



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.

Clinical trials part 4: Practical approaches to DPIAs

Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs) are a legal requirement for clinical trials, but sponsors often struggle to apply them effectively within the broader privacy framework. When DPIAs are completed too late, trials can experience delays, gaps in documentation, and increased scrutiny from regulators and ethics committees.

Our latest blog explores how to approach DPIAs more effectively in clinical trials, from embedding them early in protocol design to maintaining them throughout the trial lifecycle.

[Read our blog](#)



CLINICAL TRIALS PART 4:
PRACTICAL APPROACHES TO DPIAS

UNITED KINGDOM

ARA publishes recognised standards archiving under DUAA

The Archives & Records Association (ARA) has published Generally Recognised Standards for Archiving in the Public Interest. The document was developed in response to new legislative requirements under the UK's Data Use and Access Act (DUAA).

Developed alongside other sector bodies, the standards aim to provide a consistent framework for how archives handle personal data, supporting lawful processing, long-term preservation, and public interest use.

Organisations transferring personal data to archives should ensure that appropriate standards are in place to meet these requirements.

[Read the standards](#)

Data breaches recorded by English councils rise 53% over five years

The analysed Freedom of Information data includes a wide range of incidents, from minor administrative errors to more serious breaches reported to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Whilst ICO referrals have also increased, they represent a small proportion of overall incidents.

Authorities attribute the increase to improved detection, clearer reporting processes, and greater staff awareness, leading to more consistent logging of incidents. This highlights the importance of robust reporting and incident management processes.

[Read our blog on breach prevention](#)



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8 YEARS OF GDPR: Anniversary reflections, AI disruption, Digital Omnibus, and what's next

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EUROPEAN UNION

EDPB approves Europrivacy as a GDPR tool for international data transfers

On 15 April 2026, the European Data Protection Board adopted Opinions 14/2026 and 15/2026, approving updated Europrivacy certification criteria under the General Data Protection Regulation.

Opinion 14/2026 confirms Europrivacy as a European Data Protection Seal under Article 42(5), enabling organisations, including non-EU controllers and processors, to

demonstrate compliance against defined GDPR criteria.

Opinion 15/2026 extends the framework to international data transfers under Article 46, allowing certification to be used as part of the appropriate safeguards where binding and enforceable commitments are in place. It does not replace Standard Contractual Clauses, but offers an additional option for compliant cross-border transfers, especially for organisations working with non-EU vendors.

[Find our more about Europrivacy](#)

Italian DPA sets deadline for compliance on email tracking pixels

The Italian Data Protection Authority (Garante) has issued guidance on the use of tracking pixels in emails, introducing a six-month deadline for organisations to bring their practices into compliance.

The guidance follows a similar approach to recent CNIL updates, clarifying that tracking technologies used to monitor email engagement may require consent, with only limited exemptions in specific cases.

The move reflects growing regulatory scrutiny of tracking tools in direct marketing, particularly where individuals may not be fully aware of how their behaviour is monitored.

Organisations using email tracking technologies should review their practices and ensure they meet the new requirements within the specified timeframe.

[Read the Garante guidance](#)

Dutch parliament approves Cybersecurity Act

On 15 April 2026, the Dutch House of Representatives approved the Cybersecurity Act (CBW) and the Resilience of Critical Entities Act, marking a key step in implementing the EU's NIS2 Directive into national law. The CBW will replace the existing Wbni framework and is expected to enter into force in Q2 of 2026.

It introduces legal obligations for thousands of organisations, including duties of care, incident reporting, and registration requirements. These obligations are expected to apply to organisations operating in critical and important sectors, such as energy, transport, healthcare, digital infrastructure, and certain digital service providers.

Organisations can check whether they fall within scope using the [NIS2 self-assessment tool](#).

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EU & UK CLINICAL TRIALS: Are you clear on your data protection and legal representation requirements?

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CANADA & UNITED STATES

US introduces bills to establish national data privacy framework

The SECURE Data Act and the GUARD Financial Data Act proposals are designed to replace the current patchwork of state laws with a unified framework. The bills set out rules for how Technology and Financial Services companies collect, use, and limit the use of personal data.

They also introduce new consumer rights, including the ability to access, correct, and delete personal data, as well as opt out of targeted advertising and the sale of personal information.

If adopted, the legislation would represent a significant shift toward federal oversight of data privacy in the US.

[Learn more about both bills](#)

British Columbia OIPC publishes privacy breach guide for SMEs

On 21 April 2026, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia (OIPC) published a new privacy breach guide aimed at small and medium-sized businesses.

The guidance outlines a structured approach to managing breaches, covering four key stages: containment, risk assessment, notification, and prevention. It also signposts additional resources to help organisations strengthen their breach response processes.

The guide reinforces the importance of having clear procedures in place to respond to incidents quickly and effectively.

[Read the OIPC's guide](#)

INTERNATIONAL

South Korea survey highlights low awareness of data subject rights

On 17 April 2026, South Korea's Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) published the results of its [2025 Personal Information Protection and Utilization Survey](#). The findings show that only 37.4% of adults and 38.5% of youth are aware of their rights, with more than 60% individuals unaware of how exercise these rights.

The results highlight the importance of clear processes and communication when handling data subject requests. Organisations should ensure individuals can easily understand and exercise their rights, and that requests are managed efficiently and in line with regulatory requirements.

[Read our DSAR white paper](#)

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