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AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY

# Protection of Patient Data in EU vs. U.S.

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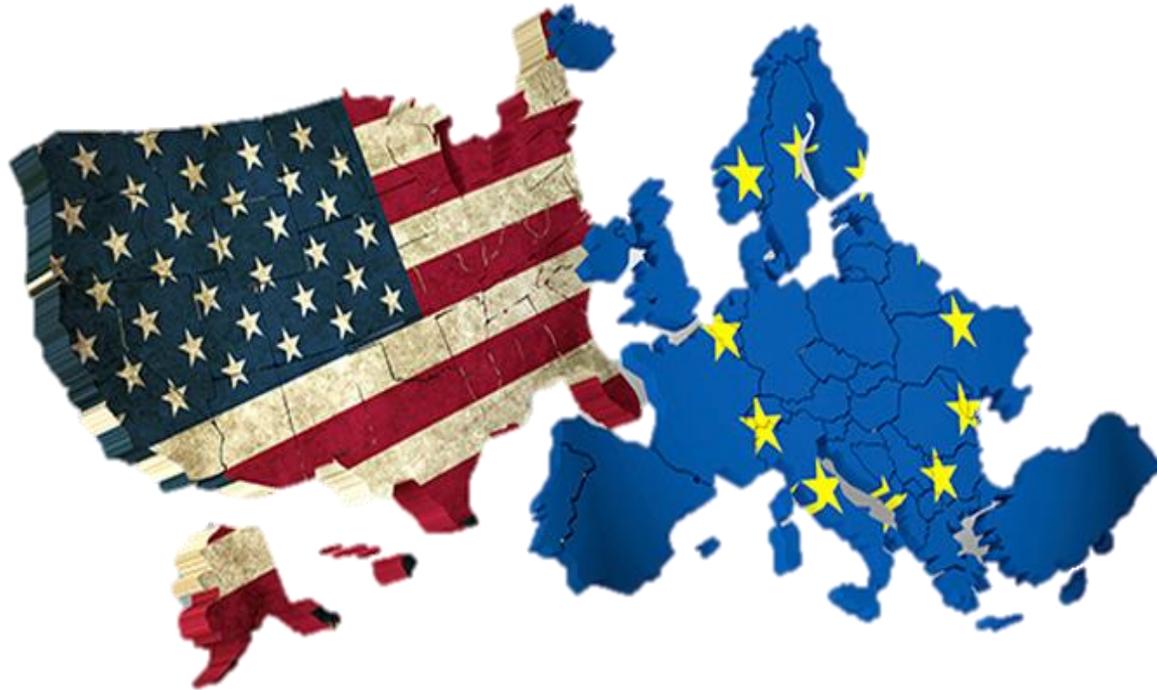


# Disclosures

- Chief Medical Officer & investor *Diagnose.me*, platform providing second opinions to patients
- Advisor & investor *Osimis.io*, company providing interoperability solutions
- Advisor *Barco Healthcare*, company offering visualisation and collaboration solutions



# How are patient data protected in the EU vs. US?



# General Data Protection Regulation

- EU law that came into effect on May 25, 2018.
- Main purpose: to define and update the *basic rights of data subjects* regarding control of and access to personal data



# EU Regulation

- As opposed to a *directive*, a *regulation* is directly applicable in all EU Member States.
- National authorities can define *exemptions* and *derogations* from certain obligations by means of national law.

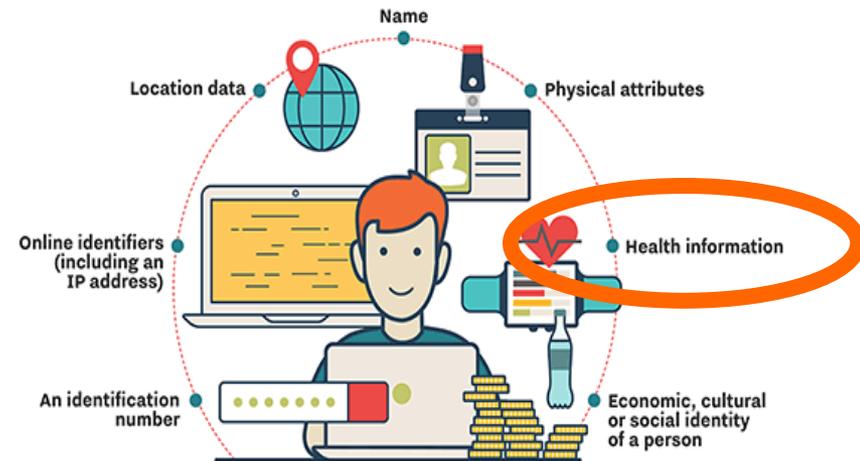


# What are Personal Data?

- Any information related to an identified or identifiable natural person (data subject)
- Also Health Data 
  1. Data concerning physical/mental health
  2. Genetic data
  3. Biometric data

