



## Child Protection Information Sharing Service (CP-IS) and School Nurse (0-19) access issues / Rapid Read

### Situation:

Emerging situation whereby School Nurse team who had commenced use of CP-IS through COVID (Control of Patient Information- COPI) were contacted by National CP-IS and a temporary halt was placed on their access. The school Nurse team had started accessing CP-IS directly rather than using the dataflow that is sent. Which will be generating erroneous alerts for social workers

Control of patient information Regulations 2002 (COPI) provide NHS Digital with the necessary statutory power to share confidential patient information to organisations entitled to process this under COPI for COVID-19 purposes Control of patient information (COPI) notice - NHS Digital [Control of patient information \(COPI\) notice - NHS Digital](#)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, child protection information was extracted from CP-IS and shared with School Nurses and Health Visitors, who work for local 0-19 public health service providers. CP-IS is used in a subset of unscheduled care settings in the NHS in England and therefore School Nurses and Health Visitors are not able to routinely access CP-IS.

### Actions:

On 24/06/22 NHS digital wrote to the Directors of Children's Services with an update about the end of the COPI Notice.

The 0-19 dataflow will continue post COVID COPI. 0-19/ School Nurse teams to continue to access CP-IS through the dataflow.

National CP-IS have recently started monitoring access, being alerted to 'unusual' access (e.g. scheduled care), which is triggering contact by CP-IS and access to CP-IS to be revoked.

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### Background:

CP-IS helps health and social care professionals share information securely to better protect children with looked after status, those who have a child protection plan and expectant women who have an unborn child protection plan. When a child is known to social care and is a Child Looked After or on a Child Protection Plan, basic information about that plan is shared securely with the NHS. If that child attends an NHS unscheduled care setting, such as an emergency department or a minor injury unit: the health team is alerted that they are on a plan and has access to the contact details for the social care team, the social care team is automatically notified that the child has attended, both parties can see details of the child's previous visits (up to 25) to unscheduled care settings in England [Child Protection - Information Sharing service - NHS Digital](#)

There are many benefits of sharing this information [CPIS extract to 0-19 Services for Covid-19 child health safeguarding actions - NHS Digital](#)

### Recommendations:

Establish Local Authority Commissioner who will need to provide permission to access the information.

Contact National CP-IS on [cpis2@nhs.net](mailto:cpis2@nhs.net)

Each case will be accessed on its individual basis whether CP-IS can be reestablished. This will need authorisation for the Local Authority commissioner.

National roll out of CP-IS to scheduled care setting to continue as per CP-IS project plan.