

My Care Record Privacy Notice – Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Addendum

This notice describes how we may use your information to protect you and others during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. It supplements our main Privacy Notice.

Health and care information is essential to deliver care to individuals, to support health and social care services and to protect public health. In the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, it has become even more important to make sure that health and care professionals can access information between services.

We are therefore extending an existing approach called *My Care Record* to health and care organisations in the East of England. *My Care Record* is an approach to improving care by joining up health and care information. Wherever possible, health and care professionals will be able to access care records from other services if it is needed to deliver care for individuals with COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms.

For example, we are working to make sure that doctors, nurses and co-ordination staff at places you may receive treatment for COVID-19 can see important information from your GP record. This will include health and care professionals at neighbouring GP practices, NHS 111 and regional centres for the treatment of critically ill patients including the NHS Nightingale Hospital in London.

Having access to information such as medical conditions, previous test results and medications will help the people caring for you to deliver more effective, joined-up care at this critical time.

Existing law which allows confidential patient information to be used and shared appropriately and lawfully in a public health emergency is being used during this outbreak. Using this law, the Secretary of State has required health organisations and GPs to share confidential patient information to respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Any information used or shared during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic will be limited to the period of the outbreak unless there is another legal basis to use the data.

During this period of emergency, opt-outs will not generally apply to the information used to support the coronavirus (COVID-19) response due to the public interest in sharing information.

This includes National Data Opt-outs.