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PRATT'S
**PRIVACY &
CYBERSECURITY
LAW
REPORT**



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Editorial

Editorial Offices
630 Central Ave., New Providence, NJ 07974 (908) 464-6800
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www.lexisnexis.com

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The GDPR: A Contracting Flowchart

*Lindsay R. Dailey**

The author offers a flowchart to identify several key issues under the General Data Protection Regulation.

The purpose of this flowchart is to identify when a Data Processing Agreement (“DPA”) is required by the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”), and then to determine the role that each party plays when providing the underlying services. Capitalized terms used in this Flowchart have the same meanings as those terms defined by the GDPR.

STEP #1: IS A DPA REQUIRED?

A DPA is required when all four components are present as outlined below.

Personal Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name, email, health data, Social Security number, location or identification device• Political opinion, race, ethnicity, genetic or financial information
Data Subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patients, employees, applicants, health care providers• Located in the European Union/European Economic Area
Processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collecting, recording, storing, retrieving, using, disclosure• Transmitting, erasing, destroying, aligning, combining
Controller & Processor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Controllers determine the purposes for Processing Personal Data• Processors act on the instructions of the controller

A DPA is *not* required when Personal Data is not processed to perform the underlying services, or if both parties are Controllers.

* Lindsay R. Dailey is an associate and member of the Health Care Operations Practice at Polsinelli. She serves clients at the intersection of healthcare and data privacy compliance. Ms. Dailey counsels clients on HIPAA, GDPR, and other related international and domestic privacy laws. She may be contacted at ldailey@polsinelli.com.

STEP #2: WHO IS THE CONTROLLER VERSUS THE PROCESSOR?

Examine the underlying services and processing activities to determine each party’s role.

Controller	Processor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alone or jointly with others, determines the purposes and means of the Processing of Personal Data. • Carries out Processing activities such as interpretation, the exercise of professional judgment or significant decision-making in relation to Personal Data. • If an entity is required by law to process Personal Data, it must retain its status as a Data Controller and assume responsibility for the Processing. For example, if Entity A hires a third party to fulfill its own legal obligations to its employees (such as hiring an external accountant to assist with calculating salary or hiring a vendor to do specific trainings for employees), Entity A is the Data Controller. • If an entity makes decisions regarding Personal Data which demonstrate its overall control of the Processing, then that entity is likely the Data Controller. Some of these decisions may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To collect the Personal Data in the first place and the legal basis for doing so; • Which types of Personal Data to collect; • The purpose(s) the Personal Data is to be used for; • Who to collect Personal Data from; • Whether to disclose Personal Data, and if so, to whom; • Whether Data Subject access and other rights apply; and • How long to retain the data or whether to make non-routine amendments to Personal Data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processes Personal Data on behalf of a Data Controller. • Carries out Processing activities which are more limited to the more ‘technical’ aspects of an operation, such as data storage, retrieval or erasure. • Typically only makes some decisions regarding Personal Data similar to the below items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What IT systems or other methods to use to collect Personal Data; • How to store Personal Data; • The detail of the security surrounding the Personal Data; • The means used to transfer the Personal Data from one entity to another; • The means used to retrieve Personal Data; • The method for ensuring a retention schedule is adhered to; and • The means used to delete or dispose of Personal Data.