

IT / ELECTRONIC PATIENT RECORDS

New contractual arrangements came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 requiring GP practices to make available a statement of intent in relation to the following IT developments:

1. Summary Care Record (SCR)
2. GP to GP Record Transfers (GP2GP)
3. Patient Online Access to their GP Record
4. Data for commissioning and other secondary care purposes

The same contractual obligations require that we have a statement of intent regarding these developments in place and publicised by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

Please find below details of the arrangements Essex Way Surgery has in place for these developments.

- Summary Care Record (SCR)

NHS England requires practices to enable successful automated uploads of any changes to patient summary information, at least on a daily basis, to the SCR or to have published plans to achieve this by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

Having your SCR available to other service providers, such as hospitals, will help those treating you by allowing them to see a small part of your GP medical record. They will have access to information about any medication you may be taking and any allergies you may have.

Of course if you do not want your medical records to be available in this way then you will need to let us know so that we can update your record. If you have already advised us that you do not want a SCR available outside of the practice, you do not need to do so again, your records will have already been excluded from this. More details about the SCR can be found at <http://www.nhscarerecords.nhs.uk/>

Essex Way Surgery **confirms that your SCR is already automatically updated on at least a daily basis to ensure that your information is as up to date as it can possibly be.**

- GP to GP Record Transfers (GP2GP)

NHS England requires practices to use the GP2GP facility for the transfer of patient records between practices, when a patient registers or de-registers. This does not apply to temporary patient registrations.

It is very important that you are registered with a doctor at all times. If you leave your GP and register with a new GP, your medical records will be removed from your previous doctor and forwarded to your new GP via NHS England. It can take your paper records several weeks to reach your new practice.

With GP2GP transfers, your electronic record is transferred to your new practice much sooner.

Essex Way Surgery **confirms that GP2GP transfers are already active and that we send and receive patient records via this system.**

- Patient Online Access to their GP Record

NHS England requires practices to promote and offer the facility to enable patient online access to appointments, prescriptions, allergies and adverse reactions or have published plans in place to achieve this by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

Essex Way Surgery confirms that the facility to book and cancel appointments and to order repeat prescriptions is already active. If you do not already have a user name and password for this system, you can find more information on Patient Access on the practice website under "Online Services" or by asking at reception.

Essex Way Surgery **will also be offering patients the facility to access their own summary information from their records relating to medication, allergies, adverse reactions and any other items that may have previously been agreed between the practice and the patient.**

- Data for commissioning and other secondary care purposes

It is already a requirement of the Health & Social care Act that practices must meet the reasonable data requirements of commissioners and other health and social care organisations through appropriate and safe data sharing for secondary usage, as specified in the technical specification for care data.

Essex Way Surgery has specific arrangements in place to allow patients to “opt out” of care.data if they wish to. Care.data allows patient data to be used outside of the practice. For further information about care.data please visit: [www.nhs.uk/caredata](http://www.nhs.uk/caredata). If you wish to opt out of this data sharing please contact reception.

**Essex Way Surgery confirms these arrangements are already in place and that we undertake annual training and audits to ensure that all our data is handled correctly and safely via the Information Governance Toolkit.**