National Digital Id System through the Covid-19 backdoor?

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pandemic, apps, and identity

- Contact tracing apps build graph of id’s
- Immunity passporting attributes an id
  - Exposure notification warns of risky id
  - All may also map location
  - May be used to enforce compliance
- Surveillance isn’t all bad:
  - Note also public health benefits
  - Epidemiology-who/where is more
Do no harm...
tech solutionism or tech giant solutionism?

- original app (e.g. flu phone 2009)
  - driven by LSHTM/medical needs: critical to understand disease
  - tracking down people secondary
    - that benefit depends on tracing->isolation-> treatment or vaccines.
  - GAEN doesn’t meet primary urgent medical need. You trust Gapple more than NHS?
The UK has eschewed National Id Cards

1. Campaigners argued:
2. but we have
3. national insurance numbers, driving licenses, passports, NHS numbers etc
4. And many private identifiers too
5. Why not simplify?
Plus points for unifying gov id

1. Joins over data help government
2. Also KYC 100$ redux to 10cents
3. Assuming government competent
4. Assuming data accurate (HMRC stories)
5. Assuming unique ID (NHS stories)
6. What could possibly go wrong
Methods for unifying

1. Single Id
2. Federate Id systems
3. Keep systems separate and let users do join
4. add yours here
Opportunities for improvement

1. Biometrics
2. Data Science/de-noise/wranglers
3. Users self-improve (google scholar/wiki style)
4. Claims (cost/benefit) that I don’t believe :-) 
How too enforce separation

- Tech&Law
- Case study - Immunity Passports
- or as we prefer, Antibody Certificates
- lame excuse
- war stories here:
References


• Plus see also https://institute.global/policy/new-approach-digital-identity


• So why do either of these two apps need anything more than pseudonyms + linking service to NHS number?
Who Am I?