



GLOBAL PRIVACY NEWS
FROM THE DPO CENTRE

The DPIA is an assessment of the impact of the most significant and important-to-know data protection issues from around the globe. It's not the full story, just a quick 3-minute read, collated and condensed to keep you updated with the latest news in our ever-evolving industry.

How to choose the right lawful basis for clinical trial data processing

Selecting the appropriate lawful basis for data processing can be challenging for clinical trial sponsors. There are many factors to consider, such as trial objectives, jurisdictional regulations, and ethics committee approval.

In our latest blog, Data Protection Officer (DPO) and Life Sciences Sector Lead, Lawrence Carter, examines key challenges through simulated case studies and provides valuable insights and regulation explanations that apply to clinical trials operating across the UK and EU.

[Read our blog here](#)

UNITED KINGDOM

UK signs first global treaty on AI

On 5 September 2024, Lord Chancellor Shabana Mahmood signed the Council of Europe Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence (AI). The agreement is the first, legally binding international treaty on AI and is designed to be consistent with the EU AI Act. It aims to strengthen safeguards against risks to human rights, democracy, and the rule of law by providing a common approach to AI systems.

Participating states will need to demonstrate compliance with the treaty by implementing domestic requirements around transparency and risk mitigation. The UK is planning to enhance regulations to align with its obligations, but specifics are yet to be announced.

[Read the Convention here](#)

ICO publishes research into data controllers' use of personal data

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has published the results of their Data Controller Study. The research aims to broaden the ICO's understanding of how organisations collect and use personal data and inform their regulatory decisions.

Of the 2,280 organisations surveyed:

- 93% of organisations collect personal data directly from their customers
- 64% said they were very or fairly familiar with data protection law
- 59% reported being aware of the ICO prior to completing the study
- 52% said processing personal data is essential to their core business function
- 37% of organisations process data to support service or product delivery

[Find the study here](#)



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EUROPEAN UNION

Ireland's health Minister establishes Online Health Taskforce

On 4 September 2024, Ireland's Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly, established the Online Health Taskforce. The initiative seeks to develop a public health response to the physical and mental harms affecting children and young people due to certain online activities.

The taskforce will analyse the sources of harm and provide recommendations for strategic responses, which could include national guidelines, legislation, additional health and social care support, and further education.

[Learn more about the taskforce here](#)

Germany enacts new requirements for health data processing using cloud-computing

Germany has enacted stricter requirements for processing health-related personal data using cloud computing services, following updates to Section 393 of the German Social Code V. The updates aim to enhance security and establish uniform standards within the healthcare sector.

Key highlights under the new Section 393:

- Health data can only be processed in Germany, the European Economic Area (EEA), or third countries with a European Commission (EC) adequacy decision
- Cloud computing service providers processing data in third countries must have a residence in Germany
- Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs) and Binding Corporate Rules (BCRs) are no longer considered an adequate guarantee for global companies providing cloud computing services in non-adequate third countries
- Cloud systems must maintain a C5 certificate

[Learn more about the updated rules here](#)



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NORTH AMERICA

DOJ audit criticises FBI's data handling practices

A recent audit by the US Department of Justice (DOJ) has criticised the data handling practices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), revealing significant weaknesses in the agency's management and disposal of electronic storage media. The audit found that removable devices, such as USBs and internal hard drives, were often left unguarded and improperly labelled, risking exposure to sensitive information.

The DOJ audit highlights the need for the FBI to improve its data protection measures to comply with federal regulations and safeguard its information assets. The report recommends implementing stricter access controls and regular staff training to mitigate risks.

[Read more about the audit here](#)

New Hampshire Attorney General announces Data Privacy Unit

New Hampshire Attorney General, John M. Formella, has announced the creation of a Data Privacy Unit within the Consumer Protection and Antitrust Bureau. The unit will primarily be responsible for enforcing compliance with the New Hampshire Data Privacy Act, which will take effect on 1 January 2025.

They will also develop a series of FAQs to assist consumers and businesses in understanding their rights and responsibilities under the Act. For applicable businesses, these include:

- Limiting the collection of personal data to what is relevant and necessary for the disclosed purposes
- Establishing robust security measures to protect consumers' personal data
- Implementing clear and accessible privacy notices
- Obtaining informed consent from consumers and providing opt-out preference signals
- Conducting data protection assessments for high-risk activities

[Learn more about the Act here](#)

INTERNATIONAL

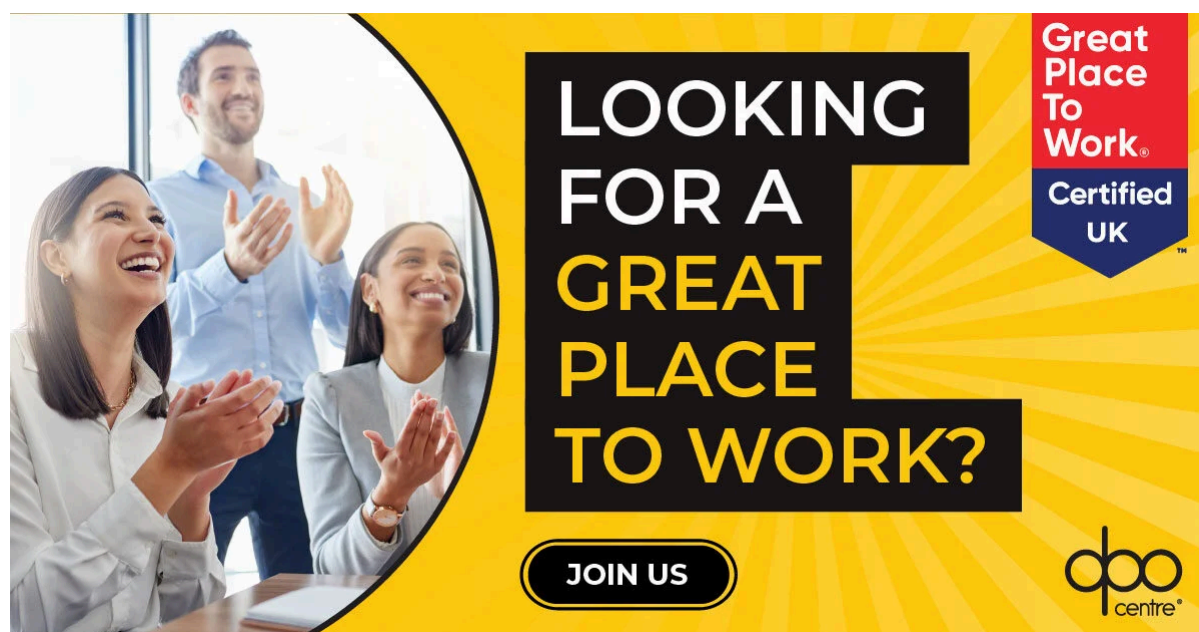
China publishes governance framework for AI

On 9 September 2024, China's National Cybersecurity Standardisation Technical Committee published an Artificial Intelligence Safety Governance Framework. The Framework aims to ensure the safe and ethical development and application of AI technologies.

It echoes transparency and risk management principles as found in other international regulations, such as the EU AI Act, and reflects a global movement towards responsible AI governance that balances innovation with safety.

The Framework outlines inherent safety risks relating to algorithms, data, and AI systems, plus several additional risks relating to AI applications. It also provides technological risk mitigation measures and safety guidelines for four groups: model algorithm developers, AI service providers, users in key areas, and general users.

[Read the Framework here](#)



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