National Registry of Hearing Implants:

Patient Information Sheet: Paediatric Patients (England)

This patient information sheet is for parents, carers and legal guardians of children and young people. We use ‘your child’ to refer to children and young people up to the age of 18.

What is the National Registry of Hearing Implants?

The National Registry of Hearing Implants (NRHI) is part of NHS England’s Outcomes and Registries Programme. The NRHI records details and monitors outcomes from every operation where a hearing implant is used. In England, the Secretary of State requires us to collect this information to help improve patient care.

The main aim of the NRHI is to keep patients safe and improve the quality of care. By recording this information, we can:

- Check that hearing implants work well and are safe.
- Spot problems early if they arise.
- Support research and guidance, so that healthcare professionals can recommend the best implant for each patient.

How does the NRHI help patients?

The NRHI provides information that helps to:

- Identify patients quickly if there is a product recall or safety issue.
- Check how well implants, hospitals and implant teams are performing, and act if needed.
- Give feedback to hospitals, implant teams and manufacturers to help improve services.
- Give clinicians data to ensure that each patient is offered the most suitable implant.

What information does the NRHI collect?

Your implant team records details of your child's:

- Assessment before surgery
- Operation and the type of implant used
- Short and long-term results

Personal information is also recorded, such as:

- Your child's name, date of birth, postcode and NHS number
- Your contact details (optional, but helpful)

Why does the NRHI need my child's personal details?

We use your child's details to link them with their implant. This means we can see how long implants last, compare hospitals and teams, and spot any problems.

If you give your email or phone number, the NRHI may also invite you to take part in short surveys about your child's care and how the implant has affected their life.

How is NRHI data used?

The registry links information from your child's operation with other NHS data. Experts study this data and create reports to check patient safety and results. These reports do not contain personal information and can be shared with implant teams, hospitals and manufacturers. This helps improve treatments and services across England.

NRHI and research

Sometimes, we may contact you to ask you to take part in research studies. You do not have to take part. Saying 'no' will not affect any care your child receives.

Do I have to give my consent?

In England, it is a legal requirement to collect this information for anyone who has a hearing implant. This does not need your consent because it is part of your direct care. However, if we contact you for feedback, you can choose whether to reply.

Is my child's information safe?

Yes. Your child's personal details are kept secure and confidential. You can ask for a copy of your child's information at any time by emailing or writing to the NRHI Service Desk.

Want to know more?

For more information about the NRHI or the NHS Outcomes and Registries Programme, you can contact the support desk:

Email: england.support.outcomeregistries@nhs.net