

# ABPI Statement about publication of 2021 disclosure data



August 2022

---

## Background

Following the publication of the 2021 Disclosure UK data on 30 June 2022, an issue was identified with the processing of several pre-publication notifications to a small number of health professionals and healthcare organisations. This meant some of the 2021 disclosure data was not published on Disclosure UK on 30 June 2022.

On 5 July, the ABPI published an explanatory statement on both the Disclosure UK public search and the ABPI website in response. This document sets out the content of that statement and the subsequent updates.

The remaining 2021 Disclosure UK data was published by 2 August 2022 following remedial steps taken by the ABPI.

## Statement first published on ABPI website - 05 July 2022

An issue has been identified regarding the publication of some 2021 data on Disclosure UK.

As part of the Disclosure UK publication process, the ABPI writes to each health professional (HCP) and healthcare organisation (HCO) named in the pharmaceutical companies' disclosure data, providing 28 days' advance notice of its publication on 30 June 2022. Prior to this process, companies are required to ensure they have appropriate arrangements in place to lawfully disclose information and recipients are aware of the process for disclosure. Companies are then required to validate their submitted data prior to the ABPI's pre-publication notifications to HCPs and HCOs.

Due to a technical error in the processing of a number of these pre-publication notifications, around 6% of the 16,000 HCP and HCO records for 2021 received from pharmaceutical companies were not published on Disclosure UK on 30 June 2022 as should have been the case. The individual disclosing companies impacted by this issue have been contacted directly by the ABPI.

The error has been resolved and all remaining notifications for the HCPs and HCOs named in 2021 data have now been sent, and all HCPs and HCOs will receive the same 28 days' notice prior to publication. The associated disclosure data will be published on Disclosure UK by Friday 05 August, ensuring that impacted HCPs and HCOs receive the same 28 days' notice prior to publication.

**UPDATE 19 July 2022:** Some suppressed 2021 data may be published on individual company websites in the interim period where those companies are legally and operationally able to do so.

The ABPI will be conducting a full investigation into why this happened and once completed, will amend the system to prevent it happening again. Disclosing companies are entirely without fault in this matter. The analysis of 2021 disclosure data was not affected and remains accurate. The ABPI has made the PMCPA aware of the issue.

ABPI would like to apologise to all Disclosure UK users for the error.

**UPDATE 02 August 2022:** The small amount of 2021 data which was temporarily suppressed because of the mail match issue was published on [Disclosure UK](#) as normal on 2 August 2022. Visitors to Disclosure UK are reminded that any downloads of data must be considered a snapshot from that date/time as the information is updated regularly.