Health data saves lives, but access is difficult.

We're changing that.

The East of England Secure Data Environment makes it easier and safer to access and analyse sensitive patient data for research.

**Securely, ethically and efficiently.**

Your gateway to NHS data, advanced research tools, and expertise

The East of England Secure Data Environment (SDE) is a digital platform that enables researchers to access and analyse de-identified NHS health data **securely, ethically and efficiently.**

Hosted by Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, we provide approved researchers with secure access to unique datasets, an advanced analytics platform, and expert support.

Covering a region with over 7 million people, the East of England SDE is located in **one of the UK's fastest growing populations**. Based in a **world-leading life sciences cluster**, we have specialist expertise in **genomic data research**.

Patients and the public are actively involved in shaping how the SDE is designed and how data is accessed and used, helping to ensure transparency, trust, and public benefit.
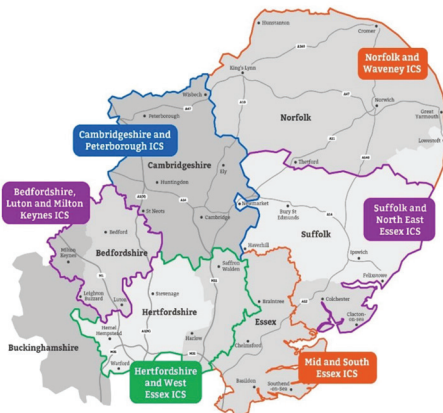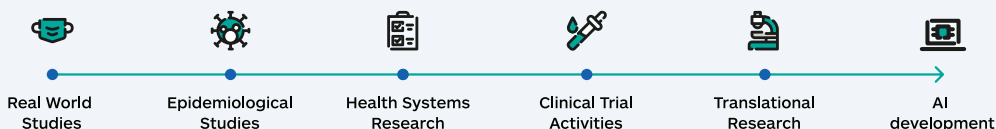
Part of the NHS Research Secure Data Environment Network, the East of England SDE makes access to data for research easier, faster and more secure, enhancing the quality of research and improving patients' lives.

Solutions to accelerate your research

- ☑ Access de-identified NHS data, bring your own data, or link NHS and research data
- ☑ Use a secure, compliant cloud-based analytics platform
- ☑ Get end-to-end support with your research data projects
- ☑ Use our streamlined application process, designed with patient and public input

The East of England SDE supports research across the R&D pipeline.

| Real World Studies | Epidemiological Studies | Health Systems Research | Clinical Trial Activities | Translational Research | AI development |

Data, infrastructure and services all in one place

Secure, scalable and research-ready – access diverse NHS data, analytics tools and expert support in a single environment.

Federated data discovery

Data is made available only on request, not pooled in a data lake, increasing data security and relevance for your study while reducing storage costs.

Unique NHS datasets

Secure access to diverse, linked patient data not available elsewhere, including secondary care prescribing and diagnostic results.

Secure open-source platform

Secure platform and open-source tooling for data analysis and advanced research, allowing users to bring their own data.

Scalable cloud infrastructure

Flexible, high-performance computing and unlimited storage, tailored to the needs of each research project.

End-to-end support

Expert guidance from data access to governance and compliance, including template agreements.

UK leaders

in genomic data research and services.

Security by design

The East of England SDE provides an ISO 27001-certified, NHS-hosted environment for safe data access and analysis.

The SDE operates under approvals from the Health Research Authority's Confidentiality Advisory Group (CAG) and an NHS Research Ethics Committee (REC), enabling lawful access to de-identified data under Section 251 of the NHS Act.

All data use is governed by the **Five Safes framework** - ensuring projects are conducted by trusted researchers, using appropriate data, in a secure setting, for approved purposes, with safe outputs.

1	2	3	4	5
Safe people	Safe projects	Safe settings	Safe data	Safe outputs

💡Learn more: **www.eoe-securedataenvironment.nhs.uk**

Data services

Securely find and access curated, high value, NHS datasets that are unavailable anywhere else.

Datasets that are available now include:

- ☑ Linked, curated, de-identified, longitudinal NHS secondary care datasets
- ☑ Structured, tabular data
- ☑ Prescribing data
- ☑ Diagnostic results

New datasets are added regularly to expand the depth and breadth of NHS data available for research. For full details of data available, visit our website.

Our data is sourced from NHS organisations and research institutes in the East of England - a total population of over 7 million people with:

- Diverse socio-economic variation
- The largest percentage population growth of any region in England
- Socially-stable communities, generating large scale longitudinal health data

Our data services provide:

- ☑ Advanced cohort discovery
- ☑ Automated data linkage and de-identification
- ☑ Harmonised data models, including Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership (OMOP) integration
- ☑ 'Bring your own data' capability
- ☑ Data made securely available on request rather than via a centralised data lake

Platform services

Run your analysis in a flexible, scalable, secure research platform designed to power a wide range of research use cases.

