

Summary Care Record

What is a Summary Care Record?

A Summary Care Record (SCR) is an electronic patient record that contains the following basic information from your GP records:

- Your name, address, date of birth and NHS number
- Medications that you are prescribed
- Allergies that you suffer from and any bad reactions to medications

Why might a SCR be needed?

An SCR may be needed if you are seen in a healthcare setting different to your GP surgery, such as an Accident and Emergency department or if you are away from home and visit a GP near to where you are. With your permission, they can view the information in your SCR to help guide their care.

Who can see my Summary Care Record?

Healthcare staff who have access to your Summary Care Record:

- need to be directly involved in caring for you
- need to have an NHS Smartcard with a chip and passcode
- will only see the information they need to do their job and
- will have their details recorded every time they look at your record

Healthcare staff will ask for your permission every time they need to look at your SCR. If they cannot ask you (for example if you are unconscious or otherwise unable to communicate), healthcare staff may look at your record without asking you, because they consider that this is in your best interest.

If they have to do this, this decision will be recorded and checked to ensure that the access was appropriate.

What are my choices?

You can choose to have a Summary Care Record or you can choose to opt out.

If you choose to have a SCR, you do not need to do anything as a SCR is automatically created for you.

If you choose to opt out of having a SCR, you need to let us know by filling in and returning an opt-out form (available from the surgery, or via the NHS Choices website).

If you are unsure if you have already opted out, you should talk to the staff at the surgery. You can change your mind at any time by simply informing the practice and either filling in an opt-out form or asking the surgery to create a SCR for you.