

# Using your data for medical research in the fight against coronavirus

*You have been admitted to the hospital with COVID-19 or you came to see us with a serious respiratory infection or symptoms consistent with coronavirus. For medical research on coronavirus and COVID-19, we need the medical data and/or tissue samples of patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. Below we explain what this means for you.*

## Medical research

Physicians and researchers at Erasmus MC are working hard to gain a better understanding of coronavirus and COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus. They wish to find answer to questions like: is it possible to predict the course of the disease? Which treatment works best for which patient? Medical research on coronavirus and COVID-19 will help physicians and researchers find answers to these questions. In addition to our own research, we also work together with institutions and organizations outside the Netherlands and Europe.

## Use, privacy, and storage of data

We store medical data, including data not directly traceable, any radiological images such as X-rays and scans, and tissue samples under a randomly selected code number. Names of patients, dates of birth, and patient numbers are not included in this data to protect patient privacy to the greatest degree possible. The data is confidential and stored securely for no longer than is necessary for this research.

## Residual tissue

The tissue samples that we use is residual tissue, i.e. blood or tissue that is left over and is no longer needed for diagnostics or treatment.

## Making an objection

You can always object to the use of your medical data and tissue samples for medical research on coronavirus and COVID-19. If you object, we will not use your data and tissue samples for research. Additional information and the objection form can be found at ['Residual tissue for medical research'](#) at [www.erasmusmc.nl/patientenfolders](http://www.erasmusmc.nl/patientenfolders).