



Patient information

This leaflet provides information on the **National Endoscopy Database (NED)**. An endoscopy is a procedure where the inside of your body is examined using an instrument called an endoscope. An endoscope is a long, thin, flexible tube that has a light source and camera at one end. Images of the inside of your body are relayed to a television screen.

Part of the JAG programme at the RCP

What is the National Endoscopy Database?

NED is a project to link every endoscopy unit in the UK. It allows important information about endoscopy to be analysed across all endoscopy services and aims to help improve the quality of endoscopy across the UK so that patients have a better experience and better outcomes.

What are the benefits?

The NED project is already helping to improve endoscopy quality. It helps:

you	as it ensures patients have the best and safest possible experience when undergoing endoscopy
endoscopists	by feeding back data on their performance
hospitals	by enabling them to compare their endoscopy performance with agreed national standards and with national averages
researchers	to continuously improve patients' experience of endoscopy

What are the risks?

There are no risks to you from NED. It will not affect your endoscopy in any way. There is no significant risk of your personal data being lost or breached because the only patient information that is exchanged is your age and gender.

Will my personal details be shared?

No. The only information that is shared is your age and gender. Details such as your address, contact details, date of birth or name will not be shared. This means the information that is sent to the NED cannot be traced back to you (ie it is called 'non-patient identifiable').

The information that is gathered by NED includes:

- > which procedure you had
- > which sedative and how much of it you received (if any)
- > how comfortable you were during the procedure
- > what findings were made.

Who will have access to the data?

- > There are strict rules in place to govern who can access the data. No one will be able to see your personal details through NED.
- > Endoscopists and hospitals will only be able to access information that relates to how they perform endoscopy.
- > If any health professional or health researcher wants to access NED, they will need to provide the dedicated National Endoscopy Research Committee with detailed justification and demonstrate that they have appropriate data protection procedures in place.

Can I refuse to allow my data to be included?

Yes. As all NED data are non-patient identifiable, we anticipate that such requests will be rare. However, if you wish, you can ask for your data not to be uploaded. You would need to speak to your hospital's information governance team about this.

Please speak to your endoscopist for more information or contact askjag@rcp.ac.uk.