

Five Safes at UCLH

Data access at UCLH is judged using the '[5 safes](#)' framework. Our local implementation is summarised below.

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Safe people

- all individuals have substantive contracts or educational relationships with higher education or NHS institutions
- those working need to have evidence of experience of working with such data (e.g. previous training, previous work with ONS, data safe havens etc.) or they need a supervisor who can has similar experience
- those working need to undergo training in information governance and issues with statistical disclosure control (SDC)

Safe projects

- projects must 'serve the public good'
- projects must meet relevant HRA and UCLH research and ethics approvals
- service delivery work mandated as per usual trust processes

Safe settings

- working at UCLH in the NHS on approved infrastructure
 - UCLH local and remote desktops
 - UCLH Data Science Desktop
 - EMAP

Safe outputs

- outputs (e.g. reports, figures and tables) must be non-disclosing
- outputs should remain on NHS systems initially
- a copy of all outputs that are released externally (documents) should be stored in one central location so that there is visibility for all

Safe data

- direct identifiers (hospital numbers, NHS numbers, names etc) should be masked unless there is an explicit justification for their use
- data releases are proportionate (e.g. limited by calendar periods, by patient cohort etc.)
- further work to obscure or mask the data is not necessary given the other safe guards (as per the recommendation by the UK data service)