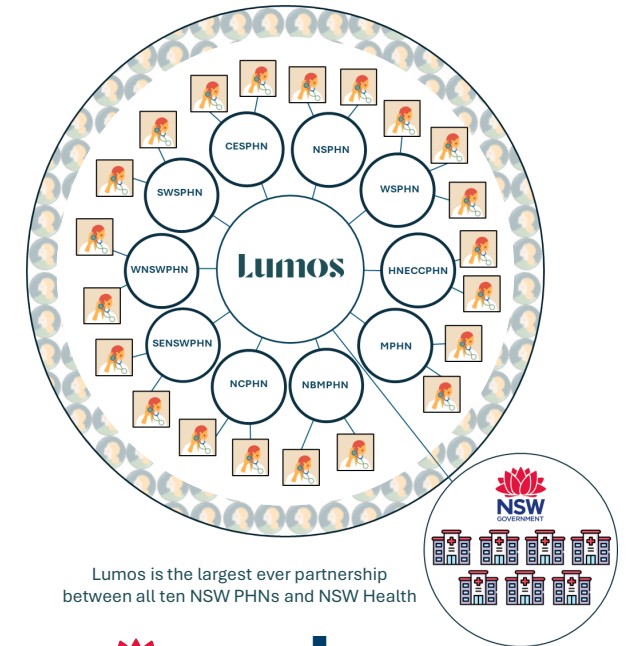# Lumos Data Timings Explained

Version: September 2025

This document explains:

- Lumos 2025-26 timings

- Explanation of time lags and timeframes

Lumos is the largest ever partnership
between all ten NSW PHNs and NSW Health

Who is this document for?

This document is intended for **GPs, Primary Health Networks (PHNs) and analysts**. It provides information on timings behind Lumos reporting and data availability.

Information for a general audience, including consumers, patients, general practitioners, PHNs, NSW Health and external analysts, on what Lumos is, what it contains, and privacy and security measures, can be found here.

2025-26 Lumos key dates

Extraction date	General Practice Reports released	Reporting period	Data uploaded to SAPHE*
Oct 24 (01/10/24 - 15/10/24)	May 2025	Q4 2023-Q3 2024	May 2025
Apr 25 (01/04/25 - 15/04/25)	Oct 2025	Q2 2024-Q1 2025	Oct 2025
Oct 25 (01/10/25 - 15/10/25)	Apr 2026	Q4 2024-Q3 2025	Apr 2026
Apr 26 (01/04/26 - 15/04/26)	Oct 2026	Q2 2025-Q1 2026	Oct 2026
Oct 26 (01/10/26 - 15/10/26)	Apr 2027	Q4 2025-Q3 2026	Apr 2027

Dates are provisional only. Precise dates will be communicated with stakeholders closer to delivery.
*Date ranges for data coverage will vary by dataset. GP data span from extraction date back to 2010, where available.

Lumos timelines

Lumos receives data from participating general practices and links it with data from Healthdirect and NSW Health.

The next few pages outline the timeline from first receipt of data from general practices, through to report delivery and availability of Lumos data by analysts*.
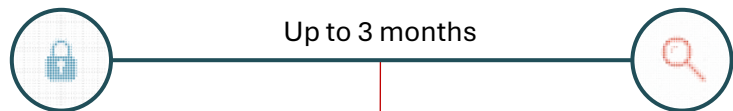
* Information on how to apply to use Lumos data, restrictions and conditions of use is available here.

What's behind the Lumos timeline?

Extraction

Up to 3 months

Patient data* collected from participating general practices
from 2010 (if available) up to date of extraction

