

Fenland Study App Privacy Policy

The MRC Epidemiology Unit, School of Clinical Medicine, University of Cambridge (“MRC Epidemiology Unit”) is the proprietor of the Fenland Study app. This privacy policy explains how we, as a data controller, collect and process your information when you use the Fenland Study app.

What information do we collect?

When downloading the app, no identifiable information is collected about you (e.g. name, email address etc...). Instead a username and pin provided by the study team are used to protect your identity.

The app is used to help us collect information about you in the form of questionnaires. This includes:

- Self-reported diet, health and lifestyle (including smoking and alcohol consumption)
- Occupation
- Physical activity
- Mental Health
- Medications
- Family History of Diabetes

The answers you provide, once submitted, are encrypted and transferred to our databases and are not kept within the app/stored on your phone. For the avoidance of doubt, partially completed questionnaires are stored on the device until they are submitted.

If you use our app, we use third party analytic providers such as Firebase Crashlytics, who collect information and then supply us with further analysis derived from it.

We process this data in order to:

- Locate errors in our systems or problems our systems may be facing with other systems (such as compatibility with a web browser).
- Improve the functioning of our Service

How we use the information we collect

The research data we collect is pseudonymised (in other words your name is replaced with a code number on all data). This is linked with other data that you have provided in order to help investigate the interaction between genetic and lifestyle factors in determining diabetes, obesity, and related metabolic disorders.

Collecting this data is necessary for the research we carry out in the public interest. We do not perform automated decision-making, including profiling (making a decision solely by automated means without any human involvement).

How we protect your information

The MRC Epidemiology Unit have implemented robust operational and technical controls and internal policies to ensure that your data is not lost, accidentally destroyed, misused or disclosed, and is not accessed by unauthorised personnel.



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If you choose to receive your Health Report via the app, no identifiable information will be displayed with your data. To further enhance security of your data, a password will be provided by the study team for you to access your Health Report.

Who has access to this information?

We are committed to making our pseudonymised data as widely available as possible whilst safeguarding the privacy of our volunteers. Your pseudonymised information will be available only to bona fide researchers who have relevant scientific and ethics approvals for their planned research. This could include researchers who are working in other countries and in commercial companies. Our Data Access and Sharing Policy defines the principles and processes for accessing and sharing our data.

Withdrawal from the study

You may withdraw your consent to participate in the study at any time by contacting fenlandstudy@mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk. Please note that deleting the Fenland Study app from your device will not withdraw you from the study.