



HDEC Review of data studies







Health Information Privacy Code 1994

- Rule 11 Disclosure of health information
 (2)(a) Disclosure for directly related purpose
 - ...within the expectations of the person
 - ...for example, peer review and quality audit.
 - 4(2)(c) that the information:
 - (iii) is to be used for research purposes (for which approval by an ethics committee, if required, has been given) and will not be published in a form that could reasonably be expected to identify the individual concerned





NEAC Observational Guidelines

- Paragraph 6.43: potentially identifiable data for research (without consent):
- a) the procedures required to obtain consent
 - unnecessary anxiety
 - prejudice the scientific value of the study;
 - impossible in practice to obtain consent; AND
- b) there would be no disadvantage to the participants or their relatives or to any collectives involved; AND
- c) the public interest in the study outweighs the public interest in privacy.





Challenging cases

- Significant responsibility to promote "appropriate" use of public data
- Researchers want access to health data to identify potential participants for recruitment
- What is impractical? Does cost count?
- Journals increasingly require submission of raw data for future use





Under-review

MOH is due to release the revised guidelines for targeted consultation in the next few months