Patient data sourced from NSW Health
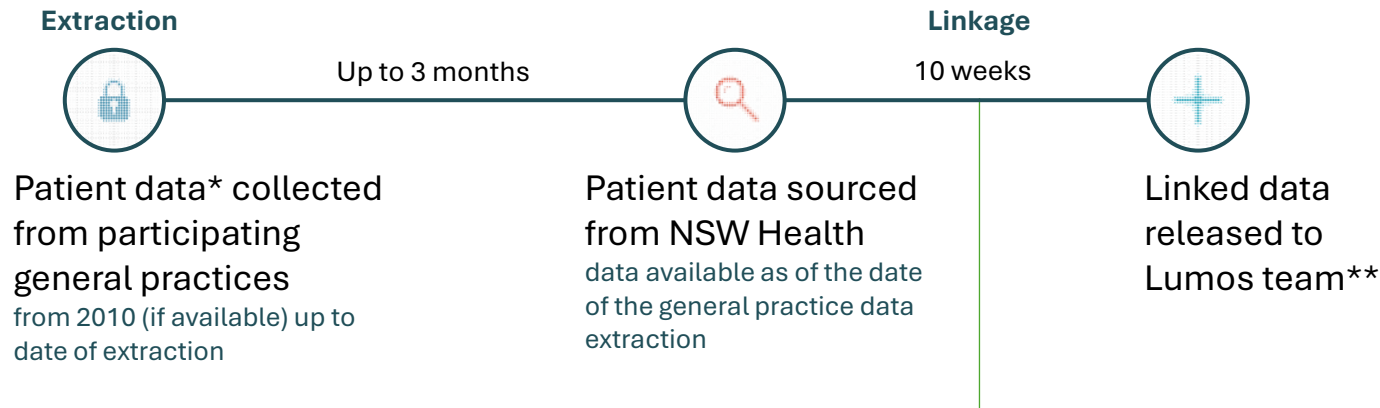data available as of the date of the general practice data extraction

Why the delay?

Data from general practices do not undergo quality control, other than any automated error prevention within local clinical information systems. Some tidying up of the data is applied by software used to send data to PHNs and Lumos (for example, standardising some diagnoses), but missed fields or mistakes recorded in error will not be corrected at a later date. What is recorded by practice staff during a clinical consultation is the final record.

By contrast to general practice data, data collected from public hospitals is subject to stringent quality control, with Local Health Districts (LHDs) employing teams of clinical coders that ensure final data comprehensively matches events that occurred. This takes time. As a result, hospital data become available approximately 3 months after general practice data are collected by Lumos.

What's behind the Lumos timeline?

Extraction

Up to 3 months

Linkage

10 weeks

Patient data* collected
from participating
general practices
from 2010 (if available) up to
date of extraction

Patient data sourced
from NSW Health
data available as of the date
of the general practice data
extraction

Linked data
released to
Lumos team**

Why the delay?

This timeframe reflects the huge, ever-growing volume of data to be linked into Lumos, and additional steps required to deploy Privacy Preserving Record Linkage (PPRL). PPRL is a technique that allows health data linkage without ever collecting patient names, addresses or other directly identifying information from general practices. General practice participation in Lumos is contingent on the application of PPRL.

In addition, before general practice data are added into Lumos, we first link other data sources. This linkage must undergo quality control measures. Often this involves verification through a manual process called clerical review. Up to 1% of all links may require this check. With over 7 million patients to be linked (and counting), this can be considerably time consuming...

What's behind the Lumos timeline?

Extraction

Linkage

Up to 3 months

10 weeks

2 weeks

Patient data* collected from participating general practices
from 2010 (if available) up to date of extraction

Patient data sourced from NSW Health
data available as of the date of the general practice data extraction

