

CONDUIT

This organisation routinely uses CONDUIT to improve HEALTH MANAGEMENT. When you visit a health service, information is routinely collected & documented to form a medical record. This helps to inform your Health Practitioners about past treatment. When this information is collected on a computer, it becomes an *electronic health record*. The information on a computer, is called 'data'.

CONDUIT is an innovative program, which enables data to be shared across different sites that have this technology, to *improve your Health Management*. An example of this would be - that when you visit a hospital based Health Practitioner your electronic health record from your GP is available to them & information doesn't have to be repeated or be lost in the process.

CONDUIT also helps HEALTH PLANNING by enabling Health Practitioners & Researchers to look at health data & work out what common problems are e.g. how many people have diabetes and are on medication in this region? When looked at this way, the data DOES NOT identify your name & address.

You have the right to say you do not want this routine use of your data to occur.

YOUR RIGHTS

If at any time you have questions regarding your rights in relation to the CONDUIT program or the nature of the research being conducted, please contact your health organisation or a member of the CONDUIT Management Team on 03 5823 4555.

If you say NO to all uses of CONDUIT data, we will maintain a record of this. All your data will be permanently deleted from the CONDUIT database and no data shall leave any CONDUIT organisation without your consent.

You can change your mind at any time when visiting a health organisation that uses CONDUIT. If you wish to do this, please inform and discuss with your health provider or other staff at the health service or general practice.

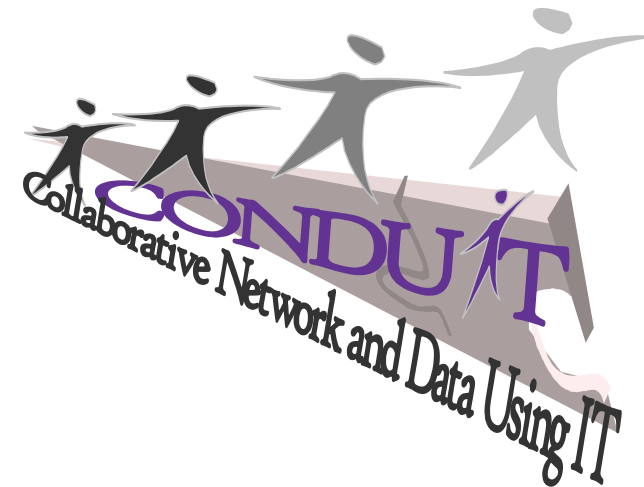
FURTHER INFORMATION

If you would like to find out more about the CONDUIT Program please contact the Coordinator at the University of Melbourne's School of Rural Health on 03 5823 4555 or visit the website: www.ruralhealth.unimelb.edu.au

If you have any other issues or concerns regarding the *conduct* of the CONDUIT project, please contact the:

Executive Officer,
Health Sciences Human Research Ethics
Committee,
University of Melbourne.
Phone: 03 8344 2073

Collaborative Network and Data Using Information Technology (CONDUIT)



An IMPORTANT message about the routine use of your computerised HEALTH MANAGEMENT

CONDUIT has been approved by
The University of Melbourne
Human Research Ethics Committee

CONDUIT TECHNOLOGY

The University of Melbourne's CONDUIT Program aims to improve the *safety and quality of health care* and *people's general health*.

It is only by collecting and reflecting on information we have about our patients as a whole, we can develop ways to improve the care we provide & be relevant to the health needs of the local community / region.

The CONDUIT program operates in partnership with the Divisions of General Practice, Health Services and hospitals working across the region.

CONDUIT computer software and data is kept at a central database in a secure location. It routinely collects and analyses data from participating health services, using GRHANITE™ Technologies¹.

The security and confidentiality of the data collected by CONDUIT is protected by the latest state-of-the-art, internationally scrutinised and recommended encryption techniques. These techniques ensure that data held centrally cannot be traced back to an individual. Centrally managed data, unless required by law, can only be accessed by nominated health professionals from the relevant health service or by research staff on an approved project basis.

Your health information is therefore very secure in the CONDUIT Program.

¹ Generic HeAlth Network Information Technology for the Enterprise (GRHANITE™) is the technology underpinning CONDUIT and is a trademark of the University of Melbourne.

SAFE HEALTH RECORD SHARING

This health care organisation is participating in the CONDUIT program and will routinely share your health information unless you tell us that you would not like it to be.

We are confident that your information is held securely. When you move between health organisations, CONDUIT ensures information important to your care moves securely with you. It is only in the hospital or clinic, where your name and other details are already held, that CONDUIT data can be decrypted and re-identified as belonging to you. In that situation, only authorised staff directly involved with you care can access your health record.

SAFE RESEARCH

Research enables health practitioners to establish evidence about what improves health care and patients' health. Research using anonymous CONDUIT data can answer clinical questions or address a problem e.g. how many people have diabetes and are on medication? To conduct any research project, a researcher requires ethics approval, which is a stringent process protecting confidentiality. Individuals are never identified in any CONDUIT research reports.

SAFE AUDIT

Audit i.e. analysing information systematically, is a routine part of monitoring to continually improve how the health system and we, as an organisation, care for you. This audit activity happens regardless of CONDUIT. CONDUIT improves our capacity to perform these audits.

If you wish to say NO

If you have any concerns about the CONDUIT program you should let the reception staff or your doctor know, so they can discuss this with you. If you do not wish for your data to be available after the discussion, please complete the form below and hand it in at reception:

I **DO NOT** wish my data to be used by CONDUIT for clinical sharing or research.

NB: If you say no, your data will NOT be made available via CONDUIT for either purpose in ANY CONDUIT health organisation.

I **DO NOT** wish CONDUIT to use my data for audit activities.

NB: The organisation may still use other means to audit their activities, but your information will not be held by CONDUIT for this purpose.

Name : _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address : _____

Signed : _____

Date : _____