



Welcome to our Life Sciences newsletter!

A quick monthly read with useful information, articles, and views from our team of experienced DPOs on the latest data protection news specific to the Life Sciences.

LIFE SCIENCES IN THE NEWS

UK and France announce biomedical and AI health alliance

The *UK-France Strategic Interdisciplinary Alliance in Health and AI* brings together leading research institutions from both countries to accelerate research into major diseases.

The partnership will focus on using AI and large-scale health datasets to support biomedical research and innovation. This could include how researchers identify disease patterns, develop treatments, and make better use of national infrastructure across the UK and France.

This will bring clear opportunities but also higher scrutiny of how health data is used. Any organisation involved in health data sharing and AI model development will need to demonstrate that data use is lawful, transparent, and secure.

[Learn more about the UK-France alliance](#)

A DPO'S PERSPECTIVE

Suzanne Hiemstra, DPO at The DPO Centre, shares four key governance considerations for organisations involved in AI-enabled health research.

'The new UK–France biomedical and AI health alliance demonstrates the growing ambition to use data and AI to address some of healthcare's biggest challenges. The opportunity is significant, but so is the responsibility.'

'As health research becomes more interconnected and AI-driven, organisations should embed data protection and governance into their programmes from the outset to realise the benefits while maintaining trust.'

- **Reducing privacy impact:** Where possible, use aggregation and other privacy-enhancing measures to limit access to individual-level data while still enabling valuable research outcomes
- **Cross-border data sharing:** As collaborative research increasingly relies on data moving between partners and jurisdictions, ensure governance frameworks and data sharing agreements are fit for purpose

- **Explainability and transparency:** *Be prepared to explain how AI is used, how risks are assessed, and where meaningful human oversight is maintained*
- **Shared accountability:** *In multi-partner research programmes, clearly define accountability and decision-making responsibilities from the outset'*

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