

A Service Evaluation to review the baseline demographics of patients undergoing radical treatment for oropharyngeal cancer – and a comparison with the UK TORPEdO Phase III trial cohort.

Pseudo-anonymised information from medical health records on cancer and cancer treatment details for all people in England who have received radiotherapy treatment for oropharyngeal cancer between 2019 and 2024 was sent to The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) by NHS-Digital. The information originates from medical records and national cancer registrations.

The purpose of processing these data is to undertake a service evaluation for English patients who have received radiotherapy for oropharyngeal cancer and compare it to participants enrolled into the TORPEDO trial. TORPEDO is a randomised controlled trial evaluating the role of proton beam therapy (an advanced type of radiotherapy) in the management of oropharyngeal cancer, managed by ICR-CTSU. Patients were recruited voluntarily to TORPEdO within participating NHS hospitals.

The study aims to identify any group of patients, or any patient characteristic, associated with lower than expected representation within the trial. This insight will focus future efforts to develop strategies to improve equity, diversity and inclusion within radiotherapy trials. The Data will not be shared outside the ICR.

The Institute of Cancer Research are the data controller for this service evaluation. The lawful basis for processing this information is for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. The ICR processes sensitive personal and health information because the processing is necessary for reasons of public interest in the area of public health specifically for the purpose of undertaking a service evaluation. We ensure appropriate safeguards are in place to protect personal information as required by the UK General Data Protection Regulation.

Individuals have the right to request from the controller access to and rectification or erasure of the personal data, or restriction of processing of personal data, or to object to the processing of such personal data, as well as data portability.

If you want further information or wish to opt out of future supply of the above data by these NHS organisations, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at:

DataProtectionOfficer@icr.ac.uk

Or by post:

Data Protection Officer,
123 Old Brompton Road,
London,
SW7 3RP

If you feel we have breached your rights under UK GDPR you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office