

Coronary Heart Attack Ireland Register

Statement of Information Practices

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About the Coronary Heart Attack Ireland Register (CHAIR)

The purpose of CHAIR is to gather information on hospital patients admitted to hospitals with suspected or confirmed acute coronary syndromes (ACS) in order to improve the delivery of healthcare and to improve patient outcomes. CHAIR is operated and governed by the HSE South/Southwest Hospital Group.

1. What information is collected by CHAIR?

CHAIR collects data on patients who are admitted to participating hospitals with suspected or confirmed acute coronary syndromes. This data includes personal data, such as name, address and date of birth, and sensitive personal data, such as health data relating to acute coronary syndromes. A comprehensive list of the data collected is available in the CHAIR Data Dictionary, located [here](#).

2. How is the information collected?

Eligible CHAIR cases are identified through one or a combination of the following sources, according to the available systems in individual hospitals:

- Patient Administration Systems (PiMS, ICM)
- Cardiovascular Information System (CVIS)
- Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) reports
- Cork University Hospital Cardiology Discharge Report
- Patient medical records
- Medical Assessment Unit (MAU) High Dependency Unit (HDU) logbooks
- Referrals to the Cardiac Rehabilitation Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Feedback from the Cardiology Department within hospitals

CHAIR data items are transferred from the above-mentioned data sources to the CHAIR datasheet and data is subsequently entered into the CHAIR database from the datasheets.

CHAIR has data sharing agreements in place with the private and voluntary hospital participating in CHAIR. In the case of HSE hospitals, CHAIR is bound by HSE information security and confidentiality policies.

Data is collected from hospitals with the kind assistance of medical record administrators, secretaries, nurses and doctors in the Cardiology Departments.

3. How is the information stored?

The information is stored securely on a password protected database hosted on a secure HSE server located at Cork University Hospital. Other than the CHAIR Registration Officers, Data Analyst and Programme Manager, no other staff members have access to the CHAIR database. A data processor working on behalf of CHAIR also has access to the CHAIR database and is bound by a Data Processing Agreement.

All datasheets are locked in a secure location in each of their originating hospitals. CHAIR Registration Officers in their respective hospitals are the only staff members that have access to the datasheets. The retention period for datasheets is six months, after which they are securely destroyed.

4. How is the information used?

Information collected by CHAIR is used for the following:

- Quality improvement and clinical audit within CHAIR hospitals
- Data registration for the Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Register (OHCAR)
- Business information for the SSWHG

5. Legal context

CHAIR does not seek individual patient consent for the data it processes. Rather it has a legal basis to process data under Article 6 (1) (e) of the GDPR and Section 38 of the Data Protection Act 2018, whereby personal data can be collected and processed where necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest; and Articles 9(2) (h) and 9 (2) (i) of the GDPR and Sections 52 and 53 of the Data Protection Act 2018 whereby the processing of healthcare data, which is “special category data”, can be undertaken for the purposes of preventative or occupational medicine, for the assessment of the working capacity of an employee, for medical diagnosis, for the provision of medical care, treatment or social care, for the management of health or social care systems; or undertaken in the public interest, which includes ensuring high standards of quality and safety in healthcare.

Under the Health Act 2004, the HSE is the vested authority with statutory responsibility for the management and delivery of healthcare. The HSE may ‘use the resources available to it in the most beneficial, effective and efficient manner to improve, promote and protect the health and welfare of

the public.' CHAIR is a patient registry which seeks to improve the quality of acute coronary syndrome patient care.

6. How is the privacy of information protected?

All CHAIR data is stored securely on a password protected database hosted on a secure HSE server and on CHAIR datasheets stored in secure locations. All CHAIR personal computers operate on the Windows 10 operating system and are accessed through the HSE firewall to restrict unauthorised access to the CHAIR database. Access to paper patient medical records are facilitated through established local processes, for example, medical records staff facilitating access to medical records.

All CHAIR staff are informed and knowledgeable regarding their roles in maintaining data protection and patient confidentiality. CHAIR staff undertake regular training on data protection and information governance through the HSEland resources.

7. What legislation and standards must CHAIR adhere to?

CHAIR is aligned with the following legislation and standards:

- Data Protection Acts 1988 – 2018
- General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679
- Freedom of Information Act 2014
- Information Management Standards for National Health and Social Care Data Collections (2017).

8. How can people access information held about them?

Under data protection legislation, individuals have a number of rights that a data controller, such as CHAIR, is obliged to respect. At a most fundamental level, individuals have the right to have their details used in line with data protection regulations. They have the right to know if an organisation or individual is holding their information and they have the right to access this information. They also have the right to object to the processing of their information and the right to have their information changed, removed or corrected by a data controller. A complete [guide to your rights](#) is available on the website of the Data Protection Commission.

Information on how to make an access request is available at: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/gdpr/data-requests/>. Alternatively, individuals may contact CHAIR directly at chair@hse.ie to request access to their data.

9. Further details on information handling practices

CHAIR can be contacted at:

Email: chair@hse.ie

Mobile number: 087-1800446

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