## GDPR PERSONAL DATA

The EU's General Data Protection Regulation defines personal data as any information related to a person that can be used to directly or indirectly identify them, including:



# The Goals of the GDPR

## Protect

- EU citizen's personal data (including health data)

## Control

- For data subjects over their processed data

## Unify

- The duties and responsibilities of controllers and processors

## Simplify

- The means of data collection and processing

All are relevant for AI

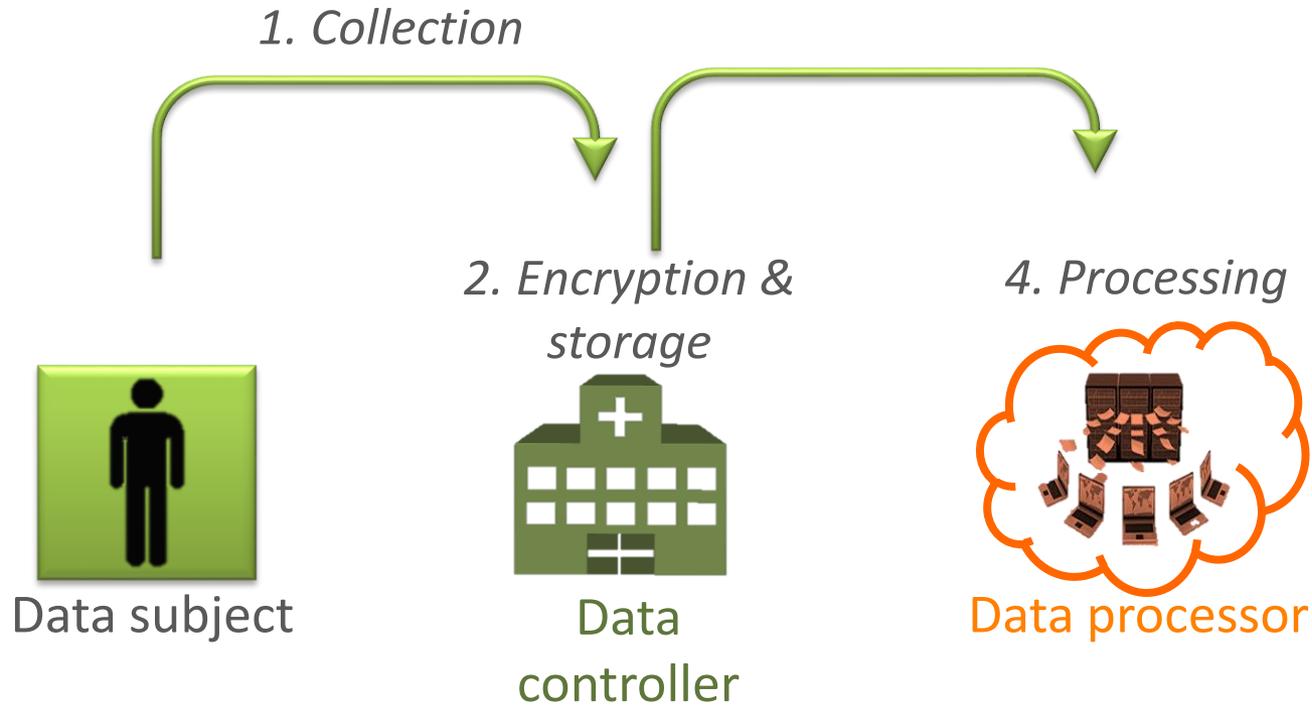


# Economical purpose



Any organization that processes EU citizens' data, even if the company isn't located in the EU, has to ensure GDPR compliance.

