What is SSNAP?

The Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme is a national project.

It is run by King’s College London.

When we say “we”, we mean SSNAP.

We measure

- stroke care in hospitals
- stroke care at home
- progress 6 months after stroke

All hospitals must send SSNAP information on how they treat stroke patients.

We measure hospitals’ stroke care against national clinical guidelines. These guidelines tell services what care stroke patients should receive. This helps to improve the care patients receive.

The information we collect

The National Stroke Strategy says all stroke patients should have a review.

This should be 6 months after stroke.

We collect your 6 month review information. It tells us

- if you are living at home or in a care home
- if you are living alone or with someone
- if you have a carer
- what support you have received
- what medication you have received

This information is important to collect. It tells us how well you recover from your stroke.

From April 2020, SSNAP is now collecting information on confirmed or suspected COVID diagnosis.
Collecting your personal information

To link your stroke care information to other illnesses we need to collect your
- name
- date of birth
- postcode
- NHS number

We will never see this information.

NHS Digital (NHSD) and NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) connect your personal information with information from:

Civil Registration – Deaths (supplied by NHSD)
This collects information about
- people who have died
- what caused their death

Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) and Patient Episode Database for Wales (PEDW)

Everyone in hospital is given a code which is sent to HES and PEDW. The codes tell us about different illnesses across the country. We use these codes to
- show what is happening in stroke care
- to check how many people have had a stroke

This helps hospitals to improve stroke care for patients.

How personal information is kept safe

There are strict rules for keeping information safe.

Hospital staff collect your personal information.

These staff are chosen by the hospital.

They must be approved by the hospital and us.

This information is sent to SSNAP.

Hospital staff use a secure website.

They must enter a personal password.

Only staff involved in your stroke care can see this information.
The permission we need to collect your information

The NHS has told us when we need to ask for patients’ permission.

We do not need permission when

- The patient is in hospital
- The patient is receiving care at home

This is because the NHS understands that this information is important.

By measuring stroke services it helps to improve stroke care.

We can check that services are giving patients the care that they need.

We do need permission to collect 6 month review information.

At six months patients are more likely to have recovered.

Patients will be more able to give their permission.

You can ask a carer or family member for advice.

Can I refuse to give my permission?

Yes. Just tell the person who gave you this leaflet.

Your personal information will then be removed.

Contact the SSNAP team

Telephone 0116 464 9901
Email ssnap@kcl.ac.uk
Website www.strokeaudit.org

Full details available at: https://www.strokeaudit.org/SSNAP-Governance.aspx