

What is **SSNAP**?

The **Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme** is a national project.

It is run by the **Royal College of Physicians**.

When we say “we”, we mean **SSNAP**.

We measure

- stroke care in **hospitals**
- stroke care **at home**
- progress **6 months after stroke**



All hospitals must send **SSNAP** information on how they treat stroke patients.

We measure hospitals' **stroke care** against **national clinical guidelines**.

These **guidelines** tell services what care **stroke patients** should receive.

This helps to **improve** the **care** patients receive.

The information we collect

The **National Stroke Strategy** says all stroke patients should have a review.

This should be **6 months** after stroke.

We **collect** your 6 month review information.

It tells us

- if you are **living at home** or in a **care home**
- if you are **living alone** or with **someone**
- if you have a **carer**
- what **support** you have received
- what **medication** you have received

This information is **important** to collect.

It tells us **how well you recover** from your stroke.

Collecting your personal information

To link your **stroke care** information to **other illnesses** we need to collect your

- name
- date of birth
- postcode
- NHS number

We will **never see** this information .

NHS Digital (NHSD) connects your personal information with information from:

The **Office of National Statistics (ONS)**

This collects information about

- people who have died
- what caused their death

Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) and Patient Episode Database for Wales (PEDW)

Everyone in hospital is given a **unique code**

Using these **codes** we can:

- check the number of stroke patients at each hospital
- compare this number to what has been entered onto SSNAP

This helps hospitals to make sure the information we have collected on SSNAP is **complete**.

How personal information is kept safe

There are **strict rules** for keeping information **safe**.

Hospital staff collect your **personal information**.

These staff are **chosen** by the hospital.

They must be **approved** by the hospital and us.

This information is sent to **SSNAP**.

Hospital staff use a **secure website**.

They must enter a **personal password**.

Only staff involved in your stroke care can see this information.

The permission we need to collect your information

The NHS has told us when we need to ask for patients' permission.

We **do not** need **permission** when

- The patient is in hospital
- The patient is receiving care at home

This is because the NHS understands that this information is important.

By measuring stroke services it helps to **improve stroke care**.

We can check that services are giving patients the **care** that they **need**.

We **do need** permission to collect 6 month review information.

At six months patients are **more likely** to have **recovered**.

Patients will be more able to give **their permission**.

You can ask a carer or family member for advice.



Can I refuse to give my permission?

Yes. Just tell the **person** who **gave** you this **leaflet**.

Your **personal** information will then be **removed**.

Contact the **SSNAP** team

Telephone 0203 075 1318

Email ssnap@rcplondon.ac.uk

Website www.strokeaudit.org