

CARD M1

Health Records

We have asked about your health. To make this information complete we would like to find out more about your **health and treatment** from data held and managed by **NHS England**, the national controller of health data.

These records will help us by adding more information to the responses you have provided. The data we would access would be:

- Hospital records including dates of admission and consultations, treatments received, and referrals made.
- Primary care records including doctor and nurse consultations, diagnoses received, treatments given, and referrals made.
- Cancer records including diagnoses, treatments, and outcomes.
- Mortality records including date of death, whether the individual died in an NHS hospital, and the main cause of death.

We would like to ask your permission for this information about you to be linked to your ELSA survey answers. Permission from ELSA participants to use these records will help to improve research into how and why the use of health services varies among those aged over 50. You do not have to give your permission for us to collect this data if you don't want to. Or if there is any specific type of data from the list above that you do not want us to collect, you can let us know that too.

Your data will be used for research purposes only by academic or policy researchers under restricted access arrangements.

Only the ELSA Research Team will have access to information that directly identifies you – like name and address – alongside your survey

answers. We will send information such as your name, address, date of birth and NHS number (if you give these to us) to third party organisations who carry out the linkage but this is done in such a way that these third-party organisations cannot see your personal details alongside your survey answers. Your name and address and other directly identifying information will be removed before other researchers are allowed to use it. Please read the ELSA privacy notice (<https://www.elsa-project.ac.uk/privacy-notice>) for more information on how this will work. Access to the data for other qualified researchers will be carefully controlled and the process has been approved by NHS England and the ELSA team.

As we would like to look at long term trends in people's health, we have not set a limit on how long we would like to keep your information. ELSA has been running since 2002 and is very valuable for looking at how people's health changes over time.

Please ask the interviewer about anything that concerns you or you can call the ELSA team on the freephone number on the leaflet and letter we sent you. **You can cancel this permission at any time** in the future by contacting NatGen.