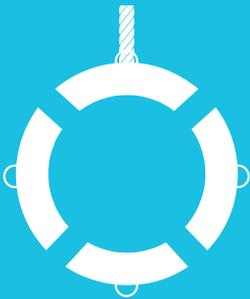


Your medical history could

save your life

Sharing information to improve
the care you receive



Saving Lives



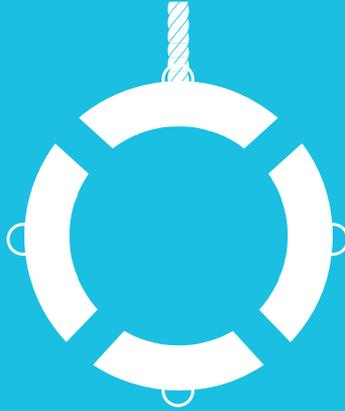
Saving Time



Protecting Information



**Your Care
Connected**



Saving Lives

The more information the better

Allowing healthcare professionals to view information from your GP record will provide them with important and potentially life-saving information; it will also help to reduce unnecessary repeat tests, such as blood tests and X-rays.

Sharing your medical records could save your life.

Did you know...

Your GP medical record is the most complete record of your health and wellbeing.

But did you know that when you visit a hospital, access mental health or out of hours services, or need an ambulance, those treating you cannot access your record? Your local NHS feels that those involved in your care should be able to see vital information about you to help improve the medical care that you receive, which is why Your Care Connected is being implemented across Birmingham, Sandwell and Solihull.

Your Care Connected will allow doctors, nurses and other registered healthcare professionals caring for you to view information from your GP record, with your permission, to provide you with better, safer care.

How this helps you

- ♥ Faster and easier access to your medical information, which could save your life
- ♥ Provides information such as any medication you take and the dosage, any allergies you may have, the results of any recent medical tests you've had or which member of the GP practice staff you saw last
- ♥ Improves the safety and quality of your care
- ♥ Less time spent filling in forms
- ♥ More secure than your GP sending your record via fax or recorded delivery to the participating organisations *(which is the current alternative)*
- ♥ Enables safer delivery of care in an emergency

“Your Care Connected will take a lot of the stress away from hospital visits; having one system tell my story, providing all the reliable and essential information about me will help to provide me with better care”

Adrian, Patient



Saving Time

Nobody likes wasting time

Quicker access to your medical information could help reduce the number of forms you need to complete, reduce waiting times and reduce unnecessary stays in hospital.

Share your medical records and save time.

Who will be able to access your information?

When you visit one of the organisations below, the person treating you will ask for your permission to view information from your GP record using Your Care Connected. This will help to provide you with better, safer care:

- ♥ Birmingham Children's Hospital
- ♥ Birmingham Community Healthcare
- ♥ Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust
- ♥ Birmingham Women's Hospital
- ♥ Birmingham City Hospital
- ♥ Good Hope Hospital
- ♥ Heartlands Hospital
- ♥ Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- ♥ The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital
- ♥ Sandwell General Hospital
- ♥ Solihull Hospital
- ♥ West Midlands Ambulance Service
- ♥ Local out-of-hours GP services

Your Care Connected can only be used to view your information with your permission and for your direct care. Please note that clinicians may override your permission in the event of an emergency, for example if you are unconscious or otherwise unable to communicate, or they feel it is essential to your health and wellbeing.

What will they see?

Health professionals treating you will only view the parts of your medical record listed below and only with your permission; if you allow them to access your record, it will provide them with a host of important information, including:

- ♥ Allergies
- ♥ Medication
- ♥ Hospital admissions and referrals
- ♥ Vaccinations and immunisations
- ♥ Test results
- ♥ Diagnoses
- ♥ Treatment
- ♥ Medical procedures
- ♥ End of life wishes
- ♥ Demographic information (age, gender etc.)
- ♥ Concerns related to abuse of vulnerable children or adults (if applicable)

Your information will not be used for any other purposes, such as for research, or given /sold to third parties. For any changes or an up-to-date list, please refer to our website www.midlandscopyourcareconnected.nhs.uk.



Protecting Information

The importance of privacy

Only registered healthcare professionals can view your medical records and they will always ask permission before doing so. What's more, access is provided through a locked network ensuring your information is always secured to the highest possible standards.

The information you share will always be protected.

What is not shared?

Your Care Connected does not share everything from your GP record.

This is because we follow national guidance on patient confidentiality and the sharing of sensitive information. As a result, Your Care Connected does not currently share information relating to:

- ♥ IVF treatment
- ♥ HIV and AIDS
- ♥ Sexually transmitted infections
- ♥ Gender realignment
- ♥ Termination of pregnancy
- ♥ Free text from GP record

Please note: *this list may be subject to change to reflect changes to national guidance on the sharing of sensitive information. Please visit our website to find an up-to-date list of information that is not shared when the person treating you accesses your record using Your Care Connected.*

Your information, your choice

When it comes to your healthcare, you have the power to choose who can see your medical information, when they can see it and how they can access it.

If you are happy to share your medical information with those treating you, you do not need to do anything further. If you visit one of the organisations listed on the previous page, those treating you will ask for your permission to view your record.

Opting Out

If you decide to 'opt-out' of Your Care Connected only your usual medical practice will be able to access your record electronically. Please be aware that opting out will mean your record is not available at all, even in emergency situations.

If you wish to opt out, you can either download an opt-out form from our website, print it out and hand it to your practice, or just speak to your practice directly.

Would you like to know more?

Please visit

MidlandsYourCareConnected.nhs.uk



Alternatively, you can email the team

InfoMidlandsYourCareConnected@nhs.net



Or call them on Freephone

0333 150 3388



**Your Care
Connected**

We can produce our publications in Braille, large print, easy read (accessible text format). Information can also be made available in a range of other languages.

Please contact us for more information.