Platform features that are live now include:

- ☑ ISO 27001-accredited environment
- ☑ Scalable storage and compute enabling capabilities matched to data and project
- ☑ Pre-installed analytics tools, including Python, R, SQL Server, and RStudio
- ☑ Bring your own tools, algorithms, and workflows
- ☑ Secure cloud-based virtual desktop interface (VDI) with controlled browser access
- ☑ User management, providing visibility and control over who has access to your workspace

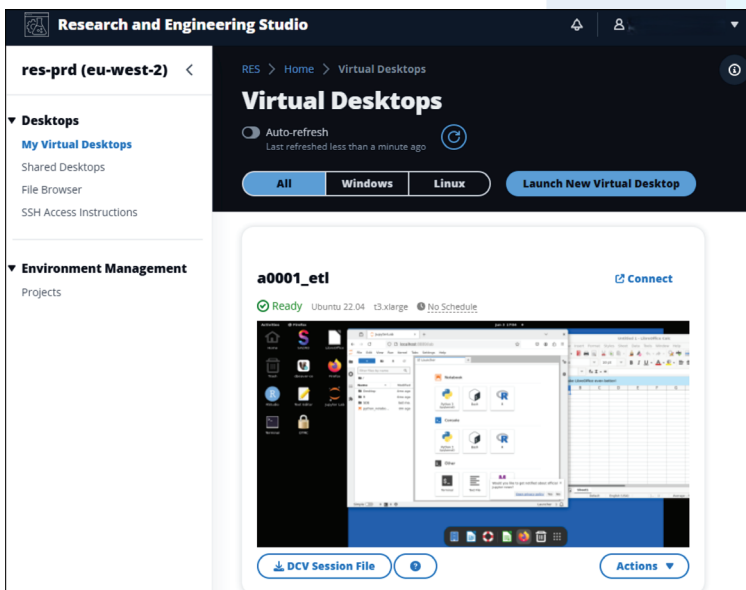## Benefits of using the East of England SDE platform:

1

Controlled spending on compute and storage

2

Fully compliant, NHS-hosted and secure

3

Suitable for users without coding expertise

💡Learn more: **www.eoe-securedataenvironment.nhs.uk**

End-to-end support

Get expert support for your study, from navigating governance to accessing the right datasets to optimise your research.
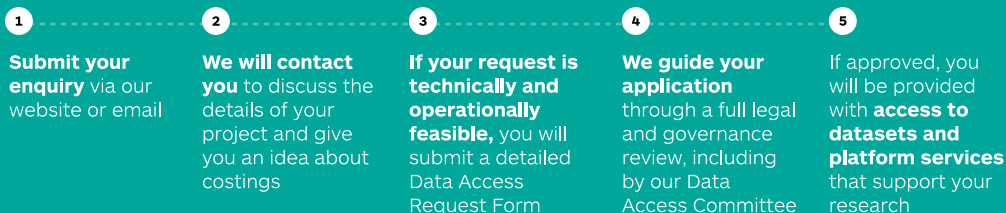
Our services include:

☑ **Feasibility assessments**
Before you apply to access the SDE, we assess whether your project is achievable and provide advice on how to improve your application.

☑ **Data access application**
We help you navigate the NHS data access process - guiding you through governance and documentation to reduce delays and increase your project's success.

☑ **Project management**
Every research project is assigned a dedicated case officer to ensure smooth coordination, communication, and delivery from start to finish.

☑ **Contracting and research governance support**
We offer expert support with contracts, data sharing agreements, compliance documentation, and template agreements.

Accessing the East of England SDE

Our expert team supports you every step of the way.

Accessing data and platform services through the East of England SDE follows an efficient process designed to ensure that your projects meet the highest legal, ethical, and security standards. Our expert team supports you every step of the way to make the process as smooth and efficient as possible.

1	2	3	4	5
Submit your enquiry via our website or email	**We will contact you** to discuss the details of your project and give you an idea about costings	**If your request is technically and operationally feasible,** you will submit a detailed Data Access Request Form	**We guide your application** through a full legal and governance review, including by our Data Access Committee	If approved, you will be provided with **access to datasets and platform services** that support your research

Timelines for access vary based on project complexity and governance requirements.

The East of England SDE Data Access Committee reviews and assesses each application. Members of the committee include professionals with expertise in data science, privacy, security, ethics, healthcare and research, alongside patient representatives and members of the public.

Pricing

The East of England SDE operates on a cost-recovery basis. Users are charged to cover the costs incurred by NHS trusts for preparing and providing data, and to maintain a high-quality, secure platform. Any revenue generated through the use of the platform is shared with participating NHS organisations and reinvested into improving the platform and expanding access to new data and services.

We operate a cost-effective pricing model and can provide a full cost breakdown as part of the application process. We charge for:

- ☑ **Data access:**
  costs are variable depending on the data assets requested and any expected commercial return arising from a research project.

- ☑ **Platform use:**
  costs cover an initial set up and configuration fee, cloud and compute fees (you will only be charged for what you use).

- ☑ **Support:**
  additional consultancy support beyond the provision of standard services may be available and quotes can be provided depending on the support needed.

East of England
SECURE DATA
ENVIRONMENT

Part of the
NHS Research Secure Data Environment Network

NHS

Let's unlock the power of data together.

Whether you need secure access to NHS data or a compliant analytics platform for your research, we're ready to help.

Email: cuh.eoe.sde@nhs.net
Web: www.eoe-securedataenvironment.nhs.uk