# Handling of personal data: 3 players



# GDPR in Healthcare

- Facilitates free flow of patient data within EU.
- Personal data can only be collected under strict conditions and for legitimate purposes.
- Data controller (hospital, HCP) has to respect rights of data subject
- Data processor must protect information it handles, processes and stores on behalf of data controller



# HIPAA vs. GDPR

## Governance

- GDPR concerns EVERY piece of information that can identify a person, not limited to HC
- HIPAA only governs protected health information (PHI)



# Position of ESR

- The GDPR is welcomed by the ESR



# Meaning of GDPR for Radiologists

Insights Imaging (2017) 8:295–299  
DOI 10.1007/s13244-017-0552-7



STATEMENT

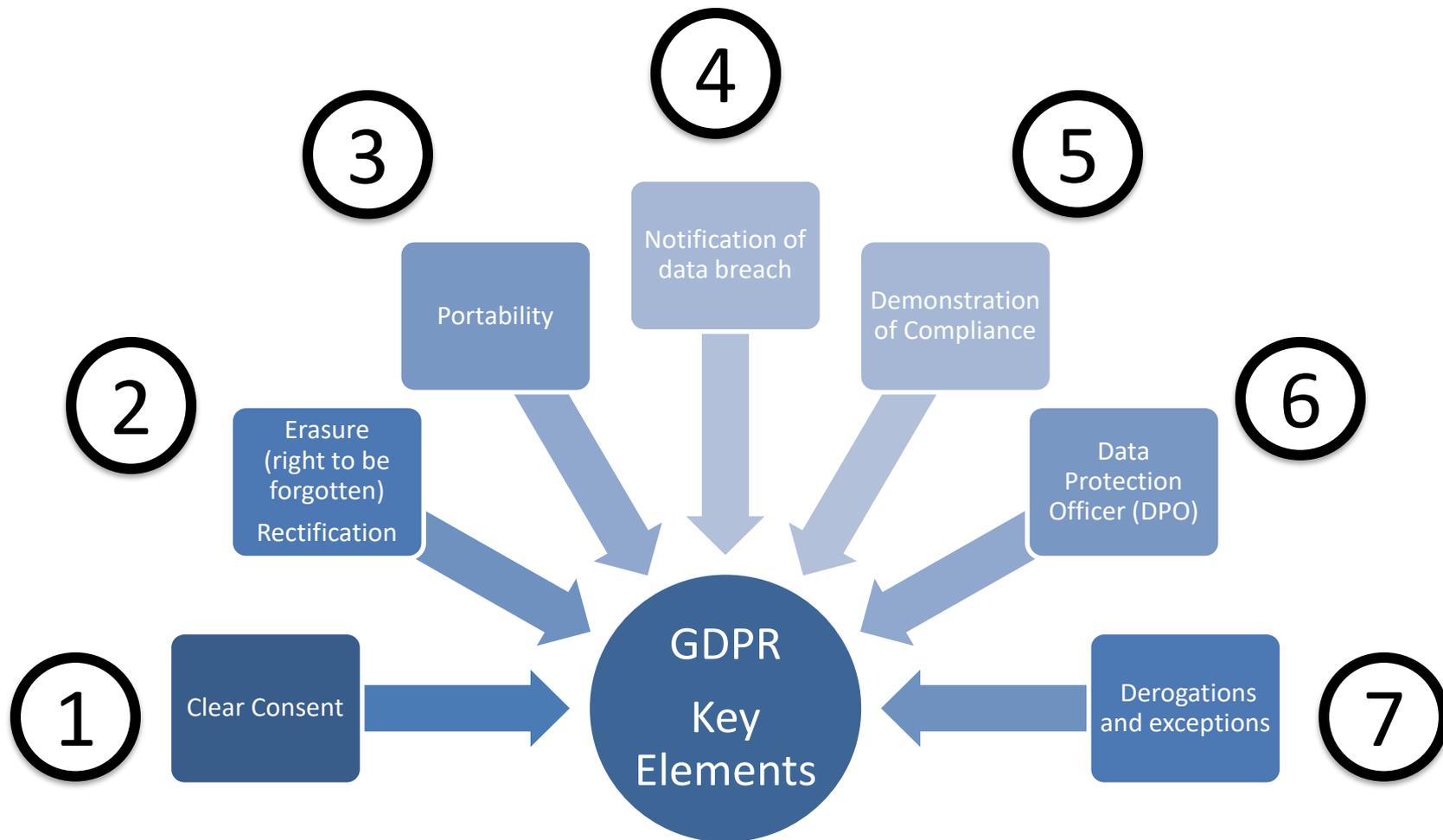
## **The new EU General Data Protection Regulation: what the radiologist should know**

