Assurance about EU-US Data Flows
July 20, 2020

We appreciate that our customers and partners may have questions about the July 16, 2020, European Court of Justice (the ECJ) ruling in a case examining transfers of personal data from the EU to the US under the EU-US Privacy Shield.

First and foremost, personal data transfers from the EU to the US using Medidata's services remain secure and compliant with EU requirements. The ECJ’s ruling does not change data flows for our services: your use of our US-based commercial cloud services remains in compliance with the ECJ’s ruling.

For years, Medidata has provided our customers with overlapping protections under both the Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs) and Privacy Shield frameworks for data transfers. Although the ECJ’s ruling invalidated the use of Privacy Shield moving forward, transfers based on the SCCs remain valid. Our customers are already protected under the SCCs in place in our standard data protection agreements.

We note that in addition to the SCCs and the now-invalided Privacy Shield mechanism, informed consent is also a legal basis under the GDPR for the transfer of clinical data to the US for data processing and submission to regulatory authorities. Medidata recommends that sponsors and CROs consider the use of informed consent documents that disclose clinical data flows from the EU to the US.

Medidata will closely follow any further guidance from EU data protection authorities and the European Data Protection Board. As always, information regarding Medidata’s Unified Protection Strategy and our comprehensive set of certifications can be found at Medidata.com/Trust. You may monitor this Trust and Transparency page for any further updates, contact your account manager, or contact us at dataprivacy@mdsol.com with any questions.