

To: CCG Clinical Leads

CC: CCG Accountable Officers

Risk Stratification Assurance Statement Letter

NHS England has gained approval from the Clinical Advisory Group in its application for the disclosure of commissioning data sets and GP data for risk stratification purposes to data processors working on behalf of GPs.

The application was on behalf of GPs, as the relevant data controllers. It will enable GPs, supported by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), to target specific patient groups and enable clinicians with the duty of care for the patient to offer appropriate interventions.

NHS England has given an undertaking to the Secretary of State for Health to seek assurance from eligible organisations and to provide a register of approved organisations for the receipt and processing of the patient data for risk stratification. So NHS England is seeking assurance from Clinical Commissioning Groups and their appointed risk stratification suppliers that processing of the data is in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and that the conditions set out for processing of personal confidential data are undertaken and maintained.

This approval only applies to the use of GP and Secondary User Services data. It does not cover disclosure of social care data for risk stratification. Where social care data are to be used then the relevant parties need to assure themselves there is a legal basis for the disclosure and linkage for this purpose. This can be achieved either by using a third party and pseudonymised data, or with consent.

To provide assurance that your organisation and risk stratification are in compliance, please read the approval letter [CAG reference CAG 7-04\(a\)/2013](#) and work with your risk stratification suppliers to complete and return section A of the document.

Yours faithfully,

Ming Tang

Director, Data and Information Management Systems

NHS England