This is an information leaflet about the National Diabetes Inpatient Audit (NaDIA). It explains the purpose of the audit, how patient information is collected, and how this affects people with diabetes.

What is NaDIA?

NaDIA is an annual clinical audit (or survey) that checks the quality of diabetes care provided to people with diabetes when they stay in hospital (as inpatients), whether they are in hospital because of their diabetes or for another reason.

NaDIA collects information about inpatients with diabetes on one day during one specific week each year. The first NaDIA was carried out in 2010.

The information that is collected helps to highlight areas where diabetes care for inpatients is good, and where improvements still need to be made, so hospitals can make changes to improve their overall standards.

NaDIA is managed by NHS Digital, working in collaboration with Diabetes UK. Expert help is also provided by clinical teams across England and Wales.
How is information collected?

Each year, during NaDIA survey week, hospitals collect information about diabetes care in three ways:

1. Each hospital fills in a form to provide information including size, the number of patients with diabetes currently staying, and the number of specialist staff.

2. A member of staff visits each patient with diabetes and asks for their approval to fill in a form about the treatment they have received during their current hospital stay. This information is available from bedside charts – patients aren’t expected to recall the details of their care.

3. Each patient, who is fit and able, is invited to complete a questionnaire about their personal experience of diabetes care whilst they have been in hospital.

What information is collected?

All NaDIA forms are anonymous and do not include any personal information, such as a patient’s name and address.

Only information that is relevant to a patient’s diabetes care is collected: for example, the type of diabetes they have, their medication, and whether they have been seen by a diabetes specialist.

NaDIA does not collect information on any care that does not relate to a patient’s diabetes.

NaDIA is not a medical research project and no extra blood tests, appointments or scans are necessary.
How is the information used?
The information NaDIA collects is used to provide each hospital with a report about the standards of care they are providing to their inpatients with diabetes, and how these compare with other hospitals in England and Wales. This information helps hospitals to see where services need to improve the care they provide to people with diabetes.

Local and national reports are published each year on the NHS Digital website. Hospitals may also keep copies of the completed forms, so they can look at the standard of care they provide in detail.

How does NaDIA keep patients’ data safe?
Once the audit is complete, each hospital sends its completed forms to NHS Digital, where the information is entered into a secure computer system for analysis. The forms do not include any personal information, such as name and address.

NHS Digital has special legal permission to handle individual patient data for clinical audits. They are required to keep to very strict security and confidentiality standards and work within the laws on the protection of personal data.

Saying ‘no thanks’
Participation in NaDIA will ensure the survey results provide information on everyone’s experiences of care. However, patients can choose not to be included in the survey by telling a member of staff carrying out the survey on the day. In this way, none of their information will be collected. This will not affect their care in any way.

Under certain circumstances, the information collected through NaDIA may also be used in other research projects. However, the information will only be shared with other researchers if their project is:

- Formally authorised through the usual strict ethical approval process for research.
- Related to improving the care of people with diabetes.
Further information

For more information about the NaDIA, go to www.content.digital.nhs.uk/diabetesinpatientaudit. Or you can email: nadia@nhs.net or telephone NHS Digital on: 0845 300 6016.

Further information about NHS Digital, other national diabetes audits and copies of past diabetes survey reports can be found at: www.content.digital.nhs.uk/nda

Diabetes UK is a charity for people with diabetes. For more information, visit: www.diabetes.org.uk

If you want to make a difference to diabetes services and care, you can join Diabetes Voices. Find out more at: www.diabetes.org.uk/Get-involved/Campaigning/Diabetes-Voices

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published guidelines that are followed by NHS services when managing diabetes. For more information, see: http://guidance.nice.org.uk/QS6

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