**European Society of Radiology (ESR)**

Received: 20 March 2017 / Accepted: 21 March 2017 / Published online: 24 April 2017



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# ① Clear Consent

- Explicit consent of data subject prior to data processing
- Explicit consent prior to communication of imaging data



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## Consent

- HIPAA does not require consent from patient to release health data for third parties (e.g. for insurance company)
- GDPR needs explicit consent for any interaction with PHI other than direct patient care



## ② Erasure and Rectification

- Destruction of data is possible if storage is no longer necessary for the initial purpose
- Withdrawal of consent possible, “the right to be forgotten”
- The right to obtain rectification of his/her data



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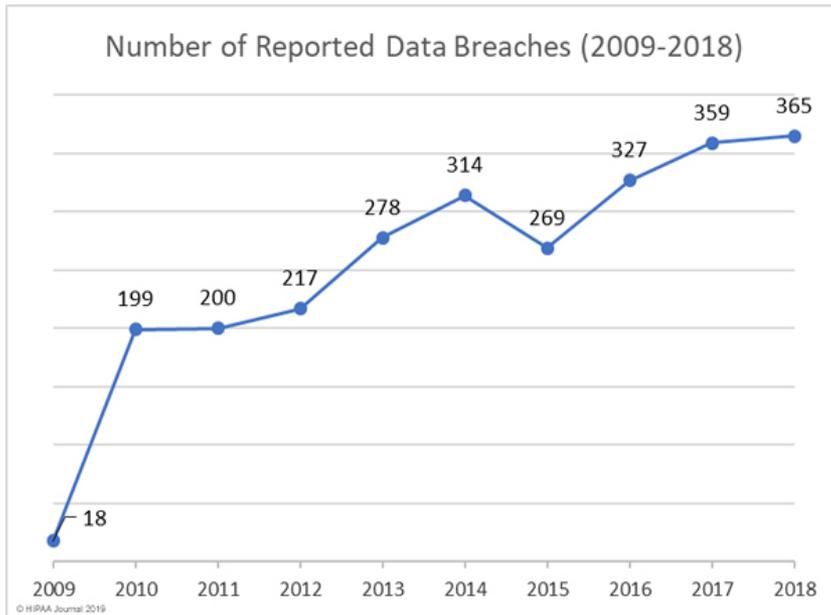
## Privacy

- GDPR grants right to copy of health data for free, and even to rectify and erase data
- HIPAA grants right to a copy of PHI, not for free



# 4

## Data Breach



<https://www.hipaajournal.com/healthcare-data-breach-statistics/>

- 2009-2018: 2546 healthcare data breaches
- Theft/exposure of approx. 190 million HCRs, equating to 59% of the US population
- Currently >1 HC data breach/day
- Hacking is leading cause of breaches, followed by unauthorized access/disclosures
- GDPR
  - Notification within 72 hrs to Supervisory Authority
  - Communication to data subject
  - Larger institutions: DPO needed



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## Security

- Both require absolute secure measures to ensure confidentiality
- HIPAA breach notification is 60d vs 72h for GDPR (including communication to data subject)



# Stringent Penalties

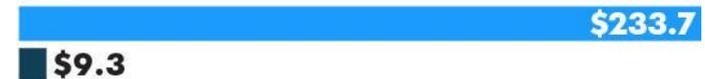
- Failure to comply with the new data protection rules can result in different types of sanctions from controllers
  - Warning
  - Reprimand
  - Temporary or definitive ban on processing data
- Fines of up to €20 million or 4% of the business's total annual worldwide turnover (whichever is higher)

## EU TO FINE 4% FOR PRIVACY LOSSES

The European Union can fine corporations up to 4% of revenue for breaches of privacy. How U.S. corporations could be affected:

In billions: ● Revenue ● Fines

Apple



Microsoft



Alphabet (Google)



Facebook



SOURCE: USA TODAY research  
George Petras, USA TODAY



<https://www.wordstream.com/blog/ws/2017/09/28/eu-gdpr>



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## Penalties

- Any organisation violating regulations is liable to be prosecuted
- HIPAA: prosecution is related to “significant harm” caused by violation
- HIPAA penalties go up to 1.5 million USD, GDPR is much higher



