**Quote from National Office of Research Ethics Committees** **on the topic of broad consent**

“Whilst study consent should cover all processing activities carried out as a part of the study, at times it is not possible to fully identify the specific purpose of data collection at the time of collection. Therefore, **Applicants should consider whether they want to seek consent for future uses of data from participants.**

In line with GDPR, Applicants need to seek consent from participants to the use of their data depending on the area of scientific research, extent allowed by the intended purpose, while keeping with recognised ethical standards for scientific research.

This means, participants should be asked

1. whether they allow storage and processing of their data for possible future research, once approved by a relevant research ethics committee,

that is

1. **with or without further consent** in the future;
2. **related or unrelated** to current study; and
3. **commercial or non-commercial** purpose.”

[Guidance on Data Protection for Research Purposes for Applicants](https://www.nrecoffice.ie/wp-content/uploads/NREC-Guidance-on-data-protection-and-data-sharing-Final.pdf)

(to the National RECs)(published September 2021)