How care.data works

GP practice

Identifiable data extracted, including patients' history, referrals, NHS number, postcode and date of birth (Some sensitive data not extracted)

Hospital

Identifiable data extracted

Health and Social Care Information Centre
Data collected and matched to individual patients

Identifiable patient data

Confidential Advisory Group
Independent group that approves applications for release of identifiable data

Data 'pseudonymlsed' – identifiers stripped out but patients still potentially identifiable. Data initially for commissioners but NHS England plans to share more widely to approved users beyond NHS in due course

Commercial companies

Research bodies

NHS organisations