

How the NHS and care services use your information (13.6.18)

Whenever you use a health or care service, such as attending Accident & Emergency or using Community Care services, important information about you is collected in a patient record for that service. Collecting this information helps to ensure you get the best possible care and treatment.

The information collected about you when you use these services can also be used and provided to other organisations for purposes beyond your individual care, for instance to help with:

- improving the quality and standards of care provided
- research into the development of new treatments
- preventing illness and diseases
- monitoring safety
- planning services

This may only take place when there is a clear legal basis to use this information. All these uses help to provide better health and care for you, your family and future generations. Confidential patient information about your health and care is only used like this where allowed by law.

Most of the time, anonymised data is used for research and planning so that you cannot be identified in which case your confidential patient information isn't needed.

You have a choice about whether you want your confidential patient information to be used in this way. If you are happy with this use of information you do not need to do anything. If you do not want NHS Digital to share your confidential patient information (that they collect from across the health care services) for the purposes of research and planning you can opt out. If you opted out from this form of sharing (previously termed a type 2 opt out) prior to 25th May 2018, your opt out will be automatically converted to a national data opt out and you will receive a letter from NHS in June 2018 confirming this.

The surgery is not currently able to apply your national data opt-out choice. To find out more or to register your choice to opt out, please visit www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters. On this web page you will:

- See what is meant by confidential patient information
- Find examples of when confidential patient information is used for individual care and examples of when it is used for purposes beyond individual care
- Find out more about the benefits of sharing data
- Understand more about who uses the data
- Find out how your data is protected
- Be able to access the system to view, set or change your opt-out setting
- Find the contact telephone number if you want to know any more or to set/change your opt-out by phone
- See the situations where the opt-out will not apply

You can also find out more about how patient information is used at:

<https://www.hra.nhs.uk/information-about-patients/> (which covers health and care research); and

<https://understandingpatientdata.org.uk/what-you-need-know> (which covers how and why patient information is used, the safeguards and how decisions are made)

You can also opt out of your confidential patient information collected and held by us, Lisson Grove and Woolwell Medical Centre in your GP medical record, to be used for purposes other than your direct medical care. This "dissent from secondary use of general practitioner patient identifiable data", also termed a Type 1 opt out is recorded by us, the surgery. Please contact us if you wish to apply a type 1 opt out to your record or to check whether a type 1 opt out is already recorded in your record.

Type 1 objections will continue to be upheld until at least March 2020. Before a decision is taken to revoke them, the Department of Health and Social Care will consult with the National Data Guardian on their removal..

If you are registered with a GP Practice in England you will have an NHS Summary Care Record (SCR), unless you have previously opted out of having one. Your Summary Care record is only used for your individual care. Therefore the choices you make about your SCR are separate from National Data opt out or Type 1 opt outs. If you wish to opt out of having an SCR or wish to have your SCR frozen, please complete and return the SCR opt out form available at our reception desks and on our website.

You can change your mind about your choices at any time.

Data being used or shared for purposes beyond individual care does not include your data being shared with insurance companies or used for marketing purposes and data would only be used in this way with your specific agreement.