



Department
of Health

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Mr Tim Overton
Consultant in Fetal Medicine
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UBHT Education Centre
Upper Maudlin Street
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8 March 2004

Dear Mr Overton

Thank you for your letter of 29 January about Section 60 support for congenital anomaly registers. Please accept my apologies for not replying sooner.

I am happy to confirm that the Section 60 support obtained by BINOCAR for regional congenital anomaly registers remains valid. Although this information was available on the Department of Health website – in the minutes of meetings of the Patient Information Advisory Group, and also the Advisory Group's Annual Report – you are correct that the register of activities carried out with Section 60 support has not yet been published.

The register is now in an advanced state of development and will be available on the Department's website soon. In the meantime please feel free to refer to me any queries you may receive about your register's Section 60 status.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Kirwan', written over the typed name.

Sean Kirwan
PIAG Secretariat



INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH

South West



Congenital Abnormality Register

29th January 2004

Mr Sean Kirwan
Secretary
PIAG
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Dear Sean

SECTION 60 SUPPORT FOR THE USE OF PATIENT IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION

I would be very grateful if you could send us written confirmation that we still have Section 60 exemption for the collection of identifiable patient information for the South West Congenital Abnormality Register.

I have enclosed a copy of the letter we received dated 26th July 2002 confirming approval for this, but am a little dismayed not to be able to find us included on the register of activities carried out with Section 60 support on your website www.doh.gov.uk/ipu/confiden as indicated in your letter. As you would appreciate we are very keen to have this in writing to maintain the confidence of the contributors to our register in the South West.

Thank you for your prompt reply.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Overton".

Mr Tim Overton
Consultant in Fetal Medicine
Clinical Lead South West Congenital Abnormality Register

enc

cc Mrs Liz Draper

Mrs Beverley Botting
BINOCAR
Office for National Statistics
B6/09
1 Drummond Gate
London
SW1V 2QQ

26 July 2002

Dear Bev

**APPLICATION FOR SECTION 60 SUPPORT FOR THE USE OF PATIENT
IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION**

Thank you for your application dated 6 June 2002 seeking support under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 for activities carried out by congenital anomalies registers.

The Patient Information Advisory Group considered your application at its meeting on 20 June. I am pleased to inform you that your application has been successful, subject to the following conditions:

- Congenital anomalies registers should produce information to be displayed in appropriate places to explain their existence and the activities carried out by them. Patients should be allowed to opt-out from having information about themselves or their children included on a register.
- That within the next 12 months you should return to the Advisory Group with proposals for obtaining consent to hold information about children and their parents.
- That each register should extend its dataset to include a specific field for recording whether or not consent has been obtained.
- That all of the registers should, within 12 months, be working on a uniform basis – preferably through ONS.

I would also be grateful if you could liaise with me to ensure that each register supplies full details of their IT security policies.

Confirmation of this approval will be included on the register of activities carried out with Section 60 support that can be found on the internet at:
www.doh.gov.uk/ipu/confiden. Your registration number is 002/02/02.

I hope this is helpful. Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information.

Yours sincerely



Sean Kirwan
Secretary
Patient Information Advisory Group