

Research and the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire System-Wide Dataset

What is the system-wide dataset?

The system-wide dataset¹ is a pseudonymized dataset drawing from primary care², secondary care³, [community](#) services⁴ and mental health⁵ electronic health records. It is overseen by Healthier Together and [Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group](#).

It includes linked data for the BNSSG population of over 1 million people.

The dataset consists of two tables – attributes and activity. The first table contains information regarding patient characteristics, such as demographic information (age and sex), clinical information (long term conditions), socio-economic information (deprivation index) as well as other data like smoking status and social status. The second table contains information regarding patient contacts such as point of delivery (e.g. secondary care, inpatient, elective), specialty (e.g. dermatology), provider, dates, times and cost.

Who can use the dataset and for what purposes?

The BNSSG System Wide Dataset (SWD) is a resource that supports the BNSSG population's health, rather than being an open research resource. Those seeking access will need to demonstrate a primary value to the BNSSG population.

As at January 2021, access to the SWD is restricted to staff working within the Clinical Commissioning Group's modelling and analytics team. Approved projects include those that form the Health Data Research UK [South West Better Care Partnership](#).

- [See current projects using the BNSSG system-wide dataset](#)
- [See completed projects using the BNSSG system-wide dataset](#)

What plans are there to make it more accessible to researchers?

University of Bristol, UWE and University of Bath are being added as data processors to the dataset to support the projects above. There is a shared ambition between the local health and care system and local universities to make the dataset more accessible to all system partners and researchers. The necessary information governance procedures and technology to host the data are being developed to allow this.

As noted above, those seeking access will need to demonstrate that their project will primarily be of value to the BNSSG population. Due to limited access and resources, all new requests will need to go through a prioritisation process.

This briefing will be updated as this work progresses.

¹ Background here: <https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/population-health-management/>

² Direct feeds from GP practices. Data from July 2018 to present

³ HES data for last 5 years

⁴ NHS Digital information from September 2017 to present

⁵ NHS Digital Mental Health Services Data Set from March 2017 to present

What plans are there to increase the data in the systemwide dataset?

The BNSSG System Wide Dataset gives a strong foundation for applied analytics, and it is being developed further through:

- Local flows of data, with increased depth of information
- Addition of social care data from all three local authorities (adult & children's).
- Linkage to wider determinants of health data (e.g. police and education)
- Increasing the history of the data to give greater data volume and quality

Where can I find out more?

For more information about the BNSSG System Wide Dataset please contact

bnssg.analytics@nhs.net

For more information about the Health Data Research UK South West Better Care Partnership, please see here: <https://www.hdruk.ac.uk/about-us/locations/health-data-research-uk-southwest/>