforcement:
Police
Coroner
Probation service
Prison service
YOT/YOS

Education:
Safeguarding lead / Head Teacher of nursery school or college

Child death review partners: Integrated Care Boards / Local Authorities

MBRRACE-UK (University of Oxford)

Local CDOP Offices (flow of data as per commissioned dataset)

Local CDOP Offices (additional information submitted to NCMD for the purposes of surveillance system, alerts and quality improvement work)

Legal basis: Children Act 2004 (Section 16(M)) & UK GDPR Article 6(1)(e) and Article 9(2)(i) and the UK DPA 2018 Schedule 1(1)(3) 'public health' underpinned by Health and Social Care Act 2012 Part 1 section 2

National Child Mortality Database—University of Bristol

DATA REQUESTS & INFORMATION SHARING

CDOPs and CDR professionals requesting data under the Children Act 2004.

Others requesting aggregate, fully anonymised data

Two-staged approval process from HQIP and NHS England

INFORMATION SHARING FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Office for Product Safety & Standards (OPSS)
Police
RoSPA
Home Safety Office
Authorised data sharing for supporting intelligence and learning

OUTPUTS

- Quality improvement intervention
- Audit and benchmarking
- Child mortality surveillance and monthly reporting to NHS England
- Quarterly data quality and monitoring reports and annual regional report to CDOPs
- Annual CDR data release and thematic reports
- Research

HQIP and NHS England

Public reports

DATA LINKAGES

Legal basis: Regulation 3, Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002, and the Children Act 2004 (Section 16(M-N)

Virology and vaccination data [UKHSA]

Purpose: real-time surveillance system for child deaths related to all infections

Legal basis: CA 1989 s.83 (1)(a), s.7 of the CYPA and CA 2004

Serious Incident Notifications [Department for Education]

Purpose: increase completeness and quality of information in NCMD and to optimise the use of information collected and accessible from other data sources

Legal basis: Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (SRSA) and Children Act 2004 (Section 16(M-N))

Death registration data [Office for National Statistics]

Purpose: to ascertain the NCMD notifications data coverage

Legal basis: the Children Act 2004 (Section 16(M-N))

Civil Registration Deaths Data [NHS England]
NHSBA Medicines dispensed in Primary Care [NHS England]
Maternity Services Data Set (MSDS) [NHS England]
Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) [NHS England]
Emergency Care Dataset (ECDS) [NHS England]
Mental Health Services Dataset (MHSDS) [NHS England]
NDRS Cancer Registrations [NHS England]

Purpose: increase completeness and quality of information in NCMD and to optimise the use of information collected and accessible from other data sources

National Congenital Anomaly and Rare Disease Registration Service [NHS England]
Paediatric Intensive Care Audit Network [HQIP]
National Neonatal Audit Programme [HQIP]
GP data [NHS England]
National Maternal and Perinatal Audit [HQIP]
Maternal, Newborn and Infant Clinical Outcome Review Programme [HQIP]
LeDeR database [NHS England]