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This leaflet explains the way the Scottish Trauma Audit Group (STAG) collect, store and use information, about you, the injury sustained and the treatment received and why it is important for the future care of injured patients.

Who are we?

The Scottish Trauma Audit Group is part of the Scottish National Audit Programme within Public Health Scotland (PHS). PHS is a national special health board of NHS Scotland, jointly sponsored by the Scottish Government and COSLA, which launched on 1 April 2020.

More information about PHS is available at: https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/ourareas-of-work/sharing-ourdata-and-intelligence/

About the Scottish Trauma Audit Group

Whenever someone in Scotland has an injury resulting in admission to hospital, the clinical team involved in their care record the relevant details about their treatment. Hospitals share some of this information (the treatment/care you or your child had) with the Scottish Trauma Audit Group.

Where can I get more information?

You can ask your doctor or nurse, another member of your healthcare team, or your hospital's data protection officers.

Or write to:

Scottish Trauma Audit Group Gyle Square 1 South Gyle Crescent Edinburgh EH12 9EB

Email: phs.stag@phs.scot

Website: www.stag.scot.nhs.uk

Useful links

to other organisations

PHS

https://www.publichealth scotland.scot

NHS Inform https://www.nhsinform.scot

Scottish Trauma Network www.scottishtraumanetwork.com

Healthcare Improvement Scotland www.healthcareimprovement scotland.org

Pain Association Scotland www.painassociation.com

Scottish Brain Injury Network www.sabin-dev.scot.nhs.uk

Headway www.headway.org.uk

Queen Elizabeth National Spinal Injuries Network www.spinalunit.scot.nhs.uk

Spinal Injuries Scotland www.sisonline.org

Is information about me safe?

Yes. We have to comply with the law to use your personal information.

The reports that the audit publish do not identify any individuals. PHS staff are bound by data protection legislation and confidentiality rules. All information is stored in ways that comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 on computers that can only be accessed with secure passwords.

Only NHS staff with specific security access can see any personal details.

Your Rights

Data Protection law gives you rights over how we use your personal details. These and other more detailed information can be found on the Public Health Scotland website https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/our-privacy-notice/organisational-background/

What is the aim of the audit?

To record details about the injury and the treatment received and to use this information to change clinical practice to improve the care these patients receive.

What are the benefits?

The STAG audit uses this information to learn more about you or your child's condition.

Including you or your child's information in this national audit helps us to plan future care and improve health and care services that will support patients who have had an injury in the future by learning about:

- how many people are injured each year
- how severe their injuries are
- how the injury happened
- the care you or your child received.

How are the data collected?

The data are collected from your hospital and Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) records and added to an electronic database used to gather all of the information about you and your injury that is included in the STAG audit.

What personal information will the audit hold about you?

Only relevant information about you or your child's treatment and care is collected. We do collect the following personal information about you:

- name
- postcode
- date of birth
- sex
- Community Health Index (CHI) Number
- your NHS Board

as well as the information about your care.

How do we use your data?

The data we collect in the STAG database is held electronically and securely within NHS Scotland.

The STAG team managing the audit collate and check the information. Personal information is shared with clinical teams, hospital management and SAS who are directly involved in your care. Other non-identifiable information is shared with the Scottish Trauma Network, Scottish Government and researchers.

This information may be used for local or national projects and as part of research, but individual personal information will never be published. The Audit Steering Group controls who has access to the data. Sharing of the data is done only when appropriate, under secure conditions and with details that could identify you removed as far as is possible.

Will anyone contact me from the audit?

You or your child may also be invited to take part in other associated projects, related to STAG in the future, but you will be informed about them and be able to decide whether you want to participate or not. If you decide not to take part this will not affect the standard of care you or your child receives.

As the STAG audit aims to assist clinical teams with improvements for all patients it is sometimes necessary to contact patients or parents when they are at home.

If there is a need to contact you, it would be by telephone, text or post and permission to contact you will be sought before you or your child leaves hospital. There are occasions when researchers need to access information about individual patients. There are strict processes they have to go through to do this and they cannot contact you without the approval of your doctor.

Do I need to do anything?

You do not need to do anything – there are no forms to fill in and nothing to sign. Your hospital will record all of the information relevant to your care on their information systems/ records. Relevant information will be manually entered or pulled from other NHS systems, into a bespoke database (eSTAG) by appropriately trained auditors.