

NAED Data Sharing Process

This document outlines the data sharing process for the National Audit of Eating Disorders (NAED). The audit aims to improve the quality of care and outcomes for individuals with eating disorders (ED) through the analysis of data collected from ED services. To ensure transparency and compliance with data protection regulations, any requests for accessing the audit data must be submitted to the **Health Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP)** who are our commissioners and are joint data controllers.

NAED Data Sources

In 2024/25, NAED is collecting service level data directly from ED services in a questionnaire format. To request access to this data, **please follow the procedure below**.

From 2026 onwards, NAED will be using routine data from third party sources to evidence the audit. The datasets used are listed below, next to the data controllers who should be contacted should you wish to access this data.

Dataset	Data Controller
Mental Health Service Dataset (MHSDS)	NHS England
Hospital Episode Statistics (HES)	NHS England
Office for National Statistics (ONS) data	Office for National Statistics

Data sharing procedure

Eligibility for Data Access

Any individual or organisation interested in accessing NAED data must meet the following criteria:

- Have a legitimate purpose for accessing the data, such as research, policy development or service improvement.
- Demonstrate the necessary expertise and resources to handle and analyse the data securely.
- Comply with the relevant data protection laws and regulations, including but not limited to General Data Protection regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018.
- Use data fairly and legally, in a way that both protects privacy and benefits patients and the public.
- Agree to abide by the terms and conditions set forth by HQIP regarding data sharing and confidentiality.

Submitting a Data Access Request

If you would like to access NAED data, please contact the team at NAED@RCPsych.ac.uk. You will need to provide:

- Contact details of the requester (name, organisation, address, email, phone number)
- Description of the purpose for accessing the data, outlining the intended use and potential benefits
- The specific datasets or variables required for analysis
- Any important dates or timeframes we should be aware of.

The team will be able to ensure you are requesting the correct data for your project needs.

All Data Access Requests must then be submitted to HQIP. More information on the process can be found [here](#). It is recommended that applicants get in touch with the HQIP at DataSharing@hqip.org.uk before submitting a formal application.

Data Access and Usage Guidance

Data Security and Confidentiality

- The requester must ensure the secure handling, storage and transmission of the data at all times.
- Any patient-level data should be protected against unauthorised access or disclosure.
- Compliance with applicable data protection laws, such as GDPR and the DPA 2018 is mandatory.

Data Usage Restrictions

- The data accessed through this process should only be used for the specified purpose outlined in the approval request.
- The requester must not attempt to re-identify patients or disclose any identifying information in publications or public presentations.
- The data should not be used by any third parties or commercial purposes without explicit permission.

Reporting and Acknowledgment

Any publications, presentations, or reports that result from the data analysis should acknowledge the NAED and properly attribute the data source.

By adhering to the outlined process and regulations, we can ensure the appropriate and secure use of data, promoting the audit's objectives of improving the quality of care and outcomes for individuals with psychosis.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the NAED team at NAED@RCPsych.ac.uk.