

Your health information
there when it's needed



GIG
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WALES



Cofnod Meddyg Teulu Cymru Welsh GP Record



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

What is your Welsh GP Record
and how is the record used

Your health information - there when it's needed

Working together **Welsh Government** and **NHS Wales** have improved the way your health information is accessed through a safe electronic system that allows the people caring for you to see a *summary* of important information from the medical record held by your GP. This will help them treat you better, safer and quicker.

This summary is called the **'Welsh GP Record*'** and has been used for some time to give Out of Hours doctors, who provide care when your GP practice is closed, access to the information they need about you.

What is in my Welsh GP Record?

A summary of important information from your full GP medical record:

- Your name, address and contact details
- Current medication and medication you have been prescribed in the last two years
- Allergies or any adverse reactions
- Current problems or diagnosis
- Results of any recent tests you have had in the previous year, for example, blood tests and x-rays

It does not include any private discussions you may have had with your GP.

Why do we need the Welsh GP Record?

Whenever you receive care or treatment in NHS Wales information is stored about you, usually on a computer. But not all computers are connected to each other. For example the information held about you by your GP is not usually available when you are admitted to hospital or attend an outpatient's appointment.

How will having a Welsh GP Record help me?

- Wherever you receive care in Wales your information will be available to help the people caring for you make an informed decision.
- You won't have to repeat your information time and again.
- Improves the safety and quality of your care through quicker access to information about your current medications, histories and allergies.

Who can look at my Welsh GP Record?

- Hospital doctors and nurses directly involved in your care.
- Doctors and nurses working in the GP out of hours service and directly involved in your care.
- Hospital pharmacists and pharmacy technicians directly involved in your care.

Your record can be accessed by the person caring for you wherever you are in Wales, even if you are visiting a different part of the country. The record will not be available outside Wales.

In the future community based pharmacists, emergency services, first responder and advanced paramedics directly involved in your care, will also have access to your Welsh GP Record. They will only see the information they need to do their job.



How is my Welsh GP Record kept secure?

Strict controls are in place to keep your information safe. **Only the people caring for you will be able to look at your Welsh GP Record and they must ask your permission first.** A record will be kept each time your information is looked at and checks will be made to make sure no one is looking at your record when they shouldn't be.

If you are unconscious, NHS Wales' staff may look at your Welsh GP Record without your permission. This is so they can give you the best possible care. Any decision to look at your Welsh GP Record when you are not able to give your permission will be recorded with an explanation of why the decision was taken.

I'm not sure that I want a Welsh GP Record?

The person looking after you will ask permission to look at your record at each and every consultation. You can refuse permission by simply saying 'no'.

If you don't want your medical information to be shared then you will need to tell your GP practice that you want to opt out. Before deciding you should look at the Welsh GP Record patient website or talk to your GP practice about your concerns as opting out could make a difference to the care you receive.

If you are a parent or guardian of a child under aged 16 and you do not wish your child's information to be shared outside your GP practice through the Welsh GP Record, please discuss with your family doctor.



Do you need more information?

More information can be found at www.gprecord.wales.nhs.uk

If you require a copy of this leaflet in large print, Braille, other formats or interpreted into another language, please contact us.

***Welsh GP Record** was previously known as the Individual Health Record