

Ensuring clarity and transparency in COVID-19 vaccine research

NHS England **requested access to the Cancer Trusted Research Environment service for England to look into the impact of the national roll out of Rapid Diagnostic Centres (RDCs)**. This project was established to test a new model for cancer detection and provides a diagnostic route for patients with symptoms that may not result in an urgent cancer referral.

RDCs are being rolled out nationally to help deliver fast and earlier diagnosis and improve patient experience and hope to provide a single point of access to the diagnostic pathway for all patients with symptoms that could indicate cancer, and provide a personalised, accurate and rapid diagnosis of their symptoms.

It was noted while the applicant was not currently requesting access to GP data, if they did so in the future, they must clearly explain what GP data they are requesting, and the purpose for which they are requesting it. **It is key for public trust** that researchers clearly explain **why** they need to access **specific data**, and the expected public benefit to that access.

IGARD also advised that the **outputs of this work should be made publicly available as soon as they are shared outside of NHS England**, and that when the application for data is renewed, the researchers should expand on the direct benefits to patients of RDCs, and **how they will work to ensure that outputs are disseminated widely**.

Read the full IGARD minutes where they discussed this access request [here](#)