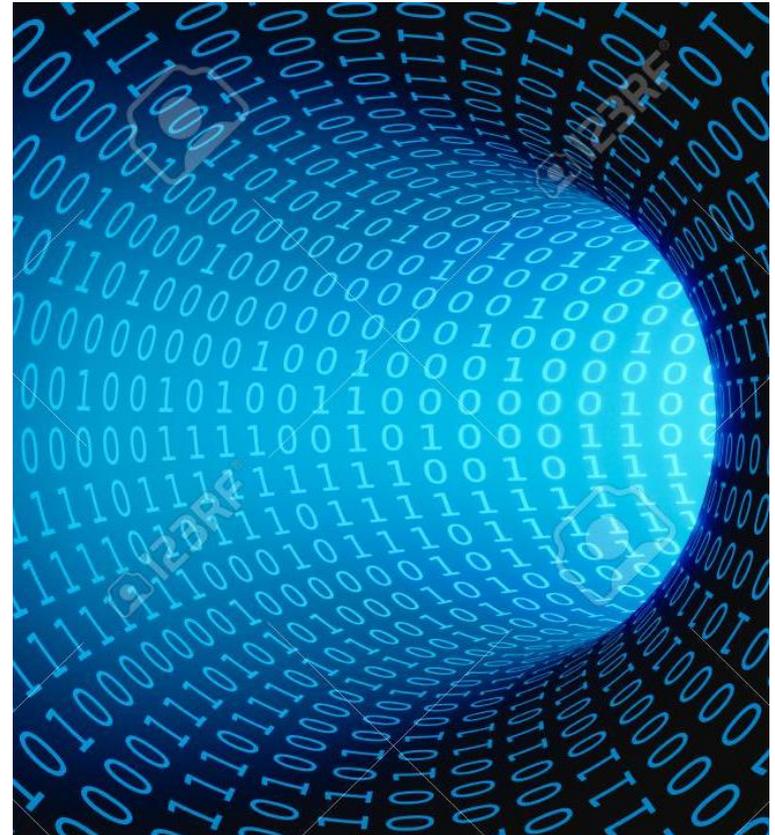
# 6 DPO

- Data Protection Officer is mandatory for those companies and organisations that systematically monitor data subjects on *large scale* of sensitive data
  - According to Art. 29 Working Party (WP29) processing of patient data by hospital is “large scale”
- The DPO is in contact with the national data protection authorities (Security Authority)



# 7 Exemptions and Derogations

- Often conflicting objectives
  - Ensure privacy rights for personal data
  - vs.
  - Providing adequate access to personal data for research, e.g. for developing A.I.
- Therefore the GDPR provides several *exemptions and derogations* to facilitate the use of personal data for scientific research



# Definition of Scientific Research (SR)

- GDPR does not define 'Scientific Research'.
- GDPR states that SR should be interpreted in a 'broad manner'
- SR thus encompasses a wide area of activities
  - Privately funded research
  - Studies conducted in the area of public health.
- Assessment of legitimate interest of SR is needed



# Derogations and exemptions for SR

- Processing of sensitive data such as health data is only permitted when explicit consent is provided.
- GDPR may permit organizations to process sensitive data for SR.
- As long as these organizations implement appropriate safeguards as provided in Article 89(1), they may override some data subject's rights
- Right of erasure can be overruled when *"it's likely to render impossible or seriously impair the achievement of the research purposes"*
- Right of data subject's objection can be overruled if *"the processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out for reasons of public interest"*.
- It is yet unclear how far the GDPR's research exemptions will extend



# Safeguards

GDPR proposes technical and organisational measures to facilitate use of data in context of research, public health, biobanks and analytics of big data

## Anonymisation

- Remove all personally identifiable information
- e.g. Name of patient, institution, date of exam on images, DICOM metadata

## Pseudonymisation

- Replace personally identifiable material with artificial identifiers
- Data can no longer be attributed to individual without additional information

