

For Attention of the Practice Manager/Data Protection Officer/Caldicott Guardian  
Cc: CCG Caldicott Guardian

*'GP Practice Name'*  
*'Address line 1'*  
*'Address line 2'*  
*'Address line 3'*  
*'Post code'*

March 2019

Dear Colleague,

**ACTION REQUIRED – Prevent the recording of type 2 objections and notify patients if any have been set in error**

We wrote to GP practices in October 2018 to remind them; that type 2 objection codes must no longer be used because the type 2 objection has been replaced by the national data opt-out, and type 2 codes added to a patient's record **after 11 October 2018** would not be collected by NHS Digital.

To find out more about data sharing and how to set a national data opt-out please ask patients to visit the 'Your NHS Data Matters' website ([www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters](http://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters)) or call 0300 303 5678.

Some of the GP system suppliers have already made type 2 codes inactive within their code browsers, **however if the codes are in use within existing data entry templates and those templates are not changed then type 2 objection codes can still be recorded in error.**

As data controllers, GP practices have a responsibility to take all measures possible to prevent an invalid type 2 objection code being recorded in a patient record, by ensuring practice clinicians and staff are aware that these codes must not be used. If a patient learns later that the objection has not been applied, then they may raise a legitimate complaint with your practice.

To support GP practices in meeting this responsibility we are providing guidance covering each of the GP system supplier's status on type 2 code inactivation, checking and removing codes in existing templates and help with identifying any new entries of type 2 codes since 11 October 2018. This guidance can be found at <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-data-opt-out-programme/information-for-gp-practices>, here under the heading 'Communication with GP Practices' you will also find copies of previous letters sent.

If you need any more information, please email [enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk](mailto:enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk) or call us on 0300 303 5678.

Yours sincerely



Dr Arjun Dhillon  
Clinical Director and Caldicott Guardian