

Important information about your patient records held at this service

Patient choices regarding sharing of health records

Electronic records are kept in all the places where you receive healthcare. Often, NHS care services can usually only share information from those records by letter email, fax or phone. At times, this can slow down your treatment and mean information is hard to access.

This service uses a secure computer system that allows the sharing of full electronic records across different NHS care services. This form is not about your Summary Care Record (SCR), it is asking your sharing preferences regarding your full detailed electronic record.

We are telling you about this, as you have a choice to make. You can choose to share or not to share your full electronic record with other NHS care services where you are treated and whether we can view records held by those other services.

If you choose to make your record shareable, your clinical details will only be viewable by clinical teams who are treating you. Each clinical team which cares for you now or in the future will ask your permission to view your shared record ‡. You can also ask for part of your record to be made private – not shareable. All record accesses are recorded and auditable.

If you choose not to make your records shareable, we will respect your wishes and will do our best to make your care safe and efficient. However, denying the clinical teams caring for you the ability to access important clinical details could compromise your care.

You can also visit the NHS Care Records website or download the NHS Care Record Guarantee for more information on how the NHS looks after patient records.

You have two choices:

1 Sharing Out – This controls whether your full electronic patient record can be shared with other NHS care services where you are treated.

Let us know if your records should be Shareable or Not Shareable

2 Sharing In – This controls whether you agree for this service to view information you've agreed to share at other NHS care services.

Let us know if we can view your shared record from elsewhere or if you do not want it to be viewable to us

Please let us know your choices.

You can change your mind at any time by informing us.

‡ In the event of an emergency:

In certain circumstances, such as if you are unconscious or there is a court order, healthcare staff may look at your record without asking you. If they have to do this, a note will be made on your record. If we share information without your permission, we will make sure that we keep to the Data Protection Act 1998, the NHS confidentiality code of practice and other national guidelines on best practice.