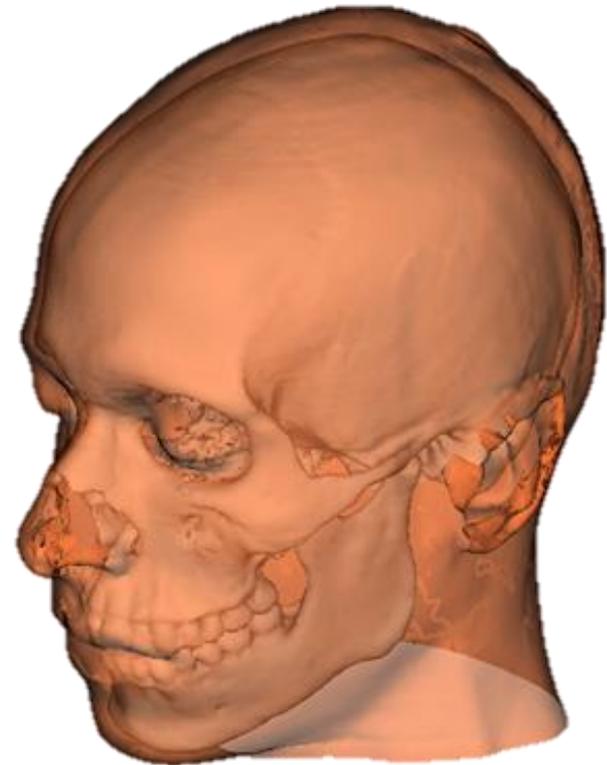
## Encryption

- Encoding of messages that can only be read by authorised persons.
- Can only be done with anonymised or pseudonymised data



# Image-based Information

- Absolutely reliable protection of individual digital biometric data in general, and imaging data in particular, is almost impossible.
- e.g. MRI head: anonymisation would require removal of all written information from the file including DICOM metadata AND use of software able to irreversibly scramble of the soft tissue structures of the individual's face.



<https://dataprivacylab.org/projects/identifiability/paper1.pdf>



# So what to do with Research Data?

Define what is the purpose of using the data (legitimate interest)

Procedures to be followed

- Adhere to recognized ethical standards and policies, advise IRB
- Use the right safeguards
- Pseudonymisation is recommended, also by ESR

Not for third parties

- Existing exemptions should never result in PD being processed for other purposes by third parties such as employers, insurance/banking companies, commercial enterprises

Transfer to countries outside EU

- Country offers adequate level of protection
- Controller implements necessary safeguards and binding contracts
- Data subject and DPA are informed, explicit consent is provided by data subject
- Other: in case of compelling legitimate interests



# GDPR New Global Standard?

- *"In the longer run, what I suspect we'll see is a higher level of privacy globally. Because, whether you like it or not, GDPR is setting a new global standard for privacy and data protection compliance and you see that more and more countries are following at least some elements of GDPR".*



*Paul Breitbarth, director of strategic research at privacy compliance software provider [Nymity](#) and senior visiting fellow at Maastricht University's European Centre for Privacy and Cybersecurity*

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/paulbreitbarth>



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<https://www.zdnet.com/article/gdpr-how-europes-digital-privacy-rules-have-changed-everything/>

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Erik R. Ranschaert, Sergey Morozov, Paul R. Algra (Eds.)

## Artificial Intelligence in Medical Imaging

Opportunities, Applications and Risks

- Provides a thorough overview of the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on medical imaging
- Includes contributions from radiologists and IT professionals, ensuring a multidisciplinary approach
- Makes practical recommendations for the use of AI technology for both clinical and nonclinical applications

This book provides a thorough overview of the ongoing evolution in the application of artificial intelligence (AI) within healthcare and radiology, enabling readers to gain a deeper insight into the technological background of AI and the impacts of new and emerging technologies on medical imaging. After an introduction on game changers in radiology, such as deep learning technology, the technological evolution of AI in computing science and medical image computing is described, with explanation of basic principles and the types and subtypes of AI. Subsequent sections address the use of imaging biomarkers, the development and validation of AI applications, and various aspects and issues relating to the growing role of big data in radiology. Diverse real-life clinical applications of AI are then outlined for different body parts, demonstrating their ability to add value to daily radiology practices. The concluding section focuses on the impact of AI on radiology and the implications for radiologists, for example with respect to training. Written by radiologists and IT professionals, the book will be of high value for radiologists, medical/clinical physicists, IT specialists, and imaging informatics professionals.

# Artificial Intelligence in Medical Imaging

Opportunities, Applications and Risks

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 Springer



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