



## Professor Graeme Laurie- DataTerms

**Graeme Laurie is Professor of Medical Jurisprudence at the University of Edinburgh and Founding Director of the JK Mason Institute for Medicine, Life Sciences and the Law.**

### The project

Professor Graeme Laurie provided expert advice to the Wellcome Trust DataTerms project. This project looked at the impact of different understandings of common terminologies, particularly the concept of "ownership", within governance (particularly in data protection and privacy) for health-related data access. The work involved considering these matters in an international and interdisciplinary context.

DataTerms comes from a core group of experienced legal academics with a strong track-record of working in privacy and data protection from an interdisciplinary standpoint and within interdisciplinary groups.

Professor Graeme Laurie provided expert advice and guidance to the project on legal controls and responsibilities for health related data access in international contexts.

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## The Impact and Benefits

Once the Dataterms project has analysed the nature of the challenges in the use of different terminologies to describe responsibilities and rights over data, the project will identify 'fixes' already being used by the stakeholder participants in the project and will develop new approaches.



- identify informal solutions to problems experienced by researchers; and
- identify any formal arrangements for cross-jurisdictional transfers of personal data for mutual recognition of other legal regimes or other practical measures that facilitate transfer, such as data equivalence in the U.S, or Chapter IV of the European Directive 95/46/EC (on processing personal data).

## In particular, the Dataterms project will:

- offer critical commentary on the range of approaches identified, including an account of practices where law is not central to what is done, and to ask whether and how far ethical principles inform practice;
- determine whether it is possible to classify legal and ethical arrangements into archetypal 'models' for data use, and provide comment on these;
- identify how far different legal regimes contribute to the terminological problem of stakeholders referring to ownership of data when the legal basis is uncertain, as well as to what extent the impact of data sharing practices could hinder research;
- establish whether there is any evidence of particular paradigms operating in different jurisdictions, (e.g. ownership as property paradigms or privacy paradigms) and if so with what effect;

## University Consultancy

If you have any questions on consultancy at Edinburgh Law School please contact:

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