



National Respiratory Audit Programme (NRAP)

Data requests: Applying to use NRAP data

Version 2.0: April 2026

General information

Who can apply to use NRAP data?

Healthcare professionals, academic bodies and other related parties can apply to use NRAP data for research and analysis purposes. Unpublished data can be requested for the purpose of quality improvement, including research, service evaluation, and audit, if certain conditions are met and depending upon the NRAP's data governance policies.

Please note that NRAP cannot release any data which identifies individual patients. At present, transfer of anonymised, patient level data can only be facilitated within the UK, pending review of regulations around international data transfer.

Before submitting a data request, we advise you to consult the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) resource [Understanding Health Data Access](#), and NHS England resource [Fundamentals of using routinely collected healthcare data in research](#) to support your application.

Which data are publicly available?

Most of the data currently collected by NRAP and previously by the National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme (NACAP), are published in our reports. Aggregated data from these reports are freely available at [Find Open Data \(data.gov.uk\)](#). Please search 'NRAP', 'Drawing breath' or 'NACAP' for a list of all available data files. If you are unsure whether our publicly available data will meet your needs or are having difficulty navigating our data, please contact us at nrapinbox@rcp.ac.uk for assistance.

What if the data I need are not publicly available?

Several levels of data are not publicly available, including patient level data and COVID-impacted data collected between April 2020 and March 2021, which will not be published. To access this data, you will need to follow an application process, which will vary depending on the nature and complexity of your request. See page 3 for the data application process.

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Data application process

1

Complete a NRAP Data Request Scoping Form (see supporting documents below) and submit it to nrapinbox@rcp.ac.uk. Relevant NRAP team members will review your form to confirm that:

- > Your request is unique and has sufficient detail
- > The data is not already publicly available
- > A similar request has not already been submitted by another individual or organisation.

NRAP review of data request scoping form: 5 working days

2

NRAP will feedback on your data request scoping form. If unsuccessful, feedback will include suggested amendments.

If your form is approved, you will be asked to fill in a Data Access Request Form (DARF) (Appendix I) for review by the NRAP team.

NRAP review of data access request form: 10 days

3

NRAP will get in touch with any clarifications requested and share detailed feedback with you in the event your application is unsuccessful.

If your application is approved, NRAP will confirm the RCP and Crown costings with you, and once agreed, you can submit your application to HQIP for final review and approval.

Please note, NRAP will need to sign off your DARF form prior to submission.

Initial HQIP review of data access request form: 3 weeks

4

HQIP will review the application and may request clarifications.

HQIP may advise that your request needs further review by the Data Access Request Group (DARG) – for example, because the requested data is linked to data held by third parties (e.g. NHS England). Please note, this review can extend timelines.

Where appropriate, NRAP are able to assist with clarifications.



5

HQIP will confirm their final decision on your application.

If approved by HQIP, you will be asked to sign a data sharing agreement (DSA) prior to the release of your data. Please ensure the NRAP team are informed when your application is approved.

Data can be released from 20 working days of signing the DSA, though more time will be needed for complex requests. The NRAP team will coordinate this process.

Your data will be extracted, processed, and released to you according to the agreed timeframe

6

Once you receive your data, you will be asked to:

- > Update NRAP on projected publication date of any materials to be published (written or oral)
- > Provide a near-final draft of any materials to be published (written or oral) for review and comment
- > Acknowledge NRAP and any other bodies confirmed by NRAP in all work (written or oral)
- > Provide twice yearly written updates of progress to NRAP
- > Destroy the data at the end of the specified agreements in line with the conditions included in the DSA.

Data application costs

There is no cost for using NRAP data that is publicly available, or for applying to reproduce NRAP content. If you are applying to use data that is not publicly available, there will be a cost involved for administration of your request and data handling. There will be an additional cost for more complex requests, for example, if you require archived data (from before April 2017) or if you require data linkage or cleaning. A breakdown of standard costs is provided in the table below.

As the cost varies depending on the nature of your request, it will be confirmed with applicants on a case-by-case basis:

- > You will be informed of an approximate cost based on your specific needs before your data access request form is submitted. This is given on the understanding the final cost will be confirmed by stakeholders during their review.

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- > Following review and approval by NRAP, the team will confirm and agree a final cost with you before your application is submitted to HQIP.

Data application requests: Standard fees

Type of application	Charges			
	RCP (NRAP)	Crown informatics database*	HQIP	NHS England/external linkage
Basic data extract (no linkage/archive/processing)	No fee	£580	£1210, more details here	N/A
Standard data extract		£1160 Plus the following (if applicable): £90 LSOA £90 IMD		
DARF requiring more extensive support, e.g. data linkage/matching	£450 flat fee	£270 HES Submission £360 HES Linkage £180 PEDW Submission £270 PEDW Linkage £180 NDO screening £90/100k records data volume charge	£1815, more details here	Dependent upon application
Complex data extract DARF requiring extensive linkage and programming/complex information governance	£350/day	Price on Application from £1740.	Dependent on application, more details here	Dependent upon application

*Costs will be subject to VAT.

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Costs explained

- > Royal College of Physicians (RCP): Administrative fee. For standard and complex extracts, a fee is charged as a flat fee or per day depending on the application type. The number of days will be agreed with applicants at the start.
- > Crown Informatics database: Crown hold and process all NRAP data and will be responsible for extracting and processing the data you request.
- > HQIP: A fee will be charged to cover the cost of administering and processing your request throughout the approval process. More information on HQIP's payment schedule can be found [here](#).
- > NHS England/external linkage: Where the data you request requires linkage to externally held data, for example patient outcomes data from HES, an additional fee will be charged. More information on NHS Digital charges can be found [here](#).

Supporting documents and useful links

General information

- > [Royal College of Physicians webpage: applying to work with NRAP data](#)
- > [HQIP webpage: Data access requests inc. information on application process & fees](#)
- > [NHS Digital webpage: Data access request charges](#)

Supporting documents and resources

- > [HQIP webpage: Understanding Health Data Access](#)

Application forms

- > [NRAP data request scoping form](#)

Please note that the DARF application form should be downloaded directly from the HQIP website to ensure the correct version is used.

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