

Atrial Fibrillation case finding

Supplementary privacy note on AF case finding for patients / service users

This notice describes how we may use your data in work to identify patients at risk of a common heart rhythm abnormality called Atrial Fibrillation (AF). It supplements the information on data processing which is available on the Trust website and specifically relates to use of data as described in the “Profiling” section of the main Patient Privacy Notice ([Privacy information \(wsh.nhs.uk\)](https://www.wsh.nhs.uk/privacy-information)).

AF is the most common heart rhythm abnormality. It is a risk factor for stroke, and we know that there are up to 500,000 people in the UK with undiagnosed AF. If these cases were to be identified and treated, this could have a significant impact on the number of strokes in the population. People with AF usually have no symptoms, so it has previously been necessary to have an in-person pulse check to identify the problem. Recent advances in technology have allowed AF to be diagnosed using a smartphone app.

FibriCheck is a medically certified app that measures heart rate and heart rhythm using the camera and flash of a smartphone. The AF case finding work will use data that we hold about our existing patients to identify those at risk of having undiagnosed AF and contact those patients via text message and the DrDoctor messaging platform. Patients who choose to take part in the programme can respond to the text message and receive a link to download Fibrichack with a free 7 day licence. It will be very easy to opt out of the programme by replying “no” to the text message.

Once patients have downloaded the app, they will be asked to measure their heart rhythm twice a day for 7 days. The results of these measurements are automatically shared with the cardiology team at WSH via the Fibrichack data flows. Patients with a positive reading, suggestive of an abnormality, will be contacted by the team and have further remote testing before arranging a remote consultation with the cardiologist who will discuss options and management.

Until you have chosen to download the app and create a Fibrichack account, Fibrichack will not hold any identifiable information about you. Your mobile phone number will be shared with DrDoctor for the purposes of sending the initial text message, receiving your reply and sending the link to download the app but your number will not be associated with identifiable information about you.

FibriCheck processes and stores your personal and medical data with utmost care using a secure cloud which meets the highest industry standards. FibriCheck’s data security is compliant with GDPR and adheres to NHS cyber security standards. You can find out more by checking FibriCheck’s privacy policy. <https://pages.fibrichack.com/privacy-policy/1.5.0/en/>

Further information about the programme is available in the following videos:

For information about using the FibriCheck app <https://youtu.be/5bQCVWG-t7I> and to hear from the doctors taking part in the project <https://youtu.be/Po87yI2LAjl>

Further information about the programme can also be found here: [Atrial fibrillation \(wsh.nhs.uk\)](https://www.wsh.nhs.uk/atrial-fibrillation)