



**Lightening session**

# **Advancing Health Information Standards**

**Speakers:**



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# Advancing secondary use of data in Ireland under the EHDS Regulation – *readiness assessment and preparedness*

Dr Barbara Foley  
HIQA

**Data Discovery**



**Project Design**



**Ethics Approval**

(if required)



**Data Permit Application  
Submission to HDAB**



**Access Committee  
Review**



*HDABs have  
3 months to  
issue  
decision  
(potential  
additional 3-  
month ext)*

**Data access given in  
SPE**



**Data shared with  
HDAB**



*3-month timeline  
(potential additional  
3 months)*

**Request to Data  
Holder(s) Issued**



**Data Permit/Request  
Issued**



*Permits can issue  
for up to 10yrs  
and be renewed  
once*

**Research  
published**



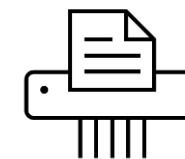
*18 months to share  
research with HDAB*

**HDAB shares  
research on website**



*Data in SPE  
must be  
destroyed 6  
months  
after permit  
expiry*

**HDAB destroys  
data in SPE**



# EHDS Regulation

## Categories of electronic data for secondary use

- a) Electronic Health Record (EHR) data
- b) Data impacting on health
- c) Data on healthcare needs, resourcing, access, expenditure and financing
- d) Pathogen genomic data
- e) Healthcare-related administrative data
- f) Human genetic and genomic data
- g) Other human molecular data
- h) Person-generated medical device data
- i) Wellness app generated data
- j) Identification data on health professionals
- k) Population-wide health data registries
- l) Data from medical and mortality registries
- m) Clinical trial data (after completion)
- n) Medical device-generated data
- o) Data from product and device registries
- p) Health research cohorts/questionnaires/surveys
- q) Biobanks and databases

# EHDS Regulation

## Potential secondary uses of data

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- Public Health interests, including patient safety
- Policy making and regulatory activities
- Developing statistics at national or multi-national levels
- Educational or teaching activities
- Scientific research
- Innovation contributing to health or social care (incl. medicinal products, medical devices or AI systems)
- Personalised healthcare for patients

# How is HIQA supporting these developments?

## - HealthData@IE project (2023-2027)

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- Grant funding from EU Commission to establish health data access services (HDAB) for Ireland
- Collaborative approach - DoH, HIQA, HRB, HSE and key stakeholders
- National Steering Committee – HealthData@IE
- 3 Working Groups Established – WP2, WP6 and WP8
- **Key areas for advancement :**
  - Programme of engagement, education and training (WP2)
  - National dataset catalogue (WP6)
  - Data quality enhancement (WP8)
  - National data access application management system
  - Secure processing environments

# HealthData@IE Work Package 8

## Why focus on data quality?

- For data holders, there are several requirements relating to data quality and utility set out in the EHDS regulation, including:
  - The need to apply a **data quality and utility label** to datasets to demonstrate the quality and usefulness of the data for being used for secondary purposes before they can be made available through the HDAB (currently being developed by the QUANTUM project)
  - The need to use **data standards** to enable data discovery, semantic interoperability, and interoperable communications
- There will also be requirements for organisations to assess levels of **compliance** among data holders with the various requirements set out under the EHDS



# HealthData@IE

## Readiness assessment: aims

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1. To explore the **feasibility of reusing and linking** health and social care data from different sources for secondary use purposes in Ireland by assessing if potential linkage variables are present across datasets
2. To identify whether there is **capacity** among data holders to provide metadata and data in the necessary formats to a future HDAB service
3. To determine the strengths and weaknesses of data holders' existing ICT systems **interoperability** and their ability to support the exchange of data with a future HDAB service
4. To explore perceived **barriers and facilitators** to the implementation of the EHDS and the establishment of HDAB services in Ireland from the perspectives of data holders
5. To identify and prioritise data holders' **data quality guidance and training needs**.



### Influenza

- To demonstrate the feasibility of using available data to carry out surveillance of **influenza** and explore rates of influenza testing, vaccination and hospitalisation in vulnerable groups.

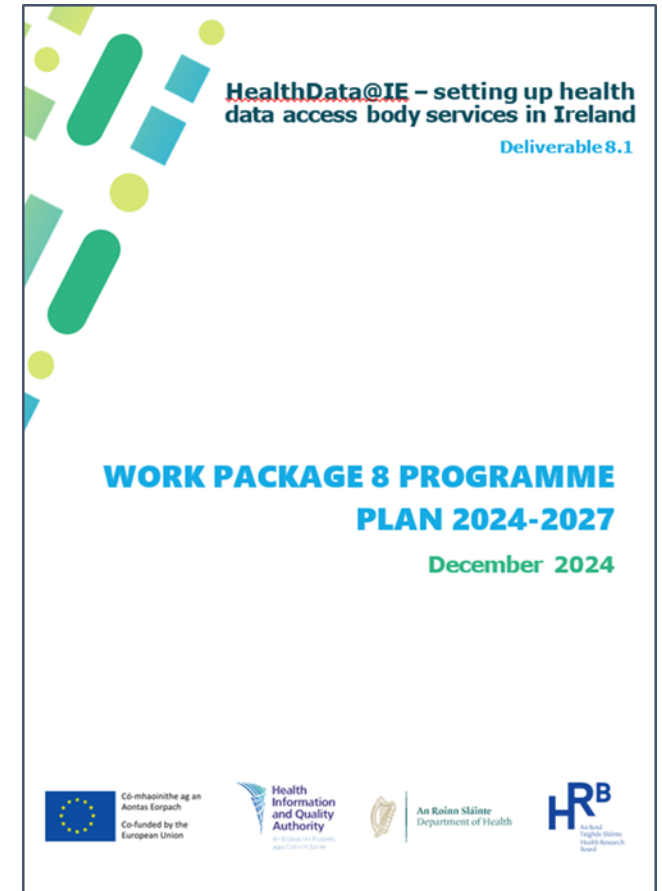
### Type-1 diabetes

- To demonstrate the feasibility of using available data to enhance our understanding of **Type-1 diabetes**, to compare care pathways, measure clinical outcomes and costs of care, and enable better planning of services.

### Colorectal cancer

- To demonstrate the feasibility of linking **clinical and genomic data** to enhance our understanding of **colorectal cancer**, including incidence, risk factors, causes, and long-term outcomes.

- Through the process of developing the three use cases, the key datasets and the associated data holders will be identified and selected for inclusion in the various stages of the readiness assessment in 2025, via:
  - Online survey
  - Focus groups
  - Interviews
- Key questions will be explored with data holders, particularly whether key linkage variables are present across datasets and whether there is capacity among the data holders to provide metadata and data in the necessary format to a future HDAB service.
- Perceived barriers and facilitators to the establishment of HDAB services will also be explored



# Thank you



**Health  
Information  
and Quality  
Authority**

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