

You can choose whether your confidential patient information is used for research and planning.

How your data is used

Your health and care information is used to improve your individual care. It is also used to help us research new treatments, decide where to put GP clinics and plan for the number of doctors and nurses in your local hospital. **Wherever possible we try to use** Data that does not identify you, but sometimes it is necessary to use your confidential patient information.

What is confidential patient information?

Confidential patient information identifies you and says something about your health, care or treatment. You would expect this information to be kept private. Information that only identifies you, like your name and address, is not considered confidential patient information and may still be used: For example, To contact you if your GP practice is merging with another.

Who can use your confidential patient information for research and planning?

It is used by the NHS, local authorities, University and hospital researchers, medical colleges and pharmaceutical companies researching new treatments.

Making your data opt-out choice

You can choose to opt out of sharing your confidential patient information for research and planning. There may still be times when your confidential patient information is used: for example: During an epidemic where there might be a risk to you or to other people's health. You can also still consent to take part in a specific research project.

Will choosing this opt-out affect your care and treatment?

No, your confidential patient information will still be used for your individual care. Choosing to opt out will not affect your care and treatment. You will still be invited for screening services, such as screenings for bowel cancer.

What should you do next?

You do not need to do anything if you are happy about how your confidential patient information is used.

If you do not want your confidential patient information to be used for research and planning, you can choose to opt out securely online or through a telephone service.

You can change your choice at any time.

To find out more or to make your choice <https://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters> or call 0300 303 5678

Washway Road Medical Centre

HOW WE PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Currently we are responsible for protecting your information and do this in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA). As part of the DPA, all healthcare professionals have an obligation to only share information on a need to know basis.

The storage of information is on secure servers and access to the information is limited to members of the practice team who are bound by the rules of confidentiality. Sometimes data is shared with other healthcare professionals who may be caring for you e.g. District Nurses.

There are currently two different ways in which your information will automatically be uploaded from our system and shared unless you tell us not to do this.

1. SUMMARY CARE RECORD
2. YOUR NHS DATA MATTERS



SUMMARY CARE RECORD

On registration, a Summary Care Medical Record (SCR) **will automatically be created**, giving limited access to healthcare professionals outside this Practice who may have to treat you in an emergency, e.g. Accident & Emergency Departments, Out of Hours Service, Walk-in Centres etc.

Any clinician who is treating you & wanting to look at your records must ask your permission first (whenever possible).

If you decide you do NOT want a Summary Care Record, please tell us so we can record your dissent. However, you should be aware that although health-care staff will still aim to treat you safely and effectively without this information, it may affect their treatment choices.

An SCR is automatically created for children under the age of 15 years and 9 months, as their consent is *not* required. If a child's parents or guardians do not want the child to have an SCR, they must discuss it with the child's GP, but ultimately it is the GP's decision, because of their duty of care to the child. If applicable, Gillick competence will also have a bearing.

You can find out more information at www.nhscarerecords.nhs.uk/carerecords or ring their helpline on 0300 123 3020.

Your Data Matters to the NHS

Information about your health and care helps us to improve your individual care, speed up diagnosis, plan your local services and research new treatments.

In May 2018, the strict rules about how this data can and cannot be used were strengthened. The NHS is committed to keeping patient information safe and always being clear about how it is used.

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To find out more visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters>