

Samples

Question 4: If your data is sensitive, how will you be managing and using it?

SAMPLE 1:

I have sensitive data as it will contain personal data.

The research will include data from subjects being screened for STDs. The final dataset will include self-reported demographic and behavioural data from interviews and laboratory data from urine specimens. Because the STDs being studied are reportable diseases, we will be collecting identifying information. Even though the final dataset will be stripped of identifiers, there remains the possibility of deductive disclosure of subjects with unusual characteristics. Thus, we will make the data and documentation available only under a data-sharing agreement that provides for: (1) a commitment to using the data only for research purposes and not to identify any individual participant; (2) a commitment to securing the data using appropriate technology; and (3) a commitment to destroying or returning the data after analyses are completed.

Adapted from:

NIH Data Sharing Policy and Implementation Guidance. (9 February 2012), from http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/data_sharing/data_sharing_guidance.htm#ex

SAMPLE 2:

I have sensitive data as it is national security related.

Access to research records will be limited to primary research team members. Recorded data will have any identifying information removed and will be relabelled with study code numbers. A database which relates study code numbers to consent forms and identifying information will be stored separately on password-protected computers in a secured, locked office. To maintain the privacy of the participants, any report of individual data will only consist of performance measures without any demographic or identifying information.

Adapted from:

Collaborative Research in Computational Neuroscience (CRCNS): Innovative Approaches to Science and Engineering Research on Brain Function. Retrieved Nov 24, 2015, from UC San Diego Sample NSF Data Management Plans website: <https://libraries.ucsd.edu/services/data-curation/data-management/dmpsample/DMP%20Example%20Psych.doc>