Secondary use of health and social data

Fill the blanks with the correct word/words.

When health data is used directly to deliver healthcare to the individual from whom it was collected it is referred to as *primary use of data*, whereas when data created during health care sector activities is used for purposes other than the *original/primary/principal/main/prime/principal* reason for which they were originally collected, such as education, scientific research, innovation and knowledge management, is referred to as *secondary use of data*.

The *General Data Protection Regulation/GDPR* of the European Union defines rules for *processing* health data in EU. Two broad functions can be identified from the regulation concerning secondary use of health data, these are 1) processing data for wider *public health* purposes and 2) processing data for *scientific/historical/scientific or historical* research. In these cases, a separate permission to process personal health data is *not required* from the original data subjects. Data privacy is achieved by ensuring that personal data is process in such manner that it cannot be attributed to a specific person without the use of additional information. This is called *pseudonymisation* of data. The other way is to process the personal health data in a way that makes it impossible to identify individuals from it. This is called *anonymization* of data.

The *Finnish Act on the Secondary Use of Health and Social Data* is a law designed to make the secondary use of social welfare and health care data easier and to promote its secure use in Finland. This is mainly achieved by creating a single point of contact that acts as a *data permit authority* called *FinData*.