

**Reference:** FOI.ICB-2425/176

**Subject:** Technology to Support Children's Care

*I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:*

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>The Transformation Directorate's website indicates that the NHS is increasingly using technology to support care, with such technologies including virtual wards, apps, remote monitoring technologies, patient portals, and telemedicine devices. Examples of technology being used to support children's care are provided on some trusts' websites.</p> <p>A limited number of examples of how such technologies are being used to support children's care are also outlined on the Transformation Directorate's website. There appears to be no comprehensive database for the public to access which outlines the technologies and apps that are currently being used to support children's care.</p> <p>Where posts discuss how the NHS is using virtual wards, apps, remote technologies, patient portals and telemedicine devices, no information is provided about what parents and children are told about how their data will be used or whether parents are able to opt out of such technology use.</p>	<p>Information regarding the ICB privacy notice is available on our website: <a href="https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/how-we-use-your-information/">https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/how-we-use-your-information/</a></p> <p>Also, an NHS England website where data provision notices and technical specifications can be found on data collected and the legal basis for this at: <a href="https://digital.nhs.uk/services/data-services-for-commissioners/commissioning-datasets">https://digital.nhs.uk/services/data-services-for-commissioners/commissioning-datasets</a></p> <p>Information specifically about data sharing can be found at provider/organisation level here: <a href="https://digital.nhs.uk/services/data-access-request-service-dars/data-uses-register">https://digital.nhs.uk/services/data-access-request-service-dars/data-uses-register</a></p>

<p>In response to a FOI request Ref: FOI-2407-21123294 NHS England advised that as of July 2022, and under the Health and Care Act 2022, the Integrated Care Boards (ICB's) became statutory bodies with the responsibility to fulfil legal and regulatory obligations including adherence to government standards such as GDPR and clinical safety standards and that the information requested below therefore resides at an ICB level.</p>	
<p>1. Please can you therefore provide details of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. whether (as at August 2024) any of the following are used in your ICB area to support children's care: telehealth and telemedicine technologies, MHealth apps, health information technologies, remote monitoring technologies, digital healthcare devices, wearable devices and telemedicine devices and/or any other technologies designed to facilitate personalised medicine not detailed above</li> <li>b. The names/details of technologies being used</li> <li>c. The purposes for which such technologies are being used. NB we are not asking for detailed information about the operation or implementation of these technologies, but merely the broad purposes for which they are being used.</li> </ol>	<p>The ICB does not directly commission technology to support children's care. The ICB is aware of the technologies below; the providers will hold further details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kooth chat function - AWP</li> <li>• CAMHS Crisis line - comes under the sub-contract Sirona hold with AWP for CAMHS</li> <li>• Handi app - developed through UHBW</li> </ul> <p>The ICB has commissioned the ORCHA app library <a href="https://orchahealth.com/our-products/health-app-library/">https://orchahealth.com/our-products/health-app-library/</a> to provide a repository of approved apps to support patients with self-care. Most of these are for adults but some apps are suitable for parents/children. One app particularly aimed at supporting children's care is the Handi APP. The purposes of these apps are to empower patients to be better able to take more control of their health condition where it is appropriate.</p>
<p>2. In your ICB area, please can you advise what information clinicians are given about how data collected by such technology is processed, for what purposes, and with whom it</p>	<p>The ICB is not a care provider and does not hold this information centrally.</p>

<p>is shared. Again, we are asking for information in broad terms e.g. whether information is shared with commercial entities/third parties and the status of those entities ie technology provider but not the names of those entities.</p>	<p>Individual care providers would need to provide this information – suggestion to review the privacy notices on their respective websites.</p>
<p>3. Please can you confirm what information doctors and other health professionals in your ICB area give/are advised to give to child patients and/or their parents about the benefits and risks of using such technology generally/specifically.</p>	<p>The ICB is not a care provider and does not hold this information centrally.</p> <p>For adults, if we refer into a service that uses TEC, we are making the decision that it is a safe option for that patient with that clinical indication at that time – and there are safeguards/processes built into the service that escalate appropriately should the patient’s condition worsen.</p>
<p>4. Please can you confirm what information doctors and other health professionals in your ICB area give/are advised to give to child patients and/or their parents about how data collected by such technology is processed, for what purposes, and with whom it is shared.</p>	<p>The ICB is not a care provider and does not hold this information centrally.</p> <p>Individual care providers would need to provide this information.</p>
<p>5. Please can you provide copies of all policies and documents that have been developed by or within the ICB with a view to ensuring that when NHS staff are advocating the use of such technology, children and parents’ information is processed in accordance with the UKGDPR.</p>	<p>The ICB uses NHS Data Security and Protection Toolkit to provide assurance on data security and the handling of personal information: <a href="https://www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/">https://www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/</a></p> <p>All ICB staff are required to complete Data Security Awareness training annually.</p>
<p>6. Please can you advise what information is currently provided within your ICB area for the child patients and their parents to refer to should they have any queries about how data collected by such technologies is used and by whom.</p>	<p>Information about the purposes for which the ICB may use personal data is published on the ICB’s website: <a href="https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/our-uses-of-information/">https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/our-uses-of-information/</a></p>

7. Please can you advise what advice is provided to clinicians in your ICB area about the response they should give where a child patient or their parent does not wish to use such technologies/wishes to opt out of data collection or sharing related to the use of such technologies.

The ICB is not a care provider. Information relating to BNSSG ICBs use of data and how to opt-out of data sharing is included in the BNSSG ICB Privacy Notice - <https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/how-we-use-your-information/>.

We would advise the requester contacts individual providers to obtain any additional information for advice they provide to their clinicians – this may be contained in the respective privacy notices for trusts, community providers and individual GP practices. A list of Integrated Care System providers and a link to their websites can be found on the ICB website: <https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/the-integrated-care-system-in-bnssg/>

***The information provided in this response is accurate as of 3 September 2024 and has been approved for release by Deborah El-Sayed, Chief Transformation & Digital Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.***