**ABBEY MEDICAL CENTRE**

Dear Patient

**Summary Care Record – your emergency care summary**

Some years ago, the NHS in England introduced the Summary Care Record, which will be used in emergency care.

This record contains information about any medicines you are taking, allergies you suffer from and any bad reactions to medicines you have had, to ensure those caring for you have enough information to treat you safely.

Your Summary Care Record will be available to authorised healthcare staff providing your care anywhere in England, but they will ask you permission before they look at it. This means that if you have an accident or become ill, healthcare staff treating you will have immediate access to important information about your health.

More recently, from 1 April 2017, practices can also add additional information to a patient’s Summary Care Record if they consent to this. Now, practices may identify patients who would particularly benefit from other additional information being included. These patients might have a long term condition, suffer from physical, sensory, other disabilities or dementia, be non-English speakers or patients with carers, for example.

The additional information includes significant medical history, reasons for medication, communication preferences and immunisations.

Your GP at the practice is supporting Summary Care Records and as a patient you have a choice:

* **Yes I would like a Summary Care Record**
* **Yes I would like a Summary Care Record with additional information**
* **No I do not want a Summary Care Record**

**Please complete the form with this information sheet and hand it to a member of the GP staff**.

If you have already agreed to sharing your basic summary care record but would like to provide consent for further information to be added, please complete this section of the form and hand in at reception.

If you need more time to make your choice you should let your GP practice know.

For more information talk to our Patient Advice and Liaison Services (PALS) on 0800 028 3693 or telephone the dedicated NHS Summary Care Record Information Line on 0300 123 3020.

**You can choose not to have a Summary Care Record and you can change your mind at any time by informing your GP practice.**

Children under 16 will automatically have a Summary Care Record created for them unless their parent or guardian chooses to opt them out. If you are the parent or guardian of a child under 16 and feel they are old enough to understand, then you should make this information available to them.

Abbey Medical Centre

May 2017