



Your emergency care summary

New patient letter

Dear Patient

Summary Care Record – your emergency care summary

The NHS in England is introducing the Summary Care Record, which will be used in emergency care.

The record will contain 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 your 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.

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

- **Yes I would like a Summary Care Record** – you do not need to do anything and a Summary Care Record will be created for you.
- **No I do not want a Summary Care Record** – enclosed is an opt out form. **Please complete the form and hand it to a member of the GP practice staff.**

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 Service (PALS) on **0800 195 7998**. GP practice staff, visit the website <http://www.darlingtonpct.nhs.uk/> or **www.nhscarerecords.nhs.uk** or telephone the dedicated NHS Summary Care Record Information Line on 0300 123 3020.

Additional copies of the opt out form can be collected from the GP practice, printed from the website **www.nhscarerecords.nhs.uk** or requested from 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.

If you do nothing we will assume that you are happy with these changes and create a Summary Care Record for you. 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 that they are old enough to understand, then you should make this information available to them.

Yours sincerely

Signed



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CONFIDENTIAL

OPT-OUT FORM

Request for my clinical information to be withheld from the Summary Care Record

If you **DO NOT** want a Summary Care Record please fill out the form and send it to your GP practice (completed forms must be returned to your GP practice. Forms sent anywhere other than your GP practice will not be actioned).

A. Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

Title Surname / Family name

Forename(s)

Address

Postcode Phone No Date of birth

NHS number (if known) Signature

B. If you are filling out this form on behalf of another person or child, their GP practice will consider this request. Please ensure you fill out their details in section A and your details in section B

Your name Your signature.....

Relationship to patient Date

What does it mean if I DO NOT have a Summary Care Record?

NHS healthcare staff caring for you may not be aware of your current medications, allergies you suffer from and any bad reactions to medicines you have had, in order to treat you safely in an emergency.

Your records will stay as they are now with information being shared by letter, email, fax or phone.

If you have any questions, or if you want to discuss your choices, please:

- phone the Summary Care Record Information Line on 0300 123 3020;
- contact your local Patient Advice Liaison Service (PALS); or
- contact your GP practice.

FOR NHS USE ONLY

Actioned by practice yes/no

Date

Ref: 4705