

Specific Privacy Statement

Epidemic intelligence Information System (EPIS)

This processing operation is subject to Regulation (EC) N° 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 (<http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/pages/legalnotice.aspx>) on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data¹. The information in this communication is given pursuant to Articles 11 and 12 of the Regulation (EC) N°45/2001.

1. What is the purpose of the processing operation?

The purpose of this processing operation is to support the exchange of information to assess whether current and emerging public health threats have a potential impact in the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA).

2. Who is the data controller?

Denis Coulombier, Head of the Surveillance and Response Support Unit (SRS).

ECDC - Granits väg 8, 171 65 Solna, Sweden

3. What personal data do we process and through which technical means?

a. Patient data

Case-based data collected at the European level might comprise demographic, clinical, epidemiological information (e.g. age, gender, country of residence), including information on exposure (e.g. food exposure, hotel stay, vaccination status), case identification number and laboratory results. They are reported by participating countries in response to events (i.e. unusual or abnormal disease situation) or threats. (i.e. event or a combination of events, which has a potential to cause damage to public health).

Patient data collected through The European Surveillance System (TESSy) may also be displayed in EPIS. Further details on how personal data contained in TESSy are treated are available from the [TESSy specific privacy statement](#). Personal data in EPIS are collected and submitted under the applicable national personal data protection law by EPIS users. All personal identifiers will be

¹ OJ L 8, 12 January 2001, p.1

removed from the dataset by the EPIS user prior to providing case-based data into EPIS. Where unique record identifiers are used to report case-based data, they must be anonymised and must not be traceable to individuals by ECDC. ECDC should not be able to use the information in its possession to identify any persons.

b. EPIS user data

Identification data of all EPIS users is stored in the ECDC's Customer Relationship Management (CRM) System. For further information on personal data protection, please check the CRM Specific Privacy Statement.

EPIS also collects some **technical information** from EPIS users. The system uses cookies for authentication, session cookies to ensure communication between the respondent and the server. Therefore, your browser must be configured to accept "cookies". Additionally, the IP address, operating system, browser and its version are collected in the log files for statistical purpose.

4. Who has access to the data and to whom is it disclosed?

a. Patient data

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the European Commission (EC), European Union Reference Laboratories, the World Health Organization, nominated EU/EEA Member State public health and food safety and veterinary health experts, and public health experts from collaborating non-EU/EEA countries are the default users of patient case-based EU/EEA surveillance data, but data access may also be granted to third parties upon conditions or request. Any member of the public has a right to access to the data, with the exception of data for which one of the exceptions in Article 4, paragraphs 1 to 3 of [Regulation 1049/2001](#), applies.

The principles and terms of the access to EPIS data are stated in EPIS terms of services available on the ECDC website.

b. EPIS user data

In some cases, name, affiliation and email addresses of EPIS users is displayed in EPIS and available to other EPIS users.

5. How do we protect and safeguard your information?

Patient data is kept anonymized towards the EPIS user and all data are stored according to the security measures of the ECDC Information Systems.

6. How to access your data?

The person concerned has the right to access, erase, block, update or rectify his/her personal data in the cases foreseen by Articles 13, 14 and 16 of [Regulation \(EC\) N°45/2001](#) by sending a written request to the TESSy and EPIS data access team at data.access@ecdc.europa.eu.

Because there are no instances in which persons can be uniquely identified from patient data held in EPIS, requests from these data subjects will be referred to the relevant national authority (the data source), who may be able to retrieve the information.

More information on how to access an EPIS user's identification data is available at CRM Specific Privacy Statement. This statement is distributed to all EPIS users together with their EPIS credentials.

7. Recourse

In the event of conflict, complaints can be addressed to the European Data Protection Supervisor at edps@edps.eu.int.

8. What are the legal foundations for processing these data?

- [ECDC founding regulation](#)
- [Decision No 1082/2013/EU](#)

9. How long do we keep your data?

a. Patient data

- Record IDs as provided by data providers² are kept up to 10 years
- Patient data will be retained anonymized for an indefinite period of time. Access will be limited and secure.

b. EPIS users

- Identification data – as stated in the CRM Specific Privacy Statement.
- Technical data – according to the retention policy of the ECDC Information Systems.

² These Record IDs do not necessarily correspond to the ones used in the data provider's national surveillance systems.