

### Does the PEPA also work in case of an emergency?

For safety reasons, physicians are able to access the PEPA in case of an emergency. In the event of an emergency, it might be that an automatic or manual access right for the treatment has not been granted (yet). In that case, it must still be possible for an emergency physician to access your medical data at a hospital connected with the PEPA. However, all emergency accesses are logged in a detailed manner for data privacy reasons and checks are conducted at random or based on a specific event, in order to avoid abuse by unauthorized persons.

### Are there any data that are not transferred to the PEPA?

Specialty departments with highly sensitive data (e.g. psychiatry, HIV outpatients) are not included in the inter-institutional documentation.

### How are my data protected from abuse?

There is an IT security and operations concept developed for the PEPA. Your data is transferred in a cryptographically encrypted manner. Unauthorized access is barred by the PEPA operator through the use of technical and organizational measures.

As with emergency access, detailed logs of activities by persons accessing your PEPA are maintained. You will receive access to those logs on request.

### Where and for how long will my data be stored? Who is responsible?

The data are stored in secured IT systems at the PEPA operator (currently at University Hospital Heidelberg):

Your data will be saved permanently in the PEPA in order to allow a future physician to obtain a comprehensive view of your medical history.

The PEPA partners involved in treatment are responsible for the medical data they enter in accordance with data privacy provisions. The PEPA operator contractually ensures adherence to data privacy, medical confidentiality and the necessary technical and organizational measures.

All current cooperating and connected healthcare facilities (in addition to the University Hospital, these include the Thoraxklinik Heidelberg and the GRN-Klinik Weinheim, among others) can be found on the Internet under [www.pepa.eu](http://www.pepa.eu). You will also receive further information materials on request.

### Who can I contact, if I have any questions or concerns regarding the PEPA?

Your current contact persons will gladly answer your questions and will help you. Moreover, you also have the following options to contact us:

- E-Mail: [pepa@med.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:pepa@med.uni-heidelberg.de)
- Phone: 06221/56-7066
- Mail:  
Universitätsklinikum Heidelberg  
Patientenverwaltung - PEPA-Clearingstelle  
Im Neuenheimer Feld 672  
69120 Heidelberg
- Web: [www.pepa.eu](http://www.pepa.eu)



UNIVERSITÄTS  
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**PEPA**  
PERSÖNLICHE EINRICHTUNGS-  
ÜBERGREIFENDE PATIENTENAKTE

## Information for patients

Attachment to the contract governing  
medical treatment

Patientenverwaltung – PEPA-Clearingstelle  
Im Neuenheimer Feld 672  
69120 Heidelberg



## What the PEPA is for you as a patient

The University Hospital Heidelberg offers its patients and the patients of cooperating hospitals and practices in the region the opportunity of participating in a common, cross-sectorial electronic patient record: The PEPA.


With your consent, your medical data can be automatically forwarded electronically from a participating institution to your PEPA. Those are administrative data (e.g. your name, date of birth, address), your medical images (X-ray, CT, ...) and documents created by specialty departments involved in your treatment (e.g. medical reports).

The PEPA security and access rights concept ensures that only physicians or specialty departments involved in your treatment from hospitals or practices that you selected, will have access to your PEPA.

## Why a PEPA?

The PEPA ensures that physicians involved in your treatment can access all necessary documents and findings created by cooperating hospitals and practices without delay, by the time of your medical examination.

Sending medical reports by mail or fax, as well as bringing CDs containing X-rays from a cooperating institution to a medical examination is no longer necessary.

\*HINT: The PEPA is advancement of the ISIS patient record. 

For patients, the PEPA should help to increase the quality of treatment, help avoiding duplicate examinations and reduce waiting times.

Especially patients which are receiving treatment at different cooperating institutions do profit from using the PEPA.

## Requirement:

### Your free and revocable consent

In the contract governing medical treatment you can consent to or refuse the use of a PEPA. If you are not interested, you do not give your consent. This will not have any consequences for your further treatment. You only resign from the benefits of the PEPA.

In case you are or will be a patient in a cooperating hospital or practice, you can make the same consent choice in that institution, too. That means that in each institution, the consent regarding the PEPA is asked for separately during admission.

You can revoke your consent to using the PEPA at any time without giving reasons. If necessary, your PEPA will then be immediately locked and accesses to your data will be blocked. Your data will be deleted completely from the PEPA on your request.

## Who is granted access to the PEPA?

Only those physicians or specialty departments involved in your treatment from hospitals and practices of your choice can access your data, once you granted them access. The decisive criteria for this access are the affiliation of a physician to a specialty department involved in your treatment, as well as the time of when the access happens.

## Access criteria in detail:

*Organisational:* A PEPA user must be affiliated to a clinical specialty department (e.g. cardiology, surgery, urology, internal medicine, etc.) in which you are currently treated. If that is the case, then there is a contract existing that governs medical treatment between the personnel of that specialty department and you as a patient, and only then will access to your PEPA be allowed.

Generally, the existence of a contract governing medical treatment is checked for automatically. This happens using administrative processes, like patient admission or transfers. Besides those administrative processes, a physician involved in treatment can grant a temporal access manually to a colleague in a consultative fashion to access your documents.

*Temporal:* The contract governing medical treatment remains active during your current treatment and beyond transfers to another department or hospital. In case of you being discharged from a hospital, your data will be blocked from access after 180 days. After that, no user can access your data anymore (except system administrators who are specially bound by privacy and confidentiality contracts, who need to maintain the system in case of necessity.).

In case you into treatment again later, the contract governing medical treatment will be reactivated. Your data can then be again accessed by medical personnel involved in your treatment, for the benefit of your medical care. As long as there are no changes in your PEPA within 10 years, the PEPA operator will try to contact you, in order to find out whether you still have a need for your PEPA. In case you cannot be contacted, your PEPA will be deleted.