

Governance solutions: Application processes; Stakeholder Involvement; Definitions for de-identification; Researcher training; Contracts...

PERSONAL DATA

ANONYMOUS DATA

Sensitive individual-level data (identifiable and special category)

Personal individual-level data (identifiable)

Pseudonymised individual-level data (identifiable with a key-code)

De-identified individual-level data (stripped of all potential means of identification, considering contexts)

Anonymous aggregated data (such as published in reports)

Technical solutions: Secure servers; Remote access; Strict controls; Encrypted variables; Split files...

**Figure 1.** Definitions of personal and de-identified data that can apply to the administrative data that researchers request to address key mental health research questions. The line dividing personal and anonymous data depends on the probability of being able to identify individuals in the data with any reasonable means. This probability reflects many aspects, such as the number of data fields, whether demographic measures are included, and considering all contexts in which the data could be seen (for example, by analysts with access to other datasets).