

*I've been interested to read the current thoughts of medical professionals on patient online access to records. I just thought that a patient's views would make a valid contribution to the debate.*

*Thanks to Dr Hannan I have had online access to my records and would be devastated to go back to the "olden days"!*

*I have a complicated, chronic condition and my treatment involves a range of medical professionals. Being able to check letters, results and consultation summaries allows me to participate fully in the management of my health issues whether at home or abroad and feel confident that the necessary liaison between disciplines is working well. Also any medic can see anything I want them to see "anytime, anyplace, anywhere" in order to give me the best treatment as quickly and efficiently as possible.*

*From a practice point of view, I'm sure I'm less of a demand on resources as I can now manage things online instead of needing to call in, ring up, write a letter or make an appointment.*

*Our practice has nearly 900 participating patients and the number is growing. I've talked to some patients who say it wouldn't suit them but clearly it will never be compulsory. I think some other patients make take time to realise how it can help them as we haven't had anything like this partnership before*

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**I B, a patient of Haughton Thornley Medical Centres**  
[www.htmc.co.uk](http://www.htmc.co.uk)