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# Cross-border Data Transfers to and from South Africa

**Authors :** Amy Gooden, Meshandren Naidoo

**Abstract :** Genetic research and transfers of big data are not confined to a particular jurisdiction, but there is a lack of clarity regarding the legal requirements for importing and exporting such data. Using direct-to-consumer genetic testing (DTC-GT) as an example, this research assesses the status of data sharing into and out of South Africa (SA). While SA laws cover the sending of genetic data out of SA, prohibiting such transfer unless a legal ground exists, the position where genetic data comes into the country depends on the laws of the country from where it is sent – making the legal position less clear.

**Keywords :** cross-border, data, genetic testing, law, regulation, research, sharing, South Africa
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