

# NIHR Information Security

Please also review the NIHR Information Security Page on the NIHR [Information Hub](#).

- Google designed G Suite with very stringent privacy and security standards based on industry best practices. This helps their customers address their compliance and regulatory requirements. Google offers strong contractual commitments regarding data ownership, data use, security, transparency and accountability.
- Google Cloud does not scan your data or email in G Suite Services for advertising purposes.
- All data is encrypted when it's on a disk, stored on backup media, moving over the Internet, or traveling between data centers.
- Google undergoes several independent third-party audits on a regular basis. These independent auditors examine the controls present in our data centers, infrastructure and operations.

## **Do we have a special licence allowing NIHR to choose where servers are – i.e. Has NIHR signed contracts with google on EU model contract clauses and data processing amendments?**

Google routinely move data around its' global network to ensure the best experience for users. However, the physical location of data in a true cloud system should be immaterial. The following points must be considered:

- The UK Information Commissioner's Office has declared that Google's approach to storing data is deemed sufficient
- Privacy Shield. Google maintains compliance with Privacy Shield during the term of the agreement;
- Google maintains adherence to EU Model Contract Clauses, our Data Processing Amendment and Sub-processor Disclosure.

## **Does NIHR have a signed agreement with google on Special HIPAA business Associate agreement or other agreement re confidential data not being searched to compiled as derivative products?**

Google processes your data to fulfill our contractual obligation to deliver our services. Google's customers own their data, not Google. The data that NIHR users put into G Suite is theirs. Google does not sell your data to third parties. Google offers our customers a detailed Data Processing Amendment that describes our commitment to protecting your data. ([More on Privacy](#))

Although it is possible for our instance of G Suite to become HIPAA compliant, we have deemed this not necessary as users must not store any patient healthcare data on the hub, as per the Acceptable Use Policy.

**Is any confidential data about individuals or application on the platform being searched and linked to other data on those individuals?**

No. All data inputted by NIHR users in all G Suite applications (Gmail, Google Drive, etc.) is owned by NIHR. Google does not have access to this data and is never searched on. All data is encrypted in transit and in storage.

**Is there any chance that the confidential ideas in any applications are being searched and data mined by google for non-NIHR reasons?**

No. All data inputted by NIHR users in all G Suite applications (Gmail, Google Drive, etc.) is owned by NIHR. Google does not have access to this data and is never searched on. All data is encrypted in transit and in storage.