

Patient/Carer Factsheet

Your Medical Records – Your Decision

What is happening?

A new Central NHS Computer System is coming to this area soon, called the Summary Care Record (SCR). The Summary Care Record is meant to help emergency doctors and nurses help you when you contact them when the surgery is closed. Initially, it will contain just your medications and allergies. Later on as the central NHS computer system develops, (known as the 'Summary Care Record' – SCR), other staff who work in the NHS will be able to access it along with information from hospitals, out of hours services, and specialists letters that may be added as well.

Your information will be extracted from practices such as ours and held on central NHS databases. As with all new systems there are pros and cons to think about. When you speak to an emergency doctor you might overlook something that is important and if they have access to your medical record it might avoid mistakes or problems, although even then, you should be asked to give your consent each time a member of NHS Staff wishes to access your record, unless you are medically unable to do so.

On the other hand, you may have strong views about sharing your personal information and wish to keep your information at the level of this practice.

Connecting for Health (CfH), the government agency responsible for the Summary Care Record have agreed with doctors' leaders that new patients registering with this practice should be able to decide whether or not their information is uploaded to the Central NHS Computer System. **For existing patients it is different in that it is assumed you that want your record uploaded to the Central NHS Computer System unless you actively opt out.**

To help us to follow your choice, we would like you to complete the form at the end of this message,

What are my options?

- 1) I do want to have a Summary Care Record, I am happy for my records to be sent to it
- 2) I do not want a Summary Care Record, I am not happy for my records to be sent to it
- 3) I don't know whether I want a Summary Care Record, I will decide later

What happens next?

- If you choose option 1) we will set our system to create a SCR for you
- If you choose option 2) we will set our system to *not* create a SCR for you (you will be able to have one created at a later date if you wish)
- If you choose option 3) we will also set our system to *not* create a SCR for you. You will be

able to have one created at a later date

These three options give you complete control over what happens to your records.

Remember, you can change a previous decision but it is important to remember that if you have a Summary Care Record and it has ever been viewed, then thereafter, whilst you can stop any further information being added to it, you will not be able to have the previous data deleted. However, CfH does state that the record will be hidden and not able to be viewed by anyone looking after you.

Where can I get more information?

Information from alternative sources can be found online. Official Information from Connecting for Health, the government agency that is responsible for the Summary Care Record, is being posted to you by your local Primary Care Trust during the next few weeks. It can also be found at: www.nhscarerecords.nhs.uk/summary; www.tiny.cc/optout383 as well as via their telephone helpline which also has access to translation services on 0845 603 8510.

'Opt in/Opt out' Form

Please tick *one* of the options below, complete your personal details, sign, date and hand to reception

- 1) I do want to have a Summary Care Record, I am happy for my records to be sent to it
- 2) I do not want a Summary Care Record, I am not happy for my records to be sent to it
- 3) I don't know whether I want a Summary Care Record, I will decide later

Surname	
Forename(s)	
Date of birth	
Address	
	Postcode
Patient/parent/guardian/carer signature	
Date	