

## Section of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Data Sharing Statement

The Section is researching several types of cancer with the ultimate aim of preventing cancer or improving treatment. Some of our research studies have been running for over 20 years and we have gathered samples and data from many thousands of people. To enhance our research we also collaborate with researchers across the world. Sharing data can often be in the best interests of the patients and their families from whom these data are derived.

Because of the complexity of our datasets, data sharing typically involves working closely with our researchers. Only on rare occasions will 'raw' data be shared with collaborators.

When sharing data we have to rigorously apply data protection procedures and ensure our ethical and regulatory approvals allow it to take place. Anonymisation may answer some of these requirements but not necessarily all. Also, our data is often the product of existing collaborations and we may need the approval of those partners to share it.

Researchers wishing to access our data should send a request, with preliminary information, to Katie Hasler <K.Hasler@leeds.ac.uk> The Section analysis group will then review the proposal. They may seek further information to determine whether the Section's data can satisfy the request.

If the request is judged appropriate, it will be checked against criteria that include:

- Feasibility of proposed analyses
- Data protection arrangements
- Ethical approvals
- Other regulatory approvals (such as Sponsorship or NIGB approval)
- Funding stipulations

Depending on the request we may also need to contact our ethics committee for an opinion and arrange a material transfer agreement.

Thank you for your interest in the Section.

Professor Tim Bishop