Linked data released to Lumos team**

Data transformation completed
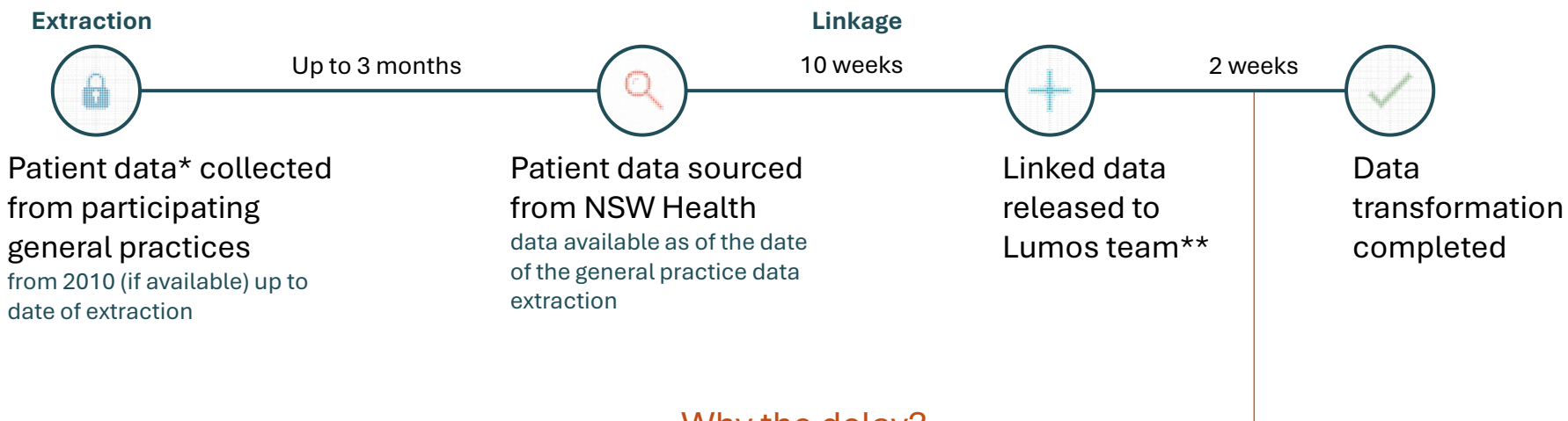
Why the delay?

Because data from general practices do not undergo local quality control, and data received from different general practice software systems differ significantly[∞], Lumos runs an extensive, custom-built data cleaning program. This prepares the data for report generation and makes it usable for analysts.

What's behind the Lumos timeline?

Extraction

Linkage

Up to 3 months — 10 weeks — 2 weeks — 2 weeks — 2 weeks

Patient data* collected from participating general practices
from 2010 (if available) up to date of extraction

Patient data sourced from NSW Health
data available as of the date of the general practice data extraction

Linked data released to Lumos team**

Data transformation completed

GP reports released

Lumos data uploaded to the SAPHE***
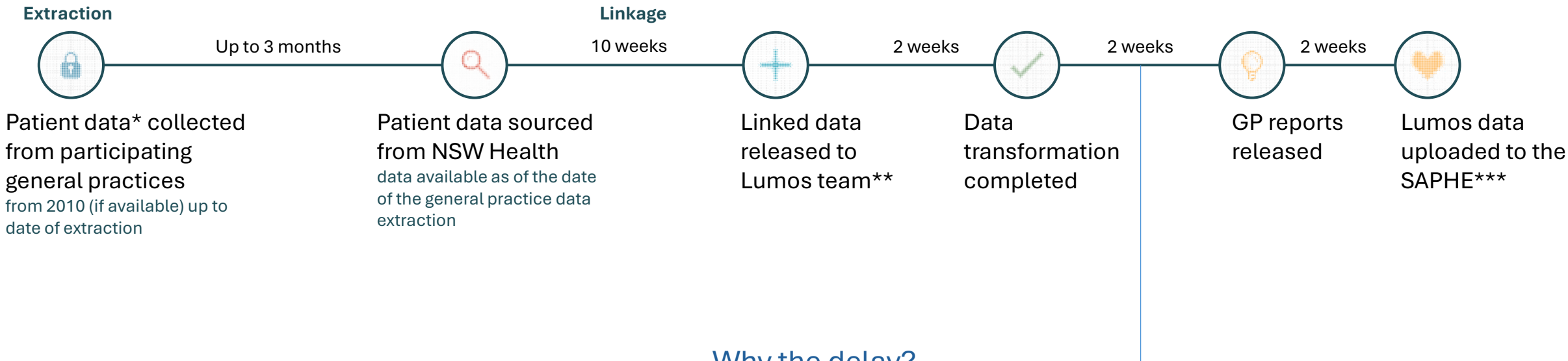
Why the delay?

GP reports are coded as much as possible in advance, including new conditions in focus with each edition, and feedback-derived improvements. This time period is required to ensure coding works with the new data (which can change between each tranche), for proofing and for troubleshooting.

