



From 2012, we'll be sharing  
your electronic patient record  
with a new expert.

**You.**

As a patient at our practice, you can now access your own electronic medical record, through a cutting-edge scheme designed to put patients at the heart of their healthcare.

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I think it's more transparent than in the past. I like to feel that I am trusted with the information.

Patient

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In a recent survey, 46% of patients said that since accessing their electronic medical record they felt more confident about their health, and 50% said they felt more able to help themselves.<sup>1</sup>

The system is already running in several practices across the country and will be rolled out nationally by 2015.

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## Why access my medical record?

Managing our healthcare can be a time-consuming business. Accessing even a simple medical detail, such as the date of your last vaccination, may mean a lengthy phone call or making an appointment. Accessing your own medical record simplifies all this, giving you better information and more control over your healthcare.

## What does the system let me do?

Our online system lets you do lots of useful things without having to contact the practice.

You can:

- make appointments and order repeat prescriptions
- get test results
- review past consultations, including diagnoses, advice and treatment
- view letters to and from your GP
- check your record and flag up any possible inaccuracies
- confirm dates, to help you fill in forms for insurance or benefits
- print off information to bring to a medical appointment
- access your up-to-date health records even when you're on holiday
- find out more about your condition, through links to trusted resources such as information sheets, websites and support groups.



The system stops you feeling like you're being kept in the dark.

It puts you on an equal footing, and makes you feel more included in decision making about your own health.

Patient

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### **How does it work?**

The system has the same kind of security as online banking. All you need is access to an internet-enabled computer or smartphone. Once you have joined the scheme, you will be given a PIN and password to access your record. Then you're ready to start. If you have children, you can also view their records until they are 12.<sup>1</sup> The information itself is still kept by the GP and protected by the Data Protection Act (1988).

### **How will the system change my healthcare?**

It won't. But it will change the way you organise your medical information. And many patients say it makes them feel more in control of their condition, more involved in their care, and able to get more out of their consultations.

If you don't want to use this system, you are welcome to continue using our services exactly as before. Either way, your decision will not affect your care or your relationship with us in any way.

### **Are there any risks?**

There is a small chance that you see something in your record that you don't want to be reminded about, or that you will discover test results when the practice so closed and there is no one available to talk to. Some practices only show parts of the medical record, to reduce this risk. To find out more about our policy, talk to us.

46% \_\_\_\_\_

50% \_\_\_\_\_

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**For more information please ask at reception**

- i Results from myRecord 2011/2012 patient survey*
- ii If you wish to access your child's records beyond their 12th birthday, discuss this with your practice*

