

NHS Changes

The way we manage your health records is changing

The NHS in England is introducing the NHS Care Records Service to improve the safety and quality of patient care. These secure electronic records will give healthcare professionals faster, easier access to reliable information about you to help with your care - particularly in an emergency, or if you see a doctor out-of-hours when your GP practice is closed.

Your care records will be made up of two parts;

The national Summary Care Record – this record is held nationally and will be available across England to support emergency care and will contain three things: your allergies; your medications; and any adverse reactions to medicines that you have.

The local Oxfordshire Care Summary – this is ‘view only’ and will contain more detailed information than the national Summary Care Record. It will only be available to local healthcare professionals involved in your treatment in Oxfordshire.

Every individual in Oxfordshire aged 16 years old and over* will receive a patient letter at the beginning of April 2012, asking them to choose whether they want these care records. If you are a parent or guardian, you will need to make this choice on behalf of your child, or support them in making their own decision if you feel they are mature enough to do so.

(*or who will be 16 by the end of June 2012)

For more information visit www.oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk/healthrecords or contact the information lines at:

- Summary Care Records telephone 0300 123 3020
- Oxfordshire Care Summary telephone 01865 428886

**Better access to reliable patient information
means safer, quicker decisions to support your care**