Lumos 2025 timeline

Lumos 2026 timeline

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May

Linkage

GP reports
Q4 2024-Q3 2025

SAPHE refresh
2010*-Q3 2025

Extraction

Linkage

GP reports
Q2 2025-Q1 2026

SAPHE refresh
2010*-Q1 2026

Extraction

Linkage

GP reports
Q4 2025-Q3 2026

SAPHE refresh
2010*-Q3 2026

Legend
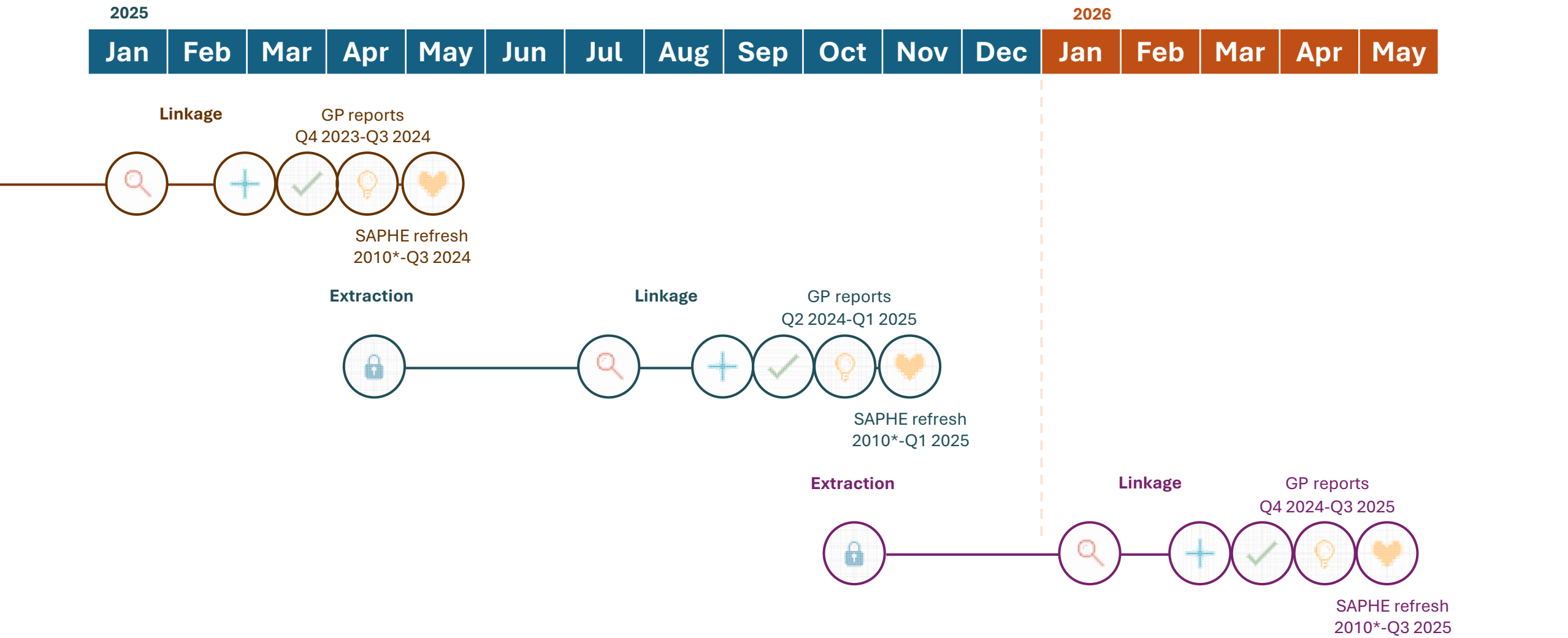
🔒 Secure extraction of patient data from GPs

✛ Data linkage

💡 GP reports released

🔍 NSW Health patient data sourced

✓ Data transformed

♥ Lumos data added to SAPHE

Dates are provisional only. Precise dates will be communicated with stakeholders closer to milestones. *Where available.

Feedback

Questions, ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Please do not hesitate to contact us at lumos@health.nsw.gov.au