

## Cheshire Care Record Privacy Notice

The Cheshire Care Record is a vital tool for professionals providing direct care to Cheshire residents in hospital, primary, community, mental health services or social care settings. The summary data contained in the shared care record provides clinicians with an overview of your health and social care within a single digital solution.

Whether you are visiting your GP, attending hospital or being seen in your own home by a community nurse, mental health professional or social worker, we want you to get the best possible care. We can only do this if all the health and social care professionals involved in your care have direct access to the information they need.

The Cheshire Care Record allows care professionals in Cheshire to share data, but we know that residents sometimes receive care outside the county. As a first step to address this, we are introducing an extended view of your data by linking with Merseyside's shared care record, allowing health and care professionals who care for residents at sites in Merseyside to view a complete health record and deliver joined-up, holistic care.

As well as helping clinicians deliver safe, effective and efficient treatment, health records can be used to identify gaps in care and drive proactive preventative work, such as to help plan health interventions for certain groups or for people with certain health conditions or unhealthy lifestyles. Access to residents' health and social care data has been particularly beneficial during the COVID-19 pandemic, when services and staff were stretched due to a rise in the number of COVID-related hospital admissions. Allowing healthcare professionals access to up-to-date information was a great benefit.

The Cheshire Care Record has also driven the adoption of digital services and made access to real-time shared information the norm. It is now seeking collaborative solutions to system-wide challenges, including:

- Removing boundaries from organisational care data – promoting outstanding patient care regardless of setting
- Providing those delivering care with seamless access to patient records
- Supporting complex care needs delivered across regional and tertiary care centres

## Transparency Notice

Health records (also known as patient or medical records, which includes social care information within the Cheshire Care Record) are a log of your health and the treatment and care services you have received from the NHS and from social care. We hold this information to ensure you receive the best possible care now and in the future.

Hospitals share health records with us and the other local health and care organisations that look after you. We need to use information about you in various forms and will only use the minimum amount of information necessary for that purpose. Where possible we will use information that does not identify you.

We use and process several different types of information:

- **Personal confidential data/identifiable** – information which contains personal details that identifies you such as name, address, email address, NHS Number, full postcode, date of birth.
- **Anonymised data** – all data or information which could identify who you are will have been removed.
- **Pseudonymised data/ de-identified information** – pseudonymisation is the process involved to enable NHS & social care organisations to undertake secondary usage of patient data in a legal, safe and secure manner. Pseudonymisation involves the removing of identifiers from your data so that you cannot be identified.
- **Aggregated data/information** – data or information is grouped together to show general trends or values without identifying individuals.

Sharing relevant and up-to-date health records with the providers and agencies involved in your care also helps improve your experience of our services. More information on the data we hold is available on the [Cheshire Care Record website](#).

You have a legal right to object to your data being shared with the providers involved in your care. Objections are considered on a case-by-case basis.

When considering your objection, organisations will examine whether preventing shared access to your health record could hinder the delivery of safe and individual care. ***Please contact your GP if you no longer wish to share your data within the Cheshire Care Record.***

You may also find the [National Opt-Out Website](#) useful.

This website is hosted on infrastructure located within the United Kingdom. It uses a small number of cookies to make your use of the site more convenient.

## Further Questions

If you have any questions about how we maintain the privacy of your health records, please contact us on **01244 365000**.